

Daily Pilot

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Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

PRESCOTT COOK, center, Grace O'Brien, right, and other students and parents protest outside the Newport-Mesa Unified School District office.

Newport-Mesa parents, students protest at district office in support of reopening secondary schools

BY LILLY NGUYEN,
ANDREW TURNER

The stutter of horns was met by cheers as cars approached a stoplight early Friday afternoon.

One man stepped off the sidewalk, a sign in his hands as he signaled for drivers to honk for the cause — reopening Newport-Mesa Unified School District secondary schools for on-campus instruction.

Supporters of reopening crowded the sidewalk that runs adjacent to the district's office and wrapped around the corner of Bear and Baker streets, calling for the board of trustees to vote in favor of a return for secondary schools to campuses on Nov. 9 for hybrid, in-person instruction at the board's regular meeting on Tuesday.

District staff is recommending approval of the new proposed return date for secondary schools with the exception of Back Bay/Monte Vista High School, which, if approved, would return on Nov. 3.

Early College High School will remain in the distance learning model due to difficulties related to the alignment with the Coastline Community College system, said NMUSD spokeswoman Annette Franco.

Elementary school students returned to campuses on Sept. 29.

This is the second such protest at the district office this month, the first having occurred on Oct. 8 when parents and students, poised to go back to campuses on Oct. 12, learned that district officials were considering

pushing back the return date to a date no later than Dec. 17.

That delay was approved in a 5-1 vote. Trustee Vicki Snell dissented. The announcement of a new return date came Thursday.

But, Newport Harbor High School senior Grace O'Brien, who with her friends organized the protest on Oct. 8, said she won't get her hopes up.

"We want to go back to in-person learning and we are willing to compromise with teachers and staff to do so," said Grace, 17. "Students and parents are willing to help to ensure we can go back on campus. We want the district and school board to know that we are feeling frustrated and let down and hope they will finally keep their promise of shifting to hybrid learning on Nov. 9."

Newport Mesa United Parents

organized the protest Friday.

Jeanine Bashore, whose daughter is a sophomore at Newport Harbor, said the rally really came together last Friday after she held a meeting at her house with about 25 other parents.

"The result was we were going to have a rally and we're going to get as many people as we can to come to the rally because we're here to support to our kids. We're here to support education and advocacy for our children and we're also here to keep the district accountable," Bashore said. "We had great news yesterday that they're now going to open on Nov. 9, however, the board still has to vote on it."

"There's progress, I would say. However, we need the approval,"

See **Schools**, page A3

OBITUARY

Viola Smith, Costa Mesa resident billed in the '30s as 'fastest girl drummer in the world' dies at 107

BY BRADLEY ZINT

Viola Smith, a Costa Mesa resident and pioneering musician of the swing era who was billed in the 1930s as the "fastest girl drummer in the world," has died. She was 107.

Smith died Wednesday at her home of complications from Alzheimer's disease, her nephew, Dennis Bartash, told the Washington Post.

Smith kept time during an era when female musicians struggled to gain respect from their male colleagues. Despite that, in Smith's decades-long professional career, she played alongside many of her famous contemporaries, including Ella Fitzgerald, Chick Webb and Bob Hope. She regularly performed and toured through the 1970s.

One of her many performing ensembles, The Coquettes, was an all-female orchestra in the 1930s and '40s. She famously turned down an offer to join clarinetist Woody Herman's Thundering Herd to continue playing with an all-female group.

"Oh, those were the days," Smith told the Daily Pilot in 2015, when the city of Costa Mesa honored her with a mayor's proclamation. "After our shows, all the musicians on 52nd Street got together for dinner. It was so much fun. Sometimes I'd sit with Frank Sinatra in a booth. We'd meet all the musicians and singers."

Her other appearances were with the NBC Symphony Orchestra and on "The Ed Sullivan Show" five times. She also became the face of the Zildjian cymbal company and Ludwig Drums.

In a Facebook post made Friday on its company page, Ludwig Drums applauded how Smith "paved the way for so many female drummers and was still playing at 107 years old! She was a true innovator and will be greatly missed."

Angela Smith, author of "Women Drummers: A History from Rock and Jazz to Blues and Country," made the introduction of her book about Viola Smith.

In a Facebook post Friday, Angela Smith noted how Viola Smith was legendary and possessed bravery "in speaking out for female musicians. [She] gave other women the courage and chops to break the barriers of what was once an all-too-male field."

