

# Daily Pilot

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**A NEIGHBOR** walking his dog Tuesday stops to see a white supremacist flier left on the lawn of home in Newport Beach.

## KKK actions rattle two O.C. beach communities

Fliers left at homes in Newport and plans for a “White Lives Matter” rally in H.B. raise concerns.

**BY SARA CARDINE, ANDREW TURNER, MATT SZABO**

Ku Klux Klan propaganda discovered outside homes in Newport Beach and a flier announcing plans for a “White Lives Matter” rally in Huntington Beach have put local city officials on alert regarding potentially escalating white nationalist sentiment.

Residents living on one street in Newport Heights were surprised Sunday morning to find their lawns and driveways littered with apparent recruitment propaganda urging citizens to



**A WHITE SUPREMACIST** flier was found on the outer front lawn of an unoccupied home in Newport Heights.

join the fight for the white race by learning more about the KKK.

Fliers with images of a white-robed Klansman and confederate flags reading “Loyal White Knights Want You to Say No to Cultural

Genocide” and promoting a Klan radio show were discovered by a group of homeowners living on San Bernardino Avenue early Sunday morning.

One neighbor, who asked to remain unnamed for fear

of backlash, said she notified the Newport Beach Police Department after a surveillance camera at her home showed a pickup truck driving down her street at 2:24 a.m. Sunday morning, ostensibly delivering the materials.

“There was nothing when the pickup started to pass the house, but afterward the package was there,” she said of a small paper sealed inside a plastic bag and containing a small rock, possibly to aid delivery.

“There’s a lot of hate, and the hate is pretty horrible,” the woman continued, recounting how some neighbors professed having no problem with the content of the fliers.

“Newport Beach needs

See **KKK**, page A2

## State paints county ‘orange’ for reopening

California officials clear the move from the “substantial” to the “moderate” tier for the first time as of Wednesday.

**BY LILLY NGUYEN**

It’s official — as of Wednesday, Orange County will be in the orange tier of the state reopening framework for the first time.

Data released by the state Tuesday indicate that Orange County will be able to move from the red “substantial” spread tier into the orange “moderate” tier. This means that bars will be able to reopen outdoors with modifications. It also does away with indoor capacity limits for retail, though standard safety practices are still required.

Other sectors such as museums, zoos, aquariums and places of worship will be able to increase their indoor capacities to about 50%. Restaurants and movie theaters will be able to open up to 50% or 200 people, whichever number is fewer.

This is the first time that Orange County has qualified to be in the or-

ange tier. It was reassigned to the red tier earlier this month.

To move ahead to less restrictive tiers in the state reopening guidelines, counties are required to meet a specific threshold for their adjusted daily case rate for every 100,000 residents, test positivity rate and the health equity quartile positivity rate, which tracks the test positivity in disadvantaged communities.

Metrics must meet those thresholds for at least two consecutive weeks before being eligible for the next tier.

They’re also required to remain in a tier for at least three weeks.

To be eligible to move into the orange tier, Orange County’s daily case rate had to fall between 1 and 3.9 cases for every 100,000 residents; 2% and 4.9% for test positivity rates; and between 2.2% and 5.2% for the health equity quartile positivity

See **Orange**, page A4



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

**PEDESTRIANS** walk down Main Street in Huntington Beach on March 15. O.C. has been cleared for the orange tier.

## H.B. activist Sorgente pleads not guilty

Two felony assault counts originate from his alleged actions at a ‘Stop the Steal’ rally on Dec. 6.

**BY MATT SZABO**

Huntington Beach resident Kim Michael Sorgente was arrested last week and charged with two felony counts of assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm.

Sorgente, 50, pleaded not guilty to both counts at his arraignment on Thursday in Orange County Superior Court. He is being held on \$125,000 bail at the Theo Lacy Facility jail in Orange.

The judge increased the bail from \$25,000 to \$125,000 at the arraignment after prosecutors said that the FBI could be looking for Sorgente, a far-right activist, for his role in the U.S. Capitol insurrection on Jan. 6.

Orange County Dist. Atty. public information officer Kimberly Edds referred questions to the FBI on Monday, and FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said there was no federal arrest warrant for Sorgente.

