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Volunteers at Mary's Kitchen were delighted to learn that a restraining order enabled the enterprise to remain at its Struck Ave. location beyond the Sept. 18 deadline to quit imposed by the City of Orange. From left, Bob Lavoie, Jin Doerrer, Donna Dannon, Justin Metcalf, Gus Vasquez, Jacob Dunn and Gloria Suess, Mary's Kitchen president. The kitchen is looking for volunteers for four-hour shifts.

Court order keeps Mary's Kitchen alive – at least for now

By Tina Richards

Mary's Kitchen won a last-minute reprieve when OC Judge David Carter issued a restraining order against the City of Orange's demand that the facility move by September 18.

In his Sept. 17 ruling, Carter found that Mary's Kitchen was denied procedural due process before the city terminated its lease, based on its property interest. Due process is required when the government seeks to terminate a public benefit conferred by a government entity.

Lacking due process

In addition, Judge Carter ruled, "Plaintiff's current license to operate creates a constitutionally protected property interest. Plaintiff has invested substantial resources in its current location over several decades, including physical infrastructure that cannot be moved. Such investment bolsters Plaintiff's vested property interest and entitles it to pre-deprivation due process. Finally, a temporary restraining order here would be in the public interest. It is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party's constitutional rights."

Mary's Kitchen, operating at 417 Struck Ave., feeds the home-

less three meals a day, and provides showers, laundry, clothing and a mailing address. It has operated on city property under a license agreement with Orange since 1994.

Originally intended to feed the less fortunate residents of Orange, the soup kitchen has become a destination for homeless from all over Southern California. Over the last few years, the city has expressed growing concerns about the influx of people and increased crime and drug use.

A growing concern

Last June, the city sent Mary's Kitchen a termination letter, advising President Gloria Suess, that it was giving the facility 90 days to vacate.

The letter set off an avalanche of protests from Mary's Kitchen patrons, volunteers, contributors, other charities and supportive citizens. In addition to letters, phone calls and emails, hours-long segments of the last three city council meetings were given over to throngs of supporters expressing outrage, sadness, disappointment and disbelief.

See "Mary's Kitchen" continued on page 4

Voters prepare to take on state zoning legislation with ballot initiative

By Tina Richards

Local proponents of single-family zoning and neighborhood ambiance are joining a statewide effort to amend the California constitution via a ballot initiative. The Californians for Community Planning initiative would lock in local control of land-use decisions.

The bipartisan initiative is a response to Senate Bills 9 and 10, passed by state legislators in August. Those bills effectively override single-family zoning statewide, supersede city and county General Plans, take development decisions away from local jurisdictions and put them in the hands of builders and investors.

SB9 rezones virtually all par-

cels within single-family residential zones to allow up to six units on each. It preempts local zoning, prohibits public hearings and discretionary decisions on split-lot housing, and exempts those developments from environmental review. Developers are not required to contribute to infrastructure or provide parking.

Expect the unexpected

While local General Plans once gave property owners a roadmap for what would and would not be acceptable in their neighborhoods, i.e., single-family or multi-family homes, lot sizes, setbacks and open space, SB9 leaves everything to chance. The home bought in a single-family neigh-

borhood today might be next door to a house that, next year, will be demolished and replaced with two duplexes, an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) and a junior ADU. Neighbors, HOAs and local governing bodies could do nothing to stop it.

SB10 gives city councils and county supervisors the ability to arbitrarily rezone properties for 10-unit buildings plus two ADUs and two junior ADUs. The bill does not reconcile the impacts on infrastructure. It invalidates Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs), and allows local governing bodies to overturn zoning restrictions enacted by voter initiative.

While both bills claim to ad-

dress the state's housing shortage, neither specify affordable housing, noting new construction would be sold or rented at market rates.

Planning ahead

The Community Planning initiative will amend the state constitution to ensure zoning, land-use and development decisions are made at the local level, and to stop the state legislative bills that override municipal and county control.

Specifically, it provides that any county or city ordinance "that

See "State zoning" continued on page 2

Orange opens registration, permitting process for STRs

The registration and permitting process for short-term rentals (STRs) in Orange was unveiled at the Sept. 14 city council meeting.

Based on a previous council decision, the city will issue a maximum 125 permits and business licenses for STRs in Orange. The registration process began with letters to known STR owners and those on an interest list, requiring registration via a website that went live Sept. 15 and remained active for 10 days.

Priority will be given to Orange

residents and owner-occupied properties. Permits are limited to two per owner, and properties must be in an area where zoning allows. Mobile homes are excluded.

Permits will be granted to individuals or personal trusts only; corporations, LLCs or business trusts will not be eligible to operate STRs in Orange. LLCs held by individuals, and meeting the requirements of a personal trust, will qualify.

The city will collect \$250 for

a permit and \$250 for a business license from each STR. Transient Occupancy Taxes (TOTs) will be collected, commencing Oct. 1. Registration and fee payment is via the website only.

Once the permitting process is complete, a hotline will be established to field residents' complaints. Complaints will be dealt with via code enforcement or a police response to noise ordinance violations.

The city has agreements with known hosting platforms, such

as VRBO, Airbnb, HomeAway, wherein violators will be removed from the site. The platforms will also require STR operators to provide proof of a city permit to maintain their listing.

City personnel handling registration say they know the "bad actors" -- properties receiving consistent complaints -- and are cross-referencing them with the applications received. "We are prepared to act on bad actors," City Manager Rick Otto said. "We want to shut them down."

NEWS INSIDE

OF MIGHTS AND MEN

City councilwoman says all male planning commission membership could better reflect Orange districts and demographics.

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VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

Folks on OC's rural border are as varied in their outlook as the landscape they inhabit.

See Canyon Beat, page 6

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Orange Park Acre's annual western-themed BBQ raises funds and foments frolic.

See OPA, page 6

SAVOR THE FLAVOR

Orange food fest returns to Old Towne with music, munchies and merchants.

See Street fair, page 8

THE REIGN OF SPAIN

Local history and development is steeped in Hispanic heritage.

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Orange adopts policy for small cell facilities, but FCC has final say

The proliferation of applications for small cell facilities, measuring 3 to 6 cubic feet, on city-owned street light standards and utility-owned poles, has prompted Orange to adopt a policy regulating them, as much as the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will allow.

