

Daily Pilot

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Photos by Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

MONY SARY, left, and Henry Le work on processing COVID-19 tests at Pangea Lab in Costa Mesa last month.

Costa Mesa lab retooled to test for coronavirus

Weeks after Pangea Laboratory began testing for coronavirus, it is running more than 1,000 samples each work shift with the capacity to double its output.

BY SARA CARDINE

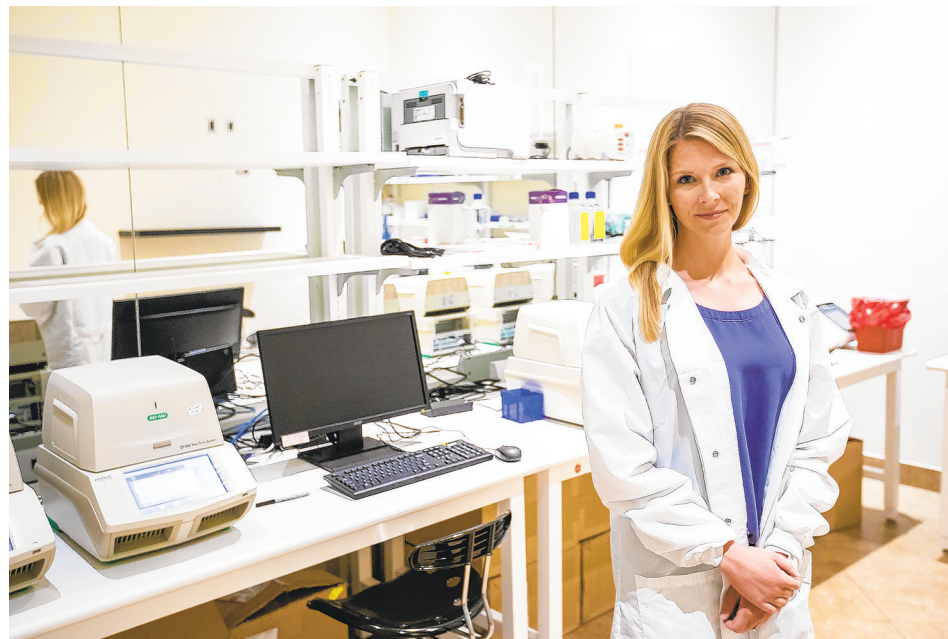
March 13 was an unprecedented day for reproductive endocrinologist Dr. Bill Yee, whose practice had to close four fertility clinics in Irvine, Redondo Beach, Westminster and Beverly Hills due to the spread of the novel coronavirus.

Physicians with Reproductive Partners Medical Group treated patients finishing up therapy cycles, then closed shop for the foreseeable future — the first such interruption in the group's nearly 35 years of practice.

"I don't think anybody was prepared for this," Yee said of the pandemic. "We lived through 9/11. We lived through the Great Recession. But who ever thought that a virus was going to shut down not only the United States but the world?"

Although medical clinics may continue to operate during California's shelter-in-place restriction, Yee and his colleagues didn't feel it was safe to potentially expose clinic staff and patients to the risk of the virus without a fast, reliable testing regimen in place.

"We felt in order for us to reopen our practice we needed testing," Yee said. "The problem with testing was that it was very



DR. JANINA KRUMBEC is a microbiologist for Irvine-based Zymo Research, which oversees coronavirus testing at the Pangea Laboratory in Costa Mesa.

limited — even if it was available, to get the results back would take three or four days."

One large company the clinic worked with, for example, could only supply 10 test kits. Yee estimated the four clinics would need about 400 kits to test patients upon intake and again right before treatment.

A glimmer of hope arrived when one of Yee's employees mentioned his son worked

for a diagnostic laboratory in Costa Mesa that was certified to test for COVID-19 and could deliver results within 24 hours.

Founded in 2014, Pangea Laboratory is an accredited and certified diagnostics company focused on the early detection of emergent diseases.

See **Lab**, page A5

O.C. reports two new COVID-19 deaths

BY ANDREW TURNER

Orange County reported two deaths and 105 new cases of the novel coronavirus on Saturday, according to statistics provided by the Orange County Health Care Agency.

The county death toll due to COVID-19 now stands at 86, including 21 skilled nursing facility residents.

Cumulative cases of the coronavirus countywide have reached 4,222. Among those are 461 skilled nursing facility residents and 335 county jail inmates.

An additional 467 tests have been administered in the last day, bringing the total to 69,981.

Saturday's numbers saw a rise in hospitalizations, with 24 of 25 eligible hospitals contributing to the new data. There are 235 coronavirus patients hospitalized, with 85 of them in an intensive care unit. Friday's report, which featured data from 22 hospitals, had 212 hospitalized with 78 of those in intensive care.