Angela Smith also wrote: "I recall how surprised and thrilled she was when she learned I was dedicating the book to her. I was told she held tightly to that book the last several days of her life and asked those around her to read from it, because she was so weak she couldn't read for herself."

Angela Smith said Viola Smith

See **Smith**, page A2



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A STUDIO PUBLICITY photo of Viola Smith playing the drums adorns the wall of the Piecemakers Country Store in Costa Mesa.



Courtesy of city of Huntington Beach

KELLY RODRIGUEZ has announced she will resign rather than stay on as interim police chief in Huntington Beach.

Interim H.B. police chief resigns

Kelly Rodriguez, who was appointed after the retirement of Robert Handy, cites political division as the reason.

BY MATT SZABO

Kelly Rodriguez has resigned as the interim police chief of the Huntington Beach Police Department, citing divisiveness in the community and within the police department.

Rodriguez, the first female captain in department history, was promoted to assistant chief in early 2019. She was to serve as the interim police chief while the city found a replacement for Robert Handy, who announced his retirement earlier this month.

Instead, she will retire from the department on Nov. 13.

"After 24 years with the city of Huntington Beach, I have decided that now is the right time to retire," Rodriguez said in a statement. "I have loved being part of this amazing police department and had been looking forward to serving as the acting chief. However, there is an unhealthy level of divisiveness right now in our community, and I have no desire to be thrust into the middle of the political fights that are currently occurring."

Rodriguez said in the statement that she didn't want to be part of conflict, and that she urged people to come together to find common ground.

Rodriguez declined an interview request Friday.

See **Chief**, page A4

Police arrest suspect in connection with fatal shooting

A suspect was in custody Friday in connection with the fatal shooting of a man in a Newport Beach residence, police said.

Rodney James Hartzel, age unknown, was arrested following the Thursday night shooting, according to Newport Beach Police Department spokeswoman Heather Rangel. It was not immediately clear whether he was booked on suspicion of murder.

Rangel said there's no ongoing threat to the community.

Police were called about 8 p.m. Thursday to the 20000 block of Orchid Street on reports of gunshots fired, Rangel said. When officers arrived, they found the body of the victim inside a residence, she said.

Police withheld the name and age of the victim pending notification of his family.

Anyone with information or a witness to the crime is asked to contact Newport Beach police Det. Michael Fletcher at (949) 644-3779.

— City News Service

VIOLA SMITH, shown arriving at her 100th birthday party at the Piecemakers Country Store in Costa Mesa in 2012, died on Wednesday.



Don Leach
Staff
Photographer

SMITH

Continued from page A1

was sometimes referred to as the “female Gene Krupa,” another famous jazz drummer of the age known for his solo on Benny Goodman’s 1937 recording of

“Sing, Sing, Sing.” Viola Smith preferred flipping the title, however, saying Krupa was actually the “male Viola Smith.” Smith was lauded for a groundbreaking editorial titled “Give Girl Musicians a Break,” which she published in 1942 for Down-Beat, a trade magazine. At that time, many of the nation’s able-bodied male musicians were serving in the military to fight World War II, which left spots open for female performers. Smith wrote, “In these times of national emergency, many of the star instrumentalists of the big-name bands are being drafted. Instead of replacing them with what may be mediocre talent, why not let some of the great girl musicians of the country take their place ... girls work right beside men in the factories, in the offices ... so why not in dance bands?” Smith was born Viola Clara Schmitz on Nov. 29, 1912, in Mount Calvary, Wis. She grew up in a large musi-

cal family where piano training was mandatory. Alongside her siblings, Smith played in an orchestra whose fame grew as the years went on. She recalled choosing the drums because all the other instruments were taken by her family members. But she was eager to learn. Smith eventually moved to New York — her state of residence until 2011, when she moved to Costa Mesa to be closer to family. “It’s always sad when someone passes away, but I don’t think Viola Smith would want us to shed any tears,” Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley said. “At 107, she lived a long, vibrant and amazing life and began playing drums during World War II. What an inspiration for us all, especially young women. We send our condolences to her family and friends who will miss her dearly.” Smith left no immediate survivors. Even well into her 100s, she was known for her spunk.

