

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
May 21, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council FROM: Allan Roeder, City Manager
Members

I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES

None.

II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

- A. CONSTRUCTION DURING STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**
Bill Murray notifies you of ongoing construction near the Strawberry Festival by The Gas Company.
- B. RENEWAL OF ANIMAL CARE SERVICES AGREEMENT AND RELATED COST INCREASE FOR FY 2015-16**
Maria Stipe provides information regarding renewal of the animal care services contract with the County of Orange which includes a 23.5% estimated cost increase for FY 2015-16.
- C. ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT**
A copy of the 2014-15 Orange County Grand Jury Report, "The Orange County Animal Shelter: The Facility, The Function, The Future" is attached for your review. A response will be provided as directed prior to the August 19, 2015 due date.

III. RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (PINKS)

- A. COMPLAINT ABOUT CAFÉ 168**
An anonymous complaint of nude women at Café 168 at 13959 Harbor Blvd. and a copy of the Police investigation follow up.
- B. CITIZEN COMPLAINT – TRAFFIC SPEEDS**
A copy of the response letter to a complaint received regarding traffic speeds past Evans Elementary on Nelson Street.
- C. CITIZEN COMPLAINT – WATER BILL SUGGESTION**
A request from a resident that the water bills show units in gallons so people can better measure their usage.
- D. CITIZEN COMPLAINT – PERMIT PARKING REQUEST**
A request for permit parking for residents only on Boyd Avenue.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

- NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information.
- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
Items of interest are included.



ALLAN L. ROEDER
City Manager

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Allan L. Roeder
Dept.: City Manager
Subject: ONGOING CONSTRUCTION DURING
THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

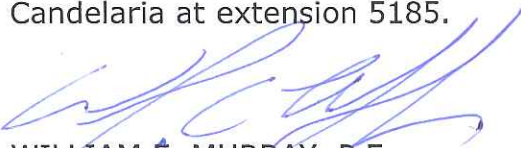
From: William E. Murray
Dept.: Public Works
Date: May 18, 2015

The purpose of this memo is to notify the City Manager and City Council of an ongoing construction project in the vicinity of the upcoming Strawberry Festival. The construction operation will not be completed by the weekend of the event.

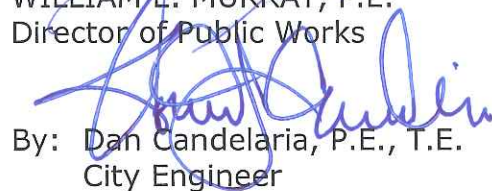
The Gas Company was issued an encroachment permit on April 21st of this year. The work includes excavating a portion of Lampson Avenue (between Pine Street and Elmwood Street) to automate a 34-inch mainline valve to meet Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP) Safety Standards. While 2-way traffic is being maintained on Lampson through the work zone, some on-street parking has been impacted and construction and traffic control signs are visible. Staff will be requiring the contractor to stop work on Friday, May 22 at 2:00 pm and resume no earlier than Tuesday morning the following week. Existing traffic control, however, will need to remain in effect through the weekend.

While the Gas Company project is a very important one, ideally the permit should have been issued after the Strawberry Festival. Contributing to this oversight is the Department's lack of a Permit Technician, whose job it is to prevent these types of issues. Currently a Division Secretary is performing the Permit Technician job responsibilities in addition to her own.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please contact Dan Candelaria at extension 5185.



WILLIAM E. MURRAY, P.E.
Director of Public Works



By: Dan Candelaria, P.E., T.E.
City Engineer

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Allan L. Roeder
Dept.: Interim City Manager
Subject: RENEWAL OF ANIMAL CARE SERVICES
AGREEMENT AND RELATED COST
INCREASE FOR FY 2015-16

From: Maria Stipe
Dept.: City Manager
Date: May 21, 2015

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to advise the City Council regarding renewal of the animal care services contract with the County of Orange, which includes a 23.5% estimated cost increase for FY 2015-16.

BACKGROUND

The City has contracted with the County to provide animal care services since July 1982. The services provided include animal control services, animal care special services, animal shelter services, and barking dog complaint services. Animal control services are those services provided by animal care officers in the field, including the apprehension of stray animals and the investigation of animal related complaints. Special services consist primarily of licensing animals and animal related facilities. Animal shelter services are those services provided by the animal shelter, including the impounding of animals.

The charge to the City for animal care services is based on the city's level of use. For field services, the City is charged a portion of the total cost of providing field services in the county, based on the city percentage of the total field actions performed. The charges for special services are based on the City's proportion of total animal licenses. For animal shelter services the City is charged on the basis of animal charge days for animals impounded from within City limits, or received from City residents. The City's cost for barking dog complaint services is determined by applying the City's percentage of barking dog complaints to the total cost of providing these services.

In November 2008, the City Council approved an agreement with the County of Orange for animal care services that included a provision that allows the agreement to be automatically renewed each July for 12 additional months, provided no notice of termination has been given by either the City or the County and a Notice of Intent (NOI) that specifies Animal Care Services to be provided is signed by Mayor, who serves as the City's authorized representative.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to the agreement for OC Animal Care Services, the County has provided a new Animal Care Notice of Intent (NOI), which includes a list of Animal Care Services the County intends to provide during the upcoming fiscal year at an estimated cost of \$1,197,873. This estimate is 23.5% higher than the FY 2014/15 budget estimate of

\$970,362. The factors impacting the cost increase are listed below and are also explained in more detail in Attachments 1 and 2:

- Change in method of recording fee revenue from an accrual basis to a cash basis,
- Write-off of uncollected fee revenue,
- Filling 9 of 23 vacant positions, and
- Critical shelter repairs, including repair of kennel doors and demolition and replacement of a cat isolation trailer.

Renewing the contract through execution of the NOI is the only feasible option for animal care services at this time. However, in light of the substantial cost increase, staff is planning to research potential cost saving alternatives over the next six months and will report back to the City Council. The current agreement can be terminated, without cause, upon six months written notice given to either party.



MARIA STIPE
Deputy City Manager

Attachment 1 - Animal Care Notice of Intent

Attachment 2 - OC Register Article Regarding Animal Care Services

ORANGE COUNTY

OC Community Resources
Our Community. Our Commitment.

STEVE FRANKS
 DIRECTOR
 OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES

JENNIFER HAWKINS, DVM
 DIRECTOR
 OC ANIMAL CARE

KAREN ROPER
 DIRECTOR
 OC COMMUNITY SERVICES

STACY BLACKWOOD
 DIRECTOR
 OC PARKS

HELEN FRIED
 COUNTY LIBRARIAN
 OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES

May 7, 2015

City of Garden Grove
 Maria Stipe, Deputy City Manager
 11222 Acacia Parkway
 Garden Grove, CA 92842

Dear Ms. Stipe:

Enclosed please find three (3) copies of a new Animal Care Notice of Intent (NOI) for the City of Garden Grove (City), which includes a list of Animal Care Services the County of Orange (County) intends to provide during the upcoming fiscal year (FY) July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 at an estimated Net Cost of \$1,197,873.

There are two important factors that will impact Net Costs to all contract cities and the County of Orange in FY 2015-16, as follows:

1. **Cash Basis Method** - OC Animal Care will change its method of recording fee revenue from an accrual basis to a cash basis. Currently, fee revenue includes a combination of cash collected and accounts receivable resulting from customer invoicing (accrual basis method). Beginning Jan. 1, 2016, fee revenue will only be recognized and recorded at the time cash is collected (cash basis method). This change in method is expected to reduce the amount of fee revenue available to offset costs, in comparison with prior years.
2. **Write-off of Uncollected Fee Revenue** – Based on OC Animal Care's recording of revenue using the accrual basis method, there is approximately \$6.3 million of uncollected receivables for which revenue was previously credited to the contract cities. OC Animal Care will begin writing off uncollected receivables in excess of four years from the date of invoice, with a goal of completing all write-offs over a five-year period. A total of \$450,000, representing the amount of receivables in excess of four years old, has been budgeted in FY 2015-16 for write-offs. The actual cost to the City will depend on the amount of fee revenue initially credited.

As stated in the current Agreement for Provision of OC Animal Care Services (Exhibit A, Section III(A) "Basis for Payment"), the City shall pay the Net Cost of providing Animal Care Services specified in the Animal Care Notice of Intent for City signed in accordance with subparagraph II.A. Net Cost is defined as Actual Cost (all County expenditures, including indirect charges, for providing Animal Care Services) minus Fee Revenue (revenue collected by County for Animal Care services provided to City). For FY 2015-16, the estimated Net Cost for the City is calculated as follows:



OC ANIMAL CARE
 561 THE CITY DRIVE SOUTH
 ORANGE, CA 92868
 PHONE: 714.935.6848
 FAX: 714.935.6373



	FY 2015-16 Net Cost Calculation
ELEMENT 1 (COSTS)	
Total Cost (Base)	17,578,060
Add: 2015-16 Cost Adjustments (See Note 1)	454,558
Add: Critical Shelter Repairs (See Note 2)	<u>150,000</u>
TOTAL COST	18,182,618
ELEMENT 2 (REVENUE)	
Total Estimated Fee Revenue (Base)	9,611,744
Less: 2015-16 Increase for write-off of prior years' uncollectible fee revenue (See Note 3)	322,678
Less: Reduction in Fee Revenue from conversion to Cash Basis (beginning 1/1/16) (See Note 4)	<u>350,000</u>
TOTAL FEE REVENUE	8,939,066
NET COST TO ALLOCATE TO CITIES & COUNTY	9,243,552
ESTIMATED CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NET COST ALLOCATION %	<u>12.96%</u>
2015-16 ESTIMATED NET COST CITY OF GARDEN GROVE	1,197,873
<p><i>Note 1 – 2015-16 Increases in (i) Salaries & Benefits, to allow the filling of 9 vacant positions (out of 23 total vacancies) which will reduce the vacancy rate to approximately 10% (+\$744,716); (ii) Administrative costs (+\$80,465); (iii) County Wide Allocation costs (+\$58,749); and (iv) Other (+\$4,900) will be partially offset by reduction in Services & Supplies and Fixed Assets totaling \$432,272, resulting in a net cost increase for FY 2015-16 of \$454,558.</i></p> <p><i>Note 2 – Consists of \$50,000 for repair of kennel doors, and \$100,000 to demolish and replace cat isolation trailer.</i></p> <p><i>Note 3 – This figure represents an increase for FY 2015-16 in the amount of uncollected fee revenue from prior years that will be written off in fiscal year 2015-16. The amount of write-offs for each Contract City and the County will be based on actual revenue credited to each Contract City and the County at the time of invoicing.</i></p> <p><i>Note 4 – Effective Jan. 1, 2016, fee revenue will be recorded when cash is collected (Cash Basis method). Currently, OC Animal Care utilizes the accrual basis method of recording revenue, whereby fee revenue is recognized upon issuance of an invoice.</i></p>	

As stated in the current Agreement for Provision of OC Animal Care Services, "The most recent animal care services fees approved by the County of Orange Board of Supervisors shall be used in determining CITY'S Actual Cost of Animal Care Services." The current fees were approved by the Board on June 10, 2014.

Please note that the Net Cost of Animal Care Services to the City of Garden Grove is based on Actual Costs reduced by actual Fee Revenues. Therefore, your City's actual Net Cost for FY 2015-16 may be higher, or lower than the enclosed estimate.

Kindly review the new NOI for FY 2015-16, obtain the signature of your City's authorized representative on all three copies, and return all signed copies to:

OC Animal Care
ATTN: Alan Young
561 The City Drive South
Orange, CA 92868

After the County's OC Community Resources Director or designee signs the NOI, an original, fully executed NOI will be returned to you.

For the most recent calendar year ended Dec. 31, 2014, please find relevant statistical data for the City of Garden Grove, including animal licensing, field services and shelter services at our website: www.ocpetinfo.com.

Should you have questions regarding the NOI, please feel free to contact me at: 714-796-6411.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Young". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Alan Young
Budget Analyst
OC Animal Care

Enclosure

EXHIBIT B
TO AGREEMENT FOR PROVISION OF
OC ANIMAL CARE SERVICES
WITH
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
July 1, 2015 THROUGH June 30, 2016

ANIMAL CARE NOTICE OF INTENT

This Animal Care Notice of Intent specifies Animal Care Services to be provided to CITY by COUNTY for the Period: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. COUNTY agrees to provide to the City of GARDEN GROVE the following Animal Care Services beginning July 1, 2015:

- Animal Control Services
- Animal Care Special Services
- Animal Care Shelter Services
- Barking Dog Complaint Services

The total estimated cost for Animal Care Services specified above is \$1,197,873

- This is a new Animal Care Notice of Intent for the Period indicated above.
- This is an Amendment to an existing Animal Care Notice of Intent for the Period indicated above.

Significant Changes Since the Previous Animal Care Notice of Intent:

To the best of my knowledge, this notice specifies the Animal Care Services to be provided by COUNTY.

City of GARDEN GROVE Representative and Title

Date

OC Community Resources Director

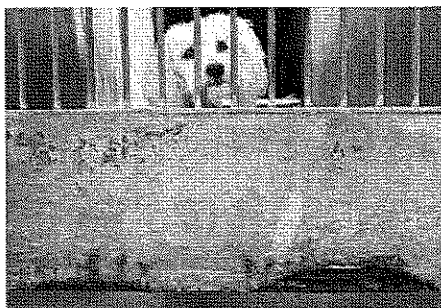
Date

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

'This has gone on forever': Why the military is a reason Orange County hasn't built a new animal shelter since World War II

By TERI SFORZA

2015-05-16 17:35:10



Red rust eats at kennel frames. Partitions have frozen in place. Wet, black noses poke between what look like prison bars.

Orange County, one of the wealthiest places in America with a median household income of \$75,422, houses lost and abandoned beasts in a fusty facility built in 1941.

"Dogs are in kennels with a trench full of sewage in front of them, and the feline housing is so contaminated that nearly every cat impounded becomes ill with upper-respiratory infection," said animal activist and former Mission Viejo Councilwoman Sharon Cody. "This facility, over 70

years old, needs to be condemned."

Officials don't necessarily disagree. They've been trying to remedy the situation – without success – for more than 30 years.

In a letter dated Jan. 18, 1983, the late Supervisor Thomas F. Riley lamented that "one of the most frustrating problems which has avoided solution during my years as supervisor, has been locating an acceptable site for the South County animal shelter."

The county set aside \$5 million for a new shelter in 1995. Riley died in 1998. And despite decades of plans and promises, Orange County still has essentially the same shelter, in the same spot, as it has since World War II.

"We were attacked at Pearl Harbor, used the nuclear bomb, won the war, and created a new world order in less time than it has taken to build a new animal shelter in Orange County," noted Supervisor Shawn Nelson. "This has gone on forever."

An internal audit in March was just the latest official probe to bemoan the shelter's antiquated condition and make recommendations for how to proceed.

But there are signs that deliverance, at long last, may be at hand.

COMPLICATED LAND SWAP

How is it that a county that could get itself into, and out of, a \$1.6 billion municipal bankruptcy in less than two years has grappled with the construction of a \$23 million animal shelter for more than a generation?

The answer is all wound up in money and tangles of bureaucracy.

Way back in 1991, the Cold War was officially over and the federal government announced that the Tustin Marine Corps Air Station would be among the bases closed. Land would be transferred to local governments after it was all cleaned up – a major environmental undertaking, as it was once a center for helicopter aviation.

As the land would be free, county officials decided it would be worth waiting for, and they developed plans to

use 5 acres for a new, centrally located, state-of-the-art animal shelter. Depressing outdoor kennels replaced by cheerful visiting rooms. Animals behind glass rather than behind bars. Maybe even doggy and kitty furniture for them to lounge on.

Military operations officially ceased at the Tustin base in 1999. But cleanup and transfer of the property has taken far longer than many imagined.

Today, about 85 percent of the former base is finally in the hands of the city of Tustin and other local agencies. But "the remaining 233 acres is undergoing environmental remediation," Lee H. Saunders, spokesman for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest, told us by email. "The environmental remediation is primarily groundwater plumes for which remediation is time intensive."

The Navy plans to convey *all* the property to local agencies by late 2017, with some of the property transferred earlier, about a year from now, Saunders said. That includes the 5 acres set aside for the shelter.

"There's a real feeling that we're moving forward now," Supervisor Nelson said. "It's not going to be another 20 years – more like another 24 months. Which means we really have to put together a business plan with the cities who use the shelter services to get this done."

ALL FOR ONE ...

OC Animal Care is the arm of county government that runs the shelter for 18 cities and the county's unincorporated areas, licenses dogs and handles enforcement of animal-related laws.

It provides service to some 2 million people in the cities of Anaheim, Brea, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, Orange, Placentia, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Ana, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park and Yorba Linda, as well as the unincorporated areas.

This means a dizzying array of agencies will have to agree on a financing plan for the new shelter – and the county wants to get more cities to join the team. No easy task.

In 2007, the county said it would cost about \$23 million for the relocation and construction of a new shelter. It's expected to work like this:

- The county contributes the land and the balance of that \$5 million set aside in 1995 (about \$600,000 has been spent on various plans over the years).
- The 18 contract cities – or as many as want to use the new shelter – kick in the rest, to the tune of nearly \$19 million, likely through long-term financing.

This can be a sticky wicket, as animal services agreements between the county and the cities allow either party to terminate with six months' notice.

"To ensure that participants pay their fair share for the new facility, any long-term agreements related to the financing and construction of a new facility ... should be separate and distinct from the existing (service) agreements," the county's March audit said.

"While the County has approached Contract Cities regarding such long-term agreements, Contract Cities have expressed reluctance to proceed with negotiations until the County officially receives the designated land."

That's understandable. But if a new shelter is to come to fruition with some expediency after the land is finally transferred – within two years, at most – financing agreements need to be put together now, officials said. And the county is working on that, trying to coax others on board.

County officials have a new selling point: The shelter's kill rate has plummeted over the past five years, sparing the lives of thousands of stray and abandoned dogs, cats and other animals. Back in 2010 – when the recession was in full force, home foreclosures hit at an all-time high; people couldn't hang on to their pets and abandoned them at shelters in droves – the kill rate was 50 percent, meaning one of every two animals was put down.

By 2014, the number of animals euthanized had plunged by nearly half, and the overall kill rate had dropped to 33 percent, meaning one of every three animals was put down. That's nearly 7,000 fewer dead beasts.

The recent audit came to this conclusion: "For years, OC Animal Care has been impacted by increasing demand for animal control and shelter services with limited resources, caused mainly by population growth within the County, an aging shelter, and vacant positions due to financial constraints of the County as well as Contract Cities. With dedicated employees and volunteers, OCAC has done a reasonable job coping with these financial and operational constraints, but more can be done."

Officials and animal lovers alike hope that Orange County rises to the occasion.

"Deeds, not words," Nelson said.

Contact the writer: tsforza@ocregister.com

© Copyright 2015 Freedom Communications. All Rights Reserved.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [Site Map](#)

**THE ORANGE COUNTY
ANIMAL SHELTER:
THE FACILITY, THE FUNCTION,
THE FUTURE**

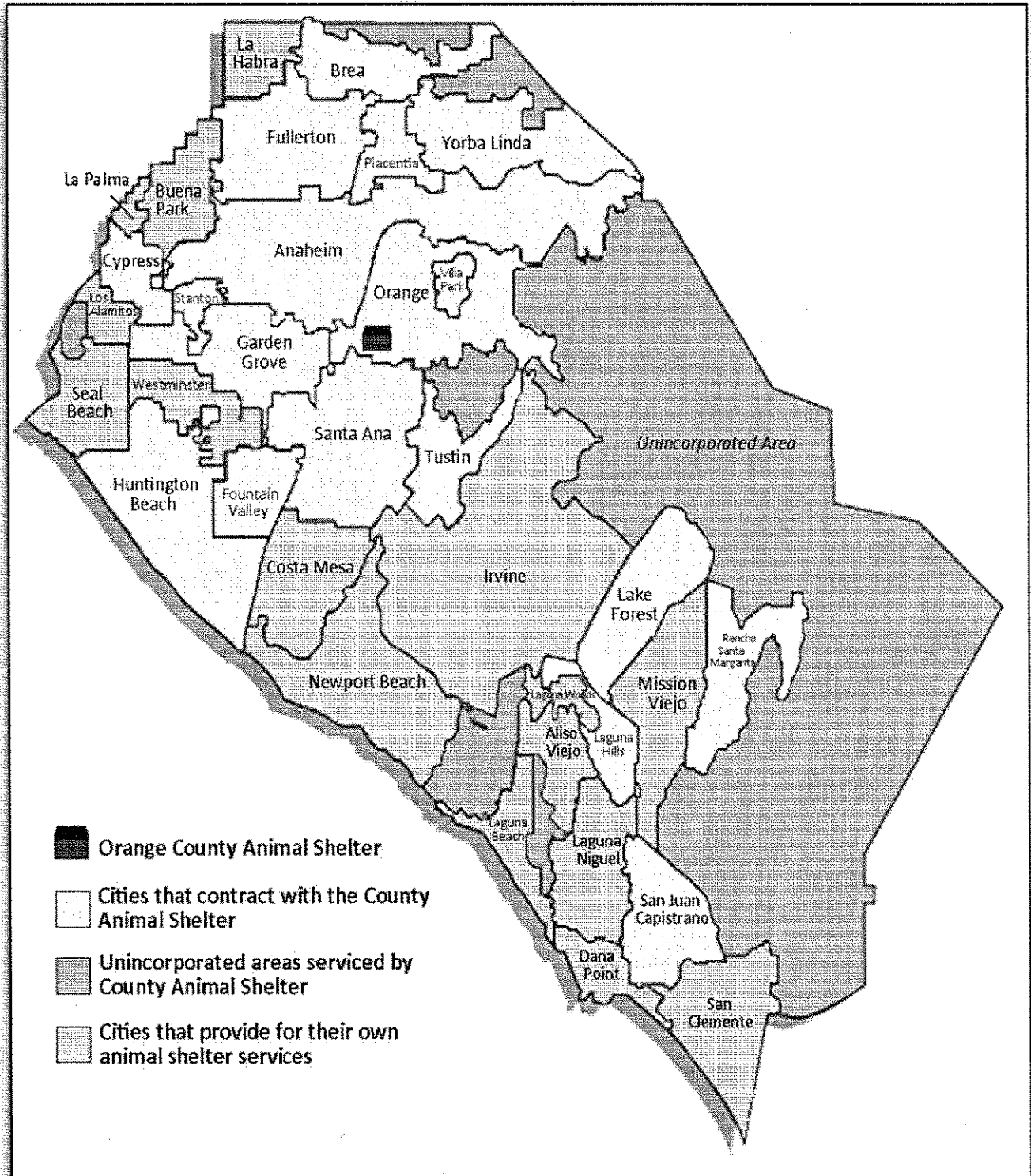


GRAND JURY 2014-2015

**“Ever occur to you why some of us can be this much concerned with animals suffering? Because government is not. Why not? Because animals do not vote.”
Paul Harvey**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
BACKGROUND	5
REASON FOR THE STUDY	6
METHODOLOGY.....	7
Interviews	7
Site Visits	7
Previous Grand Jury Reports.....	7
Independent Reports on the OC Animal Shelter.....	7
Internet	8
INVESTIGATION & ANALYSIS.....	8
FINDINGS	9
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	10
REQUIRED RESPONSES.....	11
REFERENCES.....	15



County and City Service Areas for Animal Shelter

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Orange County Animal Care (OCAC) is charged with caring for lost and abandoned animals from the unincorporated areas of Orange County (County) as well as from the 18 cities that contract with the County for animal shelter services. The Orange County Animal Shelter (Animal Shelter) was built seven decades ago. Today, the 74-year-old facility is rundown, overcrowded, and unable to sustain the primary responsibility of OCAC: compassionate care of the County's companion animals. The old, dilapidated, inadequate facility fails to provide a safe, clean environment for staff, volunteers, and the public, and it is unable to provide adequate care of the animals.

