

**City of Garden Grove**  
**WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO**  
**September 10, 2015**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council      FROM: Scott Stiles, City Manager  
Members

**I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES**

None.

**II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS**

**A. LETTER TO ORANGE COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT**

A copy of the letter sent to the OCVCD with the request to halt spraying for mosquito control by aircraft is attached for your review. Also an updated press release from the OCVCD is attached announcing the cancellation of spraying for the 2015 mosquito season.

**B. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES**

Progress updates to the FY2015-16 Strategic Plan are attached for your information and are marked in blue.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information.

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



SCOTT C. STILES  
City Manager



## CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

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September 9, 2015

Joe Carchio  
President, Board of Trustees  
Orange County Vector Control District  
13001 Garden Grove Blvd.  
Garden Grove, CA 92843

Bao Nguyen  
Mayor

Steven R. Jones  
Mayor Pro Tem

Christopher V. Phan  
Council Member

Phat Bui  
Council Member

Kris Beard  
Council Member

**RE: Mosquito Control Application By Aircraft  
URGENCY NOTICE AND REQUEST TO HAULT SPRAYING**

Honorable President Carchio:

At its regular meeting of September 8, 2015, the City Council received substantial testimony from members of the public expressing strong concerns regarding the aerial pesticide mosquito control applications scheduled to take place between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. on Wednesday, September 9 and Thursday, September 10. Specific concerns included potential health risks, environmental effects, insufficient notice, and lack of a public hearing.

Following public testimony and discussion by the City Council, the City Council passed an urgency motion directing our office to notify the Orange County Vector Control District of the City Council's request that all spraying be halted until a public hearing is held to get community input on the program.

On behalf of the City Council we respectfully urge the Orange County Vector Control District to cease all aerial pesticide mosquito control applications until a public hearing is held. It is imperative that citizens are provided sufficient notification and opportunity to learn the facts about aerial spraying and to be given the opportunity to express their opinions.

Thank you for your immediate consideration. If you have any questions, please call me at (714) 741-5100.

Sincerely,

Scott C. Stiles  
City Manager

Cc: Mayor and Members of the City Council  
Michael G. Hearst, District Manager

**\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT UPDATE \*\*\*\*\***

The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District has prepared the following statements to announce and explain the reasons behind the cancellation of the aerial adult mosquito control application.

**OCMVCD Statements:**

The aerial application scheduled for September 9-10, 2015 has been cancelled. No aerial applications have been conducted or will be conducted for the remainder of the 2015 mosquito season.

OCMVCD has received notification that the permitting process to enter restricted airspace over Orange County can take up to five business days. If granted, the District would have to reinstate our notification process to all affected communities and municipalities.

In respect to requests by the public to be afforded more time to receive this information and get answers to any concerns or general inquiries about the application, the District would have to extend the pre-flight notification period.

This series of events would significantly delay the applications. This delay would diminish the goal of reducing adult mosquito populations during peak West Nile virus transmission period.

In consideration of these factors, **aerial applications are no longer planned for the 2015 season.**

The District asks that the public remains vigilant with personal protective clothing and mosquito repellents. Inspect your yard for standing water after the recent rainfall where mosquitoes can breed.

Refer to the OCMVCD ([www.ocvcd.org](http://www.ocvcd.org)) website for more information about West Nile virus and the shared responsibility of vector control.

**Clarke/Dynamic Aviation Statements:**

The safety of any mosquito control operation is our primary concern, and appropriate communications with regulatory bodies is of paramount importance.

Dynamic Aviation, the subcontracted flight services provider for the operation, was not able to secure final permission for the federal Temporary Flight Restriction over approximately half of the established spray block. As we could not safely recommend flight operations in that area without the requisite permits, we recommended to OCMVCD to delay the operation.

The contractors in the operation failed to meet the expectations of Orange County Mosquito & Vector Control.

**FY 2015-16 STRATEGIC PLAN  
(City Council Priorities)**

Goal	Action	Lead Dept.	Estimated Completion Date
<b>1. Hire Fire Chief, City Manager, complete labor negotiations &amp; fill vacancies w/in budget constraints</b>			
a. Hire Fire Chief	Conduct recruitment Make appointment Start employment	HR CMO FIRE	Complete Complete Complete
b. Hire City Manager	Conduct recruitment Select finalist Conduct background Announce appointment Start employment	HR COUNCIL CPS CMO CMO	Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete
c. Complete Labor Negotiations	Conduct labor negotiations w/Fire Union, Police Association, Employee Association and League City Council adopt MOU	HR HR HR	In Progress In Progress TBD
d. Fill Vacancies within Budget Constraints	Ongoing as approved by City Manager	HR	Ongoing
<b>2. Implement Web/technology improvements that make doing business with the City more user friendly</b>			
a. Transparency Policy	Develop transparency policy COOP and Central Management review City Council adopt policy	CMO, IT CMO, IT CMO, IT	October-15 October-15 October-15
b. Implement New Website	Finalize site design Launch YouTube streaming Focus Group/Council Study Session Official Go Live	IT, CR IT IT,CS IT,CS	Complete Complete Complete Complete

## FY 2015-16 STRATEGIC PLAN (City Council Priorities)

Goal	Action	Lead Dept.	Estimated Completion Date
c. Implement Open Government Software	Explore options for transparency solution	FIN, IT	Complete
	Select OpenGov/Export initial data	FIN, IT	Complete
	Site preview of annual report	FIN, IT	Complete
	Validate site's Chart of Accounts	FIN	Complete
	Complete reports, training, go Live	FIN, IT	October-15
d. Implement Police CAD/RMS	Select Vendor (Spillman)	PD,IT	Complete
	Install server, connect GIS, and approve data migration plan	IT	Complete
	Begin Training, Data Migration, Create Workflows	PD,IT	Complete
	Complete Data Migration, Training	IT, PD	Complete
	Go live	PD,IT	Complete
e. Web Access for Public Records Requests	Project Kickoff	IT, CMO	Complete
	Alpha release (internal only)	IT, CMO	Complete
	Beta release (internal only)	IT, CMO	Complete
	Production (release to website)	IT, CMO	Complete
f. Automate Building Permit Function	Online building permit lookup/inspection scheduling	IT, CD	Complete
	Automated permit card printing	IT	Complete
	Plan check status input - Building Services	CD,IT	March-16
	Change procedures/automate inspections for Engineering, Environmental Services, Water & FD	FD,IT	TBD*
	<i>*Dates depend on departments (FD, PW) changing manual procedures so that they can be automated</i>		
g. Implement New Agenda Management System	Install Novus Agenda for free 3 month evaluation	IT, CMO	September-15
	IT / City Clerk evaluation of Novus Agenda	IT, CMO	October-15
	All other departments evaluate Novus Agenda	IT, CMO	November-15
	Go Production or begin search for another solution	IT, CMO	December-15

**FY 2015-16 STRATEGIC PLAN**  
(City Council Priorities)

Goal	Action	Lead Dept.	Estimated Completion Date
<b>3. Promote positive communication with the community to enhance the City's image and restore trust</b>			
a. Communication Strategy	Develop Communication Strategy COOP and Central Management review Share with City Council	CS, CMO CS, CMO CS, CMO	Complete Complete Complete
<b>4. Implement Re:Imagine Downtown - Phase II (next steps)</b>			
a. Civic Center Adaptive Reuse	Complete implementation plan & present to Council Begin next steps implementation	CD CD	Complete Complete
b. Summer Movie Nights	Disposition Agreement Conceptual Plan & Programming Commence Implementation	CD CD CD	In Progress In Progress March-16
c. Classic Film Night	Complete planning for summer (2 movies)	CD/CS	Complete
d. Enhance Farmers Market (Main St.)	GEM Theater	CD/CS	Cancelled
e. Open Streets	Study and Evaluate Present Recommendations	CD/CS CD/CS	October-15 January-16
f. Complete Cal Poly Pomona Mobility Plan	Plan Event Conduct Event	CD, CS, PW CD, Multi	Jan. - Oct.-15 October-15
g. Earthday Environmental Art Installation	Work with 606 Studio graduate students to complete plan Install Art Exhibit at Civic Center Park	CD CS/CD	Complete Complete
h. Retain Consultant for Downtown Parking Mgmt Plan	Parking structures in the Civic Center area - RFP In Progress	CD	January-16

## FY 2015-16 STRATEGIC PLAN (City Council Priorities)

Goal	Action	Lead Dept.	Estimated Completion Date	
<b>5. Economic Development to Grow Revenues</b>	a. Brookhurst Triangle (New Age Brookhurst Triangle, LLC)	Closing of Phase I	September-15	
		Phase I Ground Breaking	October-15	
		Opening of Phase I Lofts	July-17	
		Closing on Phase II	March-17	
		Phase II Ground Breaking	April-17	
	b. Galleria (complete or demolish)	Opening of Phase II Lofts	September-18	
		Progress report to City Council	CD	December-15
	c. Grove District Hotel Projects	Conduct City Council Study Session	FIN	July-15
		i. Water Park (Great Wolf Lodge SoCal)	Grand Opening	FIN
	Issue Bonds		FIN	February-16
	ii. Site C (Land & Design Inc.)	Compensation Agreements	FIN	Complete
		Clear Site	FIN	October-15
		Hotel Franchisee Confirmed	FIN	October-15
		Financing in Place	FIN	May-16
		Transfer Property	FIN	June-16
Ground Breaking		FIN	July-16	
iii. Site B2 (Kam Sang Companies)	Grand Opening	FIN	July-18	
	<i>*Schedule tolls with completion of compensation agreements</i>			
	Submit Financial Plan	FIN	October-15	
	Implement City Council Direction	FIN	June-16	

## FY 2015-16 STRATEGIC PLAN (City Council Priorities)

Goal	Action	Lead Dept.	Estimated Completion Date
d. Identify Citywide Economic Development Opportunities	Hire Consultant for City SWOT Analysis	FIN	October-15
	Present Analysis to Central Management	FIN	October-15
	Present Analysis to City Council	FIN	November-15
	Develop and Implement Approved Strategy	FIN	December-15
e. Marketing Campaign -- GGUSD component	Refine Marketing Plan	CS	September-15
	City Council Adopt Plan	CS	October-15
	Implement Plan	CS	January-16
f. Development & Economic Collaboration with Santa Ana (e.g. Willowick, streetcar, transit oriented development)	Set and Conduct Meeting with Santa Ana -Initial meeting complete	CMO, CD, FIN	Ongoing
<b>6. Develop 5-Year Fiscal Plan &amp; Organizational Message</b>			
a. 5-Year Fiscal Plan	Develop Plan	FIN, CMO	November-15
	City Council Adopt Plan	FIN	January-16
b. Organizational Message	Develop Message	FIN, CMO	February-16
	Share Message with Organization	FIN, CMO	February-16
<b>7. Bicycle Master Plan/More Walkable Community</b>			
a. Bicycle Master Plan	Complete Plan	CD, PW	February-16
b. More Walkable Community (Pedestrian Friendly)	Submit application for ATP grant for construction of PE ROW (i.e., urban trail: landscaping, streetscape, lighting)	CD, PW	Complete



## FY 2015-16 STRATEGIC PLAN (City Council Priorities)

Goal	Action	Lead Dept.	Estimated Completion Date
<b>8. Neighborhood Beautification</b>	Eastgate Park Improvements	CS, PW	Complete
	Neighborhood Meeting		
	City Council Approval of Improvement Contract	CS, PW	Complete
	Installation of Play Equipment	CS, PW	November-15
	Installation of Trail & Exercise Equipment	CS, PW	December-15
	District 163 (Bayport/Laguna) Graffiti Clean-up	NIC	Complete
<b>9. Public Safety Infrastructure</b>	District 163 (Bayport/Laguna) Community Clean-up event	PD, NIC	Complete
	Fire Station 6 Replacement	FIRE, FIN, PW	December-17
	Financing	FIN	October-15
<b>10. Legislative Advocacy</b>	Complete Plans for Police Lobby Expansion	PD	January-16
	Complete Police Lobby Remodel	TBD	January-17
	Develop Legislative Advocacy Program	CMO	Complete
	Present Program to City Council for Adoption	CMO	Complete

**Weekly Memo 9/10/15**

**NEWSPAPER  
ARTICLES**

JEFF GRITCHEN, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Miss California Bree Morse on Main Street in her home town of Garden Grove. She is competing this week for the Miss America crown in Atlantic City.

# MISS CALIFORNIA BREE MORSE HAS THE CHOPS TO WIN IT ALL

The Garden Grove native is vying to be the first from the state since 1982 to win Miss America.

Garden Grove Journal  
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BY CHRIS HAIRE • STAFF WRITER

**B**ree Morse is trying to accomplish something no Californian has done in 33 years: win the title of Miss America.

“No pressure, right?” she joked recently while meandering along Historic Main Street. “I’m excited, but even if I don’t win, I’m still Miss California and that’s a great opportunity.”

Morse, 23, a Garden Grove native and the 2015 Miss California, is now in Atlantic City, N.J., competing in the Miss America Pageant. Debra Sue Maffett was the last Californian to win the title in 1982.

