

Daily Pilot

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com

Brethren Christian High closes after 73 years



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

BRETHREN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL was founded in 1947, and it was first located in Seal Beach before eventually moving to Huntington Beach.

The Huntington Beach school announced the decision in an email to community members. The head football coach Leon Green said it was shutting down because of declining enrollment and financial difficulties.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Schools aren't supposed to close down, Nicole Donahoe said. But her own was — and only one year after she graduated from Brethren Christian High School in 2019.

Coaches and a parent of a recent graduate of the private Huntington Beach school confirmed Tuesday that they received emails stating that the school would be closing ahead of the 2020-21 school year, with alumni saying that they found out through social media.

Leon Green, the head football coach the last two seasons, said that Brethren Christian was closing due to declining enrollment and financial difficulties.

"It financially was too much of a burden and there just was not enough money coming in to keep the doors open," Green said on Wednesday. "The student body numbers have just dropped too much. The biggest thing was that they didn't want to close, but to counteract that they would have had to let go of teachers to supplement the loss of income and that would have compromised

education for the students."

The school did not respond to requests for comment on Tuesday and Wednesday. School staff also declined to comment in person on Wednesday morning.

The school was located at the Gisler Middle School campus on 21141 Strathmoor Lane until recently after a long-term lease with the Huntington Beach City School District ended last year.

The school relocated to 6931 Edinger Ave. just last year, making Donahoe part of the last graduate

See **Brethren**, page A3

State hits Costa Mesa telemarketer with \$1.4-M judgment in fraud case

BY HILLARY DAVIS

A Costa Mesa-based telemarketing company has been ordered to pay a \$1.4-million judgment for cheating more than 50 victims through bogus "investment recovery" services, the state attorney general's office announced Monday.

Property Protection Team, based out of a South Coast Metro office, cold-called investors — mostly seniors — who had already lost money in prior investments or who sought to dump money-losing timeshare interests, the attorney general's office said. But after collecting more than \$250,000 in illegal advance fees over three years, the telemarketers didn't deliver.

State prosecutors named Property Protection Team owners Lacy Jae Treece and Thomas S. White, of Santee, and commissioned telemarketers Christopher P. Anderson and Thomas Blair Morris, cities of residence not given, as the participants in the scheme.

White sometimes used the alias Brad Stevens, Anderson sometimes used the alias Paul Maside, and Morris used the aliases Jason Peterson and Thomas Moore.

The state accused the defendants of unfair business practices and making false or misleading statements.

"Defendants pitch their services by overstating their expertise and success, while understating the difficulty of recovering any funds or obtaining relief," the state said in a 2019 complaint against the four. "Defendants sell false hope."

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Twitter: @dailypilot_hd

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

FOUR FROM LAGUNA BEACH HIGH GIRLS' WATER POLO COMMIT TO COLLEGES
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FEMALE PEDESTRIAN, STRUCK TWICE, DIES IN FOUNTAIN VALLEY HIT-AND-RUN COLLISION
PAGE A2

COMMENTARY: A THOUGHTFUL, USEFUL GIFT FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY
PAGE A3

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

AN EMPTY Davidson Field, the home field for the Newport Harbor and Corona del Mar high school football programs, is shown Tuesday.

O.C. high school football programs forced to hit pause due to the surge of COVID-19

BY MATT SZABO

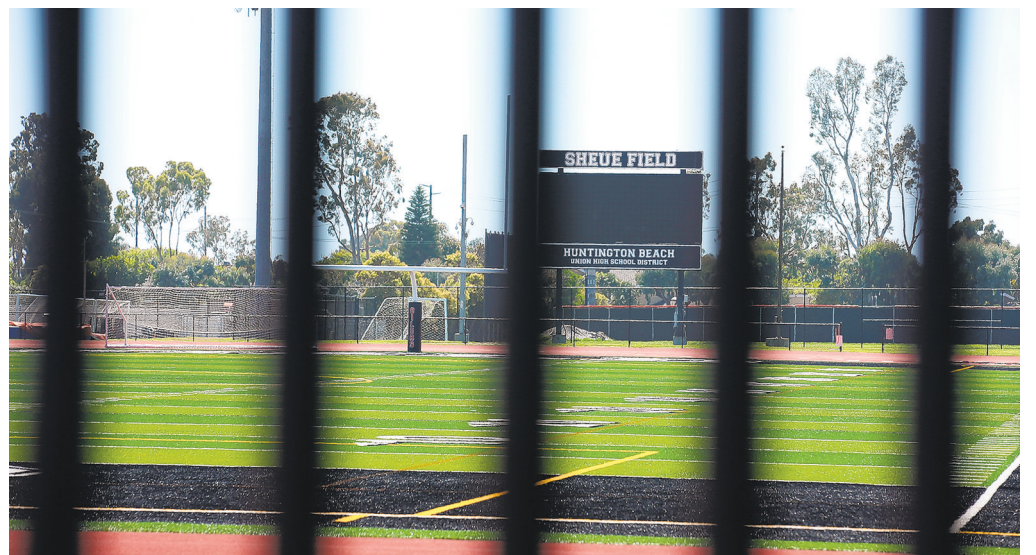
For now, there won't be any summer high school football workouts in town.