For more than 20 years, the Orange County Board of Supervisors (BOS) has been keenly aware of the real and immediate need for a new shelter facility. In fact, in 1995 the BOS set aside seed money (\$5 million) for the construction of a new animal shelter and directed County executives to move forward with the project. To date, nothing substantive has been accomplished toward achievement of this task.

In 1999, when the United States Marine Corps closed the Tustin Air Station, the County agreed to accept from the Department of the Navy (DoN) a five-acre site at the Marine base for a future animal shelter facility. However, long-lingering environmental clean-up issues still need to be addressed by the DoN before conveyance of the property can take place. Environmental mitigation of contaminated ground water at the site has been underway for 15 years, and the DoN cannot even predict a completion date. Meanwhile, the County has deferred any action with regard to the new shelter, preferring to wait for completion of the DoN's clean-up of the Tustin site. The County has no backup plan or secondary site selected despite possible locations such as County-owned property at the James A. Musick Facility, County-owned property at the Irvine Great Park, or sites in unincorporated Ladera Ranch.

BACKGROUND

Eighteen Orange County cities contract with the County of Orange Community Resources Department (OCCR) for shelter services. These contracts are "evergreen" (automatically renewing), but either party may opt out with a six-month notice. The remaining 16 county cities either have their own shelter, or contract with other cities, or humane groups for animal care services.

In 1941, the County built the Orange County Animal Shelter (Animal Shelter) on County-owned property in the City of Orange to serve a County human population of 200,000. Today, the combined population of the 18 contract cities plus the unincorporated areas of the County served by the Animal Shelter is ten times larger: 2,100,000 (US Census Bureau 2010, 2013). The Census estimates that this population reflects approximately *350,000 households with at least one pet* (US Census State & County Quick Facts, 2013).

Every California county with a population exceeding 500,000 has more than one animal shelter facility. (Alphabetical List, 2014) Orange County is the exception, having one shelter facility despite the geographic and demographic need for multiple shelters.

The Animal Shelter facility is 74 years old and is in utter disrepair. Over time, the shelter's expansion has been limited to the piecemeal placement of sheds, gazebos, lean-tos, trailers, and miscellaneous pre-fabricated units. Structural integrity, cleanliness, and sanitation continue to be compromised and pose serious risks to human as well as animal health (JVR Shelter Strategies, 2014; UC Davis Report, 2008).

The 2014/15 budget for OCAC is \$17,862,307. OCAC is virtually self-supporting through fees generated from the 18 contract cities and the unincorporated areas with occasional contributions from the County's general fund.. The contract cities pay the County for services provided, primarily picking up of dead or injured animals and animal licensing services. The contracting city also pays the County for its stray animals that are impounded at the Animal Shelter. The cities are billed by the County in arrears for these services on a quarterly basis. These fees do not cover the costs of any capital outlay. Thus, the contracting cities do not contribute toward the costs of animal shelter structures, buildings, kennels, or the veterinarian medical clinic. When contacted by the Grand Jury in connection with this report, several of the contract cities explained that they had explored the feasibility of establishing their own animal shelter facility but had found this alternative to be more costly than continuing to contract with the County.

REASON FOR THE STUDY

1. There have been three prior Grand Jury reports discussing the need for a new Animal Shelter facility:
 - a. The 1999/2000 OC Grand Jury report observed: "The Animal Care facility is aging badly... a new facility should be state of the art..." (Orange County Grand Jury, 2000)
 - b. Finding #13 of the 2003/04 OC Grand Jury report stated "Unless Animal Care Services (ACS) is able to provide for the expansion of the Animal Shelter, ACS may have to limit the services it provides or the number of animals it accommodates." In response, the County disagreed wholly with the finding and stated that "the recommendation will not be implemented because it is *not warranted*." (Italics added.) (Orange County Grand Jury, 2004)
 - c. Finding #2 of the 2007-2008 OC Grand Jury report states, "The Orange County Animal Shelter is faced with a growing animal population problem that exceeds the capacity of the County Shelter..." In response, the County concurred with this Finding. (Orange County Grand Jury, 2008)
2. The Grand Jury received complaints during its initial inquiry from County residents, from current and former shelter employees (including high level animal shelter staff), and from County humane organizations asking the Grand Jury to investigate.
3. The Grand Jury received statements from some of the OCAC contract cities that they may pursue other shelter options due to the County's inaction and delays relative to construction of a new shelter facility.

METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury interviewed a number of public officials, conducted site visits to local shelters, and researched existing studies and reports on animal care in Orange County and other California counties. Analysis and confirmation of facts led to detailed findings and conclusions. The following lists provide specific examples of key contact sources evaluated in generating this report.

Interviews

1. Current and former OCAC employees and staff, executive management of the shelter, veterinarians, and contract veterinarians;
2. County executives, including representatives from the offices of the Chief Financial Officer, the County Executive Officer, the OCCR Department, the OC Performance Auditor, and the Auditor-Controller;
3. Vector Control staff;
4. OC Health Care medical staff;
5. Representatives of the County of Los Angeles animal care shelters;
6. Department of the Navy's Base Reallocation and Closure (BRAC) officials;
7. California Department of Toxic Substances Control; and
8. Officials of the County of Riverside Animal Shelter Services.

Site Visits

1. The Orange County Animal Shelter;
2. The Riverside County (Jurupa) Animal Shelter; and
3. The City of Mission Viejo Animal Shelter.

Previous Grand Jury Reports

The subject of Orange County Animal Care has been of interest to previous Grand Juries and reviewed in the following Grand Jury reports:

1. 1999/2000 "We Can Do Better... Improving Animal Care in Orange County."
2. 2003/2004 "The Orange County Animal Shelter-- Are Improvements Needed?"
3. 2007/2008 "Is Orange County Going To The Dogs?"

Independent Reports on the OC Animal Shelter

1. UC Davis 2007, "The UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program, Final Consultation Report, February 2, 2008" (UC Davis, 2007);

2. JVR Shelter Strategies, "Orange County Animal Care, Shelter Consultation Summary, June 16, 2014" (Robertson, 2014);
3. Performance Audit report ordered by the OC Board of Supervisors in May, 2014, and submitted to OC Internal Audit in October, 2014; and
4. Vector Control investigative reports (multiple) in 2012, 2013 & 2014.

Internet

1. U. S. Census 2010 and 2013; (US Census Bureau 2010, 2013)
2. 58 county animal care websites in California.

INVESTIGATION & ANALYSIS

In 1995, the BOS set aside \$5 million in seed money for the design and construction of a new animal shelter. There were a series of debits to this fund at a time when the animal care function was a division of the OC Health Care Agency. These debits were for preliminary consultant studies regarding possible facility designs, an environmental study, and architectural designs: all of which were ultimately abandoned. The remaining balance in the set-aside fund is now \$4.4 million.

In FY 2007/08, Animal Care Services was transferred from its historic home in the OC Health Care Agency to become a division of the newly created OCCR, and re-named Orange County Animal Care. OCCR assumed responsibility for all animal care services as well as for the development of a plan for a new shelter, obtaining participation agreements with the contracting cities, and constructing and operating a new facility or facilities. From 2007 to the present, however, no preliminary design, schematic plan, or conceptual drawings have been developed by OCCR for presentation to any of the contracting cities or to the BOS.

The Grand Jury contacted all of the 18 contracting cities, with the majority responding; and, discovered that they have declined to make any firm commitment to the County to pay their pro-rata share of the capital costs of constructing a new shelter without seeing the scope of the project. The County maintains it cannot afford to build a new facility unless the contracting cities make a commitment to fund the project. This Grand Jury then asked architectural design firms that specialize in animal shelter projects what a preliminary design might cost, and was told that, depending on the scope of the project (square footage, building footprint, site configuration, etc.), costs would range between \$25,000 and \$50,000. Thus, an extremely small portion of the \$5 million set-aside for the design and construction of a new shelter could have been expended to prepare schematic designs and conceptual drawings for presentation to cities throughout the County. Two County executives admitted to the Grand Jury that schematic plans and preliminary drawings of a new shelter would be quite helpful in presenting a proposal to the 18 contract cities and getting them to "buy into the project," but it had not occurred to the OCCR to have such preliminary designs prepared. The County and the 18 cities need to meet and discuss the design elements, but the County has made no attempt to initiate this process.

County officials have been pursuing an opportunity for a new shelter facility at the former United States Marine Corps Air Station-Tustin (MCAS-Tustin) for 15 years. Environmental clean-up of contaminated ground water at the site has delayed, and continues to delay conveyance of the site, from the DoN to the County. Representatives of the DoN have explained to the Grand Jury that while environmental mitigation at the site continues, there is no way to predict exactly when the site will be conveyed. The County has focused on the MCAS-Tustin site to the exclusion of any other potential site for a new facility. No site other than MCAS-Tustin, including any County-owned property, has been explored or seriously considered.

The DoN established the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), when environmental mitigation began at MCAS-Tustin, to provide periodic updates regarding clean-up impacts to interested parties, such as the Community College District, the City of Tustin, and other entities to whom parcels would be conveyed upon completion of environmental mitigation. The Grand Jury has been unable to locate a record of any County of Orange representative ever attending these meetings.

Structural additions, alterations, and modifications at the Animal Shelter have occurred over the years. The City of Orange Community Development Department was not able to locate documentation of building permit issuance to the County for these structural additions, alterations, and modifications. This situation exposes the County to potential Uniform Building Code/California Title 24 violations and to other potential liabilities.

The 74-year-old main structure is built of unreinforced brick, and it seems doubtful the structure would survive any seismic event. One member of the BOS has explained to the Grand Jury that the County is unable to inspect the roof of the main structure for fear of its collapse.

There are no standard or regularly scheduled inspections of the Animal Shelter. The Grand Jury has found evidence of only one inspection ever conducted at the shelter: in December 2008, the California State Board of Veterinary Examiners inspected the veterinary clinic only, but not the entire facility. The veterinary clinic is a very small portion of the facility and would not be determinative in identifying shortcomings of the facility as a whole.

Section IV of the standard contract between the County and the 18 cities states, "The parties agree that there shall be a Financial/Operational Advisory Board to advise (the) County's Director of Animal Care on financial and operational matters...and to communicate with the Orange County City Manager's Association (OCCMA)." The seven members of the Advisory Board have been perpetually from the same cities and do not rotate among the 18 contract cities. The Advisory Board is scheduled to meet bimonthly and does not keep minutes.

FINDINGS

In accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the 2014-2015 County of Orange Grand Jury requires responses from each agency affected by

the findings presented in this section. The responses are to be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

Based on its examination of the Agencies and Departments within the County of Orange government, the 2014-2015 Grand Jury has arrived at four principal findings, as follows:

- F-1** The Grand Jury has concluded that the County's lack of leadership, lack of commitment to animal care, and the prioritization of other Orange County Community Resources Department functions ahead of Orange County Animal Care are the primary reasons for failure to address the need of new Animal Shelter facilities.
- F-2** The 18 cities that contract with Orange County Animal Care for shelter services have not had an opportunity to contribute to capital costs for a new Animal Shelter facility, or facilities, because they have not been shown any conceptual plans or drawings of planned projects with cost estimates.
- F-3** The County has not developed any viable conceptual plan for a new animal shelter facility at the Marine Corps Air Station-Tustin, or at any other location, for presentation to the 18 contracting cities despite the cities' need to see plans before committing to support the project.
- F-4** Multiple county animal shelters are the standard throughout California counties of similar geographic size and population. In the event of a shutdown at the Orange County Animal Shelter because of quarantine, earthquake, or other disaster, animal-care services in the unincorporated areas of Orange County and the contract cities would cease.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the 2014-15 Grand Jury requires responses from each agency affected by the recommendations presented in this section. The responses are to be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

Based on its investigation of Orange County Animal Care, the 2014-2015 Orange County Grand Jury makes the following four recommendations:

- R-1** The Orange County Board of Supervisors, County Executive Officer, and Director of Community Resources should place a high priority on the design and construction of new, adequately sized, staffed, and funded animal shelter facilities; and should pursue this long overdue project until such time that construction is completed. (F-1, F-4)
- R-2** The Orange County Board of Supervisors should investigate and analyze the advisability and feasibility of selecting two or three sites for construction of animal care shelters to provide services accessible to all parts of the County. (F-4)

- R-3** The Orange County Executive Officer should seriously evaluate designating a staff member with the assignment of facilitating the construction of a new Animal Shelter. This individual's tasks should include negotiating with the contracting cities for their capital contributions, release of requests for proposals for building and site designs, coordination with the Board of Supervisors for the County to self-finance the project, and any other project-manager tasks needed for the successful creation of a new shelter or shelters. (F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4)
- R-4** The 18 contracting cities need to review their long-term commitment to be part of Orange County Animal Care as opposed to pursuing animal-care opportunities on their own or joining with neighboring cities that have shelters. The contracting cities need to demand that the County provide them a viable plan with cost and schedule estimates for a new facility or facilities to evaluate as part of their commitment review. (F-4)

REQUIRED RESPONSES

The California Penal Code section 933 requires any public agency which the Grand Jury has reviewed, and about which it has issued a final report, to comment to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the agency. Such comment shall be made no later than 90 days after the Grand Jury publishes its report (filed with the Clerk of the Court); except that in the case of a report containing findings and recommendations pertaining to a department or agency headed by an elected County official (e.g. District Attorney, Sheriff, etc.), such comment shall be made within 60 days to the Presiding Judge with an information copy sent to the Board of Supervisors.

Furthermore, California Penal Code section 933.05 (a), (b), (c), details, as follows, the manner in which such comment(s) are to be made:

- (a) As to each Grand Jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:
- (1) The respondent agrees with the finding.
 - (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.
- (b) As to each Grand Jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:
- (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
 - (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.
 - (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a time frame for

the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This time frame shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury report.

- (4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefore.
- (c) If a finding or recommendation of the Grand Jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a county agency or department headed by an elected officer, both the agency or department head and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the Grand Jury, but the response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only those budgetary /or personnel matters over which it has some decision making aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her agency or department.

Comments to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in compliance with Penal Code section 933.05 are required from:

Requested Responses:

Responses to **F-1** and **F-4** are requested from the County Executive Officer.

Responses to **F-1**, **F-2**, **F-3**, and **F-4** are requested from the Director of Orange County Community Resources.

Responses to Recommendations **R-1** and **R-3** are requested from the County Executive Officer.

Required Responses:

Response to **F-4** is required from the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

Responses to Recommendations **R-1** and **R-2** are required from the County Board of Supervisors.

Responses to Recommendation **R-4** are required from the Mayors of the 18 Animal Shelter contract cities (listed below):

The City of Anaheim

The City of Brea

The City of Cypress

The City of Fountain Valley

The City of Fullerton

The City of Garden Grove

The Orange County Animal Shelter: the Facility, the Function, the Future

The City of Huntington Beach

The City of Laguna Hills

The City of Lake Forest

The City of Orange

The City of Placentia

The City of Rancho Santa Margarita

The City of San Juan Capistrano

The City of Santa Ana

The City of Stanton

The City of Tustin

The City of Villa Park

The City of Yorba Linda

See also Response Matrix below for summary of required responses.

The Orange County Animal Shelter: The Facility, The Function, The Future

RESPONSE MATRIX

<u>RESPONDENTS</u>	<u>Findings</u>				<u>Recommendations</u>			
	<u>F1</u>	<u>F2</u>	<u>F3</u>	<u>F4</u>	<u>R1</u>	<u>R2</u>	<u>R3</u>	<u>R4</u>
1 County Chief Executive Officer	X			X	X		X	
2 Director of Orange County Community Resources	X	X	X	X				
3 Orange County Board of Supervisors				X	X	X		
4 Mayor City of Anaheim								X
5 Mayor City of Brea								X
6 Mayor City of Cypress								X
7 Mayor City of Fountain Valley								X
8 Mayor City of Fullerton								X
9 Mayor City of Garden Grove								X
10 Mayor City of Huntington Beach								X
11 Mayor City of Laguna Hills								X
12 Mayor City of Lake Forest								X
13 Mayor City of Orange								X
14 Mayor City of Placentia								X
15 Mayor City of Rancho Santa Margarita								X
16 Mayor City of San Juan Capistrano								X
17 Mayor City of Santa Ana								X
18 Mayor City of Stanton								X
19 Mayor City of Tustin								X
20 Mayor City of Villa Park								X
21 Mayor City of Yorba Linda								X

REFERENCES

- Alphabetical List of California Counties. Retrieved December 2, 2014, from:
<http://www.alphalists.com>
- Orange County Grand Jury (2000). *We Can Do Better...Improving Animal Care In Orange County*. Santa Ana, CA.
- Orange County Grand Jury (2004). *The Orange County Animal Shelter—Are Improvements Needed?* Santa Ana, CA.
- Orange County Grand Jury (2008). *Is Orange County Going To The Dogs?* Santa Ana, CA.
- Robertson, J., Aziz, C., Butler, V.(2014, June 16). *Orange County Animal Care Shelter Consultation Summary June 16, 2014*. JVR Shelter Strategies, LLC.
- UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine (2007, February 2). *The UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program: Orange County Animal Care Services Division*
- U.S. Census Bureau (2010, 2013). Retrieved from: www.census.gov 2010 and www.census.gov 2010
- U.S. Census State & County Quick Facts (2013). Retrieved from:
www.quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html

May 14, 2015

RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2015 MAY 18 A 10: 37

To the honorable Mayor Mr. Bao Nguyen:

cc: Kris Beard - Phat Bui – Steve Jones – Chris Phan – Allan Roeder – Todd Elgin
– Thomas Nixon – Omar Sandoval – Tom Schultz – Allison Mills – Susan Emery -
Ed Leiva – Jeff Hutchins – Peter Vi – Vince Vaicaro – Omar Sandoval (Woodruff,
Spradlin & Smart Attorneys Group)

Mr. Nguyen,

This has got to STOP in our City of Garden Grove, Can the Authorities close them
down instead of just fining them repeatedly? There are nude girls at this Café 168
located at 13959 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove, CA 92843.

There is always a lookout person to let them know when the Police come, they are
smart!

Here is proof of the business violating municipal code violations & breaking laws.
This photo was taken recently inside. As a concerned citizen, please handle this
issue. I would not want to send this out to the media & District Attorneys Office
for further investigation.

Thank you,
Anonymous Tip/ Calling Party

TWENTY FOUR HOUR RESUME

Friday, May 15, 2015

INCIDENT:	Nudity Violation	DR:	15-6940
LOCATION:	13959 Westminster	DIV/BEAT:	East / 2-3
DATE/TIME:	5-15-15 / 1730	DIST:	146
PRESS RELEASE:	No	ENTERED BY:	Hutchins

* SIU and CCAT conducted a business check at Café 168 at Westminster and Harbor for nudity violations. This was due to the mayor receiving a text and picture from a citizen about girls walking around naked in the café. CCAT conducted a check in the early afternoon and found one female walking around serving customers in the nude. CCAT arrested her. SIU went in a few hours later and did not find any other violations. Both CCAT and SIU will continue to monitor the café for any other violations.

City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2015 APR 23 P 2:09

April 21, 2015

Dear Mayor Nguyen,

My neighbors and I were discussing how fast traffic goes past Evans Elementary on Nelson St.

Much of the traffic is probably people traveling to or from either the Catholic church near Stanford, or the Home Depot near Garden Grove Blvd. People using Nelson as a "through" street would probably travel faster than residents on that street.

One time I even saw a hand written sign attached to the Ralston fence on Nelson St telling people to slow down.

A police officer monitoring traffic might help temporarily, but I am sure there is not enough manpower to have someone there each day.

I would suggest turning Nelson St into a cul-de-sac by paving across the street at Nelson and Holly, or paving slightly farther down where the traffic light is at Evans Elementary. Traffic using Nelson as a through street would still have Euclid which is very close or Nutwood to travel from Chapman to Lampson. If the street is paved over at Evans, houses north of the cul-de-sac on Nelson would still have an exit at Allen or Chapman. Houses south of the cul-de-sac could exit either by Holly or at Lampson. Perhaps you could start by putting one of those car counting cables across Nelson to see how much traffic there is. It is a lot and they go fast.

Thank you for considering my suggestion.

Respectfully,

Mark Jorgensen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

May 18, 2015

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Speeding Vehicles on Nelson Street.

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent letter to Mayor Nguyen regarding speeding vehicles on Nelson Street. It is greatly appreciated.

The Traffic Engineering Section will investigate your concerns about speeding and the high volume of vehicles on Nelson Street. We will keep you informed of the progress of our investigation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel to contact my staff, Ken Vu, Associate Engineer at (714) 741-5184.