(The preliminaries were scheduled for Tuesday through today, so we don’t know yet if Morse made it to the finals scheduled for Sunday. But in 11 of the past 14 years, Miss California has made the final round of competition.)

“I’m a little nervous, but mostly just excited,” she said before she left for New Jersey. “All you can do is go out there and compete. Try your best.”

Morse said she never thought she would be in the posi-



JEFF GRITCHEN, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Morse is competing for the Miss America crown this week. A Garden Grove native, she was crowned Miss California in June while competing as Miss Orange Coast.

**Bree Morse**  
**Age:** 23  
**High school:** Pacifica  
**University:** Cal State Long Beach  
**Platform:** National Alopecia Area Foundation  
**Talent:** Tap Dance

SEE PAGEANT •

# PAGEANT

FROM PAGE 1

tion to potentially be Miss America.

"I never thought I would get into pageants," she said. "But I was in cheer and my friend was involved in Miss Garden Grove's Outstanding Teen and asked me to join."

She didn't win that first pageant in 2008, but she was hooked.

"It's completely different from what I thought," Morse said. "I thought it was just about your looks. But you have to be able to answer questions, have a cause and show you're a well-rounded person."

And that's how she came to rack up seven pageant wins since 2009. But still, she has rarely won on her first try.

She won Outstanding Teen in 2009. But she failed in her first attempt at Miss Garden Grove and didn't win until 2012. Then she got on a roll, winning Miss North County in 2013, Miss Orange County in 2014 and Miss Orange Coast this year. But until this year, she continually fell short of the Miss California crown.

"I learned from my mistakes," she said. "I got better and better."

Her friends, family and coaches say that she has a good shot to become Miss America because she is fun, down-to-earth, well-practiced and comfortable in her own skin.

"She's one of the most likable people I've met," said Stacy Margolin, the Miss Garden Grove organizer. "She has a great sense of humor and what you see is what you get."

But there have been moments when Morse's confidence has been shaken.

A couple of years ago while in college, she noticed her hair was falling out in one section.

She went to the doctor

and received a startling diagnosis for a pageant contestant: She has alopecia areata, an autoimmune disorder that causes your hair to fall out. There is no known cure. Morse eventually got a steroid injection to stimulate hair growth on her scalp.

"It affected my confidence for sure," she said. "But I eventually realized this is who I am and to take it in stride. Maybe my hair will fall out tomorrow. We have to accept our differences."

Added her mom, Debbie Morse: "It is what it is. She had to accept it. That's life. I'm proud of her."

And in the process, Morse said she discovered her platform for future pa-

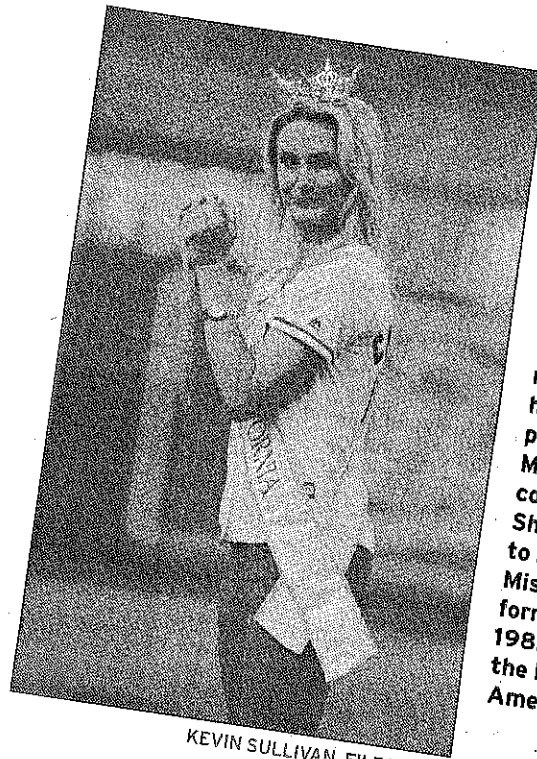
geants, including Miss America by supporting the National Alopecia Areata Foundation.

"We're trying to lobby on behalf of those with alopecia and to get research going," she said. "It can affect anyone and at any age. You could be 2 or 60."

A personal attachment to her platform and a self-confidence are among the things Margolin thinks will put Morse on top this week.

"She may look like your typical California girl with blonde hair," Margolin said. "But she's funny, confident, nice. All the girls like her (she won Miss Congeniality two years in a row at Miss California). She's the real deal."

And maybe that's why



KEVIN SULLIVAN, FILE PHOTO

Garden Grove native Morse prepares to throw out the first pitch at Angel Stadium on July 21. Along with her Miss California appearances, she has been preparing for the Miss America competition. She's hoping to be the first Miss California since 1982 to win the Miss America title.

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## Miss America

**When:** 9 to 11 p.m.  
Sunday

**Where:** Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, N.J.

**Television station:**  
ABC

**Information:**  
[missamerica.org](http://missamerica.org)

Morse isn't feeling the pressure.

"I would like to make the judges smile," she said, before transitioning into a joke. "What do you call a pile of cats? ... A meowtain."

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**

714-704-3707 or

[chalre@ocregister.com](mailto:chalre@ocregister.com)

# Banquet focus: compassion

Compassion.

That is the theme of the 16th annual Interfaith Banquet, where three women will speak on compassion and the role of women in interfaith communities.

The banquet hosted by the Interfaith Council of Garden Grove, Stanton and Westminster will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 26 at Stanton Community Civic Center, 7800 Katella Ave.

The council will also give out three Spirit in Action awards and three Community Builder youth scholarships. The awards and scholarships are given to businesses and people who work to better their community.

Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for students, seniors and those with lower incomes. Info: Ann Nguyen at gginterfaith@gmail.com or 714-467-5354.



FILE PHOTO

**Orange County Spinners, a sewing club, meets from 1 to 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of every month at the Garden Grove library.**

## Get your needlepoint on

Can you knit a cozy sweater? Needlepoint a majestic wall hanging? What about embroider an ornate quilt?

Would you like to hang out with like-minded sewing enthusiasts?

Then Sundays at the Garden Grove Public Library is the place for you.

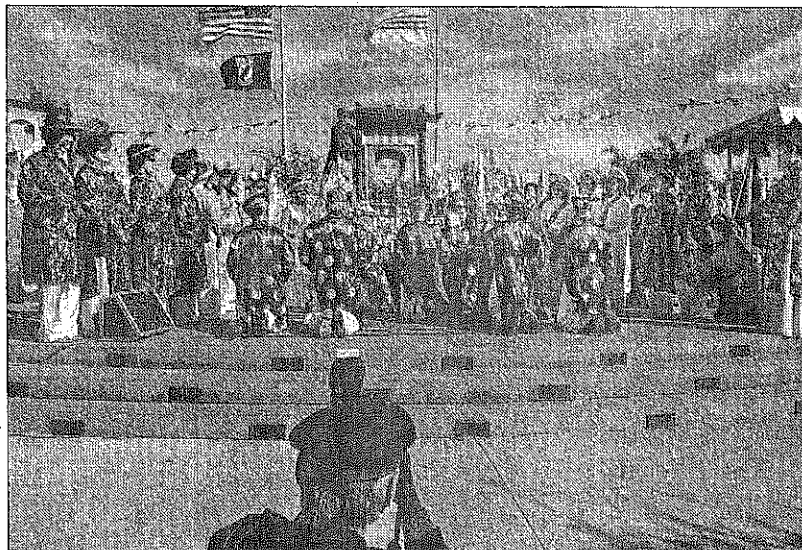
Orange County Spinners, a club for sewing aficionados, meets from 1 to 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of every month at the library, 11200 Stanford Ave.

The meetings are free and open to the public - just bring your fabrics and needles.

Info: Judy Kamei, 714-530-0711.

# THE → THINGS TO KNOW

BY CHRIS HAIRE | STAFF WRITER



FRANK D'AMATO, FILE PHOTO

**A crowd pays tribute to President Ngo Dinh Diem, fallen generals, officers and citizens of South Vietnam during a 2013 Remembrance Ceremony held at the Vietnam War Memorial at Freedom Park.**

## LITTLE SAIGON WILL REMEMBER PRESIDENTS

One was the first president of South Vietnam; the other was the president when Saigon fell.

And the Little Saigon community is set to honor both of them over the next couple of months.

The South Vietnamese Marines Veteran Association is holding a ceremony for Nguyen Van Thieu, the president of the former republic from 1965 to 1975, on Sept. 19. And the nonprofit will also honor Ngo Dinh Diem, the first president of South

Vietnam after the French withdrew their forces in 1954, on Nov. 1.

Both events are from 4 to 8 p.m. at Sid Goldstein Freedom Park, 14180 All American Way in Westminster, and are expected to have about 400 people in attendance.

Each commemoration will include flag salutes, the placing of flowered wreaths next to the memorial, the singing of patriotic songs and speeches.

The ceremonies are free and open to the public.

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# Attorney will apply grant to help immigrants

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

A Vietnamese American lawyer who grew up in Little Saigon recently received \$50,000 from a law group to help her work with Southeast Asian immigrants to challenge detentions or deportations.

Jacqueline Dan, a graduate of UCLA's law school and an attorney with the Orange County branch of Asian Americans Advancing Justice, received the fellowship from the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California Foundation.

A lawyer from Northern

California, David Ta of Advancing Justice's Asian Law Caucus, also received \$50,000.

An estimated 1.3 million Asian Americans live in the United States illegally, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. From 2000 to 2010, the Asian population as a whole grew faster than any other group.

Garden Grove and Westminster, the two cities at the heart of Little Saigon, alone have a population of 260,584 Asians.

Dan said she plans on using the money to provide better services to refugees and long-term residents.

One such service, for example, would be to help in an appeal of a ruling in which a family member abroad is denied a visa to come to the U.S. Another would be educating immigrants about the possibility of deportation if they are convicted of a crime.

"Growing up in a community of Vietnamese refugees where many struggled to recover from trauma taught me that many immigrants from war-torn countries face significant challenges to thriving in the U.S.," Dan said.

Dan, who has worked for Advancing Justice for four

years, said that when it comes to Asians, these challenges do not get the same attention as with Latinos.

"These issues," she said, "are often poorly understood, not only by society as a whole, but especially within our own community."

The bar association that gave Dan the money says such grants help build a "vibrant network of culturally competent public interest attorneys."

CONTACT THE WRITER:  
714-704-3707 or  
chaire@ocregister.com

## Students to take stage at Segerstrom

Students at one Garden Grove and one Westminster school will get the opportunity of a lifetime: The chance to perform at Segerstrom Center for the Arts next year.

Garden Grove's Agnes Ware Stanley Elementary and Westmont Elementary in Westminster are two of four schools that will participate in the the second year of Segerstrom's Disney Musicals in Schools program.

The schools will participate a 17-week musical theater residency, during which they will receive performance rights for songs from Disney, educational materials and guidance from performance teachers.

The program will culminate with a 30-minute performance at Agnes and Westmont. The students will also perform a section of their musical at Segerstrom on March 22.

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## Thrift shop gives clothes, dental care to students in need

BY ALLISON ONG  
STAFF WRITER

Each year, about 900 Garden Grove students pass through an arched doorway painted with suns in the back of a local thrift shop. Children sift through colorful racks of back-to-school clothing and model their new outfits in blue-curtained dressing rooms.

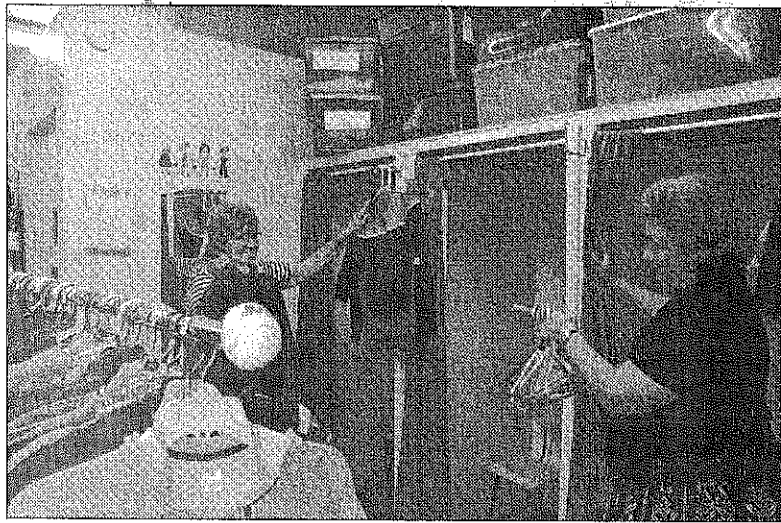
Some of these families can't afford clothes for the new school year. That's

why Operation School Bell calls attendance.

The clothing donations are one of many community-oriented services the Assistance League of Garden Grove provides for the surrounding area.

"A lot of people in the community don't know about us," said Sybilla London, vice president of membership for the Assistance League chapter.