Broken down by age group, those between the ages of 25-34 and 45-54 have accounted for the most COVID-19 cases, each making up 18% of the total cases in the county. Sixteen percent of the cases have been 55-64. Those between the ages of 35-44 have made up 15%. The age brackets of 18-24 and 65-74 each come in at 10%, respectively.

Of the reported deaths in the county due to the coronavirus, 38% have been Hispanic, 33% white, 20% Asian and 3% African American. Fifty of the 86 deaths (58.1%) related to COVID-19 in the county have been male.

The elderly are particularly at risk, as 61 of the county's COVID-19 deaths (70.9%) have involved senior citizens.

Updated figures are posted daily at occovid19.ocalhealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc.

For information on getting tested at one of the 14 clinics in the county-run OC COVID-19 Testing Network, visit occovid19.ocalhealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-and-screening.

andrew.turner@latimes.com
Twitter: @ProfessorTurner

Fairview Park in Costa Mesa is open again

BY ANDREW TURNER

In a time before quarantine, Saturdays marked the end of a week and a chance for many to relax.

The new normal of staying at home due to the novel coronavirus pandemic has had some people wishing for a reprieve. On Saturday, some spared no expense in finding fresh air and the outdoors.

Christine Miller, 41, of Temecula made an hour-and-a-half drive from Oceanside to Costa Mesa's Fairview Park, which she had heard was open.

"I was just needing some time to myself and was just looking for a place to be out in nature," said Miller, who came to the park with a journal, a book and a Bible.

Fairview Park reopened on May 9 with access to select trails and the bike

See **Fairview**, page A2



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:

LAGUNA BEACH HIGH STUDENT-ATHLETES GIVING BACK THROUGH 'SEWING FOR SOCIAL'
PAGE A2

CIF RETURNING TO MT. SAC FOR POSTSEASON CROSS-COUNTRY MEETS
PAGE A4

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TO SIGN UP FOR THE DAILY PILOT NEWSLETTER FEATURING THE LATEST NEWS INVOLVING NEWPORT BEACH, HUNTINGTON BEACH, COSTA MESA, LAGUNA BEACH, FOUNTAIN VALLEY AND OTHER PARTS OF ORANGE COUNTY.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Golden West names Andrew Ramos as third head coach in program history

BY MATT SZABO

Andrew Ramos knew the moment was coming, but he still called it "surreal."

Ramos has been named the new head baseball coach at Golden West College.

He becomes just the third head coach in program history. Fred Hoover was the program's first head coach for 22 seasons, followed by recently retired Bert Villarreal, who guided the Rustlers for 32 years.

"We've discussed this for a while, and I've known I was going to be the next guy," Ramos said. "But to actually get officially hired, it got more emotional than

I expected. There was a lot of hard work and little pay to cut my teeth and prove that I was worthy. For it to actually happen, it was really cool."

Villarreal was with the Rustlers for 38 years total, including two as a player and four as an assistant coach. He finished with 626 career victories at the helm.

Ramos has been the Rustlers' bench coach and recruiting coordinator the last four years.

"This has been Bert's baby, and for him to entrust me with his program moving on, it's not something I take lightly," Ramos said. "I take it very seriously and I'm very humbled, that I get to be only the third [head coach] in 54

years."

Ramos, 35, graduated from Long Beach Poly in 2002 and briefly played at Golden West before he walked away from the sport for a time.

Ramos got back into coaching from 2010-12, as a lower-level coach at Poly.

"I was literally going to get out of baseball, because it wasn't going anywhere," he said. "I went to do an interview with AAA to sell insurance, and the next day they called me and said I didn't get the job. I was devastated. The next day after that, Bert called me and said, 'Hey man, you want to



Courtesy of Gina Chiaramonte

ANDREW RAMOS, right, replaces Bert Villarreal, who guided Golden West College to 626 wins in 32 years, as Rustlers' head baseball coach.

See **Ramos**, page A4

Laguna Beach High student-athletes giving back through 'Sewing for SoCal'

BY MATT SZABO

Michael Pinto is an attacker for the Laguna Beach High boys' water polo team, and a good leader.

Coach Ethan Damato said that Pinto will be a team captain next fall for his senior year. Pinto is currently showing initiative out of the pool and helping those in his community.