Sincerely,

Tony Aquino, P.E.
City Traffic Engineer
City of Garden Grove
Public Works Department

Bao Nguyen
Mayor

Steven R. Jones
Mayor Pro Tem

Christopher V. Phan
Council Member

Phat Bui
Council Member

Kris Beard
Council Member

RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

May 9, 2015

Dear Mayor Bao Nguyen,

2015 MAY 13 P 2: 26

I live in Fullerton but I have an income property in Garden Grove.

I want to suggest an improvement of water consumption in psychological way.

I receive water bill every other month such as attached one for example.

In the bill, the water consumption (used) is indicated in units. (in my case 167 unit)

The average people, like me, do not know that 167 unit is how many gallons. If G.G. water bill shows in gallon instead of in unit, people can figure out how much water they are consuming every month or daily. Then, people can judge whether they are using too much or not by comparing to the single toilet flush is 1.6 gallon.

Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely yours,




CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

May 19, 2015

[REDACTED]

Bao Nguyen
Mayor

Steven R. Jones
Mayor Pro Tem

Christopher V. Phan
Council Member

Phat Bui
Council Member

Kris Beard
Council Member

REG: Water Consumption Letter Dated May 9, 2015

Dear Mr. Chey,

Thank you for your letter and suggestion of listing the water consumption amount in gallons on our water bills. Going forward we will include the gallon equivalent per unit conversion formula on the bills. We agree that customers will relate more to gallons of water used than to the units as currently expressed on the water bill.

Metered consumption is expressed in hundred cubic feet (HCF) or one unit. One hundred cubic feet of water equals 748 gallons. On the bill that you included with your letter, the usage was 167 units. (167 X 748 gallons = 124,916 gallons).

We appreciate your interest during these times of conservation and hope this information will be helpful to you and the rest of our customers.

Sincerely,

Kingsley Okereke
Assistant City Manager/Finance Director

RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2015 APR 30 P 12:00

4/22/2015

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is [REDACTED] I have lived at [REDACTED] Garden Grove since August 1973. During that time I have seen our neighborhood evolve from a quiet cull de sac to an overcrowded and dirty neighborhood, filled with unregistered cars, litter, and strange people. This situation has evolved in the last two to three years. Two homes on the Westminster side of Newland rent rooms, sofas, even squares in the garage for people to live in.

The homes face Newland and are within the red no parking zone on the corner of Newland and Trask. These two homes easily have 15 to 20 cars between the two. Rather than park a little further down Newland, the people continually park in our cull de sac. Rather than walking to the corner they jay walk across Newland. They fill Boyd Ave not only with cars, but also with the trash they throw into the street.

They will/park as many as 3 cars in one space covering our driveways, preventing us from pulling in or out of our own driveways. They are smart about their activities, for instance they park the unregistered cars with other cars blocking the view of the back license plate. Most of the unregistered cars just sit there week after week, moved only long enough for the street sweeper to pass by. One of the people in the home actually runs an illegal mechanic shop from the house. Cars are lined up for him to repair, at times he actually works on them on our street.

Several months ago I spoke to them and asked them to please allow me one parking space for me to park in. We also asked the same for my neighbor across the street. The request was ignored. In fact the owner of the house renting to the people told me that if I didn't like it to move. After much frustration I personally decided to live with the problem.

On April 15, 2015 my neighbor at the end of the cull de sac approached myself and another neighbor about the situation. He pointed out a 1980's green and yellow truck that was in front of his house along with a grey car. "He said these 2 cars have been there for a week I can't even park in front of my own house".

We started looking around and counted 11 of their cars including an unhitched trailer with an expired 2010 license plate from Nevada. It was only 2 p.m. The trailer was filled with car detailing equipment and was parked literally in front of a house

blocking possible parking in front or behind it. We decided at the time to call the police to find out what we could do.

The police officer was very helpful. He explained that we would probably need to ask the city to make our cull de sac a permit for resident parking only area.

While the officer was there every car that had been parked there was removed including the unregistered trailer. He was able to observe the people as we see them, Jaywalking across Newland. One unregistered car was towed.

The officer explained that the situation would probably continue. That this was just a temporary fix. The next morning I went out to walk my dog and the cars were back, except for the unregistered cars. The street was filled again. It was clear that this situation is not going to end soon. Two days later the car that had been towed was back and parked behind mine. As of Sunday the 19th the car had not been moved. The beat up green truck is back parked across the street in front of my neighbor's house and it too has not been moved.

Today April 22nd a week later the truck is still there. In front of it is an old 1992 Toyota truck filled with tree limbs hanging out the back. It's been parked there since Tuesday after street sweeping. Its registration expired 2 months ago. As far as the other cars, yes they're there too.

We the neighbors of Boyd Ave. are asking the city to assist us in our efforts to regain our neighborhood. We are tired of beer bottles filled with urine, empty boxes of cigarettes, dirty diapers and the street that we pay taxes for taken from us.

We ask that our cull de sac be made a parking for residents only area.

Please help us!

Thank You for listening to us,

The neighbors of Boyd Ave. Garden Grove, Ca.

Robert



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

May 18, 2015

[REDACTED]

Bao Nguyen
Mayor

Steven R. Jones
Mayor Pro Tem

Christopher V. Phan
Council Member

Phat Bui
Council Member

Kris Beard
Council Member

Dear Ms. Elliott:

Subject: Boyd Avenue - On-Street Parking Concerns

Thank you for bringing your concerns along with your neighbors about on-street parking on Boyd Avenue. It is greatly appreciated.

The Traffic Engineering Section will conduct field reviews on Boyd Avenue and on the surrounding streets to determine an appropriate course of action. I will also contact you to obtain more information and to keep you informed of our progress.

If you have any further questions or concerns for city staff, please feel free to contact me, Tony Aquino, City Traffic Engineer at (714) 741-5193.

Sincerely,

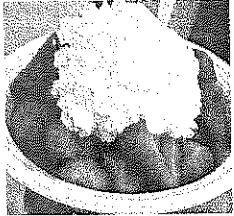
Tony Aquino, P.E.
City Traffic Engineer
City of Garden Grove
Public Works Department

Weekly Memo 5/21/15

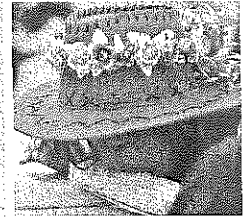
**NEWSPAPER
ARTICLES**

THE GARDEN GROVE JOURNAL

ALSO SERVING STANTON, WESTMINSTER AND MIDWAY CITY



LEONARD ORTIZ, FILE PHOTO
Strawberries and cream from
Job's Daughters Bethel 78
at last year's Garden Grove
Strawberry Festival.



ANNA REED, FILE PHOTO
Reese Orozco, 5, of Garden
Grove eats corn on the cob
without her hands during
last year's festival.

SONGS, RIDES AND STRAWBERRY SWEETS

The 57th annual Strawberry Festival returns this weekend with plenty of fun. Inside, the Journal lists recipes, key events and music lyrics.

BY CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

If blueberries are your favorite berry, this may not be the festival for you.

That's right: The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival, now in its 57th year, is coming back to the downtown area for Memorial Day weekend - providing four days of music, rides, contests and all things strawberry.

Strawberry shortcake. Strawberry beverages. Strawberry-themed rides. And strawberry floats - of the parade variety, not the ice cream kind.

The Strawberry Festival, harkening to a long-ago era when Garden Grove was - like much of Orange County - an agricultural haven, is one of the city's most popular events. The numbers tell the story:

:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:
:

- 300,000 people attend the four-day party.
- The festival association, a non-profit group, gave \$100,000, spread out over 15 other local nonprofits, in donations from the money it raised in 2014.
- About 2,000 people show up Friday evening each year to receive free shortcake.
- 466 people participated in the first Strawberry Stomp 5-kilometer run/walk in 2014, and at least that many are expected this year.
- More than 200 food and commercial booths are set up for people to eat and shop.

The Strawberry Festival, though, is also about more than statistics. The festival this year has a theme meant to honor those who sacrifice for the rest of the country: America's service men and women.

"The festival board chose Honoring Our Returning Veterans as this year's theme to recognize the sacrifices these brave men and women are making for our country," said festival board President Steve Sanders.

Inside, the Journal offers up some interesting tidbits about the Strawberry Festival.

If you go

When: 1 to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday
Where: Village Green, between Euclid and Main Street streets
Cost: Free to attend; individual rides tickets are \$1; unlimited rides tickets are \$30 Friday and \$35 Saturday-Monday; food prices vary
More info: strawberryfestival.org or 714-638-0981

Events

4 p.m. Friday: Tiny Tots King and Queen contest
6 p.m. Friday: Strawberry Cake Cutting Ceremony
8 a.m. Saturday: Strawberry Stomp
5-Kilometer Run
10 a.m. Saturday: Strawberry Festival Parade
12:30 p.m. Saturday: Celebrity autograph signing
7:30 p.m. Saturday: Strawberry Idol Karaoke Contest
11 a.m. Sunday: Berry Berry Beautiful Baby Contest
7 p.m. Sunday: Miss Garden Grove and Friends variety show
11 a.m. Monday: Redhead Roundup Contest
3 p.m. Monday: The Colony of Performing Arts show

Strawberry Festival Song

Did you know the Strawberry Festival has a theme song? It's true! In 1966, Gene Rotsch, who was a board member for the Strawberry Festival Association at the time, wrote the music and lyrics for the song, titled "Garden Grove's Own Strawberry Festival Song"

It is unknown what the tune is, but the lyrics are below:

"There's a place for fun for every-one/Come along and join the throng/Holiday and time for family fun/Gay parade and happy song/Garden Grove's the tops/Ex-cep-tion-al/It's the place for one and all/It's the best (clap-clap)/In the West (clap-clap)/It's the Strawberry Festival./It's Hol-i-day/You won't forget/Time for joy for you and me/If you drive or walk or take a jet/It's the place you'll want to be/Garden Grove's the place to 'Have a Ball'/Bring the family, one and all/It's the best (clap-clap)/In the West (clap-clap)/It's the Strawberry Festival."

Vets to be honored

The Strawberry Festival plans on saluting veterans on Saturday. Twenty-five veterans - 15 Marines, six soldiers, three guardsmen and one sailor - will be featured in the annual parade at 10 a.m. Saturday. The vets and their family members, 63 people in all, will also be treated to a pre-parade breakfast, lunch and free carnival rides all day. The veterans, and their military branches, are:

Army
Sgt. Hector Huerta, Sgt. Frank Ortiz, Sgt. Daniel Salas, Sgt. William Wagner, Cpl. Faustino Campa, Jr., and Spc. 4 Jorge Barragan

Marines
Battalion Sgt. Maj. Chuong T. Nguyen, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Peterson, Sgt. Danny Kim, Sgt. Jake MacArthur, Sgt. Chris Merkle, Cpl. Richard DeLacoudray, Cpl. Juan Estrada, Cpl. Francis Fernandez, Cpl. Sixto Martinez, Cpl. Robert Nguyen, Cpl. Louis Orta, Cpl. Tyssen Rogers, Cpl. A.J. Santos, Cpl. Ryan Yells and Lance Cpl. Yovan Vivas

National Guard
Sgt. Priscilla Salazar, Pvt. First Class Alma Huerta and Pvt. Catherine Larson

Navy
Operation Spc. First Class Lisa Kukula

SUPPORT FOR Old Glory

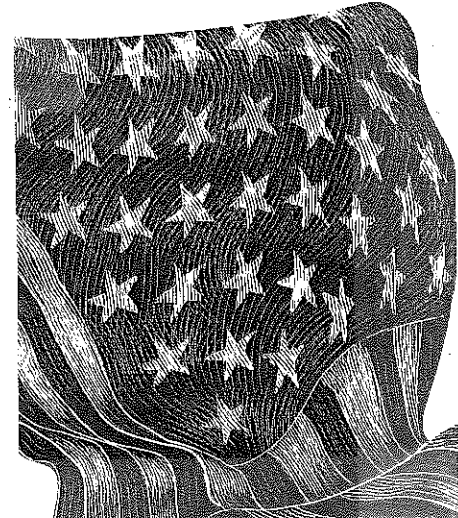
Garden Grove and Westminster want the Star Spangled Banner to fly high throughout California - particularly on college campuses.

Both city councils recently threw their support behind a proposed California constitutional amendment that would prohibit a ban of the United States flag from any California-funded college campus.

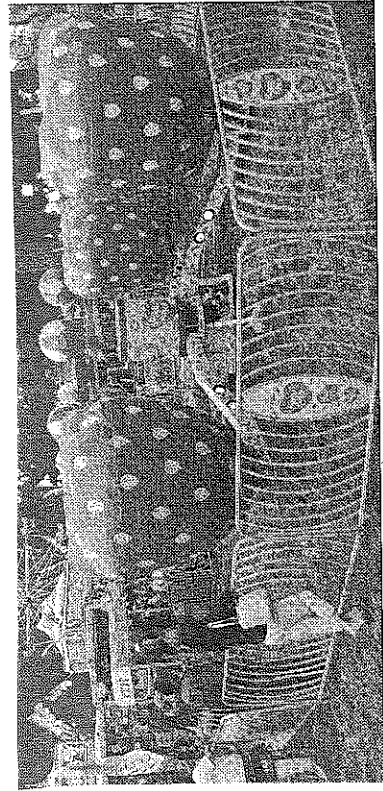
State Sen. Janet Nguyen, whose district includes Garden Grove and Westminster, authored the proposed law after a student council at UC Irvine banned flags from the Associated Students lobby in March so, the council said, the area is "as inclusive as possible." The ban quickly drew criticism from some students.

The student group, the Legislative Student Council, ultimately failed when the executive cabinet of the Associated Students vetoed the ban.

Nguyen's proposed amendment is still going through the legislative process.

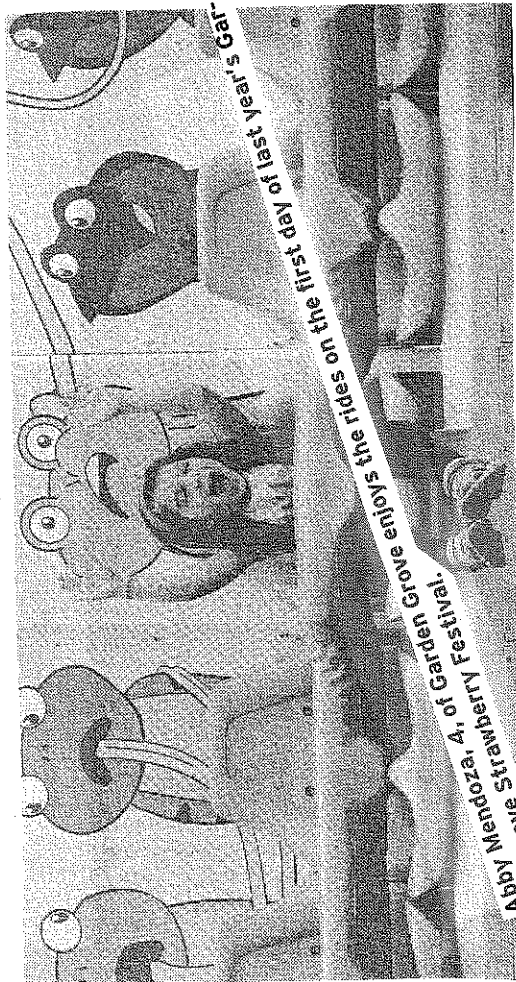


Strawberry Festival a weekend full of activities



A revolving and spinning "Strawberry Patch" ride keeps kids entertained at an earlier festival.

CINDY YAMANAKA, FILE PHOTO



Abby Mendoza, 4, of Garden Grove enjoys the ride on the Strawberry Festival.



Bruce Chambers, File Photo
 Richard Rocha of Garden Grove chows down at a past festival.



Leonard Ortiz, File Photo
 Isabelle Cardenaz, 4, of Garden Grove is crowned Tiny Tot Queen in 2009.

Classic Strawberry Shortcake

- Ingredients**
- 2 cups flour
 - 1/4 cup sugar
 - 4 teaspoons baking powder
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt
 - Dash of nutmeg
 - 1/2 cup butter or margarine
 - 1/2 cup milk
 - 2 eggs, separated
 - Additional sugar
 - 2 pint baskets of fresh strawberries, stemmed and sliced
 - 1 cup whipping cream, whipped and sweetened

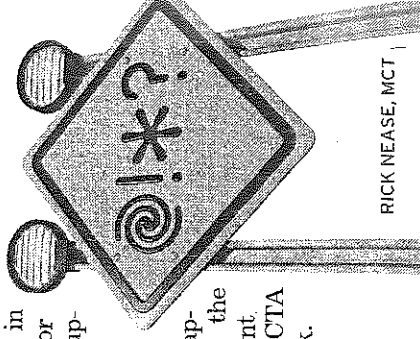
Directions
 Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and nutmeg into large bowl. Cut in butter to resemble coarse meal. In bowl, blend milk and egg yolks with fork. Stir into flour mixture to make a soft dough. Divide dough into 6 portions; form into balls. Pat balls out on greased baking sheet to 3-inch circles, moistening fingers with egg whites. Brush cakes with egg whites. Sprinkle with sugar. Bake in preheated 450-degree oven 10 to 12 minutes until golden. Remove to rack; cool. Sweeten strawberries to taste. Halve cakes horizontally. On plates, fill and garnish with strawberries and whipped cream.

Source: California Strawberry Commission, californiastrawberries.com/recipes

ROAD WORK AHEAD

Garden Grove will receive \$1 million from the Orange County Transportation Authority to fix up Brookhurst Street from Trask to Lampson avenues, and Knott Street from Garden Grove Boulevard to Lampson Avenue.

The street rehabilitation projects are scheduled to begin in July and end by fall 2016. The city is providing about \$1.6 million in funds for the up-grades.



RICK NEASE, MCT

The City Council approved the agreement with OCTA last week.

Garden Grove massage parlors will have to obtain operating permits

The final vote on restrictions, including hours they can be open, set for Tuesday.

BY CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

Massage parlors in Garden Grove will have to close from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. every day, those giving massages will have to be certified by the California Massage Therapy Council and all such businesses will have to obtain operating permits.

The new regulations on massage parlors — meant to prevent prostitution — were approved recently by the City Council. The council needs one more vote, scheduled for Tuesday, to finalize the new law.

Massage businesses will also have to tell the city when they hire new employees, employees will not be allowed to perform sex acts or show their genitals, and parlors must keep detailed files on their employees' job history. Businesses can also be shut

down if any of their employees have been convicted of prostitution or certain drug offenses.

Garden Grove is allowed to regulate massage parlors because of a state law that recently gave authority

experience has shown that acts of prostitution and other unlawful sexual activity frequently occurs in some massage establishments.”

The City Council was scheduled to vote on the law April 28, but tabled it so city staff could send copies of the ordinance to businesses and allow them to comment. The City Clerk received no letters from massage parlors and no one asked to speak at last week's meeting.

“The only discussion on the law from the council members came from Phat Bui, who asked his colleagues to allow businesses to stay open until 10 p.m. instead of 9 p.m. as originally suggested by staff. The council unanimously agreed.

“There are numerous cities with 9 p.m. (closing times) and several with 10 p.m.,” said City Attorney Tom Nixon. “10 p.m. is within the relative accepted time zone of other cities.”

CONTACT THE WRITER:

714-704-3707 or
chaire@ocregister.com

Champion team wins another honor

The Cavaliers have done Garden Grove proud — and the City Council thanked its boys soccer team last week.

The Santiago High School varsity boys soccer team, which won the CIF-SS Division 5 championship in March with a 1-0 victory over Chino High School, was on hand at a recent council meeting, where team members received certificates of recognition for their efforts.

It was the team's first championship. The Cavaliers outscored their opponents 11-0 in five playoff games.



BILL ALKOFER, FILE PHOTO

Chino sophomore Adrian Lopez battles Santiago junior Jafet Sanchez during the CIF-SS Division 5 championship in March.

Garden Grove Journal / Register
May 21, 2015

57th Annual Garden Grove

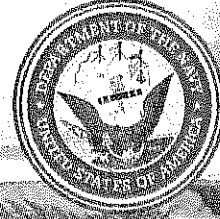
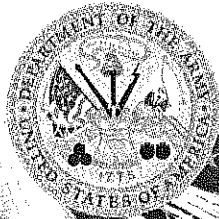


HONORING OUR
RETURNING VETERANS

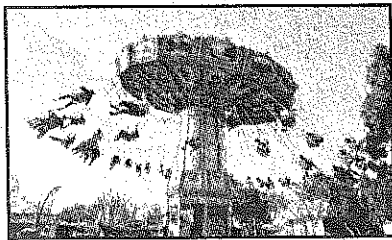
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Memorial Day Weekend
May 22nd - 25th

Orange County News
May 20, 2015



- Great Food
- Live Music
- Carnival Rides & Games
- Contests Parade
- Celebrities



Ride the carnival rides
all day for one low price!
Friday \$30 Saturday, Sunday,
Monday \$35

Friday 1 pm - 10 pm
Saturday / Sunday
10 am - 10 pm
Monday 10 am - 9 pm

Village Green
12862 Euclid Ave
Garden Grove

Free Admission
www.strawberryfestival.org



An Orange County Neighborhood
Newspaper, Inc. Custom Publication

Parade Theme Grand Marshal
Lt. Col. Patricia Murray



Parade Celebrity Grand Marshal
Sally Kellerman



Strawberry Festival surely a star-studded event

16 celebs will participate
in Saturday' parade;
military woman named
Theme Grand Marshal

Oscar, Golden Globe and Emmy Award-nominated actress Sally Kellerman has been named Celebrity Grand Marshal of the 57th annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival parade.

The festival will be held Memorial Day Weekend Friday, May 22 through Monday, May 25 in downtown Garden Grove.

Since the festival's 2015 theme is "Honoring Our Returning Veterans," Lt. Col. Patricia Murray was chosen as the Theme Grand Marshal. A former Miss California, Lt. Col. Murray is an instructor pilot for the California Air National Guard in the 115th Airlift Squadron. She has flown six tours of duty in the Middle East, has earned five flying Air Medals and was named the 2010 California Air National Guard Field Grade Officer of the Year.