SEE SHOP •



Sybilla London and Loretta Davis, volunteers at the Assistance League Garden Grove, ready fitting rooms that will allow students to try on free clothes from the chapter.

ALLISON ONG,  
STAFF

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## SHOP

FROM PAGE 1

"We work through the Garden Grove Unified School District, and the health care workers at schools identify children who are in need of clothing and dental care."

Assistance League Garden Grove formed in 1967, becoming one of 57 chapters in California operated by the national Assistance League organization. The thrift shop at 10932 Trask Ave. is one of the group's main sources of raising funds for its charitable work. It also houses a small dental clinic.

Among its first service projects was Operation School Bell, which the national organization requires each chapter to have. Beginning in late September, families in need can make appointments for their children to have "shopping experiences" or received reduced-cost dental care.

On average, Operation School Bell serves 20 to 30 students a day. Each child receives two pairs of socks, underwear, jeans and T-shirts as well as a jacket, sweatshirt, hygiene kit, shoe store gift card and a book, London said.

Parents are discouraged from accompanying the child as they shop.

"In these situations, children have so little power in

## Assistance League Garden Grove

**Shop:** 10932 Trask Ave, Garden Grove; open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and until 5 p.m. on Wednesdays

**Donate:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. No electronics or furniture accepted.

**Volunteer:** [AssistanceLeagueGardenGrove.org](http://AssistanceLeagueGardenGrove.org), call 714-530-2340 or email [algg@pacbell.net](mailto:algg@pacbell.net)

their life. So we try (to give them) that opportunity to have some say in what goes on," said Loretta Davis, 74, who served as director of Operation School Bell for two years. "Quite often, the children are so grateful that we get lots of hugs and thank yous and tears from moms."

Dentist Darin Fong provides basic fillings, extractions, cleanings and root canals to students for as little as \$10.

Fong joined the Assistance League team fresh out of dental school in 1993.

"Home (dental) care is usually not very good and not well-enforced by the families," said Fong, who owns 21st Century Dental in Huntington Beach. "They are all very appreciative of what you do for them, and once in a while we get a good thank-you letter from the parents or children."

A feature unique to the Garden Grove chapter is its "To Tell the Tooth" puppet show, which volunteers present to second- and third-graders. The educational show features Bucky Beaver, who is taught how to floss and brush after disco-

vering he has "lousy" dental hygiene, London said.

The chapter also engages with indirect outreach. Through G.G. Bear Hug, it donates stuffed animals to the Garden Grove Police Department to give to children during a crisis. Cindy Nagamatsu Hanlon, manager of the department's community liaison division, said the bears give children at crime or accident scenes a tangible sense of comfort.

The chapter also provides survivor kits to victims of sexual assault in Anaheim hospitals. The kits give female patients sweatshirts, flip-flops and refreshments as they await services in a private waiting room.

About 50 volunteers - mostly retirees - staff the chapter's thrift store, London said, but the organization is trying to raise awareness of the shop to recruit more volunteers.

Hanlon said she has brought homeless families to the chapter's thrift store. "I know where the money goes. I know where the donations go. I don't know what this community would do without them."

# Annual Asian Business Expo comes to Garden Grove today

BY MARGOT ROOSEVELT  
STAFF WRITER

Business groups representing Vietnamese, Korean, Filipino, Chinese, Taiwanese and Cambodian communities will gather in Garden Grove today for the fifth annual Asian Business Expo.

More than 900 people have registered to attend the event, where 117 local businesses will exhibit.

Officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Commercial Service and the Port of Los Angeles will participate in a panel to discuss Pacific Rim trade.

Organizers said the expo is aimed at tapping into the purchasing power of Asian Americans, helping local businesses explore

import and export opportunities, and educating Asian-owned businesses on how to obtain government contracts.

Attendees will be able to forge new business ties and learn about the cultures and businesses of the various ethnic communities, organizers added.

The first expo, in 2011, was a joint effort by the Orange County Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and the Korean American Chamber of Commerce of Orange County.

"It has grown every year," said Violet Kang of the Garden Grove-based Korean chamber. "Last year, we had 70 vendors. This year, we have 117."

Businesses owned by Vietnamese Americans re-

present 20 percent of the exhibiting companies, about the same number as those owned by Korean Americans and Chinese Americans, Kang added. The rest included Filipino- and Cambodian-owned companies.

"We are interacting together," Kang said.

The expo will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Anaheim South Hotel, at 11767 Harbor Blvd. More information is available at [theasianbusinessexpo.com](http://theasianbusinessexpo.com). Organizers said Wednesday that members of the public are welcome any time during the day, without prior registration.

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**

mroosevelt@ocregister.com;  
on Twitter @MargotRoosevelt



# 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.

# Local representative's bill passes Senate

State Sen. Janet Nguyen seeks to give those with student loans tax relief

In an effort to aid more than 13,000 California students, State Sen. Janet Nguyen, who represents Garden Grove and Westminster, is proud to announce that the California State Senate has unanimously passed Senate Bill 150 (SB 150). The bill seeks to eliminate state income tax liability on forgiven student loans for former Corinthian College students.

Since the abrupt closure of Corinthian Colleges in May 2015, many former students have been seeking either partial or full discharge of their student loans through a variety of federal, state, and private programs. However, cancelled, discharged, or forgiven debt may be subject to state and federal income tax. Therefore, students who receive a closed-school loan discharge must pay both federal and state income taxes.

The passage of Senate Bill 150 would eliminate the tax liability for Corinthian College students who choose to forgo their credits and have their loans forgiven.



File photo  
State Sen. Janet Nguyen

"I am pleased that the California Legislature is now one step closer to assisting more than 13,000 California students who were affected by the unexpected closure of Corinthian Colleges. These students made a personal and financial investment to improve their lives and now find themselves unable to finalize their studies," said Nguyen.

Under the Federal Higher

Education Act of 1965, students in this situation have two options: they can give up the college credits they earned and have their federal student loan debt forgiven by the federal government; or, they can keep their credits and transfer them to another college that accepts them but would remain responsible for the repayment of those loans. At this time, unless federal action is taken, students may continue to be liable for federal income tax. However, SB 150 would provide a statewide solution to this issue.

"As an advocate for education, I hope that SB 150 will receive support from my colleagues in the California State Assembly, so that former Corinthian College students can have a second chance to receive a higher education without being penalized financially," said Nguyen.

SB 150 is jointly authored by Nguyen and Senator Bob Huff, and co-authored by Senators Bates, Fuller, Berryhill, Morrell and Vidak.

## Sen. Janet Nguyen named a Rodel Fellow

Former OC supervisor will be active in nurturing bipartisanship

State Sen. Janet Nguyen, who represents Garden Grove and Westminster, is proud to announce that she has been selected by the Aspen Institute as a 2015 Rodel Fellow.

In this capacity, Nguyen will participate in a public leadership program that nurtures bipartisanship, political civility, and the ideals of democracy. Nguyen will be joined by 24 of the nation's rising political stars. Past members include members of the president's cabinet, U.S. Congress and governors, as well as city and statewide officials.

"I am honored and thrilled to have been chosen to participate in the Rodel Fellowship Program. Opportunities like this are invaluable because they not only foster

fellowship among elected officials but also help us find better ways to fulfill our mission as public servants," said Nguyen.

Admission into the Rodel Fellowship Program is by invitation only, for elected officials between the ages of 25 and 50. Each year, 24 emerging elected officials, 12 Republicans and 12 Democrats are chosen to participate. Following their selection, fellows participate in a 24-month program that focuses on leadership training that explores various philosophies, viewpoints, and

strategies.

"Each of the 24 members of the 2015 Class brings to the table a unique set of personal and professional experiences that will allow us to see things from a different perspective. The next two years will unquestionably be a great learning experience for my Rodel classmates and me and I am excited to begin this worthwhile journey," said Nguyen.

Since its inception in 2005, nearly 250 elected officials have participated in the Aspen Institute's Rodel Fellowship program.

## Assemblyman takes on governor

Assemblyman Travis Allen, who represents Garden Grove and Westminster, issued the following statement regarding Gov. Brown's stance on California's transportation funding problem:

"The proposal that the governor unveiled shows that he agrees with Republicans that CalTrans needs to become more efficient to save Californians money. However, the governor and the Democrats in the Legislature can't resist their desire to raise taxes," said Allen. "The Republicans in the Legislature have put forward a plan that would get families out of traffic, repair our roads and bridges, and not raise taxes on a single person."

A new poll released last week shows that 63 percent of California voters oppose the Democrats' plan to increase state gas taxes. The poll is in response to the Democrats committing to a 12 cent per gallon tax increase, a "road access charge" of \$35 per vehicle annually, and a \$35 increase on vehicle registration. The governor's proposal contains similar costs on California's families in the form of a gas and diesel tax increase, coupled with a \$65 "highway user fee."

"Simply put, the Republican transportation plan was put forward almost two months ago. We stand with the people of California who are missing time with their families, at work, and in their day to day lives due to traffic, the same people who want our roads fixed without the government once again reaching into their pocketbooks," said Allen.

OC News  
September 9, 2015

# 'Nails' Dykstra accused of stealing jewelry

## GG native, former pro baseball star has been in trouble with the law before

Former Garden Grove High and Major League Baseball star Lenny Dykstra might be in trouble with the law.

Again.

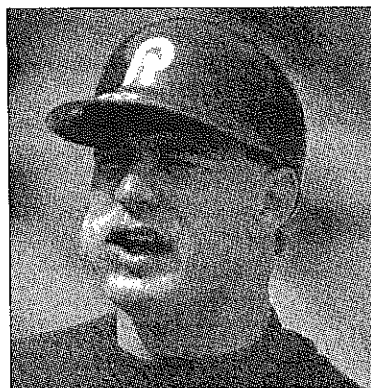
According to media reports, Dykstra is accused of stealing \$50,000 in jewelry from Charlie Sheen's ex-fiancee, who is a porn star.

Brett Rossi claims earlier this year, Dykstra offered to help her sell several pieces of expensive jewelry she was looking to unload, including two Patek Philippe watches, a diamond emerald bracelet and one set of diamond earrings, according to reports.

Rossi claims she asked for the goods back but Dykstra only returned the earrings, which Rossi said had been stripped of the real diamonds and replaced with fakes.

Rossi claims she called out Lenny for the alleged trickery and he responded by making threats against her.

Her lawyer has sent Dykstra a letter demanding the immediate return of her jewelry or \$50,000, just in case he's already sold the bling.



Courtesy photos  
Lenny Dykstra in his playing days, chewing tobacco



Lenny Dykstra in a recent photo, chewing licorice

Dykstra has not commented on the issue and no charges have been filed.

The 52 year old, who is on probation, pled guilty to three felonies, including bankruptcy fraud and money laundering in July 2012. Dykstra was sentenced to six and a half months in prison that December. He was released in June 2013.

Dykstra played for Garden Grove High in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He later played four seasons for the New York Mets and eight seasons for the

Philadelphia Phillies. Named an all star for the Phillies in 1990 and 1995, Dykstra finished his career with a .285 batting average and 1,298 hits.

Things were good for awhile after the end of his baseball career. He claims he became a self-taught financial guru, and made millions in investments.

"I became addicted to money," he once told a reporter. "Money was my drug, and a few other ones, too. But whatever. This is a pretty entertaining interview, isn't it?"

### CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden Grove City Council and Garden Grove Public Financing Authority will hold a joint Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 22, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be considered, at the Courtyard Center located at 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove, California 92840. The Public Hearing is to consider public testimony concerning the possible issuance by the Garden Grove Public Financing Authority (the "Authority") of its Lease Revenue Bonds, Series 2015A (the "Bonds") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$28,000,000, in order to (i) refinance the City's outstanding Certificates of Participation Series A of 2002 (2002 Financing Project) and (ii) finance the acquisition and construction of certain public capital improvements, of approximately \$8,000,000, consisting of a fire station, police building renovations, and/or other capital improvements listed on the City's 5-year Capital Improvement Plan. Lease payments securing the Bonds will be payable from the City's General Fund subject to abatement as set forth in the Lease Agreement by and between the Authority and the City.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES are invited to comment at the City Council/Authority Public Hearing, or by writing a letter, and express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposal as outlined above. If you challenge the application in Court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council/Authority at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. Written correspondence received before 3:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before the Public Hearing will be given to the City Council/Authority. Information received after that time will be given to the City Council/Authority prior to the meeting. Further information on the above may be obtained by calling Kingsley Okereke, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, at 714-741-5060.

KATHLEEN BAILOR, CMC  
City Clerk

Date: September 3, 2015  
Publish: September 9, 2015

Orange County News  
15-50594  
Publish Sept. 9, 2015

# 'We've earned our living the hard way'

Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 celebrates Labor Day

By Loreen Berlin

Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 of the Orange Coast District celebrated Labor Day by holding its largest fundraiser.

It was the "57th annual Labor Day Family Fun Festival" that began with breakfast, continued to lunch and was followed by a barbecue dinner.

At 4:45 p.m., a 2015 Chevy Sonic car was raffled off to a lucky winner and there were other prizes, as well.