Local high school football teams will not be practicing together until further notice after directives from the Newport-Mesa Unified School District and Huntington Beach Union High School District.

Newport-Mesa's four public high school programs — Corona del Mar, Costa Mesa, Estancia and Newport Harbor — were each supposed to begin modified summer camps Monday before the district announced that wouldn't happen until specific COVID-19 guidelines were put in place by the California Department of Public Health.

On Wednesday, the Huntington Beach Unified School District sent an email to families that all summer camps were postponed indefinitely during the coronavirus pandemic, due to advice from the Orange County Department of Education Legal Services office. The HBUHSD contains six high schools: Edison, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Marina, Ocean View and Westminster.

"They strongly suggest delaying the opening of our summer programs until after OCDE receives clarifying guidance from both the Orange County Health Care Agency and California Department of Public Health," the email read. "Because of this, we are joining other Orange County school districts in making the difficult decision to postpone the start of our summer athletics ... programs until further notice."



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

HUNTINGTON BEACH High School's football program has halted its summer workouts.

The Orange County Health Care Agency reported 1,333 new cases of COVID-19 on Wednesday, and seven new deaths. There have been 20,225 cumulative cases of COVID-19 reported in the county, and 376 cumulative deaths. The number of positive tests stood at 14.9% Wednesday, which is a high during the pandemic.

Corona del Mar coach Dan O'Shea said that football programs around Orange County found out, beginning Saturday, that their sum-

mer workouts were being postponed indefinitely.

"It's just sent all of our programs kind of emotionally reeling," said O'Shea, who led the Sea Kings to a 16-0 season in 2019, winning CIF Southern Section Division 3 and CIF State Division 1-A titles. "We were talking about this July 6 date for weeks [for NMUSD schools]. But I say that with a clear understanding that

See **Football**, page A2

New art gallery unleashed in Laguna Beach

BY LILLY NGUYEN

It's a pretty simple story.

Christie Smith sighs but laughs as she explains how she was a professional golfer for over 20 years with the Ladies Professional Golf Assn.

Then one day, she woke up and decided, "I really want to do some art."

"From an early age, that probably would have been my preference — to be somewhat in the art world — but sports came so easy that that was what allowed me to have an education, basically," she

said. "So, I utilized the sports and followed that direction, and it led to that career."

"But deep down inside, I always wanted to do something creative," Smith added.

She made the transition to becoming an artist seven years ago after she retired, deciding to go full time into learning and exploring her craft.

Smith describes herself as an abstract expressionist and photographer, but she has experimented with different mediums

See **Gallery**, page A2



ARTIST CHRISTIE SMITH moved from Half Moon Bay in Northern California to open an art gallery in downtown Laguna Beach.

Don Leach
Staff
Photographer

COMMENTARY | JIM CARNETT

A thoughtful, useful gift for the Fourth of July

My wife, Hedy, gave me a wonderful Fourth of July gift last week. She honored me with two sets of faux U.S. Army dog tags. Hooah! Just what I wanted ... and needed.

"Hot dogs?" say you. "She gave you two hot dogs?"

It is, after all, Nathan's hot dog-gorging season.

Not hot dogs, you ninny, dog tags! And, no, I'm not kidding. Dear Hedy couldn't have purchased for me a \$20 gift more meaningful and appreciated than this.

I'm touched by her thoughtfulness.

