

Daily Pilot

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com

County reports 528 new cases of COVID-19

According to the healthcare agency's latest numbers, there were also two more deaths due to the virus.

BY ANDREW TURNER

The Orange County Health Care Agency reported two coronavirus-related deaths and 528 cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, on Saturday in its latest numbers.

Since the onset of the pandemic, the county has experienced 1,524 deaths due to the virus and 64,586 total cases.

Hospitalizations because of the virus numbered 235 entering the weekend. There were 90 patients being treated in intensive care units.

The healthcare agency also reported 12,871 tests for the virus within the last day, taking the cumulative total of tests administered to 1,242,434. To date, an estimated 56,154 people in the county have recovered after contracting the virus.

Orange County, which is assigned to the red tier for "substantial transmission," carries seven-day averages of 5.6 daily new cases per 100,000 residents and a testing positivity rate of 3.3%. Those numbers come with a seven-day lag.

In order to remain in the red tier, a county must meet the thresholds of having between four to seven new daily cases per 100,000 residents and a testing positivity rate from 5% to 8%.

The criteria to get to the less restrictive orange tier requires a county to have between one and 3.9 new daily cases per 100,000 residents and carry a testing positivity rate of 2% to 4.9%.

Here are the latest cumulative

See **COVID-19**, page A2

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Courtesy of Town Center Park

AROUND TOWN: SEGERSTROM FAMILY TREE LIGHTING, HOSTED BY BALLERINA MISTY COPELAND, TAKES VIRTUAL TURN PAGE A6

APODACA: RAPID SEARCH FOR COVID-19 VACCINE FACES UNDUCE SKEPTICISM DESPITE LIFE-SAVING POTENTIAL PAGE A4



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

TROUTMAN CHILDREN, twins Meka, left, and Dirk, right, both 11, with younger brother Beck, 7, of Fountain Valley show off their book, "From Bullies to Buddies," which addresses the subject of anti-bullying.

Young Orange County authors implore others to choose friendship

BY ANDREW TURNER

As the coronavirus pandemic ushered in a new reality for adults and children alike, many people spent time thinking about the opportunities they missed because of the related shutdowns.

Fountain Valley siblings Dirk, Meka and Beck Troutman turned their downtime into a time to get creative.

Earlier this month, the young trio was named the winner of the National Youth Foundation's

Student Book Scholars contest for writing and illustrating its book "From Bullies to Buddies."

Dirk and Meka are twins who celebrated their 11th birthday on Nov. 6, and their little brother, Beck, is turning 8 on Nov. 19. The three of them attend Roch Courreges Elementary School.

Already, a star-studded panel of professional athletes deemed that the three of them demonstrated a great understanding of the theme of the contest, which was anti-bullying.

The judges of the Student Book

Scholars contest included Super Bowl champion running back Corey Clement of the Philadelphia Eagles, Houston Astros outfielder and World Series MVP George Springer, Indiana Pacers forward Alize Johnson and Houston Rockets forward Robert Covington.

Enter the Troutman house and you can see their love for sports. Assorted trading cards are on the kitchen table, and there is art of LeBron James dunking on the

See **Friendship**, page A8

PAGES SHOWING text and artwork created by the Troutman children for their anti-bullying book entry that won them the National Youth Foundation's student book competition.



Pickleball tournament raises \$10,000 for KidWorks

BY LILLY NGUYEN

More than \$10,000 was raised at a recent pickleball tournament in Newport Beach for KidWorks, a nonprofit based in Santa Ana that provides preschool and after-school programs for students.

The sport, which is described as a combination of tennis, ping-pong and badminton, surged in popularity in recent years, but has existed since 1965. Courts have been popping up across Orange County. Kyle Team, a board member for KidWorks and pickleball player, said the idea first came to organize the nonprofit's first pickleball tournament last year during a women's networking event.

Team said they realized there were a number of pickleball play-

ers among them and the rest, she said, was history.

Planning for the tournament began shortly thereafter and was scheduled for March this year. But then, as with most events this year, it had to be postponed because of the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The total number of cases in Orange County is now at 64,586 as reported by the Orange County Health Care Agency.

An estimated 1,333 of those cases were in Newport Beach.

"We scrambled and rescheduled because we didn't want to cancel it," said Team, who added that the spots to play filled up almost immediately after notice



Courtesy of KidWorks

See **Tourney**, page A9

THERE WERE 48 women playing in the KidWorks' first pickleball tourney.

Couple suspected of murder in Costa Mesa

BY ANDREW TURNER

Costa Mesa police have arrested a couple in connection with a suspected murder of a man outside of a local motel, officials said Friday.

Nick Ryan Lavey, 34, and his girlfriend Kaley Joanne Lippmann, 28, both of Costa Mesa, were taken into custody Thursday on suspicion of murder and conspiracy to commit a crime, authorities said.

At about 5:15 a.m. on Nov. 7, Costa Mesa police and paramedics responded to a call that reported a male with a wound to the head outside a motel located in the 2000 block of Harbor Boulevard.

Dakota Hansen, 24, was found unconscious at the scene. It was determined at a hospital that Hansen had sustained a gunshot wound to the head, authorities added. Hansen was pronounced dead at the hospital on Friday.

See **Couple**, page A2

Ordinance regulating short-term rentals on H.B. agenda

BY MATT SZABO

The Huntington Beach City Council on Monday night will consider legalizing short-term rentals in Surf City, albeit with heavy regulations.

Short-term rentals, considered rentals of fewer than 30 days, are currently prohibited in Huntington Beach, though many listings are available on sites like Airbnb and Vrbo. A study showed that there were 867 units available for rent from May 2019 to April 2020.