"We start selling tickets for our car at the Strawberry Festival and continue to today," said Lead Knight Karen Lewin. "Our purpose as an Elks Club is for community service. We support youth activities which includes new dictionaries in the Garden Grove School District for all third graders."

Lewin said the Elks have major

see **LABOR**, page 3

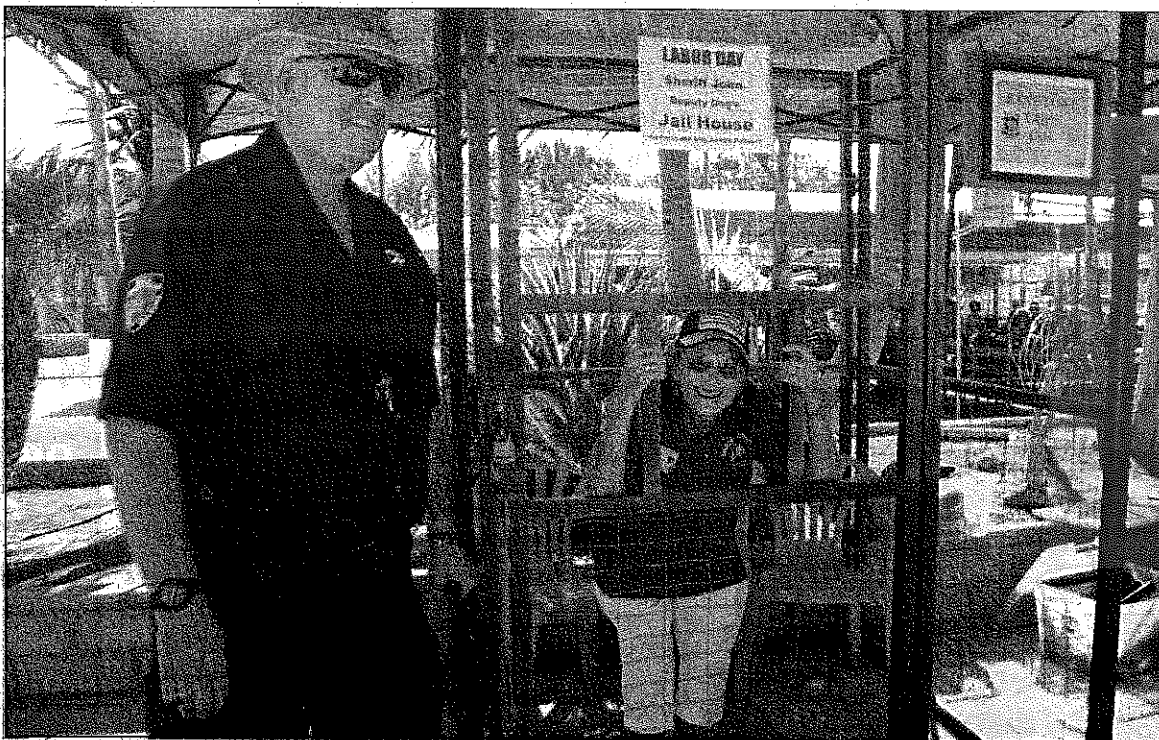


Photo by Loreen Berlin

Pictured is a friendly jail, part of the Garden Grove Elks Lodge 1952's way of celebrating Labor Day, and raising funds as part of the 57th annual Labor Day Family Fun Festival. From left are Elks' "Sheriff John" and Elks' Lead Knight Karen Lewin behind bars.

## LABOR:

Continued from page 1

projects, but that in Garden Grove, they focus on schools and also work with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove and other agencies that need help.

"Groups usually send us requests for their needs. We give high school scholarships for students," Lewin said.

"Locally, we give three girls and three boys, scholarships from the Elks Lodge," she added. "Students go on to state and national competitions to compete for 'Most Valuable Student' based on grades, community service and leadership."

Students interested in the scholarships can go online to fill out an application. Elks work through school counselors to get word out to students about scholarships.

Applicants go through a judging process by a panel of judges and Elks National Foundation also gives 500 scholarships nationwide.

"The two top scholarship winners, one boy and one girl, are awarded \$20,000 a year for four years of college. Others receive approximately \$4,000 each," Lewin said.

Statewide, Elks do major projects aimed at handicapped children who can't get to doctors. Elks help with getting therapists to come to handicapped students at no cost to the families, helping getting student's physical therapy and speech therapy.

"Each year, we select a theme child. This year, we chose twin girls," said Lewin.

On a national level, Elks cover veterans programs.

"We go to the veterans hospital in Long Beach and hold barbecues, steak bakes and Bingo for the veterans," said Exalted Ruler Joe De La Luz. "We provide personal care products for veterans, as they receive medications, but not personal items."

At Christmas time, Elks hold a less-fortunate kids party; they give out two bicycles, serve pizza and Santa brings gifts for kids.

Both Lewin and De La Luz said they like the "hands-on" approach Elks have.

"It's easy to write a check, but we get involved," Lewin said.

De La Luz said Elks are supportive of veterans, as well.

"People tend to forget what Labor Day is all about," said Esquire Joe Justiniano, Jr., the right-hand person to the Exalted Ruler. "Labor Day is about unions and the working men and women, to honor the laborers' who fought for benefits, for the five-day work week and for children's labor laws."

"Most Elks members are blue-collar workers, though we have lawyers and others who are members; we've earned our living the hard way, so today, Labor Day, is our chance to get together and thank the workers."

Labor Day unofficially marks the end of summer, with children returning to school and retailers making it one of the largest sale events, third behind Christmas and Black Friday.

## Interfaith Council plans unity banquet

Spirit in Action awards will be  
given to two individuals,  
one organization

The Interfaith Council of Garden Grove, Stanton, and Westminster, which has been working to bring peace and interfaith dialogue to the Orange County area for almost two decades, will be hosting its 16th annual Interfaith Unity Banquet.

The event will be held at the Stanton Community Civic Center on Sept. 26 from 6 to 9 p.m. as a celebration of the great diversity of faiths and traditions present in Southern California and an opportunity to bring together neighbors from all walks of life.

The theme this year is "Compassion: The Foundation of our Faiths". Attendees will listen to three women speak on compassion and the role of women in interfaith, as well as be entertained by local artists, and be able to bid on unique items from around the world during the silent auction, all while enjoying a gourmet dinner.

During the event, three Spirit in Action awards and three

see UNITY, page 3

## UNITY:

Continued from page 1

Community Builder youth scholarships will be awarded. The Interfaith Council of Garden Grove, Stanton, and Westminster is proud to announce the recipients of this year's Spirit in Action awards, given to persons and organizations who have demonstrated a true dedication to bettering our community through partnership, education, and service: Monkey Business Café, dedicated to healing, educating, and empowering at-risk youth to become productive and self-sufficient adults through its six month Workforce Development Program; Ruth Broyde Sharone, for her work in Southern California's Parliament of the World Religions and her voice that promotes peace and understanding both locally and internationally; and Dr. Gail Stearns, for her work with the entire Chapman University community and her passion in creating meaningful interfaith experiences for all in Orange County.

The Community Builder youth scholarships are awarded to students who exemplify character, fairness, and acceptance. These individuals are willing to take leadership roles, to mentor peers, and to work hard to set a good example for others. Three teenagers from the boys & girls clubs of Garden Grove, Stanton, and Westminster will be 2015 Community Builder recipients on Sept. 26.

For the Interfaith Council of

Garden Grove, Stanton, and Westminster, the Unity Banquet is an unparalleled community event. It is an opportunity to meet someone of different religious beliefs and traditions. A key to peace in Orange County and the world is simply getting acquainted with one another as neighbors. For this reason, creating a safe space that fosters meaningful dialogue

among community members is a priority for the Council.

"Very few people are willing to encounter the stranger. 'You look different, you sound different, you think differently. Why would I care about you?' We form prejudices about who that 'other' is," said Reverend Doug Johnstone, president of the Interfaith Council. "The aim

in interfaith is trying to break down some of those barriers. It's getting people to talk to each other."

For more information or to

purchase tickets for the 16th annual Interfaith Unity Banquet, contact [gginterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:gginterfaith@gmail.com) or call Ann Nguyen at 714-467-5354.

Orange County Employees Association senior adviser Nick Berardino, right, and Orange County Labor Federation executive director Julio Perez lead a rally at Monday's unveiling of a monument to the county's agricultural past.

# Memorial honors

## county's agricultural past

### MEMORIAL



JOSHUA SUDOCK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### 'Table of Dignity' unveiled at O.C. fairgrounds as part of Labor Day festivities.

BY CHRISTOPHER YEE  
STAFF WRITER

**COSTA MESA** • The labor movement has always been a part of artist Ricardo Mendoza's life.

As a member of the Mexican Consulate-General in Los Angeles, Mendoza's grandfather worked with Cesar Chavez to secure

rights for Mexican workers. Now, as a professional artist, Mendoza said that legacy is coming full circle with his project "Table of Dignity," which was unveiled on Labor Day before a crowd of 200 labor union supporters at the OC Fair & Event Center.

The monument, created by Mendoza and artist Joshua Sarantitis, features two stone portals filled with rammed earth and a table at the center.

The table, which is meant to provide a place for people

SEE MEMORIAL • PAGE 5

FROM PAGE 1

to sit as equals to celebrate the county's agricultural history, is supported by a 10-ton boulder, symbolizing the strength of working men and women.

"This piece gave me a chance to come back home decades later and pick up that same torch as an artist," said Mendoza, who grew up in Costa Mesa and now lives in Boyle Heights.

Mendoza and Sarantitis were selected for the project in October 2013 and have donated their time over the past year and a half to work on it, according to Mendoza.

Monday's unveiling was part of Labor Day festivities for the Orange County Labor Federation and Orange County Employees Association, filled with speeches honoring the art piece and urging workers to keep fighting for their rights.

Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen, who sits on the fair's board of directors, said this monument to Orange County workers was long overdue.

"Our county's name is about our agricultural history," Nguyen said. "We wouldn't have that without workers. Workers are helping build it, too, which

makes it even more powerful."

Praising the OC Fair board of directors for erecting the monument, former state Sen. Joe Dunn said Orange County's agricultural history makes it obligated to honor workers.

"It's about time, in the heart of Orange County, to give respect and dignity to labor," Dunn said.

Led by the drums and trumpets of Banda De Guerra, a local Mexican marching band, hundreds of labor union members marched into the fairgrounds' Centennial Farm area before the unveiling, carrying banners from their respective unions.

Janitor and SEIU member Esther Llamas had come to Monday's event not knowing about the unveiling, but she said she felt good knowing people are thinking about workers.

"It's really nice to feel like we're being noticed," Llamas said. "Sometimes I feel like we're on the outside. This memorial reminds me I'm not the only one struggling."

CONTACT THE WRITER:  
949-667-1933,  
cyee@ocregister.com and  
@ChrisMee on Twitter

# Garden Grove councilmen question statistics on cameras

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

**GARDEN GROVE** • Red-light cameras are here to stay – for now.

The Garden Grove City Council last week refused to cancel its contract with Reflex Camera Systems, which monitors the program, but several councilmen – primarily Mayor Bao Nguyen and Councilman Phat Bui – questioned the Police Department’s staff report. The council has asked the police to take a deeper look into the effectiveness of the cameras in reducing crashes.

Garden Grove has contracted with Reflex Traffic Systems since 2007 to provide red-light cameras, which the city now has at eight intersections.

In August, the city’s contract with Reflex renewed. Garden Grove pays \$40,600 a month.

The police’s staff report said the cameras have reduced both the number of T-bone collisions, which are the most likely crashes to result in death or severe injuries, and rear-end crashes.

crease the police cite is “not statistically significant.”

Bui and Nguyen said they will hold out on judging the success of the program until after the Police Department reviews Beeber’s study, with the mayor saying he also wants to “know the methodology” of the department.

“We need to have the information,” Bui said. “We

need to know if Mr. Beeber’s numbers are correct. Until then, I am undecided.”

The council can vote anytime to cancel its contract with Reflex, but must give the company a 30-day notice before it’s voided.

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**  
714-704-3707 or  
chaire@ocregister.com

OC Register  
September 6, 2015

“The program is solely for safety,” Police Chief Todd Elgin said at the meeting. “Bottom line, it’s had a significant reduction in collisions.”

The police compared the last three years of crash data at intersections with cameras to statistics from the three years before the cameras were installed.

The council was unconvinced about the methodology of the police’s study, with Bui even asking to see the raw data, and seemed swayed by an independent audit presented to the panel last week by Jay Beeber, the executive director of Safer Streets L.A. The organization advocates against red-light cameras, saying their use is unfair to drivers.

That study looked at crash data from 2001 to 2014 and concluded that collisions increased after the cameras were implemented.

