

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2023 // dailypilot.com



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

KYLIE HUNNICUTT, 11, a fifth-grader at St. Bonaventure Catholic School, holds up a trout fish she caught during the "Fish with the Force" event on Friday morning at Carr Park in Huntington Beach. The event started to encourage young people to take advantage of open spaces.

Fishin' mission

Kids learn ins and outs of angling at HBPD's annual 'Fish with the Force'

BY ERIC LICAS

Geese flew and honked overhead while ducks preened their tailfeathers as they swam a short distance from the lines cast by about 40 St. Bonaventure fifth-graders participating in "Fish with the Force" at Carr Park Friday morning.

Some of the children had never gone fishing before, even though most of them live just a few minutes away from the beach.

"Growing up nobody fished, hunted or was outdoorsy in my family," said Police Sgt. Jason Melchau, a Huntington Beach native. "But I had a neighbor who had this little boat. I was about 12 years old and he took me and my brother and a couple neighbor-

hood kids fishing. That completely changed the way I looked at the ocean and sent me on a trajectory of, basically, fishing for the rest of my life."

The police department began hosting "Fish with the Force" events eight years ago in hopes of encouraging young people to take advantage of parks, beaches and other open spaces. On Friday, they invited St. Bonaventure students to Carr Park to learn about local ecology and conservation, as well as proper fishing etiquette and technique.

Students aimed practice casts at wooden targets, pored over diagrams of fish anatomy and listened intently to representatives from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

See **Mission**, page A3



BILL SAKSA, a Huntington Beach Fishing and Recreation Club member, identifies various fish species as he explains how to handle a fish to students from St. Bonaventure Catholic School on Friday.



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

FESTIVALGOERS CELEBRATE as members of the Koa King Tong Lion Dance Assn. open the Tet Festival at the O.C. Fairgrounds Friday.

Tet Festival returns to O.C. fairgrounds this weekend

BY SARA CARDINE

The Orange County fairgrounds in Costa Mesa is ringing in the Year of the Cat, as the annual Tet Festival returns this weekend to recognize Vietnamese Lunar New Year with the theme "Road to Our Homeland."

Presented by the nonprofit Union of Vietnamese Student Assns. of Southern California, the event showcases traditions

and customs practiced within the Vietnamese community, as loved ones across generations enjoy the arrival of spring, forget about past troubles and celebrate new beginnings.

UVSA member and organizer Alan Tran said the organization's first festival took place in 1982 and appeared at different venues before coming to the county fairgrounds in 2014.

See **Festival**, page A4

Laguna looks to stick a pin in balloons

Environmental groups support ordinance that would ban sales, public use of all types of the single-use party staples.

BY ANDREW TURNER

Environmentalists in Laguna Beach may find themselves in a celebratory mood, but there likely won't be any balloons at the festivities.

Laguna Beach took a hard stance against the party staple on Tuesday, when the City Council voted unanimously to introduce an ordinance prohibiting the sale, public use and distribution of all balloons.

The ordinance, which will be voted on again at its second reading next month, will go into effect nine months after its adoption. Looking back on the implementation of the city's ban on single-use

See **Balloon**, page A3



Andrew Turner

JEREMY FRIMOND, assistant to the city manager, displays different types of balloons as the Laguna Beach City Council considers a ban on the use and sale of all balloons.

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

EDISON GIRLS' BASKETBALL CLINCHES AT LEAST A SHARE OF WAVE LEAGUE TITLE ON EMOTIONAL NIGHT PAGE A4

AROUND TOWN: 30 SOCAL MUSEUMS WILL OFFER FREE ENTRY FEB. 5 PAGE A2

'Banksyland' highlights art, activism of a notorious artist

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Graffiti artist, painter, photographer, filmmaker and activist Banksy has made a career of creating art that isn't consumed in conventional ways. Working in anonymity, Banksy and his handling service, Pest Control, are known to blend street art with art installations and performance art, often with an anti-authoritarian and anti-capitalism bent.

A caveat of making popular guerrilla art is that often it can't be enjoyed by the people it is meant to reach.

"By the time Banksy's works gets on the wall, half the time it is chiseled out and sold to private collectors," said Britt Reyes, vice president of operations for Banksyland.