Pinto's freshman sister Myha also plays water polo. They have teamed with Breakers junior football player Jackson Golden to form the school club "Sewing for SoCal." In a week's time, they sewed and donated more than 100 masks to their families, neighbors and local organizations to aid in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

The teenagers have been able to borrow two sewing machines, and have had cotton material donated to them, as well as the elastic bands to hold the masks in place. They have been sewing 20 to 30 masks per day at the Pinto home, Michael Pinto said. Since they are 100% cotton, they are washable and reusable.

"We're not doing this to make a profit," Pinto said. "We're just doing this to give back to our community, because we know it's really hard for a lot of people right now with what's going on in the world. We're just trying to give back."

On a recent morning, they stopped by the Police Department to drop off more than 40 masks, which were received by Sgt. Jason Farris.

Farris assured the kids that the masks would be distributed soon.

"Great use of downtime," he said.

Masks have also been donated at the Laguna Beach food pantry, as well



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

LAGUNA BEACH High student-athletes Myha Pinto, Michael Pinto and Jackson Golden, from right, sew and assemble homemade cotton masks for their "Sewing for SoCal" organization.



A PILE OF cotton cloth is ready for assemblage from Myha and Michael Pinto and Jackson Golden.

as the Royal Hawaiian restaurant in town. In total, more than 100 masks have been donated, Michael Pinto said, to fight COVID-19.

"We've got all of this free time, so we might as well use it productively," said Golden, who also runs track but has seen that spring sport wiped away. "We saw that there was a shortage of masks around the country, so we thought it was probably localized here in Laguna

too." They have utilized word of mouth, as well as social media, since starting to sew the masks. "Sewing for SoCal" has a website, as well as a GoFundMe account. The goal for the GoFundMe is \$1,000.

An Instagram page also has been set up for progress updates.

The Pintos' mother, Lindsay, said that support from the community has been impressive. "We don't have a sewing machine," Lindsay Pinto said. "It was, 'Where do we start?' There was a lot of Googling. The first [mask], they did by hand, and it took them three or four hours. And then the next thing I know, we had two sewing machines dropped off."

Word is getting around the community about the difference that the teenagers are making. Myha Pinto, who played on the Breakers JV girls' water polo team this winter, had a Zoom meeting with her water polo teammates re-

cently. One of the juniors in the program asked her about the club, she said, and she was able to share it with the group.

Michael Pinto was already on the recreation board for the city of Laguna Beach even before the coronavirus outbreak. He said "Sewing for SoCal" is in it for the long haul, until the coronavirus is under control.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended the use of masks while out in public until further notice.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti made an order that L.A. residents need to wear facial coverings while visiting essential businesses.

"We're going to keep sewing masks until the coronavirus goes away," Michael Pinto said. "We want to do everything we can to help those around us."

matthew.szabo@latimes.com
Twitter: @mjszabo



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

STEVE AND MINA GOELLER, front, of Fountain Valley walk their dog, Shadow, a black German shepherd, at Fairview Park in Costa Mesa on Saturday.

FAIRVIEW

Continued from page A1

paths. Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley said that she wants to encourage visitors to the park to remain active. That request aligns with the protocols put in place at local beaches.

"That trail system allows people to physically distance while in the park and on the trails, and it also allows people to get from Placentia [Avenue] to the Santa Ana River Trail, so it allows the bike trails to be accessed," Foley said. "It's good for walking and biking."

Some trails remain closed for various reasons, some related to COVID-19 precautions and some regarding natural habitat concerns for the species that live there.

"There's a nesting period, and so some of the overgrowth was overlapping with some of the nesting area," Foley said. "We just have to be careful in how to remove the overgrowth to create physical distancing space. That's why some of the trails are not open. We're still working on that."

Kevin Rogers, 35, of Orange came to the park with his family. Rogers is a self-employed photographer and his wife, An-

gela, is an art teacher at Mariners Christian School in Costa Mesa.

Outdoor activities like their trip to Fairview Park are a way for them to pass on their passion to their 3-year-old daughter, Olive, through visual learning.

"We were just down in the marshlands down there, just cruising around, looking at all the birds, and it was fun," Rogers said. "This is her classroom right now. We just try to get out every day, go on a new adventure every day."

Rogers said that they did not put their daughter in front of a screen for the first two years of her life. They are seeking outdoor activities as much as possible during her developmental years.

"Olive and I drive all over Orange County just looking for different spots to explore because this is like the prime time of her life for development," Rogers said, adding that they have traveled to Rancho Santa Margarita and Tustin, in addition to their hometown since precautions were put in place over coronavirus concerns. "I don't want her to be stuck at home in front of a screen. I want her to be out seeing the world."

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COMMENTARY | VIRGINIA PARKS

Make sure O.C.'s poor and immigrant communities can properly access unemployment insurance

At the onset of the Great Depression, the state of Wisconsin boldly acted by creating the nation's first unemployment insurance program.