“These are very small sample sizes,” Beeber said about the overall number of accidents at some intersections, saying that the de-

# SPRAY

FROM PAGE 1

## Vector Control plans aerial spraying

### Parts of seven cities will be targeted in an effort to control West Nile virus.

BY DEEPA BHARATH  
STAFF WRITER

Amid a rising level of infection rate in mosquitoes, officials plan to launch Orange County's first-ever aerial attack on large mosquito populations carrying the West Nile virus by spraying pesticides over multiple cities in North and central County, the Orange County Vector Control District said Thursday.

Spraying is scheduled to take place starting at 10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday and last until 4 a.m. both nights. A twin-engine aircraft flying at an altitude of about 300 feet will treat targeted areas in Tustin, Villa Park and portions

SEE SPRAY • PAGE 4

### MAP OF AFFECTED AREAS, LOCAL 4

of Anaheim, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and Stanton, Vector Control spokesman Jared Dever said.

"Our enhanced efforts to get rid of these infected mosquitoes have not been effective," he said. "It's been like fighting a wildfire with a squirt gun."

Since it's too late to inform residents in affected areas via mail, the district is getting the word out through email, the media and social media campaigns, Dever said.

So far this year, the Orange County Health Care Agency has reported five West Nile virus cases. No fatalities have been reported. In 2014, the county reported 280 human infections and nine fatalities linked to West Nile virus.

The plane spraying the insecticide will fly out of Long Beach Airport carrying the chemical Duet, which Dever said is registered for use by the Environmental Protection Agency and is routinely used nationwide to help control adult mosquito populations. The area being sprayed will span 63,400 acres.

Duet is applied only in low doses, roughly a tablespoon to treat an area the size of a football field, according to a statement issued by the Vector Control District.

"There is no need to stay indoors, close your windows, cover pet food or turn off the air conditioning," Dever said. "This is very low dosage and has no health impact at all. You can continue to do what you're doing and suffer no adverse effects."

This aerial spray technique, while new to Orange County, has been safely and effectively used for a long time nationwide, said Dr. Matt Zahn, medical director of epidemiology at the Orange County Health Care Agency.

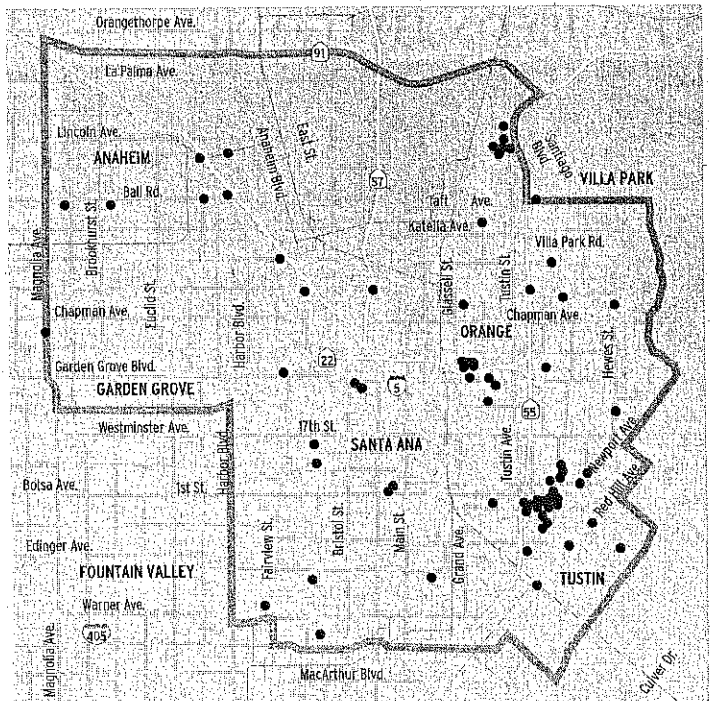
"We have a great deal of evidence from communities across the country that this method is safe and effective," he said.

However, the insecticide

## Spraying for West Nile

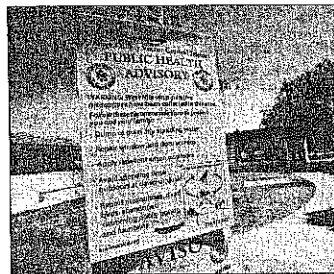
The county plans to launch its first-ever aerial attack on large mosquito populations carrying the West Nile virus. Spraying is scheduled to take place starting at 10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday and last until 4 a.m. both nights.

● Mosquito sites    ■ Spray zone



Source: Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

STAFF GRAPHIC



PAUL RODRIGUEZ, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**A Vector Control advisory at Peppertree Park in Tustin warns people that mosquitoes carrying West Nile virus have been found in the area.**

### Questions?

Anyone with questions or concerns is asked to call the district's Aerial Application Hotline at 714-971-2421, ext. 395.

ed mosquitoes, Dever said. Lynda Cook, a resident of Old Town Tustin who developed meningitis after contracting West Nile virus, said she has "mixed feelings" about the aerial spray. Cook, at home recovering, said she suffered severe body aches, had to be hospitalized for three days and continues to experience extreme fatigue.

"I don't want to be close-minded about it," she said. "But I don't know that we can trust everything the EPA approves. Are we fighting one poison with another? But I do hope it eradicates the mosquitoes without harming anyone and no one else has to go through what I've had to go through."

is toxic to other insects. So beekeepers or those who keep insects outdoors in the spray areas are asked to shelter hives and habitats during spray operations.

Dever said the aircraft will head back to Long Beach Airport once to reload the chemical.

The low-flying aircraft will be so minimal that residents won't hear it, he said. Also, the aircraft will have to be flown over areas not targeted in order to get into position to spray targeted areas.

"So, if the aircraft is flying above your house, it doesn't mean your house is

getting sprayed," Dever said.

The department made the decision to launch an aerial attack because the infection rate in mosquitoes in the targeted areas is well over the threshold where it is considered epidemic, Dever said. The spraying will be canceled if the weather doesn't cooperate, he said.

Last year, the district had to call off ground spraying operations in Santa Ana because of a lack of wind and a rare summer rainstorm, which created unfavorable conditions for the pesticide to target and kill the infect-



# Community Calendar

## Ongoing

Overachievers, check this out  
Achievers Club 9331 is hosting communication and leadership meetings featuring professional speakers at the Crystal Cathedral Tower of Hope, 12141 Lewis St. Meetings will be held every Thursday except during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holiday weeks. For more information, call Barbara Barrientas at 714-971-4123, e-mail [bbarrientas@crystal-cathedral.org](mailto:bbarrientas@crystal-cathedral.org) or visit [www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331](http://www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331).

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 the Crystal Cathedral Arboretum, 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.

# OK, OK, it's cliché, but school is... cool

Summer's ending and an  
exciting change is underway

By Brady Rhoades

If I recall, this time of year was a bummer for kids.

End of summer.

September swoon (I grew up in the oven-hot, smog-heavy Pomona Valley).

Back. To. School.

I also recall the Back-to-School-Blues only lasted a few days, then we were right back into the swing of things.

The third thing I remember is that adults – and parents in particular – seemed really, really happy, or maybe relieved.

Now that I'm on the adult side, I understand this phenomenon.

see SCHOOL, page 4

## SCHOOL:

Continued from page 1

Before heading to work from my home in Fullerton, I watch students in their new clothes trudge, skip and chase each other on their way to Fern Elementary School, which is just three blocks away. Some hold their parents' hands. Boys tease girls, and vice-versa. A gaggle of friends at that

age sounds as loud and raucous as a city.

Thousands of students in the Garden Grove Unified School District and Westminster School District are doing the same thing.

They'll meet their new teachers, learn fascinating facts (and, better yet, how to think more effectively), make fresh friends, join clubs and of course get in just a little bit of trouble every now and then, mostly at recess. For many

high schoolers, the first varsity football game of the season will be played Friday night.

With all that said, let me add for parents: If it's important to you, it's important to the Orange County News.

So don't be shy about sending in write-ups and pictures about your child's latest endeavor, be it in the classroom or in the extra-curricular realm. It's your chance for your child to shine.

Send information to [brhoades@localnewspapers.org](mailto:brhoades@localnewspapers.org), or call me at 714-220-0292, ext. 221. One important note: Pictures should be sent in JPEG format.

Parents have a zillion questions during the first few weeks of school, questions pertaining to school policies, how to get in touch with teachers and administrators, transportation routes, after-school programs, you name it.

For Garden Grove and Stanton parents, you can reach the district at 714-663-6000 or visit [www.ggusd.us/](http://www.ggusd.us/).

For Westminster parents, call 714-894-7311 or visit [www.wwsd.k12.ca.us/](http://www.wwsd.k12.ca.us/).

And to the kids, I say, enjoy yourselves. Engage. School is cool, as "The Fonz" said (go ahead and Google "The Fonz" and, while you're at it, "Generation Gap").

You're only in grades K-12 once. Trust me, you'll never forget it. Make the most of it.

*Brady Rhoades is the editor. He can be reached at 714-220-0292, ext. 221 or by emailing [brhoades@localnewspapers.org](mailto:brhoades@localnewspapers.org).*

## GG becoming more bike friendly

In the city's continued efforts to make Garden Grove a bike-friendly and pedestrian-friendly city, Los Angeles-based Alta Planning + Design has been chosen to develop an effective and permanent Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) as part of the Sustainability Program grant awarded by Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

The BPMP will build on the recently completed study, "Community in Motion," by Cal Poly Pomona's award-winning Department of Landscape Architecture

606 Studio.

During the week of Sept. 14, Alta Planning + Design will conduct a bicycle and pedestrian count-survey that will be used in the development of the BPMP. The community is asked to participate and volunteer in the week-long study.

Residents will have a second opportunity to take part in the BPMP planning process at the second annual Re:Imagine Garden Grove "By Day and By Night" event, on Oct. 10. Alta Planning + Design will host temporary displays of

proposed crossing-improvement designs that the public can try out and provide feedback.

To volunteer for the September count-survey, contact Amanda Berman from Community Arts Resources, producers of Re:Imagine Garden Grove, at [Amanda@carsla.net](mailto:Amanda@carsla.net) or 213-201-6844.

For more information about the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan or the Sustainability Program grant awarded by SCAG, contact Erin Webb, Community Development Department, at 714-741-5313.

# GG teacher picked for food science training program

Camie Walker trained for a week in Washington, D.C.

Camie Walker, a fifth/sixth-grade combination class teacher at Murdy Elementary School in Garden Grove, was one of 34 teachers nationwide chosen to complete a food science training program developed and implemented in a partnership between the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Science Teachers Assn. (NSTA), and Graduate School USA.

The one-week program for middle and high school science teachers, as well as family and consumer science and health education teachers, took place in Washington, D.C., this summer.

The training is part of the FDA/NSTA Professional Development Program in Food Science, a sustained effort to train U.S. teachers to use FDA's curriculum in their classrooms nationwide and train additional teachers in their area of the country. The goal of the



Courtesy photo

Camie Walker

program is to educate teachers and students about critical food safety issues such as foodborne illnesses by exploring the science behind them.

The program arms teachers with a unique topic and curriculum with which to teach science.

In addition, participants learn about nutrition, food allergies, cosmetics safety, and color additives from FDA experts. The teachers also receive nutrition material to help teach their students how to use the nutrition facts label to make better food choices.

During the training, teacher participants learned firsthand about the development and spread of foodborne illnesses; the vulnerability of at-risk populations; and the science behind safe food handling, storage, and preparation.

These teachers also learned how to better use the nutrition facts label to assess the nutritional value of foods. In addition, the teachers talked with scientists from the FDA and conducted laboratory experiments at the University of Maryland at College Park to further increase their understanding of food science.

## Water works

Local governments continue to plan ways to cope with the drought.

And Orange County cities are no exception.

Garden Grove and Westminster recently received thousands of dollars from the Orange County Transportation Authority to improve water quality in their cities.

Garden Grove received \$200,000 to retrofit an irrigation system at the median on Magnolia Street from Westminster Avenue to Trask Avenue and Lampson Avenue to Chapman Avenue; the city will provide another \$85,780 for the project.

The irrigation system is part of an overall median-improvement project that should begin in about a year. It will include planting drought-tolerant landscaping.

The irrigation system will be more efficient than the current sprinkler system and will help reduce water usage and help preserve streets.

Garden Grove is also installing eight filters on storm drains in the Magnolia area to prevent debris from washing into the drains, keeping pollutants out of waterways.

Westminster, meanwhile, received \$125,414 to install 77 catch basins, which catch rainwater, throughout industrial, commercial and high-density residential areas; that city will contribute \$44,475.

The money Garden Grove and Westminster received is part of a \$3 million allocation for projects in 17 cities and the unincorporated Ladera Ranch. Other cities in north Orange County include Orange, Fullerton and Anaheim.

The money comes from Measure M, a half-cent sales tax that voters approved in 2006 for transportation improvements. The measure, though, also included money for environmental cleanup.

OC Register  
September 4, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Musical:** Students at Garden Grove's Agnes Ware Stanley Elementary School will perform at Segerstrom Center on March 22. Agnes is one of four Orange County schools participating in a 17-week musical theater residency program. Each school will perform a 30-minute Disney musical at their campus and then perform a section of it at Segerstrom.

