

Daily Pilot

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

HBHS SURFING COACH Andy Verdone talks about his former student and Surfers' Hall of Fame inductee Casey Wheat on Friday.

H.B.'s Casey Wheat inducted into Surfers' Hall of Fame

About 200 people attend the ceremony in Huntington Beach for a man some called "The People's Champ."

BY MATT SZABO

The waves were ripping on the north side of the Huntington Beach Pier on Friday morning.

These were the kind of the ideal conditions that Huntington Beach native Casey Wheat, who all but lived on the northside, definitely would have appreciated.

Wheat, who died in May 2020 at the age of 49, was inducted into the Surfers' Hall of Fame. About 200 people gathered across from Pier Plaza, in front of Huntington Beach Surf & Sport, for the ceremony.

A paddle-out in Wheat's honor will happen sometime this month, Surfers' Hall of Fame founder Aaron Pai said, when the conditions are right.

Normally surfers would put their handprints into the cement. On Friday, Wheat's father Steve, mother Bonita and girlfriend Olivia Kao each wrote messages to the late Casey.

"C U Soon, dad," Steve Wheat wrote, while Bonita wrote, "Forever mine, mom." Kao wrote, "I'm in, I love you always."

Casey Wheat was known as a colorful personality who made an impact in the surfing world through the formation of the West Coast Board Riders Club. In 2015 Wheat teamed up with lifelong friends Ziggy Williams and Chris Moreno to found the apparel brand SOFKY, which stands for Sport of Kings, Forever Young.

Kao quoted one of Casey Wheat's favorite musicians, Prince, during her speech — "Compassion is an action word with no boundaries."

Wheat's compassion was the reason why some called him, "The People's

See *Wheat*, page A5



STEVE WHEAT, father of Surfers' Hall of Fame inductee Casey Wheat, speaks about his son during a ceremony at the corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Main Street in Huntington Beach on Friday. The younger Wheat passed away in May 2020.



MESSAGES LEFT IN concrete by family members during the induction of Casey Wheat into the Surfers' Hall of Fame.

See *Traffic*, page A5

Recent LCAD grad submits winning game in competition

Bryanna Menard's "You Don't Look Sick" aims to provide support for those with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

BY ANDREW TURNER

Those with an invisible illness often are misunderstood, but a recent graduate of the Laguna College of Art and Design is looking forward to bridging that gap.

Bryanna Menard, 31, who graduated with a master's degree of fine art in game design last month, spent much time as a student developing a mobile game that can help others see the world through the eyes of those of whom they previously had difficulty relating to.

"You Don't Look Sick" is the name of the game. Menard, who identifies as nonbinary, said they received an autism diagnosis a couple of years ago. Menard has experienced bouts of anxiety and depression.

See *Game*, page A2

June is Pride Month

St. James Episcopal Church in Newport Beach celebrates Pride Month beginning with the lighting of the church in rainbow colors each Friday and Saturday evening during the month of June with the exception of June 18 and 19 when it honors Black Lives Matter colors (green, black, red, yellow).

Why do we celebrate Pride Month?

It provides an opportunity for the LGBTQ+ community to come together and celebrate accomplishments such as freedom to be themselves and to receive support from allies.

The movement grew with national organizations formed as a result of a raid at the gay bar, Stonewall Inn June 28, 1969.

The rainbow represents different groups within the gay community.

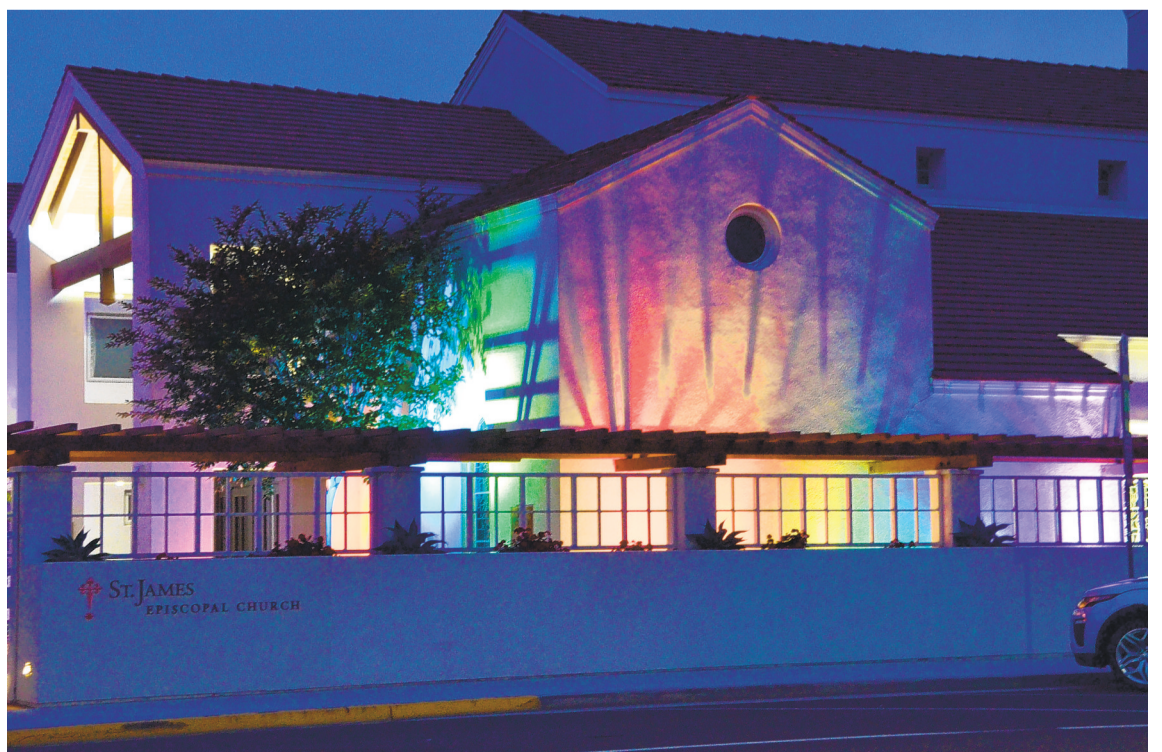
According to *pride.com*, hot pink represents sexuality, green