The City Council will consider an agenda item to approve an ordinance adding Chapter 5.120 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code. In September, the council asked for the ordinance to be pre-

See **Rentals**, page A8



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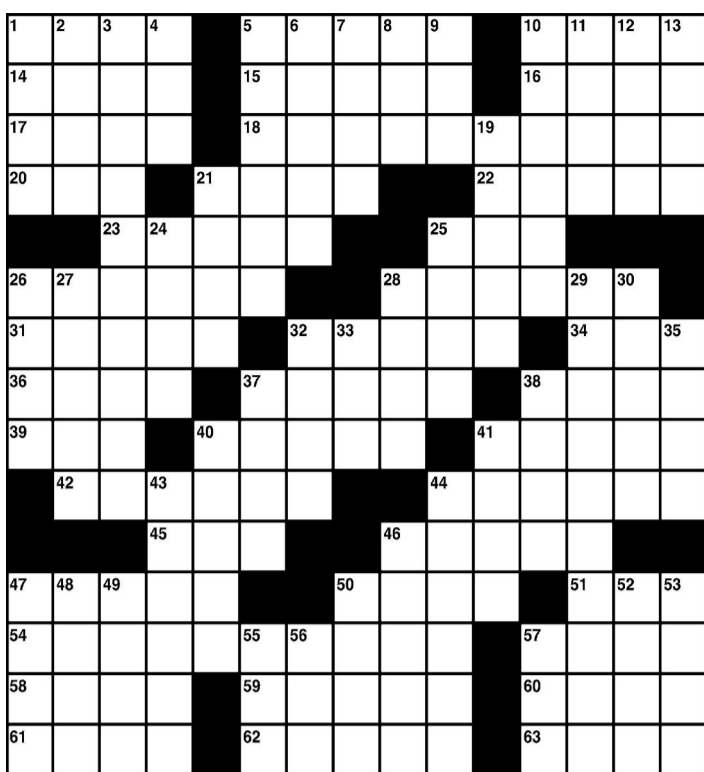
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

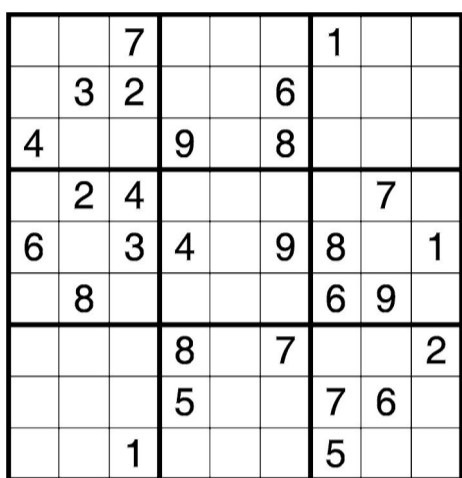
- ACROSS**
 1 Lively dances
 5 Play a sitar
 10 Narrow opening
 14 Russia's __ Mountains
 15 Minimum required or maximum allowed
 16 __ a heart; show compassion
 17 __ a soul; nobody
 18 Infidel
 20 Jamaica's official lang.
 21 Ball holders
 22 Live's partner, in phrase
 23 Assumed name
 25 Moral wrong
 26 Actor Day-Lewis
 28 Lions & tigers & bears
 31 Request to a tailor
 32 Lettuce concoction
 34 Hither and __; all over
 36 Part of speech
 37 Wild
 38 __ or false test
 39 "Eureka!"
 40 Team leader
 41 Credit union offerings
 42 National song
 44 Dogs
 45 "Olympus __ Fallen"; 2013 film
 46 Grieve
 47 Bracelet dangler
 50 Repair
 51 " __ to Pieces"; Peter & Gordon hit
 54 Get well
 57 Ponzi scheme
 58 Word with martial or fine
 59 Capitol roofs
 60 Easy to handle
 61 Nonsense
 62 Begin
 63 Mongolia's __ Bator
- DOWN**
 1 Month for dads & grads



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 A9.

- 2 Middle East nation
 3 Enormous
 4 Sneaky
 5 Make a pig's noise
 6 Melodies
 7 Steals from
 8 Univ. of Utah athlete
- 9 Prefix for content or practice
 10 Martin & Charlie
 11 Mauna Loa output
 12 Take __; assume control
 13 Gull's cousin

- 19 Homer's Trojan War epic
 21 Wedding cake level
 24 Claim against property
 25 Marine mammal
 26 Plato, for one
 27 Island greeting
 28 Boring
 29 Overbearing
 30 WA's Puget __
 32 Stitched joining
 33 St. Joan of __
 35 Suffix for sad or glad
 37 Enemies
 38 Take a __; see the sights
 40 Winner
 41 Deafening
 43 Songbird
 44 Truthful
 46 Linear measure
 47 Grouch
 48 Long sandwich
 49 __ up; misbehaves
 50 May honoree
 52 Explorer Vasco da __
 53 Foreboding sign
 55 Bradley & Begley
 56 Go bad
 57 R-V center

Tribune Media Services

Laguna Beach council to discuss short-term lodging ordinance

BY ANDREW TURNER

In its first meeting in just over a month, the Laguna Beach City Council will consider a short-term lodging ordinance.

The council will review the ordinance, a plan approved by the California Coastal Commission in October, and it will decide whether to adopt a resolution that approves modifications to a local coastal program amendment.

Provisions set forth by the commission allow for up to 20% of units in commercial and mixed-use districts to become short-term rentals. The maximum number of such units city-wide is 300.

The city currently has 117 permitted units that stand to be grandfathered in as legal nonconforming units, having been approved prior to the October meeting.

Beyond the short-term lodging units, 165 home-share units could operate in single-family, duplex and

triplex residential dwellings within permitted districts. To promote low-cost accommodations for visitors, the use permit application fee would also be waived for home-share units.

Conversion of property to short-term lodging would be subjected to a rate cap of 20% of the total number of units on the premises. A maximum of one unit could become short-term lodging for properties with five units or less.

The city would have to report back to the commission to provide updates on new housing and hotel units and their costs. The report would also address the number of dwellings in permitted districts and the number of permits issued for short-term lodging.

With the coronavirus continuing to be classified as an active pandemic that is affecting the operations of both the public and private sectors, city staff is recommending that the coun-

cil extend the local emergency resolution related to the virus for another 60-day period.