The new tag is a replica of my U.S. Army dog tags, circa 1964. Though we've been married 45 years, Hedy never knew me as Specialist 5, Jim Carnett, U.S. Army. And, really, it's best she didn't. As a GI, I was rough around the edges.

Hedy and I met long after my 1967 discharge. We were married in 1975.

Her Independence Day gift was just what I've wanted.

I served in the Army from 1964 to 1967 and was issued dog tags during my first week of basic training at Fort Ord, Calif. The tags remained on my person, without interruption, 24/7, for the next three years. There was a punishment — though I don't remember what — for losing one's tags, or for not wearing them. As a platoon sergeant, I never wanted to have to frisk my troops for missing tags.

The basic function of the tags was to identify a body on a battlefield. Usually, the entire package consisted of two metal tags dangling from a ball chain. The tags produced a distinctive and melodious jingle while bouncing off your chest. You soon habituated to the pleasant sound.

Every morning during boot camp, we had to perform a regimen of Army exercises (PT). Dressed in fatigue pants and T-shirts, you could hear 300 sets of dog tags jingling. Now, at 75, I hear that same sound as I perform my morning Parkinson's exercises. The jingling conjures for me many good memories. Many familiar faces.

The purpose of the tags is to convey to some random authority — should I be unable to do so myself — my name, military ID number, blood type and religious affiliation.

The constant soft tinkling of the chain and tags was reassuring and served as a reminder of my duty and purpose. It also clarified to whom I belonged.

When I was discharged in 1967, the dog tags were unceremoniously dumped — along with a host of uniform parts, artifacts, paperwork, photographs, letters, news clippings, official documents, transfer orders, etc. — into a footlocker that I purchased for \$15 at an Orange County Army-Navy Store.

For more than half a century, the ma-



Annie Mulligan

HANS GOTTWALD clutches a small American flag under his military dog tags while he waits for his naturalization ceremony in 2019. Columnist Jim Carnett writes in praise of the replica identification dog tags his wife gave him for July 4.

terials have resided therein.

I've gone back to the footlocker only two or three times over the decades. The most recent visitation would have occurred in the early 1990s or so.

Frankly, it wasn't much of an inspection. You see, I have an aversion to cobwebs and box spiders. They creep me out ... big time.

I'm absolutely certain that I would never have tossed away my Army-issued dog tags on the occasion of my discharge. Never. But, where are they, today? I'm guessing they lie at the bottom of that dank footlocker in my garage.

As mentioned earlier, I have a thing about cobwebs.

I've often wished that I had the old tags swinging from my neck again, summoning warm memories of the past. As a current member of American Legion Post 291 of Newport Beach, I've noted a considerable number of my colleagues wearing dog tags beneath their stylish Reyn Spooners.

Seeing those iconic IDs on my brothers and sisters has prompted a passion within my spirit to sport my tags. Almost at once I was an impatient third-grader. I want my dog tags now!

It became an obsession.

But I wasn't obsessed enough to plow through a moldering, mildewed and cobweb-infested footlocker. Not on your life.

Hedy to the rescue!

My Guardian Angel went online and found an American firm that produces custom, embossed-text, military dog tags. They look like the "real" ones I wore in the mid-1960s.

I again hear that soothing jingling. And it feels good.

JIM CARNETT is a former columnist for the Daily Pilot.

BRETHREN

Continued from page A1

ing class of students at the Gisler campus, where Brethren Christian had been located since 2008.

The Gisler property was sold to home developers for \$42 million.

"I don't know anyone who went to a school and then ... you don't go to school and then [the] school closes down," Donahoe said. "That's not a thing."

Emails requesting comment were not answered as of Tuesday evening by Brethren Christian Supt. Matthew Chavez.

Brethren Christian School was founded in 1947 and it was first located at Seal Beach

Church, before expanding to Long Beach and Paramount, then moving to Cypress and eventually to Huntington Beach.

Donahoe said she heard the news on Instagram on Monday while she was signing up for her college classes this fall semester.

"I don't know. It's such a strange thing, and it makes me sad because there's so many memories ... at [Gisler]," Donahoe said, "and then the school moved from that location. There was already that [move] that made me upset and sad."

"Now the school's closing, it just makes it more really, really sad for me," Donahoe said. "It's a really bittersweet thing. My freshman year, it was

amazing and it was great. My senior year, it felt like it was going to end. We all kind of knew it, but we kind of expected it to happen."