THE REV. CANON Cindy Evans Voorhees stands in front of a rainbow lit wall as part of the Pride Month celebration at St. James Episcopal Church in Newport Beach.

represents nature, turquoise represents music and art, indigo represents serenity and harmony and violet represents spirit.

— Susan Hoffman



Photos by Susan Hoffman

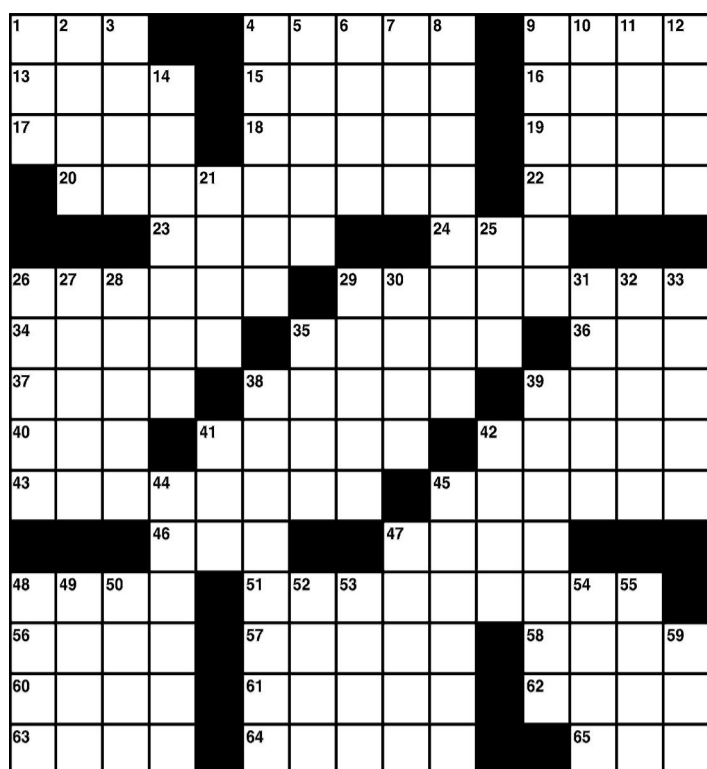
ST. JAMES Episcopal Church shines rainbow lights on the wall in recognition of Pride Month beginning June 4.

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS** 1 Wager
 4 In the midst of
 9 Dwindles
 13 Adios and adieu
 15 In _ of; for
 16 Shipshape
 17 _ down the river; betray
 18 Actress Garbo
 19 Yarn
 20 Moved like a snake
 22 Rear end
 23 War casualties
 24 Work _ sweat; toil laboriously
 26 Mariners
 29 Most astute
 34 Change slightly
 35 Moping
 36 Status _; current situation
 37 Oaf
 38 By and _; on the whole
 39 Song for The Carpenters, e.g.
 40 Barbie's beau
 41 Shoe parts
 42 Bouquet tosser
 43 More devious
 45 Harvested
 46 Cherry stone
 47 Cabin builder's stackful
 48 Equestrian's command
 51 Beat
 56 Check to the landlord
 57 "All _ lead to Rome"
 58 Like petits fours
 60 Prefix for bishop or enemy
 61 Banishment
 62 Neighbor of Libya
 63 Hunter's quarry
 64 _ out; distributes
 65 "_ to a Nightingale"

