

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com

'Sunset Trace' brightens the day at Laguna Art Museum's Art and Nature

BY ANDREW TURNER

It stood out and seemed to fit into the surrounding landscape at the same time.

Tied to the palm trees and buildings in and around Heisler Park, "Sunset Trace," a colorful "Skynet" created by Los Angeles-based artist Patrick Shearn of Poetic Kinetics, soared in a steady coastal breeze on Friday.

"The thing is it's so ultra-light-weight that the smallest breeze can get individual streamers dancing," Shearn explained, "and then when the wind picks up, depending on the direction of the wind, you can really see and experience the sort of larger symphonic motions of the wind at large, how it wraps around the buildings and passes through the trees. ... You really become aware of sort of how much we're not aware of, or how much we don't really experience that's hidden from us visually."

The 650-foot-long exhibit is the featured installation for Laguna Art Museum's Art and Nature, an annual event that is now in its eighth year. Art and Nature came to fruition under Malcolm Warner, who plans to retire as the executive director of the museum at the end of the year.

"I think it was really a master stroke by Malcolm Warner, the executive director, to come up with this concept eight or nine years ago," Laguna Beach Mayor Bob Whalen said of Art and Nature. "Art and nature are kind of two of the key elements that Laguna loves, right? We love art, we love nature, the open environment."

"To blend those two together in an outdoor art display, which they've done yearly now is just very impactful, and the community looks forward to it every year."

Whalen added that this year's Art and Nature installation was a collaboration between the Laguna Art Museum and the city's Arts Commission.

See **Museum**, page A4



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THIS YEAR'S Laguna Beach Art Museum's Art and Nature exhibit, Patrick Shearn's Skynet, suspended along the coastline path from Las Brisas to Main Beach near the Laguna Inn.

Nayeri gets life with no parole

The Newport man is sentenced for his role in the 2012 kidnapping and mutilation of a medical marijuana dealer.

BY CHRISTOPHER GOFFARD

Hossein Nayeri, the 41-year-old Newport Beach man who was convicted last year of playing a role in the kidnapping and mutilation of a medical marijuana dealer, was sentenced Friday to life in prison without parole for what a prosecutor described as "diabolical" behavior.

Prosecutors said the 2012 crime stemmed from Nayeri's mistaken belief that the owner of a prosperous Santa Ana pot dispensary, who has been referred to in court as John Doe, had hidden \$1 million in the Mojave Desert.

Nayeri and two other attackers abducted the man and a female housemate from a home on 25th Street in Newport Beach and forced them into a van. The attackers tortured the dispensary owner, tasing him, burning him with bleach, severing his penis and leaving him in the desert. He was rescued after his housemate made it back to the road and hailed a passing sheriff's deputy.

"From a psychology standpoint, I live with the feeling of always

See **Sentence**, page A3

Guilty plea in case of vandalism at restaurant

A Fullerton woman and a friend smashed several items with a bat at a business in South Coast Plaza in October 2019.

BY SARA CARDINE

A Fullerton woman pleaded guilty Thursday to felony counts of vandalism and conspiring to commit a crime 13 months after she and a friend stormed a restaurant at Costa Mesa's South Coast Plaza and smashed several items with a bat.

Laglennda Damona Carr, 25, also pleaded guilty to one misdemeanor count of wearing a mask or personal disguise for an unlawful purpose and for resisting arrest, according to Orange County court records.

For her role in the incident Carr will serve 45 days in jail and perform 200 hours of community service. Documents indicate she was also sentenced to two years probation and must pay restitu-

See **Plea**, page A4

ORANGE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS FOCUS ON STAYING IN RED TIER AS COVID-19 COUNTS CLIMB

BY SARA CARDINE

Orange County officials have for weeks been striving to advance through the state's color-coded reopening tier system — which ties new coronavirus cases to allowable reopenings — from "substantial" red to "moderate" orange and one step closer to economic recovery.

But as the county entered its 60th day in the red tier Friday, and with the number of new infections and COVID-19 hospitalizations continuing to rise, civic focus has shifted to keeping the county from sliding back into the "widespread" purple tier and more reclosures.

Orange County Supervisor Chairwoman Michelle Steel recently acknowledged the importance of keeping the county from

following the lead of neighboring Imperial and San Diego counties, which were booted back to purple earlier this week.

"While Orange County remains firmly in the red tier, it is important that we continue this trend," Steel said in a news conference Thursday. "We have made a lot of progress as a county and continue to have stable numbers, and I am hopeful we can continue to do so"

With the holidays, and the lure of social gatherings, approaching and as COVID-19 fatigue begins to take hold eight months into the pandemic, Orange County Health Care Agency Medical Director Matt Zahn urged residents to remain vigilant in the months ahead.

"We're all aware the holiday

See **COVID-19**, page A4



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

A WOMAN wears a mask while walking at South Coast Plaza on Friday.

