

Daily Pilot

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021 // Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent // dailypilot.com



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A VIEW LOOKING south at Table Rock Beach in South Laguna Beach on Friday. Access to the beach is an issue for some South Laguna residents.

Table Rock Beach access probed

South Laguna residents want the county to look into whether there should be a gate at the top of the stairs leading to the beach.

BY ANDREW TURNER

South Laguna residents have grown tired of a range of activities they say are pervasive at Table Rock Beach, a list that includes after-dark parties and recreational drug use that have impacted the homeowner experience.

Those concerns led to resident John Thomas asking the office of Orange County Supervisor Lisa Bartlett (5th District) to look for the original documents pertaining to the development of the stairs that grant public access to Table Rock Beach.

See **Beach**, page A7



TWO beachgoers hike to a cove at Table Rock Beach.

Governor pushes private seawater desalting plant over local and environmental opposition



Allen J. Schaben | Los Angeles Times

POSEIDON WATER proposes to build a large seawater desalination plant on the site of the AES Huntington Beach Power Station.

BY BETTINA BOXALL

When Gov. Gavin Newsom was photographed dining at an opulent Napa Valley restaurant during a surge in coronavirus cases, many Californians saw it as hypocrisy. For opponents of a planned \$1-billion desalination plant along the Orange County coast, however, the optics were menacing.

The unmasked Newsom was celebrating the birthday of a lobbyist for Poseidon Water, which is close to obtaining final government approval for one of the country's biggest seawater desalination plants.

Poseidon boasts that the facil-

ity will provide a local, inexhaustible source of water for Southern California. Critics complain that Newsom and his political appointees are exerting heavy influence to benefit a private company that would produce some of the state's most expensive supplies.

Emails obtained by The Times and the environmental group California Coastkeeper Alliance through the state Public Records Act indicate that top California Environmental Protection Agency officials have been involved in a water board's review of the complex proposal. In addition-

See **Plant**, page A4

12 deaths due to COVID-19 reported in O.C.

The total number of fatalities in the county has risen to 3,904, according to the Orange County Health Care Agency.

BY ANDREW TURNER

Orange County reported 12 coronavirus deaths and 281 new infections on Saturday in the latest data provided by the Orange County Health Care Agency.

The county has now had 3,904 deaths due to COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, while the cumulative case count is 246,264.

A note from the county health-care agency said that it is experiencing technical difficulties with the state's reporting database — CalREDIE and CalConnect — which may result in a lower number of reported deaths for several days until the issue has been resolved by the California Department of Public Health.

There are currently 444 hospitalizations in the county because of the virus, with 128 patients receiving treatment in intensive care units.

Additionally, there were 16,684 tests for the virus reported within the last day, which brings the number of tests administered in the county to 3,035,335.

The health-care agency estimates that 230,569 people in the county have made a recovery after contracting the virus.

In metrics used to track the transmission of the virus, Orange County had an adjusted daily case rate of 11.9 cases per 100,000 residents, a testing positivity rate of 5.4% and a health equity quartile positivity rate of 7%.

Those statistics are recorded as

See **COVID-19**, page A6

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

LAGUNA BEACH GIRLS, CDM BOYS VICTORIOUS IN CROSS-COUNTRY DUAL MEET PAGE A8

Orange County show explores 'Car Culture' in California, nation

BY VERA CASTANEDA

Enter Orange County Center for Contemporary Art and you'll find a full-size Studebaker Avanti parked in the middle of the gallery space.

Artist Earl Shepherd named the car "Tribute" to honor the history and design of the 1964 model created by Raymond Loewry.

Starting from the rear on the passenger side, Shepherd's hand-painted design travels from Palm Springs to Los Angeles marking off the car's relevant social landmarks like the now-demolished Chi Chi Room, the Pink Pussycat and Musso & Frank Grill.

The driver's side is dedicated to those who raced Avantis and set records at the racetrack in the Bonneville Salt Flats.

"Tribute" is one of the pieces in OCCCA's "Car Culture" show, which includes the work of 28 artists. Center for Contemporary Art staff reached out to Bryan Barcena, assistant curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art, to jury the exhibition about a year ago.

"It was really important that

the show be representative of not just this idyllic version of car culture — a 1950s glorified American car culture — but more representative of the real relationships that people have with cars and what it means in a place like Southern California," Barcena said.

As Barcena looked through submissions, he saw a complex relationship to cars.

The result was art from California and across the country. Works vary from lowrider culture, personal family photos to a motorcycle voting station.

Santa Ana artist Hugo Almanza created a diorama of classic cars at a picnic paying homage to the lowrider community. The diorama's park landscape was built on top of an eating tray and features his collection of mini-scale classic cars.

Collages from Luis Genaro Garcia's series "Cruising L.A.'s Political Landscape" deal with civil rights violations.

In "No Justice No Peace 1992," Garcia placed a 1992 Chevy Cap-

See **Culture**, page A6



"NO JUSTICE No Peace 1992," made in 2018, depicts the L.A. riots using current headlines about police shootings.

Courtesy of Luis Genaro Garcia

AROUND TOWN



Courtesy of South Coast Plaza

DRIPP COFFEE BAR has opened in South Coast Plaza's Saks Fifth Avenue wing on the first level.

Costa Mesa hires U.S. Navy veteran as chief of staff

Costa Mesa city officials have announced the hiring of a new chief of staff — Alexander Gonzalez, a U.S. Navy veteran, former U.S. Congressional staff member and a longtime Costa Mesa resident.

City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison said in a city release issued Tuesday Gonzalez's experience in government made him uniquely qualified for the position, left vacant by former Chief of Staff Connor Lock.