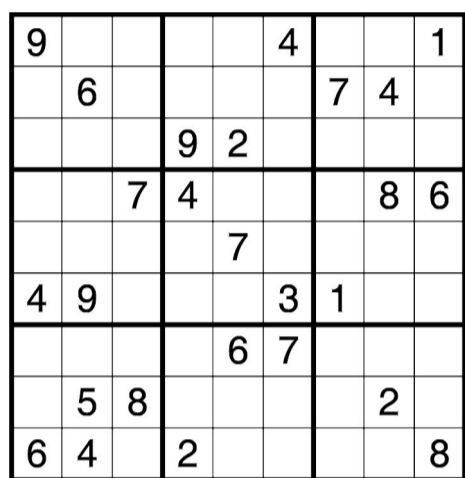
- DOWN**
 1 Air gun pellets
 2 "Bright _"; Shirley Temple film



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 A5.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 TV's "To _ the Truth" | 9 Catch in a snare |
| 4 Crocheter's project | 10 Actor Bridges |
| 5 Stable mothers | 11 Lip _; ChapStick, e.g. |
| 6 "I'm looking _ a four leaf clover" | 12 " _ on it!"; cry to a slowpoke |
| 7 Memo | 14 _ down; dieted successfully |
| 8 June honoree | 21 Wedding cake |

- layer
 25 Use a crowbar
 26 Bags
 27 Actress Burstyn
 28 Do penance
 29 More resentful
 30 Embraces
 31 Provide with gear
 32 "Blue _ Shoes"; hit for Elvis
 33 Bore
 35 Ashen-faced
 38 Dashed
 39 Extreme
 41 Word with poles or boots
 42 Pleads
 44 Indifference
 45 Awakens
 47 Tureen utensil
 48 Envelop
 49 Mister in Munich
 50 " _ upon a midnight dreary" ("The Raven")
 52 Kisses and hugs, for short
 53 " _ Mary, full of grace"
 54 Repeated sound
 55 No longer with us
 59 FDR, HST, _ , JFK, LBJ

Tribune Media Services

GAME

Continued from page A1

An inspiration for Menard's work came from *The Spoon Theory*, by Christine Miserandino, which used spoons as a metaphor for the energy a person living with chronic illness or disability can expend in a day.

"The game looks at energy usage and balancing your health and your wellness, which is supposed be like your physical health and your mental well-being," Menard said.

"I think a lot of that was supposed to reflect with how I have to face life on a day-to-day basis ... A lot of things take more energy than for the average person. Certain things, I can only do so much of in a given day."

As graduation neared, Menard entered the project into the 10th annual IEEE GameSIG Intercollegiate Computer Game Showcase.

The motivation for doing so had been to reward the team of artists that worked on the game by potentially adding to their résumés if the game placed in the contest.

"You Don't Look Sick" ended up taking first place, and it struck a chord with one of the judges on a personal level.

"I talked about what [the game] meant to me, and we had five minutes to do game play and to talk about our game," Menard said. "I was trying to talk about my game while playing through my game, and my game is narrative-based, so it's not like I can just push buttons and fight things. I have to think about what I'm clicking on while I'm trying to talk about it."

"The judges, one of them had a very strong emotional reaction and said that she was the mother of a special-needs child and felt very touched by seeing these topics addressed."

Recognition came for the game in the form of the competition, and Menard also made sure that appre-



Photo courtesy Patrick Menard

BRYANNA MENARD holds a version of "You Don't Look Sick."

ciation was shown for the team that assisted in its creation.

"I was really lucky to have, my last semester, a super strong and amazing team," Menard said. "Without them, the game would be fine because it's text-based, so the game itself would have functioned, but it would have looked so bad."

Menard, who worked on "You Don't Look Sick" in distance learning from her home in Lyndonville, Vt., would like to make the game more accessible by getting it added to the Google Play store.

Menard said the game, which is available now on Itchio, has received about 80 downloads to date.

A new platform has been created to allow for deeper understanding of those with chronic illness.

"They can look at it and say, 'Oh, this is how your days go. You have to think about all of this stuff when you go through your day-to-day life,'" Menard said.

"Ideally, they would then be able to be like, 'I understand better now.' They might be a little nicer about it, assuming they weren't nicer about it before."

Also in the IEEE GameSIG Intercollegiate Computer Game Showcase, LCAD undergraduates Elizabeth Miksch, Georgia Muller, Hikari Oishi, Lilith



Photo courtesy Cheyenne Isola and Heather Wright

THE GAME POSTER for "You Don't Look Sick" designed by Cheyenne Isola with logo by Heather Wright.

Short and Heather Wright earned the Best in Visual Design award for "Trust Me Trust Me Not."

"As I prepare to retire from my position as founding chair of LCAD Game Design MFA and founder of LCAD Game Art BFA programs, I am so proud of our students' accomplishments during an incredible time of distance and challenge," Sandy Appleoff said in a statement.

"Their talent and dedication inspired and awed me, and I know they will continue on building the standard of excellence."

andrew.turner@latimes.com
 Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN

SOUTH COAST PLAZA PROUDLY WELCOMES



Baccarat

Experience Baccarat's new innovative, interactive boutique in The Penthouse. The expanded retail space is modern and minimalistic yet sophisticated and inspired by timeless elements of the Philippe Starck concept.