“Our policy is that we don’t

See **Sorgente**, page A3

### ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:

**COMMENTARY: SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICES DURING THESE CHALLENGING TIMES** PAGE A2

**COSTA MESA POLICE SEARCH FOR SUSPECTS IN 2 ROBBERIES** PAGE A2

**HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP: HUNTINGTON**

**BEACH SOFTBALL FIRES NO-HITTER** PAGE A3

**TIMESOC NEWSLETTER:**

Twice a week, we bring you the latest on Orange County from Orange County, with the best from the Daily Pilot, the Los Angeles Times and TimesOC. You can sign up at [latimes.com/oc-newsletter](http://latimes.com/oc-newsletter).



Photo by Drew A. Kelley



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**MASKED SHOPPERS** attend a Corona del Mar plant sale in February. A Chapman University study showed nearly two-thirds of county residents believe government coronavirus mandates were just right or didn’t go far enough.

## O.C. survey shows views on mask-wearing and climate change taking a left-hand turn

**BY SARA CARDINE**

Despite its reputation as a Republican holdout with intractable views on coronavirus mask mandates, climate change and the results of the 2020 U.S. presidential election, the real viewpoints of Orange County

may be more liberal than one thinks.

That was the takeaway of a survey conducted by Chapman University that assessed the impressions of 703 Orange County residents during a three-week period in February.

The survey found 83% of re-

spondents considered the coronavirus a “real threat,” while 70% favored a national mask mandate. An overwhelming majority of residents — 80% — said they’d already gotten the COVID-19 vaccine or planned to

See **Survey**, page A4

## More than 100 drivers of loud cars are cited in Newport

**BY LILLY NGUYEN**

A joint operation between the Newport Beach Police Department, California Highway Patrol, the California Department of Motor Vehicles and the California Bureau of Automotive Repair on Sunday yielded more than 100 citations for vehicle code violations.

Of particular concern was cars with a loud or modified exhaust systems being driven on the city’s streets, prompting numerous complaints to the police department over the last several months.

Newport Beach police spokeswoman Heather Rangel said the department launched a loud/modified vehicle exhaust and street racing enforcement operation on March 18 and the efforts will continue through the end of this summer.

The department reported that 136 vehicles were stopped by law

See **Loud**, page A3



# Police search for suspects in 2 armed robberies

BY SARA CARDINE

Costa Mesa police are searching for suspects in connection with two armed robberies that took place in a South Coast Plaza parking lot Saturday afternoon, when shoppers were held at gunpoint and forced to hand over belongings, officials reported.

Roxi Fyad, spokeswoman for the Costa Mesa Police Department, said the incidents took place within 10 minutes of each other at around 2 p.m. in a parking lot located on the 3300 block of Bristol Street.

In both incidents, two suspects brandished weapons and demanded the victims hand over their wallets and wristwatches before fleeing the scene in a vehicle. No one was injured during the robberies, Fyad said Monday.

The suspects are described as two Black male adults, possibly in their 20s, who were wearing black knit ski masks and carrying handguns at the time the robberies occurred. Fyad said they are reported to have fled the scene in a small maroon SUV that was reportedly being driven by a woman.

Representatives with South Coast Plaza would not comment on Saturday's incidents. Fyad said the estimated value of the stolen items had not yet been confirmed.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Costa Mesa Police Department at (714) 754-5280.

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## FOR THE RECORD

Last weekend's "Around Town" news briefs incorrectly stated the location of an April 19 fundraising event benefiting Tilly's Life Center. "Tilly Wonka and the Golf Factory" will be held at the Mission Viejo Country Club, 26200 Country Club Drive, Mission Viejo.

## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**  
 1 Change addresses  
 5 Bush  
 10 Goes on stage  
 14 Hertz competitor  
 15 Rent long-term  
 16 Overwhelming defeat  
 17 Sampras or Seeger  
 18 Make null and void  
 20 Frau in Mex.  
 21 A single time  
 22 Slacken; ease  
 23 Sudden forward rush  
 25 Clamor  
 26 Is impudent  
 28 Facial hair  
 31 Uses a crowbar  
 32 "How much wood \_ a woodchuck chuck"  
 34 Closing trio  
 36 \_ Benedict; fancy breakfast  
 37 Dishwasher cycle  
 38 Biblical pronoun  
 39 Final bill  
 40 Entertainer Shore  
 41 " \_ all, folks!"  
 42 Get out of jail early?  
 44 Fanatic  
 45 Rural streets: abbr.  
 46 Reddish dye  
 47 Enjoyed a winter sport  
 50 Engrossed  
 51 Shade of brown  
 54 Petty; small-minded  
 57 Linear measure  
 58 Is in the red  
 59 Duke or Hearst  
 60 Game defeat  
 61 Laundry soap  
 62 Piece of asparagus  
 63 Macrame formation
- DOWN**  
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 2 Above  
 3 Pulse,