Such a resolution, allowing for emergency orders, rules and regulations, was first adopted by the council on March 17 and subsequently extended on four separate occasions, the last on Sept. 22.

The scheduled meeting for Tuesday begins at 5 p.m., and members of the public can participate over Zoom (lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/j/95981482536) or call into the meeting at 669-900-9128. It can also be viewed live on Cox cable channel 852.

Comments may be submitted to the city clerk by email at LcheL@lagunabeachcity.net. It is requested that comments be sent to the city clerk by 3 p.m. on Monday to give council members time to review them.

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COVID-19

Continued from page A1

tive coronavirus case counts and COVID-19 deaths for select cities in Orange County:

- Santa Ana: 12,329 cases; 322 deaths
- Anaheim: 11,058 cases; 328 deaths
- Huntington Beach: 2,836 cases; 86 deaths
- Costa Mesa: 2,191 cases; 45 deaths
- Irvine: 2,153 cases; 14 deaths
- Newport Beach: 1,333

- cases; 26 deaths
- Fountain Valley: 647 cases; 21 deaths
- Laguna Beach: 271 cases; fewer than five deaths

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

- 0 to 17: 4,921 cases; one death
- 18 to 24: 9,626 cases; four deaths
- 25 to 34: 13,861 cases; 21 deaths
- 35 to 44: 10,264 cases; 40 deaths
- 45 to 54: 10,400 cases; 118 deaths

- 55 to 64: 7,775 cases; 211 deaths
- 65 to 74: 3,924 cases; 301 deaths
- 75 to 84: 2,127 cases; 331 deaths
- 85 and older: 1,640 cases; 497 deaths

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

For information on getting tested, visit ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing.

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COUPLE

Continued from page A1

Police did not find suspects upon their arrival, but surveillance video showed two possible suspects and a vehicle at the location.

Detectives identified Lavey as the owner of the vehicle during an investigation, police said. After acquiring a search warrant, detectives found items suspected to be connected to the crime at the couple's residence, officials said.

Lavey is being held in custody on \$1 million bail, and Lippmann's bail is set at \$500,000, jail records show. They are to appear in court on Monday.

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COLUMN | **PATRICE APODACA**

Rapid search for COVID-19 vaccine faces undue skepticism despite life-saving potential

From 1999 to 2008, then-South African President Thabo Mbeki's denial that HIV caused AIDS led to hundreds of thousands of unnecessary deaths. Harvard researchers later concluded.

For decades, tobacco companies battled against the overwhelming scientific consensus regarding the harmful effects of smoking. We all know how that turned out.

And in 1998, a paper in a medical journal that drew a link between certain vaccines and autism fueled skepticism about vaccine safety that persists and continues to proliferate, even though the paper was thoroughly discredited and later retracted.

Other myths about vaccines — including the common belief that they frequently cause the very illnesses they are designed to prevent — have contributed to lowering immunization rates and disease outbreaks in many communities.

These instances of science denial provide cautionary tales for these turbulent times, when mistrust of institutions and professional expertise has been revealed to run stubbornly deep within certain segments of American society.

Now we find ourselves at a particularly fraught point, given the possibility that at least one COVID-19 vaccine will be made available in the coming months.

The introduction of a Covid vaccine for the coronavirus will undoubtedly further heighten the controversy over vaccine safety, especially given the mixed messaging about how fast researchers are working and worried speculation that shortcuts in the development process might be taken. Many people who are inclined to be skeptical about vaccines generally will be



Mark Boster | Los Angeles Times

MYTHS ABOUT vaccines and distrust in science may make some reluctant to be inoculated against COVID-19, further extending the pandemic, writes Daily Pilot columnist Patrice Apodaca.

reluctant, to say the least, to try a new one.

But this time around those longstanding vaccine deniers will be joined by others who have previously had no qualms about receiving the recommended vaccinations, but who are now worried that a vaccine will be rushed into distribution before it's proven to be safe and effective.

Some polls have found that a large percentage of Americans say they'll refuse a COVID-19 vaccine, despite assurances by many researchers that they won't compromise on following established scientific methods.

The situation is further complicated by the tragic failure of our nation to consistently adhere to the public health measures that are needed to get the spread of the virus under con-

trol while we wait for a vaccine. Those steps include social distancing, the faithful use of masks, widespread testing and contact tracing.

It must be a tough time to be a scientist.

"I'm very, very frustrated about the disdain in general for science," said Dr. Don Forthal, a professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at UC Irvine.

"It's hard to know to what degree this general mistrust of science will impact the use of a vaccine when it becomes available."

If a well-tolerated and effective vaccine is ready for distribution and a large portion of the population refuses to take it, Forthal said, "we'll still have a

See **Apodaca**, page A5

MAILBAG



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

STUDENTS LEAVE Corona del Mar High School and middle school following the first day back of in-person learning on Monday.

After the election, the real work begins

As the final votes are tabulated, I would like to take the opportunity to address the Newport-Mesa Unified School District community.

First off, to those who voted for me, thank you! The trust you placed in me means a great deal, and I will work very hard serving our students, parents and the community on your behalf.

To those who did not vote for me, I look forward to earning your trust and support in the future. I promise to serve every resident, with a focus on listening, communicating and ensuring transparency.

For all those who personally supported me in this endeavor, I am eternally grateful. It is not easy putting yourself out in the open, running for office.

Your backing helped get me through many tough days. You gave financial contributions, hours of time distributing literature and lent front-yard real estate by placing a campaign sign in your lawn. I will never forget your friendship.

To my former opponents Amy Peters, Xeno Muller and Alexis Zavouris, I am appreciative of your dedication to Newport-Mesa. A clean race was run by everyone, and I am committed to working with you as we work to improve our schools. Each of

you has insight into our district and it would be foolish to overlook the talents you possess. I hope to engage with each of you moving forward.