Baccarat's "The Color of Love" beautiful colored crystal and the new Virgil Abloh "Crystal Clear" vases will debut in the new space.

VISIT THE NEW LOCATION

Level 3, The Penthouse
 714.435.9600

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CITY OF COSTA MESA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Costa Mesa City Council at the regular meeting on **Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.**, or as soon as possible thereafter, regarding Reauthorization of the Business Improvement Area (BIA) assessment of three percent (3%) for certain Costa Mesa hotels and motels for Fiscal Year 2020-21, Resolution 2020-22 attached.

Public Comments:

Information to participate in the meeting will be provided on the agenda. Members of the public who wish to make a comment may submit your public comment via email to the City Clerk at cityclerk@costamesaca.gov and they will be provided to the City Council, made available to the public, and will be part of the meeting record. Any written communications, photos, or other materials for copying and distribution to the City Council that are 10 pages or less, can be e-mailed to cityclerk@costamesaca.gov, submitted to the City Clerk's Office on a flash drive, or mailed to the City Clerk's Office. Kindly submit materials to the City Clerk **AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER THAN 12:00 p.m.** on the day of the hearing, **June 15, 2021**. All materials, pictures, PowerPoints, and videos submitted for display at a public meeting must be previously reviewed by staff to verify appropriateness for general audiences. No links to YouTube videos or other streaming services will be accepted, a direct video file will need to be emailed to staff prior to each meeting in order to minimize complications and to play the video without delay. The video must be one of the following formats, .mp4, .mov or .wmv. Only one file may be included per speaker for public comments. Please note that materials submitted by the public that are deemed appropriate for general audiences will not be redacted in any way and will be posted online as submitted, including any personal contact information. For further assistance, contact the City Clerk's Office at (714) 754-5225. The City Council agenda and related documents may also be viewed on the City's website at <http://costamesaca.gov>, 72 hours prior to the public hearing date. **IF THE FOREMENTIONED ACTION IS CHALLENGED IN COURT**, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in the notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Brenda Green, City Clerk, City of Costa Mesa
Published on June 6, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 FOR A BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA COVERING CERTAIN COSTA MESA HOTELS AND MOTELS AND SETTING THE TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, in adopting the Parking and Business Improvement Area Law of 1989 (Streets & Highways Code §§ 36500 et seq.), the California Legislature authorized cities to levy assessments on businesses in order to promote economic revitalization and tourism, create jobs, attract new businesses, and prevent erosion of business districts; and

WHEREAS, on July 5, 1995, by Ordinance No. 95-9, the City Council adopted a business improvement area, commonly known as the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area (the "BIA"), the purpose of which is to promote tourism to the City and to fund programs and activities that benefit the hotel and motel businesses within the City; and

WHEREAS, the eleven (11) hotels and motels listed in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, are currently subject to the assessment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council appointed the general managers of the 11 hotels and motels subject to the assessment to serve as the advisory board as required by California Streets and Highways Code Section 36530; and

WHEREAS, said advisory board is known as Travel Costa Mesa ("TCM"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council has voted to continue the special assessment for the BIA each year since its inception, and it has been levied upon the 11 hotel and motel businesses listed in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, in January 2000, the City Council approved an increase in the assessment, raising the assessment from one percent (1%) to two percent (2%) based on the sale of overnight room stays; and

WHEREAS, in November 2010, the City Council approved an increase in the assessment, raising the assessment from two percent (2%) to three percent (3%) based on the sale of overnight room stays; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution of Intention will commence proceedings under the Parking and Business Improvement Area Law of 1989 to levy the annual assessment of the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area for the 2021-22 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Agenda Report and its attachments for the May 18, 2021 City Council meeting filed with the City Clerk set forth a detailed description of the activities to be provided in the 2021-22 fiscal year, the boundaries of the Business Improvement Area, the benefit zone of the area, and the proposed assessments to be levied upon the businesses within the area for the coming fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Costa Mesa as follows:

Section 1. Intention: Assessment. The City Council hereby declares its intention to levy and collect assessments in the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area for Fiscal Year 2021-22 pursuant to Streets & Highways Code §§ 36500 et seq. The boundaries of the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area are the 11 hotels and motels listed in Exhibit A. The proposed amount of the annual assessment is three percent (3%) based on the sale of overnight room stays. New hotel and motel businesses commenced after the effective date of the resolution levying the assessment will be exempt from the levy of assessment, pursuant to Streets & Highways Code § 36531.

Section 2. Annual Report. An annual report on the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area has been prepared by TCM, acting as the advisory board, as required by Streets & Highways Code §§ 36533 and 36534. Said report is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Section 3. Types of Activities to Be Funded. The proposed type or types of activities to be funded by and through the annual levy of assessments on businesses within the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area are specified in the referenced annual report and Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 4. Method and Basis of Levy. To allow each business owner to estimate the amount of the assessment to be levied against his or her business, the proposed method and basis of levying the assessment is set forth in the TCM's annual report relative to the Costa Mesa Tourism & Promotion Business Improvement Area.