Fashion Island prepares for holidays with Christmas tree arrival

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Santa's coming to town in just a few weeks, but at Fashion Island in Newport Beach — the tree's coming first.

Early Wednesday morning, cranes lifted a 90-foot tall white fir tree off the back of a flatbed truck to be "installed," which Victor Serrao, president of Victor's Custom Christmas Trees, said means that the tree needs to be lifted and placed. Serrao said it'll be about a few days for branches that are "plugged" back into the tree to fill it out.

Serrao said the team will return to coat the tree in a flame retardant, then decorate it to make it the Christmas tree that shoppers are familiar with by Nov. 13.

This year, the tree's going without a lighting ceremony in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Fashion Island spokespeople said

the tree would be lit every night and that families would be able to take complimentary photos with the tree and make virtual visits to Santa, starting Nov. 20 through Jan. 2.

The tree's arrival marks the beginning of the holiday shopping season at Fashion Island, which retailers Voluspa and Neiman Marcus said they already began preparations for.

Brittany Bell, an account executive and training and education director at Voluspa, described the arrival of the tree as a "north star" in planning holiday merchandising and events. Once it arrived, Bell said it was "full force until the New Year."

Adriana Sender, the brand experience manager for the Fashion Island branch of Neiman Marcus, agreed, adding that the tree as a

See **Tree**, page A4



FASHION ISLAND'S 90-foot-tall holiday white fir tree is lowered by a crane into place at the Neiman Marcus-Bloomingdale's Courtyard on Wednesday morning.

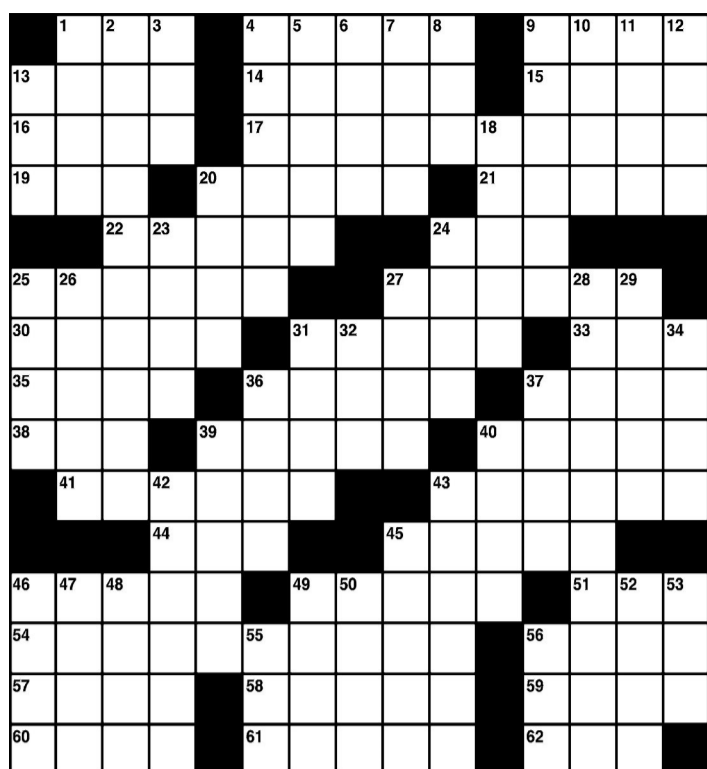
Kevin Chang
Staff
Photographer

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

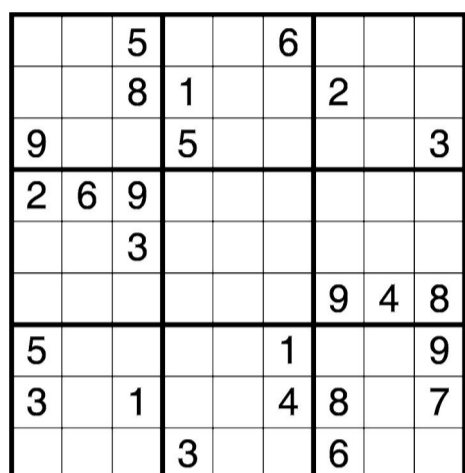
- 1 Black Jack or Juicy Fruit
 - 4 _ at; deride
 - 9 Phi _ Kappa
 - 13 Candy _;
 - 14 Used the ears
 - 15 Merit
 - 16 Rarin' to go
 - 17 _ in; curious about
 - 19 Last biblical bk.
 - 20 _ level; honest
 - 21 Dangerous
 - 22 Santa's aides
 - 24 Wynken, Blynken and _
 - 25 Courtroom panels
 - 27 Most impolite
 - 30 Al or Bobby
 - 31 Soda fountain order
 - 33 Corn on the _
 - 35 TV's "_: New Orleans"
 - 36 Make points
 - 37 Destiny
 - 38 Actress Dennings
 - 39 Pioneer schoolkid's item
 - 40 Get clean
 - 41 Large snake
 - 43 Envelope contents
 - 44 Uncooked
 - 45 Steed
 - 46 Play a guitar
 - 49 _ to; because of
 - 51 As _ as a beet
 - 54 Keeping and safeguarding
 - 56 One not to be trusted
 - 57 Meghan Markle, to Prince George
 - 58 Windowsill
 - 59 All at _; suddenly
 - 60 Brooklyn team
 - 61 Derisive smile
 - 62 Short grunt
- DOWN**
- 1 _ away; donated
 - 2 Duke or Princeton
 - 3 TV's "Chicago _"
 - 4 Glows