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

OC Register  
September 7, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Fall fun:** The city's autumn Parks and Recreation Guide is available on its website and at City Hall, 1222 Acacia Parkway. The brochure offers events and activities throughout the city, including community classes and sports programs. The guide also contains city news.

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

OC Register  
September 9, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Senior Spelling Bee:** The annual Senior Spelling Bee will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the H. Louis Lake Senior Center dining room, 11300 Stanford Ave. All participants must be 60 or older and register by Thursday. First-, second- and third-place finishers will receive prizes. Information: 714-741-5253.

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

OC Register  
September 5, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Miss America:** Garden Grove native Bree Morse, 23, is representing California next week in the Miss America Scholarship Pageant in Atlantic City, N.J. The preliminaries are Tuesday through Thursday and the finals are scheduled for 9 p.m. Sept. 13 on ABC. Morse is this year's Miss Orange Coast and Miss California.

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

OC Register  
September 8, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**New logos:** Academic and personal skills and lifelong success are the themes depicted in Garden Grove Unified School District's new logos. The school district, in honor of its 50th anniversary and its new strategic plan, recently revealed two logos: one for the 2015-16 academic year and a permanent one.

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

OC Register  
September 10, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Mosquito spray:** The City Council unanimously decided Tuesday to send a letter to Vector Control asking it to not spray the Duet anti-mosquito pesticide after about 24 people spoke against it at the council meeting. The letter was scheduled to be delivered Wednesday.

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



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Contact: Dana Saucedo (714) 741-5253  
Community Services Department

Thursday, September 10, 2015

### **EVERYONE IS A WINNER ON DAY TRIP TO SAN MANUEL INDIAN CASINO**

The H. Louis Lake Senior Center is coordinating a trip to San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino on Tuesday, September 29, 2015. The \$15 per person price includes bus transportation, continental breakfast, and \$10 voucher for slot play or food.

The bus departs from the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, located at 11300 Stanford Avenue, promptly at 8:30 a.m., and will return by approximately 5:00 p.m.

Seniors are invited to sit back and enjoy the air-conditioned deluxe motor coach while it makes its way to San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino in Highland. Once there, the playing floor includes over 3,000 hot slot machines, smoke-free poker room, Vegas-style blackjack, Pai Gow, and other games.

The trip must be paid in full at time of registration. A valid California I.D., driver's license, or military I.D. is mandatory to board the bus.

Seats are limited, so register early. For information and reservations, please contact the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at (714) 741-5253.

# # #



Contact:  
CSO Van Vu (714) 741-5239  
Police Department  
vanv@ci.garden-grove.ca.us

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

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

**Garden Grove Participates in National Drug Take Back Initiative**

On Saturday, September 26, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Garden Grove Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its tenth opportunity in five years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the Garden Grove Police Department, located at 11301 Acacia Parkway. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 309 tons (over 617,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 5,500 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its nine previous Take Back events, the DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.8 million pounds—more than 2,400 tons—of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

-more-

Garden Grove Participates in National Drug Take Back Initiative  
2-2-2

In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or the September 26 event, go to [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback)

###







CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
**NEWS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Contact: Dana Saucedo (714) 741-5253  
H. Louis Lake Senior Center

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

**PREDICTED HIGH TEMPS CALL FOR COOLING CENTER**

With the predicted return of summer-like weather, the H. Louis Lake Senior Center will open as a public cooling center. Beginning Tuesday, September 8, till Friday, September 11, the center will be open from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to offer some relief to the residents of Garden Grove. The center is located at 11300 Stanford Avenue.

On Thursday and Friday, the senior center's regular programs and activities will end at 3:30 p.m., but the facility will remain open until 5:00 p.m.

All ages are welcome to enjoy the cooling center's air-conditioned accommodations. Food will not be available, but visitors may bring their own meals and dine inside.

For more information, please call the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at (714) 741-5253 during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

# # #

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

**September 10, 2015**

1. Calendar of Events
2. Agenda for the September 14, 2015 Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission meeting.
3. Planning Commission meeting agenda for the September 17, 2015 meeting along with minutes from the August 20 special meeting and September 3, 2015 meeting.
4. League of California Cities, "CA Cities Advocates" dated September 4, and 10, 2015.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 10, 2015 – September 29, 2015

Thursday	September 10	9:00 a.m.	Main Street Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
		9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Training Room <b>CANCELLED</b>
Thursday-Saturday	September 10-12	7:30 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Pirates of Penzance", Festival Amphitheater
Thursday-Sunday	September 10-13		One More Productions presents "The Secret Garden", Gem Theater
Saturday	September 12	8:00 a.m.- Noon	Project "GO" Graffiti Off, Municipal Service Center
Thursday	September 17		Casual Day – Western Dress
		7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
Thursday-Saturday	September 17-19	7:30 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Pirates of Penzance", Festival Amphitheater
Friday	September 18		City Hall Closed
Tuesday	September 22	5:30 p.m.	Closed Session, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Housing Authority Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Sanitary District Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Successor Agency Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting, Courtyard Center
Wednesday	September 23	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Courtyard Center
Thursday	September 24	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Training Room
Thursday-Saturday	September 24-26	7:30 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Pirates of Penzance", Festival Amphitheater
Saturday	September 26	10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	National Drug Take Back Initiative Pill Disposal at the Garden Grove Police Department, 11301 Acacia Pkwy
Tuesday	September 29	8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	San Manuel Casino Trip coordinated by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center



AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Courtyard Center  
12732 Main Street

September 14, 2015

6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: CHAIR BRIETIGAM, VICE CHAIR CONSTANTINO  
COMMISSIONERS BLACKMUN, MCINTOSH, MUNETON, PHAM,  
RAMIREZ

Members of the public desiring to speak on any item of public interest, including any item on the agenda except Public Hearings, must do so during Oral Communications at the beginning of the meeting. Each speaker shall fill out a card stating name and address, to be presented to the Recording Secretary, and shall be limited to five (5) minutes. Members of the public wishing to address public hearing items shall do so at the time of the public hearing.

Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services due to a disability should contact the City Clerk's Office to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2)

All revised or additional documents and writings related to any items on the agenda, which are distributed to all or a majority of the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commissioners within 72 hours of a meeting, shall be available for public inspection (1) at the Neighborhood Improvement Office during normal business hours; and (2) at the Courtyard Center at the time of the meeting.

Agenda item descriptions are intended to give a brief, general description of the item to advise the public of the item's general nature. The Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission may take legislative action it deems appropriate with respect to the item and is not limited to the recommended action indicated in staff reports or the agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - 2.a. Minutes from June 8, 2015 special meeting
3. MATTERS FROM STAFF
  - 3.a. 2014-15 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report Review (CAPER)
4. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
5. ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Meeting of the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission will be held Monday, December 7, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street.



A G E N D A

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

COURTYARD CENTER  
12732 MAIN STREET

REGULAR SESSION – 7:00 P.M. COURTYARD CENTER

ROLL CALL: CHAIR O'NEILL, VICE CHAIR KANZLER  
COMMISSIONERS MAI, MARGOLIN, PAK, PAREDES, ZAMORA

Members of the public desiring to speak on any item of public interest, including any item on the agenda except public hearings, must do so during Oral Communications at the beginning of the meeting. Each speaker shall fill out a card stating name and address, to be presented to the Recording Secretary, and shall be limited to five (5) minutes. Members of the public wishing to address public hearing items shall do so at the time of the public hearing.

Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services due to a disability should contact the City Clerk's office at (714) 741-5035 to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

All revised or additional documents and writings related to any items on the agenda, which are distributed to all or a majority of the Planning Commissioners within 72 hours of a meeting, shall be available for public inspection (1) at the Planning Services Division during normal business hours; and (2) at the Courtyard Center at the time of the meeting.

Agenda item descriptions are intended to give a brief, general description of the item to advise the public of the item's general nature. The Planning Commission may take legislative action it deems appropriate with respect to the item and is not limited to the recommended action indicated in staff reports or the agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 3, 2015
- C. PUBLIC HEARING(S) (Authorization for the Chair to execute Resolution shall be included in the motion.)
  - C.1. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-047-2015

APPLICANT: BODHI YOUTH OF AMERICA, INC.  
LOCATION: SOUTH SIDE OF GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD,  
EAST OF NEWLAND STREET AT 8762 GARDEN  
GROVE BOULEVARD #102

REQUEST: Conditional Use Permit approval to operate a new, approximately 3,748 square foot, educational institution, Bodhi Youth of America, at 8762 Garden Grove Boulevard #102. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 - Existing Facilities.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Conditional Use Permit No. CUP-047-2015, subject to the recommended conditions of approval.

- D. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- E. MATTERS FROM STAFF
- F. ADJOURNMENT

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION  
Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Special Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 20, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 6:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Chair O'Neill  
Vice Chair Kanzler  
Commissioner Mai  
Commissioner Margolin  
Commissioner Pak  
Commissioner Paredes  
Commissioner Zamora

Absent: Pak

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Chair O'Neill.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

AUGUST 6, 2015 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed with an amendment.

Motion: Margolin Second: Paredes

Ayes: (6) Kanzler, Mai, Margolin, O'Neill, Paredes, Zamora  
Noes: (0) None  
Absent: (1) Pak

City Manager Scott Stiles joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m. and was introduced to the Planning Commission by Chair O'Neill.

STUDY SESSION – REVIEW OF THE GENERAL PLAN, ZONING, MIXED USE, AND ASSEMBLY BILL AB551.

Staff presented an overview of the General Plan, Zoning, Mixed Use, and Assembly Bill AB551 (Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones Legislation).

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS: Commissioner Paredes asked staff if graffiti removal on private property was also the responsibility of the City. Staff recommended that with any case of graffiti, to please call the City's graffiti line. Commissioner Paredes expressed that he had called in regard to a particular location, but had no response. Staff stated they would have Public Works look into the matter.

Commissioner Mai asked staff what was the biggest hurdle in preventing the hiring of City police personnel. Staff responded that every city was short on police personnel and that cities were hiring, though hiring was difficult due to many variables.

Chair O'Neill thanked his wife for twenty-nine years of marriage and mentioned that they had been married in Bixby Chapel.

MATTERS FROM STAFF: Staff gave a brief description of the items for the Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> Planning Commission meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:00 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Planning Commission on Thursday, September 3, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove.

Motion: Margolin Second: Kanzler

Ayes: (6) Kanzler, Mai, Margolin, O'Neill, Paredes, Zamora

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (1) Pak

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Judith Moore, Recording Secretary



GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION  
Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 3, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Chair O'Neill  
Vice Chair Kanzler  
Commissioner Mai  
Commissioner Margolin  
Commissioner Pak  
Commissioner Paredes  
Commissioner Zamora

Absent: Mai, Zamora

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Margolin.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

AUGUST 20, 2015 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed with amendments.  
Motion: Margolin Second: Kanzler  
Ayes: (5) Kanzler, Margolin, O'Neill, Pak, Paredes  
Noes: (0) None  
Absent: (2) Mai, Zamora

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING – VARIANCE NO. V-011-2015. FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11102 GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD, SOUTH SIDE OF GARDEN GROVE BOULEVARD, WEST OF EUCLID STREET.

Applicant: David Webber  
Date: September 3, 2015

Request: Variance approval to deviate from the required number of parking spaces, Municipal Code Section 9.18.140.030 (Parking Spaces Required), and to reduce the required percentage of landscaping for surface parking lots, Municipal Code Section 9.18.140.070.b.1.a (Surface Parking Lot Landscaping), to allow the operation of a new 14,300 square foot restaurant/eating establishment, East Seafood Buffet. The site is in the CC-3 (Civic Center Core) zone. This project is

exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 – Existing Facilities and 15332 – In-Fill Development Projects.

Action: Public Hearing held. Speaker(s): David Webber. Rick Jerabek of Costco Wholesale submitted a letter in favor of the request.

Action: Resolution of Approval No. 5848-15 approved.

Motion: Kanzler Second: Pak

Ayes: (3) Kanzler, Pak, Paredes

Noes: (2) Margolin, O'Neill

Absent: (2) Mai, Zamora

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT NO. A-014-2015. CITY OF GARDEN GROVE, CITYWIDE.

Applicant: CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

Date: September 3, 2015

Request: A request by the City of Garden Grove for adoption of zoning text amendments to portions of Chapters 9.04 (Definitions), 9.16 (Commercial, Office Professional, Industrial, and Open Space Development Standards), and 9.18 (Mixed Use Regulations and Development Standards) of Title 9 of the Garden Grove Municipal Code to update the references, definitions, development standards, and operational conditions in the City's Land Use Code, pertaining to massage establishments and other types of uses at which massage services are provided, to be consistent with the City Massage Regulations set forth in Chapter 5.12 of the Garden Grove Municipal Code and the State Massage Therapy Act. Pursuant to the proposed Amendment, massage establishments would be treated as a separate commercial use, rather than as an adult entertainment business, and would be permitted to be located in the C-2 (Community Commercial), GGMU-1,2,3 (Garden Grove Boulevard Mixed Use), and NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) zones, subject to approval of a Conditional Use Permit, provided they are not located within 1000 feet of another massage establishment, meet specified development, operational, and minimum parking standards, possess a valid and current massage operator's permit issued by the Police Chief, and comply with all other requirements of the City Massage Regulations in Chapter 5.12. Existing legally established and permitted massage establishments would be deemed legal nonconforming uses that are subject to the provisions of Chapter 5.12 (Massage Regulations) and Chapter 9.36 (Nonconformities) of the Garden Grove Municipal Code. The proposed Amendment would also update the definitions, references, conditions and standards applicable to Athletic and Health Clubs, Spas or Gyms

that provide massage services, and would permit massage services to be provided as part of a salon, spa or similar facility located in, and incidental to the operation of, a Hotel that contains at least one hundred fifty (150) rooms located anywhere in the City. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the Garden Grove City Council regarding the proposed Amendment and a determination that it is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Action: Public Hearing held. Speaker(s): None.