Section 5. Time and Place of Public Hearing. The time and place of the public hearing on the levy of an annual assessment for Fiscal Year 2021-22 shall be 7:00 p.m. on June 15, 2021, in the City Council Chambers located at 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California, which hearing may be conducted electronically if the City Council Chambers remain closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the public hearing set forth above, the testimony of all interested persons for or against the annual levy of the assessment for the Business Improvement Area, the extent of the area, and/or the furnishing of specific types of improvements or activities will be heard by the City Council.

Section 6. Protests. Consistent with Streets & Highways Code §§ 36524 and 36525, the following rules shall apply to all protests:

- A protest may be made orally or in writing by any interested person. Any protest pertaining to the regularity or sufficiency of the proceedings shall be in writing and shall clearly set forth the irregularity or defect to which the objection is made.
- Every written protest shall be filed with the City Clerk's Office, Costa Mesa City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Room 101, Costa Mesa, California 92626, at or before the time fixed for the public hearing as set forth above.
- The City Council may waive any irregularity in the form or content of any written protest, and, at the public hearing, may correct minor defects in the proceedings.
- Each written protest shall contain a description of the business in which the person subscribing the protest is interested sufficient to identify the business and, if a person subscribing is not shown on the official records of the City as the owner of the business, the protest shall contain or be accompanied by written evidence that the person subscribing is the owner of the business. A written protest which does not comply with this section shall not be counted in determining a majority protest.
- If written protests are received from the owners of businesses in the proposed Business Improvement Area which will pay fifty percent (50%) or more of the assessments to be levied and protests are not withdrawn so as to reduce the protests to less than the fifty percent (50%), no further proceedings on the proposal to continue to levy the Business Improvement Area assessment, as specified by this Resolution, shall be taken by the City Council for a period of one year from the date of the filing of a majority protest.
- If the majority protest is only against the furnishing of a specified type or types of improvement or activity within the Business Improvement Area, those types of improvements or activities shall be eliminated.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of May, 2021.

ATTEST:

/s/ Brenda Green

Brenda Green, City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

COUNTY OF ORANGE)

CITY OF COSTA MESA)

ss

/s/ John Stephens

John Stephens, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Kimberly Hall Barlow

Kimberly Hall Barlow, City Attorney

I, BRENDA GREEN, City Clerk of the City of Costa Mesa, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is the original of Resolution No. 2021-15 and was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Costa Mesa at a regular meeting held on the 18th day of May, 2021, by the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: CHAVEZ, GAMEROS, HARLAN, REYNOLDS,
MARR, AND STEPHENS.

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: NONE.

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: HARPER.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereby set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Costa Mesa this 19th day of May, 2021.

/s/ Brenda Green

Brenda Green, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

The Business Improvement Area ("BIA") benefit zone encompasses the entire City of Costa Mesa boundaries. It is anticipated that the entire City, including businesses and residents, will benefit from increased revenues generated by the activities financed by the BIA assessment. The following businesses will be included in the BIA that is established pursuant to Streets & Highways Code §§ 36500 et seq., the businesses commonly known as:

Ayres Country Inn & Suites

Property Address: 325 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Newport Country Inn & Suites, Inc.

355 Bristol Street, Suite A

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Property Owner: Newport Country Inn & Suites, Inc.

355 Bristol Street, Suite A

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Best Western Plus Newport Mesa Inn

Property Address: 2642 Newport Boulevard, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: James Hsuen

Shang-Pu Lee

2642 Newport Boulevard,

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Property Owner: James Hsuen

Shang-Pu Lee

2642 Newport Boulevard,

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Hilton

Property Address: 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Ashford TRS CM LLC

14185 Dallas Parkway, Suite 1100

Dallas, TX 75254

Property Owner: Remington Lodging & Hospitality LP

14185 Dallas Parkway, Suite 1100

Dallas, Texas 75254

Crowne Plaza

Property Address: 3131 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Brighton Management

1901 Main Street, Suite 150

Irvine, CA 92614

Property Owner: Bright Bristol Street, LLC

3131 Bristol Street

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites

Property Address: 2070 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Narendra B. Patel

2070 Newport Blvd.

Costa Mesa, CA 92667

Property Owner: Narendra B. Patel

2070 Newport Blvd.

Costa Mesa, CA 92667

Costa Mesa Marriott

Property Address: 500 Anton Boulevard, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Starwood Capital Group

591 West Putnam Avenue

Greenwich, CT 06830

Property Owner: HEI Hotels & Resorts

101 Merritt 7 Corporate Park, 1st Floor

Norwalk, CT 06851

Ramada Inn & Suites Costa Mesa

Property Address: 1680 Superior Ave., Costa Mesa

Business Owner: B.D. Inns Inc./Ramada Ltd.

1680 Superior Ave.

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Property Owner: B.D. Inns Inc./Ramada Ltd.