SUDOKU

By The Mephram 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 A3.

- 5 Small change
- 6 Sworn statement
- 7 On the house
- 8 Hoover's successor, for short
- 9 Standing next to
- 10 Polishes off
- 11 Long hike
- 12 Warhol or Kaufman
- 13 Sonata or Sentra
- 18 Wear away
- 20 _-the-top; outrageous
- 23 _ down;

- reclines
- 24 Heat in the microwave
- 25 Worthless stuff
- 26 Open a pill bottle
- 27 Seldom seen
- 28 Strewing
- 29 _ max; fully
- 31 MRI, for one
- 32 Weather forecast
- 34 Lager
- 36 As _ as molasses
- 37 Pianist & singer _ Domino
- 39 Put to _; humiliate
- 40 Arctic mass
- 42 Has confidence in
- 43 No _; not anymore
- 45 Door hanger's piece
- 46 Bridge
- 47 Word of agreement
- 48 Torn asunder
- 49 Hot spot
- 50 Broad
- 52 Every
- 53 Dr. _ of rap
- 55 Author Stevenson's initials
- 56 _ Grant; Ed Asner role

Tribune Media Services

H.B. holds ribbon-cutting event for new homeless Navigation Center

BY MATT SZABO

The city of Huntington Beach held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new homeless Navigation Center on Monday, after years of trying to find the right site and hammering out details. The Navigation Center, located on adjacent lots at 17642 Beach Boulevard and 17631 Cameron Lane, will provide up to 174 shelter beds for adults, and will also facilitate additional case management and support services. It is expected to open by the end of November.

"During the past five years, addressing homeless related issues has been a top priority at the city," Huntington Beach Mayor Lyn Semeta said in a statement. "Establishing a Navigation Center here in Huntington Beach provides us with a critical tool to help our most vulnerable adults, while facilitating an improved quality of life for everyone in Surf City."

Those staying at the temporary shelter are expected to have access to services including vocational training, mental health treatment and transportation to necessary appointments.

Walk-ins will not be accepted; clients must be referred to the Navigation Center through Huntington Beach's homeless outreach partners.

Michelle Steel, chairwoman of the Orange County



Courtesy of city of Huntington Beach

HUNTINGTON BEACH City Council members participate in Monday's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new homeless Navigation Center. Pictured, from left, are Mike Posey, Barbara Delgleize, Mayor Lyn Semeta, Mayor Pro Tem Kim Carr, Patrick Brenden and Jill Hardy.

city contracted with to operate the facility, will provide on-site security. Access will only be allowed off Beach Boulevard, a move designed to limit the impact to residents of Cameron Lane.

"We are amazed at the speed and urgency that the city displayed in building the Navigation Center," Mercy House Executive Director Larry Haynes said in a statement. "It was a remarkable project that converted vacant land into a comprehensive shelter that Mercy House is proud to operate, and we believe our services will truly benefit the entire Huntington Beach community."

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Board of Supervisors, also attended Monday's ribbon cutting.

The city broke ground on the Navigation Center in August after the City Council authorized purchase of the property in February.

Huntington Beach considered 35 different shelter sites over the last several years, City Manager Oliver Chi said in an August presentation to the City Council. A structure at 15311 Pipelane Lane fell through last year after residents and businesses sued the city, saying the property should only be used for industrial use.

Costa Mesa man sentenced to six years for altered debit card scheme in Louisiana

SHREVEPORT, LA. — A Costa Mesa man was sentenced Tuesday to six years in prison for using altered debit cards to steal money from ATMs in Louisiana, acting U.S. Atty. Alexander C. Van Hook said in a news release.

Dennis Busch, 40, was sentenced in federal court

in Shreveport, La., Van Hook said.

Busch was ordered to pay more than \$63,000 in restitution.

The release says Busch admitted in July that he altered and reencoded Capital One debit cards and used them along with account holders' personal

identification numbers he had obtained. Prosecutors said the illegal withdrawals took place in 2018 and 2019.

In May 2018, Busch was arrested in Laguna Beach on suspicion of conspiracy and drug-related offenses.

— Associated Press

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