As the Depression deepened, other states followed Wisconsin's lead, recognizing the value of quick cash for jobless residents to spend on food, rent and other immediate needs.

What was good for the unemployed was good for local economies. In 1935, national support for unemployment insurance became a cornerstone of the New Deal.

The idea was that workers needed protection against cataclysms in the economy that left them without a job through no fault of their own — insurance against unexpected loss of income due to economic disaster.

Now we're faced with a disaster of global pandemic proportions. Although we are all at risk of falling ill to the coronavirus, we are not equally at risk of suffering its economic attack. Once again, local action will need to lead the nation.

Unemployment insurance was created both as an emergency-room response and as preventive care for the economy — slow the economy's free fall and ensure that workers never bear such extreme risk again. Yet, we failed to learn from our successes.

In the interim, we let the unemployment insurance system erode through underfunding and outdated rules.

The number of workers covered by the insurance was at an all-time low at the onset of our current



Olivier Douliery AFP via Getty Images

THE APRIL jobs report showed a record 20.5 million American jobs were lost and the unemployment rate soared to 14.7%.

crisis. When the COVID-19 job hemorrhaging began, we had a tattered bandage, not the tourniquet we needed.

In a recent report, "O.C.'s most vulnerable communities hardest hit economically by pandemic," published on the UCI School of Social Ecology website, my coauthors and I illustrate what this tattered bandage looks like for neighborhoods in Orange County.

Workers in Orange County's low-income, immigrant and communities of color are most at risk of not receiving state and federal unemployment benefits in the wake of the COVID-19 unemployment crisis.

The majority of the highest-risk neighborhoods are concentrated in Santa Ana. These vulnerable communities stand to benefit least from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The CARES Act, signed into law last month, provides \$2.2 trillion in economic relief and greatly expands the unemployment

insurance system.

Orange County's immigrant communities are at greatest risk of being left out of economic recovery efforts.

Undocumented immigrant workers do not qualify for unemployment insurance, even when working jobs that generate taxes for the system. Authorized immigrant workers may be ruled ineligible for federal benefits.

Others work in the cash economy — jobs typically left out of unemployment insurance. Add to this murky eligibility rules and an overrun system and the prospects for shoring up the economic well-being of O.C.'s immigrant families looks grim.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's announcement of a \$125-million relief fund for immigrants without legal status sets an important precedent for efforts that provide targeted relief to California's communities most vulnerable to the COVID-19 economic crisis. But, more bold action is required.

