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A Monthly Community Newspaper

May 2022

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Photo by Tony Richards

The Orange Plaza Rotary Classic Car show, April 10, featured 400 cars. This 1959 Cadillac was purchased new by Rocky Pebley's, right, grandfather. It was passed down to his father, and then to him. His son Kevin Pebley, left, will be the fourth generation Pebley to own the car. When Kevin Pebley bought a house, his dad's first question was "How big is the garage?" See Classic, page 3.

NEWS INSIDE

TOWN WITHIN A CITY

Topics at Old Towne Forum illustrate the growing pains of an historic neighborhood facing urban change.

See Old Towne, page 2

KIDS, DOGS AND OUTDOOR DINING

Family focused neighborhoods in Old Towne are destined to share their quiet streets with commerce.

See Commercial, page 5

REAPPOINTED ROUNDS

Canyon postmaster trades dark of night credo for the light and leisure of retirement.

See Please forward, page 6

ROOM TO ROAM

Sneak peak at new mammal enclosure reveals a habitat fit for feline fauna at the OC Zoo.

See New large, page 10

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Landmark RV park, still owned and operated by its founding family, celebrates the 50th birthday of the business.

See Orangeland, page 11

County may allow toxic waste to be buried in Orange

A Facebook page is claiming the property owner cited for illegal dumping in Orange has reached a deal with the county to bury toxic materials on the site. The post, linked to Milan Capital Management, the property owner cited by the county for illegally dumping on the former Sully-Miller site, states Milan will be allowed to bury the material in "70-foot-deep silt ponds." This goes against previous testimony by the county that the only way to remediate the site is to remove all material.

In January 2020, a homeowner who lived next door to the site on East Santiago Canyon Road, complained of illegal dumping to the OC Local Enforcement Agency (LEA), an enforcement arm of the state. More complaints followed. After investigating, LEA alerted Milan that it had observed illegally dumped

building materials. Milan also failed to produce a full accounting of what had been dumped there, as there were no records for nearly 10 years. The LEA slapped Milan with an immediate cease and desist order. Milan appealed.

At the Oct. 9, 2020 hearing, Kathryn Cross, the LEA's lead enforcement officer, testified that the site is unpermitted, the 40-foot towers of stockpiled materials are deemed illegal disposal, and the stockpiles need to be removed from the property. "I saw it [illegal material] back in February on my visit," Cross said. "It's now buried, probably 20-30 feet below and it's mixed."

Citizens have been complaining about the illegal dump for more than 20 years. According to the minutes from a 2003 hearing, the Orange City Council voted to allow operations to continue under a previous owner, apparently

based on an opinion of the then-city attorney that operations were "a legal non-conforming use." This continued, even though the city's sand and gravel ordinance was modified and no longer permitted importing and crushing of concrete waste materials.

In 2019, the City of Orange sided with Milan, which sought to build 128 homes on the site. The homes would have required methane bladders to stave off toxic gas. This provoked the Orange Citizens group to run a successful referendum and ballot measure that ended with voters shooting down the development in the 2020 election.

Campaign disclosure forms showed that Orange Mayor Mark Murphy had long been accepting campaign contributions from Milan's owner, its consultant, the consultant's attorney and others associated with the

developer. In September 2019, the Orange Citizens group sued the City of Orange over its flawed Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which would have allowed Milan's crushing operation to continue for 15 years. The suit was settled out of court, and the EIR was decertified.

Earlier this year, residents contacted County Supervisor Don Wagner about the illegal dump. Soon thereafter, LEA stopped communicating with citizens. Complainants were told an agreement was pending.

"This smells of a back-room deal," said Dru Whitefeather, who lives in nearby Orange Park Acres "It appears the county is ready to reward Milan for the illegal dumping on the Sully-Miller

See "County" continued on page 5

Lawsuit challenges constitutionality of state housing legislation

by Tina Richards

Four Southern California charter cities have filed suit against Attorney General Rob Bonta and the State of California, asking the court to rule on the constitutionality of Senate Bill 9 (SB9) and invalidate it.

The filing in a Los Angeles County Superior Court by the cities of Redondo Beach, Carson, Torrance and Whittier claims that SB9 legislation usurps their land-use authority, and is counter to local controls guaranteed by the state constitution.

SB9, effective Jan. 1, allows owners of single-family properties to replace those units with two duplexes and two accessory dwelling units. Cities are required to approve these developments regardless of local zoning, general plan designations or other concerns. The legislation effectively eliminates single-family zoning.

Although the lawsuit was filed

by charter cities, which have more self-governing independence than general law cities, the points raised in the legal challenge apply to all California jurisdictions covered by the state constitution. That includes the general law cities of Orange and Villa Park.

Damage control

Both of those municipalities reacted to SB9 with ordinances designed to lessen the impacts of that legislation as much as legally possible. While local jurisdictions are mandated to approve split lots and multi-family dwellings within single-family zoning, they are allowed a modicum of discretion relating to setbacks, design standards, floor area ratios and height limits. Orange passed a resolution supporting a statewide voter initiative that

See "Lawsuit" continued on page 3



NJT volunteers celebrate the swift packing of medical supplies destined for Ukraine. OC coordinators Karl (with beard) and Tara Eaton (with sash) stand on the right.

Locals aid Ukraine relief efforts

The nonprofit humanitarian organization Not Just Tourists (NJT) ships donations of excess hospital medical supplies to developing countries around the world – one suitcase at a time.

Individual global travelers, as well as medical or church missions, volunteer to take an extra donated suitcase full of life-saving medical supplies with them on their travels. In only four years, the Orange County division of the organization, run by volunteers Karl and Tara Eaton, has managed to save over 25,000

pounds of unused supplies from landfills by redirecting them to 39 countries around the world. These excess medical supplies would, per hospital regulations, normally be thrown away.

When the war in the Ukraine exploded, the couple wanted to send supplies there. Because the group does not accept financial donations, the cost of shipping was an issue. A church in

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Old Towne charm challenged by change

By Tina Richards

Residents attending the State of Old Towne Forum, April 14, learned that more Chapman students will be back living on campus this fall; the impact of state housing mandates is, so far, minimal; a decision on the future of the Paseo is coming later this year; community input on that issue and other upcoming changes to the area will be solicited, and that Orange is "a pretty darn safe city."

Hosted by the Old Towne Preservation Association (OTPA), this year's annual meeting featured panelists Mayor Mark Murphy, Councilwoman Arianna Barrios, Police Chief Dan Adams, City Manager Rob Houston and Chapman University Community Liaison Vice President Alissa Driscoll. Each gave brief introductory remarks and then answered questions submitted by members of the live audience and those watching via Zoom.

Questions ranged from historic streetlamps (expensive), police ride-alongs (no), filming in Old Towne (not much action lately, but still welcome) and "out of control" delivery trucks (a plan is forthcoming). A good number of the questions presented to the panel by OTPA President Sandy Quinn concerned Chapman expansion, enrollment, student housing and off campus party houses.

Growing pains and gains

Chapman's Driscoll reported that physical additions to the campus will take place on "property the university already owns," and that its enrollment calculations have been modified to be more transparent. The Environmental Impact Report for Chapman's proposed Specific Plan amendment (more students) will be available for public review

"Ukraine"
continued from page 1

Pennsylvania volunteered to pay for and coordinate the shipping.

There was one small glitch: rather than a week to pack up 11 pallets of supplies, the couple learned, on a Friday night, that the shipper would be there the next day.

"Friday night we had a total of four people to help us," Karl Eaton recalls. "I was the only male, and only one person was under the age of 65. I was a bit panicked."

They reached out to friends, neighbors and the Ukrainian community. Over two dozen individuals gathered to pack up the 4,000 pounds of supplies in less than three hours.

NJT anticipates further shipments to the war-torn country, as well as to Poland, whose health care system is overwhelmed by tens of thousands of refugees.

They will continue to send suitcases full of supplies to far-flung countries. Though medical supplies are lightweight, they are surprisingly bulky. NJT, which is operated from the couple's home, would very much appreciate storage space to be donated for three to four pallets of supplies. They also need a constant supply of used suitcases, preferably full size, with working wheels.

To donate, or volunteer to deliver supplies during your next journey, contact NJT at OC@njt.net or at (714) 997-5910.

in late summer or early fall.

Asked about an enrollment cap, Driscoll advised she couldn't say there would be a cap, but the university is "aware of its limitations" and is expanding classes at its Irvine campus.

With the pandemic subsiding, all freshmen and sophomores will once again be required to live on campus, beginning with the fall semester.

The university is also considering expanding Panther Village to house more students. Regarding party houses, Alissa noted that Chapman has a liaison with the Orange Police Department, and that a liaison team visits offending houses in person. A student conduct office imposes fines on disruptive students, sends them to a "good neighbor" course and may expel them if all else fails.