“She’s 100, and she’s got more [expletive] and vinegar than I ever had,” Linda Bartash, Smith’s niece, told the Daily Pilot in 2012. “But she was always like that.”

dailypilot@latimes.com
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Fredrick P. Primo

February 24, 1943 - October 15, 2020

Fredrick P. Primo was born February 24, 1943 to Dominic & Angie Primo in Birmingham, Michigan. They moved to California in the late 1950’s. Fred was married to Michal Primo in 1964. Fred is survived by his two children and four grandchildren. Fred and Michal were divorced in 1974. Fred worked both as a real estate appraiser and as a general contractor/developer in California from 1965 until he retired in 2010. This was truly the golden period of California living. The time his family remembers him most fondly was in the 1980’s when he lived at Promontory Point in Newport Beach. He had many friends and was truly happy. Fred died peacefully with his children and his granddaughter in Kalispell, Montana on October 15, 2020. He was a Christian and spoke about Jesus Christ in his final days. Fred was loved and he will be missed.

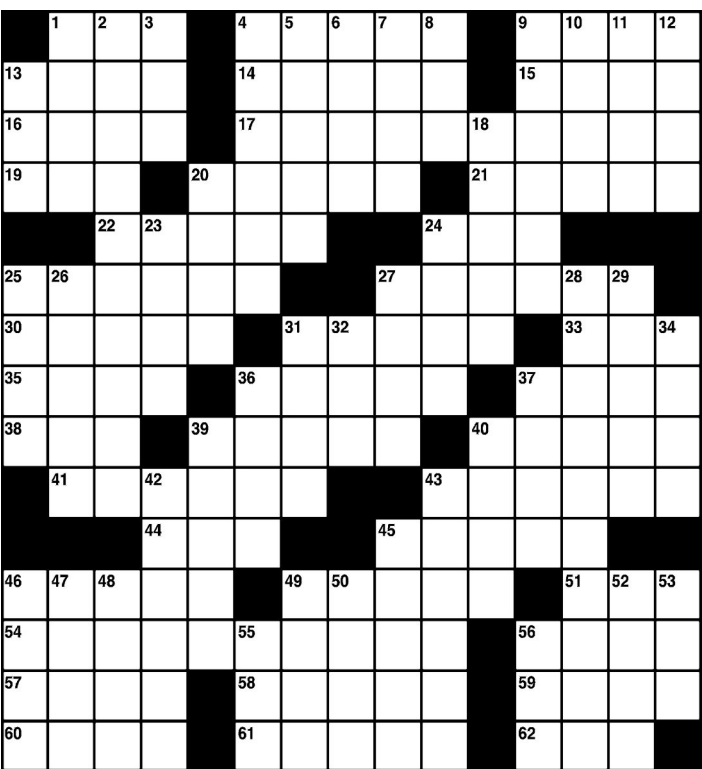
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By Jacqueline E. Mathews

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4 Solemn pledges
9 Part of the foot
13 _Cola
14 Ghost
15 Meal with ukulele music
16 Circle portions
17 UK legislative body
19 Zodiac sign
20 Miscalculated
21 “_ are red, violets”
22 Rattled
24 Charlotte, to Prince George
25 Awning
27 Sky blue or peach
30 On pins and needles
31 Common wall color
33 Last letters
35 In a _; sulking
36 Tureen utensil
37 Colt’s mother
38 Break a Commandment
39 Extinguish a fire
40 Adds booze to the punch
41 Braggart’s problem
43 Find odious
44 Daisy _; lover of Li'l Abner
45 Spud
46 Colorado ski resort
49 Lower leg parts
51 Piece of lingerie
54 Saving coins or stamps, e.g.
56 Sheep bleats
57 Shade provider
58 Didn't _; was perfectly still
59 _ A Sketch; classic drawing toy
60 "Now!" in the ER
61 Derisive smile
62 "Wow!"

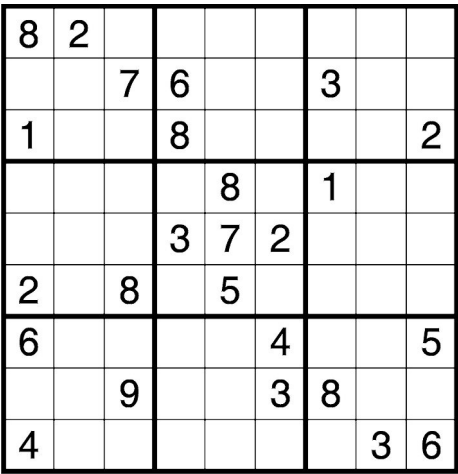
DOWN
1 Achy
2 College major
3 Helium or hydrogen
4 Fish hawk
5 _ from; besides
6 _ up; shredded
7 Texas _em; poker variety
8 _ lift; snowy slope transport
9 Just about
10 McClanahan & others
11 Charlie Chaplin's prop
12 Houses on "Gilligan's Island"
13 Coolidge, to friends
18 Get up



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 A4.