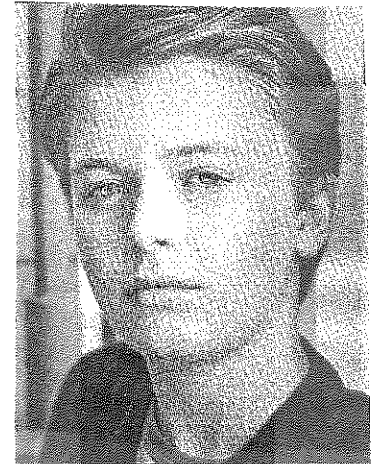
In addition, 15 TV and film stars will be joining them in the Saturday, May 23 parade at 10 a.m. They are Jacob Hopkins (The Goldbergs, Gumballs), Ava Kolker (Girl Meets World), Jaida-Iman Benjamin (Liv and Maddie), Santana Dempsey (The Newsroom), Gregg Daniel (True Blood, Spiderman 3), Emily Robinson (Transparent), Julie Adams (Creature from the Black Lagoon), Erin Murphy (Bewitched), Forrest Wheeler (Fresh Off the Boat), Ian Chen (Fresh Off the Boat), Kate Linder (The Young & The Restless), Vera Jimenez (KTLA News Ch. 5), Ms. America



Ava Kolker



Jaida-Iman Benjamin



Jacob Hopkins

Dr. Stephanie Mills, Asia Monet Ray (Dance Moms) and Knott's Berry Farms' Snoopy.

Sally Kellerman's acting career spans nearly 60 years. She'll forever be identified with her role as "Hot Lips" Houlihan in Robert Altman's original film version of "M*A*S*H," which earned her both Oscar and Golden Globe nominations. She was just nominated for an Emmy for her guest appearances this season on "The Young and the Restless." Kellerman has been seen in more than 50 films and countless TV shows, including the original pilot episode of "Star Trek." She has a recurring role on Marc Maron's IFC comedy series "Maron." Also an accomplished singer, she has a new CD entitled "Sally," and her memoir "Read My Lips" is currently in bookstores.

Lt. Col. Patricia Murray has a master's degree in Military Science and Operational Art. She earned her B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering from California Polytechnic State University and used her scholarship funds as Miss California 1992 to pursue a career in commercial aviation. She was recruited by the Califor-

nia Air National Guard to fly the C-130 J Super Hercules aircraft and was awarded the top honor of the Commanders Trophy at military pilot training graduation and was inducted into the Order of Daedalians, a WWII flying organization.

Murray is currently a director on the Disabled Veterans Charities board that helps disabled and struggling veterans in the Los Angeles Area. She has flown 15 years as a pilot for American Airlines.

Vera Jimenez, a meteorologist and traffic reporter for KTLA 5 News at 6 and at 10, has earned two Emmys, three Golden Mikes and three Golden Pylons awards.

She was born in Mexico and moved to Southern California when she was 3. Most of her family still lives in Garden Grove where she attended Bolsa Grande High School. She graduated with honors from Cal State Long Beach and started her career in broadcasting, working at radio stations KIK-FM and KFWB-AM. She says her best learning experience came while at KNX-AM, where she was an airborne traffic re-



Courtesy photo

Sally Kellerman



Patricia Murray

STARS:

porter. Vera eventually moved to TV — first for KABC-TV and then for KCBS-TV. While there she went back to school and in 2009 earned a certificate in meteorology from Mississippi State.

Julie Adams has appeared in 50 films and hundreds of television episodes. On the stage, she has starred in over a dozen plays and won a 1989 Drama-Logue Award for her portrayal of Mary Tyrone in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*. In 1999 Adams won a Golden Boot Award for her work in Westerns, and was honored with a Film Career Achievement Award from Cinecon in 2011.

That year she also completed her award-winning autobiography, *The Lucky Southern Star: Reflections from the Black Lagoon*. Last year marked the 60th Anniversary of Universal's *Creature from the Black Lagoon*. She still has millions of fans all over the world who adore her portrayal of Kay Lawrence, the lovely bathing beauty in this sci-fi classic. In 2013 she was recognized by the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for her six decades of contributions to the Los Angeles film industry.

Erin Murphy began her career while still in diapers. One of her first jobs was a detergent commer-

cial with future President Ronald Reagan. Before her second birthday, ABC cast her as little witch Tabitha Stephens on the top 10 rated sitcom, *Bewitched*.

Magazine covers, television appearances, comic books, dolls and paper dolls in her likeness soon followed. After eight seasons, 23 Emmy nominations, and 254 episodes, *Bewitched* ended without cancellation. Both *Entertainment Weekly* and the *TV Guide* named *Bewitched* one of the Greatest TV Shows of All Time.

In Salem, Murphy unveiled a *Bewitched* statue for the TV Land Landmarks series. *TV Week Magazine* in Australia named Murphy number three on their list of top 10 TV kids of all time. In Japan she is still mobbed by fans who know her as "Tabitha-san."

As an adult, Murphy works as an acting teacher, television producer, casting director, makeup artist, motivational speaker and

Orange County News
May 20, 2015
2 of 5

even a stunt double. She has made numerous guest appearances on TV shows and has been featured in many popular publications. Heavily involved in community and charity work, Murphy is the proud mother to six boys and wife to husband Darren (yes, that's really his name!).

Forrest Wheeler loves appearing in his new role as Emery, the cool younger brother of Eddie Huang, on the new ABC prime-time TV series *Fresh Off the Boat*. In just a few years, he developed a thriving career working on numerous commercials, live performances, voice-overs and TV Shows including *Community*, "New Girl" and *Chasing Life*. His first job on the big screen was in *The Incredible Burt Wonderstone*. He's had roles as the young Kuai-Liang in *Mortal Kombat: Legacy II* and recently in the movie *Such Good People*. He speaks English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

It was almost 33 years ago when Kate Linder got the role of Esther Valentine and delivered her line, "Dinner is served," on *The Young and the Restless* in April 1982.

She was asked back the next day and the next. Now she remains a key member of the top-rated daytime drama's cast. Still the realist, however, she continues to fly the friendly skies of United on weekends as a flight attendant while simultaneously appearing on the soap opera.

In 2005, Linder was elected to two terms as Governor of Daytime Programming Peer Group for the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences who put on the Emmy Awards. On April 10, 2008, Linder received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Prior to playing Evan Huang on ABC's hit comedy, *Fresh Off the Boat*, 9-year-old Ian Chen guest-starred in a dramatic role on "Grey's Anatomy." Ian began his acting career after booking his first commercial at age five. He loves being on set to learn about all aspects of the film process. Ian wants to be an airline pilot when he grows up. He and his younger brother, Max, who also does some acting, speak fluently in English and Mandarin.

At the age of 13 Jacob Hopkins' versatility and talent has brought him acting success. He is currently the voice of Gumball Watterson in Cartoon Network's hit animated series, *The Amazing World of Gumball*. He also has a recurring role as Chad Kremp on ABC's hit series, *The Goldbergs*. Hopkins was also seen in the fifth



Julie Adams

season of the HBO series, *True Blood* as the youngest looking vampire, Alexander Drew. He has guest starred on many TV shows, acted in short films, playing an autistic boy in *Sunchld*, and has appeared in several national commercials, web series, and print campaigns. An accomplished martial artist, he currently holds a black belt in Taekwondo.

Jaida-Iman Benjamin is a young American actress who has guest-starred on Disney's *Liv & Maddie* and *Austin & Ally*, TNT's *Southland* and *Nat Geo Wild*. Currently, she is a Disney Channel *Movie Surfer*. Before coming to Los Angeles, she appeared as July in the National Broadway tour of *Annie* and has done several music videos and national commercials.

At age 12, Benjamin began

STARS:

Continued from previous page

working as a professional dancer for the Knicks City Kid hip-hop dance group, performing at NBA ALL-Star games including the Knicks half time games in Madison Square Garden. As a member of the prestigious group called The Broadway Kids she entertained hundreds of high-profile guests at the Kennedy Center in support of The Children's Defense Fund.

The versatile Santana Dempsey is an actress, writer, and mixed race advocate. She played one of the leads in the Lifetime movie Megachurch Murder. She also co-starred in the third season of HBO's hit drama The Newsroom and Direct TV's new drama, Kingdom. Her other credits include: French Dirty (set to premiere at the 2015 LA Film Festival), Evolve, English Vinglish and Courtside: A University of Missouri alumnus, Santana, an accomplished stage performer, wrote and stars in the critically acclaimed one-woman show, The Other Box coming to LA this November. She is an ambassador for the non-profit Mixed Roots Foundation, helping bring awareness to those touched by adoption, and is now working on an art project Somewhere In Between that celebrates identity and diversity.

Actor/Director Gregg Daniel stars in HBO's Emmy-winning series True Blood as Reverend Daniels. With over 100 credits in film and television, Gregg's roles span from comedy (Curb Your Enthusiasm, Weeds) to drama (The West Wing, Castle, Desperate Housewives) to children's shows (Austin & Ally, Kickin' It). Big screen credits include Spiderman 3, Hancock, Mars Attacks, Evan Almighty, Pump Up The Volume, and White Men Can't Jump.

Gregg is the artistic director of the Los Angeles-based Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, and his show Elmina's Kitchen was nominated for both the 2013 NAACP Image and Best Ensemble Award. A trained theatre actor, Gregg stars as Lord Montague in Shakespeare Center of L.A.'s production of Romeo & Juliet this summer. Previous stage credits include The Mark Taper Forum (Joe Turner's Come and Gone), the

Pasadena Playhouse (Jitney), and South Coast Repertory (Fences, Death of a Salesman, A Christmas Carol).

Emily Robinson began her career modeling with Ford Models at age 6; she expanded into television/radio work at age 7. Television credits include Rizzoli & Isles (TNT), Criminal Minds (CBS), Transparent (Amazon), Scorpion (CBS), A.N.T. Farm, (Disney), The Following (FOX), CSI:NY (CBS), Person of Interest (CBS), Saturday Night Live (NBC), and Late Night with Jimmy Fallon (NBC).

Robinson also appeared in Betty White's special Betty White Goes Wild (Nat Geo Wild), and recently filmed the movie Broken Vows, starring Wes Bentley and Jaimie Alexander. She also volunteers with Broadway Kids Care, UCLA Medical Center, and GenerationOn.

As Ms. America 2014-2015, Dr. Stephanie Mills is promoting her personal platform Making an Impact: Concussion Awareness during her year of service. Her daughter Brooke suffered a devastating head trauma during her freshman year of high school. Brooke's injury and journey back to health inspired Mills' platform. Partnering with the Brain Injury Association of America, Mills hosted a fundraiser, recorded PSAs and lectured extensively on Concussion Awareness.

Last December, Mills brought chiropractic care to impoverished communities and orphanages in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. She is the host of the weekly radio show Half Hour to Health on 107.7FM and is Clinic Director of Crossroads Chiropractic in New Hampshire.

At only 9 years old, Asia Monet Ray has a standout role on Season 3 of the hit series Dance Moms. She can also be seen on her own show Raising Asia on Lifetime. She'll be in the upcoming indie film Sister Code with Amber Rose, slated to hit theaters on May 8. Her many fans can enjoy Asia's musical talent with her debut LP Asia Monet and her Christmas single Christmas Time.

Two DJ's from K-Wave Radio, Cathi Parrish and Norm McBride, will also be in the parade, along with Miss Garden Grove Shannon Galipault and Miss Garden Grove Outstanding Teen Josie Pearce.

Orange County News
May 20, 2015
4 of 5



Gregg Daniel



Emily Robinson



Erin Murphy



Forest Wheeler



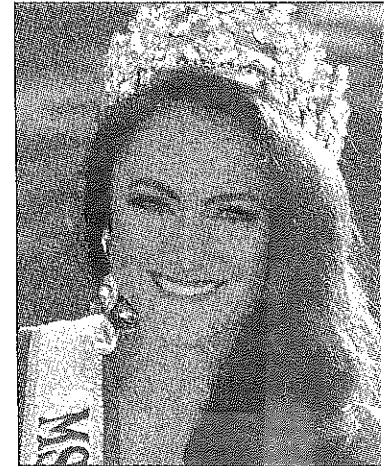
Ian Chen



Kate Linder



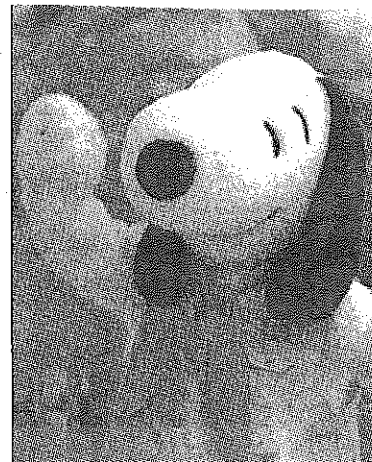
Vera Jimenez



Stephanie Mills



Asia Monet Ray



Snoopy



Santana Dempsey

Courtesy photos

Free strawberry shortcake at grand opening

Since 1958, the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival has treated the community to free strawberry shortcake at its grand opening ceremony, this year to be held in the Showmobile Friday, May 22 at 6 p.m. at Main and Acacia streets in Garden Grove.

The giant cake will be created by French's Pastry Bakery in Costa Mesa. In the past, as many as 2,000 have come out for free cake.

Some of the Saturday parade celebrities, who cannot resist having a taste, will be there to say a few words and help pass out cake to the crowd. They include Theme Grand Marshal Lt.Col. Patricia Murray (CA Air National Guard pilot) and Miss Outstanding Teen Josie Pearce. Plus film and TV stars Jacob Hopkins (The Goldbergs, Gumballs), Ava Kolker (Girl Meets World), Jaida-Iman Benjamin (Liv and Maddie), Santana Dempsey (The Newsroom), Emily Robinson (Transparent), Julie Adams (Creature from the Black Lagoon), Erin Murphy (Bewitched), Forrest Wheeler (Fresh Off the Boat), Kate Linder (The Young & The Restless) and Ms. America Dr. Stephanie Mills.

Many local dignitaries also attend. Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen will cut the first piece and present the giant strawberry cake top to Miss Garden Grove Shannon Galipault.

During the four-day Memorial Day weekend event over 300,000 annual attendees head for the festival's 200-plus food and commercial booths where they find treasures to buy and all kinds of treats to try. Booths open at 1 p.m. on Friday May 22 and at 10 a.m. on May 23 through May 25.



Photo by Dave Smithson

Strawberry shortcake will be served at the grand opening ceremony of the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival this weekend.

The 2015 Festival Theme is "Honoring Our Returning Veterans." Twenty-five veterans and their families will ride in the 10 a.m. Saturday parade. This year 12 charities will be selling food to fill their coffers: Garden Grove's Assistance League, Boys and Girls Club, Emblem Club, High School Band Boosters, High School Baseball Boosters, Kiwanis Club, and Lions Club, in addition to the Guardettes of Orange County, Job's Daughters, Pacifica High School Girls Softball, Shakespeare of Orange County and the Vietnamese Young Adult Ministry of St. Columban. Collectively, the food booths bring in approximately \$90,000 for their charities.

Offerings include strawberry treats such as strawberry smoothies, cheesecake, crepes, bowls of strawberries with soft ice cream, strawberry sundae, strawberry shortcake, strawberry bread, strawberry royals, tart cups, chocolate covered strawberries and boxes of strawberries.

Fairgoers will also find nacho supremes, pizza, chicken wings, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, carne asada, chicken tacos, cheese quesadillas, funnel cakes, baked potatoes, breakfast muffins, corn on the cob, hot dogs, chillitos, BBQ beef sandwiches, popcorn chicken, deep fried squid, deep fried fish balls, fried bananas and egg rolls.

La Casa Garcia is donating food for the festival's annual pre-parade breakfast Saturday, May 23 at 8 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. at Euclid. Scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, ham and scrambled egg/bacon combo, fried potatoes, orange juice and coffee will be served for \$7 per person paid at the door with all proceeds benefiting We Give Thanks, a charity annually providing Thanksgiving dinners for thousands of needy people.

Sponsorship support this year comes from Southern California

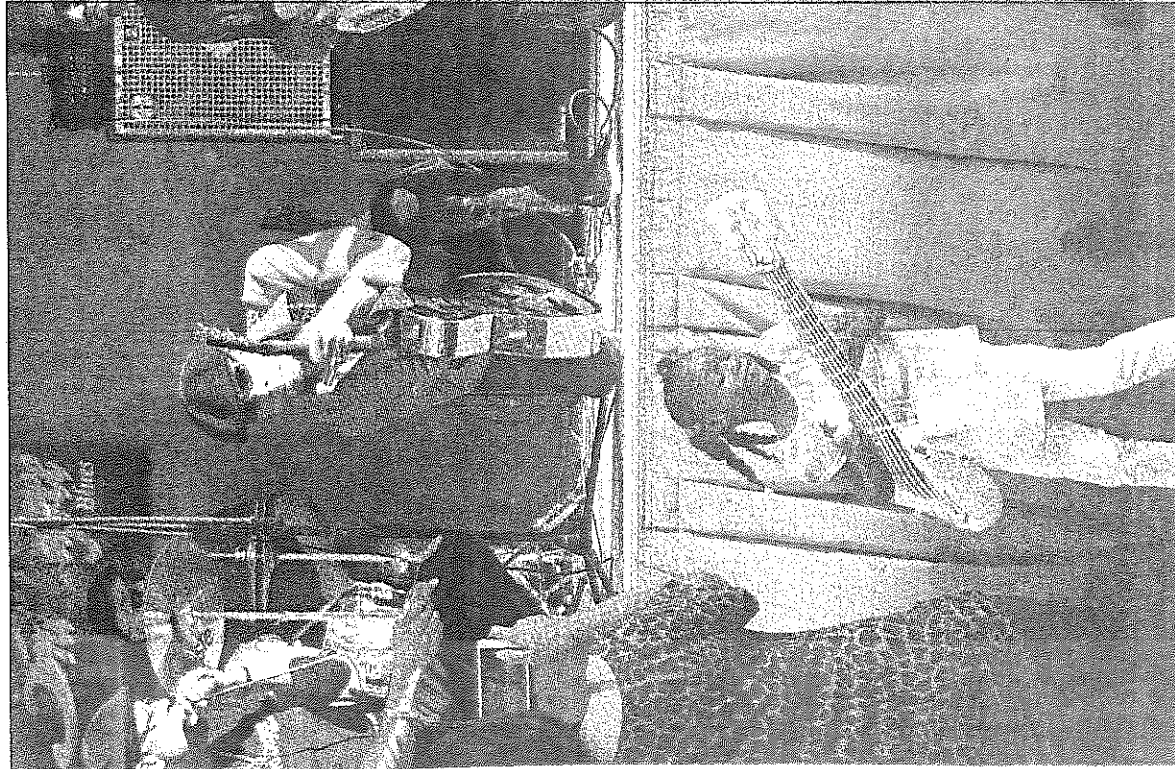
Ford Dealers, Garden Grove Tourism Promotion Corporation, Clear Channel Outdoors, McDonalds, Care Ambulance Service, Sam's Club, Garden Grove Hospital, Brandywine Homes, Garden Grove Secured Storage, Allspace Storage, Embassy Suites, Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton Inn and Suites and La Casa Garcia. Media sponsors include Parenting OC, OC News and its Community Newspapers, OC Weekly, Garden Grove Journal, Korea Times, Nguoi Viet Daily News, El Panamericano, Farandula USA, Miniondas, and radio stations 103.4 MYfm, KOST, JACK FM, KABC, KLOS, KDAY-FM, KWVE 97.3, KSWB 100.3fm The Sound LA, KWIZ La Ranchera 96.7, AIR1 Radio, Radiocentro 93.9, KEARTH 101 and The Wave.

The festival has donated more than \$6.5 million to local charities since 1958. For more information, visit www.strawberryfestival.org.

Orange County News
May 20, 2015

Scenes from last year's Garden Grove Strawberry Festival...

Orange County News
May 20, 2015



Photos by Dave Smithson
A future rock star? This little girl joins the jam at last year's festival. Live music is one of the more popular features of the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival.



clude strawberry treats such as strawberry smoothies, cheesecake, crepes, bowls of strawberries with soft ice cream, strawberry sundae, strawberry shortcake, strawberry bread, strawberry royals, tart cups, chocolate covered strawberries and boxes of strawberries. Fairgoers will also find nacho supremes, pizza, chicken wings, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, carne asada, chicken tacos, cheese quesadillas, funnel cakes, baked potatoes, breakfast muffins and more.

A mother holds her son, winner of the brightest, most beautiful redhead contest. This year's festival features a parade, booths, live music and, of course, delicious foods that in-

Local takes 1st in academic competition



Courtesy photo

Rafael Ramos of Garden Grove, third from left, took home top honors in Concordia University's 12th annual Academic Showcase. A 2011 graduate of Rancho Alamitos High School, Ramos collaborated with Fullerton resident Grace Chong, fourth from left, among several other winners, channeling a shared interest in chemistry, biology and medicine into their winning research project, "Cutting DNA to fight Cancer." The project was an impressive undertaking, especially for undergraduate students: Ramos designed his own molecules and tested them using instruments he help build and calibrate. Having recently graduated from Concordia with a double major in chemistry and biology, Ramos says the cash prize he won in the showcase will help support his graduate studies goals.

GG schools recognized by state

Five are named California Gold Ribbon Schools

Garden Grove Unified School District is proud to announce that five of its schools have been recognized by the state for making tremendous gains in implementing academic content and performance standards for all students, including English learners.

Fitz and Walton intermediate schools along with Bolsa Grande, La Quinta, and Pacifica high schools were named California Gold Ribbon Schools, a new state program which is temporarily replacing the state's Distinguished Schools Program. The California Gold Ribbon program recognized middle and high schools in 2015 and will honor elementary schools in 2016.

Dr. Gabriela Mafi, district superintendent, stated, "The five

schools honored by the Gold Ribbon award reflect Garden Grove's successful approach to implementing rigorous academic standards for all students while supporting teacher and student development and enhancing positive school climates. The administrative, teaching and classified staffs at our Garden Grove schools provide academic and personal support to ensure lifelong success for all of our students."

In the first year of the program, all five district applicants earned the state honor. The thorough application process required school site representatives to describe a model program and include details about standards-based activities, projects, strategies, and practices that schools have adopted and that can be replicated by other local education agencies. After the applications were scored by a team of educators, the highest-scoring schools received a site visit. State Superintendent Tom

Torlaksen then decided on the Gold Ribbon winners.