Old Towne residents continue to report unruly Chapman students who drink, carouse and urinate in neighbors' yards; the problem is compounded by investors who buy houses, remodel them with more bedrooms and rent them to up to 10 students at a time. "We have to enforce our boarding

house ordinances," District 1 Councilmember Barrios stressed.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), encouraged by state mandates, are considered "very controversial" in Old Towne because they increase density without adding parking. City Manager Houston said that Orange had received 50 applications for ADUs, but only about 15 have been built. "People find out how much effort it takes, and the applications go away," he said.

Community input

Mark Murphy reported that the new fire department headquarters is on schedule, under budget and will be open in September. Asked about the status of the old headquarters, he noted that it had limited public use because it was not seismically retrofitted and had second floor access via stairs only. He assured the audience, however, that the public would be included in discussions about its fate.

The Paseo, Murphy said, is undergoing environmental review and the city is doing the legal legwork upfront on three possibilities. It could be reopening

permanently, seasonally or not at all. Asked about community input, he noted that a workshop is planned for May. "It's going to be a pragmatic process," he said. "It's all subject to review, we will apply lessons learned. It may just be sidewalk dining, or maybe a good idea that hasn't been brought forward yet."

Barrios urged Old Towne residents to participate in Paseo discussions. "You did your part during COVID, now we need to hear from you. You're going to be affected more than anyone; your voices are important."

Police present

Police Chief Adams reported that crime in District 1 has decreased in "almost everything," although catalytic converter theft is up. He noted an uptick in transient activity, particularly in Hart Park. "We're removing abandoned property, making arrests," he advised. "We work every day to get resources to those who need them. We made thousands of contacts last year, but only 1.8% of those accepted help. That's a disappointment."

Both Houston and Barrios

commented on the changes taking place in Old Towne. Houston mentioned a new coffee shop at Chapman and Olive and another in the Wells Fargo building. The stucco on the Chapman-Olive structure is being sandblasted to bring it back to historic level, he added.

"We're at an interesting crossroads," Barrios proffered. "There are lots of new things around the Plaza. The Richland Hotel, the Shroeder Art Studio is going to be Chipotle. The Presbyterian Church admin building is turning into offices, a restaurant, some retail. The Old YMCA on Grand is being transformed. It's not easy for OPTA to stand up for residents. We can't say 'no more growth,' but we have to define a middle ground."

The Old Towne Specific Plan and zoning designations governing Old Towne were set in 1989.

"Those plans were highly successful," Barrios allowed. "But now we're going from wildly successful to off-balance. It's time to rethink it. I'm going to be bringing this forward."

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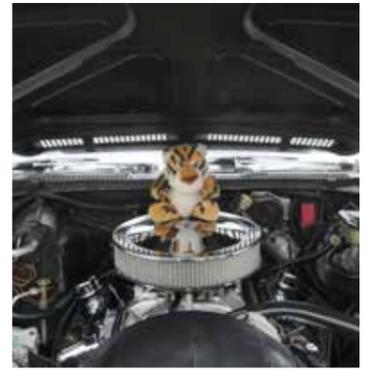
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Classic Car Show packs the Plaza

The 26th Annual Orange Plaza Rotary Classic Car Show returned to Old Towne after a two-year pandemic hiatus, April 10. Some 400 pre-1975 automobiles surrounded the streets around the Plaza, hoods raised, bodies glistening, and each with a story to tell.



A 1940 Chevy, 1948 Pontiac and 1942 Chevy



The 1971 Pontiac Lemans mascot keeps its pristine engine warm.



The car show was organized this year by Tracy Curtis, left, with help from husband Jason Curtis, center, and advice from father Joe Columbo, right. Columbo passed the baton to his daughter this year, after spearheading the event for more than two decades.



Brothers Roger and Charlie Beers inherited this 1929 Model A classic from their dad, and give it the same care and respect that he did. "We're keeping his legacy alive," Roger Beers says.



Artist Rod Sexton created the specialty trophies awarded to "best of" winners.

"Lawsuit" continued from page 1

would have countered SB9 with a constitutional amendment, noting that the ability of local jurisdictions to determine which projects require review "is a matter of critical importance."

That statewide voter initiative was halted and signature gathering is slated to start again in 2024, to qualify for the ballot that year. In the meantime, SB9 opponents are taking the issue to court. The lawsuit points out that the "constitutional right of cities to zone single family residential districts has been well-settled law for almost 100 years."

The only exception, the suit notes, is when overruling local control resolves a "statewide concern." The statewide concern that spawned SB9 is access to affordable housing, but the legislation does not contain any affordability covenants, and states the new units can be sold or leased at market rates.

SB9 violates the state constitution, the lawsuit claims, because local control over residential land use, zoning, density, locations, and standards are guaranteed under Article XI, Section 5. The legislation also disrupts state housing laws by eliminating single-family zoning without accounting for

infrastructure, parks or emergency services. SB9 is undemocratic, it says, because it prohibits due process for neighbors and closes off public accountability of public officials for their actions in approving SB9 projects.

Housing guesstimate

At the same time cities have been wrestling with potential SB9 impacts, they've been drafting their state-mandated "Housing Elements," essentially blueprints for how a jurisdiction plans to meet its housing needs in future years. The current Housing Element report due to the state covers 2021-29.

The state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) allocates the number of dwellings a jurisdiction must provide. This year's regional housing needs assessment (RHNA) was 3,936 for Orange; 296 for Villa Park; 6,782 for Tustin; and 10,406 for unincorporated Orange County.

A statewide organization, the California Alliance of Local Electeds (CALE), questioned the validity of the number of housing units allocated, and asked the state auditor to investigate them.

The auditor's report, issued March 17, cited problems in the HCD methodology that may have inflated housing unit requirements by hundreds of thousands. The audit found that

the data used to portray current housing needs and the number of units levied on municipalities was not sufficiently reviewed and verified. The assessment did not provide sufficient support for the number of households projected; and it did not consider regional factors, or support what are considered "healthy vacancy rates." Incorrect vacancy rates alone, the audit said, resulted in an overcount of 200,000 units. In all, the audit found that the

RHNA requirement of 2.1 million new units "may be contaminated by an overcount of 900,000."

Get it right

The audit report recommended the HCD review its data, establish formal review procedures, employ regional comparisons and conduct an analysis of healthy vacancy rates and historical trends. The work must be undertaken between June 2022 and February 2023.

"Unless HCD completes this task and corrects its mistakes, there is no justification for punishing cities for failing to meet erroneous RHNA goals," a CALE spokesperson said. "The legislature should suspend implementation of RHNA until these problems have been resolved."

Both Villa Park and Orange have submitted their Housing Element plans to the state and are awaiting certification.



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LETTERS to the EDITOR



Small victory

Dear Editor:

I wanted everybody to know how proud I am of Laurel Maldonado. Knowing first-hand of all the calls, research and Zoom meets with Supervisor Don Wagner and county staff, on behalf of residents of OPA and the canyons regarding the Waste Management contract with the county, the discrepancies that she's brought to light have saved residents thousands of dollars.

She has worked many hours to set things right. Instead of Waste Management charging residents \$102 per manure bin, she found language in the contract that says it can only charge \$10 a bin, as it's an organic material that gets recycled.

Great job, Laurel! -- and happy birthday.

Dru Whitefeather
Orange Park Acres

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the outstanding article in the April *Sentry* regarding Waste Management.

Waste Management's attempt to raise the rates on the collection of horse manure by some 900% is another example of a large company getting greedy and trying to shake-down its customers. The fact that they convinced our county Supervisor Don Wagner to sign off on this piracy smells as bad as the manure itself. As the article pointed out, if not for Laurel Maldonado's refusal to just accept the fact that it was a done deal, Orange Park Acres residents who own horses would be paying more to dispose of the horse manure than to feed them.

If you don't own a horse, this should still concern you, because this contract was supposed to have a public hearing. The hearing did not take place; it was only after Wagner and Waste Management signed the contract that the public was informed. If they did this to the people in OPA, what's to keep them from decreasing the size of your bins, and increasing your fees by 900%?

John Reina
Orange Park Acres

Dear Editor:

This is in response to the April article regarding Laurel Maldonado and Waste Management.

Seriously Laurel, you were David against Goliath. You are to be commended for the hours spent studying that contract, your persistence, getting a meeting with Supervisor Don Wagner's office, and leading this effort to preserve what little is left of an equestrian neighborhood, OPA.

You have pulled the curtain on closed-door sweetheart deals, and our elected official broker. Supervisor Wagner is required to represent the public and not pander to special interests, in this case Waste Management, and in another, Milan Capital (owner of the illegal dump).