1680 Superior Ave.

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Residence Inn by Marriott

Property Address: 881 Baker Street, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Marriott International

10400 Fernwood Rd.

Bethesda, MD 20817

Property Owner: BRE Select Hotels and Resorts

6201 15th Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11219

The Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel

Property Address: 686 Anton Boulevard, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Host Hotels & Resorts

6903 Rockledge Dr., Suite 1500

Bethesda, MD 20817

Property Owner: CJ Segerstrom & Sons

c/o South Coast Plaza

686 Anton Boulevard

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Avenue of the Arts. A Tribute Portfolio Hotel

Property Address: 3350 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Rosanna Inc.

3350 Avenue of the Arts

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Property Owner: Rosanna Inc.

3350 Avenue of the Arts

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

BLVD Hotel

Property Address: 2430 Newport Blvd, Costa Mesa

Business Owner: Hollywood Corner Inc.

2430 Newport Blvd.

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Property Owner: Shyamal Patel, CA 92782

16609 Honeybee Dr.

Tustin, CA 92682

EXHIBIT B

The BIA assessment will be used to fund Travel Costa Mesa ("TCM"). TCM will fund activities to promote tourism in Costa Mesa and will sponsor related tourist events that benefit the hotel and motel businesses within the City.

The specific improvements and activities to be funded by this assessment are outlined in the TCM's 2020-2021 Annual Report.

Revenue

A three percent (3%) levy will be assessed against each of the 11 hotels listed in Exhibit A, based on the net revenue from the sale of overnight room stays.

Business owners shall pay the assessment to the Costa Mesa City Finance Department on a monthly basis. A penalty and interest shall be assessed on late payments.

Note: New hotel and motel businesses commenced after the effective date of this resolution will be exempt from the levy of assessment.

TRAFFIC

Continued from page A1

airport may see a return to near-normal passenger traffic during the typically busy summer season.

Los Angeles International Airport also reported a record number of passengers on the Friday before the holiday, logging some 78,000 travelers, the Los Angeles Times reported.

May was a particularly busy month at LAX, where a daily average of 61,400

passengers filtered through Transportation Security Administration checkpoints.

“We are seeing passenger numbers rise quickly as the demand for air travel surges across the U.S.,” Justin Erbacci, chief executive officer of Los Angeles World Airports, said in a statement, “so we want to make sure our guests know they will be returning to an airport that is bustling with travelers and at times experiencing heavy traffic.”

Orange County residents who’ve taken a long pandemic hiatus from air trav-

el — induced by news reports of in-flight altercations over mask wearing and concerns about sitting shoulder to shoulder with strangers at the height of a global pandemic — may notice a few new developments upon their arrival to John Wayne Airport, representatives report.

In addition to the return of the facility’s JWLive music performances and the AirPAWS therapy dogs, who aim to calm anxious passengers waiting for their departing flights to take off, a new AirPASS program has

been recently introduced.

Now, visitors without a boarding pass may register for a one-day security clearance pass that allows access to secure areas of the Terminal, where pass holders can eat, shop, people watch and greet friends and family members at the gate.

To learn more about air travel and programs at John Wayne Airport, visit ocair.com or call (949) 252-5200.

sara.cardine@latimes.com
Twitter: @SaraCardine



JOHN WAYNE Airport is nearly empty in November. Memorial Day travel, by comparison, was robust, officials report.

Allen J. Schaben
Los Angeles Times

WHEAT

Continued from page A1

Champ,” she said.

“Compassion is an action all humans are capable of, but for Casey, it was an innate passion for him to act with compassion and empathy as a way of life,” Kao said. “No matter where a person came from, he made it a point to show kindness and respect to all, even to folks who weren’t quite his cup of tea. He was the kind of guy that would go the distance for anyone that needed help.”

Wheat, who died of an accidental fentanyl overdose, was 6 feet 3 and rail thin.

The 1988 Huntington Beach High School graduate helped the Oilers surf team win the national title in his senior year.

That was the first year that current coach Andy Verdone took over the program. Verdone remembered Wheat as a personality, who loved hip-hop music and had a unique fashion sense.

“He was like an NBA star stepping off a bus,” Verdone said Friday at the ceremony. “Dude, he could dance, he could hold a crowd. He’d hold court like none other.”

Mayor Kim Carr painted Wheat’s Surf City roots during her remarks, pointing out that his great-grandfather was the original owner of the Golden Bear nightclub downtown. His



STEVE WHEAT, left, father of Surfers’ Hall of Fame inductee Casey Wheat, with Huntington Beach Mayor Kim Carr on Friday.

Raul Roa
Staff
Photographer

grandparents owned and operated the beachside snack shacks and rental shops now known as Zack’s and Zack’s Too.

Many others from the surf community also were there to honor their friend. So was Judge Otis Wright, who Steve Wheat credited for his compassion in deal-

ing with his son during earlier legal issues.

Pai said he remembers paddling out with Steve and Casey Wheat back in the day, when Casey was just a grom.