"The residents of Costa Mesa will find him to be a great resource, as he assists the mayor and City Council in addressing concerns from constituents," she said in the release.

Lock, who was hired in January 2019 after council members agreed to spend \$222,000 on his full-time position and three part-time council aides, left in December and now works as chief of staff or a Long Beach council member, city spokesman Tony Dodero said Tuesday.

Gonzalez will be responsible for managing constituent services, legislative research and analysis and will coordinate with federal and state elected officials, among other duties.

He most recently worked as a military and veterans' field representative for Rep. Harley Rouda (D-Laguna Beach), where he dealt with matters related to trade, defense, intelligence, veterans' affairs and labor issues.

In the Navy, Gonzalez worked as an intelligence specialist.

He received his bachelor's degree in political science and international relations with a minor in Asian studies from Temple University in Japan.

Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley said Gonza-

lez's working knowledge of Costa Mesa as a long-term resident and congressional staffer would aid him in the position.

"Couple that with his experience and understanding of veterans' issues, especially those experiencing homelessness and his multilingual skills, (and) he will right away be able to work on our council priorities," she said in the release.

Chambers of commerce to host vaccine webinar

The Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce, along with several other chambers of commerce, will be providing an update with Orange County executive officer Frank Kim on the county's vaccination program and how it is doing financially.

The event will also provide an update on the impact of the pandemic on the county. The free webinar will begin at 9 a.m. on Wednesday.

Interested parties can register at newportbeach.com.

State-of-the-city update Thursday in Newport Beach

Newport Beach Mayor Brad Avery will be providing an update on the state of the city at 8 a.m. on Thursday.

The hour-long discussion will focus on Avery's goals and projects for the upcoming year and the city at large. It will be held on Zoom and hosted by the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce. Those interested can register at bit.ly/2ZTTsIE.

Newport Beach code enforcement webinar set

Speak Up Newport is hosting a free webinar on code enforcement from 4 to 5 p.m. on March 10.

Ed Selich, president of Speak Up Newport, said recently that residents have

brought up concerns about the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, short-term vacation rentals, the boardwalk and homelessness.

The webinar will include speakers from the city manager's office, community development and the city's fire and police departments.

To register, visit speakupnewport.com.

Huntington Beach looking for chefs for new TV show

The city of Huntington Beach is looking for local chefs and restaurant managers for a new local access Channel 3 show featuring the Chefs of HB.

The show will air on HBTv-3, as well as social media outlets. Restaurants must be located in Huntington Beach.

For more of the guidelines and to apply, visit huntingtonbeachca.gov/chefsofhb.

Local water polo goalkeepers honored for Navy

Newport Harbor High alumnus Max Sandberg and Laguna Beach High School product Caden Capobianco, who each are goalkeepers for the Navy men's water polo team, both earned weekly accolades.

Sandberg was named the Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference Defensive Player of the Week, while Capobianco earned conference Rookie of the Week honors.

Sandberg, a junior, went 2-0 in goal for the Midshipmen. He recorded 19 total saves, four steals and two assists in two matches, including a 15-5 win over No. 10 Bucknell on Feb. 20 and a 14-5 win at La Salle the following day.

Capobianco, a freshman, went 1-1 and recorded 22 saves, four steals and three assists in his two matches. They included a 12-11 overtime loss to Bucknell on Feb. 20 and a 19-6 road win over Iona on Feb. 21.

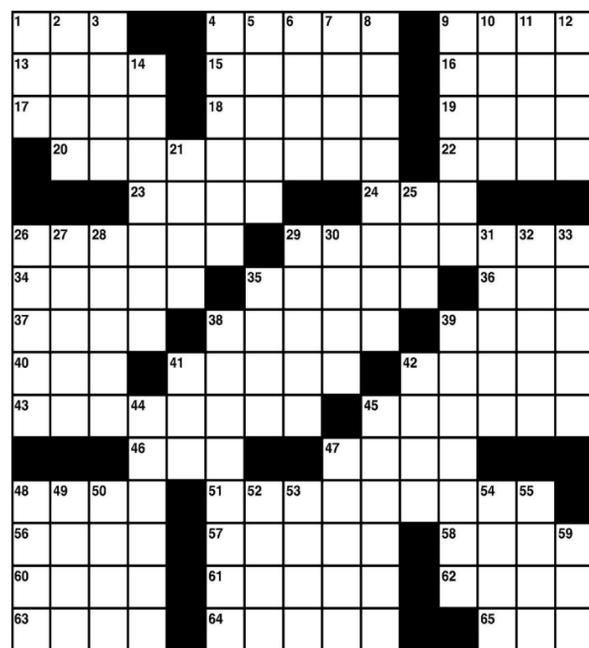
Navy (4-1), which also in-

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

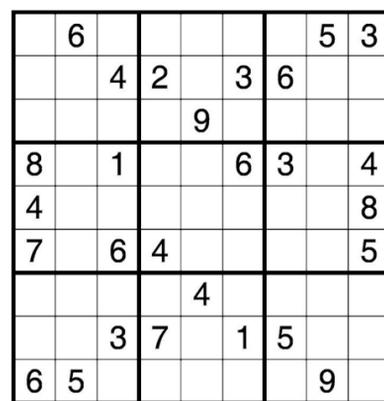
- 1 Stomach muscles
- 4 Perhaps
- 9 Puncture
- 13 Male animal
- 15 Once more
- 16 Golfer's target
- 17 Gary or Natalie
- 18 Start of a warning
- 19 Trick
- 20 Geometric figure
- 22 "Take _ leave it"
- 23 "Welcome _ World"; Elvis song
- 24 Crash into
- 26 Take a stand against
- 29 Irreverent
- 34 Bottoms
- 35 New Orleans athlete
- 36 Recline
- 37 Cub Scout groups
- 38 Petit four coating
- 39 Old Roman wrap
- 40 New Year's _; calendar's end
- 41 Pursue stealthily
- 42 TV's Morley
- 43 Lifeguards, at times
- 45 Meager
- 46 "Death Becomes _"; Meryl Streep film
- 47 Racing sled
- 48 Large Indonesian island
- 51 Guarantee
- 56 Military branch, for short
- 57 _ up; shreds
- 58 " _ makes two of us!"
- 60 Svendborg resident
- 61 Spooky
- 62 Quarterback's fear
- 63 Singles
- 64 Loses traction on the road



SUDOKU

By The Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A4.