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61					62					63		

## 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](http://sudoku.org.uk).

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

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

- temperature, etc.  
 4 180 degrees from WNW  
 5 Injured arm supports  
 6 Thus  
 7 Outdoor dance party  
 8 Patriotic chant  
 9 TV's "The Fresh

- Prince of \_-Air"  
 10 Fervent  
 11 Outer garment  
 12 Nobel-winning bishop  
 13 Texas two-\_; country/western dance  
 19 Homer's Trojan War epic

- 21 Items in a billfold  
 24 Takes advantage of  
 25 Robert or Elizabeth  
 26 Earned a ticket  
 27 Fight verbally  
 28 \_ forth; spew  
 29 Part of the breathing process  
 30 See \_ eye; agree  
 32 Merlot or Chianti  
 33 "Put \_ Happy Face"  
 35 Gusto  
 37 Van Winkle & others  
 38 Better \_; superior to  
 40 Pa  
 41 Big top  
 43 Fold line  
 44 Gentle breeze  
 46 " \_ la vista, Baby!"  
 47 Notice  
 48 Fuzzy fruit  
 49 Like gooeey cinnamon rolls  
 50 Ceremony  
 52 Too  
 53 Hornet's home  
 55 FedEx rival  
 56 Short rest  
 57 Coretta Scott King's hubby, for short

Tribune Media Services

## COMMENTARY | JOSEPH KLUNDER

# Supporting local community services during these challenging times

Undoubtedly, these last 12 months have been difficult for the entire world. For the first year since the Great Recession, economic growth has been negative.

Even in our individual lives, we can see how being locked down causes us to spend a lot of time bored, waiting, cramped in and marginally productive.

However, living and working abroad in China, and working with students and workers from nearby countries such as Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, South Korea and Australia have allowed me to see things differently. Those countries that took drastic initial lockdown measures, built up healthcare facilities and supported each other through vigorous social service programs tended to solve the coronavirus problem faster.

Countries whose populations vacillated, delayed, belittled the virus and instituted half-hearted measures paid a much higher price in terms of exponentially greater numbers of sick people, much higher government hospital bills, much longer decreased education and economic productivity.

In all of this, we have seen the need for building up local, national and international support to make sure we move steadily toward a complete recovery. Healthcare, education and labor services tend to work together.

One such option I have seen that I have always promoted is our local community colleges. For those who need relief during the pandemic, Coastline and Orange Coast College have had some programs offering services or referrals for healthcare, psychological care, food pantries, laptop and book sharing programs, and, as always, education fee waivers.

For those in critical living situations, they can get some stability and work toward building skills while the world still has ample downtime.

Beyond economic support, those in need often face social alienation that is the most severe. Helping those in need is more than simply giving items or even providing service, it is a comprehensive process of socializing them into the mainstream values, norms and behaviors of middle-class society.



Photo by Drew A. Kelley

FROM LEFT, Nam Yoon, Yoon Lee and Christian Shin troubleshoot ways on how to better assist people applying for citizenship during an event hosted by the Asian Americans Advancing Justice at the Northwood Community Center in Irvine in 2015.

To this end, community college has done an excellent job on its lean budget. At Orange Coast College, Kristoffer Toribio is the head of the international department and is on track to become the International Assn. college admissions counselor's president-elect.

He has contributed data and time and helped many students efficiently navigate an often-difficult international

admissions process. In the same way, Dean of Students Katheryn "Kate" Mueller moved from Orange Coast College to Coastline Community College and does so in her own nurturing and humorous way.

This month, universities across the U.S. are supporting efforts to stop discrimination and mistreatment against

See *Comment*, page A4



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A WHITE SUPREMACIST flier is shown in front of a house in the Newport Heights neighborhood on Tuesday.

## KKK

Continued from page A1

help — Orange County needs help."