Lastly, to my husband, Erik Weigand. I love you. Your insight into campaign management 101 made the difference in this race. You stood by my side as we walked over 6,000 houses, provided advice when I needed guidance and picked me up when I was having a bad day. I couldn't have done this without you.

It's been an honor running for school board, but now the real work begins. I look forward to serving Newport-Mesa in this important role and will strive to deliver results that benefit our wonderful community.

Krista Weigand

Trustee-Elect, NMUSD Area 6

Mixed feelings about election

Although I am ecstatic about the national election results (and a bit weary after sitting in front of the television for four days), I can't help but feel saddened by some more local results.

The 48th District, and Orange County as a whole, lost the best public servant I have seen in my 50 years of living here, namely Rep. Harley Rouda. To many of

See **Mailbag**, page A5



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A WORD, PLEASE | JUNE CASAGRANDE

Contradicting assumptions before the inevitable happens

I was in middle school the first time I heard the old saying about what happens when you assume.

A teacher wrote the word on the blackboard then used slashes to show what it makes out of “u” and “me.” I giggled.

People’s tendency to assume things is still funny to me, but not funny-haha. More like funny-strange, as in how strange it is people assume they can know punctuation rules without looking them up — relying solely on their sheer powers of deduction.

For instance, the phenomenon I call “quotation marks lite.” Here’s an example: ‘quotation marks lite.’

The single quotation marks in the second example — they’re wrong. Every credible punctuation guide says that, when you want to talk about a word or phrase, you use regular quotation marks: The word “hogwash” has interesting origins.

There isn’t an American punctuation guide in existence that says to use single quotation marks here. But lots of English speakers assume otherwise. Taught that quotation marks are for only for quoting speakers or writers verbatim, they assume that single quotation marks are a nice compromise — a way to call out a word or phrase without actually quoting a speaker. They assume wrong.

In American English, single quote marks are only for quotations within quotations. Newspapers also use them in headlines in place of double quotation marks to conserve space and keep pages clean-looking.

Another popular tool of punctuation assumers everywhere: the ampersand. Here’s something I see a lot: Guests drank beer, wine and gin & tonics. The cafeteria’s sandwiches include tuna, turkey and ham & cheese.

Makes sense, right? The word “and”

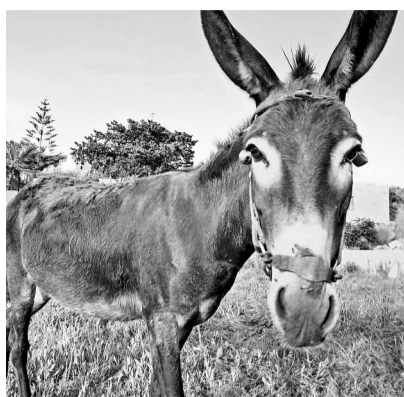


Photo by Amanda Jones

OUTSIDE ONE of the many churches on Lipsi, a resident donkey keeps the lawn mowed. When it comes to punctuation, remember the old saying about what happens when you assume, writes June Casagrande.

connects the sandwiches, so the ampersand between “ham” and “cheese” indicates a different, closer relationship between the ingredients. It’s like ampersands are to “and” as commas are to semicolons. They indicate different strengths of the same relationship.

Sure. Makes sense. There’s just one problem. That’s not how ampersands work.

Ampersands are graphic elements that really have no place in running text. Skim some articles in any prestigious national newspaper for ampersands and you’ll see what I mean.

Under no circumstances does the New York Times swap out some “ands” for ampersands, not even for “gin and tonic.” Instead, ampersands are for logos and business names and promotional materials. Yet so many people assume the ampersand has a specific job that it does not in fact have.

The most common assumption in the world of punctuation involves quotation marks next to periods and commas. The incorrect use looks like this: The word “hogwash”, which Joe says a lot, has interesting origins.

That comma is in the wrong place. It should be before the closing quotation mark, not after it.

People make the same mistake with periods: Joe uses the word “hogwash”. Everyone knows that, for quotations structured as complete sentences, the period or comma goes inside: Joe said, “This is hogwash.” But people assume that when the quotation is not a complete sentence, the rules are different. They’re not. Granted, the rules are confusing. Different punctuation marks have different placement next to quotes.

A question mark or exclamation point can go inside or outside the quotation marks, depending on whether they apply to the whole sentence or just the quoted portion. I liked “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?” Did you like “Star Wars”?

Colons and semicolons always come after a quotation mark: The thing about “hogwash”: It’s a silly word.

But periods and commas, the two most common punctuation marks, always go inside the quote. Meaning isn’t important. The rule is rooted in aesthetics, not logic. You can’t make the call on a case-by-case basis. Outside of British English and Wikipedia, both of which follow different rules, a period or comma always comes before a closing quotation mark.

To assume otherwise would ... well, you know.

JUNE CASAGRANDE is the author of “The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide to All the Grammar You Know You Should Know.”

APODACA

Continued from page A4

lot of people falling ill.”

Suspicions about a COVID-19 vaccine might also arise because of the reality that there is much that scientists have yet to learn about the virus and how to fight it.

It will take time — many years possibly — to fully understand how effective and long-lasting a vaccine will prove to be, and how successful scientists will be in keeping up with all the mutations that arise and which lead to different strains of the virus circulating in the population.

Yet as we’ve already seen, many people fail to understand that this is exactly how science works — that it is a painstaking, methodical process of experimentation and study that leads to discoveries and expanded knowledge. It’s not an all-or-nothing enterprise.

That’s why vaccines aren’t perfect, and we shouldn’t expect them to be. But they are demonstrably effective at tamping down, and in some cases even successfully wiping out, terrible diseases.

Dr. Michael Buchmeier is a professor of infectious diseases at UC Irvine’s medical school and associate director of the Center for Viral Research.

He has worked on vaccines for 42 years, and he had hoped to retire earlier this year. Then the pandemic hit and he decided to put

those plans on hold.

It was impossible to miss the exasperation in his voice when I spoke with him by phone.

The spread of this coronavirus is difficult to contain because of its highly contagious nature, he said, but “it’s also harder to stop when the country is as divided as we are, and getting people to follow simple guidelines” is controversial.