65 Sorority letter

DOWN

- 1 CBS rival
- 2 Crude person
- 3 Business transaction
- 4 Monsieur's wife
- 5 Terrible pain

- 6 Yin and _; opposite forces
- 7 High school sci. class
- 8 Going into
- 9 Scampi
- 10 Promote; talk up
- 11 Too

- 12 Lager
- 14 Members of the clergy
- 21 _ out; discard
- 25 Is _ to; probably will
- 26 Tell the waiter what you want
- 27 Irk
- 28 Window pieces
- 29 Gets an "F"
- 30 Chain piece
- 31 High in the sky
- 32 African nation
- 33 Emotional
- 35 Lasting mark
- 38 Repeats
- 39 Natural abilities
- 41 Girl's nickname
- 42 Long story
- 44 Irritates by rubbing
- 45 Women's accessories
- 47 Gruesome
- 48 Self-defense sport
- 49 As dumb _ ox
- 50 Wind indicator
- 52 Look for
- 53 Calcutta garb
- 54 Burn slightly
- 55 _ other; one another
- 59 Fight result, for short

Tribune Media Services

cludes Laguna Beach alum and sophomore attacker Will Clark on its roster, has been ranked No. 9 in the Collegiate Water Polo Assn. national poll.

MOMS Orange County names Gomez to board

Costa Mesa resident Brian Gomez, president and chief executive of Green-Fruit Avocados, was recently appointed to serve on the board of directors for MOMs Orange County, a Santa Ana-based nonprofit that works to increase access to prenatal care in low-income communities.

The organization announced Gomez's selection in a Feb. 18 release that also named the appointment of incoming board members Betha Shnelle, chief operating officer for Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino counties, and Cigna Healthcare Regional Vice President Sasha Yamaguchi.

"We are honored to wel-

come these outstanding new board members who are committed to our mission to help families have healthy babies by providing health coordination, education and access to community services," said Dave Lugo, MOMs Orange County CEO.

Huntington Beach academy presents 'Playlist 2021'

The Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts will bring its contemporary rock concert, "Playlist 2021," to the big screen this week.

The show will be offered in a format that replicates a drive-in movie, with the concert film being shown in the parking lot at First Christian Church of Huntington Beach, at 1207 Main St. It will feature original songs and music videos created by students of the academy.

"Playlist 2021" will be shown for two nights only: Friday and Saturday, at

7 p.m. both dates. Tickets for the show will be \$30 per car and can be purchased at hbapa.org/see.

Adjusting to the coronavirus pandemic was a necessity for the show to go on, as the performance would normally take place in the Huntington Beach Union High School District auditorium.

Dripp Coffee Bar opens at South Coast Plaza

Known for providing a specialty coffee experience, personalized interaction and directly sources, single-origin organic coffee, Dripp Coffee Bar has opened in South Coast Plaza's Saks Fifth Avenue wing on the first level.

The new 1,300-square-foot space conveys a minimal, mid-century modern interior fitted with brushed copper, a carved stone façade and sleek bar. Each cup is individually ground

See **Town**, page A6

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Forward in Faith – The Campaign for Concordia recently surpassed its \$85 million goal and raised **over \$100 million**, making it the most successful campaign in university history. Concordia would like to thank the thousands of donors and friends in the Orange County community for their support and the impact their generosity will have on its students for generations.

FORWARD
in faith



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CUI.EDU/FORWARDINFAITH

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

A	B	S		M	A	Y	B	E		S	T	A	B				
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C	O	L	E		D	O	N	O	T		R	U	S	E			
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D	A	N	E		E	E	R	I	E		S	A	C	K			
O	N	E	S		S	K	I	D	S		R	H	O				

2	6	9	1	7	4	8	5	3
5	7	4	2	8	3	6	1	9
3	1	8	6	9	5	2	4	7
8	2	1	9	5	6	3	7	4
4	9	5	3	2	7	1	6	8
7	3	6	4	1	8	9	2	5
1	8	2	5	4	9	7	3	6
9	4	3	7	6	1	5	8	2
6	5	7	8	3	2	4	9	1



Allen J. Schaben | Los Angeles Times

A VIEW of the older AES Huntington Beach Power Station at left, and new one at right, and is the proposed site of the controversial Poseidon Desalination Plant.

PLANT

Continued from page A1

tion, Newsom took the unusual step of replacing a Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board member who was highly critical of the project.

Though the Huntington Beach facility meets the state goal of diversifying California's water supply, it would undermine other environmental policies. The plant would require large amounts of electricity; it would sit next to a rising sea; and it would continue the use of huge ocean intakes harmful to microscopic marine life.

"The Governor has spoken many times about the importance of ... ensuring the sustainability of California's water supplies," Newsom's office said in a statement. "Regions across California must continue to innovate on local projects as climate change makes our state's water supply more unpredictable."

Two people familiar with the approval process say staff at the water board, which would need to issue a permit for Poseidon's ocean intake and discharge operations before the company can go to the California Coastal Commission for final approval, have been under intense pressure to advance the proposal.