The FCC has streamlined the approval process for wireless facilities, giving cities 60 days to review them. It also mandated that local jurisdiction cannot prohibit small cells in specific neighborhoods, ban them from new areas or limit the number of providers. It limits spacing requirements and aesthetic regulations.

A city can, however, require a master agreement, encroachment permit and design review. It can establish location preferences, such as commercial or industrial zones, and create modest design standards. The Orange small cell policy includes those provisions, and adds further review for historic districts. The policy will not allow small cell facilities on decorative poles in Old Towne. They should avoid street frontage when possible and require consultation with a historic planner.

The city has not initiated any noticing requirements to neighbors, as federal law does not support that. Orange determined that

including noticing in the policy would mislead residents, giving them the expectation that the city could do something about the placement of a specific wireless box.

When the policy was presented at the Sept. 14 city council meeting, Kim Nichols suggested that the city let residents know of any small cell stations coming to a street pole near them, with the proviso that the city cannot stop it. "I don't want to be a city that doesn't communicate," she said.

City Attorney Gary Sheatz suggested establishing a webpage that shows where installations are located. Nichols liked the idea, noting, "It would be an information tool for people to use."

Orange currently has master agreements with T-Mobile, AT&T and Verizon. T-Mobile operates six facilities; AT&T, 60. Verizon's agreement was approved Sept. 14, and has not yet installed any equipment. The city requires individual permits for each box, and collects \$270 per year per unit.



Residents of Tustin Ranch and environs await the court ruling on an appeal heard Aug. 19. Protect Tustin Ranch had filed a lawsuit against the City of Tustin, challenging its decision not to require an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed 32-pump Costco gas station to be built on a site once occupied by Good-year Tire at Tustin Ranch Road and Bryan. Since the city prevailed on the original lawsuit, new information about the severity of pollutants on the site has been disclosed. Toxic levels of perchloroethylene, banned in 2007 with a phase out deadline of 2023, were found in the soil, and exceed human health safety standards by 867%. Project Tustin Ranch hopes the appeals court will consider the previously undisclosed levels of pollution and agree that an EIR is necessary. In the drone photo taken Sept. 1, the discolored areas, according to soil studies, indicate vapor intrusion of volatile organic compounds.

See "State zoning" continued from page 1

regulates the zoning or use of land within the boundaries" of the city or county will not be a state affair. These amendments, initiative framers explain, "will supersede centralized state land-use planning that will eliminate single-family zoning, destroy the unique characteristics of neighborhoods, and place undue burdens on cities and counties to govern their communities. Cities and counties are best suited to analyze and protect the characteristics, constraints and needs of their communities."

The initiative has been filed with the state attorney general. He has until Oct. 28 to review it, determine its fiscal impact and give it a title. Proponents then have 180 days to collect enough signatures to qualify for the November 2022 ballot.

Local motion

The number of signatures to qualify an initiative is normally 5% of the total voters who cast a ballot in the last gubernatorial election. Because this initiative is for a constitutional amendment, the quota is 8%, or 997,139 signatures, statewide.

A number of individuals and community groups in Orange and North Tustin have already volunteered to collect signatures when the time comes.

The initiative was spearheaded by a coalition of Southern and Northern California locally elected mayors, city councils and citizens.

SB9 and 10 were signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, Sept. 15. Orange County State Senators Bob Archuleta (SD-32), Tom Umberg (SD-34) and Dave Min (SD-37) voted yes. Pat Bates (SD-36) voted no, and Josh Newman (SD-29) did not record a vote.

Local Assemblymembers Tom Daly (AD-69) and Steven Choi (AD-68), did not record a vote.

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Symphony comes to the city

Local residents enjoyed the works of Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven and Dworsky, presented by a string quartet under a full moon, in Villa Park, Sept. 19.

Villa Park Women's League Arts and Culture representative Sandy Bass coordinated the event in conjunction with the Pacific Symphony's "Symphony on the go!" program. The colorful mobile stage allows Pacific Symphony musicians to enrich communi-

ties by bringing classical music to the people.

The Pacific Symphony returned to the concert hall on Sept. 30. The Pacific Symphony League volunteers help sponsor many educational and outreach events for students and adults throughout the year.

For information, see pacific-symphony.org. For information about the Villa Park Women's League, see vpwl.org.



Silhouetted against the stage are Pacific Symphony musicians, left to right, Hanbyul Jang, violin II; Robert Schumitzky, violin I; Phillip Triggs, viola; Laszlo Mezo, cello; in front, Sandy Bass, Villa Park Women's League event coordinator.



Left to right, Elks Exalted Ruler Paul Pelasky, Elks Drug Awareness Chair Mike Cash, Orange Mayor Mark Murphy, award recipient Vicki Mull, Police Chief Dan Adams and El Modena Principal Jill Katevas.

ElMo teacher wins national Elks award

The Orange Elks Lodge 1475 Drug Awareness Program presented the Elks Grand Lodge National Post-High School Video Award to Vicki Mull for her video "Stop the Cycle."

Mull, an English and media teacher at El Modena High School, and her students have

won more awards for the Elks Drug Awareness Video program than any other school in Orange County, the State of California and the United States.

Attending the presentation were Orange Police Chief Dan Adams, and Orange Mayor Mark Murphy, who presented Mull

with a City of Orange Resolution, highlighting not only this award but the many past awards that she, her media program and her students have won.

To see Vicki's national award-winning video, see Stop the Cycle Orange 1475 Post HS on YouTube.

Troop 850 hosts open house

Boy Scout Troop 850 will hold an open house at Cerro Villa Middle School on Tuesday, Oct. 19 from 7 to 8 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop 850 is looking for boys aged 10 1/2 (and in the fifth grade) or 11 to 17 years old to be part of an active organization that promotes leadership de-

velopment while having fun. For Scouts working on the Arrow of Light, this is an opportunity to meet several requirements for that award.

The troop, founded in 1965 with 128 Eagle Scouts to its credit, has a well-rounded program offering not only camping expe-

periences, but also high adventure outings and a leadership development seminar.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Villa Park, the troop meets at Cerro Villa Middle School at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, September through May. Visit the website, troop850.com, for more information.