“This is the one thing that should have united us,” he said. Instead, “people are not showing common sense.”

Those of us who are not scientists but who firmly believe in the scientific process can only hope that those among us who cling to denial, or who willfully misunderstand the nature of science and public health, will at last wake up and embrace the needed common-sense measures.

And whenever a vaccine for COVID-19 does emerge, I also hope that enough people will give credence to whatever the scientific consensus tells us about its safety and efficacy, instead of following bizarre conspiracy theories and internet rumors.

If we’re ever going to get out of this mess, we’re going to have to start respecting expertise again.

PATRICE APODACA is a former Los Angeles Times staff writer and is coauthor of “A Boy Named Courage: A Surgeon’s Memoir of Apartheid.” She lives in Newport Beach.

MAILBAG

Continued from page A4

us, he represented what an office holder of any kind can accomplish when one is energetic, dynamic, intelligent and caring.

Instead we have turned back to the past to promote some candidates with predominantly negative agendas about reducing government’s role in society, at an especially crucial time when lack of government involvement has contributed to the more than 230,000 Americans who have lost their lives to the pandemic, 1,500 in Orange County. Ironically, Michelle Steel and one winning candidate for Newport Beach City Council actually campaigned on platforms of public safety, and joining them was the highest vote-getter from Huntington Beach, who all three flaunted their resistance and disdain for coronavirus safety guidelines.

For Rouda, it will probably end up being a positive turn in the long run, as his success as a congressperson has been widely acknowledged, and he may well move on to bigger and better things. As for Michelle Steel, her small margin of victory and her unproductive legislative career will culminate no doubt in a very minor role in Congress, and her absence from the Board of Supervisors may be a plus for Orange County.

The other bright note on the horizon for those weary of local politics as usual is the involve-

ment of Irvine in the local political scene, offering superior victorious candidates, Katie Porter and Dave Min. And equally noteworthy is the return victory of Cottie Petrie-Norris to the 74th California Assembly District.

Lynn Lorenz
Newport Beach

Are readers to believe that Democrat Harley Rouda’s election loss to Republican Michelle Steel as representative of the 48th District had nothing at all to do with his alleged legal missteps, including a lawsuit that claimed discrimination against and unlawful termination of a former female employee?

Kent Moore
Corona del Mar

Huntington Beach’s reputation takes a hit

As a Huntington Beach resident, this election season has been a bittersweet one. I have been mocked unmercifully by friends and relatives outside the city who point to the election to the City Council of a Trump-like (brash, rich, celebrity “businessman” without qualifications) candidate who not only won but came in first by a lot.

They also point to Huntington Beach as a point of congregation for right-wing white nationalists and other rabble-rousers who, like newly elected Tito Ortiz, were unabashed and belligerent supporters of Donald Trump. This is

not the image of our city I would like to project either locally or more broadly.

They also point to the attempted takedown of capable, caring, responsible officials elected in 2018 (who replaced do-nothing incumbents) just for being Democrats. They have succeeded with ousting Rep. Harley Rouda (CA-48) and came close with state Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris (AD 74). Fortunately, a Democrat (Dave Min) defeated another do-nothing Republican for state Senate (37th District) and will serve us more effectively in Sacramento.

There is no doubt the image of Surf City has taken a beating this election year. Hopefully, responsible actions by local government and response from the community will help restore our reputation. It’s not fun being a laughing-stock. We deserve better in a city I’ve called home for over 35 years.

Tim Geddes
Huntington Beach

Rattlesnakes and other menaces

Three weeks ago I asked the question, would Donald Trump do anything different if 9 million Americans had been bitten by rattlesnakes this year, and as a result 230,000 men, women and children had died since February?

I picked rattlesnakes because 7,000 to 8,000 people typically are on the receiving end of a venomous snake bite annually and

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED

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only a handful of people (five) pass away.

Unlike the invisible coronavirus, you can see and touch a poisonous snake. Just ask people who hike the trails above Laguna Beach for example.

Despite numerous friends liking my comparison, several did not. Interestingly, they run the companies they founded or are key corporate executives. So, with their objections ringing in my ears, let me ask them this question:

If you were a director of a major pharmaceutical or food company and learned that the CEO was told, in no uncertain terms, one of the company’s products was responsible for thousands of people getting sick, hundreds being hospitalized or scores of young and old dying — and the chief operating officer sold it anyway — how long would my friends allow this person to remain in that position? My guess is

about seven seconds.

So why is it any different with Donald Trump and COVID-19? If the message coming from of the White House this year had been clearer and more direct, then I imagine Orange County would have experienced far fewer than the 63,460 coronavirus infections and 1,520 deaths.

Rattlesnakes or not, I’m glad America’s CEO (Trump) will soon find himself out of a job.

Denny Freidenrich
Laguna Beach

Who is Alex Trebek?

Re: “First ‘Jeopardy!’ episodes since host Alex Trebek’s death to feature Orange County contestants,” Daily Pilot, Nov. 11, and the final Jeopardy! clue is:

He hosted more than 8,200 episodes of “Jeopardy!” in 36 seasons, was a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Daytime Emmy Awards, has been host of the best game show around for many years, has been instrumental in creating a few millionaires while hosting the show, has made multiple guest appearances on other television shows as well as TV commercials, has displayed enormous strength in combating stage IV pancreatic cancer that eventually took his life, and has been looked upon as one with great dignity, courage and class ... the question is: Who is Alex Trebek?

Bill Spitalnick
Newport Beach

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AROUND TOWN

Segerstrom family tree lighting takes a virtual turn

This year's 39th annual Segerstrom family tree-lighting tradition, which normally takes place at Town Center Park near Westin South Coast Plaza, is going virtual this holiday season.

Fans of the event may view the lighting on Thursday at 7 p.m. by visiting southcoastplaza.com, where Misty Copeland, principal dancer with the American Ballet Theatre, will host a 15-minute show.