The programs highlighted by Garden Grove district schools include: 1) A "PLEX" schedule (Professional Learning and Extension) at Pacifica, a program that provides two avenues toward increasing student achievement, addressing school improvement, and building professional capacity and leadership; 2) "Interacting with Rigorous Text" at Fitz, designed to increase student motivation and engagement, develop skills to overcome obstacles, and foster a deeper understanding of rigorous text; 3) Emphasizing literacy skills at Walton by prioritized building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction, reading and writing grounded in evidence from the text, and regular practice with complex text and its vocabulary; 4) A College and Career Readiness model at La Quinta High, which ensures students are enrolled in a rigorous college preparatory program that begins freshman year and culminates senior year with the fulfillment of all requirements needed for four-year college eligibility.

GG implements stringent water cuts

Residents could have their water
supply nixed if they don't comply

Just weeks after Gov. Jerry Brown's April 1 executive order that mandated new regulations to achieve a 25 percent statewide reduction in water use come tighter restrictions for water users.

As a result, the Garden Grove City Council has declared a Stage 2 Water Alert that went into effect on May 9. Garden Grove is required to cut water usage by 28 percent.

The Stage 2 Water Alert mandatory conservation measures include:

- Lawn watering and landscape irrigation limited to designated days, between 6 p.m. and 10 a.m.
- Washing cars and filling pools and spas also limited to designated days, only from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Commercial car washes are exempt.
- Designated days are based on

WATER:

an odd or even last digit of an address, corresponding to odd or even numbered days of the week.

- Restaurants are prohibited from serving water, except when requested.
- Operation of ornamental fountains or similar structures are also prohibited.

The city will send a written notice to those who are in non-compliance of the new mandates. Continued violations may result in the discontinuation of water service.

The city continues to adopt further water-saving methods, in addition to shutting off water at all medians and replacing brown

turf with drought tolerant plants and high-efficiency irrigation systems. Through the Municipal Water District of Orange County, the city offers residential and commercial rebates for water conservation devices, such as high efficiency clothes washers and toilets, turf removal, smart irrigation timers, etc.

Next week, the city will be mailing letters to all Garden Grove customers informing them of the specific mandates. The letters will also be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Korean.

More information is available on the city's website at www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/pw/water or by calling the Water Services Division at 714-741-5395. To report any water wasting activities, call the Water Services Division at 714-741-5395.

You've got mail!

Readers air their views

Some take columnist to task for what they see as her pro-police coverage



Tony on the Town

By Tony Cheong

I opened my mailbox last week and — voila! — there were a plethora of letters.

Let's start with the good stuff. Some were complimentary. One gentleman said he looks forward to reading my column every week.

In fact, the first two emails were of the feel-good variety.

But all good things must come to an end.

For me, the end came with Garden Grove resident Kevin Fluxor. He took offense at a column I

wrote last week — in the wake of the officer-involved shooting in Baltimore that left one man dead and led to riots — in which I stated that many police officers are decent, honorable professionals.

I cited the "Fallen Five" in Garden Grove, the five officers who've died in the line of duty. There's a memorial for them outside of the Police Department, if you care to go see it.

Mr. Fluxor: "Every encounter I've had with a cop has left a bad taste in my mouth. I've come to the conclusion that they're power hungry. They're arrogant. The pattern of shootings in our nation is evidence of this. Why did you choose this time to celebrate cops, most of whom are (expletives)?"

My response: I wasn't "celebrating" cops. I was merely giving context. If you read the column carefully, Mr. Fluxor, you must have noticed that I pointed out that there are bad cops. There are bad seeds in every profession. And yeah, bad cops are dangerous because they're entrusted with so much power and... weaponry.

Next was Sam Nguyen from

Westminster.

"Cops treat people differently based on the color of their skin. Many studies prove this. Why didn't you mention that?"

Mr. Nguyen, I am not aware of these studies. I am aware that some cops profile people on the streets. I wish you would have provided me with links to sources or stories that reported such behavior. I have to point out, though, that the Westminster Police Department is not exactly a monolithic good old boys club. There are many Asian-American officers. The person assigned to talk to the press, my editor told me, is Corp. Phuong Pham. His name tells you something about him.

Only one letter from a Stanton reader. She thanked the paper for promoting the annual Classic Car Show. And she was wondering if the Orange County News is going to print pictures of this year's cars.

Not my wheelhouse. Mr. Editor?

Do you have a question, comment or news tip? Tony can be reached at tonyontown@yahoo.com.

CALENDAR:

Orange County News
May 20, 2015

Community Calendar

Ongoing

Overachievers, check this out Chamber holds Friday meetings The Garden Grove Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee meets the second Friday of the month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call the chamber at 714-638-7950.

Grief support

The Grief Share Support Group is for mothers who have lost children of every age. The group meets Thursday evenings at 12831 Olive St., Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-892-1520 or 714-343-7516.

Learn about Alzheimer's

The Alzheimer's Association of Orange County hosts a support group to provide an opportunity to meet other caregivers and families, share experiences and exchange ideas. These meetings are free and open to all caregivers and family members of individuals with dementia. All groups listed are in compliance with chapter and national standards. This is a faith-based meeting and may include prayer or pastoral speaker, and will take place at 1 p.m. Saturdays at Christ Cathedral, 12141 Lewis St. in Garden Grove. For more information, call Peggy Woelke at 714-634-2161.

Dance Center hosts social

Join the staff of the Cedarbrook Dance Center for nights of square dancing, line dancing, round dancing (pre-choreographed social dancing) and salsa. The Dance Center is at 12812 Garden Grove Blvd. For more information on classes, call Eileen Silvia at 949-637-4169.

Eco-friendly storytime

Family storytime all through the summer will highlight books about our environment and the animals that live in rivers, oceans and icy places. All ages are encouraged to attend at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Garden Grove Regional Library, 11200 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-530-0711.

Rotary Club to meet

The Rotary Club of Garden Grove meets at 12:10 p.m. Wednesdays at The Marriott Hotel, at Chapman Avenue and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

GG Kiwanis to meet

The Kiwanis Club of Garden Grove hosts dinner meetings at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Kiwanisland, 9840 Larson Ave. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. For more information, call 714-892-7267.

School Board to meet

The Garden Grove Unified School District holds its regular meetings at 7 p.m. the first and

third Tuesday of each month at the district offices, 10331 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove.

Ready, young Rembrandts?

Elementary and preschool students are eager to learn and a joy to teach. Your young artist will

learn to draw using our step-by-step process in this class, held on Tuesdays at the Westminster Civic Center craft room, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster. Give your child a head start in being handwriting-ready by

developing his/her fine motor skills. There will be new lessons each week at the preschool and elementary level. Students ages 3-5 meet at 3:15 p.m. and ages 6-12 meet at 4 p.m. For more

information, visit www.westminster-ca.gov.

Cartoonist lessons offered Artists ages 6-12 will have fun drawing and coloring a myriad of expressive characters while learning how to stay on task, follow directions, and be visually, spatially organized. There will be new lessons each week, even for previous students. The next class will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Westminster Civic Center craft room, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster.

Commission set to meet The City of Westminster Planning Commission holds its regular meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Blvd. in Westminster.

Chamber set to meet

The Westminster Chamber of Commerce holds legislative meetings at 8 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month in its offices, at 14491 Beach Blvd. in Westminster.

Board meetings on Fridays

The Chamber of Commerce holds a regular board of directors meeting at 8 a.m. the fourth Friday of every month at the chamber's location, 14491 Beach Blvd. in Westminster. For more information, call the chamber at 714-898-9648.

Join preschool storytime hour

Join the Westminster Public Library for stories, songs, and crafts at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday with your preschool-aged child. The Westminster Library is at 8180 13th

St. in Westminster. Contact the children's librarian, Anna, with questions at 714-893-5057.

A crafty day at library
Kids are invited for a special craft program at 3:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Westminster Public Library, 8180 13th St. in Westminster. Come after school for a fun creative afternoon. For more information, call Anna at 714-893-5057.

Bookworms: get ready
Join the Westminster Public Library for a book discussion group at 10:30 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month. The Westminster Library is at 8180 13th St. in Westminster. For more information, call 714-893-5057.

City Hall to be shuttered
The Westminster City Hall, at 8200 Westminster Blvd., will be closed on alternating Fridays.

WM Kiwanis to meet The Kiwanis Club of Westminster meets at 7:30 a.m. every Thursday. Meetings are held at Spires Restaurant, at 13030 Goldenwest St. in Westminster. For more information, e-mail President Doug McIsaac at dmcisaac@westminster-ca.gov.

Good cars, good times
Classic Car Fridays continues in downtown Anaheim with one of Orange County's top car shows. Trophies are awarded each week, with prizes and a 50/50 raffle. The show is located on the corner of Center Street Promenade and Lemon Street in downtown Anaheim. For more information, contact Devon Reeves at devon@downtownanaheim.com.

Farmers market is set
The Downtown Anaheim Farmers Market is held from noon to 7 p.m. each Thursday at the corner of Lemon Street and the Center Street Promenade in Anaheim. For more information, contact Devon Reeves at devon@downtownanaheim.com.

Orange County News May 20, 2015

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

IFB No. S-1168

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent for the City of Garden Grove, Room 220, Second Floor, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840 to Provide One New and Unused Utility Body Truck. A copy of the bid document may be obtained from the City of Garden Grove's website. Direct any questions regarding this bid process to Sandra Segawa via email at sandras@garden-grove.org. Bids are due and will be opened in the office of the Purchasing Agent at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 19, 2015. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

Dated: May 20, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB
Purchasing Agent
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Orange County News
15-50327
Publish May 20, 27, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICES

Holiday closure

All offices of Orange County Neighborhood Newspapers will be closed on Memorial Day (Monday). They will reopen on Tuesday.

Students excel

In recently released data for the class of 2014, the graduation rate at Garden Grove Unified School District stands at an impressive 89.7 percent, topping the list of all large urban districts in the state of California.

The rate was also higher than the average for Orange County (88.6 percent) and the state (80.8 percent).

Upon hearing the news, Dr. George E. West, Board of Education president, stated, "Earning a high school diploma is a step toward being prepared for lifelong success. Each year, more students are developing the academic and personal skills that lead to graduation from high school. Although we are proud of the achievement of our graduating seniors, the board is committed to preparing all students to be successful and responsible citizens by earning a high school diploma."

Graduation rates in Garden Grove schools have increased by more than 6 percent and drop-out rates have decreased about 6 percent since 2009-10.

Honoring Israel

Assemblyman Travis Allen introduced House Resolution 22 to honor May 14, 2015 as the 67th anniversary of the independent Jewish state of Israel.

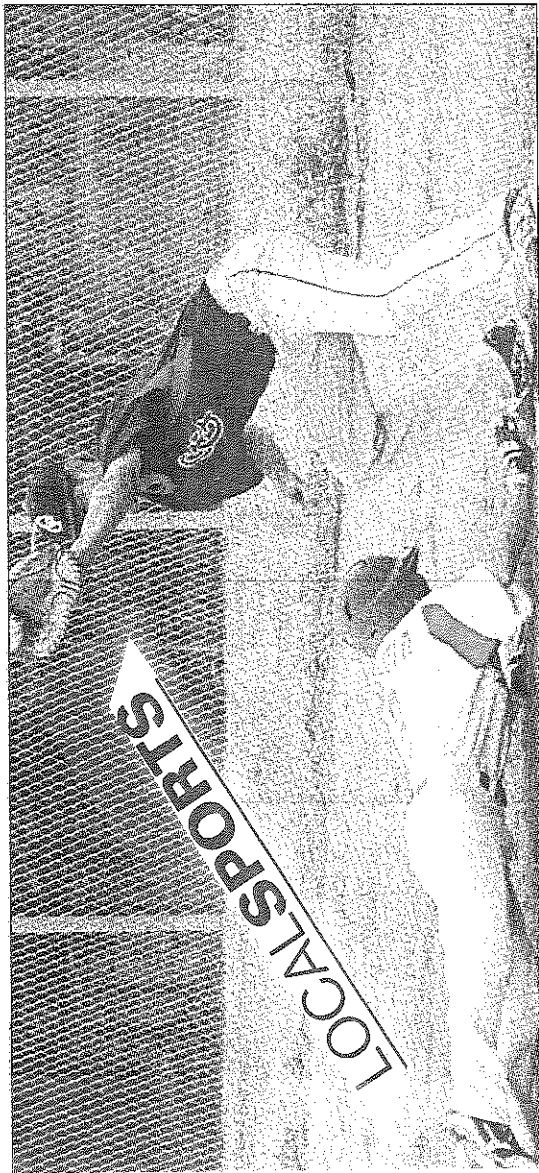
"I introduced House Resolution 22 to honor and recognize the creation of the independent Jewish state of Israel, said Allen, who represents Garden Grove, Westminster and other cities. "The United States and Israel have historically stood together as allies due to our unique bond founded on shared values and our unwavering commitment to freedom and democracy."

California is home to an estimated 2 million Jewish residents, making it the second largest concentration in the United States.

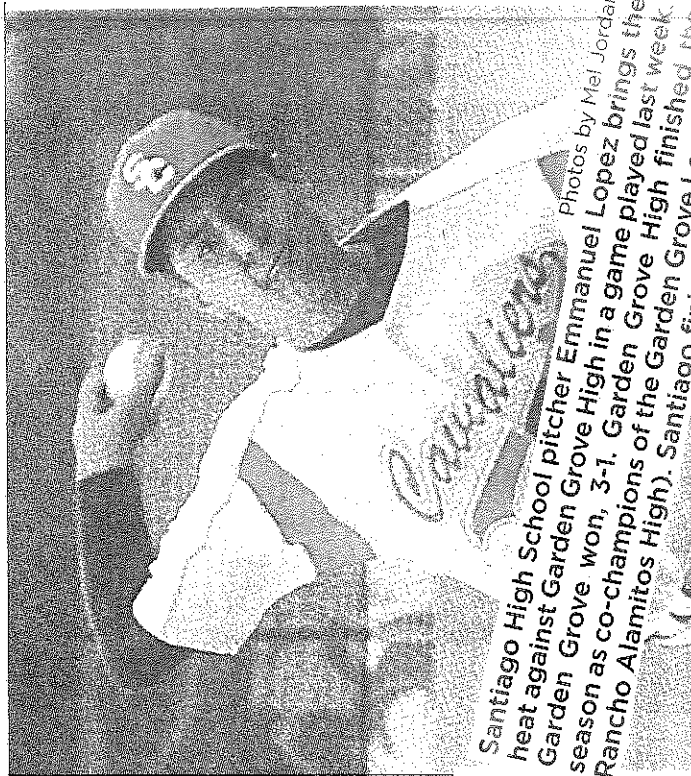
HR 22 honors May 14, 1948 as an historic action of undeniable significance in world history and marks the beginning of a mutually beneficial relationship between Israel and the United States, especially the State of California.

Garden Grove High beats Santiago, takes league title

Argonauts are co-champions of GG League, sharing the brass with Rancho Alamitos High; La Quinta finishes second, Santiago third

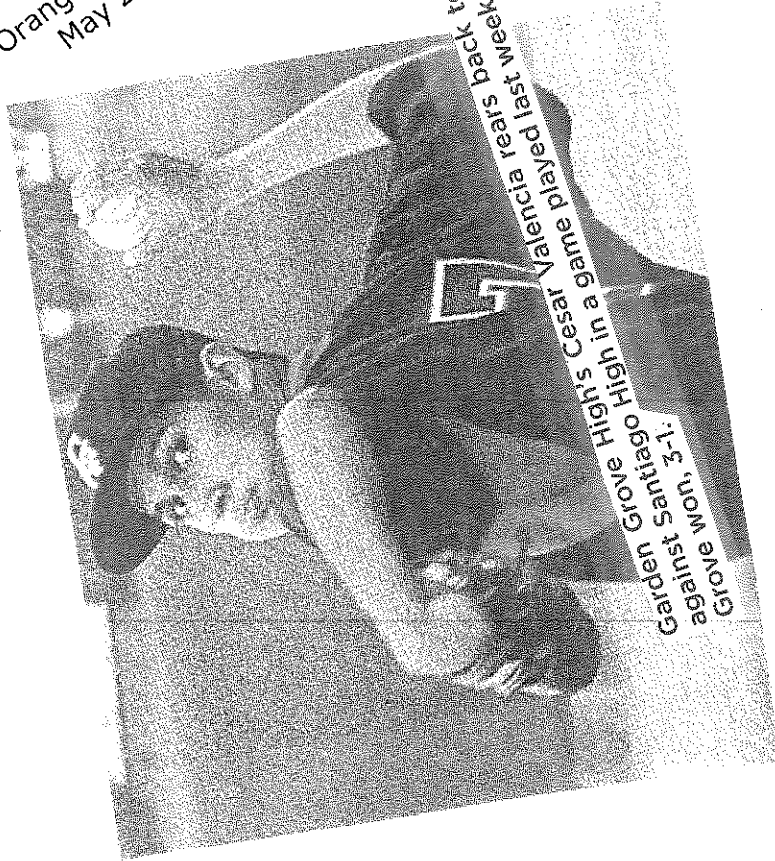


Santiago High School's Alexis Arroyo is safe on a pickoff play against Garden Grove High in a game played last week. Garden Grove won, 3-1. Garden Grove High finished the season as co-champions of the Garden Grove League (with Rancho Alamitos High). Santiago finished third.



Santiago High School pitcher Emmanuel Lopez brings the heat against Garden Grove High in a game played last week. Garden Grove won, 3-1. Garden Grove High finished the season as co-champions of the Garden Grove League (with Rancho Alamitos High). Santiago finished third.

Orange County News
May 20, 2015



Garden Grove High's Cesar Valencia tears back to throw against Santiago High in a game played last week. Garden Grove won, 2-1.



Santiago High School's Abel Ordiano puts the tag on Garden Grove High's Andy Nguyen.

Man arrested after trying to flee in stolen car, police say

William Allen Kuykendall of Westminster was found hiding in a truck, police say.

BY ALMA FAUSTO
STAFF WRITER

A 30-year-old man was arrested after driving a stolen car, crashing it and trying to run from police Tuesday afternoon in Garden Grove.

Some time after 10 a.m. patrol officers spotted a gold sedan that had previously been reported stolen, said Sgt. Eddie Esqueda of the Westminster Police Department.

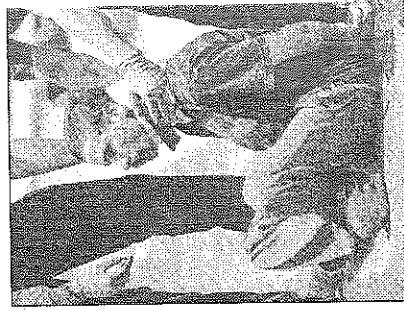
William Allen Kuykendall of Westminster was later identified as the driver of the vehicle.

When officers started following the car, Kuykendall sped off and crashed into a tree in the area of Garden Grove Boulevard and Western Avenue.

The car flipped over and Kuykendall got out through the passenger window and



PHOTOS: KEN STEINHARDT, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
An employee of a nearby business takes photos of an overturned car in Garden Grove as police search for a suspect.



A paramedic stabilizes a man after authorities detained him Tuesday. Police say he drove a stolen vehicle before crashing.

ran off into an industrial area, Esqueda said. He went into an RV storage lot in the 12700 block of Western Ave., according to reports from the scene.

Officers set up a perimeter to search the area. Pako, a new K-9 in the department, found the suspect in the cab of a truck. Kuykendall surrendered and was arrested.

He was treated for minor injuries he sustained in the crash.

Details about when or from where the car was stolen were unavailable.

Register
May 20, 2015

Man arrested in burglary of fumigated apartment

Register
May 20, 2015

BY ALMA FAUSTO
STAFF WRITER

One person was arrested on suspicion of burglary at an apartment tented for fumigation Tuesday morning in Garden Grove, officials said.

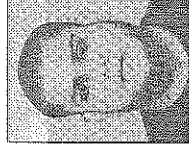
Just before 9 a.m., officers received a burglary call for the 9800 block of Chapman Avenue, according to Lt. Bob Bogue of the Garden Grove Police Department.

A witness was said to have seen two males going into the apartment complex, which was tented for fumigation.

When officers arrived, they arrested one man wearing an air filter mask and goggles who tried to run away. He was later identified as 20-year-old Alvaro Olivan of Stanton.

They saw another suspect also wearing a mask and goggles run back into the complex trying to escape. Officers set up a perimeter to search for the suspect, who has not been identified.

The Orange County Sheriff's Department SWAT



Olivan

team was called to search the complex because its members are trained with respirator

equipment to withstand the hazardous fumigation chemicals inside the complex.

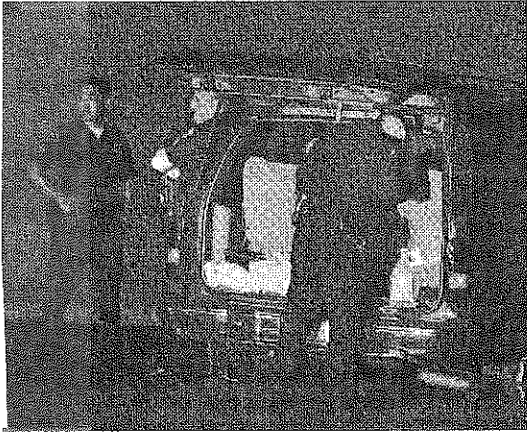
Some time before 5 p.m., authorities called off the search after being unable to find the second suspect.

Olivan, who police said had a bag of stolen jewelry on him when he was arrested, was booked on burglary charges.

Chapman Avenue was blocked from Gilbert Street to Magnolia Street during the search and was reopened when the scene was cleared.

CONTACT THE WRITER:
afaustoc@ocregister.com

8 ARRESTED AFTER VEHICLE PURSUIT IN GARDEN GROVE



SOUTH COUNTIES NEWS SERVICE

Police inspect a stolen vehicle after a five-minute pursuit ended in a cul-de-sac.

BY SCOTT SCHWEBKE
STAFF WRITER

GARDEN GROVE • A 15-year-old boy driving an SUV and seven passengers were arrested early Saturday following a brief police pursuit in Garden Grove.

The individuals, including one adult, were arrested on suspicion of possession of stolen property, auto theft and evading arrest, Garden Grove police Sgt. Phil Schmidt said.

Information regarding the genders and ages of the passengers was not immediately available.

The incident began around 3:50 a.m. when officers attempted to pull over a Chevrolet Tahoe that had been reported stolen in Riverside County, Schmidt said.

The truck failed to stop and hit a center median near Euclid and Katella avenues, causing the vehicle's two rear tires to blow out, Schmidt said. The pursuit ended when the truck, driving on just its rims, stopped in a cul-de-sac in the 11000 block of Ivanhoe Street.