"Banksyland," an immersive touring exhibition, is working to change that.

"Our goal is to create accessibility for this work," Reyes said.

See **Artist**, page A4



GUESTS ADMIRE works on the wall at "Banksyland," a touring exhibition showing art by Banksy at the Westside Museum space in Costa Mesa. The exhibit runs through Sunday from noon to 8 p.m.

Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE CROWD | B.W. COOK

A bowl of soup, bit of lettuce served up at Second Harvest's 'No Lunch, Lunch' event

This was the real deal. A charity luncheon that served a very basic and low cost meal to some 275 supporters who came to raise funds to feed area citizens in need. It was the 39th "No Lunch, Lunch" created by the Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County and held at the organization's food distribution center in Irvine.

Chef and restaurateur Antonio Cagnolo, of Antonello Ristorante, prepared soup accompanied by a romaine salad (made from lettuce grown on Second Harvest's Founders Farm) prepared by Bracken's Kitchen. That was lunch. Nothing fancy. A



metaphor meal reminding those who may not know the fear of food insecurity, how precious a bowl of soup and a bit of lettuce can be.

The message was clear.

The event raised \$152,621, which will allow many meals to be provided to many of the more than 330,000 estimated people in the O.C. that are served monthly by Second Harvest. The organization is working with partners including grocery stores, restaurants, food growers, and others in the food chain across the county providing "dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food," according to its website, improving the overall health of

those in need and the entire community overall.

Turning out in force for the gathering were an impressive list of dignitaries including U.S. Congress Rep. **Young Kim** and state Assemblywoman **Cottie Petrie-Norris**. Among the guests were **Gina Arreola** from the Disneyland Resort, **Chris Calagna** with City National Bank, **Brian Dick** with Golden State Foods, **Karlie Harstad** from Edwards Life Sciences, Fullerton Mayor **Fred Jung**, and state Sen. **Dave Min**.

Front and center were Second Harvest activists **Joe Schoenigh**, former executive director and **Dareen Khatib**, along with

See **Crowd**, page A4



Scott Tokar

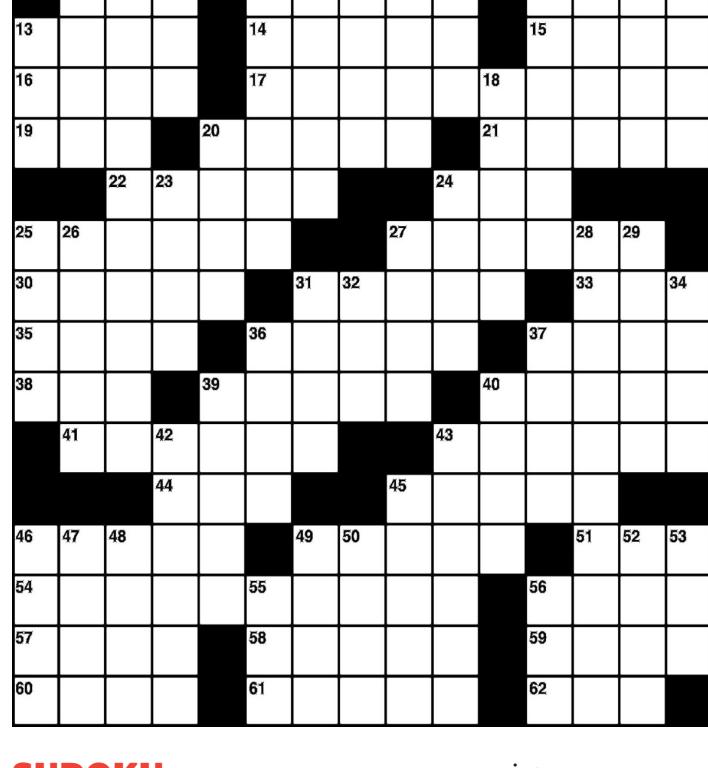
ANTONIO CAGNOLO, chef and restaurateur of Antonello Ristorante, serves guests at Second Harvest food bank's "No Lunch, Lunch."