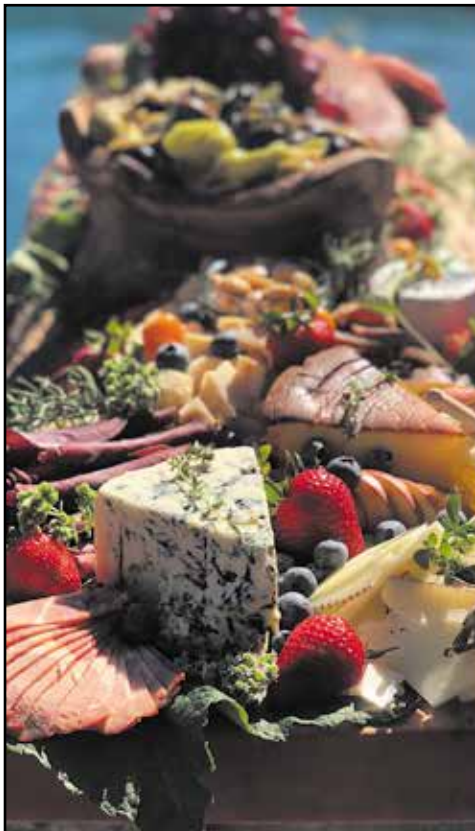
Villa Park Dam water level lowered

A low level of water was released from the Villa Park Dam by OC Public Works commencing Monday, Sept. 27. Lowering the water level behind the dam allows the agency to inspect the structure and do any needed preventative maintenance prior to storm season.

Public Works' last attempt to lower the dam's water level in June was met with neighbor outrage, as it was nesting season. Those familiar with the area feared that wildlife would be harmed. The water release was duly halted.

A recent survey of the area indicated that the 2021 nesting season is over, and county biologists report that it is now safe to discharge water.

The water will be released into Santiago Creek through Santiago Oaks Park and on to groundwater replenishment basins downstream. Park trails and access points will remain open.



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Orange council says five-member planning commission is fine for now

By Tina Richards

Orange Councilwoman Arianna Barrios' attempt to change the city's planning commission membership from five to seven, to reflect the by-district makeup of the council, was deferred until later by a 6-1 vote, Sept. 14.

Barrios has, since February, suggested several times that the Orange Planning Commission be modified to better represent the entire city, and asked that a discussion on that topic be added to a future council agenda. It was finally included on the Aug. 10 agenda, but with that meeting running well past midnight, she recommended that the discussion be continued until September.

At the September meeting, Barrios reiterated her reasoning for increasing the commission to seven members, with a representative from each of Orange's six districts and one "at large" member appointed by the mayor. "It gives us representation across the city," she advised, noting that the current planning commission majority was from her District 1. "That's fantastic for my district," she said, "but not for the rest of

the city."

Different strokes

Ana Gutierrez agreed that having a commissioner from each district is a good idea. Her District 5 includes a log of r3 and r4 zoning, and she would welcome a planning commissioner with knowledge of that area. "It would provide equity," she said, "having a commissioner from each area of the city."

Kathy Tavoularis observed that other cities that had switched to by-district council seats had also changed their planning commission membership at the same time. "Anaheim, Costa Mesa and Garden Grove changed," she observed. "We're the only ones that didn't."

City Manager Rick Otto recalled a council discussion in June 2019, when it was decided not to change the size of any commission or committee following the adoption of redistricting.

"So you just decided not to," Tavoularis summarized.

Reason to wait

Jon Dumitru pointed out that

changing the commission make-up now is premature. Technically, he said, there are still two "at large" members on the council. Chip Monaco and Kim Nichols had been elected in a citywide vote prior to the move to by-district elections. They, therefore, like the mayor, did not represent a specific district, but all City of Orange residents.

"It can't happen until January 2023," he said, making a motion to defer the discussion until then. The two Orange districts - 4 and 6 -- that have not yet voted for council representatives, will do so in November 2022. When those newly electeds take office, the only at-large official on the dias will be the mayor. "Give those new council members a month to think about it, and bring it back in January."

Chip Monaco seconded the motion, emphasizing that the reason the previous council did not change the number of planning commissioners during the districting process was "due to equity citywide." He explained that he didn't like "district prerogatives," that commissioners should

focus on the entire city, not just the district they live in. "District prerogatives weaken citywide perspective," he noted, "by keeping everything in specific district lanes, we lose priority and focus on equity amongst districts."

Mayor Mark Murphy added that the previous council didn't make any changes because it wanted to wait for new council input.

No course correction

Kim Nichols also supported the motion to wait until January 2023 to give the council "ample time" to make any changes. "We have a functioning body that is doing an important job for our city," she said. "To disrupt it in a process, where everybody is just picking somebody, is disrespectful to the function of the commission."

Waiting gives us time to figure out a way not to disrupt function as we add members."

"I can see where this is going," Barrios acknowledged. "It's easy to look at equity through a prism and think its one thing, but it's really many things. Right now, no one on the planning commission has a historical preservation background. No one is a woman. That's a problem. Half the people we represent are not reflected on the planning commission. It's not all about districts. It's not tribal, it's about having different types of people on city commissions."

She pointed out that the number of men on the council are now outnumbered by women, and that "you are holding on very tightly to a system that serves you, and not necessarily everyone. That's a problem."



The Orange Planning Commission is exclusively male with three of the five members living in District 1. Councilwoman Arianna Barrios asked her colleagues to consider increasing the membership to seven to allow more varied representation. She was rebuffed.

See "Mary's Kitchen" continued from page 1

Despite the public outcry, the city has held fast to its decision, citing circumstances it can no longer tolerate. They include: increased calls to the police for illegal activities; health and safety violations; and alternative available resources, such as county family and wellness centers, shelters, housing support and Orange's own HEART (Homeless Engagement, Assistance & Resource Team) program, that works with individuals on a daily basis.

Calm before the storm

The decision to terminate the license agreement was made administratively, not by council discussion or vote. Since then, however, councilmembers have expressed agreement with the city manager's action, and reiterated the city's position on the removal of Mary's Kitchen.

Concerns reportedly arose several years ago, when the city encouraged Mary's Kitchen to make changes to comply with the license agreement. Talks became more frequent and more urgent last year. Kitchen leadership reportedly did not cooperate. Mary's Kitchen personnel claim they did.