You have done the heavy lifting, and now Orange Park Acres needs to get behind you. Share the phone numbers, emails and any information you have, and I,

for one, will happily support your efforts. When one horse owner is compromised, we will all be affected, as horse ownership declines and eventually erodes away. It chips away at the very fabric that makes it possible to be a horse community in the first place. Your efforts have benefited this community, and I thank you.

Kim Plehn
Orange Park Acres

Map flap

Dear Editor:

Hats off to longtime Orange resident Sam Rodriguez for his efforts in making sure the district maps were legal. Without his persistence, the majority of the council would have forced one of their selected illegal maps - 105, 108, 109 or 121 - on Orange for a 10-year period. Thank you, Sam, for standing up for our communities. Thanks also to Arianna Barrios and Ana Gutierrez for listening to the people and understanding the characteristics and boundaries that define our unique neighborhoods. Residents are the ones who decide what our communities of interest are, not the city council. It's a shame the other council members were in such a rush to push maps that never would have stood up in court.

I supported Map 119 because it satisfied all the legal requirements, but I think John Russo was correct about Map 124 being the better map, especially for those that live near the mall. The council rejected Map 124 before it could be critiqued. The residents were short-changed.

Laura Thomas
Orange

Still waters

Dear Editor:

(The following remarks were public comments delivered at the April 12 city council meeting.)

For over 100 years, Santiago Creek was mined for sand and gravel, creating pits varying between 35 to 150 feet deep. The shallower pits were turned into unpermitted dump sites - mostly for construction-type materials. When the mining companies left, these pits were re-zoned for open space uses.

The purpose of the open space zone is "to protect natural resources and scenic features for public enjoyment and use, and to set aside areas of the city for active and passive recreational use." Nowhere in the general plan or zoning code is open space defined as a "holding zone."

Past city councils, however, have approved housing developments on these previously mined dump sites, in spite of major opposition by Orange voters. Orange voters have had to run several successful referendums to reverse those decisions and retain open space zoning along the creek.

The citizens of Orange clearly want the city to keep these former mined areas and dump sites for open space use - not for housing projects on land that requires extensive remediation. City staff has recently identified sufficient

land elsewhere in the city that is zoned for housing -- more than enough to comply with the state's housing needs assessment.

Why should the city give up our open space when the city is already below the minimum requirement of park acreage per 1,000 persons?

It is not that we don't want more housing in Orange -- it's all about keeping Santiago Creek as an open space corridor.

Shirley Grindle
Orange

Dear Editor:

We are so fortunate to have the beautiful Santiago Creek running through many portions of our city. I would like our Orange City Councilmembers, city staff and our community to reflect on a vision of protecting the last open spaces along the Santiago Creek.

Multiple studies have shown that people need open natural spaces for their health and happiness. As stated in a World Health Organization Report: "Urban green spaces can promote mental and physical health, and reduce morbidity and mortality in urban residents by providing psychological relaxation and stress alleviation, stimulating social cohesion and supporting physical activity."

We also need to retain these open spaces to help lower climate temperature, prevent extreme flood events and maintain plant and animal diversity, all of which contribute to the health of our environment and that of the residents of Orange.

One item that recently caught my interest is the low "quality of life" scores noted in the city's most recent Housing Element. Our city is at a turning point. We can protect the remaining open space on the floodplain of Santiago Creek by extending Santiago Oaks Regional Park with a natural space wildlife corridor that connects with city parks all of the way to the Santa Ana River. Or, the city can continue on its current path to rezone and promote development on these beautiful natural areas, to the detriment of all.

At both the state and federal levels, there are executive orders for a 30 by 30 plan: preserving 30% of our land by the year 2030. There is probably more money available in state, federal and land trust budgets than ever before to assist cities with land acquisition. It makes more sense for our city to be proactive in acquiring funds to purchase these properties, rather than covering them with more developments. In addition, we have multiple sites in our Housing Element, that are already zoned for mixed use development.

Instead of building three-story market-rate units on an area zoned as open space in the creek corridor (the Stonefield Project behind the medical center on Chapman Ave.), or filling the beautiful Chandler-owned ravine with demolition waste (downstream from the former Sully-Miller property), or cementing or asphaltting over any of the other open spaces once used for mining or dumping, please consider preserving these areas as open space for all of our community to enjoy. Have vision for the future.

Bonnie Robinson
Orange

Swayed by delay

Dear Editor:

The self-serving letter of over-adulation from OUSD Board Trustees Andrea Yamasaki and Kris Erickson was painful to read. Their claim that 55% of voter approval is a vast majority is hilarious.

They failed to mention that two previous bond measures were soundly defeated.

The upgrade of the campuses was not at issue. The inability of OUSD to manage these projects has always been the issue. It was easy to predict the construction process failures of these buildings and the VPHS track and practice field. Construction projects are based on schedules, not the finished buildings. OUSD failed miserably during the course of construction. I have developed eight-story office buildings in nine months from the issuance of building permits. OUSD took years to complete small square footage, two-story buildings with simplistic, rectangular designs. OUSD does not have competent in-house construction people to manage these projects. The oversight committee was just as inexperienced.

They obviously did not properly vet the general contractors and chose poorly. Despite unprecedented favorable weather conditions, the construction process was three times longer than industry-standard time frames for the construction of these small buildings.

Extended construction periods equal higher costs and change orders. This was clearly not a successful implementation of the bond program. This was a perfect example of dereliction of duties and responsibilities.

The VPHS track construction is another example of unmitigated incompetence and negligence. Again, OUSD hired a general contractor that failed miserably. The track and field turf had to be done twice. OUSD and the general contractor should have known that concrete/asbestos pipe was utilized during construction in

the 1960s. This "bust" further delayed the second rebuilding time frame. Any professional civil engineer, project manager and GC would have anticipated this condition, based on the construction year of the school. The original plumbing drawings would have shown the pipe material.

Instead of congratulating yourselves, you should offer a public apology to all taxpayers for the years-long delays in completing these projects.

Steve Palmer
Orange

CFO to honor Orange Elks

The Community Foundation of Orange invites the public to its "Give Where You Live Gala" on June 2, beginning at 6 p.m.

The event will honor Orange Elks Lodge 1475 as the 2022 Community Champion, and include dinner and live and silent auctions at the Grand Gimeno Event Center, 146 North Grand.

To become a sponsor or purchase tickets, contact the CFO at (714) 288-9909 or info@CommunityFoundationOfOrange.org.

Wizard to debut in Tustin

Broadway in the Park, the signature program of the Tustin Area Council for Fine Arts, will be back, Aug. 2 to 6, with its 20th production, "The Wizard of Oz." A 20 x 40-foot video wall will provide the backdrop to the actors bringing the 1939 classic to life. There will be added seating in Peppertree Park, with reserved tables and children's pricing available. See tacfa.org.

Correction

The April *Foothills Sentry* reported that El Modena High graduate Freddie Freeman has signed with the Los Angeles Dodgers for \$62 million. His salary is \$162 million over the next six years.

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Commercial enterprises intruding on residential neighborhoods in Old Towne

By Tina Richards

The Orange Planning Commission approved a redevelopment project in Old Towne that will place a restaurant with outdoor dining directly across the street from residences.

The project, located at Maple Avenue and Orange Street, is on property owned by the Presbyterian Church. The church is leasing the project to C&C Development because, it says, it needs the income to survive. The church's current administration building will be remodeled for the restaurant, which will have a dining patio that wraps around the corner of the structure to face Maple and Orange Streets. A second story will house offices.

The encroachment of commercial businesses into family neighborhoods is driven by Old Towne mixed-use zoning designations established in 1989.

The project was originally denied by the city's Design Review Committee (DRC) because it was found to be incompatible with the neighborhood. The DRC had final approval authority on the project and, after noting privacy concerns, inadequate screening elements, negative lighting and noise impacts, inconsistency with Old Towne standards, and asked C&C to address those issues and



Mixed-use zoning in Old Towne allows commercial centers to be located in residential neighborhoods. This proposed restaurant/office complex is on Maple Avenue, directly across the streets from homes.

return to the committee at a later date. The most glaring issues identified at that time were the restaurant entrance on Maple (across the street from residences) and inadequate accommodations for delivery trucks.

A higher power

When C&C returned to the DRC in March, the project's compatibility, privacy and design issues remained. The builder indicated he did not want to change anything and requested that DRC deny the project so he could appeal it to the Planning Commission. The DRC denied it.

Prior to the April 4 Planning Commission hearing, C&C met

with representatives from the Old Towne Preservation Association (OTPA) and worked out a compromise. The builder agreed to move the restaurant entryway to Orange Street (where there are no houses) and restrict commercial deliveries to Orange street.

With those changes, OTPA agreed to support the project. Additional late inning conditions for approval included mitigated lighting, sound and visual impacts, and 42-inch screening around the patio dining area.

While members of the Design Review Committee spent hours going over the details of the project, the Planning Commission approved it after a 35-minute

discussion that included presentations by city staff and C&C, and four public comments.