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

1 Novak or Kardashian
4 Villains
9 Irritates
13 Turner, for one
14 Lock horns
15 Biblical
boatman
16 " _ Bitsy Spider"
17 Reimburse
19 Bumped into
20 Persnickety
21 Televised
22 Backsides
24 As well as
25 Small military
divisions
27 Agree to take
30 Filthy _ ; payola
31 Singer
Springfield
33 Sorority letter
35 Quaker product
36 Half of a 1960s
quartet
37 Group of cattle
38 Paid athlete
39 Lady
40 Was crazy
about
41 Personal
qualities
43 Calcutta dollars
44 Wifely title:
abbr.
45 Blaring device
46 Concur
49 Use your brain
51 Bar bill
54 Outer limits
56 Neat
57 Watched
58 Funeral hymn
59 Flow out slowly
60 June honorees
61 Miles per hour
62 1/3 and 2/3



SUDOKU

By the Mepham 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 A3.

DOWN

1 Flying toy
2 Teacher
3 Four months
from now
4 Happens
5 Surface luster
6 NFL team
7 Observe
8 That woman

9 Go _ of; enter
10 Loud crowd
noise
11 "Kiss Me, _";
Tony winner
12 Very small
building
13 Allen or Conway
18 Mrs. Reagan

20 _ away;
disappear
23 Mr. Potato
Head pieces
24 Doesn't just sit
there
25 Make a mess at
table
26 Motor oil bottle

Tribune Media
Services

size
27 As straight _
arrow
28

Healthy-lifestyle
magazine

29 Afternoon hour

31 Water barriers

32 " _ Lazy River"

34 Likelihood

36 Cauldrons

37 Faith, _ and
charity

39 Did an

electrician's job

40 Hide in the
shadows

42 Turns over a
new leaf

43 Washed off
shampoo

45 Prolonged
battle

46 Sick _ ; laid up

47 Noted Spanish
artist

48 Felt remorse
about

49 Stumble

50 Employ

52 Woodworking
tool

53 "See ya!"

55 Billboards

56 "It's _ Late";
Carole King hit

AROUND TOWN



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE LAGUNA ART MUSEUM is one of 30 Southern California art, cultural heritage, film, natural history and science institutions that will offer free general admission on Feb. 5.

30 museums offer free entry Feb. 5

The nonprofit SoCal Museums recently announced more than 30 area art, cultural heritage, film, natural history and science institutions will offer free general admission on Feb. 5 during a "Museums-Free-for-All" event.

Participating museums include: Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Armory Center for the Arts, Bowers Museum, Holocaust Museum LA, Getty Center, La Brea Tar Pits & Museum, La Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Laguna Art Museum, Long Beach Museum of Art, Muckenthaler Cultural Center, Museum of Latin American Art, Museum of Tolerance, USC Asia Pacific Museum, the Zimmerman Automobile Driving Museum and others.

The event is a reminder that free visitor days are offered year round at many museums.

Award-winning author discusses new book in C.M.

Award-winning author Sadeqa Johnson will discuss her new book "The House of Eve" during a Feb. 23 book-signing event at the Donald Dungan Library in Costa Mesa.

Set in 1950s Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., "House of Eve" explores what it means to be a woman and a mother and how much one is willing to sacrifice to achieve one's greatest goal.

The book is published by Simon & Schuster and comes out Feb. 7.

Johnson is the author of four novels, "And Then There Was Me," "Second House From the Corner," "Love in a Carry-on Bag" and "Yellow Wife."

She has been recognized with a National Book Club Award, the Phyllis Wheatley Book Award and the USA Best Book Award for Best Fiction.

Johnson will participate in a Q&A and sign copies. Books will be available for purchase at the event. Early arrival is suggested. For more, call (949) 646-8845 or email ocpl.costamsadd@occr.ocgov.com.

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MISSION*Continued from page A1*

ment of Fish and Wildlife at a series of booths set up for them Friday morning. Some already had plenty of experience prepping hooks and bait, and asked questions about the kinds of fish they might be able to catch in the park's man-made lake or how they breathe underwater, CDFW Scientific Aid Danna Mehtar said.