20 Catch a glimpse of
23 Prefix for master or mark
24 Cooking herb
25 Late singer
26 Oakley or Potts
27 Stack
28 Make worse
29 Stringed instruments
31 "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" author
32 Sullivan & Harris
34 Oomph
36 Suffer defeat
37 Spouse
39 Keaton or Sawyer
40 Allows
42 Breakfast order
43 Peril
45 Slight coloring
46 Plays a role
47 Put papers in order
48 Earnest request
49 Astonish
50 Conceal
52 Run fast
53 Hardwood tree
55 "Young Sheldon" network
56 Panhandle

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SCHOOLS

Continued from page A1

she added. “We are also late in the game. We have districts all around us that are all back in school and we just want our kids back in school.”

A new seventh-grader at Ensign Intermediate School, Katie Cross said it’s been difficult transitioning from Eastbluff Elementary to middle school and that she’d been hoping to make a lot of friends and meet her teachers.

“The hardest part probably has been, since now I have so many different classes and before I only had one class, having to keep track and keep up with all the work that’s being posted online and going to every class and being able to communicate with all my teachers when there’s problems,” said Katie, 12.

“Before, there was just one source online and that’s where everything was

posted with just one teacher,” she added. Both she and her mother wrote a letter to the district asking for reopening.

Another Ensign student, Joaquin Rigdon, said he’s personally been struggling with finding the motivation to learn. He said there is a consequence for not doing work when he attends class in-person, but that he doesn’t have that as a reason to at home. He said he realized he did better in the classroom in the last three weeks.

“There’s a lot of distractions. My phone, my bed — it’s harder to focus,” Joaquin, 14, said.

Emma Lima, whose son attends Ensign, said in Spanish through a translator that she came out because she feels her son isn’t learning anything from Zoom. She said it was important for him to go to class and be with his teachers and peers to learn.

“Sometimes, he has questions he can’t ask because he’s lost in the

Zoom,” said Elsa Castillo, who translated for Lima.

Castillo, a mother of a sophomore at Newport Harbor, said she felt that parents needed to be the children’s advocate. She said she was worried that her daughter’s education was falling behind.

The rally went on for about an hour before ending at around 1 p.m.

Bashore said the protest was about being heard and holding the district accountable, but that the dozens of people attending wanted district officials to also know that they were here to support them.

“We love our teachers. We love our schools. We love our principals. We are here to support, but it’s also the accountability,” Bashore said. “We’re not at the finish line yet. [Thursday] was a huge step, but we still need the board to approve and we won’t stop until our kids are sitting at a desk on campus.”

See **Schools**, page A4

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Monday, November 09, 2020**, at 5:00 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Harbor Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider approval of the following application:

Residential dock reconfiguration located at 944 Via Lido Nord

The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential to have a significant effect on the environment. The project will be located on the same site and location as the structure it replaced and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity and size as the structure replaced.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this proposal. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City at, or prior to, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 17.65. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing, and may be reviewed at the City Manager's Office (Bay E-2nd Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California, CA 92660 or at the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Public Works Department or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the business day immediately prior to the meeting. This allows time for the Harbor Commission to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Chris Miller, Administrative Manager, at cmiller@newportbeachca.gov.

Project File No.: 1901-2020

Published in the Daily Pilot on:
October 24, 2020

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, November 05, 2020**, at 6:30 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Residences at 4400 Von Karman – The proposed project includes the development of 312 apartment units, a 284-space free-standing parking structure, an approximately one-acre public park, and reconfiguration of existing surface parking lots serving existing office buildings. The project would be located within the Koll Center Newport Professional and Business Office Site B, generally located between Von Karman Ave. and Birch St. in the vicinity of John Wayne Airport. Residential parking would be provided on site and within a proposed parking garage below the apartment units. Office parking would be reconfigured and replaced in the parking garage under the residential units, within a proposed free-standing parking structure, and in existing nearby surface parking areas that will be modified. Pedestrian walkways and enhanced landscaping will be provided to connect the proposed project, public park with the existing office park, and the abutting Uptown Newport mixed-use project presently under development.