During three days of on-line hearings in July and August, board members questioned whether there was a need for the water supplies Poseidon would provide, noting that the company has yet to lock in a firm buyer for the 50 million gallons a day the plant would produce.

The toughest questions came from William Von Blasingame, a retired power company executive whose second term on the board was about to expire.

With the board's decision still pending, Newsom's office announced on Oct. 21 that the governor would replace Von Blasingame with Letitia Clark, a Tustin City Council member who received campaign contributions from pro-Poseidon labor groups during her 2020 reelection campaign.

"Once again I think the governor stepped in," said Karl Seckel, an Orange County water official. "It seemed rather transparent that he didn't want Von Blasingame involved in that decision."

In an interview with The Times, Von Blasingame said he was surprised that Newsom didn't keep him.

"To change someone in the final days of deliberation seemed to be highly unusual," he said.

Newsom's office said the governor "carefully reviews all appointments and has made many changes across his administration over the past two years to bring in new members to provide a fresh perspective." Newsom is confident Clark "will represent her community's interests in decision-making on the board," the statement continued.

While the project hearing was underway last summer, according to records, Cal EPA Secretary Jared Blumenfeld also called and texted three other board members, contacts that Poseidon opponents say vio-

lated state law.

The communications, which Blumenfeld defends as proper, were disclosed recently by the board.

In the texts and phone calls to board members Kris Murray, Joseph Kerr and Lana Ong Peterson, Blumenfeld did not tell them how to vote. But according to the disclosures — in which the three recount ex parte communications with Blumenfeld outside of formal proceedings — he stressed that the board had a very important decision to make.

He asked when the board would vote, wondered how the meeting — which was livestreamed — was going and mentioned the administration's just released Water Resilience Portfolio.

In a statement, Cal EPA said it was the job of Blumenfeld and Deputy Secretary Kristin Peer "to be in regular contact and coordination with Regional Water Board staff and members on a variety of matters. Secretary Blumenfeld reached out to three members of the Santa Ana Board to offer his office's assistance and it was subsequently determined, out of an abundance of caution, that these conversations would benefit from being placed into the public record."

The resilience portfolio was one of the topics on which Poseidon has lobbied the administration and governor's office.

During the last two years, the company paid lobbying firms a total of \$839,000 to represent its interests in Sacramento, according to secretary of state records.

The bulk of that sum, \$575,000, went to Axiom Advisors, the firm headed by longtime Newsom friend Jason Kinney, whose French Laundry birthday dinner Newsom attended.

Poseidon's pursuit of state approvals hasn't been confined to lobbying. Email exchanges by the regional board staff show that company Vice President Scott Maloni has repeatedly inserted himself into staff business.

In one email, Maloni offered "some suggestions that might help staff in responding to potential Board member questions that could arise" at a March 2020 meeting.

In another, he asked board executive officer Hope Smythe to include a specific slide in its March presentation that might "proactively alleviate any boardmember questions or concerns" about the need for the Poseidon supplies.

When the March meeting was canceled because of COVID-19, Maloni demanded "to know staff's plans to course correct and the resulting schedule."

An April email exchange between two state water board scientists who were working on the desalination project also mentions a "Poseidon meeting at the Governor's office."

The email records include numerous scheduling messages for calls and on-line meetings involving board staff and Peer, a Newsom appointee who is Cal EPA's special counsel for water policy.

Peer scheduled one "check-in" online meeting for Aug. 6, the eve of the third day of the Poseidon

hearing at which it had been expected the board would vote. Along with Smythe and two state water board officials, Peer invited Maloni and Poseidon Senior Vice President Peter MacLaggan.

After another round of discussions on Aug. 7, board members decided to continue the hearing because they had lingering questions about aspects of the project, including the adequacy of Poseidon's plans to mitigate the ecological harm of its ocean intake with environmental restoration work.

After a September date was scheduled and then canceled, Smythe proposed continuing the hearing on Oct. 15.

Maloni, who earlier in the year had chafed under COVID-related delays, replied that the company needed more time to digest new mitigation information. "We don't think a mid-October hearing is achievable," he wrote. It didn't occur.

In early November, records show that Blumenfeld scheduled a "check-in on Poseidon" conference call with Peer, Maloni and a state board attorney.

Board members are expected to return to the Poseidon project in April, when they will consider changes in the proposed permit, including additional environmental mitigation requirements.

One thing that hasn't changed is a condition that the company obtain all necessary approvals for the environmental work before it can operate the desalter.

Poseidon argues that the provision will stretch out the project timeline and hinder financing. The company proposed alternative language dropping the condition, which the staff included in the permit package for the board's consideration.

In a statement, Maloni said the amended permit increases the number of coastal habitat projects from three to five and the restored habitat from 21 acres to 84 acres. He added that the hearing needed to be postponed last fall because Poseidon lacked specific details of the new mitigation requirements.

"We are proud of the transparent and inclusive process and look forward to the Regional Board's adoption of the permit," Maloni said.

To project opponents, the regional board emails paint a clear picture.

"Faced with an uphill battle to get the necessary votes, Poseidon ... asked for the October adoption hearing to be postponed so that the governor had time to remove member Von Blasingame from the decision-making process," contended Sean Bothwell, executive director of the California Coastkeeper Alliance.

"With a more favorable board, Poseidon is now lobbying hard for a 'get out of jail free' card that will allow the project to begin operating before all the necessary permits are obtained to mitigate the significant pollution and marine life impacts it will create."

BETTINA BOXALL writes for the Los Angeles Times.