The broadcast will feature greetings from Santa Claus, a warm holiday welcome from Segerstrom Center for the Arts President Casey Reitz and seasonal entertainment from the Orange County School of the Arts.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, a white fir tree decorated with 100,000 lights will be lit.

The tree will remain on display through the end of the year at Town Center Park.

Girls, Inc. of O.C. exceeds \$275K fundraising goal

Santa Ana-based nonprofit Girls, Inc. exceeded its \$275,000 fundraising goal during a virtual luncheon last month that sought support for academic programs for girls in kindergarten through age 18.

"We are so thankful for all of the generosity we received," Girls, Inc. Chief Executive Lucy Santana said in a statement.

"It warms my heart that after the year we had, people are still able to be so

selfless and provide support to these young girls."

When the pandemic hit in March, volunteers began making calls to girls to ensure they had enough meals and the technology needed for distance learning.

Within a week, Girls, Inc. opened its own YouTube channel with uploaded content related to mental health and stress reduction.

Each participant in the luncheon received a locally inspired celebrity chef lunch delivered to their homes and could participate in an online auction.

The event was co-chaired by Janet and Mike Michaels and chef Jamie Gwen and included inspiring stories from actual clients.

Each year, the nonprofit assists 4,000 girls by providing programs focused on STEM, financial literacy, college and career readiness, healthy relationships and positive body image.

The funds raised at the Oct. 16 luncheon will help continue such efforts.

Café Sevilla supporting veterans

Café Sevilla in Costa Mesa's Triangle Square, in participation with the Special Liberty Project, is donating \$1 for every paella sold now through Sunday in support of America's veterans and Gold Star families.

Customers can make donations of \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20 or an amount of their choice upon receiving their guest checks — all donations will be recognized on Café Sevilla's charity wall — and can donate directly to the Special Liberty Project through a link at cafesevilla.com.

The restaurant aims to



THE 39TH ANNUAL

Segerstrom family tree-lighting event will go virtual this holiday season.

Courtesy of Town Center Park

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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raise \$10,000 for the organization, which offers nature-based programs to veterans, Gold Star families who've lost a serviceman or woman and the spouses of veterans who've committed suicide. Programs offer camaraderie, healing and peer support.

Café Sevilla is open Monday through Friday, from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Reservations can be made by calling (949) 688-1555.

Samueli Academy, 'Chef Zov' team up for virtual cooking event

Samueli Academy, a Santa Ana charter school that provides classes for Orange County seventh-through 12th-graders on Dec. 3 will host a virtual Holiday Cooking Extravaganza featuring chef Zov Karamardian from the legendary Zov's Bistro in Tustin in support of the school and its programs.

The program begins at 4:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception during which sponsors will have a chance to "mingle" and chat with Karamardian during a special Q&A session.

Then, from 5 to 6 p.m., the chef will lead a virtual cooking class where she will teach participants to create one of her most popular dishes in a livestream from her kitchen.

A silent auction and donation opportunities will also be available during the event.

Guests will be able to

learn more about Samueli Academy's accomplishments and plans for the future and will also hear from Violeta, a school alumna, who will share stories about the academy's impact and influence on her personal path to success.

Tickets start at \$60 per person with additional packages and table deals also available.

Guests can preregister for the silent auction when purchasing tickets at orangewoodfoundation.ejoinme.org/lacademyextra.

Reimagine to host free child evaluation event

Reimagine, an Orange County nonprofit that provides specialized therapies, enrichment services, independent living support and other services, is hosting a free developmental evaluation screening event for children of 5 and under on Friday in Fullerton.

Parents who suspect their children may have developmental delays can attend for a screening of their child with on-site therapists in the areas of speech and language, fine and gross motor skills, emotional/behavior health, vision, hearing, dental and health.

Reimagine will hold the event from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the organization's Fullerton campus on 130 Laguna Road, Ste. A.

Masks are required. No documentation or appointments are required.

Newport-based BBB announces essay winners

The Better Business Bureau Serving the Pacific Southwest, which is based in Newport Beach, has awarded five scholarships to high school students for their winning essays on the theme, "The Importance of Character and Ethics," for the organization's annual competition which challenges students to write an essay about doing the right thing when they are faced with an ethical dilemma.

Winners included Jamin Salem from Academy of Our Lady of Peace in San Diego; Nicholas Drossel from Dana Hills High School; Lucia Rivera from Bonita Vista High School in Chula Vista; Lena McEachern from Carlsbad High School; and Mia Sher-

man from Classical Academy High School in Escondido.

The 2020 scholarships are sponsored by the American Advisors Group in Orange.

AAUW Laguna Beach accepting scholarship donations

The Laguna Beach branch of the American Assn. of University Women, an organization that helps women resume and complete their college education, is seeking assistance raising money for college scholarships.

Through Dec. 6, the public will be able to contribute to the scholarship fund by visiting lagunabeach-ca.aauw.net. A video on the page shares the stories of recent scholarship recipients.

Anyone who donates by the above date will have their name added to a drawing to win one of three wine baskets.

Newport library gallery displays artwork of plastic waste in oceans

The Youth Ocean Art exhibition kicked off Monday with a collection of works from young artists that addresses plastic waste in oceans and how it affects the animals that live in them to call for change.

Interested parties can visit the exhibition at the Newport Beach Central Library Gallery through Jan. 8.

The exhibition is presented by the Bow Seat Ocean Awareness programs, Sierra Club Angeles chapter and the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Huntington Disease Society of America to host O.C. walk

The Orange County chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America will host the Orange County Team Hope Walk on Dec. 5.

Participants will meet outside of Starlight Surveying Inc. in Irvine, starting from 9 a.m. until noon. They will have the choice of driving around or walking with safety guidelines in place.

The event is a fundraiser for the HDSA, which works to improve the lives of people affected by Huntington's disease and their families.

For more information, visit orangecounty.hdsa.org/about/2020-orange-county-team-hope-walk or contact Karen Morey at (949) 533-7101.