Planning commissioners were gratified that the developer and the neighbors had reached an agreement. Commissioner Dave Simpson said that "problems had been resolved at that level." He also noted that many of the DRC comments had been taken into consideration.

Home sweet home

Some, but not all. The 42-inch "screening" around the dining patio is probably not high enough to adequately filter light and noise. Large second-story windows will infringe on the neighbor's privacy

and the veracity of allowing outdoor dining across the street from homes remains a question. OTPA agreed to the project, but, according to one neighbor, they didn't have a choice. City staff told them it was a done deal because of the zoning and they should take what they could get.

DRC member Ann McDermott reminded the Planning Commissioners that the DRC had issued a unanimous denial of the project. "They were unwilling to make further changes," she said, "and requested a denial with the intention to appeal, so they wouldn't have to make changes. We had final determinations. It was not supposed to go to the Planning Commission."

"With all respect to OTPA," she added, "they do not make the final approval determination."

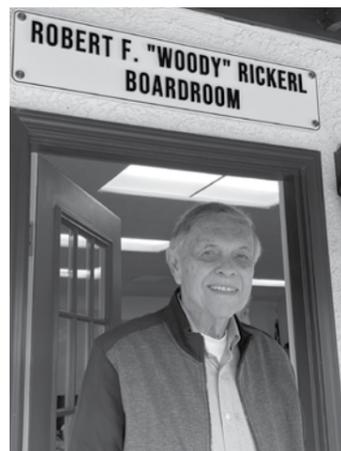
Commissioner Ernie Glasgow reiterated the benefits of "neighbors and businesses coming together." He noted that, the commission looks at a projects compatibility with what's going on around it, and likes to see residents and businesses working together. "It's something we always try to do as businesses encroach into residential neighborhoods," he said. "Not just in Old Towne, but throughout the city."

Serrano Water honors Woody Rickerl

Robert F. "Woody" Rickerl was honored for his 35 years of service on the Serrano Water District Board of Directors, March 28. During a board meeting attended by current and former directors, longtime colleague Jerry

Haight presented an official proclamation and commemorative gift to Rickerl. The new name of the Serrano Water District Boardroom was unveiled, renamed as the Robert F. "Woody" Rickerl Boardroom in his honor.

Rickerl served on the board from 1980 through 2015, and was instrumental in many of the milestone achievements of Serrano Water that benefited water users, including the construction and subsequent enhancement of the Walter Howiler Water Treatment Plant, the sale of the Barham Ranch, the sale of surplus water, construction and rehabilitation of groundwater wells and the operation of recreational activities at Irvine Lake, among others.



Woody Rickerl stands beneath the new signage of the Serrano Water District Boardroom, named in his honor.



Honoring Woody Rickerl were former Serrano Water Board attorney Joel Kuperberg, left, and former directors, left to right, Terry Clingan, John Everett, Woody, Walter Howiler, Jr., Larry Pharris, Jr. and Larry Dick.



Chad Zimmerman, Youth Services chair of Rotary Club of Villa Park, announced the winners of its annual essay contest for middle school students, "What the Rotary Four-Way Test Means to Me." Out of 35 essays, the winners were, second from left, Yahir Flores, first place, \$200; Malayna Kiflezhie, second place, \$150; Cambria Misofsky, third and \$100; Yanexy Solares and Maile O'Neill, both honorable mention and \$50. Leadership Teacher Sandra Geminiani is far left, with Cerro Villa Middle School Principal Madeline Morrison, and Zimmerman to the right of the students, with Rotary President Vito Canuso in rear.

"County" continued from page 1

The city is positioned to aid in this bailout by granting the permit to continue the crushing operation. The LEA's role is to protect citizens, not law-breaking property owners. Residents have been ignored and shut out. Our neighborhoods are at risk."

On April 15, The Santa Ana Regional Water Control Board sent Milan a long list of violations including illegal discharge into the Santiago Creek.

Milan was given until April 30 to fix these violations or face \$10,000 per violation per day in

fines. Here is contact information for those with authority over this site:

Chuck Griffin, Santa Ana Regional Water Control Board, chuck.griffin@waterboards.ca.gov, (951) 782-4996

Darwin Chung, Local Enforcement Agency, (714) 433-6471

Senator Dave Min (District 37) senator.min@senate.ca.gov https://sd37.senate.ca.gov/contact, (949) 651-5472

Supervisor Don Wagner donald.wagner@ocgov.com, (714) 834-3330.

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Easy come, easy go

The Silverado-Modjeska Recreation and Park District (SMRPD) leases the Silverado Children's Center site from OC Parks, but SMRPD maintains the buildings.

At a special meeting of the SMRPD Board of Directors on April 5, President Isabell Kerins reported that SMRPD had received a letter from OC Parks, stating that repairs were needed at the Children's Center. The estimated cost was higher than expected, mainly because a planned slurry seal of the parking lot was deemed insufficient, so a more extensive paving job would be required instead. Roof and fence repairs were also needed.

Kerins estimated that about \$45,000 in repairs was needed quickly, but she hoped that paving could be postponed until August when the Center would be closed.

Quick action regarding the Children's Center was motivated, in part, by a resolution passed by the SMRPD board years ago, stating that the district would no longer give money to the Children's Center to keep it open—if the Center could not pay its bills, it would be shut down in 30 days.

Earlier this year, SMRPD had allocated \$50,000 to the Children's Center from the district's \$108,681 state COVID relief award. But after former SMRPD Treasurer Francesca Duff pointed out an error in the figures used in the district's relief application, SMRPD notified the state, which then requested that SMRPD return \$57,336.

Kerins stated that the main impact of COVID on the park district was at the Children's Center. Corrected financial records indicate that while gross income at the Children's Center declined, gross income elsewhere in the district actually increased slightly.

Board member Kevin Topp suggested that if the Children's Center needed extra money quickly, one option could be a loan from SMRPD. However, unlike previous loans, which are still on the books, a new loan could require a repayment schedule, collateral, and other aspects of more typical loans.

In the end, the board decided that the \$50,000 already given to the Children's Center could stay in that account, where it could be used for the needed repairs. Presumably, \$57,336 could be re-

turned from wherever it had been deposited.

Bridge game

OC Public Works (OCPW) sponsored a public meeting, March 30, at the Library of the Canyons to present information and answer questions concerning the planned replacement of the bridge near Markuson Road in Modjeska.

Much of what was presented was the same as described in a February Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. The new bridge would be wider, construction would start in 2024 and last about eight months, during which alternating one-lane traffic would be supported, except for two or three days when Modjeska Grade Road would be used as a detour.

OCPW staff said that although they had modified their plans in response to public comments, bridge design was largely driven by federal standards, which include a 28-foot minimum width and a five-foot shoulder on each side. Many audience members, however, felt that a wider bridge would encourage speeders, which would be counter to the county's goal of increasing safety.

At minimum, said the county's consultant, the current bridge would need rehabilitation. County engineers said that rehabilitation might cost as much as a new bridge, which would be better constructed and would possibly be eligible for federal funds.

When asked what the penalty would be if the county did not do anything, a county engineer said, "None, until something happens." But the county is at risk "if we knew there was a problem and

didn't do anything about it."

Interestingly, many of the terms used in bridge projects are also used in the card game called "bridge." There are bids, contracts, deals, occasionally some tricks, and probably the occasional dummy. And like duplicate bridge played at tournaments, concrete bridges employ redundant structures.

One difference, though: Although physical bridges have been around for centuries, the card game did not exist until the early 1900s. Before that, people played whist. Madame Modjeska might have even played whist at her canyon estate. If she wanted to cross the creek, though, she could only sigh and say, "I whist I could get to the other side," be-

cause there was no bridge.

Here there be dragons

One of the earliest bushes to decorate for spring this year was snapdragon penstemon, also called bush penstemon. These native shrubs of Southern California's chaparral, deserts, and forests can grow to over six feet tall, and the ones alongside Silverado Canyon Road, beginning near Black Star Canyon Road, started showing their bright yellow snapdragon-shaped flowers in March.

The plant is also called chaparral beardtongue, after a tiny hairy tongue-like part of the flower. You probably have to get really close to see it, but don't worry—these dragons don't snap, or breathe fire.