Newport Beach police spokeswoman Heather Rangel on Tuesday confirmed at least one resident had reported the incident and said the department was actively investigating the matter. She was unable to clarify whether the incident constituted a hate crime, although no overt criminal acts seem to have been committed in the distribution of the papers.

Mayor Brad Avery said Tuesday he and other city officials were "disappointed" to learn of hate-based activity in the local community and were looking into it.

"Unfortunately, this is a common tactic used by some hate groups today," Avery said in a statement. "We condemn the group's ideology and assure our residents that the Newport Beach Police Department is actively investigating to determine the individual or group responsible for dis-

tributing these materials."

As word of the Newport Beach discovery spread on social media, word began circulating about a "White Lives Matter" rally being tentatively planned for the afternoon of April 11 at the Huntington Beach Pier.

"We will be planning the WLM rally in Orange County in solidarity with Americans all over the nation on 4/11," the notice read, encouraging participants to wear face masks for anonymity. "Send this channel to all patriots in SoCal who will stand against anti-White racism and violence."

Huntington Beach Interim Police Chief Julian Harvey said the department learned Monday of a possible demonstration being planned for the pier and was gathering details on the event.

"[Deployment] always depends on the nature of the demonstration, the anticipated number of attendees and perhaps the stated intent," he added. "Sometimes the stated intent is anarchy or violence, or both — we plan accord-

ingly." Huntington Beach Mayor Kim Carr said the idea of a possible "White Lives Matter" rally being held at the pier was unacceptable.

"These protests are not indicative of our community," she said. "We don't stand for hate. We're a welcoming community. We embrace everyone, and to have these continued rallies, this one in particular, is truly offensive. I'm all for the First Amendment, but I think too many people hide behind the First Amendment to promote hate speech."

Chuck Tanner is a Seattle-based research director for the Institute for Research and Education on Human Rights, which examines racist, antisemitic and far right social movements for the purpose of informing, protecting and extending human rights.

IREHR learned last week about a series of "White Lives Matter" rallies being planned across the nation for the same time on April 11 and said some of the groups affiliated with the organization of the demonstrations have deep roots in extreme white radicalism.

"White Lives Matter runs the gamut, from people who know how to clean it up a bit better down to people who are touting Nazi symbols," Tanner said, indicating that some radical groups have been appealing to mainstream audiences.

"They're trying to extend beyond the structure of traditional organization and make broader appeals around this idea of white dispossession," he added.

For Newport Heights resident Brian Darrow — a pastor at Newport Beach's W Church of Jewish and Asian descent — the implication of the KKK fliers was particularly disturbing.

"This is horrible," he said as he walked his dog in the neighborhood Tuesday afternoon.

Darrow added that despite society's best intentions, highlighting a person's race, even to signify accomplishment, will not help end racism.

"All we're doing now is basing everything on race," Darrow said.

"If we can really get together and agree on all our intentions together, that we truly do want to eradicate racism, then we can hopefully get together and discuss how we can actually do that."

The woman who called Newport Beach police about the fliers in her yard said the city should call on residents to pledge an oath that hate speech and activities will not be tolerated.

"If the people at the top won't denounce [hate] and they won't take action, it's going to stay the way it is and the way it has been for decades," she said.

# 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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**HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP**

**Huntington Beach softball twirls no-hitter**

Emma Francisco, Zoe Prystajko and Kayla Hayashi threw a combined no-hitter with 13 strikeouts, as Huntington Beach High defeated Westminster 12-0 on Monday in a nonleague game at home.

Mikayla Carman had two hits, including a home run. Devyn Greer, Grace Grundstrom and Sara Crespo also had two hits apiece for the Oilers.

Huntington Beach improved to 4-0.

**Marina 13, Fountain Valley 7:** Anaya Togia went five for five with six runs batted in for the Vikings on Monday in a nonleague game at Fountain Valley High School.

Makayla Mathis and Haylee Orozco both had three hits, and Analiah Lummus, Zoe King and Averie Prescott each had two hits for the Vikings.

Marina has won three in a row and is now 4-1 overall, while Fountain Valley dropped to 1-4.

**BASEBALL**

**Edison 3, Ocean View 1:** Chargers senior starting pitcher Luke Serven allowed one earned run in three innings in Monday's nonleague game at Ocean View High.