At the booth she was stationed at, youth learned about the biology of local fish and how they interact with birds, mammals, plants, microorganisms and a wide variety of other living things to form an ecosystem. She hoped the knowledge they gained Friday would encourage them to become stewards of the environment.

"So, I've got the boring station today," Fish and Wildlife volunteer John Ives said to a group of students. "I'm here to talk to you about ethics. And what's ethics?"

"Following the rules when nobody else is watching," one of the students replied.

Ives urged them to treat the lakes, bays and other environments they visit with respect and to be kind



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

MEMBERS OF the Huntington Beach Fishing and Recreation Club, and the Huntington Beach Police Department help students from St. Bonaventure Catholic School catch fish.

to the people they meet there.

He has been fishing for decades, and travels to cities all over Southern California with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to help introduce children to the pastime. He views events like the one in Huntington Beach as an opportunity to share his experience with younger generations and invite them to what can become a lifelong hobby.

Members of the Huntington Beach Fishing & Recreation Club, Kiwanis Club, and the Huntington Beach Police and Community

Foundation were also on hand to grill hot dogs for lunch or help kids reel in especially feisty biters. Some of the children released what they caught, while others who got permission from their parents to bring fish home bagged trout that would become their dinners later that evening.

The educational event gives children a chance to get out of the classroom and away from screens to take in the outdoors, angler and St. Bonaventure principal Mary Flock said. She added that it's important to slow down and step back

from the "instant gratification" constantly available online.

"When you're fishing, you're literally sitting there waiting for something to happen. You have an opportunity for conversation," Flock said. "Oftentimes when these kids go fishing, you go in areas where you don't have cell service. So now you have this opportunity to kind of open up that shell for families to connect without their devices, out in nature and enjoying serenity."

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BALLOON*Continued from page A1*

plastics, city staffers had requested a grace period to achieve a greater level of compliance.

"I think one of the most important things to this type of ordinance is having community buy-in, commercial business buy-in," said Jeremy Frimond, an assistant to the city manager who had requested a one-year implementation period. "I think we will see the highest degree of compliance working with businesses and allowing them to transition and pivot their business and their business models, rather than immediately flipping the switch and sticking them with inventory."

Environmental organizations such as Project O, the Surfrider Foundation, Laguna Ocean Foundation and Laguna Canyon Foundation were among those that pushed for an outright ban on all types of balloons.

"All balloons, all air, all types should be banned, and no longer than a three-to-six-month implementation," Judie Mancuso, vice chair of the city's environmental sustainability committee, said. "When I see these balloons in the open space behind my house on a regular basis ... in trees and in brush, I don't know if they're latex or foil. I don't know what kind of air they had in them, and neither does the animal whose stomach that they're in, or the bird that gets the string wrapped around its neck."

Balloons are considered the second most dangerous type of debris to the environment by the Ocean Conservancy because they are often mistaken for food, according to a staff report.

Some residents also pointed to the potential for balloons to hit overhead power lines as a fire risk.

The ordinance faced opposition from grocers, who argued that customers would go outside the city to get balloons.

"As written, the ordinance will simply push balloon sales outside of the city to neighboring communities or to online sources," Tim James of the California Grocers Assn. said. "This is a significant impact for grocers, as we are a low-profit, high-volume industry."

Mayor Bob Whalen said he would like to see an education program immediately.

"I really think the issue is not so much the businesses," Whalen said. "You've got a limited number of businesses. The issue is the people coming to the parks and the beaches with the balloons for the party. We got to get all the signage up, we got to get our park rangers up to speed. We got to let people know."

andrew.turner@latimes.com

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS**MARKETPLACE**

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NOTICE OF LIEN SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION
Notice is hereby given that personal property in the following units will be sold at public auction on **February 7, 2023 AFTER 09:30 AM** Pursuant to the California Self-Store Facility Act, the sale will be conducted at **Costa Mesa U-Haul center, 2550 Newport Bl Costa Mesa, CA 92627**

The items sold are generally described as follows: Clothing, furniture, and/or other household items stored by the following persons:

UNIT # 02/09/23

124 Dwayne Schriner

205 Richard Freeman

323 Joshua Hamilton

403 Jennifer CortezWalters

1 Ali Eskander

9 Marceen Lombardo

512 Terry Denapoli

525 Gilbert Fierros JR

536 Lyric Shorty

593 John Ramirez

709 Marcus Hosang

714 Anthony Sauceda

751 Rhonda Labrador

783 Jeffrey Godfrey

810 Scott Victor

1/21, 1/28/23

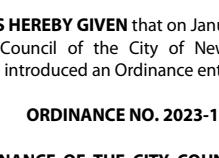
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DAILY PILOT

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH
PUBLIC NOTICE
ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on January 24, 2023, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, introduced an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-2

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING CODE AMENDMENT NO. CA2021-005 AMENDING SECTION 20.48.200 (ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS) OF THE NEWPORT BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT COUNCIL POLICY K-4 (REDUCING THE BARRIERS TO THE CREATION OF HOUSING) AND NEW STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (PA2021-113)

The Ordinance would amend Title 20 (Planning and Zoning) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code to revise regulations pertaining to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADU), to conform with revisions to State law and to incentivize ADU production consistent with Council Policy K-4.

This Ordinance was introduced by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 24th day of January, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Noah Blom, Mayor Pro Tem Will O'Neill, Council Member Brad Avery, Council Member Robyn Grant, Council Member Lauren Kleiman, Council Member Joe Stapleton, Council Member Erik Weigand

NAYS: None

Second reading of Ordinance No. 2023-2 will occur at the February 14, 2023 City Council meeting. If adopted on February 14, 2023, the Ordinance shall become final and effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

Dated this 25th day of January, 2023.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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Miscellaneous Merchandise

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\$5 Top cash paid
4 all or part of collection.

Jazz, Classical,
Psychedelic, Blues
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LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF UNSCHEDULED VACANCIES

The City of Newport Beach is currently accepting applications to fill the following upcoming unscheduled vacancies:

City Arts Commission (one seat) – term expires 6-30-25

Meetings are at 5:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, at 1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach

Finance Committee (one seat) – term expires 6-30-23

Meet as required, on weeknights or weekdays (M-Th), at a time convenient for the Committee at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach

General Plan Advisory Committee (one seat) – term is for the duration of the General Plan update process

Meetings are as necessary on weeknights or weekdays (M-Th), at a time convenient for the Committee at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach

All applicants must be qualified electors of the City, none of whom shall hold any paid office or employment in City government (Section 702 of the City Charter).

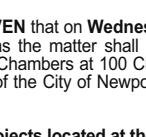
The application and information about the Boards, Commissions, and Committees can be found at <http://www.newportbeachca.gov/vacancy> or picked up from the City Clerk's Office at 100 Civic Center Drive, Bay E, 2nd Floor.

The deadline for filing applications is **noon on Wednesday, February 8, 2023**, or until filled. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 949-644-3005.

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Wednesday, February 08, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.** or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, public hearings 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 applications:

Dock reconfiguration projects located at the following locations:

319 Via Lido Soud, 1400 S. Bay Front, 1500 S. Bay Front

These projects are 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 they have no potential to have significant effects on the environment. The projects will be located on the same site and location as the structures replaced and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity and size as the structures replaced.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding these projects. If you challenge the project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 17.65. These applications 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 reports, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearings, and may be reviewed at the City Manager's Office (Bay E-2nd Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California, 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 these applications. 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. 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.

For questions regarding the public hearing items, please contact Chris Miller, Public Works Administrative Manager, at cmiller@newportbeachca.gov. Project File Nos.: 2022-1656 (319 Via Lido Soud), 2022-1657 (1400 S. Bay Front), 2022-1658 (1500 S. Bay Front)

Legal Notices

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Edison clinches share of league title

BY ANDREW TURNER

On what will likely always be a melancholy anniversary for the Edison High girls' basketball program, the Chargers honored the memory of one of their own — first with their actions, then with their play.

A moment of silence was held for alumnus Christina Mauser, who was among the nine lost in the helicopter crash that killed Kobe Bryant three years to the day. It lasted 34 seconds to match her jersey number when she played at the school.