No one was injured in the pursuit, which lasted about five minutes, Schmidt said.

Register
May 17, 2015

Register
May 21, 2015

19-year-old man dies after stabbing in Garden Grove

BY LOUIS CASIANO JR.
STAFF WRITER

GARDEN GROVE • A 19-year-old man died Tuesday night after being stabbed in Garden Grove, police said.

Just after 9 p.m., police found the man bleeding from stab wounds in an alley near an apartment complex on Avalon Avenue near Fairview Street, Garden

Grove police Lt. Jeff Nightengale said.

It was not clear late Tuesday where the man was stabbed or how many times, Nightengale said.

Paramedics from the Garden Grove Fire Department treated the man and took him to UC Irvine Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead at 9:43 p.m. His identity had not

been released as of Wednesday afternoon.

Witnesses told investigators a man in his 20s was seen running from the area after the stabbing. A search of the area Wednesday morning didn't turn up a weapon, though it is believed that a knife was used, Lt. Bob Bogue said.

The incident does not appear to be gang-related.

The man lived near where he was stabbed on Trask Avenue, and investigators aren't sure why he was near the apartments where he was attacked, Bogue said.

"It looks like a case of a whodunit right now," Bogue said.

Anyone with information should call the Garden Grove Police Department at 714-741-5800.

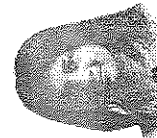
forgiveness are works

in progress for many Vietnamese Americans

Register
May 16, 2015
1 of 2

On April 30, the Vietnamese American community in Orange County commemorated the 40th anniversary of Black April.

It was the day in 1975 when the communist regime took control of Saigon, then the capital of South Vietnam. It was the day a nation's people lost their beloved flag, their homeland, their freedoms, their country.



**DEEPA
BHARATH**
STAFF
WRITER

Orange County's Little Saigon is home to the largest Vietnamese population outside Vietnam.

Over the past four decades, the community has produced successful professionals, entrepreneurs, chefs, artists and politicians.

The people, who were left without a home 40 years ago, not only survived, but they thrived. And yet, for many, the wounds are still raw. Forgiveness and reconciliation remain a distant dream.

Phan Ky Nhon, a former major in the South Vietnamese military, spent eight years in prison after being captured by the communists. Memories of reeducation camps still hurt him.

"There was no question of compassionate treatment," said the Garden Grove resident. "We had to perform forced labor and the conditions were extremely harsh."

Nhon was among those who had to build their own prisons in the forest, he said. After working a full day, he was lucky if he got one small potato.

"We were fed stuff that is usually given to pigs," he said. "On some days people had to eat whatever they could get their hands on - rats, lizards, crickets. We were punished even for being hungry. We'd be isolated and beaten."

Garden Grove City Councilman Phat Bui, whose family is from North Vietnam, escaped with his parents and seven siblings on the day Saigon fell. He was 17.

"We came to this country empty-handed and heartbroken," he said.

But, the Vietnamese American community's passion for fighting the communists comes not from what they did four decades ago, but what they say the government continues to do to the people of Vietnam.

"It's their continuing suppression of

human rights, the way they maintain dictatorship and widespread corruption," Bui said of the communist leaders. "There's no freedom of the press or religion. Their own people are suffering and they don't care."

Nhon says he wants to see three things happen in Vietnam before he can even think about forgiveness.

"I'd like to see the people of Vietnam have basic freedoms," he said. "I'd like to see a multiparty democracy and I'd like to see Vietnam stand up to China. None of this is happening right now."

The Vietnamese American community can be viewed as "sensitive" when it comes to their feelings about communism, said Bui,

who, in February, stood with other community members as they protested the city of Riverside's decision to adopt Can Tho, Vietnam, as a sister city.

He compares the display of a communist flag in an African American community or a swastika in a Jewish community.

But that doesn't mean the community has not tried to heal, Bui said.

"Many community members have come to America and become successful," he said. "That's healing."

When community members volunteer time and put their lives in danger to participate in the democracy movement in Vietnam, that's healing, Bui said. When local doctors go to Vietnam on medical missions, that's reconciliation, he said.

Forgiveness is moving past the hurt, anger and bitterness from 40 years ago.

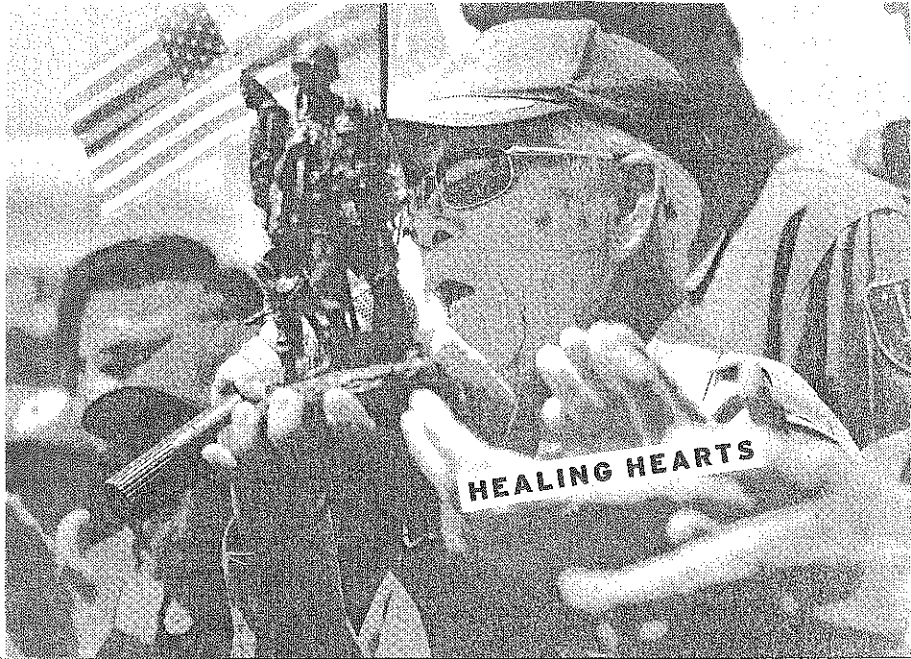
"The country and its people - we've forgiven," Bui says. "But, we will never forgive the communists."

**"There's no freedom
of the press or
religion. Their own
people are suffering
and they don't care."**

**PHAT BUI
GARDEN GROVE
CITY COUNCILMAN**

CONTACT THE WRITER:

714-796-7909 or dbharath@ocregister.com



Register
May 16, 2015
2 of 2

H. LORREN AU JR., STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Phan Ky Nhon, center, accepts an award acknowledging his efforts to help create a Vietnam War memorial in Westminster. After the war, a large number of refugees resettled in the United States, many in the Little Saigon area of Orange County.



KURT MILLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden Grove City Councilman Phat Bui, shown Feb. 3 in a Riverside City Council meeting, opposes Riverside's sister city relationship with Can Tho, Vietnam.

They reach safe harbor, then their ship comes in

The Le family fled Vietnam during the fall of Saigon but have done well with their highly successful Lee's Sandwiches chain.

By LORI BASHEDA

At the age of 60, Chieu Le, who has lived near a golf course since 1996, is finally learning to play golf. But only because his customers want to play golf with him, he says, laughing.

Otherwise he is content to just "work more and more and more."

That's apparently the kind of thinking that propels a penniless refugee to king of a sandwich empire.

Le is the founder of Lee's Sandwiches, 58 shops worth millions of dollars and still growing. The family's first shop opened in downtown San Jose. The second, and the one that served as the real springboard for the Vietnamese-American sandwich chain, is the one on Bolsa Avenue in Westminster. Westminster and nearby Garden Grove are home to the largest Vietnamese community outside of Vietnam.

Now the family is about to open their first international spot: Taiwan in July. Nos. 60 and 61 will be in Cypress and Anaheim. Nos. 62 and 63 will open in Virginia and Georgia later this year.

Jimmy Le, Le's son and vice president, says they're just getting started: "My dad's goal is to be as big as McDonald's."

The family's road from "boat people" to business leaders is the kind of American story you like to hear about.

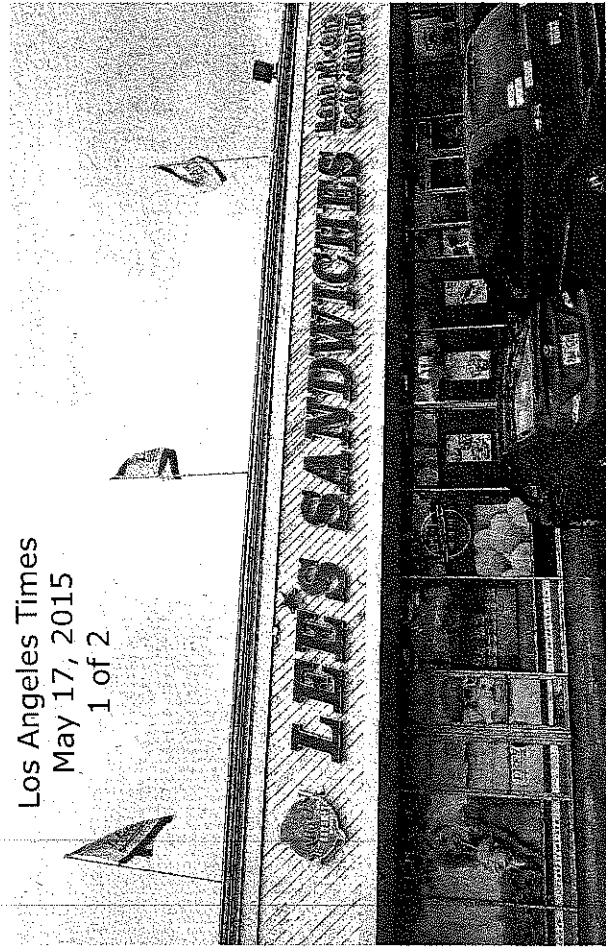
Chieu and Yen Le married when they were 22. She worked for her parent's hardware business. He was in his second year in law school. They had a nice house in Saigon. And then, in 1975, Saigon fell.

The north Vietnamese took over their property, as communists will do, and closed the law school. In 1978, the Les made a run for it.

Los Angeles Times

May 17, 2015

1 of 2



SCOTT SMELTZER

The Lee's Sandwiches store in Westminster served as the springboard for the chain of stores that can be found in parts of the country with large Vietnamese populations.

"We left behind everything. Everything come here only in memories."

Speaking about the family fleeing Vietnam

"We left behind everything," Yen says.

"Everything come here only in memories." They took their chances on a small fishing boat packed with 98 other people, part of the first big wave of boat people to arrive on American shores.

It wasn't bad, as refugee boat escapes go, though, the couple says. No pirates, no storms, no deaths. They didn't sink.

"Not all scary things happened to my people on the way to freedom, thank God

for that," says Yen.

After three nights the boat landed at a refugee camp in Malaysia. Stuck there for 13 months, it is where their first son, Minh, was born.

One month later, in July 1979, a plane brought them to the U.S., New Mexico to be specific.

"We know not a word of English," Yen says. "The thing that touched me was the kindness of Americans. The Catholic Church gave us our clothing. We are so surprised that Americans are so nice, so generous. They opened their arms. So everything we do right now for America is not enough for what they gave to us."

The best way to reciprocate, they thought, was to get to work.

After a year of learning to be a butcher in New Mexico, Chieu took his family to San Jose. About 20 relatives, Chieu's

brothers and sisters and their families, had arrived by now.

Chieu began going to night school at San Jose High to learn English. Sometimes before class, he would buy something to eat from a food truck parked outside the school. After about a week the truck owner, who was Vietnamese, asked Chieu if he needed a job.

That night was Chieu's last English class. "I had many brothers and sisters," some of whom were going to school, Le says. "I had to support them."

In less than a year, Chieu had enough money saved to buy a truck of his own. Every weekday, Yen drove the truck through the streets of downtown San Jose, and Chieu cooked hamburgers and burritos, selling them out the window to office workers.

Soon he and his brother Henry Le noticed that other immigrant trucks were having trouble staying stocked with food and ice. So they started Lee Bros. Foodservices, which would eventually service 500 catering trucks all over Northern California.

By now Chieu was working from 3 a.m. to 11 p.m.

His truck, however, was sitting idle on weekends. In 1983, his parents asked if they could use the truck on Saturdays and Sundays to sell banh mi, essentially a French-influenced Vietnamese hoagie. A crusty French baguette slathered with homemade mayo and stuffed with meat of some sort, the banh mi is now on every hip menu, the darling of foodies.

But back then you wouldn't have heard those words unless you were Vietnamese. Chieu's parents parked the truck on weekends at Sixth and Santa Clara streets near San Jose State University. It was an instant hit.

By year's end, the family opened a storefront not far from where they had been parking the truck. They called it Lee's

LEE'S

Continued from page R8

Sandwiches, changing Le to Lee so there would be no confusion about pronunciation.

In 2001, Minh, the oldest of Chieu's three sons, the one born in the Malaysian camp, suggested that he and his dad open another Lee's, in Little Saigon in Westminster, only with a simpler, bilingual menu and an American modern-chain vibe.

They would sell their banh mi on family recipe French baguettes.

Customers could choose Vietnamese-style deli meats, like crunchy headcheese and pork liver pate made in Lee's catering facility in San Jose, or grilled or steamed meats.

The family would also start selling ca phe sua da, Vietnamese-style coffee (dark roast, slow drip, sweet

Vietnamese populations. "But a lot of our customers aren't Vietnamese anymore," Jimmy says.

Fans come first for the banh mi. (Lee's bread blows every other sandwich chain away, according to the faithful.)

The coffee is the chain's second best seller. Chieu's brother Tom roasts a secret mix of beans at a facility in Garden Grove.

Chieu and his wife, both 60 now, still own six shops (the chain franchised in 2005), including the one on Bolsa. They still work every day, and about once a month they travel to Orange County from their San Jose home.

"Whenever I see a customer eat the last bite of a sandwich and the last sip of a coffee," Yen says, "I'm very happy."

dailypilot@latimes.com
Twitter: @TheDailyPilot

condensed milk, ice). A few traditional Vietnamese pudding desserts and appetizers, like spring rolls, would remain on the menu, as well as pate chaud, a Vietnamese puff pastry filled with meat. Croissants were added.

The new Lee's opened to mobs on Aug. 8, 2001, with a flashing neon sign telling customers when a hot baguette was emerging from the oven and a recorded voice that announced when each order was up. But Minh wasn't there to see it. He had been killed in a motorcycle crash on March 29, two months before graduating from San Jose State with a business degree.

Jimmy says that store is a tribute to his brother, as well as the prototype for all future stores, which can now be found in Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Oregon and Nevada. Most are in communities with large

57TH ANNUAL GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

HONORING OUR RETURNING VETERANS

Friday 1 pm - 10 pm • Saturday/Sunday 10 am - 10 pm • Monday 10 am - 9 pm
Euclid & Main, Garden Grove • FREE ADMISSION • www.strawberrylife.org



Three Grand Marshal
Lt. Col. Patricia Murray
California Air National Guard



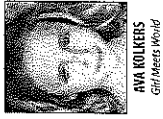
Celebrity Grand Marshal
Sally Sherman
WFAZ-TV

EXCITING RIDES!

WIREBAND DAYS - Ride all day, one low price! Fri \$10, Sat \$10, Sun \$15
Friday Night Cake Cutting Ceremony with the Strawberry Shortcake
Great food, live music, contests - Saturday celebrity parade



ASIA MONET RAY
Dance Moms



AVA ROLKERS
Girl Meets World



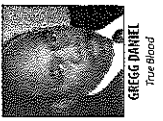
EMILY ROBINSON
Transparent



ERIN MURPHY
Beutcher



FORREST WHEELER
Fresh off the Boat



GREGG DANIEL
Five Blood



IAN CHEN
Fresh off the Boat



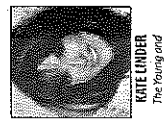
JACOB HOPKINS
The Coltrane



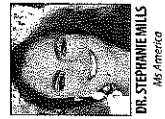
JADA HAN BENJAMIN
Liv and Maddie



JULIE ADAMS
Captain from the Black Lagoon



KATE UNDER
The Young and the Restless



DR. STEPHANIE MILLS
As America



SANTANNA DARSEY
The Neveahom



VERA JUAREZ
Knots & Ties



SNOOPY
Knots & Ties Farm

WE THANK OUR SPONSORS

Los Angeles Times
May 17, 2015
2 of 2

Register
May 16, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Vets honored: The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association will honor 25 active and former servicemen and -women on May 23. The 15 Marines, six soldiers, three guardsmen and one sailor, and their family members, will get a private breakfast, be featured guests at the Strawberry Festival parade and get to go on the rides for free.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
May 19, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Fire openings: The Fire Department is looking to hire temporary part-time fire-prevention technicians. Candidates must have six months of related experience, a high-school degree and two years of college coursework in a public-safety field. Information: 714-741-5628 or firedepartment@ci.garden-grove.ca.us.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
May 17, 2015

FRIDAY (05.22.15)

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

The 57th annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival will honor returning veterans and feature a parade, rides and performances. The event is from 1 to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 25 at Village Green, between Euclid and Main Street. Admission is free. For more information, call (714) 638-0981 or visit strawberryfestival.org.

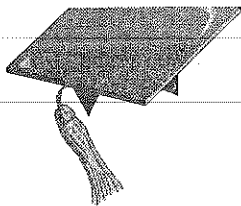
Register
May 20, 2015



GARDEN GROVE

Sign fight: Inge Realty, at 12461 Harbor Blvd., is still fighting to keep its 60-year-old billboard sign - called "the I in the sky" - by asking for an exception to a new zoning law, enacted May 2014, that requires businesses along Harbor Boulevard to install monument signs at ground level. The City Council is set to discuss it at Tuesday's meeting.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
May 18, 2015



GARDEN GROVE

Graduation rates: In 2014, the Garden Grove Unified School District posted a high school graduation rate of 89.7 percent, which the district says is the best among large urban school districts in California. It is also higher than the Orange County average of 88.6 percent and the state average of 80.8 percent.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
May 21, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Memorial Day: Magnolia Memorial Park's 14th annual Memorial Day Celebration is at 10 a.m. Monday at 12241 Magnolia St. It will include a musical tribute and a wreath-laying on a military grave. A white dove will be released. A free hot dog lunch will follow the ceremony. Information: 714-539-1711.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

CONTACT: Officer Royce Wimmer (714) 741-5226
Police Department

Thursday, May 21, 2015

HEAVY TRAFFIC AND ROAD CLOSURES DURING STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Beginning Friday, May 22 through Monday, May 25, the annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival will take place in Village Green park, located at 12732 Main Street, where Euclid and Main Streets intersect. During the four-day festival, heavy traffic is anticipated in the immediate area. Motorists are asked to plan accordingly to avoid delays.

Main Street, north of Acacia Parkway, will be closed from Thursday, May 21 through Tuesday morning, May 26, 2015.

The following streets will be closed only on Saturday, May 23, from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., for the annual Strawberry Stomp 5K Walk/Run and the Strawberry Festival Parade: Acacia Parkway, from Grove Street to Civic Center Drive; 9th Street, between Jerry and Orangewood Avenue; Chapman Avenue, between West and 9th Streets, and between Nelson and Euclid Streets; Euclid Street, between Orangewood Avenue and Garden Grove Boulevard.

No vehicles will be allowed to drive or park on the closed streets until the 5K and parade have ended. Any vehicles found on the street after 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 23, will be towed and impounded. Affected streets have been posted with 'NO PARKING' signs and residents have been notified in advance.

Orange County Transit Authority bus routes will be affected by road closures.

Heavy Traffic and Road Closures
2-2-2

Stanford Avenue and residential streets near Lampson Avenue and Euclid Street will be open to residents only. Identification will be required for vehicles traveling on those streets during festival hours. Garden Grove police officers will be in the immediate area to provide directions for residents entering or leaving the area.

Suggested alternate routes during the 5K and parade hours are Katella Avenue or Garden Grove Boulevard for east and west traffic, and Brookhurst or West Streets for north and south traffic.

On Saturday, May 23, the Strawberry Stomp 5K will officially begin at 8:00 a.m. on Main Street and travel north on Euclid Street, heading east on Chapman Avenue to 9th Street, before traveling south back onto Euclid Street. The 5K will finish on Main Street at 9:30 a.m.

Following the 5K, at 10:00 a.m., the parade will begin on Chapman Avenue, from 9th to Euclid Streets, then continue south towards Village Green park where it concludes.

For more information on street closures, please call the Garden Grove Police Department at (714) 741-5704.

For more information on the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival or the Strawberry Stomp 5K, please visit www.strawberryfestival.org.

###



THÔNG TIN

Từ Thành Phố Garden Grove

Để phổ biến trên các phương tiện truyền thông
Văn phòng thông tin liên lạc: (714) 741-5280

Liên lạc: Kim Huy, (714) 741-5280
Ban Phục Vụ Cộng Đồng

Thứ Tư, 20/5/2015

GARDEN GROVE MỜI CƯ DÂN THAM DỰ CUỘC THI CHẤM ĐIỂM NHÀ ĐẸP

Đánh dấu năm thứ 42 của chương trình thi nhà đẹp, Garden Grove mời cư dân tham gia bỏ phiếu qua internet, giải "Garden Grove Pride," cuộc thi bình chọn ngôi nhà và khu vườn đẹp trong Thành phố hàng năm, bắt đầu từ Thứ Hai, ngày 25 Tháng Năm, đến Chủ Nhật, 31 Tháng Năm.

Giải "Best Home and Garden" sẽ được trao cho căn nhà nào được số phiếu bầu chọn cao nhất, và sẽ được công bố vào buổi lễ trao giải "Garden Grove Pride Awards," được tổ chức vào ngày 1 Tháng Sáu.

Muốn bỏ phiếu, xin vào trang web của Thành phố:

www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us và nhấn chuột vào biểu tượng (logo) của chương trình Garden Grove Pride. Trang web sẽ trưng bày hình của 18 căn nhà, gồm 17 căn đoạt giải "Home of the Year," do ban giám khảo tình nguyện chọn là đẹp nhất trong 17 khu vực trong Thành phố. Mỗi khu vực trung bình có khoảng 3,000 căn nhà.

Cũng tại địa chỉ trang web này, để tham dự tranh giải nhà sử dụng nước tiết kiệm nhất, là căn nhà được giải "Best Water-Wise Home."