Volunteers reported at numerous council meetings that Suess had drafted a plan for the future as the city requested. It was, they say, subsequently ignored.

Long time coming

"This situation is really sad," Mayor Mark Murphy said during the Sept. 14 council meeting. "I remember Mary [founder McAnena] fondly, from her asking the city for help, to finding a place for her on city property." The mayor, referring to his "first-hand experience" trying to provide guidance, added that, "there is no surprise to any of this. This isn't something that popped up three months ago."

"This isn't something new," Councilman Jon Dumitru attested. "The highest crime rate in the city is on Struck Street. We have a responsibility for public safety. We may be the bad guys, but the place needs restructuring."

"We're not trying to oppress homeless people, but to protect the city, as a whole. We want to find a way to help hungry people, but there is a point where we can't systematically endanger public safety."

Suess says that no crimes are committed on her premises, and that police are called to incidents occurring outside the gates of Mary's Kitchen.

Councilman Chip Monaco read

a prepared statement that he had cleared with the city attorney prior to the council meeting. His purpose, he said, was to address "myth and innuendo" that does not align with the truth.

Two-edged sword

He reminded those at the meeting that the city allowed Mary's Kitchen to operate "at zero cost for two decades. We wanted Mary's Kitchen to succeed," he said, but after numerous attempts, "they showed no interest in working with the city."

He further stated that the decision to terminate the license was "based on lack of leadership by those in charge. It has become a significant public nuisance."

"We're not heartless," Mayor Murphy concluded. "We were left no other choice. We have to look at how these services can be provided better. Start over with a clean slate."

"There are other services in Orange," he said. "You just don't hear about them. They operate quietly, without police calls."

The city has been working with local charities to ensure the food supply continues and to provide a change of address for those receiving mail at the kitchen.

The temporary restraining order remains in effect until at least Sept. 30, when a hearing is scheduled.




Mary's Kitchen President Gloria Suess oversees the distribution of clothes and shoes to the homeless.

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LETTERS to the EDITOR



Tanking up

Dear Editor:

The Costco gas station in Tustin proposal below the cut of your front page caught my attention. As a past dry cleaner (over 60 years ago), we used “perc” (perchloroethylene) daily. It is a good chemical for dry cleaning clothes. Since California has regulated it out of business, I don’t exactly know how well the cleaners are doing. The new chemical probably works, just costs them more, plus the equipment to change over – an old story.

Anyway, it’s overkill to cite this study in a provocative manner as you did.

Jeff Pine
Orange

Dear Editor:

It figures there are NIMBY people ready to pounce on every opportunity to limit affordable access to fuel. I can’t remember the last time a station was added around here, while many have vanished, and the number of cars has skyrocketed. Costco has a lot of members who frequent their stores, so why not allow them gasoline access while they are there? It is a pretty lame excuse to say that we can drive three miles to Legacy and wait in line there.

So, they have to clean up toxic dirt. It seems they did a lot of that at the helicopter base, and I don’t see that there were any shortages of buyers for those homes. Isn’t

that where the Costco gas station is? Hmmm.

Louie Kish
North Tustin

Dump the pump

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to the Costco gas article. This is indicative of the times we live in, when personal convenience outweighs other people’s safety. The only arguments I have heard for the Costco gas station are from politicians who say that it will create revenue, and from those who don’t live in the neighborhood saying that they can save money on gas. It doesn’t matter to them what environmental hazard it may be causing or the increased traffic in the area, with potential for more accidents.

With the country moving away from gas and to electric cars, the need for the second mega gas station in Tustin is unnecessary. We, who live near the area and are concerned, hope that our Mayor Letitia Clark will try to do something to stop this or at least have an EIR conducted. National leaders such as Katie Porter and Joe Biden are making a push against gas emissions.

In raising our concerns, we have been called NIMBYs. That would imply that we want another mega gas station, but just not in our neighborhood. We don’t want or need a mega gas station in anyone’s neighborhood. It’s not worth it.

Bill Stroehler
Tustin

Dear Editor:

I live across the street from the location where Costco wants to build its 32-pump gas station. Selfish individuals have called me nasty names - like NIMBY - because they want the convenience of yet another gas station in Tustin -- at my expense.

I am worried about the health of my family and my neighbors. Everything about this gas stations frightens me: idling cars, toxic fumes, heavy traffic, underground tanks next to a flood channel, and now the release of toxins from the former Goodyear Tire building.

At no time has anyone explained to me how my family will be safe. Instead, every time I post or ask officials questions about its construction, I am told they are legally allowed to build.

Data provided by Costco affiliates claim the gas station will not cause a significant change in traffic, but they did a traffic study during a rainy day around Thanksgiving. They claim the gas station’s pollution outputs are within acceptable ranges, but the assumptions they made (data they plugged into a computer program) were far too low. Nothing about what I read in the reports to the city gave me any comfort.

Instead of name-calling and bullying, how about providing real evidence that this gas station is needed, and it will not cause any harm?

Denise Berg
Tustin Ranch

Both sides now

Dear Editor:

In the September edition of the *Sentry*, a letter writer takes the opportunity to instruct the readership on the purpose of his Santiago Greenways and Open Space Alliance (SGOSA) Facebook page. What he doesn’t tell the readers, is that SGOSA is his own creation, formed solely to promote and advance Milan Capital’s goals regarding the Sully-Miller property.

In this page, he continually and repeatedly tries to project a false narrative of being a proponent of protecting “open space,” as he calls it. His solution to the Sully-Miller property is that the only solution to this issue is for the “city or county” to find a means to acquire this property.

Let’s analyze that statement for a moment. First of all, both the city and the county have refused to purchase this toxic property. (Remember, Milan dumped tons of toxic detritus for several years here.)

The only way for these entities to purchase this property would be by using our tax dollars. Wouldn’t that be convenient for Milan. Milan wouldn’t be held responsible for the cleanup and removal of this waste, and Orange taxpayers would pay to help Milan out of the incredible financial responsibility it now faces.

The State of California and the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) are, at this time, pursuing Milan to deliver a plan to renovate this property to the condition it was when Milan bought it. Let’s not buy into Milan’s propaganda once again, and let it off the hook for the tremendous ecological and visual damage it has done to this property. Hold Milan accountable for the cleanup and restoration of this area.