Then Edison took its home court and handled Huntington Beach to the tune of a 56-32 victory, clinching at least a share of the Wave League title with a week left in the season.

"We want to make sure that she's always remembered because she was a basketball player," Edison coach Stephanie Ontiveros said of honoring Mauser. "It was her favorite sport out of the sports she played. There's a lot of alumni who played with her that are still connected. ... They're very supportive, and we want to keep that community together."

Marina defeated visiting Laguna Beach 60-53 in overtime, giving Edison a two-game lead over both the Vikings and the Breakers with two games remaining. The result helped Edison win its first league title since 2012.

The Chargers did their part, finding their rhythm after starting an all-senior lineup that played the



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

EDISON'S BENCH celebrates during a Wave League girls' basketball game Thursday against Huntington Beach. The Chargers won 56-32 to clinch at least a share of the league title.

whole first quarter. Edison (14-12, 4-0) pulled away following an opening period that ended with the score tied 8-8.

"They're very coachable," Ontiveros said. "They care about each other. I told them tonight, 'Let's enjoy the seniors. We are honoring our eight seniors.' All of them have been in the program for all four years."

Bailey Chang had a senior night to remember for Edison. The Chargers' point guard made seven three-pointers to key a 25-point performance, adding four rebounds, four assists and four steals.

She simply could not miss from beyond the arc, even hitting a buzzer-beater from the top of the key to send the Chargers into the halftime locker room with a 28-21 lead.

"I could definitely feel our energy go up," Chang said of the exciting conclusion to the first half. "I was happy to do that for my team."

Mia Cassel added eight points and four assists for Edison. Mylinda Nguyen had six points on a couple of three-pointers, and Sofia Aviles provided five points and three rebounds.

Huntington Beach (8-18, 0-4) had its season derailed by injuries. Four players were effectively out for Thursday's game, the exception being a special opening-possession moment shared by the Chargers and the Oilers.

Edison's Kat Rumsey and Huntington Beach's Akemi Tanga, two seniors out due to injury, had a chance to take the floor and make uncontested in-game layups.

"I think that's awesome to

honor kids that have worked so hard for four years and had a bit of bad luck," Huntington Beach coach Russell McClurg said. "To be able to give them their moment of, 'Hey, we haven't forgotten about you. You're a big part of this program.'

"It was great that Steph agreed to do that, as well, having her come up with, 'Let's do this.' I'm real happy for the kids that can't continue to play. It's special."

Lauren Matsumoto finished with 10 points and three steals to lead Huntington Beach. Isobel Melitas scored seven points. Mia Chang and Crystal Clark each had four points, and Jaylee Kao contributed five steals.

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CROWD

Continued from page A2

members of the Newport Beach based Second Harvest Auxiliary know as the Harvesters — Sally Straight, Gail Haft, Erica Fink and Kristie Caggiano.

MEANINGFUL YOUTH ADVOCACY

Here is another event story that is also the real deal. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) has been transforming juvenile lives in peril since 1985 in the O.C. This is no exaggeration. Their mission is to provide a powerful voice and legal advocacy for youth experiencing abuse, neglect and abandonment. CASA volunteers provide consistent intervention, protecting children in need of permanent, safe, healthy placement, support in school, and much more.

As 2022 came to a close, Friends of CASA, known as FOCASA, a membership auxiliary, gathered for the group's annual luncheon and fashion show produced by South Coast Plaza and featuring the designs of Lafayette 148 New York.

More than 400 guests joined the cause on the spectacular Riviera Lawn of Hotel VEA Newport Beach, overlooking the greens of Newport Beach Country Club with a view out to the Pacific Ocean. A tray passed champagne reception and massive silent

auction with some 174 items up for bid, welcomed the crowd. Among those attending were **Lucy Donahue**, **Sara and Chris Van Dusen**, the **Jacquie Glass family**, **Jayne and Dave Warner**, **Ryan Clemons**, **Christy Flanagan**, and **Carie Jernquist-Ferry**.

Additional special guests were **Holly Joseph**, **Joanne James**, **Danette Dye**, **Dana Strader** (president of Friends of CASA), **Janine Wald**, **Kimberly DeLamar Matties**, CASA CEO **Regan Dean Phillips**, board chair **Michael Wong**, and the Hon. **Craig Arthur**, presiding judge of Orange County's Juvenile Court.