Laguna studio and gallery tour custom-made for the holidays

Art lovers and collectors are invited to participate in a tour of artists' working studios and galleries featuring juried artists from the Festival of Arts Laguna Beach on Dec. 5-6 and on Dec 12-13.

More than 30 artists have gathered at a dozen locations throughout South Orange County to share new art pieces, works in progress and to give a glimpse into their own creative processes.

Participants may drive at their own pace for the free, self-guided tour.

Locations from San Clemente to Santa Ana will provide works from premier-level professional painters, sculptors, photographers and jewelry makers as well as artists who work in glass, ceramics, mixed media and pastels.

Tours take place on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To see information on exhibiting artists and a tour map, visit artalongthecoast.org.

Newport library to show virtual Nutcracker for Kids ballet

The Newport Beach Public Library will offer a virtual performance of the Nutcracker for Kids ballet performance this year, starting at 9 a.m. on Dec. 5.

The performance features the Festival Ballet Theater, which will perform an abridged and narrated version of the classic "Nutcracker."

This ballet performance, which was recorded from a previous year, will be available at newportbeachlibrary.org/branch/virtual-programming.

The event is being funded by donations from the Friends of the Library and is free for the public.

— From staff reports






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- Caesar Salad
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- Lobster Bisque Soup
Northern Australian lobster, sherry wine, diced chives
- Butternut Squash Raviolis
Sage brown butter, pistachios
- Bungalow Salad
Greens, hearts of palm, feta, olives, red onion, bay shrimp, tarragon vinaigrette

ENTREE SELECTIONS

- ✂
- Tier 1 | Forty nine dollars per guest
- Pan Roasted Turkey Breast
White & dark meat, whipped Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, house made stuffing, turkey gravy
- Blackened Wild King Salmon
Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, avocado relish, honey jalapeno beurre blanc
- Grilled Vegetable "Tart"
Grilled Portobello mushroom cap on a bed of Yukon Gold mashed potatoes topped with grilled mixed vegetables, toasted breadcrumbs, melted smoked gouda cheese
- ✂
- Tier 2 | Sixty four dollars per guest
- Prime Rib of Beef
Au jus, creamy horseradish, whipped Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, broccolini
- Prime Rib of Beef & Pan Roasted Turkey Breast Combination
Whipped Yukon gold mashed potatoes, house made stuffing
- Prime Filet Mignon
Eight ounce prime filet mignon, whipped Yukon Gold mashed potatoes
- Miso Marinated Chilean Sea Bass
Soy glaze, coconut rice, stir-fried vegetables, mushrooms, lemongrass ginger beurre blanc
- ✂
- Tier 3 | Seventy four dollars per guest
- Prime Bone-In Rib Eye
Sixteen ounce prime bone-in rib eye, whipped Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, onion strings
- Northern Australian Lobster Tail
10 ounce tail, drawn butter, grilled lemon, Yukon Gold mashed potatoes

DESSERT SELECTIONS

- Berries and Ice Cream
Fresh seasonal berries, vanilla bean ice cream
- Pumpkin Pie
House made whipped cream
- Vanilla Crème Brûlée
Vanilla custard, fresh raspberries
- Chocolate Soufflé Cake
Flourless chocolate cake, vanilla bean ice cream

*The chef respectfully requests no splits or substitutions.

*Kids Menu Also Available

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PEOPLE IN THE KNOW...DINE AT THE BUNGALOW

FRIENDSHIP

Continued from page A1

wall. That same love of sports helped them discover the contest and learn how to enter.

"I had a subscription to Sports Illustrated for Kids," Dirk said. "There was an ad in there for a contest for the National Youth Foundation, and then it was quarantine, so we had a bunch of time, so we thought it would be fun to write and illustrate our own book. It said that there would be judges from different basketball teams and stuff."

The Troutman family's sons wore basketball gear — Dirk for the Dallas Mavericks and Beck for the Los Angeles Lakers — during a Zoom announcement that they had won and again during the interview for this story.

The kids had an opportunity to interact with professional athletes, too. Clement was seen imitating a drum roll on the Zoom call when the Troutman family was named the winners.

"I think that they're cool," Beck, the quiet one of the siblings, said of professional athletes.

"From Bullies to Buddies" tells the fictional story of a kid, Avess, picked on for his accent, who then takes a chance in seeking a friendship with his bully, Marv, based on the advice of another friend. By the end, all three kids are seen hanging out together for a pool party.

"He got advice from her that maybe he just needs a friend," Meka said. "At first, it was hard for him to believe, but then he gave it a shot, and Marv really did just need a friend. We wanted people to know that that sometimes happens and that bullies bully because sometimes they need friends and they don't know how to express themselves."

Meka, who did the sketching, said they were able to work well as a unit, establishing defined roles that allowed for consistency throughout the book. Dirk took on the writing, and Beck outlined the illustrations.

As their mom, Kelly Troutman knew she was biased when she told her kids that they might win, but she fell in love with their teamwork throughout the process.

"It was amazing to watch them just work together so well and find it on their own," she said. "That, to me, was incredible, and then stick with it, because there



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

THE TROUTMAN siblings' book, "From Bullies to Buddies," demonstrated a great understanding of the theme of the Student Book Scholars contest, according to the professional athletes who were judges.

The judges of the Student Book Scholars contest included Super Bowl champion running back Corey Clement of the Philadelphia Eagles, Houston Astros outfielder and World Series MVP George Springer, Indiana Pacers forward Alize Johnson and Houston Rockets forward Robert Covington.

were some times where it was kind of hard, and they weren't super excited about certain elements of it, but they had to work as a team, and they did, and I'm just so thrilled with their hard work."

The illustrations include various bits of symbolism, including a rainbow for inclusion and a "Kick Me" sign, a well-known symbol of bullying.

The Troutman children weighed in with what they hope people can take away from their book.

"I hope that people will learn more about friendship and that they learn more about people's feelings and how to deal with your own feelings," Meka said. "You should have those people that you can go to for advice."