Snapdragon penstemon

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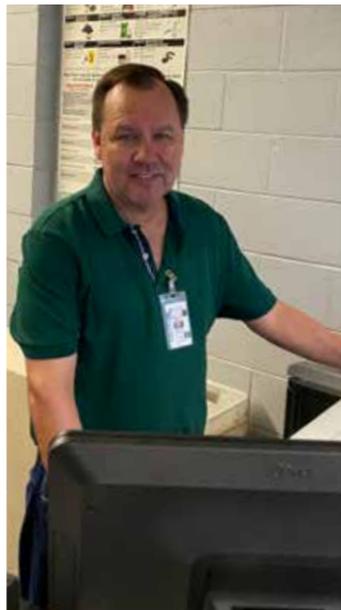
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Please forward his mail

By Andrew Tonkovich

Forty-one years and eleven months exactly. That's the length of a career, of a lifetime of service, added up to the day: Wednesday, June 1 for retiring Silverado maestro of the mailroom Jeffrey Samaniego, who grins at the achievement, quantified exactly. Jeff began at 17, right out of Esperanza High School. His mother worked for the Postal Service. Encouraged, if not quite coerced by her into taking the exam, he rose through the ranks, beginning at Grand Street Branch in Santa Ana. He served as dock supervisor, letter sorting machine clerk, collection box collector, timekeeping clerk, and relief supervisor.



Jeff Samaniego

Jeff landed in Silverado in 2017, serving his final three years as our own singularly capable and reliable Postmaster, through snow, rain, heat, and gloom of night, or at least fire, flood, power outages, COVID, plenty of canyon eccentricity, and other challenges of a rural outpost, pun intended.

Canyon denizens love him. He's authoritative, conscientious, going out of his way to get it right. Resident Stephanie Bailey, a fan, sums Jeff up nicely: "He amazes me. Every day for the past three years, without fail, he's greeted me with a smile and kind words. Not only does he know his customers by name, Jeff knows their P.O. Box number! I will miss our friendly encounters and his kind, gentle demeanor. Happy retirement, friend."

Cherry Flores, intrepid mail carrier, says Jeff's been a good supervisor. "He is always reliable for issues on the road and in the office. He has supported my daily work and helped me excel in my professional career. Jeff

will be greatly missed and hard to replace."

The U.S. Postal Service agrees, officially: "The community of Silverado has expressed their appreciation for your steadfast and passionate commitment to your customers and employees. Your leadership during the crippling effects of fires, and winter storms, and COVID-19, restored a sense of normalcy and connection," proclaims District Manager Linda Crawford. "Jeff, you have demonstrated the Postal Service's value, earned the trust of the public, enabled commerce, connected people to each other, strengthened the ties that bind the nation together and I am so grateful for your daily service to the public. I thank you for your leadership and your gentle spirit!"

After June 1, you might find Jeff fishing, either on a stream in the Eastern Sierra, or off the bow of a pleasure craft anchored near Avalon.

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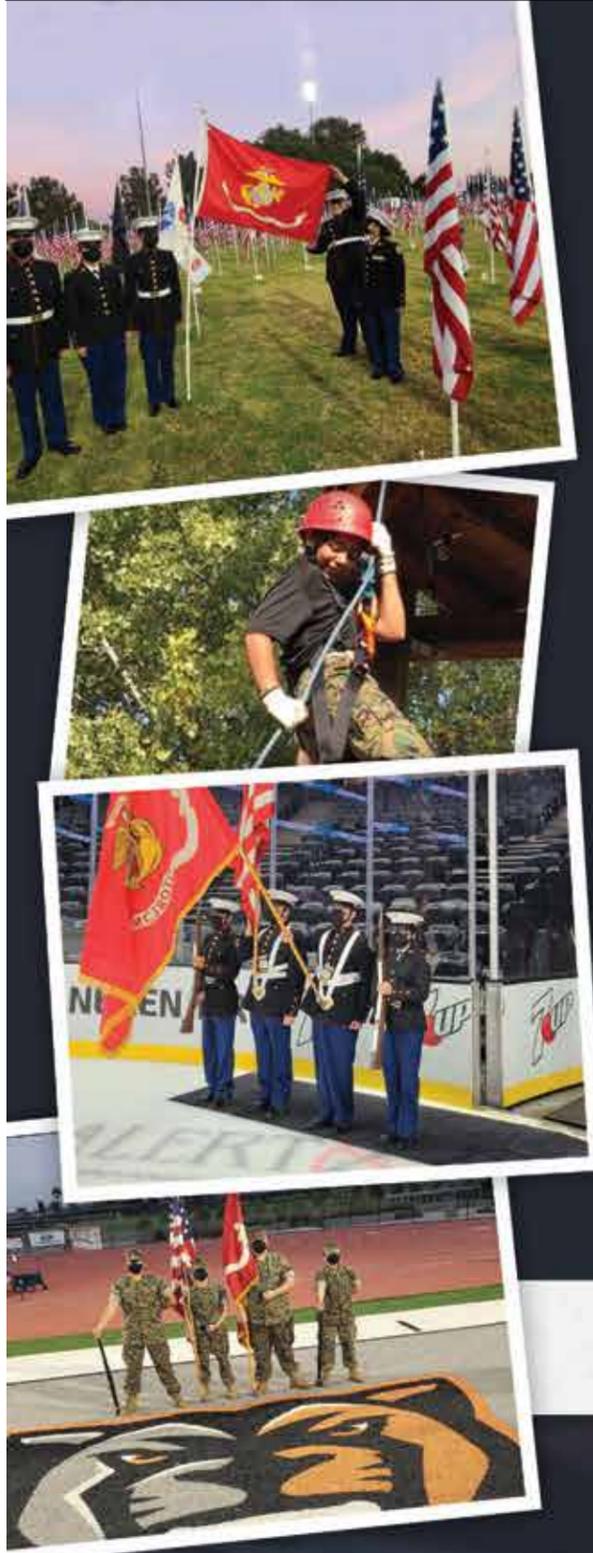
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> TO LEARN MORE ABOUT JROTC CONTACT:

Colonel Mark Tull
Senior Marine Instructor
mtull@orangeusd.org

Geoff Fearn
President, OHS-MCJROTC Assn.
gfearn@OHSMCJROTC.org

The Orange HS Marine Corps JROTC Association would like to recognize it's philanthropic partners, the O.L. Halsell Foundation and the Stanley W. Ekstrom Foundation, for their exceptional support and generosity.

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MARINE CORPS JROTC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



CONGRATULATIONS

To the 2022 recipients of the Marine Corps JROTC Memorial Scholarship, established to honor the memory of Master Gunnery Sergeant James H. Fearn, the civic leader and combat Marine veteran who obtained Orange High School's JROTC program charter. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic achievement, personal leadership and a commitment to excellence.



**CADET CAPTAIN
DULCE SALINAS**



**CADET FIRST SERGEANT
SALYM SABINAS**

THANK YOU FOR HONORING THE EXAMPLE SET BY MGYSGT FEARN'S AND KEEPING FAITH WITH HIS COMMITMENT TO BOTH THE MARINE CORPS AND TO EDUCATION.

The Fearn's family would like to gratefully acknowledge the leadership and ongoing support provided by Colonel Mark Tull (USMC, Ret.), Master Sergeant Carlos Mata (USMC, Ret.), Mr. Dennis McCuiston, Mrs. Andrea Yamasaki and Mrs. Kathy Moffat.



ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL
MARINE CORPS JROTC

SEMPER



FIDELIS



Orange Emblem Club officers for 2022-23 are, from left, Pam Steine, installing officer; Jackie Fanzo, past supreme president; Claudia Castillo, junior past president; Luara Lockridge, financial Secretary; Kim Raya, treasurer; John Russo, president; Carole Walters, first guard; Janice Genelle, corresponding secretary; Kim Smith, second guard; and Tim Smith, trustee. Heide Bush and Remy Arnold are not pictured.

Orange Emblem Club plans greater community presence

The Orange Emblem Club 418 made history, March 5, when it installed its first-ever male president among its slate of officers for 2022-23.

President John Russo noted the air of "hope, joy and excitement" in the room as new officers were installed. "With new members on our board, along with established members, we will have a very successful year," he said.

Russo hopes to increase club membership, and reports that the City of Orange can expect a more active club, with new service

projects and a stronger social media presence.

Press Correspondent Remy Arnold, who at age 20 is the club's youngest member, intends to bring more younger members into the group.

The Orange Emblem Club supports projects in literacy, drug awareness and Americanism, among others.

Those interested in learning more about events, meetings, service projects or general inquiries may visit @orangeemblemclub on Instagram.

Girl Scouts receive awards



The Silver Award Girl Scouts are, with Elk Paul Pelasky, left to right, Mayson James, Bhavna Malladi and Elk Roslyn Peggins.

Elks awards and ceremonial flags were presented to recipients of the Girl Scouts Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards by Exalted Ruler Paul Pelasky, First Lady Deanna Pelasky, Leading Knight Roz Peggins and Scouting Chairman Joseph Medina.

The Scouts earn the awards for completing projects that make the world a better place.

Kaleigh Shively earned the Bronze Award, for fourth and fifth graders. The Silver Award, earned by seventh and eighth graders, went to Mayson James and Bhavna Malladi. Mackenzier Moore earned the Gold Award, the highest award a senior Girl Scout can achieve.