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Day/Date/Time Auction Ends: Thursday, March 25th, 2021 @ 10:00 A.M

Life Storage Location:

Life Storage #529
10025 Muirlands Blvd.
Irvine, Ca 92618
(949) 768-8051

Customer Name	Inventory
Heidi Aveni	Hsld gds/Furn,TV/Stereo Equip,Tools/Aplnecs, Actctng rcrds/Sales Sampls

Published in the Daily Pilot on: February 28th & March 7th, 2021

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Customer Name	Inventory
Wendy Johnson	Hsld gds/Furn
Noel Elhakour	Hsld gds/Furn
Grant Gruenemay	Hsld gds/Furn,TV/Stereo Equip,Tools/Aplnecs, Off Furn/Mach/Equip, Actctng rcrds/Sales Sampls

Sean Pavano

Brittney Becker

Reachel Hegarty
Douglas Kaz
Dulce Rickards
Patricia Doonan
Linda Yaghyazarian
Bryan Cobb
Elio's Kitchen LLC
Douglas Marx
Xanon Obolowicz
Nicole Creel

Thomas Canon
Blaine Mulligan
Nihat Pekcan
Bryce Hollier

Ariene Conner
William Rubenacker

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Published in the DAILY PILOT on February 28, 2021 and March 7, 2021.

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Customer Name	Inventory
Jennifer Christofilis	Hsld gds/Furn
Shane Holstein	Hsld gds/Furn, TV/Stereo Equip, Tools/Aplnecs, Off Furn/Mach/Equip, Actctng Rcrds/Sales Sampls, Stamps, Baseball cards

John Dagui

Thomas Russo

Trina Thai

Summer Vahdati

Shannon Macfarlane

Lynch Charles
Lynch Charles
David Schoonmaker

And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com, which will end on March 25, 2021 at 10:00AM.
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Westminster, CA 92683
(714)-841-4119.

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Customer Name	Inventory
Jeff A McCormick	Hsld gds/Furn
Aron Miclescu	Hsld gds/Furn
Nancy Carranza	Hsld gds/Furn
Jun Nakiri	Golf Clubs
Melissa Reidler	Hsld gds/Furn
Sebastian Jones	Hsld gds/Furn, TV/Stereo Equip
Rafael Garcia	TV/Stereo Equip,Clothes
Candice M Hill	Hsld gds/Furn
Brandon Sanchez	Hsld gds/Furn
George Lopez	Hsld gds/Furn,Legos
Michael Tamashiro	OffFurn/Mach/Equip
Idris Tate	Hsld gds/Furn
Tracy Shaffner	Hsld gds/Furn, Motorcycle Parts

Jason Pope
Natasha Marron
Iwona Krol

William Wilson
James Graham
Timothy Tran
Laura C. Hernandez
Jan Demeter
Kelvin Sanoja
Hamouti Oussama
Martin Smith
Scott Huffine

James Egan
Gina Iriarte
Parker Nakken
Khoah D Ha
Melvin L L White
Gavin Gonzales
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Valeria Navarro
Tanin Srichandr
Tanin Srichandr
Richard Campos
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Candice Krymer

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As our frontline staff has worked tirelessly to battle this disease, they have been awarded with Special Recognition for Heroism for their continued commitment to patient safety during the COVID-19 pandemic by the Leapfrog Group.*

*Independent organization focused on healthcare safety and quality.

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A WORD, PLEASE | JUNE CASAGRANDE

Does bimonthly mean twice a month or every two months? Depends

Not long ago I would hear people talk about getting paid bimonthly. Others, workers who got paid on a very similar schedule, talked about getting paid bi-weekly.

Sometimes in February, they all got paid on the same days. The rest of the time they got paid at nearly identical intervals, about 14 or 15 days between paychecks.

We can reasonably assume that some of them subscribed to magazines that arrived every 60 days or so. Chances are they referred to these publications as "bimonthly."

Fascinatingly, it seems no one got confused by these two different meanings of the prefix "bi-."

When a worker who got paid every 15 days said he was paid bimonthly, every-

one knew what he meant.

And when the same worker said his magazine that arrived six times a year was "bimonthly," everyone knew what he meant.

So what does "bi-" mean? Does it mean two times per, as in two times per month, or does it mean every two, as in every two weeks?

The answer: both. Here's one definition for the prefix "bi-" from Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary: "occurring every two: bicentennial." Here's another definition in the same dictionary: "coming or occurring two times: biannual."

So even though bi-weekly is universally understood to mean every two weeks, bimonthly can mean every two months or twice a month. Context

counts, as is noted by Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of English Usage (which unlike Merriam-Webster's Collegiate is not a dictionary but a usage guide).

"In the publishing world," reports the usage guide, "everyone assumes you know 'bimonthly' means every two months. ... On the other hand, we have evidence that in the world of education, 'bimonthly' usually means 'twice a month.'"

Merriam's usage guide cites a number of sources, like a magazine called Scouting that in 1970 informed readers "There will now be 6 issues a year. Each bimonthly issue will have 48 pages."

Another example offered in the usage guide is from the 1971 novel "The Paper Chase": "None of us

have time to meet twice a week. ... I propose we shift to bi-monthly meetings."

In all, Merriam's includes five examples in its discussion of the prefix "bi-" and they all have something in common. They're all from the 1960s or 1970s.

This reinforces the idea I hinted at when I started this column talking about at time "not long ago." Confusing uses of "bi-" seem to be on the decline.

I checked Google Ngram Viewer — a searchable database of books going back centuries. Lo and behold: Ngram Viewer's chart shows a precipitous decline in the use of the word "bimonthly" starting in the late 1980s.

Occurrences of "bi-weekly" have also dropped significantly since the '80s, but not nearly as much as

"bimonthly."