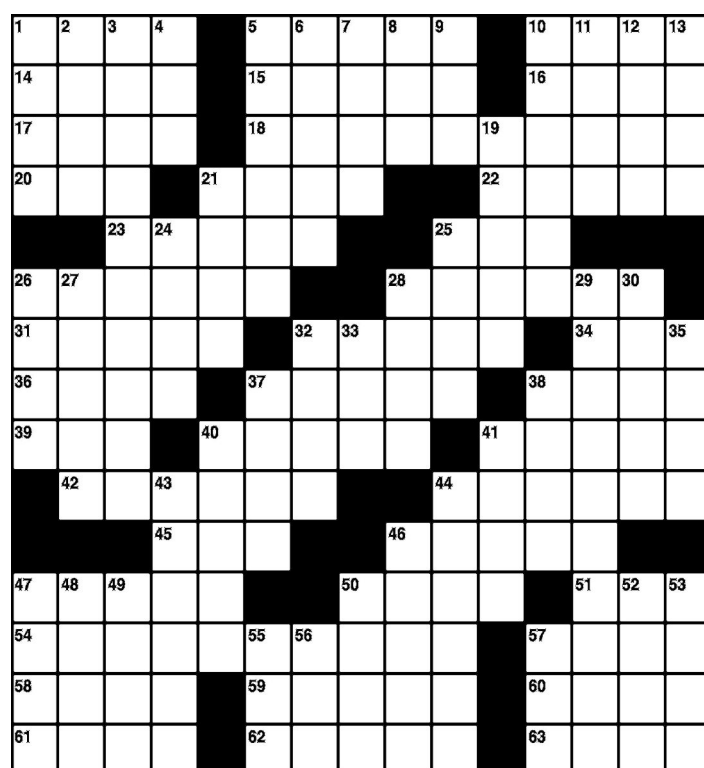
The COVID-19 crisis

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Insincerely smooth
- 5 Mouse catchers
- 10 TV's Carey
- 14 Impolite
- 15 Name for 8 English kings
- 16 Scarce
- 17 Middle-; neither young nor old
- 18 Became friends again
- 20 Actress Arthur
- 21 Beauty spot
- 22 " _ the loneliest number"; 1960s song
- 23 Mortgages
- 25 Sturdy tree
- 26 Morphine or codeine
- 28 Feels the loss of
- 31 Hornet homes
- 32 "Thou _ not steal"
- 34 Actor Mineo
- 36 Consumes
- 37 _ Fruit; Wrigley gum
- 38 Nimble
- 39 Jet _; personal watercraft
- 40 Keats & Kilmer
- 42 Made points
- 44 Uncouth; tactless
- 45 Actor Kilmer
- 46 Prickly plants
- 47 Item of value
- 50 Boys
- 51 _-blond; hair



For answers to the crossword, see page A5.

color

- 54 Lessening
- 57 Singer Fitzgerald
- 58 Passion
- 59 Actor Willem
- 60 Many an eastern European
- 61 Acting award
- 62 Lovable
- 63 Use a PC keyboard

abbr.

- 10 Juices & wines
- 11 Abnormal lung sound
- 12 "Able was I _ saw Elba"
- 13 Ties the knot
- 19 Seashore
- 21 Gym floor pads
- 24 Stable dinner
- 25 Greasy
- 26 Dollar bills
- 27 Reaches a high point
- 28 Big _; fast-food burgers
- 29 Before all else
- 30 _ Michelle Gellar
- 32 Took to court
- 33 Big success
- 35 Stringed instrument
- 37 Biblical book

38 Closed40

- Babble
- 41 Fluid-filled pouches
- 43 Excessively
- 44 Thingamajig
- 46 Paddled boat
- 47 Tool with a blade
- 48 _ like; appear to be
- 49 Rip-off
- 50 Classic board game
- 52 _ in the face; insult
- 53 " _ a good day!"
- 55 Billboards
- 56 Spotted
- 57 Suffix for odd or old

Tribune Media Services

throws Orange County's pronounced local disparities into sharp relief. Our shared local economic health deserves an even sharper, more strategic,

and more equitable relief effort. Like Wisconsin during the Great Depression, California and Orange County should lead the nation in policy first re-

sponse.

VIRGINIA PARKS is professor and chair of urban planning and public policy at UC Irvine.



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CROSS-COUNTRY

CIF returning to Mt. SAC for postseason meets

BY ANDREW TURNER

The CIF Southern Section announced last month that the section's boys' and girls' cross-country championships will return to the course at Mt. San Antonio College once the fall sport returns to competitive racing again.

After an \$87-million renovation project, which included a new Hilmer Lodge Stadium, track, scoreboard and educational facilities, the CIF postseason meets are set to come back to the venue for the first time since 2015.

The coronavirus pandemic has pressed the pause button on sports. For the time being, the Division 2 and Division 4 preliminaries would run on Friday, Nov. 13, and the Division 1, Division 3 and Division 5 prelims races would take place on Saturday, Nov. 14. The CIF finals are scheduled the following Saturday, Nov. 21.

With a challenging course that tests runners with three hills — "Switchbacks," "Poop Out" and



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

COSTA MESA High's Elliot Hachac (9159) is seen running on Oct. 21, 2016, on the Mt. San Antonio College course. CIF postseason meets are set to come back to Mt. SAC this season.

"Reservoir" — the Mt. SAC course has its backers. Two points are prominent among supporters, who note that the course has a distinguished place in the sport. They also argue that its rugged terrain makes it a "true cross-country course."

"That's where it's always been," Laguna Beach boys' cross-country coach Scott Wittkop said about CIF returning to Mt. SAC. "Let's be honest, it would have

never changed if they didn't have the construction. It would be like having state not at Woodward Park. It's just all about tradition, and Mt. SAC goes way back into the 1970s. Eric Hulst ran on it at Mt. SAC."

While renovations took place, the section postseason meets were held at the Riverside City Cross-Country Course. Competitors raced on what was a mostly flat, dirt surface.

Laguna Beach girls' cross-country coach Steve Lalim, whose team took second place in the Divi-

sion 4 final last season, said he was excited about racing at Mt. SAC again.

"It's a great course with so much history," Lalim said. "Because of the challenges of Switchbacks, Poop Out and Reservoir, the course shows the strongest teams."

Without the section holding its state-qualifying meet at Mt. SAC for the past four seasons, several teams decided to forego the Mt. SAC Invitational. The physically-imposing meet's proximity to league finals was a concern to

coaches like Ocean View's Daniel Hurtado.

"I don't like Mt. SAC," Hurtado said. "I think it's dumb to have Southern Section athletes run Mt. SAC twice within eight days the week before state. Not only does that feel like a disadvantage, but also some sections up north have two weeks before their section finals and state."