The Girl Scouts celebrated the organization's 110th birthday, March 12.

Elks help revive soccer camp



Left to right, Orange Elks J C Cortez, Mike Cash, Gary Doebereiner join OPD Chief Dan Adams and Elks Danny Salas, Bill Neessen, Terri Schatz, Pam Jones, Linda Salas and Steve Baez at the GRIP soccer program.

After a two-year absence due to the pandemic, the Orange GRIP Soccer Camp, sponsored by the Orange Police and Orange Elks Lodge 1475, made a comeback during the OUSD spring break.

The activity is aimed directly toward middle school kids who are at-risk for gang involvement and drug use, especially during spring break, when they may have little adult supervision.

The police department's GRIP (Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership) is a program for

students from 8 to 12 years old. and they are pre-selected to participate.

Once in the program, the athletes make and set goals, and must show improvement to remain.

The Orange Elks, who provide food for the program, served In-N-Out Burgers, chips and cookies for lunch one day, and tacos, rice, beans and cookies the next day.

The Elks were happy to be out in the community again – and the students were happy to have them there.

May Parade will take to the streets

A hoped-to-be annual event interrupted by the COVID pandemic, the Orange May Parade returns to Chapman Avenue on the 7th at 10 a.m. The parade will feature horse-drawn carriages, classic cars, bands, local organizations and equestrians. The May Parade returned in 2019 as a revival of the former May Festival Parade that graced the city's streets from 1933 to 1991. It originally signaled the start of the Valencia orange packing season.

For information about the parade, see orangemayparade.com or contact Elizabeth Holloman at (714)269-4589 or Elizabeth@OrangeChamber.com.



Laverne and her two-month-old baby Shirley, are ready for their new home and family. The duo are shy satins, with gorgeous ruby eyes. If you are interested in adopting these two sweethearts, email Orange County Cavy Haven at Cavyhaven.adoptions@gmail.com. Special note: the annual Cavy Pigpic will be held on Sunday, May 29. See their website at occavyhaven.org for the details.



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PARADE AT THE PODIUM
Thursday, May 19, 2022

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Who: Candidates on the June 7th Primary Election
What: Opportunity for CPOC Members & Non Members to meet the Candidates
When: Doors open 5:30 PM Thursday, May 19, 2022 (Candidate table set-up at 5 PM)
Where: Santa Ana Elks Lodge 1751 S. Lyon St., Santa Ana, Ca. 92705 (Edinger exit/55 Fwy)
Why: Conservative Patriots of Orange County wants you to be informed before heading to the polls.

CANDIDATES:
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ConservativePatriotsofOC.org
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(714) 851-7487

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Assistance League hosts record-breaking Embrace Orange

After waiting three years for the timing to be right, Assistance League of Orange set attendance and donation records for its Embrace Orange fundraising gala on April 4.

Thanks to the generosity of 370 guests, community donations, and the support of the Balboa Bay Resort, the event raised enough money to fund nearly half of the organization's philanthropic budget for the coming year.

Many of the event's longtime underwriters and sponsors continued their backing, even during the years that the annual event was delayed due to COVID. This commitment showed in the quality of decorations, food, wine and entertainment.

Community Circle Award Honoree, Al Ricci was introduced by Orange Mayor Mark Murphy and Orange Citizen of the Year and Assistance League member Margaret Greinke. Assistance League President Karen O'Keefe recognized city leaders in attendance from Orange, Villa Park, the Chamber of Commerce, the

Community Foundation of Orange, former state senator John Lewis, former OC Supervisor Bill Steiner, as well as Gaddi Vasquez, former Ambassador to the United Nations.

She also thanked all of the members who contributed their time, talent and treasure to make Embrace Orange possible.

Toward the end of the evening, O'Keefe recalls feeling, "overwhelmed by the compassionate response from the audience" to a video that showcased the group's impact on people in the community. It touched on Assistance League's partnerships with WISEPlace and the Orange Senior Center, its Operation School Bell and other programs.

Following the video, auctioneer Jim Nye and his team logged over \$50,000 in direct donations from audience members to fund these needs, by far the most ever received at an Embrace Orange event.

For more information, visit AssitanceLeague.org/Orange.

"One Man Band" at Covenant



The Women's Fellowship of Covenant Presbyterian Church will feature entertainer Ron Johnson, known as the "One Man Band" on Thursday, May 19.

Johnson, a singer, keyboardist and guitar player, will take the

audience through a musical journey, playing songs from the 40s through the 90s, as well as country and pop songs of today.

The program is open to the community, and will be presented in St. Andrew's Hall on the church campus, 1855 N. Orange-Olive Road. Doors open at 11 a.m., with a catered lunch at 11:30 a.m. The program and lunch is \$15, payable in advance; reservations may be made by calling Linda at (951) 237-9888 before noon on Mon., May 16. To attend the program only at 12:30 p.m., reservations are not required; the cost is \$5.

TAWC awards scholarships

The Tustin Area Woman's Club has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to eight graduating seniors from the four high schools in the Tustin Unified School District. They are, from Foothill, Corinne Kopp and Natalie Salvatierra; from Tustin, Gillian Alegre and Keira Baum; from Hillview, Paola Cruz and Rosa Irana Sanchez; and from Beckman, Malaya Gaerian and Angela Zhang. TAWC is a nonprofit organization serving the Tustin area. For more information visit TustinAreaWomansClub.org.



Photo by Zoom Theory

Left to right, Gaddi Vasquez, Community Circle Award honoree Al Ricci, Margaret Greinke and Mark Murphy on stage at Embrace Orange.

NTAC gives the nod to lot splits

The North Tustin Advisory Committee (NTAC) voted to recommend approval of two lot subdivisions located on hillsides and a third on relatively flatter land. The hillside lot splits came with caveats that the county Subdivision Committee ensure the geotechnical stability of any future development.

Owners of a 1.05-acre parcel on hilly Broadview Place want to divide it into two parcels to accommodate a custom home on each lot. No firm development plans exist at this time, but one home would be built entirely on caissons or pylons due to the steepness of the terrain.

One neighbor expressed concerns that "there is no flat land," and the hill might be degraded if someone built on it. Another reported that the hill has "been on the move" for the 21 years he has lived there. A third said that the neighbors are concerned about how future grading would affect the integrity of the hillside, and noted that his pool fills up with mud whenever it rains.

Slope stability saved for later

NTAC members noted the concerns identified, but were remind-

ed their task was to approve or deny the lot subdivision, not any future development. They agreed, in a 5-1 vote, to approve the lot split with the stipulation that the county take "special care" to consider the stability of the property and the impacts development would have on downhill homes.

The committee also considered subdividing a 2.2-acre parcel on Sunrise Lane into four lots, each of which would be developed with a single-family home. The property was described as "all hill." The split was unanimously approved with the same conditions as the Broadview parcel.

A subdivision proposed on Crawford Canyon would split 2.4 acres into four lots. Again, there were no development plans at this point. It, too, was approved by unanimous vote.

NTAC is composed of residents who thoroughly review development proposals specific to that area, and recommends either approval or denial to the county planning commission, or in this case, the subdivision committee.

The committee includes Mike Fioravanti, Kendra Carney Mehr, Peter Schneider, Dessa Schroeder, Kirk Watilo and Pat Welch.

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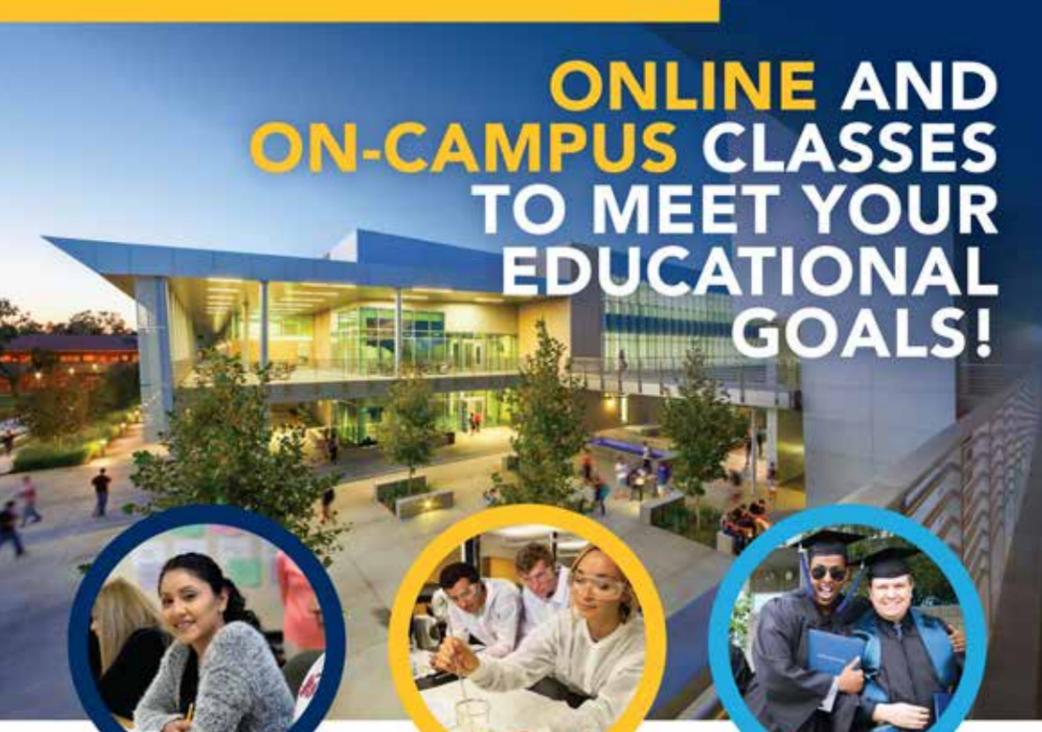
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New large mammal enclosure set to open at OC Zoo