As for what he thought readers would learn, Dirk said, "They'll find that sometimes people aren't

who you think they are on the surface. I think that can be applied to really anybody, adults or kids."

Sophia Hanson, a co-founder of the National Youth Foundation, said this was the fourth year that the organization has held the competition. She said that more than 150 books were submitted this year. Participants could range from kindergarten to eighth grade, and teams could have up to 10 members.

"We kind of created this as a way to leave open the opportunity for kids to have writing competitions," Hanson said. "Not everybody's an athlete, so you can still compete by using your words and your art."

As the winners, the Troutman children got \$500 to split among them. About 10 copies of the book will be sent to the family, too. The coordinator of the win-

ning team, in this case their mom, won \$250.

Clement said that division based on bullying is a widespread issue. He wants to encourage people to think before they speak, including on social media, to prevent the damage from happening before it is done.

"Bullying definitely takes [place], not just only at school, but outside the walls as well," Clement said. "Teens definitely experience it at a young age, adolescents, those guys are definitely going through it, so you really have to open your ears up to really feel their message."

Johnson said he learned to give it his all in everything he does by following the example set by his mother and Kobe Bryant, for whom he wears the No. 24 on his jersey. Concerning this anti-bullying campaign, Johnson agreed that kindness can go a long way.

"That bully might want a friendship with you and that's the reason why they're [doing] that type of stuff," Johnson said. "I think trying to be that person that's kind to everybody and just talking and being nice and stuff like [that can be effective]."

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Twitter: @ProfessorTurner

RENTALS

Continued from page A1

pared, allowing the short-term rentals with a level of regulations rated "high."

The ordinance would allow for hosted (owner occupied) short-term rentals citywide, including in Sunset Beach, according to a staff report. A permit would be required and would need to be renewed annually.

One short-term rental would be allowed for single-family, duplex and triplex properties, as well as rental properties of any size. Up to three short-term rentals would be permitted on ownership properties with four or more units, like townhomes or condominiums.

Also notably, a local contact person would need to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and would need to be able to respond to complaints and take action within one hour.

City staff estimates that short-term rental operators in the city would generate about \$8.7 million annually. The city would receive a 10% cut for the transient occupancy tax.

Monday's City Council meeting begins at 6 p.m. and can be watched on channel HBTV-3 or online at huntingtonbeach.legistar.com.

Residents may send comments on agenda items to supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org.

Communications received by 2 p.m. Monday will be distributed to the council prior to consideration of agenda-related items.

The council chambers will not be open for in-person attendance to provide public comment due to COVID-19, but residents are encouraged to submit comments via Zoom.

The Webinar ID is 971 5413 0528 and can be reached via the Zoom app or by calling (669) 900-6833 and entering the ID. Individuals will be placed in a holding queue and prompted to speak when the city clerk announces their name or the last three digits of their phone number.

Time for remarks is limited to three minutes.

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TOURNEY

Continued from page A1

went out for the tournament.

Fellow organizer and Corona del Mar resident Corrine Morgenstern said they tried to push it to sometime in the summer, but there were so many shutdowns and reopenings that they postponed it a second time until they finally got notice in September from the Newport Beach Country Club that they could have the event.

Morgenstern said she was friends with Team and that the two played pickleball together. She said she wanted to help organize the tournament because she felt it was for a good cause and called Team instrumental in her involvement with the tournament.

Morgenstern also said proudly that she'd competed in the advanced category and won handily, tying for first place with another player but that she didn't want to get the first-place prize — a pickleball paddle — since she helped organized the event.

Morgenstern said 48 women competed and most were local to Newport Beach or Orange County.

Six games were played in each of the three categories — beginner, intermediate and advanced.

Attendees were required to wear masks into the country club and had their

temperatures checked before entry.

They were also asked to sign a COVID-19 waiver, Team said.

Lunches were provided by the Newport Beach Country Club and both Team and Yosely Ocampo, a Santa Ana student in KidWorks, spoke.

The event was sponsored by the Newport Beach Country Club, Oltmans Construction, B Candy, Leslie Montgomery and an anonymous donor, organizers said.

Funds were raised through tournament entry fees and the sponsors.

Team said the competition was focused on being a tournament, not necessarily a fundraising event though all the \$10,000 will be going to a program called "KidWorks Campus Crash," which takes students to 10 different college campuses throughout California. The priority, Team said, was outreach.

Corona del Mar resident Heather Gaughan, who participated and helped organize the tournament, said Team had asked her to participate with KidWorks about a year ago, but didn't have time then. But, when Team asked her to jump on the planning committee for the pickleball tournament, she said her schedule opened up.

It helps that Gaughan's been playing pickleball for two years and plays it with the other organizers on the

team at the Big Canyon Country Club in Newport Beach.

"It was a lot of fun and I think there were a few things that we will work out for next time, but for the most part, it was just a really fun day," Gaughan said. "I think what [KidWorks does] is really incredible for those families in need and I could see where I think I could get more involved."

Team said the organization serves close to 600 students and that most of them come from Santa Ana because that's where the need is.

She stressed that KidWorks is not just a pre-school, tutoring and after-school program provider, adding it has a curriculum that is a combination of "education, faith and leadership."

"At the core of our College Success Initiative is a commitment to education because we know it leads to higher income, improved health, and a better future," KidWorks' executive director David Benavides said in a statement. "We are developing life-ready learners who are leaders."

Morgenstern said they're already planning the tournament for next year, but she thinks the next one will be nine total games in each difficulty category instead of six.

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| Causeway Collective | Mora Film Company | Orangetheory Fitness |
| Ron Esparza | Joseph Mulroy | Marica Pendjer |
| Chef Jamie Gwen | National Charity League | Thomas Leach Photography |
| Steph Hendrix | Saddleback Valley Chapter | We Mail For You |
| Rebecca and David Hultquist | Newport Beach American Legion Post 291, Color Guard | Well Beings Studio |
| Immortals Gaming Club: OpTic Gaming LA | | |

research

care

community

action