Ngram Viewer doesn't tell us everything we might want to know about "biweekly" and "bimonthly." But it's interesting.

People who worry too much about the degradation of the English language can take heart in this tale of "bi-." It's astounding how little confusion this prefix has caused.

Meanwhile Americans are abandoning its more confusing uses. It shows that the English language is pretty good at policing itself.

Of course, the prefix "bi-" still carries some danger you'll confuse your reader. But with a little vigilance you can sidestep the pitfalls.

In Associate Press editing style, for example, editors are instructed:

"Biweekly means every other week. Semiweekly means twice a week." Good advice easily applied to "bimonthly."

The Chicago Manual of Style has good tips, too. "Generally, bi- means two (biweekly means every two weeks), while semi- means half (semiweekly means twice a week). Because these prefixes are often confused with each other, writers should be explicit about the meaning."

With a little care, you can use "bi-" with no risk of creating confusion. In fact, you probably already do.

JUNE CASAGRANDE is the author of "The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide to All the Grammar You Know You Should Know." She can be reached at JuneTCN@aol.com.

COVID-19

Continued from page A1

seven-day averages with a seven-day lag.

Here are the latest cumulative coronavirus case counts and COVID-19 deaths for select cities in Orange County:

- Santa Ana: 43,935 cases; 695 deaths
- Anaheim: 40,873 cases; 703 deaths
- Huntington Beach: 10,242 cases; 180 deaths
- Costa Mesa: 8,663 cases; 105 deaths
- Irvine: 10,110 cases; 67 deaths
- Newport Beach: 3,604 cases; 67 deaths
- Fountain Valley: 3,377 cases; 66 deaths
- Laguna Beach: 791



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

PEOPLE WEAR masks while walking at Bristol Street and Sunflower Avenue in Costa Mesa on Nov. 6, 2020.

cases; five deaths

Here are the case counts by age group, followed by deaths:

- 0 to 17: 25,512 cases; one death
- 18 to 24: 33,978 cases; nine deaths

- 25 to 34: 49,133 cases; 40 deaths
- 35 to 44: 38,393 cases; 86 deaths
- 45 to 54: 39,525 cases; 255 deaths
- 55 to 64: 31,020 cases; 536 deaths
- 65 to 74: 15,464 cases; 759 deaths
- 75 to 84: 7,810 cases; 946 deaths
- 85 and older: 5,276 cases; 1,272 deaths

Updated figures are posted daily at ocovid19.ochealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc.

Information on COVID-19 vaccines in Orange County can be found at ocovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-vaccine-resources.

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TOWN

Continued from page A2

from locally roasted coffee beans and dripped one at a time.

A coffee menu is complemented by luxury teas, sweet and savory bakery offerings and artisanal ice cream, while a small retail area features packaged coffee, tea and products to enjoy at home.

Drripp Coffee Bar is open daily, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Online orders may be placed for quick pickup at drripphead.com.

Open Market OC grand opening this weekend

Orange County small businesses, makers and curators will come together this weekend for shoppers during the grand opening of Open Market OC at Mainplace Mall in Santa Ana.

Located inside the old Nordstrom building, the market will feature more

than 200 clothing boutiques, vintage collectors, home décor shops and handmade goods and jewelry.

The event will include refreshments from local artisan vendors.

The weekend event runs on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Open Market OC is at 2820 N. Main Street, Santa Ana.

Bookmaking workshop at Sherman Library

A March 20 family workshop at Sherman Library & Gardens lets parents and children create their own "Garden Book" in an accordion style with covers and a hidden page with colorful cut paper flowers to create a bountiful garden.

The activity, which runs from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m., is perfect for children ages 6 to 9 but all ages are welcome, including grandparents and adult friends, too.

Attendance is \$25 for garden members and \$30 for

nonmembers. Children and adults are encouraged to book separate spots.

Class size is limited to ensure social distancing, and all participants are required to wear a mask throughout the program.

Sherman Library and Gardens is at 2647 E. Coast Highway in Corona del Mar. For more information, call (949) 673-2261 or visit thesherman.org.

South County Outreach names president, CEO

Irvine-based South County Outreach — which operates a food pantry, computer lab and housing program designed to end hunger and homelessness in Orange County — has named LaVal Brewer its new president and chief executive.

Brewer has more than 30 years of experience in non-profit management and has served for more than a decade in executive and development roles, including with the YMCA, Playworks

Southern California and One OC, a group that serves area nonprofits.

He replaces former SCO President Lara Fisher, who helped grow the organization into a pillar of human services and family support during her nine-year tenure.

"It is my absolute honor to serve South Orange County as President and Chief Executive Officer," Brewer said in a release. "I look forward to changing more and more lives each year and am lucky to have a dedicated team by my side."

Brewer estimated SCO reached 5,500 people in 2020 and said he aims in the year ahead to assist 6,500 individuals experiencing food and housing insecurity.

"South County Outreach is fortunate to have LaVal at its helm," Cheryl Flohr, chair of SCO's board of directors said in a statement. "We look forward to the continued growth and development of the agency under his direction."

—From staff reports

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Thomas Denney

February 16, 1940 - January 5, 2021

Thomas Denney, a long-time resident of Newport Beach died on January 5, 2021 in Irvine, CA at the age of 80.

Tom grew up in Los Angeles and attended the University of Southern California graduating in 1960. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity where he developed deep, lifelong friendships with his fraternity brothers. Tom was a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach, and he had careers in finance/insurance and later in real estate. He was an enthusiastic supporter of USC Athletics, and he volunteered in many university organizations including the USC Trojan Junior Board.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Florence, and he is survived by his brother Joel; his sister Jane and family; his two children, Greg and Linda; and three grandsons whom he dearly loved.