"If you decide to run the [Mt. SAC] Invite so your athletes get to know the course, that's three Mt. SAC efforts in one month with league finals right in the middle."

Newport Harbor boys' cross-country coach Nowell Kay said that the historical aspect of comparing oneself to performances of the past was a positive, but he added that the "uphill [and] downhill" running required on the Mt. SAC course is a cause for concern for athletes hoping to show well at state.

"You're running that three times in five weeks, including two weeks in a row," Kay said. "I think it kind of put Southern Section at a competitive disadvantage going into the state meet, just because of all the pounding that the legs are going to take on all the hills."

Experience on the Mt. SAC course has been limited for some of the top returning locals in girls' cross-country next season.

Kira Anderson, who teamed up with UC Irvine-bound Diane Molina to help lead the Mustangs to

the state meet for the first time since 1997, got her first taste of the course as a freshman in October.

Anderson, who also helped Costa Mesa reach the Division 5 final in girls' water polo, said that the hills bother her the most as a runner.

"I think it's Reservoir Hill because it's the last one, and I was just dead at the end," Anderson said, recalling the toughest part of the course for her. "That one, I kind of just lost it because you had already done two hills, and then that one comes up, and you're just like, 'Aw dang it. Another hill.' That was the worst one for me."

Fountain Valley's Kaho Cichon, the reigning Surf League champion and a Daily Pilot Dream Team selection as a sophomore this past season, has yet to run on the Mt. SAC course.

Cichon is known for her speed in the 800 meters, so Brian Bivens, who coaches girls' cross-country and track and field for the Barons, wants to manage her three-mile race total in the fall.

Still, Cichon would like to have a go on the course before the CIF meets.

"I've heard many stories about it being a really hard race," Cichon said. "I have mixed feelings about Mt. SAC becoming the future CIF course. I would definitely want to run a race before CIF to know how the course is like."

andrewturner@latimes.com
Twitter: @ProfessorTurner

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David Carrillo Peñañoza
City Editor
(714) 966-4612
Raymond Arroyo
Advertising Director
(714) 966-4608

TCN Legal Phone
888-881-6181

TCN Legal Email
LAlegal@latimes.com

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Address
10540 Talbert Ave.,
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Fountain Valley, CA 92708
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Linda Rae Hehn

August 14, 1942 - May 5, 2020

Linda Rae Hockett Hehn, age 77, longtime resident of Costa Mesa, CA passed away peacefully on May 5, 2020 after a long battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Linda was born in Glendale, California to Joseph Dolan Hockett and Rosie Caroline Bowman Hockett on August 14, 1942. Linda and her younger sister Carole grew up in San Dimas Canyon and later moved to Glendora where Linda graduated from Glendora High School in 1960. Some of Linda's earlier jobs included secretarial work at Aerojet in Azusa and McDonnell Douglas in Seal Beach. Linda married her high school sweetheart, Steven Hehn, in 1965 and after moving from Glendora to Costa Mesa in 1968, she and Steven had two children, Steven II and Jennifer. Linda had a long career working at Orange Coast College starting in the mail room in 1983 and later retiring from her position as the Visual Arts Division Coordinator after 26 years. Linda had a deep appreciation for fine art and loved working with the talented deans, instructors, and students at OCC. After earning her Associates degree (along with her son Steven) in 1994 from Orange Coast College, Linda went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Organizational Management from Vanguard University in 2000. Linda enjoyed summers at the beach, shopping, travelling and most of all spending time with her beloved grandchildren. In the 1980's, Linda became a Christian while attending South Coast Community Church in Irvine (now Mariner's Church) and continued attending there until she was physically unable. Linda is preceded in death by her father, mother, and stepfather Herbert L. Thompson. She is survived by her sister Carole Hanson of Hesperia, her children, Steven B. Hehn II of Foothill Ranch and Jennifer Hehn McIntosh of Hayden, Idaho, and her grandchildren Kaili and Tyler Hehn and Shelby, Emily, Carly, Ruby, Sophia, and Lucy McIntosh. Linda will be remembered as a loving sister, mother, grandmother and friend. She will be deeply missed. Interment will be at Oakdale Memorial Park in Glendora, California. A memorial will be held at a later date.



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RAMOS

Continued from page A1

come coach at Golden West? And the rest is history."

Ramos coached with the Rustlers for four years before taking an assistant job at the University of Nevada, Reno in 2016. However, when his wife Courtney became pregnant with their first child, he said they decided they wanted to move back to Southern California.