John Reina
Orange

Dear Editor:

In literature, as in life, a protagonist is someone who affects the plot, propels it forward, and is often the character who faces the most significant obstacles.

A good example of the same is Mr. Micawber of Charles Dickens’ “David Copperfield.” Micawber is someone who will not let a good opportunity slip through his fingers, fails chronically, is irresponsible in his actions, knows not of what he speaks and remains trapped in near-poverty, crushed by mountains of debt. Micawber is synonymous with someone who lives in hopeful expectation; his motto: “something will turn up.” He shows up periodically throughout the novel.

The City of Orange has its own Mr. Micawber. Our-Micawber has Sully-Miller’s mountains of toxic material next to his property, which he has occupied for decades.

He appeared in the *Sentry* again last month with another eternally optimistic scheme-du-jour — his “something will turn up.” This time, our-Micawber proposes that the city or county government buys the S-M property or pays to have the mountains of toxic material removed.

I have to admit that I can’t understand the difference. In both cases, our-Micawber’s scheme gets the toxic material removed and you, our-Micawber and I are crushed by more city and county debt. Our-Micawber gets a clear view from his windows.

Our-Micawber vigorously supported development of the Sully-Miller property, and didn’t object to the toxic mountains that were placed on the property as a “necessary” part of a twice-failed plan for residential development.

Like the protagonist he is, our Micawber appeared periodically during those times to move many of the storylines along. Like Micawber, each failed miserably.

Peter Jacklin
Orange

Unsaddle the horses

Dear Editor:

I wanted to express my thanks to Lynn Canton for a thoughtful and gracious letter on the loss of the Mara Brandman Arena. Like her, I am greatly saddened by the closure of this site.

I knew Mara Brandman and I know how dedicated she was to creating a riding arena for the OPA community she loved. I am certain her heart would be broken that this venue was now being lost after all her efforts. I am mystified and baffled how the people in OPA leadership, with money and land being offered to them, could not come up with a plan that ev-

eryone could live with.

What makes things more painful, is that OPA leadership was aware that blocking the city-approved plan for this site via Measure AA would force the landowner to sell 30 acres for development, as the properties were already zoned and approved for housing. Now the chickens have come home to roost, and the riding arena is lost.

One year after the referendum, what has been gained for the people of OPA? Those who wanted to halt development have lost. Homes are coming anyway. Those in the equestrian community and the OPA-ETC have lost. Those who wanted to rid the area of the incredible eyesore on the Sully-Miller land have lost. The mess on that land remains, with no plan and no means to remove it. Those with serious concerns about the health of their families due to the ongoing sand and gravel operation on the site have lost. The sand and gravel operation remains.

As far as many of us in East Orange can see, everybody was a loser here.

Mark Moore
Orange

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Poetry and politics

Screen shots

Signs displayed lately on Santiago Canyon Road offer a nearly poetic Burma-Shave-style summary of recent civic concerns: Forest Gate Closed Until 9/22/21. Watch for Motorcycles. Road Work Ahead. Work Area Ahead. Bike Lane Closed. Detour. Nature Preschool. Vote Yes on Recall. Vote No Now. And, my favorite, Born Free.

Civics lesson

If, to spin the Zen koan, a tree falls in the forest, canyonites will surely hear it. If a limb falls on your neighbor's property, you call a local tree service and pay for any damage. Even if your neighbor is, say, a Trump supporter and you are a Bernie Bro. In emergencies involving fire or flood, you help out with rescue, fill sandbags or run errands, regardless of political affiliation. At election season, you delight in, or only put

up with, roadside campaign signs depending on your position, and call it a celebration of democratic participation, civic engagement and the First Amendment. Or not. Some folks lately don't play by the rules.

Yet local anti-recall activists, feeling victorious after the election, found ironic delight in at least not having had to drive around picking up their homemade signs the day after the massive failure of the recall. Not only was the rightist assault defeated bigtime but, helpfully, most of the No signs had in days leading up to the election been vandalized, removed, or outright stolen anyway. More poetry perhaps.

Incident # 210824-0503

One local scofflaw deputized himself as an anti-recall officer, leading this reporter to engage real law enforcement after witnessing him remove signs posted

in a historically adopted area of civic discourse. Even after being asked, politely, not to, please. Unwilling to embarrass the perp, charges were not preferred. But filing an "incident report" proved a terrific opportunity to meet two local OC Sheriffs from North Operations, who promised to speak to the vandal and affirmed the larger concept of electioneering as a public good.

Alas, the lone suspect vigilante's anti-democratic mischief led to copycat sign thievery, with nearly three dozen signs removed. Even those posted on obviously private property were taken by unidentified trespassers who'd apparently not attended class the day the First Amendment was discussed.

By the numbers

Canyon recall vote totals suggest that politics is worth fighting for, activism worth engaging, if perhaps not stealing for. In the larger precinct, encompassing Modjeska, Williams and most of Silverado (70087), totals at press time showed victory of anti-recall voters by only 13 votes. In the smaller precinct (70089), the recall actually won, by 39.

During the same (busy) week as the election, the county reported 129 COVID cases in the Silverado "region," (yet another

categorization of our demographic) making our sparsely populated neighborhoods proportionally overrepresented when compared to the flatlands, where numbers have spiked.

Hard to be sure who is vaccinated in these parts, with FedEx, U.S. Postal Service, and UPS delivery personnel masked. Cox and other service providers are masked, as are tree-trimming contractors. IRWD meter readers, on their scooters, are masked. Those two OC Sheriffs were masked. Donors to the election week Silverado-Modjeska Recreation and Parks District-sponsored blood drive were masked at the community center, as were, of course, Red Cross technicians and SMRPD board volunteer Rusty Morris. Library of the Canyons staff sit behind plexiglass.

Contrast this behavior with the practices apparently endorsed by attendees of Calvary Chapel of the Canyons, whose website advances a "moral argument" against vaccine use, based on its opposition to both science and women's reproductive rights. Theological inquiries to the pastor were ignored. See the website if you dare.