Tom is interred at Pacific View Memorial Park in Corona del Mar, CA. A memorial service for Tom will be held on Friday, April 23, 2021 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach. Pictures and remembrances can be shared at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/thomas-denney>.



Carolyn Gans Wiley

February 1, 1923 - January 2021

Carolyn Gans Wiley, 97, of Glendale, California, passed away January 24, 2021, at her home in Costa Mesa due to COVID-19. She was born in Arkansas in 1923 and adopted by her loving parents Charles Joseph Gans and Helen Millicent Gould Mason and her sister Helen Gans Cooper in 1932. She attended Glendale High School and Glendale Community College, receiving an Associate Arts degree in Literature. She married Webster Goodall Wiley, Jr, who became a prominent homebuilder and real estate developer in the Crescenta-Canada Valley. Webster died at 91 in 2014. They were together for over 50 years and spent their retirement in Apple Valley.

Carolyn was a devoted mother to 4 and involved in school activities from PTA to Cub Scouts and Brownies. Carol and Webb loved to travel and enjoyed flying trips all over the US and Mexico in their series of small Cessna airplanes with many couple friends in the local chapter of the Building Industry of America. She soloed for her own pilot's license in 1959. She later spent 15 years as a customer service representative for Security Pacific Bank and Blue Cross.

She is survived by her children Webb and Laurel Wiley of La Canada, Sheryl and Paul Zehart of Commerce, Texas, Chris and Wolfgang Krause, La Canada, and Annette Wiley of Corona del Mar, as well as 8 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are being made for a family celebration of life later in the summer.

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CULTURE

Continued from page A1

rice cruising the landscape made up of 2017 and 2018 Los Angeles Times news stories about police brutality. His work connects and compares past and present politics.

The longtime South Central art educator said in the



A FRONT view of "Tribute" displayed at the L.A. Classic Auto Show.

Courtesy of Earl Shepherd

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LET'S TALK.



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show's virtual reception that he created the pieces from the point of view of an educator.

Vanessa Viruet's work explores the language of flags and how it constructs identity, particularly in car racing, gang banging or gay cruising.

Research for pieces like "Race Flags: Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Disqualified" led her down a history of car racing and NASCAR. A black flag with a white cross signifies disqualified.

"NASCAR is very well known for their Confederate flag waving," Viruet said. "The resemblance between the black flag with the white 'x' and the Confederate flag was just uncanny to me."

Rhiannon Valenti works with oil paintings and dolls.

Her "Drivin' Thru" features Barbie dolls in a vintage dune buggy with a Carl's Jr. burger plopped on the rear.

"I wanted to capture the feeling of fun, playfulness and California driving," Valenti said.

She thought about how drive-through restaurants are a big part of American culture.

However, when Barcena saw the painting, he said he thought about how young women have limited access to car culture versus the variety of toy cars young men have access to.

The show, open until March 20, is available for viewing online through a 360-degree tour or in-person by appointment.

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BEACH*Continued from page A1*

The documents that turned up in an initial search included a Planning Commission document discussing the development of the public access point, which was put at the intersection of Bluff Drive and Table Rock Drive.

South Laguna had yet to be annexed by the city of Laguna Beach when the project was being considered in 1986, and the county prepared a draft environmental impact report. A pedestrian gate was among the mitigation measures referenced as a condition of approval "because the access is proximate to residences." It would have restricted public access from 8 a.m. to sunset.

"When people make a lot of noise in the middle of the night, it's like an echo chamber," Thomas said. "You can really hear it. They wake you in the middle of the night and stuff like that. There's a big cave, a natural cave down here, which becomes very attractive."

James Dinwiddie, deputy chief of staff for Bartlett's office, said that the supervisor's office asked O.C. Parks to continue the search for historical documentation relating to the Table Rock Beach stair tower project, and O.C. Parks has engaged the California Coastal Commission on the matter.

"O.C. Parks recently received the archived project approval documents from the 1980s from the California Coastal Commission," O.C. Parks spokeswoman Marisa O'Neil said in an email. "The documents are currently being reviewed by County staff. O.C. Parks and the California Coastal Commission are working toward identifying next steps."

While the debate goes on regarding whether Table Rock Beach should have a gate at its point of public entry, O'Neil said that all county-operated beaches are patrolled by a private security company on a nightly basis.

The small, beautiful

*Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer*

A BEACHGOER approaches the stairs at Table Rock Beach. Some residents say that the rise of social media has only enhanced the popularity of the location.



VISITORS FINISH climbing the stairs at Thousand Steps Beach in South Laguna, which does have a gate.

beach has its charm for the locals, but in recent years, some South Laguna residents say that the rise of social media has only enhanced the popularity of

Table Rock Beach.

Greg O'Loughlin, a resident of the Table Rock community and the president of the South Laguna Civic Assn., said he feels that so-

cial media has led to people looking for more exciting ways to get pictures, sometimes putting themselves at risk to reach that goal.

One such location is adjacent to the larger cove at Table Rock Beach. Separated by a rock formation that spans the beach and goes out into the ocean, a cove known to the locals as Secret Cove is on the other side.

"This kind of behavior is happening really everywhere, and I think South Laguna is feeling it a little more because we're a little late to the game," O'Loughlin said. "We've been secret and off the map and not very public, and now everybody knows, everybody knows where it is, so the pressure is on."

O'Loughlin added that the South Laguna Civic Assn. has not determined whether it would advocate for a gate at the Table Rock Beach stairway, but he expressed concern that the area will continue to be problematic.