Serven also went two for three batting for Edison (2-2). Jack Ross (1-0) got the win in relief, pitching a



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

**JEFF FORSBERG** coaches for Huntington Beach High School in a Surf League game against Marina in April 2019.

scoreless sixth inning, while Cade Liefer earned his first save.

Zack Marker homered as part of a two-for-three day for Edison.

Ocean View is also 2-2.

**Laguna Beach 6, Calvary Chapel 5:** The host Breakers scored six runs in the bottom of the seventh inning, stunning the visiting Eagles in Monday's nonleague game. Tyler Montgomery had two hits and two runs batted in for Laguna Beach (1-1).

**GIRLS' SOCCER**

**Pacifica Christian Orange County 0, Crean Lutheran 0:** Jo Snider had two saves in goal, recording her fifth shutout for Pacifica Christian (4-0-1) in Mon-

day's nonleague match.

The Tritons play at Capistrano Valley Christian on Wednesday.

**BOYS' VOLLEYBALL**

**Pacifica Christian Orange County 3, Whittier Christian 1:** Buzz Hodson had 14 kills on .300 hitting to lead the host Tritons to a 25-15, 25-18, 23-25, 25-15 victory on Monday in a nonleague match.

Pacifica Christian improved to 3-2 overall.

**BOYS' TENNIS**

**Fountain Valley 15, Laguna Beach 3:** The Barons swept in doubles, improving to 8-0 after Monday's Sunset Conference cross-over match.

— From staff reports

**SORGENTE**

Continued from page A1

confirm or deny investigations," Eimiller said.

However, two photos posted by the FBI on social media on March 18 are believed by multiple sources to show Sorgente.

Ocean View School District trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin, who said Sorgente is her constituent in the district, said Monday that she submitted an online tip to the FBI that the man in the photos was Sorgente.

Sorgente was arrested by the Santa Ana Police Department on March 23 on suspicion of attacking two people at a "Stop the Steal" rally supporting President Donald Trump on Dec. 6,

2020, in Santa Ana. Video online shows a man believed to be Sorgente swinging a large white bullhorn at two men during a skirmish.

Sorgente would often carry a bullhorn to events. He is shown with it in an August 2020 video outside the home of Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley, protesting the city's mask mandates.

He can be seen in online videos attending a "California Freedom Rally" in Huntington Beach on March 20, two days before his arrest.

Clayton-Tarvin said Sorgente started targeting her in 2017, coming to Ocean View School District board meetings with other alt-right leaders in Orange

County. She said he accused her of running a sanctuary school district and harboring illegal immigrants.

The following year, she said he showed up with his bullhorn to protest a political rally for Gov. Gavin Newsom, who was a candidate at the time, at Meadow View Elementary School. The event was hosted by local advocacy group HB Huddle.

"He has a long history of causing major trouble," Clayton-Tarvin said.

Sorgente is next due in court on April 8 at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom CS7, for a pretrial mandatory settlement conference.

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Courtesy of the Newport Beach Police Department

**MORE THAN 100** vehicles were stopped for violations on Sunday in Newport Beach by the Newport Beach Police Department and several other law enforcement agencies.

**LOUD**

Continued from page A1

enforcement on Sunday.

Five were stopped for exceeding speeds of 100 mph. One was stopped for driving at 130 mph, another was a stolen vehicle. Officers inspected other vehicles on-site for modified exhaust-system violations or

referred drivers to officials from the DMV for possible registration violations.

"Many of these types of vehicles gather at nonpermitted car shows and other locations within city limits," Rangel said in a statement. "These loud and racing vehicles pose a safety risk and affect the quality of life of our residents and visitors."

Police said they've placed

several electronic signboards around town to educate residents and inform others about the actions that would be taken by local law enforcement.

Rangel said officers have also gone to informal car shows to advise vehicle owners of the laws.

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**CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS**

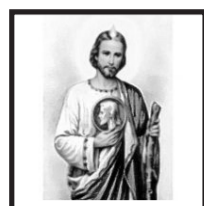
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**MARKETPLACE**

To place an ad, go to <http://timescommunityadvertising.com/>

**Religious Announcements**



**Thank you St Jude**  
Thank you St Jude for answering my prayers in helping Lakers win title in 2020!!

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

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It's the solution you're searching for-whether you're seeking a home, apartment, pet or new occupation!