OC Parks commissioners and guests got a sneak peak at the nearly completed large mammal enclosure at the Orange County Zoo, April 9. The two-acre, \$7.4

million exhibit is divided into sections that will house three mountain lions and a jaguar. It includes water features, rocks for the animals to climb on, native

plants and secure off-exhibit enclosures to shelter the cats when they are not in the public eye.

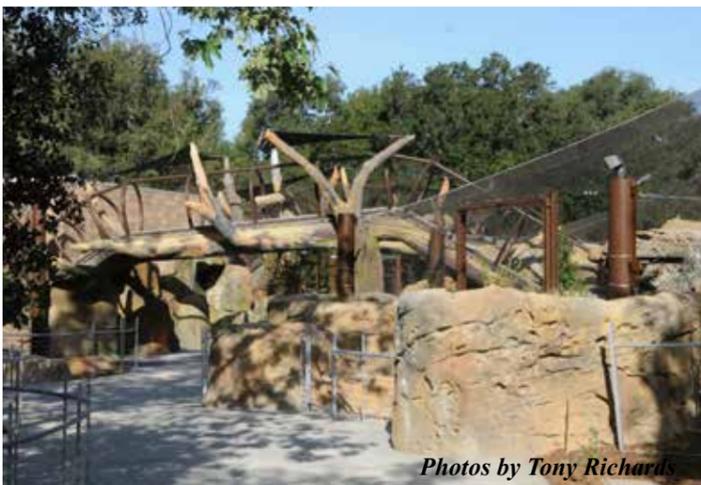
The grand opening is slated for May.



Marcy Crede Booth, curator of education, and Zookeeper Shannon Seeley introduce a screech owl and great horned owl to visitors.



The mammal exhibit has been a twinkle in Zoo Manager Donald Zeigler's eye for more than a decade. OC Parks supported his vision with capital funding and resources. Here, Zeigler tells visitors about the zoo's new asset; Zookeeper Shannon Seeley and an owl ambassador are in the background.



Photos by Tony Richards

The new large mammal enclosure features a skywalk that allows the animals to move from one exhibit area to the next.



The porcupine was more interested in snacking than meeting the public.



Photo by Turville Photography

The National Charity League, Orange-Villa Park celebrated the culmination of six years of volunteerism, cultural enrichment and friendship at its Senior Recognition, held April 9 at the Westin South Coast Plaza. The high school graduates honored at the event were: top row, left to right, Kinsey Conroy, Wren Anderson, Simran Bains, Gracie Tessitore, Cailyn Lauderdale, Brooklyn Jones, Gwenyth Choi, Madison Bartunek; bottom row, left to right, Katherine Harnack, Mallory Miles, Cameron Chen, Elle Fletcher; Allison White, Johnna Sterett, Kelsea Lemmel, Cameron Cuevas; and not pictured, Nikki Chun, Sophia Flores, Julia Herman, Rachel Kitano, Ava Schroeder, Peyton Smith, Emma Stewart and Katie Thomas.

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Emma MacLachlan



Cassie Meskel

Young Women of the Month named for April

The Tustin Area Woman's Club named Emma MacLachlan and Cassie Meskel as its April Young Women of the Month. The high school seniors are selected based on academics, activities and leadership.

Emma MacLachlan from Foothills High is a varsity and club soccer player, developing her skills since she was six years old. She is pursuing an international baccalaureate degree and she is an Academic Awards of Excellence winner and a National Merit finalist. She enjoys volunteering at the Assistance League of Tustin, where she has held multiple

board positions. Emma plans to attend UCLA in the fall majoring in prebusiness economics.

Tustin High's Cassie Meskel has earned the Superintendent's Honor Roll award every year since she was a freshman. She has enjoyed being president of Girl Scouts for two years, and favors spending time with her fellow Girl Scouts. She has earned her Bronze and Silver Awards, and plans to continue with her troop after graduation.

Meskel is a THS co-host and producer. She plans to attend college, and aspires to work in the film industry.

Voter action for Tustin Dems

The Tustin Democratic Club will present a variety of voter action tools at its general meeting on Tuesday, May 24 at 7 p.m. As Election Day is two weeks later, participants will learn how to use tools such as phoning, canvassing, sending letters and postcards, registering voters to encourage family and friends to vote. The meeting will be held via Zoom;

the link can be obtained by emailing TustinDemocraticClub@gmail.com.

Anyone wanting to connect with fellow Democrats, get informed and help increase community involvement in civic engagement is welcome to join Tustin Dems. More information is available at TustinDemocraticClub.org.

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The Amelia Earhart terraplane did not make it to the Orange Plaza Rotary Classic Car Show as planned, so members of the Ninety-Nines, a nationwide organization of women fliers, came to see it at its temporary resting place in Villa Park. Earhart was the first president of the 99s, which started in the 1930s. The name was chosen because, at the time, there were only about 99 female pilots in the U.S. From left, 99s Pam Burkhalter, terraplane owner Jim Somers, V. Jay Flanary, June Leach and Maddie Ray.

Orangeland RV Park celebrates 50 years

Orangeland RV Park was started in 1972 by Eldridge "El" Welton, and has been owned and operated by the family ever since. The 8.3-acre park, located at 1600 W. Struck Avenue, is known by RVers worldwide, but, says daughter and Manager Cindy

Wimbish, many local residents don't know it's there.

The family will hold an anniversary party to celebrate the park's 50 years over Memorial Day weekend. Family matriarch Virginia Welton, at 102 years old, is still active on the park's board

of directors, but leaves day-to-day operations to Wimbish.

The park caters to travelers, but also has permanent residents renting a few of its spaces. One resident has lived there 40 years, and is considered part of the family.



Virginia Welton



Orangeland was an orange grove before it was an RV park, and many orange trees remain on the property today. Guests are invited to pick fresh oranges from the trees or simply grab a few, already picked, from a basket Cindy Wimbish keeps on hand. From left, family owner/operators Cindy Wimbish, Janis Beghtol, Cheryl Welton, Virginia Welton, Steven Welton, and Scott Welton.

Pickleball coming to Hart Park

Congressman Lou Correa (D-46) delivered \$2 million in federal funds to the City of Orange for improvements at Hart Park. The city will use the money to install outdoor pickleball courts

and fitness equipment. The congressman presented the check at an April 21 ceremony at the Hart Park bandshell. For pickleball court updates, email csinfo@cityoforange.org.

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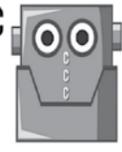
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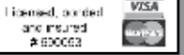
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Villa Park is home to new little free libraries

Walkers and residents in the City of Villa Park are now the beneficiaries of an Eagle Scout project: four new little free libraries, one in each quadrant of the city. Gracious residents allowed the libraries to be situated on their private property. One is on the corner of Valley and Brewer Way; another on the corner of Lemon and Serrano; one at Montana Circle and Vida; and the fourth is on Serrano Avenue between Haninger Way and Oakwood. Passers-by are welcome to take a book and/or leave one for others.

The free little libraries were built as an Eagle project by Austin San Pedro of Villa Park's Boy Scout Troop 850, in conjunction with Friends of the Villa Park Library. San Pedro is a senior at Canyon High, and headed to Vanguard University for a career as a pharmacist next fall.

He made a presentation to both Rotary

Club of Villa Park and city council to announce his project and solicit funds for the library kits. The total cost of the project was \$1,950. The community supported the project. One person stopped to inquire about the workers on the corner, and promptly proffered a check. The Friends of the Library donated a small sum to complete the project.

Austin, accompanied by his brother, also a Troop 850 Eagle, other friends and troop members, weather-proofed the wood, assembled the libraries, chopped through stubborn root systems, removed large rocks and dug into the hard soil before cementing the posts. Friends of the Library Board Member Jack Cleary, and City Maintenance Supervisor Mike Knowles were on hand to oversee the work and, on occasion, lend a little muscle.