The application consists of the following components:

- Planned Community Development Plan Amendment No. PD2020-001: An amendment of the Koll Center Newport Planned Community Development Standards (zoning) for the creation of a residential overlay zone to allow for residential uses within the Koll Center Newport Professional and Business Office Site B.
- Major Site Development Review No. SD2020-006: A site development review in accordance with the proposed Koll Center Newport Planned Community amendment and Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) Section 20.52.80 (Site Development Reviews) for the construction of the project.
- Traffic Study No. TS2020-001: A traffic study pursuant to NBMC Chapter 15.40 (Traffic Phasing Ordinance).
- Lot Line Adjustment No. LA2020-002: To reconfigure the two underlying parcels that comprise of the project site in order to facilitate the proposed project.
- Affordable Housing Implementation Plan No. AH2020-003: A program specifying how the proposed project would meet the City's affordable housing requirements, in exchange for a request of a 20 percent increase in density. The applicant also seeks one development concession related to the number and mix of unit types pursuant NBMC Chapter 20.32 (Density Bonus) and Government Code Section 65915.
- Development Agreement No. DA2020-002: An agreement between the applicant and the City, which would provide vested right to develop the proposed project, while also providing negotiated public benefits; and
- Addendum to the 2006 General Plan Update Program Environmental Impact Reports No. ER2020-003: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the addendum will address reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts resulting from the proposed development.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the City has prepared the Residences at 4400 Von Karman EIR addendum to the previously certified General Plan Update Environmental Impact Report SCH# 2006011119. To address reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts resulting from the proposed development, the City has determined that an addendum to the previously certified EIR is warranted pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Once completed, the document will be made available at the Planning Division and may also be accessed online at www.newportbeachca.gov/ceqa.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19

Given the Declaration of a State Emergency and Proclamation of Local Emergency related to COVID-19, we recommend that you submit your questions and comments in writing for Planning Commission consideration by sending them to the Community Development Department at PlanningCommissioners@newportbeachca.gov. To give the Planning Commission adequate time to review your questions and comments, please submit your written comments by **Wednesday, November 4, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** In addition, members of the public will have the ability to participate in this meeting telephonically. Please review the Planning Commission Agenda for further instructions. The Agenda, staff report and corresponding documents will be posted to the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/planningcommission, by end of business day on **Friday, October 30, 2020**. While the City does not expect there to be any changes to the above process for participating in this meeting, if there is a change, the City will post the information as soon as possible to the City's website. The City of Newport Beach thanks you in advance for continuing to take precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. If you are unable to participate in the meeting via the process set forth in the agenda, please contact the Planning Division at 949-644-3200 or CDD@newportbeachca.gov and our staff will attempt to accommodate you.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Rosalinh Ung, Principal Planner, at 949-644-3208 or rung@newportbeachca.gov.

Project File No.: PA2020-061

Activity Nos.: PD2020-001, SD2020-006, TS2020-001, LA2020-002, DA2020-002, AH2020-003, & ER2020-003

Zone: PC 15 Koll Center


General Plan: Mixed Use Horizontal 2 (MU-H2)

Location: 4400 Von Karman Avenue

Applicant: TPG (KCN) Acquisition, LLC

Lauren Kleiman, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

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Anaheim man arrested, charged after stabbing in Fountain Valley

The Fountain Valley Police Department has made an arrest following a stabbing that occurred in the city on Oct. 15.

Police arrested Hoang “Bruce” Nam Min Le of Anaheim, 32, without incident at his parents’ home in Anaheim.

He was charged with attempted murder and unlawful taking of a vehicle, Fountain Valley police Sgt. Donald Farmer said, and bail was set at \$1 million.

Farmer said that Le and another man were riding in a gray Toyota Tacoma truck on Oct. 15 and stopped in the Orange County Sanitation District parking lot at the 10800 block of Ellis Avenue.

Le then began to stab the victim multiple times, police allege, causing serious injuries.

The victim, identified as a 41-year-old male, was able to escape, and Le fled in the truck.

The victim is in stable condition and is expected to survive, Farmer said. Evidence at the scene helped identify Le as the suspect.

“The motive is still under investigation, and the relationship between the two is still under investigation,” Farmer said.

The truck Le was driving was previously stolen in Anaheim and recovered in Fullerton, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to call Fountain Valley police Det. Ben Roddy at (714) 593-4465.

— Matt Szabo

SCHOOLS

Continued from page A3

ORANGE COUNTY COVID-19 STATS

The Orange County Health Care Agency reported six coronavirus deaths and 162 new infections of COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, in its latest numbers released on Friday.

As a county, there have been 1,440 deaths reported since the onset of the pandemic, and the cumulative case count stands at 58,010.