**Legal Notices**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION LIEN SALE**  
West Coast Self Storage  
2059 Harbor Blvd  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
(949) 631-6666

In accordance with the provisions of the California Self-Storage Facility Act, Section 21700, et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California the under-signed will be sold at public auction conducted on STORAGE-TREASURES.COM on **April 9, 2021**. The personal property including but not limited to: Personal and household items stored at 2059 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa, CA 92627, County of Orange, by the following persons:

Size	Name
5x5	David Johnson
5x5	David King
5x5	Vladimir Popov
10x20	Peaches Stevens

Property is sold "AS IS BASIS." There is a refundable \$100 cleaning deposit on all units. Sale is subject to cancellation.

Published: March 24, 2021 and March 31, 2021.

**ADVERTISEMENT OF PUBLIC SALE**

In accordance with the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Alton Self Storage LP, 2215 Alton Parkway, Irvine, California 92606, will sell by competitive bid on April 15, 2021. Property to be sold as follows: Miscellaneous household goods, personal items, furniture, clothing, and/or business items/fixtures belonging to the following:

**TENANT NAME SPACE NUMBER**  
Jesus Benedetto 2083  
Shaw Sullivan 3352  
Tony Arce 3328  
Michael Teresi 1340  
Hannah Slemmons 2470  
Darryl Peek 3025  
Blake Rowderink 1167

Purchase must be paid for at time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is where is and must be removed at time of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of a settlement between owner and obligated party. Dated this March 31st, 2021 and April 7th, 2021, Auction Listed on storagetreasures.com. Final bid at 12:00 noon.  
3/31, 4/7/21  
CNS-3455344#  
DAILY PILOT

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CHRISTOPHER HICKOCK**  
30-2021-01189286-PR-LA-CJC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **CHRISTOPHER HICKOCK.**

**A PETITION FOR PROBATE** has been filed by **CYNTHIA MUNSON** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE.**

**THE PETITION FOR PROBATE** requests that **CYNTHIA MUNSON** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

**THE PETITION** requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

**A HEARING** on the petition will be held on **May 12, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.** in Dept. C8 located at 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701

**(1) If you plan to appear, you must attend the hearing by video remote using the court's designated video platform; (2) Go to the Court's website at <http://www.occourts.org/media-relations/probate-mental-health.html> to appear for probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions; (3) If you have difficulty connecting to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance.**

**IF YOU OBJECT** to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

**IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR** or contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

**YOU MAY EXAMINE** the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the Petitioner:  
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## SURVEY

Continued from page A1

get it. And, although much rhetoric and skepticism about government overreach during the pandemic is routinely broadcast on local conservative social media outlets, nearly three-quarters of respondents said they believed government coronavirus mandates have been “about right” or did not go far enough.

Chapman University political science Professor Fred Smoller, who crafted questions for the 2021 Orange County Annual Survey released March 1, said the study intends to gauge the populace on important matters of public policy.

“The county needs to know itself,” Smoller said in an interview Monday. “Decision-makers have to know what’s going on — the survey is a way of doing that.”

Smoller culls data from each year’s survey to find trends compelling enough to drive discussions at an annual Public Policy Conference hosted by the university’s Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. After a 2020 hiatus, this year’s virtual event, “Fighting Climate Change,” takes place April 7.

“Most polls are done by someone who has an agenda. My view is wanting to provide public policy makers information that is not just anecdotal,” Smoller said. “And we’ve found the county is not nearly as conservative as its portrayal in the national media.”

Orange County voter data show Democrats inched past Republicans in 2019 to claim the greatest number of registered voters by 89 individuals. That slim margin widened last year to more than 52,000 voters.

But the number of Orange County residents registered as having “no party preference” — currently standing at 436,260 voters



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

**DESPITE MEDIA** focus on the county’s conservatism, like an Aug. 15 anti-mask demonstration in Costa Mesa, a survey found most residents support mask-wearing and social distancing.

and constituting 21% of the voting public — has historically obscured the true divide between the county’s liberals and conservatives.

Chapman’s survey sheds light on how independent voters stood on more partisan issues, such as the soundness of the recent presidential election and support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

A question about whether the November election was fairly conducted split Democrats, 97% of whom responded affirmatively, from Republican voters, only 33% of whom agreed.

Among no-party voters, 73% said the election process was fair.

When asked whether they supported or opposed Black Lives Matter as a cause — another question that split Democrats (95% supporting) and Republicans (22% supporting) — 73% of independent voters said they did.