Mọi chi tiết về cuộc thi nhà và vườn đẹp, hay giải "Garden Grove Pride Awards," xin gọi văn phòng giao tế cộng đồng tại số (714) 741-5280.

###



THÔNG TIN

Từ Thành Phố Garden Grove

Để phổ biến trên các phương tiện truyền thông
Văn phòng thông tin liên lạc: (714) 741-5280

Liên lạc: Mark Ladney, (714) 741-5382
Ban Công Tác Công cộng

Thứ Ba, 19/5/2015

CITY HALL GARDEN GROVE

ĐÓNG CỬA VÀO NGÀY LỄ MEMORIAL DAY

Nhân dịp lễ Memorial Day, City Hall của Thành phố Garden Grove sẽ đóng cửa vào ngày Thứ Hai, 25 tháng 5, 2015. Trung tâm cao niên H. Louis Lake Senior Center cũng sẽ đóng cửa vào ngày lễ Memorial Day.

Quét đường sẽ không làm việc trong ngày này cũng như việc đổ rác sẽ dời lại ngày hôm sau.

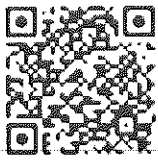
Để biết thêm chi tiết, liên lạc về Ban công tác Công cộng tại số điện thoại (714) 741-5375.

###

VIETBAO

Garden Grove: Đóng Cửa Ngày Lễ Memorial Day

20/05/2015 00:00:00



Nhân dịp lễ Memorial Day, City Hall của Thành phố Garden Grove sẽ đóng cửa vào ngày Thứ Hai, 25 tháng 5, 2015. Trung tâm cao niên H. Louis Lake Senior Center cũng sẽ đóng cửa vào ngày lễ Memorial Day.

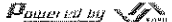
Quét đường sẽ không làm việc trong ngày này cũng như việc đổ rác sẽ dời lại ngày hôm sau.

Để biết thêm chi tiết, liên lạc về Ban công tác Công cộng tại số điện thoại (714) 741-5375.

###

11222 Acacia Parkway · P.O. Box 3070 · Garden Grove, CA 92842

www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us

Copyright © 2015 vietbao.com All rights reserved. 

Tuesday, May 19, 2015



Sách mới
CHÂN DUNG

Huy Phương
Vô Hương An

&
NHỮNG CUỘC ĐỐI ĐỜI

NOUVEAU SHOP

TIN TỨC GIẢI TRÍ VĂN HỌC NGHỆ THUẬT ĐỜI SỐNG DIỄN ĐÀN LUẬT PHÁP KIẾN THỨC THƯ VIỆN LIÊN LẠC NGƯỜI VIỆT ABOUT US

Corolla
Chiếc Toyota Corolla 2015.
Người bạn tốt của quý vị.



TOYOTA *Đi Khắp Nơi Gần Xa*

[Tìm hiểu thêm](#)

XEM NGƯỜI VIỆT TRÊN



« [Trở về trang trước](#)

Garden Grove mời cư dân chấm điểm cuộc thi nhà đẹp

Monday, May 18, 2015 4:48:36 PM

[Tweet](#) [Print](#) [Email](#) [Like](#) [Share](#) [G+](#) [0](#)

GARDEN GROVE, California (NV) – Đánh dấu năm thứ 42 của chương trình thi nhà đẹp, Garden Grove mời cư dân tham gia bỏ phiếu qua internet, giải "Garden Grove Pride," thi nhà và vườn đẹp hàng năm, bắt đầu từ Thứ Hai 25 Tháng Năm, đến Chủ Nhật, 31 Tháng Năm.



Hình một căn nhà dự thi. (Hình: City Garden Grove cung cấp)

Giải "Best Home and Garden" sẽ được trao cho căn nhà nào được số phiếu bầu chọn cao nhất, và sẽ được công bố vào buổi lễ trao giải "Garden Grove Pride Awards," tổ chức vào ngày 1 Tháng Sáu.

Muốn bỏ phiếu, xin vào trang web của thành phố: www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us và nhấn chuột vào biểu tượng (logo) của chương trình Garden Grove Pride.

Trang web sẽ trưng bày hình của 18 căn nhà, gồm 17 căn đoạt giải "Home of the Year," do ban giám khảo tình nguyện chọn là đẹp nhất trong 17 khu vực trong thành phố. Mỗi khu vực trung bình có khoảng 3,000 căn nhà.

Cũng tại địa chỉ trang web này, để tham dự tranh giải nhà sử dụng nước tiết kiệm nhất, là căn nhà được giải "Best Water-Wise Home."

Mọi chi tiết về cuộc thi nhà và vườn đẹp, hay giải "Garden Grove Pride Awards," xin gọi văn phòng giao tế cộng đồng tại số (714) 741-5280. (L.N.)

Prius

Trang bị đèn LED Daytime Running Lights (DRL) và đèn đuôi xe. Lái xe với sự tự tin.



[Tìm hiểu thêm](#)

TOYOTA *Đi Khắp Nơi Gần Xa*

Thư & Bì được tạo bởi NVO.COM

Corolla

Chiếc Toyota Corolla 2015
Người bạn tốt của quý vị.



TOYOTA *Đi Khắp Nơi Gần Xa*

[Tìm hiểu thêm](#)

Thư & Bì được tạo bởi NVO.COM



12% OFF

NORDSTROM FREE SHIPPING FREE RETURNS

PHOTO Blog »



ĐỘNG ĐẤT MỚI Ở NEPAL



RAV4

Có hệ thống Kiểm Soát Torque Năng Động AWD. Khả năng luyệt điều cho một chiếc SUV gọn.



Đi khắp Nẻo Gán Xa

[Tìm hiểu thêm](#)

XEM NGƯỜI VIỆT TRÊN

« [Trở về trang trước](#)

Garden Grove, doanh nghiệp, và Google bảo trợ hội thảo 'startup'

Friday, May 15, 2015 6:44:01 PM

[Tweet](#) [Print](#) [Email](#) [Like](#) [Share](#) [+1](#) [0](#)

Linh Nguyễn/Người Việt

GARDEN GROVE, California (NV) – Thành phố Garden Grove cũng một số chủ doanh nghiệp được Google bảo trợ, sẽ tổ chức khóa hội thảo ba ngày cuối tuần, mang tên "Startup Weekend," diễn ra lúc 6 giờ 30 chiều Thứ Sáu, 5 Tháng Sáu đến Chủ Nhật, 7 Tháng Sáu, tại Trung Tâm Sinh Hoạt Cộng Đồng, 11300 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840. Mục đích của khóa hội thảo cuối tuần, lần đầu được tổ chức để giúp người Việt muốn mở công ty riêng, dựa theo phương thức hiệu quả của tổ chức bất vụ lợi "UP Global," trụ sở ở Seattle, Washington.



Logo của khóa hội thảo Startup Weekend ở Garden Grove. (Hình: Ban tổ chức cung cấp)

"Startup Weekend' là những khóa hội thảo, từng được tổ chức trên 700 thành phố khắp nơi trên thế giới dùng kỹ thuật Google, hướng dẫn cách thành lập khởi đầu công ty, giúp ước vọng phát triển thành phố Garden Grove của Thị Trường Bảo Nguyễn," ông Stefan Nguyễn, 49 tuổi, sáng lập viên công ty Next Ignite, Inc., đại diện ban tổ chức, nói với nhật báo Người Việt.

"Thị Trường Bảo Nguyễn muốn Garden Grove trở thành trung tâm kỹ thuật, vô hình chung sẽ tạo được thêm công ăn việc làm cho người Mỹ gốc Việt trong vùng Little Saigon," ông Stefan nói thêm.

Đại diện ban tổ chức cũng cho biết về những suy nghĩ của thế hệ tiếp nối.

"Thế hệ cha ông chúng ta thành công trong ngành nhà hàng, các tiệm nail, nhưng với chúng tôi, thụ hưởng nền giáo dục về kỹ thuật, chúng tôi muốn mở ra một cánh cửa khác, để các bạn cùng trang lứa có dịp tìm tòi, đóng góp vào sự phát triển của cộng đồng người Việt," ông tâm sự.

Ông cũng cho biết kinh nghiệm bản thân, từng thành lập ba công ty và cho biết: "Nhiều người Việt rất giỏi về kỹ thuật, như Nghị Viên Phát Bùi, hiện phục vụ trong Hội Đồng Thành Phố Garden Grove, hay trường hợp cô Jennifer Phạm, tốt nghiệp ngành tâm lý học từ đại học UC Berkeley, nhưng vì gia đình có nhu cầu làm một website, cô đã đi học ngành này chỉ trong 12 tuần, kiếm được việc thiết kế website. Việc làm tốt."

Về khóa hội thảo, ông cho biết ban tổ chức hy vọng có từ 10 đến 15 đội.

"Mỗi đội có từ ba đến năm phút để trình bày mà phải có cả sản phẩm mới được, chứ không phải chỉ nói rồi thôi," ông nói.

Ông cho biết ban tổ chức, ngoài cá nhân ông, còn có "anh Hugh Tra, tốt nghiệp UCLA hiện chuẩn bị chọn học ngành luật; Ounie Phakousonh, chủ nhân công ty "School of Devs"; và Andrew Halberstad, giám đốc điều hành Boys & Girls Club."

RAV4

Với cửa sau nâng cao chạy bằng máy tải linh, dễ với tôi, có thay đổi chiếc cao được.



Đi khắp Nẻo Gán Xa

[Tìm hiểu thêm](#)

RAV4

Có hệ thống Kiểm Soát Torque Năng Động AWD. Khả năng luyệt điều cho một chiếc SUV gọn.



[Tìm hiểu thêm](#)

Đi khắp Nẻo Gán Xa

PHOTO Blog »



ĐỘNG BẬT MÔI Q NEPAL



Một khóa hội thảo Startup Weekend. (Hình: Ban tổ chức cung cấp)

Về phía thành phố, theo ông Allan L. Roeder, tổng quản trị thành phố Garden Grove, "khóa hội thảo sẽ có khoảng 150 nhà thiết kế, kỹ sư nhu liệu điện toán, kỹ sư và các nhà đầu tư tham dự."

Khóa hội thảo nhằm vào hành động, sáng kiến và giáo dục, sẽ bắt đầu vào lúc 6 giờ 30 chiều Thứ Sáu, gồm 54 giờ học. Người ghi danh tham dự sẽ có cơ hội trình bày ý niệm kinh doanh của mình và tạo hứng khởi cho người khác gia nhập đội. Ngày Thứ Bảy và Chủ Nhật dành cho các đội chủ trọng đến phát triển khách hàng, chứng tỏ được ý niệm kinh doanh, thông qua phương pháp LEAN (LEAN Startup Methodologies) và chế tạo một sản phẩm. Các sáng kiến và công sức bỏ ra, dẫn tới tới Chủ Nhật quan trọng, là vì khi ấy các đội sẽ phải trình bày sản phẩm mẫu và nhận phê bình quý báu của các chuyên gia trong ngành.

Ngày Thứ Bảy và Chủ Nhật, hội thảo bắt đầu lúc 9 giờ sáng.

Chi tiết về khóa hội thảo, xin vào www.up.co/communities/usa/garden-grove/startup-weekend/5912 hay gọi điện thoại (858) 752-1737, Email: gardengrove@startupweekend.org.

Ban tổ chức cho biết có 1,800 khóa hội thảo cuối tuần (Startup Weekend) được tổ chức trong năm 2014 trên 120 quốc gia, với 45,000 người tham dự và sau đó, kết quả là hàng ngàn công ty được thành lập.

Mọi chi tiết về UP Global có thể tham khảo tại <http://blog.up.co/category/notable-startups/>

Liên lạc tác giả: LinhNguyen@nguoi-viet.com

CÁC TIN KHÁC »

- Bế mạc Đại Lễ Phật Đản Phật Lịch 2559 tại Little Saigon
- Đại Lễ Phật Đản 2015 long trọng khai mạc tại Mile Square Park
- Garden Grove, doanh nghiệp, và Google bảo trợ hội thảo 'startup'
- Hội Ung Thư Việt Mỹ tổ chức thử máu truy tầm viêm gan B và C
- Trung Tâm Văn Hóa Việt Nam bé giăng lớp Việt Ngữ

DON'T RUN OUT! RE-ORDER NOW

Get
FREE SHIPPING
On \$50+





Order Refills Now

swansonvitamins.com

« Trở về trang trước

ĐỌC NHIỀU NHẤT»

Thủ phí cơ DHC-6 tuần tra, đập xuống Trường Sa lớn

Băng đảng đi xe mô tô bắn nhau ở Waco, Texas, 9 chết, 18 bị thương

Không được gửi text can chớng tự tử, về đến nhà thì đã muộn

Tập Cận Bình: Thái Bình Dương đủ lớn cho cả Hoa Kỳ và Trung Quốc

0 Comments Người Việt Online

Recommend Stars



Start the discussion...

Be the first to comment.

comments powered by Disqus

Login

Sort by Best



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:
Sgt. John Reynolds (714) 741-5814
Garden Grove Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

ANNUAL POLICE MEMORIAL RESCHEDULED FOR JUNE 11

A new date has been announced for the 28th annual Call to Duty Police Memorial, which was postponed from May 14, due to rain. The new date is Thursday, June 11, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., in front of Police Headquarters, at 11301 Acacia Parkway.

Police Chief Todd Elgin officiates his first memorial as the department's newest chief, honoring Garden Grove's five officers killed in the line of duty: Myron Trapp, Andy Reese, Donald Reed, Michael Rainford, and Howard Dallies, Jr. The public memorial brings together family, friends, colleagues, community, and law enforcement personnel throughout Southern California.

"While many of our department members didn't know these officers, there's a deep and timeless connection to what these five men stood for, and in what they believed. I see that every time one of my officers goes out on duty," says Chief Elgin.

This year's guest speaker is Clarke Paris, a US Navy veteran and retired police sergeant for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. A decorated officer and recognized author on police issues, Paris created an award-winning documentary on police stress and suicide prevention called, "The Pain Behind the Badge" in 2007. Since then, he has presented seminars on the subject to tens of thousands of police officers and military personnel.

-more-

POLICE MEMORIAL RESCHEDULED FOR JUNE 11
2-2-2

The ringing of the Memorial Bell for each of the fallen officers complements a stirring 21-gun salute, riderless horse, and formal presentations to the surviving families. The Bolsa Grande High School Concert Choir will perform musical selections in honor of the occasion.

The following street closures will be in effect on June 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.: east and west bound Acacia Parkway, from Garden Grove City Hall to 9th Street; and Civic Center Drive, from Garden Grove Boulevard to Acacia Parkway.

For details on the memorial, contact the Garden Grove Police Department at (714) 741-5901.

#



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

CONTACT: Kim Huy (714) 741-5280
Director, Community Services Department

Monday, May 18, 2015

CITY INVITES PUBLIC TO CLICK, THEN PICK, TOP HOME IN GARDEN GROVE

Beginning Monday, May 25 through Sunday, May 31, the City of Garden Grove invites the community to participate in an annual online voting contest to pick the best-looking home in Garden Grove as part of the 42nd anniversary of the City's annual home beautification program, Garden Grove Pride. The *Best Home and Garden* title will go to the home with the most online votes and be announced at the Garden Grove Pride Awards Ceremony held on Monday, June 1. To vote, go to the City's website at www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us and click on the Garden Grove Pride logo.

The 18 photos displayed on the link are this year's 17 Home of the Year winners, chosen by volunteer Garden Grove Pride judges as their top selections in the 17 zones in the city. Each zone contains an average of 3,000 homes. Also seen on the link, and competing for the title, is this year's 'Best Water-Wise Home.'

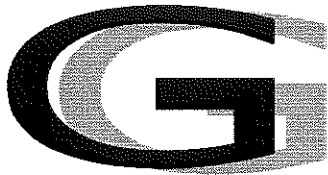
For more information about the *Best Home and Garden* contest or the Garden Grove Pride Awards, please call the Office of Community Relations at (714) 741-5280.

#

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

May 21, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
 2. Cancellation Notices for the May 28th Zoning Administrator and the June 1st Neighborhood Improvement & Conservation Commission meetings.
 3. Cities Advocates dated May 14, 15, 20 and 21, 2015.
-
-



GARDEN GROVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 21, 2015 – June 3, 2015

Thursday	May 21	6:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.	Strawberry Ball hosted by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, Community Meeting Center A Room
		7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Friday- Monday	May 22-25		57 th Annual Strawberry Festival, Village Green Park
Saturday	May 23	8:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.	2015 Strawberry Stomp 5K Run/Walk Starts at Main Street ends at Civic Center Drive
		10:00 a.m.	Strawberry Festival Parade Begins at 9 th Street & Chapman Ave.
Monday	May 25		City Hall Closed
Tuesday	May 26	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, Founders Room Housing Authority Meeting, Council Chamber Sanitary District Meeting, Council Chamber Successor Agency Meeting, Council Chamber City Council Meeting, Council Chamber
Wednesday	May 27	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Council Chamber CANCELLED
Thursday	May 28	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 rd Floor Training Room CANCELLED
Friday	May 29		City Hall Closed
Monday	June 1	6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	42 nd Annual Garden Grove Pride Community Meeting Center
		6:30 p.m.	Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED
Wednesday	June 3	5:30 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Dental Group of Orange County 9535 Garden Grove Blvd., Suite 210




GARDEN GROVE

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
OF THE
GARDEN GROVE
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 28, 2015**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Third Floor Training Room, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled pursuant to the attached Cancellation Notice.

DATED: May 21, 2015


SUSAN EMERY
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR



GARDEN GROVE

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
OF THE
GARDEN GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

JUNE 1, 2015

REGULAR MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission scheduled for Monday, June 1, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled pursuant to the attached Cancellation Notice.

DATED: May 21, 2015

GEORGE E. BRIETIGAM
CHAIR

Budget Update

Governor Releases Revised FY 2015-16 Budget with General Fund Revenues \$6.7 Billion Higher than January Budget

Cap and Trade Allocations Rise to \$2.2 Billion; Additional Funds for Drought Relief; Analysis of Revised Redevelopment Proposal Pending Language Review

Gov. Jerry Brown took to the podium in the Capitol at 10 a.m. this morning to deliver his May Budget Revise for FY 2015-16. As usual, he surrounded himself with large charts illustrating the state's fiscal picture current and historic. Compared to the January projections, revenues for FY 2013-14, FY 2014-15, and FY 2015-16 have increased and the state projects an additional \$6.7 billion through the end of the coming fiscal year. Under Proposition 98, the majority of that money will go to K-12 and community colleges. The Governor presented the upswing in state revenues with caution, warning that the next recession is likely just around the corner. The revised budget comprises \$115.03 billion of General Funding in a total budget of \$162.5 billion.

Several spending priorities dominated the Governor's remarks today — the creation of an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for California's lowest income residents, tuition freezes at the California State University and University of California systems along with repayment of pension debt and a pension cap for new university hires, climate change and drought response.

Expected to benefit 2 million Californians, the EITC would complement the federal program that President Gerald Ford signed into law 1975, when Governor Brown first held California's highest office. It would provide an average household benefit of \$460 with a maximum benefit of \$2,653. "I thought it would be reasonable to establish in California. It is a straight deliverance of funding to people who are working very hard and earning very little money," the Governor told the assembled reporters.

Proposition 2 Rainy Day Fund

Voters in November 2014 tightened criteria to ensure deposits were made into the state's rainy day fund to accumulate reserves and also required payments to be made to reduce existing state debts. Pursuant to Proposition 2, the May Revise deposits \$633 million into the rainy day reserve and makes a payment of \$633 million on the state's debt (for a total of \$1.9 billion). By the end of FY 2015-16, the Governor projects that reserve fund will hold \$3.5 billion.

Mandate Repayments

Under Prop. 1A (2004), the state has until FY 2020-21 to repay mandate reimbursements owed to local governments prior to 2004. In January, the budget projected that the state still owed local agencies \$800 million but revised that amount to \$765 in the May Revise based upon updated interest rate calculations.

As a result of trigger language included with the passage of the FY 2014-15 budget, local agencies are projected to receive the full payment of \$765 million in mandate reimbursements owed to local governments from prior to 2004. This allocation builds upon the \$100 million repayment received by cities, counties and special districts as part of the FY 2014-15 budget, and is \$232 million more than what was estimated in the Governor's January Budget proposal.

Of the \$765 million, approximately 77 percent would be directed to counties, 22 percent (\$168 million) to cities and 1 percent to special districts. Administration officials later announced that payments to local agencies are expected to begin with 45 days.

Redevelopment Dissolution and Related Proposals

The Governor's May Revise outlines several changes to the comprehensive redevelopment (RDA) dissolution proposal provisions proposed in January. Below is a summary of what was contained in the initial documents released on Thursday morning.

City officials should note that this summary is based upon the Governor's May Revise document; given the complexity of the issues involved, none of these provisions can be adequately analyzed until language is available and thoroughly reviewed.

Changes to Previous RDA Dissolution Proposal

- **Re-Entered Agreements:** Removes a major provision that attempted to retroactively undo reentered agreements that were authorized under AB 26X (2011). These agreements have been upheld in several state appellate courts. On Thursday, the Department of Finance (DOF) announced that it would no longer be contesting litigation filed by local agencies on this matter.
- **Recovering Litigation Expenses:** Slightly alters the previous proposal aimed at undoing existing law that allows successor agencies to recover, as enforceable obligations, the costs associated with due process access to the courts to review DOF decisions. The change still prohibits recovery of such costs as enforceable obligations unless they are paid for from a successor agency's administrative allocation but allows a sponsoring agency to loan money to a successor agency challenging DOF decisions, with the costs recoverable as an enforceable obligation if litigation is successful.

New RDA Dissolution-Related Proposals

- **Post-2011 Bonds:** Authorizes access to post-2011 bonds based upon a "tiered process," with remaining funds used to defease outstanding bonds.
- **Property Tax Override Revenue:** Provides access to certain property tax override revenues, under the following paradigm: if the revenues were previously pledged for RDA debt service, they must be used for that purpose; if the revenues were not pledged for debt service, then they are returned to the entity that levies the override. For override revenues pledged for debt service, once debts are repaid or deemed unneeded, the override revenues will be returned to the levying entity.
- **Highway infrastructure:** Agreements between former RDA and its sponsoring entity for state highway infrastructure improvements are recognized as enforceable agreements.