Oh, and, yes, our region or district or multi-precinct electoral territory is, proportional to its population, the lowest in the

county in recorded vaccinations. These facts and fictions certainly cause some to wonder about public health practices embraced during this summer's concert series, and perhaps to read carefully the fine print on the sardonically named "Silverado's Crazy Times Country Fair" flyer for the Sat., Oct. 9 and Sun., Oct. 10 annual outdoor (!) wingding featuring arts, crafts and live music: "There is a COVID-19 risk in attending this event. COVID-19 protocols will be in place."

Protocols will also be in place at the Environmental Nature Center's Saturday morning training for volunteer gate greeters at the soon-to-be-reopened Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. See encenter.org.

Au revoir les amis

Farewell and Godspeed to longtime canyon residents Jessica Puma and Jim Mamer, retired teachers (community college and high school, respectively) who lived in Modjeska for 27 years. They cheerfully surrendered their matching bright yellow and orange Canyon Watch vests and GMRS radios to a new couple, also teachers, and gifted a fine bottle of Bordeaux to heartbroken, if grateful, neighbors before heading off with three old cats to San Diego. Cheers.

OPA BBQ is back in the saddle



The annual Orange Park Acres BBQ returned Sept. 18, after remaining dark last year due to the coronavirus. Seen here is the BBQ committee, from left, Sherry Panttaja, Julie Shaw, Sandy Forkert, Kelley Chaplin, Kate Bonnaud, Cindy Reina and Laura Thomas.



Orange Park Association President Sherry Panttaja was the recipient of the Gary Bandy Award. The membership votes on the honoree who has contributed to the community's trail system and worked to preserve the area's equestrian heritage.



Lance and Teri Mora share a dance under the stars.



OUSD's Cathleen Corella, left, with Deida Conrad and Jean Wagner.

Assistance League recognized with two awards

The Orange Unified School District and the Orange Chamber of Commerce both recently chose Assistance League of Orange for special recognition.

The 81-year old service organization received the "OUSD Community Partner Recognition Award" at the Sept. 9 OUSD Board of Education meeting for providing, "a myriad of opportunities ... that have enhanced and enriched students' curricular and extracurricular experiences." Many of Assistance League's philanthropic programs focus on ensuring local children have the clothing, supplies, equipment and mentoring needed to succeed in school.

The Orange Chamber of Com-

merce selected Assistance League as its "2021 Community Organization of the Year" for its on-going good work in the community, especially noting the group's collaboration with mobile vaccine clinics in Orange that inoculated over 1,200 residents over the summer.

That project, undertaken by Assistance League's Orange Blossoms Auxiliary, included staffing the check-in tables and providing lunches for the doctors and nurses. Members of the Auxiliary and Chapter will accept the Chamber's honor at the Oct. 6 State of the City event.

For information regarding the Orange chapter of Assistance League, see alorange.org.



OPA board members David Hillman, Nancy Flathers and Steven Judith.

Silverado and Modjeska Canyon

Open Studios

Come visit dozens of artists in their home studios and purchase original art for the holidays

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Map of studios available day of the event at the Silverado Canyon Market

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Teen designers promote ethics in fast fashion

Rylen Schmid, 18, of Orange Lutheran High School, and Ayah Mohammed, 17, a student at Rosary Academy in Fullerton, are promoting sustainability and ethical fashion through clothing.

Deeply aware of the corruption, waste and pollution inherent in the fast fashion industry, the two determined to educate young girls about shopping in a more sustainable manner, and making ethical, sustainable choices.

They created Project STYLED (Sustainably Teaching the Youth a Lifestyle of Ethical Design) and were accepted into a fellowship program of the Dragon Kim Foundation, whose mission is to

inspire youth to impact their communities, while discovering and pursuing their passions.

This summer, Schmid and Mohammed curated a curriculum that combined educational presentations with hands-on activities, such as painting gently used jean jackets.

They partnered with Hammitt LA, upcycling an assortment of handbags from the company's previous line to sell in an exclusive summer collection, and led a jean jacket upcycling project with the Orange County Rescue Mission.

Project STYLED also led sessions with various Orange County

Girl Scout troops, upcycling jean jackets and providing background information on fast fashion and ways the Girl Scouts could effect change in their own communities. "We teach about the dangers of fast fashion," Schmid says. "We are part of a movement that promotes sustainability and self-expression. Our program uses social media and seminars to educate youth about the harmful effects of fast fashion."

Schmid and Mohammad teamed up with four other Dragon Kim Fellows to be a part of a "Youth in Fashion" show and fundraiser held at South Coast Plaza. They worked with donated Ham-

mitt bags, adding painted details that transformed them into one-of-a-kind pieces. A percentage of Hammitt sales were donated to the Foundation.

Dragon Kim Foundation Executive Director and Co-Founder Grace Tsai Kim said, "We're happy to give these young designers a platform to share their designs and to tell the world about the importance of upcycling as a way to help protect our environment."

The Fellowship was founded in honor of Dragon Kim, a musician, athlete and scholar who wanted to help the next generation of creative thinkers and entrepreneurs.

Emblem Club features glamour shots

The Orange Emblem Club presents an opportunity to capture your glamorous side on Saturday, Oct. 23, when photographer Karissa Raya will take pictures of you and your best look for cheer and charity. Participants will get five poses for \$25, with unlimited copies available via an internet link. Glamour Shots runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is by appointment only. To schedule, email genellejan@gmail.com or text (714) 235-5314. Please arrive primed and ready for your session. Assistance and accessories will be available. Coffee, wine, cheese and light refreshments are included.

Glamour Shots will take place at the Orange Emblem Club, 211 E. Chapman Ave., second floor.

Love Orange hosts Day of Service

Love Orange is hosting a city-wide service day, Oct. 2. Volunteers are encouraged to participate in park cleanups, tree planting, a mural painting at TLC Charter School, and trash collection along Tustin Avenue. The day begins with a kick-off in Hart Park at 8 a.m. where volunteers will receive breakfast and a T-shirt, with a short program to honor the organizations that made Love Orange possible this year. For information, contact mollythrasher@gmail.com, or (714) 271-0810.



Ayah Mohammed



Rylen Schmid



Since the age of five, Rylen Schmid has loved to sew and create garments. But it wasn't until the age of 10 that she saw the corruption, waste and pollution inherent in the fast fashion industry. She took on the task of educating pre-teens about shopping in a more sustainable way. Similarly, Ayah Mohammed recognized the importance of making ethical, sustainable choices within the fashion industry.