The keynote speakers were CASA volunteer **Marie Crosson** and her CASA youth, **Amy**. Marie and Amy shared a candid story about CASA completely changing the course of a youth's life.

"Over time, I've learned from Marie that each of us can only control our own actions, not the actions of others, and how we choose to view and navigate each situation," Amy said. "Our relationship has fundamentally impacted how I navigate my world."

Marie concluded their talk by saying, "I want to brag about where Amy is today. This full-time college student is studying business, and also working about 25 hours a week. And she's always got some side gig going. I could not be prouder of her ... but I'm also not surprised by her success. Because of her



John Watkins

EVENT CHAIR Sara Van Dusen, from left, joins Regan Phillips, chief executive officer of CASA O.C. and event chair Sarah Minakary.

own life experiences, she's developed so many of the personal characteristics linked to long-term success ... courage, tenacity, resilience, a work ethic and maybe most of all, she thinks big."

Co-chaired by two dynamic ladies, **Sarah Minakary** and **Sara Van Du-**

sen, the event raised an impressive \$620,000 for CASA. Since its founding more than \$6 million has been donated for its children advocacy programs.

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

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FESTIVAL

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Since then, the event has grown, incorporated features similar to the 626 Night Market, but retained its original spirit. Organizers say it is the largest Lunar New Year festival in the nation and is completely run by students and volunteers.

"Our Tet Festival is definitely a fusion of old and new," Tran said Wednesday, describing a mix of food, art exhibits, games, performances and local traditions, like an opening day procession Saturday morning and a Miss Vietnam of Southern California pageant later that day.

"Last year, we had a scaled-back festival, due to COVID. But this year, we're returning full force with more sponsors and more events. Our theme this year, Huong Ve Que Houn

or 'Road to Our Homeland,' is welcoming people back to our community and to our festival."

Known for food contests, this year's event features a pho-eating contest and a blindfold fruit-tasting contest Saturday at 4 p.m. and a watermelon contest later that day at 7 p.m.

TUE NGUYEN

decorates a Lucky Tree during the opening day of the Tet Festival at the O.C. fairgrounds.

John Watkins

Staff

Photographer



The festival began Friday evening and continues Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$8 at the gate and is free for children 2 years and younger when accompanied by a paying adult.

On Saturday only, from 11 a.m. to noon, those who

wear traditional outfits, military and scout uniforms (no costumes) may enter free of charge. The O.C. fairgrounds are located at 88 Fair Drive, in Costa Mesa. For more, visit tetfestival.org.

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Don Leach | Staff Photographer

"SMILING COPPER" is displayed at the "Banksyland" exhibit in Costa Mesa.

ARTIST

Continued from page A1

"Banksyland" is produced by One Thousand Ways, an international experiential arts collective. The works are on loan from galleries as well as private collectors.

"These pieces are graciously on loan to us because these gallery owners understand the message of Banksy needs to be shared with the world," said Reyes.

The immersive exhibition is a multimedia art experience that features multiple authenticated works and replica installations that highlight the art and activism of Banksy.

"He has so many social justice efforts and he brings so much to light about the injustices around the world," said Reyes. "We have really curated selections that speak to that, whether it is advocating for refugees, for the LGBTQ community, folks in poverty without access to clean water, we have seen him really make these points."

Salvaged street works, authenticated screen prints and photography are part of the exhibit.

"He walks over and he is like, 'What are you looking at? What does it mean?'" Reyes said. "He then went on to share that he is Palestinian. He wanted to come specifically for these pieces to see that this message is getting out but also to share it with his father who is stuck on the other side."

The show runs through Sunday from noon to 8 p.m., and general admission tickets are priced at \$29, \$22 for students. While tickets are expected to sell out, Reyes emphasizes that attempts at equity will be made.

"We always say if anyone is of hardship, any student, anyone who wants to come in the door and not pay, we always welcome them," said Reyes. "Again, our mission is to make this art accessible."

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"STOP RAT" a popular piece by the artist Banksy.

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