Ramos now lives in Long Beach with Courtney and his daughter, Adeline, 3, and son, Langston, 1.

This year, Ramos said

that Golden West baseball had seven players commit to NCAA Division I programs. He worked tirelessly behind the scenes to help make that happen.

"He's a very good baseball man," Villarreal said. "He gets it. He knows what the program's been all about. You know, I tried to just build on what coach Hoover did, and he's going to do the same. He's going to care about the players the way we did, as family members. He's going to treat them right, and he's going to be straightforward and honest with them. That's all you can ask for out of a head coach."

Golden West baseball was 12-10 overall, and 4-1 in the Orange Empire Conference, before the rest of the 2020 season was canceled due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. Ramos said he expects a younger team in 2021, with plenty of freshmen in key positions.

He is eager for the opportunity to lead them.

"My biggest thing is to let players do what they do best," he said. "I believe in giving them the freedom to be who they are."

Ramos said pitching and defense are areas that he emphasizes.

"I'd rather get no-hit than make five errors in a game," he said.

matthewszabo@latimes.com
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Every dentist's highest priority should be to keep its patients and staff as safe as possible during this pandemic and when this lockdown is over, We should all work hard to implement new safety protocols before we are allowed to re-open our practice.

There are several issues that needed to be addressed in order for us, dentists to feel confident in our ability to continue seeing patients. The main concern for our workers and patients' safety is the production of airborne material during dental procedures. This ubiquitous aerosolized cloud is a combination of materials originating from the treatment site and from dental unit waterlines. In order to eliminate the aerosol generated during your cleaning and dental treatment and to protect the staff and patients these protocols should be implemented

- The extraoral suction, manufactured by a local company in California, provides additional high volume removal of droplets and aerosols associated with dental care. With an extensive medical-grade filtration system, along with a UV light disinfectant, viral and germ products will be eliminated.
- The use of a high volume suction to enable a one-handed approach to evacuating fluid and debris while facilitating retraction to eliminate up to 99% the spread of aerosol.
- Additionally, Dentists should implement new guidelines for personal protective equipment. Staff in the operatories must wear surgical gowns and hats and face shields and grade 3 masks. Patients should be provided a disposable apron and goggles.
- Complete sterilization of all instruments to infection control protocol and extensive hand-washing protocols for all staff members.
- Patients should rinse their mouth before start of any treatment with 1% hydrogen peroxide; the COVID-19 virus is vulnerable to oxidation.
- High-efficiency air filters in exam/treatment rooms.
- Limiting the number of patients per day and giving more time per appointment. Patients should remain in their vehicles until the scheduled appointment time.
- Dentists should provide their patients the option to do consultation via Teledentistry. This option allows patients with compromised immune system and elderlies to discuss their concerns via Internet and avoid unnecessary trip to the dentist just to discuss a concern.



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THE CROWD | B.W. COOK

Childhelp raises money to treat neglected and abused kids

Julie Thornton-Adams, president of the Orange County chapter of Childhelp, reached out to me with serious concerns about the safety of children in potentially abusive home environments during this stressful COVID-19 lockdown.



Childhelp runs a hotline, not government-funded, that serves the U.S. and Canada. It's available to anyone in need of help in an abusive situation involving a child; they take calls from both children and adults.

Thornton-Adams shared one such call from a young girl.

"My school is closed. Where do I go to be safe?" she asked. "School was my one safe place and I have nowhere else to turn."

According to Thornton-Adams, this "is typical of the calls that we are receiving and fortunately we were able to get this girl the help she needed."

Over the last 60 days, Childhelp's hotline calls are up some 33% over the same period last year. Even more alarming, the hotline implemented a texting alternative, a preferred method of communication for young people, and it has received overwhelming use since it began last year.

Given the fact that the hotline outreach has no



Courtesy of B.W. Cook

CHILDHHELP MEMBERS attend the 37th annual Rich Saul Memorial Golf Classic 2019 at Pelican Hill Golf Club to raise funds for child abuse prevention and treatment. The event netted \$572,000. The 38th installment is planned for Oct. 5.

government support, donor dollars are crucial to staff the service.

Thornton-Adams has joined with O.C. Childhelp donors, including the founding member and vice president of the National Childhelp Board, **Patti Edwards**, as well as **Linda Burns, Gina Van Ocker, Carol Packard, Kristen James, Shan Vincent, Di-**

ana Miner and Christine Johnson, to rally U.S. Rep. **Harley Rouda** (D-Laguna Beach), seeking government assistance protecting children at risk especially in these uncharted times. Rouda successfully championed funding in support of the domestic violence hotline.