Non-RDA Proposals Linked to DOF's RDA Package

- **Negative Bailout Counties:** Provides \$6.9 million in budget relief for four "negative bailout counties."
- **Newly Incorporated Cities:** Assists the four recently incorporated cities which have suffered from the loss of vehicle license fees in 2011. The state would pay a \$24 million debt the cities owe to Riverside County by reducing the payments the county makes to CALFIRE for fire protection services.
- **San Benito County:** Forgives \$3.4 million in debts owed by local agencies in the county due to a previous calculation error that caused underpayments by those agencies to ERAF.
- **Santa Clara County Tax Equity Allocations:** Saves approximately \$2 million annually for several cities in Santa Clara County by suspending for a five-year period the requirement for the cities to reimburse the county for ERAF for property taxes those agencies receive under a tax equity allocations.
- **Insufficient ERAF:** Provides \$5.8 million in backfill payments to several cities and counties where there is insufficient revenue in the county ERAF fund to reimburse the agencies for losses due to the VLF Swap and the "Triple-Flip."

The League will be hosting a [webinar](#) on Friday, May 15 at 11 a.m. to brief city officials further on the proposal as more details become available.

Transportation

While the Governor does not offer a specific transportation funding proposal in the May Revise, he does say that he is working with the Legislature on their proposals to develop a funding package by year end. The League continues to be concerned that the Governor is focused on the needs of the state highway system and not the overall system. Local governments continue to argue that the local streets and roads system also needs a statewide funding solution.

There were no changes to other items from the January Budget Proposal related to streamlining highway relinquishments and increasing personnel for project initiation documents. The League notes that the first item, streamlining of highway relinquishments, has been rejected by both Assembly and Senate budget committees. Instead, the Legislature is reviewing the issue through the normal legislative process in SB 254 (Allen).

Changes to the Highway User Tax Account (HUTA) projections are negligible. As such, the League does not plan to release new city-by-city projections. New projections will be published should information should change.

Cap-and-Trade Allocations

The May Revise increases the overall allocation from Cap-and-Trade revenues from \$1 to \$2.2 billion.

The updated proposed allocations include:

- \$400 million for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant program;
- \$350 million for low-carbon transportation programs;
- \$365 million for transit;
- \$500 million for High-Speed Rail; and
- \$622 million for energy efficiency and clean energy, natural resources, and waste diversion as detailed below:
 - \$140 million for energy efficiency upgrades/weatherization and renewable energy projects in low-income dwellings within disadvantaged communities;
 - \$40 million to the Department of General Services for energy efficiency upgrades and weatherization in public buildings;
 - \$60 million for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in the University of California and California State University systems.
 - \$25 million for the Department of Food and Agriculture for agricultural energy and operational efficiency;
 - \$65 million for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for wetlands and watershed restoration, of which \$40 million will be dedicated to Delta wetland restoration projects;
 - \$30 million to the California Energy Commission and Department of Water Resources for Water and Energy Technology Program, pursuant to the Drought Executive Order;
 - \$30 million for the Energy Commission and Department of Water Resources appliance rebate programs pursuant to the Drought Executive Order;
 - \$60 million to the Department of Water Resources and Department of Food and Agriculture for water and energy efficiency (in addition to the \$30 million allocated with the Drought package earlier this year);
 - \$20 million to the Department of Food and Agriculture for demonstration projects that increase carbon in soil;
 - \$92 million for fire prevention and urban forestry projects; and
 - \$60 million for the Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery for waste diversion.

Environmental Quality and Drought Response

2014 Water Bond (Prop. 1)

The January budget proposal allocated \$532.5 million to begin the first year of a multiyear Prop. 1 expenditure plan. Most of these funds were allocated earlier this year when the Legislature passed a series of drought relief measures.

The May Revision allocates an additional \$1.8 billion of Prop. 1 funds over the next three years to be as follows:

- \$160 million for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for wastewater treatment projects;
- \$180 million for the SWRCB for safe drinking water in disadvantaged communities;
- \$13 million for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for consumer rebates for replacement of inefficient appliances;
- \$100 million for the SWRCB for stormwater management;
- \$13 million for the DWR to provide technical assistance, data collection, and applied research that supports long-term water use efficiency in urban and agricultural sectors;
- \$27 million for lawn replacement in underserved communities;
- \$35 million for Department of Food and Agriculture and Department of Water Resources for agricultural water efficiency programs.
- \$10 million to implement the CalConserve Program, which will enable homeowners and businesses to finance water-efficiency upgrades through a revolving-loan program;
- \$50 million for the DWR for desalination projects;
- \$475 million for the SWRCB for water recycling;
- \$60 million the DWR for groundwater sustainability planning; and
- \$784 million for the SWRCB for groundwater contamination.

Emergency Drought Response

In addition to Cap-and-Trade revenues, Prop. 1 bond funds, and the \$1.9 billion that has already been allocated since the Governor declared a drought emergency in January 2014, the May Revision includes \$64.1 million to continue to respond to the drought, including:

- \$4 million General Fund to augment the Save Our Water campaign to target the state's largest residential water users with focused information to reduce their water usage;
- \$23 million Special Funds and General Funds for water conservation projects at state facilities;
- \$22.2 million General Fund for the Office of Emergency Services to support local jurisdictions using the California Disaster Assistance Act program for approved drought-related projects, including, but not limited to, restoring and replacing public infrastructure that sustained drought-related damages, and emergency protective measures such as delivering water to individuals without drinking or potable water;
- \$7.5 million General Fund for the Department of Community Services Development to provide emergency assistance to unemployed farmworkers, including job training and assistance;
- \$6 million General Fund for the Department of Housing and Community Development to assist or relocate households without potable water sources due to drought; and
- \$1.4 million General Fund for SWRCB to increase enforcement of water use restrictions and conduct additional inspections of diversion facilities to verify compliance with water rights laws.

Additional Local Enforcement Authority

The May Revision proposes legislation to enhance local enforcement authority by providing all water agencies and local governments a consistent, minimum set of enforcement authorities to achieve the required water conservation standard. Under the proposed legislation, any monetary penalties from this enforcement will be used for local conservation efforts. Specifically, it allows penalties to be issued administratively by wholesale and retail water agencies, as well as city and county governments, and enables these entities to enforce local water waste restrictions and SWRCB conservation restrictions.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

The budget proposal allocates an additional \$2.44 million to the Department of Toxic Substances Control for the following:

- \$1.4 million to improve the effectiveness and timeliness of the permitting process and reduce the backlog of permit applications; and,
- \$2.1 million increase annually for three years to implement and evaluate approaches to address serious environmental violations that occur in California's most disproportionately impacted communities. This proposal will focus inspection and enforcement resources on metal recycling and hazardous waste transportation activities.

Public Safety

Funding for Local Law Enforcement

The \$40 million allocation for Front-Line Public Safety (local police departments) remains unchanged from the January Budget.

Amnesty Program (Traffic Offenses)

The January Budget included an 18-month amnesty program authorizing people with past due court-ordered debt owed before Jan. 1, 2013 for traffic infractions, to pay delinquent debt at 50 percent reduction if they met specified eligibility criteria (projected to generate \$150 million).

May Revise updates this proposal by also allowing people whose drivers licenses have been suspended due to Failure to Appear or Failure to Pay (again related to traffic offenses) to reinstate their licenses as part of the program — facilitating their legal transport to and from work, and payment of their debt to the court.

- Option to make one payment or sign up for payment plan
- Supported by wage garnishment agreement in event of non-payment
- \$300 court-imposed assessment fee to be waived, and replaced with \$50 amnesty administrative fee for court costs to run the program.

Community Corrections Performance Incentive Grant

This grant program was created by SB 678 (Chapter 608, Statutes of 2009) to provide incentives for counties to reduce the number of felony probationers returned to state prison.

The May Revise augments this grant program by \$1.1 million for a total allocation of \$125 million in FY 2015-16, to provide incentives to counties to continue decreasing the number of offenders returned to prison.

California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation

The May Revise includes \$73.3 million in General Fund savings for FY 2015-16 due to reduction of 4,000 out-of-state contract beds by June 2016. This assumes the total vacation of two out-of-state facilities and reducing use of other out-of-state facilities to achieve a 2700-bed reduction by December 2015, with another 1,300-bed reduction by the following June.

Further reduction in out-of-state beds beyond 4,000 in FY 2015-16 could jeopardize continuing compliance with court-ordered population cap of 137.5 percent of prison design capacity — due to projected increase in prison population in FY 2016-17 and beyond, despite Prop. 47 impacts which are expected to reduce inmate population by 4,600 inmates, and new parole determination process for non-violent second-strikers.

Adjustments (all in General Fund revenues)

- Adult Population: Decrease of \$21.3 million in FY 2014-15, and \$108.5 million in FY 2015-16 for adult inmate and parole population changes.
- Juvenile Population: Decrease of FY \$494,000 in FY 2014-15 and \$2 million in FY 2015-16 for juvenile population changes, reflecting decrease of two wards in the current year, and 32 wards in the budget year.

- Hepatitis C Treatment: Increase of \$51.8 million in FY 2014-15 and \$60.6 million in FY2015-16 to treat inmates with new Hepatitis C treatments.

Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

- Allows the Commission to reinstate reimbursement of travel and per diem costs of \$4.4 million (suspended since January 2014). This change will be offset by:
 - Increasing by \$800,000 the planned reduction in administrative costs of \$5.2 million cited in January Budget;
 - Increasing the previous reduction in contracted, non-mandated training courses by \$1.9 million; and
 - Continuing suspension of reimbursements for local law enforcement to backfill positions when officers are participating in training (\$2.5 million).

California Conservation Corps

The May Revise contains two items of interest for drought-related high fire risk areas:

- \$5 million in the CAL FIRE budget for projects related to Forest Health Improvement, under which CALFIRE will partner with the Corps on projects in the highest fire risk areas in California.
- Butte County Conservation Camp: An additional \$3 million for CAL FIRE to repair the Butte County fire camp that was closed in 2004, to facilitate re-opening it as a Northern California counterpart to Camarillo Camp in South California, and providing corpsmen with training in fire suppression starting in mid-2016.

State Retiree Health Care Costs

The May Revise reflects the Governor's continued commitment to address state retiree healthcare and pension costs through both collective bargaining and legislative efforts. This includes the proposal for state retiree health to be prefunded, similar to pensions. This is estimated to save the state's annual payment for retiree health care benefits approximately \$8 billion.

The revised budget also proposes to have costs be controlled by reducing employer contributions for new employees by requiring those employees to work longer before qualifying for retiree health care benefits. Additionally, there is a proposal for increased oversight on the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and increased employee health care options by adding more low-cost plans.

The budget trailer bill would require state agencies and CalPERS do regular reviews of employees enrolling their dependents in their health care plans and that retirees are enrolling in Medicare plans at age 65.

State Retirement Contributions

The May Revision has updated the expected cost for state retirement contributions, with a \$110 million decrease from the Governor's Budget. The administration has cited the reduction as being a result of "the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013, strong investment performance, and greater than expected contributions to the system."

Community Services

Literacy

The May Revise includes an increase of \$2 million for the Literacy and English Acquisition Services Program. These funds will be programs in coordination with the adult education consortia.

Broadband Expansion

The May Revise increases funding for the California Public Library Broadband Project by \$1.7 million. Of this amount, \$1.5 million is one-time money for grants to public libraries to upgrade broadband equipment and \$225,000 is for continued administration of contracts for broadband services.

Library Preservation

The May Revise includes \$521,000 to support the state library's efforts to preserve historical items in its possession.

California Arts Council

The May Revise includes a proposal for a permanent funding increase of \$5 million annually to provide grants to local arts organizations. These funds will be used to further the arts in the program areas of Economic and Community Development, Arts Education, Cultural and Community Engagement, and the Creative Economy.

Child Care

The May Revise makes the following adjustments to subsidized child care programs as follows:

- An increase of \$46.8 million to reflect an increase in the number of new Stage 2 beneficiaries and an increase in the cost of providing care. Total base cost for Stage 2 is \$395.4 million;
- An increase of \$2 million to reflect minor adjustments in caseload and the cost of providing care. Total base for Stage 3 is \$265.5 million; and
- A net increase of \$17.7 million federal funds to reflect an increase in ongoing base federal funds for child care and development.

Next Steps

The League will be hosting a webinar for city officials on Friday, May 15 at 11 a.m. to brief city officials further on the redevelopment proposal. Additional information will be distributed as it becomes available.

The constitutional deadline for the legislature to adopt the budget is June 15, a very short 32 days from now. The Legislature will begin hearings on the May Revise next Monday. In addition to May Revise proposals, legislators will need to act on all other budget items not previously closed out. Hearing agendas are often not released until a day or two before hearings.

City officials should be prepared to make calls and travel to Sacramento to testify on priority items on short notice.

In approximately three weeks, the Legislature will convene the Budget Conference Committee to review differences between the Assembly version and Senate version of the budget. It will then go to the floor for a final vote and to the Governor for signature.

CA Cities Advocate

LEAGUE
OF CALIFORNIA
CITIES



REGISTRATION AND POLICY AFFECTING CALIFORNIA CITIES

May 15, 2015
Issue #49

Bills in Committee: May 18-22

With Gov. Jerry Brown's May Revise out for FY 2015-16, budget hearings will dominate much of the work in the Capitol in the coming weeks. Hearings start in earnest on Monday. Regular legislative policy committees also continue with some important deadlines looming, including the House of Origin deadline on June 5. *For more, see Page 2.*



Drought and Water Conservation Webinar Series Starts Next Week *Space is Limited, Register Today*

With emergency drought regulations on mandatory urban water conservation set to take effect May 15, local water managers, utility directors and staff are invited to register for a special free webinar series. The three webinars will be presented by the Association of California Water Agencies and the Brown Administration and offered in partnership with the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties. *For more, see Page 2.*

'Bills in Committee' Continued from Page 1...

The League's full [2015 Hot and Priority Bill list](#) is available online.

A [full listing](#) of Senate and Assembly hearings is available online. Hearing times are subject to change. Bill language and any available position letters on legislation can be found through the bill search function on the [League's website](#).

Monday, May 18

Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 126

- [HOT AB 35 \(Chiu\)](#) **Income taxes: credits: low-income housing: allocations increase.** *League position: Support.*
- [HOT AB 185 \(Garcia\)](#) **Income taxation: insurance taxation: credits: California New Markets Tax Credit.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 428 \(Nazarian\)](#) **Income taxes credit: seismic retrofits.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 771 \(Atkins\)](#) **Personal income and corruption taxes: credits: rehabilitation.** *League position: Support.*

Senate Committee on Appropriations, 10 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- [HOT SB 239 \(Hertzberg\)](#) **Local services: contracts: fire protection services.** *League position: Oppose.*
- [SB 643 \(McGuire\)](#) **Medical marijuana.** *League position: Support if Amended.*

Wednesday, May 20

Assembly Committee on Appropriations, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4202

- [AB 22 \(Rodriguez\)](#) **Office of Emergency Services: oil-by-rail spills: firefighters.** *League position: Support.*
- [HOT AB 34 \(Bonta\)](#) **Medical cannabis regulation and enforcement.** *League position: Oppose unless Amended.*
- [HOT AB 45 \(Mullin\)](#) **Household hazardous waste.** *League position: Oppose.*
- [HOT AB 266 \(Cooley\)](#) **Medical marijuana.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 388 \(Chang\)](#) **Housing: homeless veterans: reports.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 511 \(Gipson\)](#) **Workers' compensation.** *League position: Oppose.*
- [AB 870 \(Cooley\)](#) **Homelessness: rapid rehousing.** *League position: Support.*
- [HOT AB 1159 \(Gordon\)](#) **Product stewardship: pilot program: household batteries and home-generated sharps waste.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 1223 \(O'Donnell\)](#) **Emergency medical services: ambulance transportation.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 1315 \(Alejo\)](#) **Public contracts: water pollution prevention plans: delegation.** *League position: Oppose.*
- [HOT AB 1335 \(Atkins\)](#) **Building Homes and Jobs Act.** *League position: Support.*
- [AB 1347 \(Chiu\)](#) **Public Contracts: Claims.** *League Position: Oppose.*

'Drought Webinars' Continued from Page 1...

These webinars will provide an overview by the State Water Resources Control Board of the emergency regulations adopted May 5 and identify tools and resources available to water agencies as they work to meet conservation targets ranging from 4 percent to 36 percent.

There is no cost to participate but space is limited to the first 1,000 people so interested city officials are encouraged to register early. Details and registration links are below.

Webinar 1: Urban Water Conservation: Agency Assistance and Tools

Thursday, May 21, 10 a.m. to noon

[Registration](#)

Topics:

- New state conservation funding (turf, appliance rebates)
- Outdoor irrigation regulations for new construction
- Permit streamlining efforts for critical water supply projects
- Technical tools available to water agencies
- Save Our Water – California’s Official Water Conservation Outreach Program

Webinar 2: Emergency Regulations, Enforcement and Water Rate Structures

Tuesday, May 26, 10 a.m. to noon

Registration

Topics:

- Key elements of new emergency drought regulations for large systems
- Water conservation rate structures
- Conservation water rates, drought surcharges and penalties in light of the Capistrano case
- Approaches to enforcement – case studies

Webinar 3: Regulations for Small Systems

Tuesday, May 26, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Registration

Topics:

- Key elements of new drought regulations for small systems
 - One-time report
 - Reporting water waste complaint portal
-

CA Cities Advocate



LEGISLATION AND POLICY AFFECTING CALIFORNIA CITIES

May 20, 2015
Issue #50

Water Board Approves New Guidelines for Drinking Water

Yesterday, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) approved new guidelines for \$19 million in funding to help public agencies, community water systems, nonprofit organizations and tribal governments to assist those communities with emergency drinking water needs.

For more, see Page 2.



2016 City Managers Department Meeting Request for Session Proposals

Submit by June 5

A request for session proposals for the 2016 City Managers Department Meeting, to be held Feb. 3-5, 2016 in Indian Wells is now open. Do not miss this opportunity to present to this important group. *For more, see Page 2.*

'Water guidelines' Continued from Page 1...

SWRCB will distribute these new funds as quickly as possible by coordinating with the appropriate State agencies and stakeholders to identify those communities in greatest need.

The funding is part of the \$1 billion emergency drought packaged approved by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Jerry Brown on March 27.

The following resources are available on the SWRCB website:

- [Proposed resolution](#);
 - [SWRCB press release](#); and
 - Detailed information about the [Emergency Drinking Water Financial Assistance Program](#).
-

'City managers' Continued from Page 1...

The League is looking for ideas and input for speakers and session topics to help managers and their cities improve themselves. If you have expertise in an area of interest to managers or information to share with your peers, submit your proposal today.

Submissions, non-commercial in nature, from any individual, group, business or organization on any topic are welcome. The Program Planning Advisory Committee will consider the educational value of each proposal and the extent to which it presents new and/or significant information.

Fully completed ideas should be submitted through the [online proposal](#) form by Friday, June 5 to be considered by the committee.

Please contact [Dayna Casper](#) for questions about this opportunity.

Senate Budget Subcommittee Passes Redevelopment Proposal with Chair Expressing Concern with Problematic Provisions, Assembly Budget Subcommittee to Vote on Framework Today

Legislators heard the voice of California cities loud and clear yesterday as representatives from cities throughout California lined up to testify in opposition to the Department of Finance's (DOF) redevelopment dissolution proposal in the May Budget Revise. Both the Senate Budget Subcommittee #4 on State Administration and the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4 held hearings on Wednesday, May 20, to take up the revised redevelopment dissolution budget proposal for FY 2015-16. The Senate committee concluded its work on Wednesday, passing it, but the Assembly committee will not vote on the framework until today. The proposal is part of a larger omnibus local government budget trailer bill that contains other outstanding local government finance issues. For more information, please see the League's [May Revise budget story](#) in *CA Cities Advocate* on May 14.

Senate Budget Subcommittee Chair Richard Roth (D-Riverside) raised concerns over DOF's proposal and the impact on communities. When making the motion to approve the staff recommendation to pass the proposal, he called on DOF to work on the issues of major concern to local agencies.

The League's Senior Director of Legislative Affairs Dan Carrigg headed up the opposition testimony in both committees and began by telling members that cities are pleased with a number of changes made to the redevelopment dissolution budget proposal since its January introduction. The most significant is the removal of previous provisions that sought to repeal various re-entered agreements that local agencies had entered into under the provisions of AB 26X (2011) and the use of some of the 2011 bonds.

He then focused his testimony by outlining the outstanding harmful provisions that have the broadest impact on cities:

- **Reimbursement agreements.** The proposal retroactively prohibits the reinstatement of reimbursed agreements between a city and a redevelopment agency for public improvements constructed by a third party. The city of Watsonville has prevailed in a court case in the lower courts. DOF is expected to appeal.
- **Loan interest rates.** The proposal retroactively undoes the final March 16, 2015 ruling in the *City of Glendale v. Department of Finance* over the appropriate method of calculating interest rates on reinstated loans.
- **Erosion of due process review of DOF decisions.** Continues to undercut the due process provisions agreed upon by the Administration and Legislature in AB 1484 to enable a successor agency to contest a DOF decision in the Sacramento County Superior Court.

The League's [full analysis](#) and [letter](#) to both committees are available online.

City officials' testimony on Wednesday powerfully conveyed how seriously the proposal will affect their communities. Watsonville Vice Mayor Felipe Hernandez told the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4 that his city is already faced with cutting its summer parks lunch program. Glendale City Attorney Gillian Van Muyden warned that if the interest rate on loans due the city is recalculated under this proposal, her city will be forced to cut police and fire, putting lives at stake.

Christine Carson, Ridgecrest's assistant city attorney, echoed much of what Van Muyden said, explaining that the loss of this revenue would cause the city to enact deep cutbacks, with the greatest impact on public safety.

Numerous other cities were represented in the hearings by city representatives or their lobbyists including:

- Coronado
- Fontana
- Fresno
- La Habra
- Lakeport
- Montebello
- La Habra
- Murrieta
- Sacramento
- Santa Monica
- Tustin

Next Steps

The proposal will go to the joint Budget Conference Committee upon approval by the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4. The League will provide further guidance on advocacy activities over the next few weeks.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

May 21, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
 2. Cancellation Notices for the May 28th Zoning Administrator and the June 1st Neighborhood Improvement & Conservation Commission meetings.
 3. Cities Advocates dated May 14, 15, 20 and 21, 2015.
-
-