Like Donahoe, Jack McNally, 25, said he heard about the closure through social media, specifically basketball coach Jeff Jefferson's Instagram.

McNally, a 2014 graduate, described the news as something that "broke [his] heart."

"I went there for six years. I went there in junior high, too. Seventh through eighth. I worked at Brethren for three more," McNally said. "It was tough."

But McNally said that he felt that "Brethren

See *Brethren*, page A4

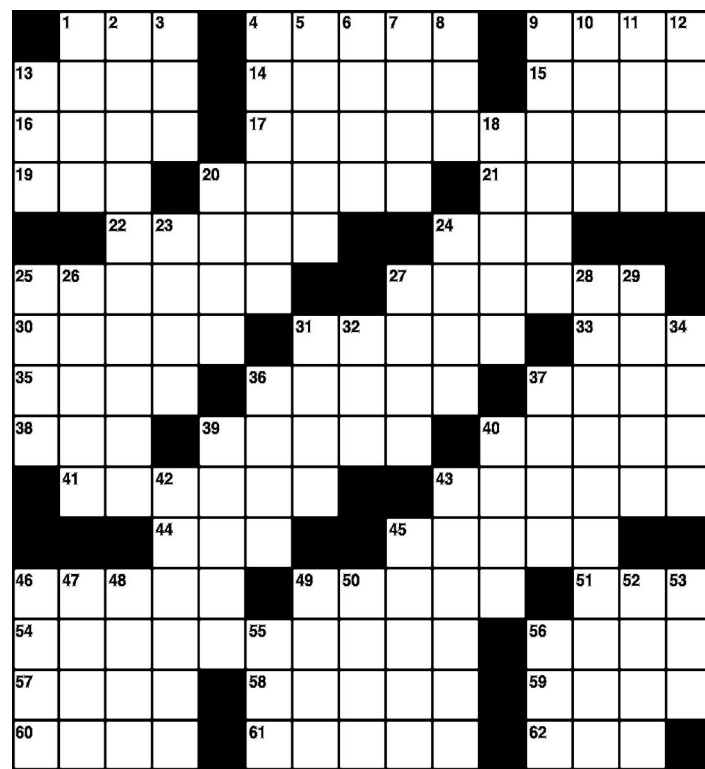
THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Old crone
- 4 Sworn statements
- 9 Pare
- 13 Rosemary, for one
- 14 Pool toy
- 15 Take on employees
- 16 _ up; misbehaves
- 17 Short nap
- 19 Enjoy a winter sport
- 20 Bank vaults
- 21 Uneasy feeling
- 22 Up-; frank
- 24 Refreshing drink
- 25 Protect from danger
- 27 _ Rico
- 30 Chocolatey bean
- 31 Student's armful
- 33 Deep tire track
- 35 Gaga
- 36 Coin toss call
- 37 Crumbly cheese
- 38 _ man; without exception
- 39 Mountain summits
- 40 Well-known
- 41 Red wine
- 43 Linear measures
- 44 _ of; free from
- 45 Keller or Reddy
- 46 Snapshot
- 49 Horse's place
- 51 _-witted; stupid
- 54 Creamy sausage
- 56 Robert or Elizabeth
- 57 _-the-top; outrageous
- 58 Shed crocodile tears
- 59 Like a useless knife
- 60 Refuse to admit
- 61 Carried
- 62 Suffix for giant or lion

DOWN



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.

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

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

- 1 Mild oath
- 2 Phony
- 3 Playwright Shaw's monogram
- 4 _-on; intermittent
- 5 In the air
- 6 Ripped
- 7 Head toppers
- 8 Pig's dwelling
- 9 Black eye
- 10 Picture card
- 11 Riles
- 12 Home in the trees
- 13 "Rumor _ It"; Jennifer Aniston film

- 18 Cardiff's nation
 - 20 Sing alone
 - 23 Audition for a role
 - 24 Diving seabirds
 - 25 "Get lost!"
 - 26 Wreak _; cause chaos
 - 27 Pea casings
 - 28 Awesomely large
 - 29 External
 - 31 Mixer speed
 - 32 Heavy wood
 - 34 Small amounts
 - 36 Pay attention to
 - 37 Kismet
 - 39 _-to; before
 - 40 Actor Norman
 - 42 Blood channel
 - 43 Dissolved
 - 45 "_ makes waste"
 - 46 Trudge
 - 47 Bee colony
 - 48 Microwave, e.g.
 - 49 Japanese wrestling form
 - 50 Horse's gait
 - 52 Troubles
 - 53 Man's nickname
 - 55 Damp
 - 56 JFK's predecessor
- Tribune Media Services