About 73% of no-party voters also said they favored a nationwide mask mandate, compared to

94% of Democrats and 39% of Republicans.

Respondents also shared views on reopening schools, the effort to recall Gov. Gavin Newsom and police performance, issues that returned more evenly split responses but failed to deliver an overwhelming conservative majority opinion.

Mike Moodian, a leadership studies lecturer at Chapman, said the county has changed since the days of its association with conservative stalwarts like John Wayne and the anti-communist John Birch Society.

“O.C. today is diverse both culturally and politically,” Moodian said in a release issued after the survey was publicized. “[It] is increasingly looking like the rest of the country, as opposed to being an ultra-conservative outlier among coastal California communities.”

Smoller said despite that, the county’s representation in national media — from newspaper editorials to TV shows like “The Real Housewives of

Orange County” — continues to drive stereotypes that may no longer be true.

“The image of the extreme is something the press likes,” he added. “I’m surveying, to borrow the phrase, the silent majority.”

Ahead of the April 7 policy conference on climate change, Smoller and his team found 73% of survey respondents believed actions should be taken to address global warming.

More than half supported Newsom’s commitment to ban combustible fuel vehicles by 2035, and 58% favored a law requiring 100% renewable energy in California by 2045.

Smoller hopes decision-makers will consider the Orange County Annual Survey and make changes people want to see, rather than deepen political entrenchments.

“If you make public policy and don’t listen to public opinion, it’s like flying a plane without radar,” he said.

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## COMMENT

Continued from page A2

Asians and Asian Americans. Being a part Asian American myself, I can see that this is often a lifelong issue for those of us who wish to be treated as individuals and not labeled.

More than this being the political correctness theme of the month, this need for humanism is a worldwide phenomenon in many people from across generations that I have met or counseled.

As a last note, I will remind us to use our minds and our actions to show inclusivity and support in these trying times.

I propose that rather than draw attention to

explicit measures like safe spaces, diversity departments and other initiatives with political causes and consequences, being more supportive and inclusive simply means to abandon self-righteousness and judgmental behavior and instead receive others, question, forgive and support.

As a victim of past bullying and discrimination myself, and having met and counseled many others, I can see why this policy is the best way to go. It is also the one that I teach and endeavor to lead by example.

**JOSEPH KLUNDER** grew up in Newport Beach. He is a high school teacher and counselor in Beijing.

## ORANGE

Continued from page A1

rate.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the Orange County Health Care Agency reported the adjusted daily case rate to be 2.8 for every 100,000 residents and the health equity quartile positivity rate to be 2.6%.

Data currently indicate that the county’s positivity rate is 1.7%, which just below the threshold necessary for the yellow tier.

County health officials reported 106 cases on Tuesday and 14 deaths. All of those deaths were of residents not in a care facility.

There are 143 people currently hospitalized in the county for COVID-19 and 26 of those cases are in intensive care units.

About 242,669 county residents are estimated to have recovered.

As of last Thursday, about 455,297 residents have been vaccinated.

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

- Santa Ana: 44,549 cases; 828 deaths
- Anaheim: 41,479 cases; 829 deaths
- Huntington Beach:

- 10,511 cases; 209 deaths
- Costa Mesa: 8,841 cases; 128 deaths
- Irvine: 10,369 cases; 81 deaths
- Newport Beach: 3,744 cases; 71 deaths
- Fountain Valley: 3,459 cases; 82 deaths
- Laguna Beach: 820 cases; seven deaths

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

- 0 to 17: 26,081 cases; one death
- 18 to 24: 34,643 cases; 10 deaths
- 25 to 34: 49,939 cases; 49 deaths
- 35 to 44: 38,969 cases; 104 deaths
- 45 to 54: 40,138 cases; 299 deaths
- 55 to 64: 31,592 cases; 663 deaths
- 65 to 74: 15,692 cases; 919 deaths
- 75 to 84: 7,947 cases; 1,175 deaths
- 85 and older: 5,372 cases; 1,520 deaths

Updated figures are posted daily at [ochealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc](https://ochealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc). Information on COVID-19 vaccines in Orange County can be found at [ocovid19.ocalthinfo.com/covid-19-vaccine-resources](https://ocovid19.ocalthinfo.com/covid-19-vaccine-resources).

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