Like most O.C. nonprofits aiding children and

families, Childhelp, one of the largest, struggles. Most fundraising events have been either canceled or postponed.

Childhelp's major annual spring fashion luncheon, sponsored by South Coast Plaza, unfolded the day before the official lockdown took place, sending organizers and patrons scrambling, resulting in a mostly

no-show crowd for what is one of the most-attended fashion show charity fundraisers of the year.

Childhelp's National Day of Hope in Washington, D.C., has been canceled. The annual Rich Saul Memorial Golf Classic set for this month has been moved to Oct. 5 at Pelican Hill, assuming it is feasible. Thornton-Adams reports

that Childhelp's fall gala, "Beach Ball," is still on the books for Oct. 24 at the Paséa Hotel & Resort.

"We remain optimistic," she said.

Meanwhile the work goes on, COVID-19 or not. Three Childhelp group homes in Costa Mesa must be supported.

Childhelp Foster/Adoption Services and the Childhelp Merv Griffin residential Treatment Village in Beaumont, which serves O.C. youth, requires major ongoing financial support.

All this in addition to finding the money to fund the national hotline.

Fortunately, local generosity remains steadfast. Private sector donors in O.C., including dedicated Newport-Mesa citizens like California Sens. **Thomas Umberg, Christine Bren, Cleo Bluth, Christopher Doherty, Barbara Ganahl, Susan Hill, Beverly Cohen, Sue Hook and Janet Ronnenberg** are making a difference.

Also front and center are major supporters **Iris Ashury, Jen Kite, Maggie Thrasher, Mary Schulz, Myrna Levy, Tami Smith, Jeannie Hidley, Catherine Caporaso, Kelly Haugen and Diana Garza.**

To learn more, go to childhelp.org.

B.W. COOK is editor of the Bay Window, the official publication of the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach.

LAB

Continued from page A1

In January, a staff of about 15 scientists had been working with Irvine sister company Zymo Research — a manufacturer of biomedical tools and DNA/RNA extraction kits — testing for bladder cancer, when news of a coronavirus spreading throughout China began to break.

Dr. Janina Krumbek, director of microbiome applications for Zymo, said the Costa Mesa lab was already equipped to perform molecular diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 and decided to retool its operations to respond to what appeared to be a growing crisis.

"We had all the infrastructure and background to respond to a pandemic like this pretty quickly," Krumbek said. "The COVID test itself is a real-time PCR test. Our personnel are already highly trained to read those tests."

Pangea has four polymerase chain reaction (PCR) machines capable of making copies of RNA from small samples, which can then be amplified for the detection of certain signals that indicate the presence of a disease or virus, like SARS-CoV-2.

Pangea received approval through the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to offer laboratory-developed tests for coronavirus in mid-April and is now offering SARS-CoV-2 detection

testing using Zymo Research's authorized EUA workflow.

The lab runs about 270 samples on each of its PCR machines each shift, amounting to more than 1,000 tests per day. Krumbek said if needed, Pangea could access enough personnel and equipment to double its output.

"We're just a small lab, so maybe people aren't aware of us yet," she said. "[But] we have the capacity, and we're happy to help."

Californians have been rushing to increase the number of coronavirus testing facilities as health experts and government leaders deliberate whether and how businesses might safely reopen and begin to

revitalize the economy and job market.

The California Department of Public Health reported Wednesday a cumulative total of 1,104,651 tests had been reported statewide, marking an increase of 39,059 tests over the prior 24-hour reporting period — a far cry from the short-term goal of 60,000 to 80,000 daily tests set by Gov. Gavin Newsom in late April.

Locally, the Orange County Health Care Agency reported Saturday 69,981 cumulative tests have been performed countywide.

Krumbek said increased testing among all residents will be a crucial part of understanding and controlling the virus.

"Testing is absolutely a next phase forward out of this pandemic," the biologist said.

"It's so important we keep tracking everyone who is asymptomatic or symptomatic — the more we can test, the better."

For Yee, testing has brought some relief. Three weeks ago, after Reproductive Partners Medical Group reached out to Pangea, it

reopened its clinics and returned 150 staff members to work.

Now, the firm tests all patients twice and employs distancing and temperature tests for clients and employees, as recommended by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.

If an employee isn't feeling well or has a fever, physicians can often get a preliminary result from Pangea

that evening and determine the best course of action.

"Having these tests that give us rapid results has allowed us to have a safer environment," Yee said. "It allows us to feel more comfortable for both our patients as well as our staff, and it allowed us to reopen quickly."

sara.cardine@latimes.com
Twitter: @SaraCardine

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– Hoag’s Medical Executive Committee, March 5, 2020

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