Hospitalizations because of the virus numbered 162 as of Friday, with 58 of

those patients being treated in intensive care units.

There were 12,135 tests for COVID-19 reported within the last day, bringing the total number of tests administered in the county to 1,044,997. Approximately 51,990 people in the county have recovered from fighting the virus, according to data provided by the healthcare agency.

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

- Santa Ana: 11,197 cases; 308 deaths
- Anaheim: 9,927 cases; 314 deaths

- Huntington Beach: 2,544 cases; 85 deaths
- Costa Mesa: 1,979 cases; 44 deaths
- Irvine: 1,829 cases; 13 deaths
- Newport Beach: 1,205 cases; 26 deaths
- Fountain Valley: 555 cases; 20 deaths
- Laguna Beach: 242 cases; fewer than five deaths

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

- 0 to 17: 4,276 cases; one death
- 18 to 24: 8,729 cases; five deaths
- 25 to 34: 12,440 cases; 20 deaths

- 35 to 44: 9,231 cases; 37 deaths
- 45 to 54: 9,359 cases; 112 deaths
- 55 to 64: 6,943 cases; 201 deaths
- 65 to 74: 3,487 cases; 283 deaths
- 75 to 84: 1,947 cases; 313 deaths
- 85 and older: 1,551 cases; 468 deaths

Updated figures are posted daily at occovid19.ocalhealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc. For information on getting tested, visit occovid19.ocalhealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing.

dailypilot@latimes.com
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CHIEF

Continued from page A1

City Manager Oliver Chi said he hoped that Rodriguez would stay on as interim chief.

“Acting Chief Rodriguez is a model of integrity and we’ve been lucky to have had her as part of our team for the last 24 years,” Chi said. “As the last couple of days have unfolded, acting Chief Rodriguez decided she wanted to retire rather than become engaged in the current political divisiveness that’s occurring within the police department. Really, there’s some conflict on our City Council as well that she just didn’t want to be part of.”

Chi said he planned to

name Rodriguez as acting chief before City Councilman Mike Posey asked to put that item on the agenda for further discussion. According to the city charter, the council has the authority to review the city manager’s decision on hiring a police chief.

“Kelly and I discussed the matter, and she decided that rather than become a part of the political narrative that’s currently happening, she wanted to retire instead,” Chi said. “She actually was planning on retiring on Oct. 31, before Chief Handy announced his retirement. Given that context ... Kelly informed me that she wanted to retire, and that’s ultimately what’s happening now.”

The Huntington Beach

Police Department has been divided as Election Day approaches.

The Huntington Beach Police Management Assn., which represents nine lieutenants and three captains in the department, endorses Tito Ortiz, Casey McKeon and Gracey Van Der Mark, who are loosely running together as a three-candidate ticket.

The Police Management Assn. also recently backed a mailer that was sent out to homes in Surf City and slammed City Council candidates Natalie Moser, Dan Kalmick and Oscar Rodriguez. The advertisement, paid for by political action committee Cal Pacific, labels the three Democratic candidates as “Extreme Public Safety Risks.”

“Don’t let Natalie Moser, Dan Kalmick and Oscar Rodriguez turn HB into Portland!” the flier says.

However, Kalmick has been endorsed by the Police Officers Assn., which is another police union that represents the rank-and-file police officers within the department.

Pat Garcia, who heads Cal Pacific and also sits on the Huntington Beach Planning Commission with Kalmick, said it’s nothing personal.

“We’re just trying to get conservative and moderate people [on the City Council],” Garcia said. “We think [Moser, Kalmick and Rodriguez] are farther left, and that’s what we’re trying to avoid.”

Since Chi needs the City Council’s approval to hire a police chief, the new City Council after Nov. 3 would play a role in doing that. There are 15 candidates vying for three open spots.

Mayor Pro Tem Kim Carr said Rodriguez’s decision not to get in the middle of a political fight was “totally her call.”

“I respect the hell out of Kelly,” Carr said. “I think she’s an amazing woman, a very strong woman, and she’s represented our city in the most professional and dignified way during a very intense period for our city.”

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Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication incorporating the Huntington Beach Independent, Coastline Pilot, Orange Coast Daily Pilot and the Newport Harbor News Press combined with Daily Pilot

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The Daily Pilot, established in 1907, is published Wednesday through Sunday by Times Community News, a division of the Los Angeles Times. Subscriptions are available only by subscribing to The Times, Orange County.

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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4	1	2	5	9	8	7	3	6

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