“He grew into a teenager, and he was so eloquent as far as his surfing,” Pai said. “His barrel riding was like

second to none. Then he grew into a man, and his barrel riding and surfing got even better and more eloquent.

“The guy is a legend, a northside legend. He had a style all of his own.”

matthew.szabo@latimes.com
Twitter: @mjszabo

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

B	E	T		A	M	O	N	G		E	B	B	S		
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W	H	O	A		E	X	H	A	U	S	T	E	D		
R	E	N	T		R	O	A	D	S		I	C	E	D	
A	R	C	H		E	X	I	L	E		C	H	A	D	
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9	8	3	7	5	4	2	6	1
2	6	5	3	1	8	7	4	9
1	7	4	9	2	6	8	3	5
5	1	7	4	9	2	3	8	6
8	3	6	5	7	1	4	9	2
4	9	2	6	8	3	1	5	7
3	2	9	8	6	7	5	1	4
7	5	8	1	4	9	6	2	3
6	4	1	2	3	5	9	7	8



Sally W Fletcher

December 9, 1927 - May 17, 2021

On May 17, Sally W. Fletcher of Newport Beach/San Marino passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family, showing the independence and resolve that was a hallmark of her remarkable life.

Born on December 9, 1927, Sally was raised in Minnesota, the daughter of Wilber and Josephine Wittenberg and sister to James and Thomas. At 18 she boarded a bus for the twenty hour drive to Wellesley College, having never been further east than Chicago. With a degree in English, Sally worked as a writer for various periodicals in New York and San Francisco where she met Douglas B. Fletcher. They were engaged after dating for three weeks. This impetuous leap of faith was rewarded with a 59-year marriage, ending only at Doug’s passing in 2009.

Sally was the true matriarch of the Fletcher Family with her house the center post of Christmases, Thanksgivings, random Sundays and fierce Scrabble games that she enjoyed and dominated up to the day before her hospitalization. She was the repository of family history and events, knowing the minutest details of each of her 10 grandchildren’s and 3 great grandchildren’s lives, from travels to jobs to partners to preschool. Her sons eventually migrated back to Orange County to be close and to enjoy the wit, warmth, intelligence and compassion that was uniquely Sally.

Her life was a whirlwind of exploration, not only of the world but of those who came to love her. She remained intimate friends with college roommates and built new friendships every day, from gallery owners to caregivers (Gemma!) to friends of friends of friends. She was forever inquisitive and genuine, and while she remembered every detail, her storytelling was often extravagantly embellished for effect, much to the tolerant amusement of her family.

This charming and inspirational woman loved Mexico, conversation, good design, language, books, music (Handel and Bach), world news, local gossip and above all else her ever-present peanut brittle. She is survived by her two brothers, four sons and their families, (David and Leah, Chris and Malin, Jim and Cindy, Jon and Cheryl) and all the innumerable friends who buoyed her every single day and made her life full and richly satisfying. She loved every one of you.

In lieu of flowers her family would suggest a donation in her name to Planned Parenthood, plannedparenthood.org.

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BOYS' VOLLEYBALL

Marina High captures its first CIF championship

BY ANDREW TURNER

Marina High School boys' volleyball coach Ryan Parker dared to dream big.

When he took over the program this season after previously serving as an assistant, Parker indicated to his team that the goal should extend well beyond winning a league game.

The Vikings did not settle, and they now find themselves at the top of the mountain.

Senior outside hitter Daniel Purtell had a match-high 20 kills, and top-seeded Marina defeated Cerritos Valley Christian 28-26, 25-22, 25-23 for the CIF Southern Section Division 4 volleyball championship at home on Saturday night.

"This is as big of a deal as I've ever had coaching," Parker said. "In five years of coaching, I've coached guys that have gone on to Division 1, been in junior national finals — this is everything."

"This is the top of my coaching career right here. This is the best moment I've had, and hopefully more to come, but this has just been the storybook ending for this program, for these seniors and for this season."

Parker, 23, looked as though he could have been on the court for the Vikings in the final. The smile could not be wiped off his face after the transformational win which brought the program its first section title.

"Everybody wanted to



DANIEL PURTELL, swinging, had a match-high 20 kills for Marina, which defeated Cerritos Valley Christian in straight sets for the CIF Southern Section Division 4 boys' volleyball title on Saturday.

Photo by Spencer Grant

Daily Pilot

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play us on their senior night, and I don't think that's going to happen any time soon," Parker added.

Marina (10-5) led throughout the opening set, but a pair of erratic attacks had Marina on the brink of disaster in Game 1.

Valley Christian (16-1) served for the set twice before the Vikings made good on their second opportunity.

"I wasn't playing as well, and I heard a buddy ... in the stands say, 'Daniel, you're better than that,' so I was just thinking the whole time, 'I'm better than this, I'm better than this,'" Purtell said.

"Always try to jump a lit-

tle higher, swing a little harder. Tips weren't working out for me, so you just got to swing."

The ball was coming in hot off the right hand of senior outside hitter Aidan Patterson.