Action: Resolution No. 5849-15 approved.

Motion: Kanzler Second: Paredes

Ayes: (5) Kanzler, Margolin, O'Neill, Pak, Paredes

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (2) Mai, Zamora

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS: Vice Chair Kanzler asked staff if it was feasible to provide an updated parking study for the City. Staff responded that because of the expense of a study, direction would be needed from City Council; that the Mixed Use Code included additional standards; and that an updated residential parking study was done about ten years ago.

Commissioner Pak asked for an update on the Galleria and Brookhurst Triangle projects. Staff responded that the City was still waiting on the Galleria parties to agree on a developer, and that the Brookhurst Triangle plan check was near completion.

Commissioner Margolin asks staff about the Galleria time extensions. Staff replied that at City Council two weeks ago, representatives of a new developer and the bank indicated they were close to signing an agreement, and that if the parties did not enter into a deal, the only option for the City would be to order the demolition of the structure, which could be costly, disruptive and dangerous.

Commissioner Paredes thanked staff for assisting with his graffiti removal request.

Chair O'Neill thanked everyone for their patience with the Variance and wished everyone a safe holiday weekend.

MATTERS FROM STAFF: Staff distributed large copies of the General Plan map and Zoning map and gave a brief description of the September 17<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission items, adding that the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting would be a CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Study Session to begin at 6:30 p.m. Staff also mentioned that Karl Hill was the new Acting Community Development Director and Lee Marino was the new Acting Planning Services Manager.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:55 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove

Planning Commission on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtyard Center, 12732 Main Street, Garden Grove.

Motion: O'Neill Second: Pak

Ayes: (5) Kanzler, Margolin, O'Neill, Pak, Paredes

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (2) Mai, Zamora

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Judith Moore, Recording Secretary

Sept. 4, 2015  
Issue #84

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Page 5: CCS Partnership Focuses on Common Key Issues, Concerns at Leadership Council Meeting

Page 6: California City Solutions: Live Healthy Dublin Empowers Residents and Creates Better Quality of Life

## **League Supports Governor's Transportation Funding Framework** *Cities Need to Weigh in Quickly*

As the legislative session entered its final week, Gov. Jerry Brown on Thursday released a proposed framework for a transportation deal that would bridge the divide between Democrats and Republicans. The framework is built on ideas put forward by the Fix Our Roads Coalition and both legislative caucuses. It includes significant constitutional protections for new revenues, CEQA streamlining and Caltrans reforms. *For more, see Page 2.*



## **League Joins Police Chiefs to Sponsor Drone Legislation**

The League of California Cities® and the California Police Chiefs Association have joined forces to co-sponsor a drone bill, SB 168 (Gaines-Jackson). This bill seeks to address the hazard posed by unmanned aircraft systems, or drones, operating in flight-restricted airspace during an emergency. The bill is supported by the California Fire Chiefs Association, the California Professional Firefighters, and the California State Association of Counties. *For more, see Page 2.*



## **League-Sponsored Bond Agency Finances Affordable Housing Projects in Richmond, Gilroy, Escondido and Hanford**

Some of the most significant benefits of League membership for cities since 1988 have flowed from the League's co-sponsorship of the California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA). This program provides a variety of public agencies and developers access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. In July and August, CSCDA issued \$113 million in bonds that helped finance several affordable housing projects in several California cities. *For more, see Page 4.*

## 'Transportation' Continued from Page 1...

The League's officers were briefed prior to the public release of the proposed framework and agreed that it is consistent with the League's approved transportation funding principles. The League released a [press statement](#) late Thursday afternoon in support.

The package would provide an annual amount of funding of \$3.6 billion, and represents a significant step in addressing cities' street maintenance needs, public transit needs and other priorities. One-half of the funding (\$1.8 billion) would go to cities and counties for street maintenance, complete street projects, public transit and state-local partnership funding projects. Of this amount, \$1.05 billion would be allocated by formula for local streets and roads maintenance, \$525 million of which will go to cities each year based on population ([new allocation estimates](#)). An additional \$100 million would be set aside for a complete streets competitive grant program.

The revenue package required to fund this smaller program does not require a gas tax increase, but it is adjusted and indexed for inflation. The rest of the revenue proposal includes use of \$500 in Cap-and-Trade revenues, \$100 million in CalTrans efficiencies, \$500 million from an 11 cent increase in the diesel tax indexed for inflation (to support the trade corridor enhancement program and other highway and road improvements) and \$2 billion from a \$65 per vehicle highway user fee. The entire package will cost Californian vehicle owners about \$10/month, according to the Governor's Administration. These same vehicle owners are paying an average of \$762 a year to fix their vehicles due to poor road conditions.

### Next Steps

With just one week until the legislative session adjourns, the Legislature must act quickly. City officials are encouraged to call and tweet their legislators to express support for the Governor's framework. Sample tweets are below. Please add your city's Twitter handle and also add your legislator's [twitter handle](#).

The League has also developed [a sample letter](#) of support for use by cities or individual elected officials.

Sample tweets:

- [@CityofNAME](#) supports @JerryBrownGov transportation funding framework @YourLegislator #FixCARoads #CaLeg
- [@JerryBrownGov](#) transportation framework will help @CityofNAME fix our streets @YourLegislator #FixCARoads #CaLeg
- [@CityofNAME](#) thanks @JerryBrownGov for his leadership on transportation funding @YourLegislator #FixCARoads #CaLeg
- [@CityofNAME](#) has shovel ready street projects and thanks @JerryBrownGov for transportation proposal @YourLegislator #FixCARoads #CaLeg

In addition, the Fix Our Roads coalition continues the "[Tweet Your Legislator](#)" campaign.

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## 'Drones' Continued from Page 1...

SB 168 has two significant components:

1. It would provide first responders with immunity should a civilian drone be damaged or destroyed while interfering with any first responder emergency operations; and
2. It would increase the fine for operating in restricted airspace, i.e. the airspace in and around the site of an emergency.

According to the U.S. Forest Service, on 13 separate occasions this year, drones have interfered with aircraft attempting to battle wildfires, compared with only four such incidents during 2014. In many instances, firefighting aircraft have had to be grounded for safety reasons due to drones operating in flight-restricted airspace. The end result of the grounding of these aircraft before they could complete their drops of water or fire-retardant material was never more dramatic than in

July 2015, when at the Cajon Pass in San Bernardino County, a 3,500-acre wildfire destroyed both homes and at least 20 vehicles as the blaze jumped Interstate 15. In August, a civilian drone nearly collided with an ambulance in the skies over Fresno.

In a joint letter announcing their sponsorship of SB 168, the League and the California Police Chiefs stated: "The distractions, delays, and heightened threat to public safety caused by the irresponsible use of civilian drones pose an unacceptable and growing risk for both our first responders and members of the public."

Some have voiced doubts that what are essentially hobby drones pose much of a threat, and that authorities may have over-reacted in deciding to ground their aircraft for safety reasons. But in a recent CBS News broadcast, Jeff Thrasher, a helicopter pilot with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, underscored the danger drones pose to firefighting aircraft, when he made it clear that even a collision with a relatively small drone can bring an aircraft down. "If a drone ... were to go into a tail rotor or a main rotor system, it could have catastrophic consequences," he said.

### **Why State Law is Necessary**

Another factor in the drone discussion is the pending body of safety rules proposed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in February 2015. Unfortunately the proposed rules address non-recreational operation of drones only — they do not include within their scope the recreational, or hobby drones that have so frequently interfered with first responder aircraft in past several weeks in California.

Nonetheless, the FAA reportedly takes the view that it has occupied the field in terms of any laws regulating the use of drones — all drones. But current federal regulations do not address the use of hobby drones at all. While it is a violation of both state and federal law to operate any civilian drone in temporarily flight-restricted airspace, such as the scene of a wildfire, current law does not provide a sufficiently strong deterrent to actually prevent this activity, nor do current regulations facilitate identifying the bad actors.

Current federal regulations impose operating limitations on drone operators in the form of proposed rules to minimize safety risks:

- Small UAS (drone) operators must always see and avoid manned aircraft. If there is a risk of collision, the drone operator must be the first to maneuver away.
- The operator must discontinue the flight when continuing would pose a hazard to other aircraft, people or property.
- A small drone operator must assess weather conditions, airspace restrictions and the location of people to lessen risks if he or she loses control of the drone.
- A small drone may not fly over people, except those directly involved with the flight.
- Flights should be limited to an altitude of 500 feet and no faster than 100 mph.
- Operators must stay out of airport flight paths and restricted airspace area, and obey any FAA Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs).

Unfortunately, drone operators are ignoring most of these rules with increasing frequency, under circumstances that clearly pose an imminent danger to public safety.

State law stiffening existing penalties for reckless operation of drones endangering public safety is needed to help close this regulatory gap. Drones operators must be placed on notice that fines for irresponsible operation will be significant, and that they may lose the drone itself, if recent activities interfering with first responders during emergencies continue.

Some California cities have taken the initiative to unilaterally ban the use of drones during specified emergencies such as wildfires. In mid-August, the Poway City Council directed its city attorney to craft a narrow urgency ordinance that would make it illegal to launch or land a drone within the city limits if there is a fire within two miles of the city. Mayor Steve Vaus brought the issue before the council, citing several incidents elsewhere in the state in which air tankers and helicopters were forced to leave the vicinity of active wildfires because drones operating in the

area made it too dangerous to fly. The council this week voted 4-1 to pass an emergency ordinance banning drones over most of the city. Poway residents lost homes in the 2003 and 2007 wildfires.

### **Federal Regulations Too Loose, Give Recreational Drones a Pass**

Another factor frustrating the ability of authorities to hold wayward drone operators accountable is that legislation imposing requirements such as unique identifiers on individual drones, "kill switches," or even transponders, have consistently been resisted by manufacturers.

Despite discussions in Congress of stiffer fines and even jail time being imposed at the federal level, such talk may not mean much if there is no feasible means of readily identifying drones or linking them with specific operators. Past federal regulations have contributed to the current problem; Congress in 2012 blocked regulation of drones flown for recreational purposes, and ruled that the FAA could not require members of the public to register their drones, obtain training, or fly drones with identifying features. This has ushered in the current growing abuse of recreational drones that has risen to the level of endangering first responder aircraft as well as commercial jetliners.

SB 142 (Jackson) is a related bill introduced in response to drone activity involving complaints against drone operators by their neighbors. Currently on Gov. Jerry Brown's desk, the measure would provide that an unmanned aerial vehicle flown less than 350 feet over private property without permission of the owner constitutes trespass, which could lead to a civil suit being filed against the violator operating the drone.

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'CSCDA' Continued from Page 1...

### **Richmond: Liberty Village Apartments**

Liberty Village Apartments involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of 99 multifamily affordable housing units by LIH Liberty Village LP. Sponsored by Levy Affiliated, the nonprofit partner is Casa Major, Inc., and the equity provider is WNC & Associates, Inc. The project will continue to be 100 percent affordable and provide one-, two- and three-bedroom units to low-income families in Richmond.

CSCDA partnered with Citi Community Capital to provide \$12.5 million in tax-exempt and \$1.5 million in taxable multifamily affordable housing bonds for LVA. The rehabilitation will include installing new roofs and gutters, double pane vinyl windows, new kitchen cabinets, granite countertops and stainless steel appliances, bathroom mirrors and medicine cabinets, water and wall heaters, new flooring, repainting of building exteriors and interiors, and a new playground. The financing of LVA will maintain the affordability of units for low-income tenants for 55 years.

### **Gilroy: Alexander Station Apartments**

The Alexander Station Apartments involves construction of 262 multifamily affordable housing units in Gilroy by The Pacific Companies. Situated on a previously blighted and vacant lot, the project features one-, two-, three- and four-bedroom units to serve a broad range of local residents. One hundred percent of units will be rent restricted for low-income tenants.

CSCDA and The Pacific Companies partnered with Citibank and CCRC Affordable Housing Partners to provide \$88 million in tax-exempt multifamily affordable housing bonds for the project. The financing requires the affordability of units for low-income tenants to be maintained for 55 years.