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Tustin Art League features pastel artist



The Tustin Art League will feature pastel artist Dori Dewberry at its Tues., Oct. 12 Zoom meeting. Dewberry's demonstration, "Catching the Light," will explore the importance of value, intensity and shape. She has been creating pastel paintings for 23 years and teaches young students and adults. Having an open dialogue with her students is, she says, one of the things she loves best.

The Zoom meeting is from 5 to 7 p.m. See tustinart.blogspot.com for details.

Street fair returns to Orange Plaza



Photos courtesy Orange International Street Fair

"Orange you glad we're back?" was the theme of the 2021 Orange International Street Fair, returning after a pandemic hiatus. Despite temperatures in the 90s, crowds turned out to buy beer, eat their favorite ethnic foods and enjoy live music and entertainment while aiding nonprofit vendors.



Women's Council Vice-president Anita Preciado and President Susie Flores show off QuarterMania auction items.

Women's Council to host quarter auction

The Premier Women's Council will host its annual QuarterMania Auction Public Charity Fundraiser from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at American Legion Post 132.

The event is free and open to the public; items will be auctioned for 25 cents, 50 cents, 75 cents and \$1.00. It is a fun way to win great gifts and give back to the community.

Ninety percent of the event proceeds will help fund scholarships for deserving students, to be given at the council's annual Mother's Day Tardeada. The other 10% will assist veterans and their families via the American Legion Post.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m., and the live auction begins at 5:30 p.m. A tamale dinner with beverage

will be available for \$5, and served from 5 to 6 p.m., or until the food runs out; RSVPs for food are appreciated.

Vendors and donations are welcome. Student and community volunteers are needed for set-up, serving, and helping with the auction; a Community Service Certificate, which will include the total number of volunteer hours, will be provided. Students, volunteers, vendors and attendees may participate in the auction bidding to win some great gifts.

For vendor opportunities, donations and to RSVP for food, contact President Susie Flores at ocmujer@sbcglobal.net or (714) 914-5272.

American Legion Post 132 is located at 143 S. Lemon Street in Orange.



NORTH TUSTIN NOTES

by Scott Logie



Since its founding in 1964, the Foothill Communities Association (FCA) has addressed community issues, including high-density developments, rezoning initiatives, water and sewer management, road safety, schools, transportation, bike trails, land use, airports and the acquisition of a unique North Tustin ZIP code.

Throughout 2021, the FCA has continued its mission to preserve our distinctive neighborhoods and living environment. Our reasons for choosing North Tustin as home are lately being assailed by Sacramento politicians to enrich developers who see our properties as untapped gold mines of residential infill development.

It is imperative to act in opposition to these legislative fiats as the resulting effects will negatively impact our neighborhoods. The FCA will begin an outreach program to coordinate with other organizations across the state to continue our opposition to these bills.

The FCA is also reviewing the potential of a class action lawsuit to address the shared 92705 ZIP code with Santa Ana. Many residents continue to report that the tax rates being calculated and collected by unincorporated Orange County residents are based on Santa Ana's higher tax rate, as tax rates are often calculated by ZIP code. The tax revenue from unincorporated Orange County residents is then incorrectly diverted to the city of Santa Ana to be spent on Santa Ana initiatives and spending programs that only benefit Santa Ana residents. This

has been particularly egregious with car sales, as the tax revenues can be significant. Supervisor Don Wagner has sent out a mailer on this issue, but our other representatives have been largely disinterested in preventing our subsidizing Santa Ana.

The FCA relies on its all-volunteer board and committees, memberships and donations from neighbors like you to address the issues that continuously appear on the horizon. We encourage everyone to visit the FCA website at fcahome.org and learn more about these and other initiatives, and to consider becoming a member. The first year is free. With your help, we can continue to challenge the infringements on our neighborhoods that appear every year. We would also like to thank our current members for making it possible for us to continue addressing your concerns.

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Crescendo Chapter features 9/11 responder/soloist



a.m. at the Bowers Museum. After responding to the disaster on 9/11, Rodriguez subsequently sang at Yankee Stadium to offer hope and inspiration. His patriotic efforts have led him to perform in concert halls around the world. The Crescendo Chapter is proud to have him on Veteran’s Day. Tickets are \$30 general admission and for Crescendo Chapter members. Bowers Museum members may buy one discounted ticket for \$20. Student tickets are also offered at a discount. For information about Bowers membership and student tickets, contact Mary Staton, (714) 544-5549. The Bowers Museum is located at 2002 N. Main Street, Santa Ana. Parking is \$6.

The Crescendo Chapter of the Guilds of Segerstrom Center present “Chaos to Carnegie Hall,” featuring Daniel Rodriguez, a 9/11 first responder and concert soloist. Part of the chapter’s Celebrity Speaker series, Rodriguez will perform Thursday, Nov. 11 at 10

OUSD scholars advance to scholarship finals

Canyon High School seniors Jayson Hall, Jeremy Letrac, Ethan Nguyen and Ohm Patel, along with El Modena High School senior Laila Hamidi, are semifinalists in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. They have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$30 million. Over 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 16,000 students, less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, were named semifinalists. National Merit Scholars each receive a \$2,500-a-year National Merit Scholarship, a corporate-sponsored scholarship, and/or a college-sponsored scholarship.



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Ring in the holidays

Assistance League of Orange will host a Holiday Pop-Up Sale featuring fall, Halloween and Christmas items hand-crafted by Chapter members. The sale will be held on the Chapter House rear patio, 124 South Orange St. in Orange on Friday, Oct. 1 from 12 to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 2 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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Area's deep-rooted history celebrated during Hispanic History Month