Villa Park's Troop 850, founded in

1965, has led over 125 Scouts to achieve the Eagle, the highest award in Scouting.



Austin San Pedro with one of the little libraries.



In a moment of serendipity, Troop 850 Scoutmaster Rich Barkley and Friends of the Villa Park Library Board Member Jack Cleary, who were assisting with the project discovered that their sons had been Scouts together, some 33 years ago.

REAL ESTATE
with David Silva



The cost of home ownership

Welcome to May. This month we're going to look at some of the costs associated with owning a home. For this we're using a typical four bedroom, two bath single-level home with an attached garage that has approximately 2,000 sq. ft. of living space for pricing purposes.

Starting with exterior and interior paint: to complete the exterior paint with standard colors and paints, expect to pay \$4,200 to \$4,500. Interior would roughly run around the same, just going with the basics.

Got termites? Expect to pay

\$1,700-\$1,800 for tenting alone. Got a leaky roof? Get ready to shell out around \$15,000 for a tear off and re-shingle with asphalt shingle. It's around \$22,000 for a tile roof.

With electricity use on the rise, install a new electrical panel for somewhere in the neighborhood of \$5,000, with new plugs and switches running about \$45 each. For a re-wire of the home, expect to pay close to \$25,000.

Ready to hit the shower and there is only cold water? Have a 40-gallon water heater installed for approximately \$2,175 and

a 50-gallon for about 50 bucks more.

Spring a leak? That might come in for a PEX re-pipe close to \$10,000 - \$12,000. A main clean out installed in the front of the house might bust in at around \$3,500.

Last but not least, let's get ready for summer. Guests are on their way over and BAM the AC goes out. To have the HVAC replaced, you're looking at a cool \$9,000 - \$12,000, depending on brand and efficiency.

I hope this helps to prepare you for what the future may bring or if you're just looking for things to do around the house. Always remember, realtors have great references, so check with us first, you'll be glad you did.

IN MEMORIAM



Marilyn Thompson
May 4, 1932 - Feb. 5, 2021

In honor of our beloved Mom & Grandma, Marilyn Thompson. We love and miss you very much. We wish you were here so we could celebrate both your 90th birthday and Mother's Day together with you. Please know you are forever in our hearts, Megan, Rick, Brooke & Steve

MARKET SNAPSHOT
ORANGE, CA - MARCH 2022
Single Family | Townhome | Condominium

\$1M Avg. Sales Price ↑ 4%	\$1.30M Avg. List Price ↑ 27%	90 No. of Prop. Sold ↑ 10%	15.00 Avg. Days on Market ↓ 36%	71 No. of Props. for Sale ↑ 38%
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MARKET SNAPSHOT
TUSTIN, CA - MARCH 2022
Single Family | Townhome | Condominium

\$1.06M Avg. Sales Price ↑ 7%	\$1.29M Avg. List Price ↑ 14%	61 No. of Prop. Sold ↑ 89%	19.00 Avg. Days on Market ↓ 40%	51 No. of Props. for Sale ↑ 46%
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MARKET SNAPSHOT
VILLA PARK, CA - MARCH 2022
Single Family | Townhome | Condominium

\$2.45M Avg. Sales Price ↑ 14%	\$2.63M Avg. List Price ↑ 11%	5 No. of Prop. Sold ↓ 25%	36.00 Avg. Days on Market ↓ 15%	11 No. of Props. for Sale ↑ 38%
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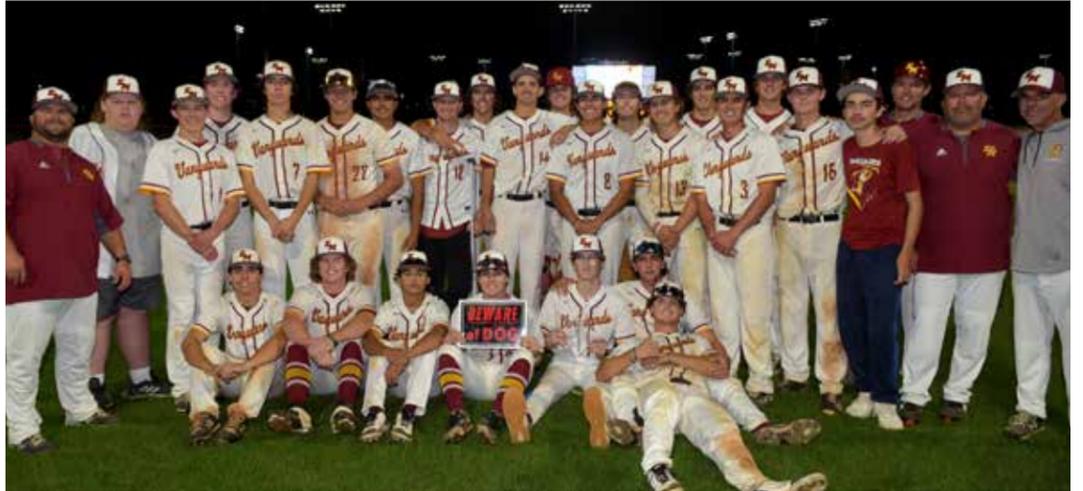
Vanguards capture the 2022 Ryan Lemmon Foundation Tournament

El Modena High and Woodbridge High, both 3-0 in tournament play, battled for the championship of the Ryan Lemmon Invitational at the Great Park, April 6.

El Modena High won the game, 7-1, over Woodbridge. ElMo's Nicholas Santivanez gave up three hits, striking out six and walking two. Woodbridge helped

the cause, committing six errors. Woodbridge scored its only run in the top of the first inning. Woodbridge left four runners stranded on base.

Nicholas Aufdemberg, ElMo center fielder was named Most Valuable Player, going 2 for 2, drawing a walk, hitting a single and a double, picking up two RBIs and scoring a run.



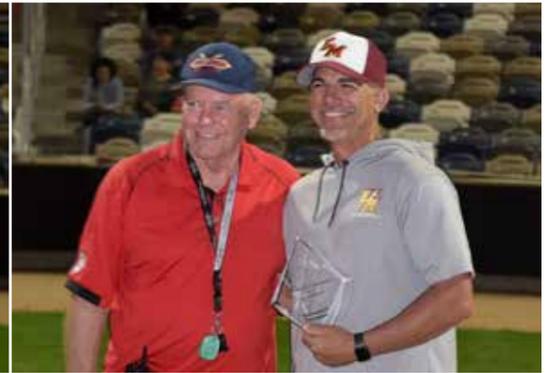
The El Modena varsity baseball team celebrates after winning the 2022 RLF Tournament in Irvine.



El Modena's Jacob Keegan gets under the tag for a stolen base at Angel Stadium against Brea Olinda.



Nicholas Aufdemberg, right, was awarded the Most Valuable Player trophy for his outstanding play from tournament founder Guy Lemmon, left.



El Modena High School Head Coach Josh Kliner, right, accepts the Ryan Lemmon Foundation Trophy from Guy Lemmon, left.



Bryant Smaaladen from El Modena took the mound against Brea Olinda at Angel Stadium. El Modena won the game, 4-2.



Jade Costa from Santiago Canyon College (batting .370) gets a good look against Saddleback College. Santiago got roughed up, taking an 8-0 loss, dropping the Hawks into a three-way tie in the Orange Empire Conference. Santiago Canyon prepares for the SoCal Regionals next week.



Nicholas Santivanez from El Modena hangs on to make the infield out against Brea Olinda. ElMo won, 4-2.

VPHS Football to hold 10th Annual Golf Tournament

Villa Park Spartan Football will sponsor its 10th Annual Golf Tournament, Monday, May 2, at the Anaheim Hills Golf Course. Check-in opens at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 12 p.m. and a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Dinner and a silent auction be-

gin at 6 p.m.

A variety of sponsorship levels are available. All proceeds support the VP football program.

To register or become a sponsor, see villaparkfootball.com. A Spartan foursome is \$900, and includes golf, cart, lunch and din-

ner; individual golfers may register for \$250; the golfer package, at \$50, includes a hole-in-one, shootout, putting contest, longest drive and closest to the pin competitions.

Dinner and auction-only are \$45.



El Modena's Jack Simons has committed to Dickinson State University, where he will continue his education and wrestle. Simons was a three-year varsity wrestler. His senior year, he was All Century Conference, finished second in CIF and advanced to CIF Masters Meet, where he qualified for state and finished 15th in California.



Hana Keil, from El Modena High, committed to Dallas Christian College, where she will continue her academic and softball career.

Want to see your athlete's or team's photo here?

Submit photos and information to Cliff Robbins at: sportseditor@att.net

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