"The graffiti that we're getting on the beach is more," O'Loughlin said. "Fires in the cave have always been an issue, but the fact that we've had more rescues and more [drowning] deaths, that alone should be enough to get everyone's attention."

Some South Laguna residents have noted a tension between public access and public behavior. Thousand Steps Beach, which is also located in South Laguna, does have a gate that limits

the hours of public access. That has not, however, prevented the issue of graffiti.

"Ninety-nine percent of the people that come to the beach here are fine, but there's always the 1% that is either going to do stuff that's going to get themselves in trouble, or they're going to set a fire, or make a lot of noise, or do something that impacts other people," Thomas said.

"Personally, I think the county did the right thing by saying we need to treat this beach a little differently, we need to treat it more like Thousand Steps, and then they didn't do it, and then the question is, 'Why not?'"

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CROSS-COUNTRY

Laguna Beach girls, CdM boys victorious

BY ANDREW TURNER

As cross-country teams compete in one dual meet after another, it continues to demonstrate how much this season is unlike the others.

Without invitational meets or a postseason to look forward to, cross-country runners keep pushing themselves to the limit after months of being confined to training.

Laguna Beach High girls' cross-country coach Steve Lalim said that his team has focused on making the most of every opportunity, and clearly, in the case of the Breakers, each race has been interpreted as such.

Melanie Falkowski ran 17 minutes 58.2 seconds to pick up her third individual win of the season, and the Laguna Beach girls' cross-country team defeated Corona del Mar 20-39 on Saturday at Central Park in Huntington Beach.

Coco Reed (18:24.7) and Grace Wilson (18:30.1) came in behind Falkowski, as the Breakers claimed the top three positions en route to the victory. Audrey Sutton (sixth, 19:00.8) and Sydney Schaeffgen (eighth, 19:29.2) completed the Breakers' scoring five.

"This is our fourth week in a row racing, fourth Saturday, and the most impressive thing is they're staying motivated, they're staying driven, and they're just working hard," Lalim said.

"They're not letting this pandemic get in the way of what they're doing. They're just focusing. Even though



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

LAGUNA BEACH HIGH'S Melanie Falkowski leads the pack against Corona del Mar during a cross-country dual meet at Central Park in Huntington Beach on Saturday.

it's a different season, they're making the most of every opportunity that they get, which has been pretty cool to watch."

Corona del Mar was led by senior Annabelle Boudreau (fourth, 18:45.1), for whom injuries have limited her opportunities to race. She said that she struggled through lower-body injuries related to a growth spurt, but she added that the delays in the season caused by the coronavirus pandemic gave her time for recovery.

"I think I'm a lot stronger now," Boudreau said. "In the race times, I keep seeing a decrease in seconds,

and even minutes, so I'm actually really excited for the track season. I haven't gotten a real track season in quite a few years."

Melisse Djomby-Enyawe also placed fifth in 18:54.5 for the Sea Kings.

Central Park has often served as the home of league finals and cluster meets, so when Corona del Mar and Laguna Beach held a cross-country dual meet there on Saturday morning, the fields did not appear to be nearly as busy.

Laguna Beach sophomore Christopher Drews had no trouble maintaining a competitive mindset, as he won the boys' race in

16:27.2.

"This season's been weird, but it's been great because the coaches have really been working at 100% for so many months," Drews said. "I just feel like I sort of have to hunker down, run a good race, just for the good of the team. It's sort of your own willpower."

The Breakers, who entered just five runners into the race, claimed the top two spots with William Goodwin (16:54.2) following Drews to the finish.

It was Corona del Mar that earned the victory in the boys' team race 25-30, as a pack of five Sea Kings finished within 36 seconds



CORONA DEL MAR'S Jasper Mahmood, left, runs against Laguna Beach's William Goodwin at Saturday's meet.

INGTON BEACH
3-mile course
Corona del Mar 25, Laguna Beach 30

ON THE WEB

Read more from Saturday's and Wednesday's results involving Fountain Valley, Edison, Huntington Beach, Ocean View, Marina, Costa Mesa and Estancia at dailypilot.com.

1. Drews (LB) 16:27.2;
2. Goodwin (LB) 16:54.2;
3. Mahmood (CdM) 16:58.6;
4. Clemente (CdM) 17:16.1;
5. Harris (CdM) 17:19.4;
6. Choe (CdM) 17:34.0;
7. Young (CdM) 17:34.0;
8. D. Zevnik (LB) 17:47.6;
9. Coffey (LB) 17:51.6;
10. Stewart (LB) 18:03.9

GIRLS' CROSS-COUNTRY
At Central Park, Huntington Beach

3-mile course
Laguna Beach 20, Corona del Mar 39

1. Falkowski (LB) 17:58.2;
2. Reed (LB) 18:24.7;
3. Wilson (LB) 18:30.1;
4. Boudreau (CdM) 18:45.1;
5. Djomby-Enyawe (CdM) 18:54.5;
6. Sutton (LB) 19:00.8;
7. Rosing (CdM) 19:24.3;
8. Schaeffgen (LB) 19:29.2;
9. Carrie (LB) 19:34.3;
10. M. Zevnik (LB) 19:43.9

of each other without a Breaker in between them.

Jasper Mahmood (third, 16:58.6), Spencer Clemente (fourth, 17:16.1), Zach Harris (fifth, 17:19.4), Colin Choe (sixth, 17:34.0) and Wynne Young (seventh, 17:34.0) formed the scoring quintet for the Sea Kings.

"It felt really good," Mahmood, a sophomore, said. "We've been waiting to race for about a year, so we've just been waiting to come and show the work we've been putting in. I think we did a pretty good job of that."

BOYS' CROSS-COUNTRY
At Central Park, Hunt-

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