### **Escondido: Summit Rose Apartments**

Summit Rose Apartments (SRA) involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of 90 multifamily affordable housing units by Summit Rose Apartments LP. The project sponsor is KDF Communities. SRA will continue to be 100 percent affordable and provide 27 one-bedroom units



and 63 two-bedroom units to low-income families in Escondido.

CSCDA and KDF Communities partnered with Pillar Capital Finance LLC/HUD 223(f) to provide \$7 million in tax-exempt multifamily affordable housing bonds for SRA. The rehabilitation will include installing new exterior paint, windows, new kitchen cabinets, countertops, upgraded appliances, renovated bathrooms, and new floors for the kitchens and bathrooms. The financing of SRA will maintain the affordability of units for low-income tenants for 55 years.

### **Hanford: Amberwood I and Amberwood II Apartments**

Amberwood I & II Apartments (Amberwood) involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of 88 multifamily affordable housing units by Hanford 2015 Community Partners, LP. The project sponsor is WNC & Associates, Inc. Amberwood will continue to be 100 percent affordable and provide 10 one-bedroom units, 53 two-bedroom units and 23 three-bedroom units to low-income families in Hanford.

CSCDA and WNC & Associates partnered with Rabobank to provide \$4.3 million in tax-exempt multifamily affordable housing bonds for Amberwood. The rehabilitation will include installing bathroom and kitchen countertops, vanities, upgraded appliances, new floors, HVAC systems and new interior paint. The financing of Amberwood will maintain the affordability of units for low-income tenants for 55 years.

### **Background**

CSCDA is a joint powers authority created in 1988 and is sponsored by the League of California Cities® and the California State Association of Counties. It was created by cities and counties for cities and counties. More than 500 cities, counties and special districts are program participants in CSCDA, which serves as their conduit issuer and provides access to efficiently finance locally-approved projects. CSCDA has issued more than \$50 billion in tax exempt bonds for projects that provide a public benefit by creating jobs, affordable housing, healthcare, infrastructure, schools and other fundamental services. Visit <http://cscda.org> for additional information on the ways in which CSCDA can help your city.

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### **CCS Partnership Focuses on Common Key Issues, Concerns at Leadership Council Meeting**

The Leadership Council of the Cities Counties Schools Partnership (CCS) met on Thursday, Aug. 27 at the League of California Cities® office in Sacramento. The elected officials, executive directors and association staff joined in a discussion on Local Control Funding Formula, and the accompanying Local Control Accountability Plan, that serves as the new funding mechanism for California's K-12 students.

Additionally, the leaders developed topics for future discussion that may serve as projects and joint efforts to be taken on by the Institute for Local Government with support from the partner associations (League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties and the California School Boards Association). CCS' past efforts were noted to include safe routes to school, school/community partnerships, and nutrition and health.

This group emerges as a Leadership Council in an unincorporated status after being an independent 501(c)3 for 18 years. The operational efficiencies from this change in status allow the leaders to deeply impact communities and support collaboration among city, county and school agencies and officials in providing more efficient and effective programs and facilities to serve California's children and families.

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## California City Solutions: Live Healthy Dublin Empowers Residents and Creates Better Quality of Life

*This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2014 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called [California City Solutions](#). Live Healthy Dublin was submitted in 2014 for the Health and Wellness Programs award category.*

The city of Dublin's Parks and Community Services Department began providing a health and fitness program in spring 2013 to motivate its community to live healthy. This led the Dublin City Council to create a healthy living initiative that encompasses events and opportunities for residents to engage in healthy eating, fitness and fun competitions. Each spring, the annual Live Healthy event creates teams to bring residents together and challenge each other to eat better, get active and lose weight.

The Dublin City Council prioritized healthy lifestyles and wellness issues for the community in 2012. In response to the national obesity epidemic, the council crafted an initiative to increase the health and quality of life for all Dublin residents. City staff also developed a program to engage the community (youth, residents, businesses), while making use of the city's amenities — numerous parks and trails; fitness classes and activities; and many health options in town. The city council also recognized that socialization is a contributing factor in an individual's physical fitness success. Having a support network of people to cheer participants on, hold them accountable, and support them in meeting goals is very motivating.

The Parks and Community Services Department partnered with a nationwide, team-centric, online wellness firm to create the [Live Healthy Dublin](#) program to motivate, educate, and empower its residents to have healthier lifestyles. Through the 10 Week Wellness Challenge, residents formed teams of two to 10 participants to work together on fitness goals. Sponsorships from ValleyCare Health System and Kaiser Permanente enabled the city to offer the program for just \$5 per person. Participants received a training t-shirt, subscription to a fitness/lifestyle magazine and online access to helpful related resources. They recorded weight loss and their daily physical activity minutes. By joining up with friends, family members, neighbors, and co-workers, the program successfully helped people meet mutually-beneficial goals.

City staff promoted the program through the local school district, as well as many locally based business corporations. The challenge featured 486 participants, devising 102 teams. To allow teams to jump-start their physical activity, the program kicked off at the City of Dublin's St. Patrick's Day Festival and annual "Shamrock 5K Fun Run/Walk." Throughout the 10 weeks, participants were also invited to attend workshops or health clinics produced by some of the city's health-related businesses, including Koko FitClub, the Fit Potato, Get Fit Yoga, Jazzercise, Rockin' Jump, and Trail Trekkers. The event concluded with an awards ceremony at the end of May, celebrating the teams who achieved the greatest weight loss and spent the most time in physical activity.

Participants lost more than 578 pounds total with the top 25 teams spending more than 30 hours in physical activity per team member. Challenge organizers sent a survey to the participants following the 10 Week Wellness Challenge. Eighty-nine percent of respondents reported that they achieved at least some of their goals; 83 percent found the team aspect of the challenge to be helpful in becoming healthier; while 72 percent found that the personal website was helpful in their journey to achieve better health. At a city-sponsored event in 2014, a 2013 participant reported that she began her fitness and weight loss journey with the Live Healthy Dublin "10 Week Wellness Challenge" and she has since lost 85 pounds.

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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Page 3: Ticket Amnesty Program Informational Sessions Scheduled Next Week for Local Partners

**Work on Transportation Funding Solution to Continue through Joint Conference Committee after Legislature Adjourns**

*Fix Our Roads Coalition Remains Engaged in Effort to Fund Much Needed Road Repair and Maintenance*

As the first year of the legislative session comes to a close, it is becoming apparent that there will not be an agreement on how to address the significant transportation funding shortfall. However, the special session on transportation funding will not end when legislative leaders hit their gavels to adjourn the 2015 legislative year tomorrow night. Instead, Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) and Senate President pro Tem Kevin De León (D-Los Angeles) announced on Wednesday afternoon that they would call a conference committee on transportation which will meet this fall after the regular session. *For more, see Page 2.*



**Gas Reduction Targets Removed from Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Bill**

All eyes in the Capitol were tuned to the Cal Channel at 5 p.m. Wednesday for a last-minute news conference with Gov. Jerry Brown, Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) and Senate President pro Tem Kevin De León (D-Los Angeles). The three gathered the Capitol Press Corps to announce that the ambitious gas reduction mandate had been taken out of De León's SB 350. He wanted a 50 percent reduction in petroleum usage by 2030. *For more, see Page 2.*



**CSCDA Issues \$33.7 million in Tax-Exempt Bonds for Affordable Apartment Units in Escondido**

The California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA) on Sept. 4 announced that it has issued \$33.7 million in tax-exempt multifamily affordable housing bonds for the Cypress Cove Apartments in Escondido. Some of the most significant benefits of League membership for cities since 1988 have flowed from the League's co-sponsorship with CSCDA. This program provides a variety of public agencies and developers access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. *For more, see Page 2.*

**'Transportation' Continued from Page 1...**

Gov. Jerry Brown also spoke when the announcement was made and acknowledged the Fix Our Roads Coalition's efforts. The Sacramento Bee quoted him saying, "The roads are going to get fixed. People are going to spare the money, whether it takes a week, a month, a year or two."

The coalition, which comprises the League, the California State Association of Counties, the California Alliance for Jobs and representatives from local government, labor, business and transportation, issued a press statement late yesterday afternoon: "We want to thank the Governor and legislative leadership for their pledge to continue the fight to come up with a transportation funding and reform package. We support the call for a conference committee to meet over the coming weeks. As the Governor pointed out, our broad coalition of local government, business, labor, and transportation advocates will intensify our efforts to push for a compromise agreement. Californians expect and deserve solutions to fix our deteriorating roads."

Conference committees are comprised of Republicans and Democrats from both the Senate and the Assembly. Those members are empowered to negotiate on behalf of their caucuses. The League will update members on the committee once the members are officially appointed by Speaker Atkins and the Senate Rules Committee.

The Fix Our Roads Coalition formed when the Governor called the special session on transportation back in June. It put forward a \$6 billion plan, with revenues split equally between the state and local governments, which would fund the preservation and maintenance of the road system. The Governor last week released his own proposed framework that was built on ideas formed by the Fix Our Roads Coalition and both legislative caucuses. The package would provide \$3.6 billion annually to address both the road system and transit needs.

**Next Steps**

It is not easy to keep the legislature focused on legislation during the fall, a time typically spent in their districts with constituents. Cities should continue to stress the importance of addressing the significant transportation funding shortfall when they see legislators. Once the conference committee membership is announced, the League and the Fix Our Roads Coalition will share additional details on how cities can help move this discussion forward.

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**'SB 350' Continued from Page 1...**

The announcement marks the first real defeat for the four-term California governor who has made addressing climate change a hallmark of his current tenure in office. This late-breaking amendment is the result of pressure exerted by moderate Democrats who would not support SB 350 in its current form.

Questions remain however on whether the gas reduction mandates stripped from SB 350 are in fact necessary for the Governor to achieve such standards. The California Air Resources Board has broad regulatory authority to reduce emissions, which could ultimately lead to a reduction in gas consumption. In addition, the Governor in April issued an executive order on Greenhouse Gas Reduction to cut emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. Federal standards through the Corporate Average Fuel Economy require vehicle manufacturers to comply with the gas mileage standards set by the Department of Transportation.

Significant provisions remain in SB 350 to address climate change by 2030. It still would mandate a 50 percent increase in energy efficiency in existing buildings, as well as an increase in the renewable portfolio standard for utilities from 33 to 50 percent in that time frame.

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**'CSCDA Bonds' Continued from Page 1...**

Cypress Cove Apartments is an acquisition and rehabilitation of 200 multifamily affordable housing units by Bear Valley Housing Associates, LP. The project sponsor is Community HousingWorks. Cypress Cove will continue to be 100 percent affordable and provide 50 one-

bedroom, 98 two-bedroom, and 50 three-bedroom units to low-income families in Escondido.

CSCDA and Community HousingWorks partnered with Union Bank to provide \$33.7 million in tax-exempt multifamily affordable housing bonds for Cypress Cove. The rehabilitation will include new roofs and windows, upgrades to bathrooms and kitchens, new interior and exterior paint and the remodeling and reopening of the community center which has been closed for years. The financing of Cypress Cove will maintain the affordability of units for low-income tenants for 55 years.

## **Background**

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## **Ticket Amnesty Program Informational Sessions Scheduled Next Week for Local Partners**

### *Program Could Help Cities Recover Portion of Unpaid Ticket Fines*

The Judicial Council next week will hold two webinars in preparation for the Oct. 1 launch of the statewide traffic tickets/infractions amnesty program. The webinars are for local partners, advocacy groups and other interested parties and will provide an overview of the program and available resources. Administering agencies and stakeholders will also have an opportunity to pose questions to subject matter experts.

Through the amnesty program, people with unpaid traffic and non-traffic infraction outstanding tickets will be eligible to pay their fines at significantly reduced rates. Local agencies will recover proportional amounts from funds collected.

The most recent version of the FAQ and Program Guidelines are available [online](#).

## **Webinar Details**

Tuesday, Sept. 15  
10:30 a.m.-noon or 1:30-3 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 17  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

To register for one of the informational sessions, please provide the following information to the Judicial Council's Revenue & Collections Unit at [amnesty@jud.ca.gov](mailto:amnesty@jud.ca.gov):

- Name of participant(s)
- Court/county/vendor/stakeholder name
- Email address and phone number

Registrants will receive WebEx and conference line details prior to the sessions, as well as any relevant materials.

Questions regarding amnesty or the informational sessions can be submitted to [collections@jud.ca.gov](mailto:collections@jud.ca.gov).

## **Additional Background**

The new program, which is set to run Oct. 1, 2015-March 31, 2017, is expected to produce significantly higher revenues, upwards of \$150 million, because of the longer timeframe as well as changes in the incentives offered.

The amnesty rate of 50 percent will be standard; however, low-income individuals on public assistance can be eligible to pay only 20 percent to eliminate their traffic and non-traffic infraction debt. Participants will also be able to close out their debt through either a lump sum payment or a series of payments. One additional incentive offered under the new guidelines, allows participants to get their driver's license back upon entering the repayment program (as opposed to upon completion of the payments).

The Judicial Council has produced a [video](#) about the amnesty program. Additional information is available on the Judicial Council's [website](#).

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