He had half of his eight kills in the second set, including one that clinched Game 2.

Dyllan Nguyen had 31 assists and four service aces for Marina. Jaxen Phillips-Hill added four kills and a block.

Michael Torrez had a solo block, and Christopher Whitener had two block assists for the Vikings.

Nguyen, a freshman, stepped into the role of set-

ter upon his arrival from Fountain Valley.

The addition allowed Purtell, who had been a setter, to become a key part of the offense for Marina.

"I'm glad he switched positions because he's meant for this role," Nguyen said of Purtell's willingness to become an outside hitter.

Junior outside hitter Cole Oliver had a team-high 17 kills to go with three aces and two blocks for Valley Christian.

Junior outside hitter Micah Sybesma added 11 kills, and senior setter Bryce Jones contributed 25 assists and two blocks.

Marina had not played a match for more than two

weeks when the playoffs began due to a positive COVID-19 test within the program.

With the uncertainty that there would be a season to begin with, followed by the midseason interruption, the Vikings overcame adversity to rewrite the record book.

"It feels so good," said Vikings junior libero Joseph Nunez, who had 19 digs. "This was our goal in the beginning. This was what we wanted to do, and we knew we could do it. It just feels good to finally get it done."

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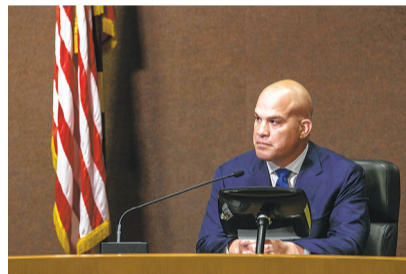
MAILBAG

Tito Ortiz's departure from Huntington Beach council a shot in the arm

The clock finally struck 12 on Tito Ortiz's Cinderella-like civic career when he resigned under the weight of increasing criticism and scrutiny of his brash behavior and actions on the City Council. Yes, his reputation took an MMA-style beating, but he largely brought it on himself, and many in local government and the community are glad to be rid of him. Let's hope the City Council does a commendable job of appointing a replacement that is actually strong on community service and willing to work with others to better the city. If the Latino community wanted a hero to serve on the City Council and eventually become mayor, they have to look no further than Oscar Rodriguez who placed well in the 2020 local election and is a paragon of virtue compared to Ortiz. Many of my friends and neighbors of all political persuasions are sick and tired of unqualified "celebrities" using their fame and fortunes to blaze into public office without a clue or a care about serving the citizenry. Let's hope Ortiz's replacement is more concerned with duty than dilettantism.

Tim Geddes
Huntington Beach

Mayor Pro Tem Tito Ortiz resigned blaming everyone for what he considered ill treatment. But it is clear that Ortiz was not aware what the job entailed, and while he may have believed that his colleagues on the City Council were against him he may not have been aware that the majority of them are also right-wingers like him but kept it to themselves and were responsible enough to wear



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

MAYOR PRO-TEM Tito Ortiz resigned from the City Council on Tuesday.

masks and keep social distances. Mr. Ortiz's departure will be beneficial for the city.

Richard C. Armendariz
Huntington Beach

Threats and crass comments are an unfortunate component of today's culture. As much as I object to Tito Ortiz's denial of science, his reactionary politics and his grandstanding, and as pleased as I am to see him resign from the Huntington Beach City Council, I wish him well and trust that we as a city can go forward toward the creation of a more civil community wherein our residents can live in harmony and with peace and tolerance for one another.

Ben Miles
Huntington Beach

Local environmental community suffers in advocate's death

In a great loss for the environmental community, Cindy Black passed away in late February after a long illness.

Everyone who knew Cindy would agree that she was one of the most passionate, driven and focused envi-

ronmental activists ever in this area. She deeply cared about protecting wildlife habitats. While she was involved with several environmental groups, Cindy would often carry on by herself, if necessary, when she believed an issue was important. While she had a great sense of humor, protecting nature came before winning a popularity contest.

Cindy worked tirelessly, alone at times, to restore habitat at Talbert Nature Preserve.

Cindy not only advocated that the habitat be restored with native vegetation but that the native vegetation come from local seeds. She was deeply committed to Fairview Park and keeping it as natural as it could be and walked her beloved Nana daily throughout the park.

Cindy served on the Banning Ranch Conservancy's board of directors for many years and worked extremely hard. She wasn't afraid to speak up to protect all things in nature, often being the lone vote of dissent when she thought we were deviating from our mission.

Cindy regularly ran the Banning Ranch Conservancy's booth at the Fish Fry. Cindy documented a burrowing owl on the NMUSD surplus property at the end of Whittier Avenue and fiercely protected this bird, guarding its location, even from wildlife officials. She spent countless hours visiting the local state oil drilling office to obtain records on the numerous oil wells on Banning Ranch.

Anyone who loves the natural areas in the Newport-Mesa area has Cindy Black to thank for her love of everything natural and environmental.

Terry Welsh
President, Banning Ranch
Conservancy

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