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BRETHREN

Continued from page A3

wasn't really Brethren the last three, four years."

something different from the Brethren we knew and loved," said McNally, who worked as the office coordinator for the school's football team, but now works at Calvary Chapel in Santa

Ana. "We were all distanced in the first place, so then, it was almost like we thought it was going to die three years ago, not that it was going to survive three more."

For him, McNally said he felt it was only a matter of time.

His father, Pat McNally, who coached football at the high school for six years, said he had a lot of great memories at the school and felt it was disheartening to see small Christian schools close.

"Another victim of today's economy and the challenge of keeping these small schools afloat," Pat McNally said.

Green called the closure an end of an era. "There's a lot of good things that the school's been able to do while it was open and just, unfortunately due to the times and everything that's going on, they're not able to push past this hurdle," said Green, a Brethren Christian alumnus.

Green said he's been in touch with his players, but



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

BRETHREN CHRISTIAN HIGH relocated to 6931 Edinger Ave. last year from the Gisler Middle School campus.

that he felt there were no answers to be provided as much as there were questions.

"I knew people whose grandparents had gone to Brethren, whose parents went to Brethren, they've

gone to Brethren," Jack McNally said. "It's tough in that sense that they won't be able to send their kids there, but that's life."

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

Grid of crossword puzzle answers including words like HAG, OATHS, SKIN, ACTS, FLOATH, HIRE, etc.

Grid of Sudoku puzzle answers with numbers 1-9.

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Legal Notices

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME Work Item 1163072300029 Official File Number 1163072300029 Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOAN M. GRENINGER 30-2020-01144974-PR-PW-CJC

Religious Announcements

Thank you St Jude & Sacred Heart of Jesus for prayers answered-CM

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RAYMOND FRANCIS KILLION AKA RAYMOND F. KILLION, JR. CASE NO. 30-2020-01145286-PR-LA-CJC

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Coast Community College District ("DISTRICT"), acting by and through its Board of Trustees, will receive sealed bids for the award of a contract for the following named Project. Bids will be received up until, but not later than, the bid deadline listed below.

Table with project details: Project Name: Coastline Community College - Bookstore Demolition, Bid Number: 2158, Pre-Bid RFI Deadline: July 23, 2020 at 2:00 pm, Bid Deadline: July 30, 2020

A MANDATORY pre-bid job-walk will be held at 10:00 am, July 14, 2020 and July 21, 2020 at the project site. Each bidding contractor must attend one of the two scheduled job-walks in order to be eligible to issue a bid on the project.

Place of Bid Receipt: All bids shall be submitted electronically via the PlanetBids Vendor portal located on the District Website (https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=36722&BidID=73778), including the forms furnished by the District, prior to the bid closing date and time, and results will be available immediately upon the close of bids.

Project Description: Demolition of the 5,000 square foot, single story Bookstore addition on the existing student service building that is scheduled to remain. Project includes a complete scope as required to demolish the Bookstore and keep the existing student service building active, including demolition of building and foundations, capping utilities, exterior wall enclosures, and roofing tie in.

Each bidder shall be a licensed contractor pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 7028.15 and Public Contract Code Section 3300. The District requires that the bidder possess at the time of bid, and maintain throughout the duration of the Agreement, the following license classification(s):

Table with columns: Trade, License, Engineer's Estimate. Row: Bookstore Demolition & Renovation, A or B, \$150,000

DIR Registration. Each bidder submitting a proposal to complete the work, labor, material, and/or services ("Work") subject to this procurement must be a Department of Industrial Relations ("DIR") registered contractor pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5.

Prevailing Wage Rate ("PWR") Monitoring and Enforcement. The Work is subject to payment of the PWR. The Contractor and all Subcontractors of every tier shall pay laborers performing any portion of the Work not less than the PWR established for the labor provided.

More information regarding this project can be found on the PlanetBids Vendor portal listed above. Further inquiries should be directed to the District's Purchasing Department at purchasing@cccd.edu.

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