By Doug Westfall, national historian



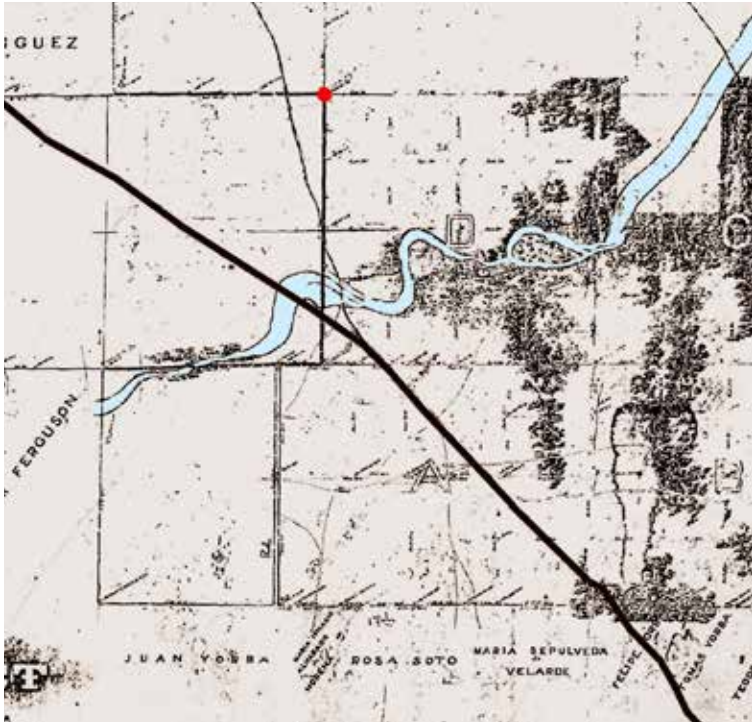
Our community was once the vast Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana. Ranging from Anaheim Hills to the sea; it also included all of Orange, Villa Park, parts of Santa Ana, Tustin, Costa Mesa and Newport Beach.



Juan Pablo Grijalva



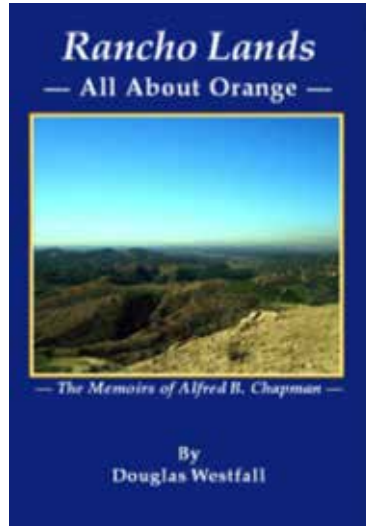
Orange was the headquarters. On top what is now called Hoyt Hill, Juan Pablo Grijalva had his adobe casa. He had been the second in command at the San Diego Presidio and retired to his first Rancho of Las Flores -- now Camp Pendleton. He came to this area and founded the 60,000-acre Rancho Santiago in 1801.



An 1870 map of the rancho lands. The Plaza is at the red dot, and El Camino Real is to the right of that.



When Grijalva Park was under construction, a large horseshoe was unearthed. Horses had to be big to herd cattle. Off Hewes St., just east of Santiago Road, is a plaque on the side of the hill. It marks the location of the Grijalva Adobe. A five-tined hand-wrought Spanish era spur was discovered when the plaque site was being dug 25 years ago.



Westfall's book, "Rancho Lands," tells more of the story above. His books on Orange can be found at www.SpecialBooks.com.



Many years ago, descendant Eddie Grijalva -- then of Orange -- discovered a wooden saddle frame, once belonging to Juan Pablo Grijalva. He donated it to the Orange Library.



A Spanish sanctus bell was found off of Walnut Ave., directly on the old El Camino Real.



The only thing on the land today with the Grijalva name, however, is Grijalva Park, once the site of a springtime rodeo. The vaqueros would round up the cattle for slaughter and brand the calves. Not just any cattle -- Longhorn cattle. Longhorns were here in California long before they were in Texas.

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ORWF members-only meeting slated

Orange Republican Women, Federated will meet Friday, Oct. 15 at the Santa Ana Elks Lodge.

The meeting, for members only, begins at 11 a.m., with doors opening at 10:30 a.m. No speaker is scheduled for this month.

Make reservations early with Peggy Baranyay, (714) 828-1289, at \$25 per person, cash or check.

The featured speaker at the September meeting speaker was Rick Travis, of the California Rifle and Pistol Association (CRPA). That organization has offered a weapons training class for members; sign up on the interest list at the October meeting.

Mark your calendar for the Holiday Fantasy to be held Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Phoenix Club. Because the Phoenix Club is closing in 2022, this may be a last chance to attend an event there.

For more information, contact ORWF President Andrea Krupka, at andreakrupka44@gmail.com, or visit ORWF.org.

The Santa Ana Elks Lodge is located at 1751 S. Lyon St.



Jean Broussard, chairman of the Crescendo Chapter of the Guilds of Segerstrom Center (left) welcomes singer/actress Joely Fisher, the guest performer at the chapter's September Celebrity Series event. For more information, see scfta.org.



Orange Elks Lodge 1475 installed place settings in its foyer for each of the 13 U.S. soldiers lost at the Kabul airport. The memorial place setting is a traditional tribute to fallen soldiers. "So long as there are service members and veterans, the Orange Elks will never forget."



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Fall Show coming Oct. 23rd.

The Orange Woman's Club will host its Fall Boutique & Craft Show on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The annual event features handcrafted items

for sale, vendors with unique items, a sweet shop, and lunch to buy and enjoy. Admission is free. The Woman's Club Clubhouse is located at 121 S. Center Street.

Tustin Art walk slated

The 2021 Old Town Tustin Art Walk and Craft Crawl is on tap, Saturday, Oct. 16 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event features side-walk artists, wine and beer, live

music, a kids' art village and plein air contest. This 14th annual walk is presented by the Tustin Parks and Recreation Department. For information, visit tustinca.org.

Fairhaven hosts Trunk and Treat

A classic car show and Halloween treats will be featured along a half-mile walk at Fairhaven Memorial Park on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. Trunk and Treat is free to the public. Children must be accompanied by an

adult, and CDC guidelines will be observed. Families are welcome to walk, collect treats and enjoy an array of classic and cool cars at 1702 Fairhaven Avenue, Santa Ana. For information, Cynthia. Adair@DignityMemorial.com.

Treats (will be) in the Street

The Orange Halloween celebration returns Thurs., Oct. 28 between 4-7 p.m. around the Plaza. There will be activities, community displays, and costumed chil-

dren may trick or treat between 4-5:30 p.m. The official welcome will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a kids' costume parade and a light show by the Sabre Guild.

Pirate's Cave ready for 22nd annual haunt

The Pirate's Cave home haunt has been providing family-friendly scares to local residents for 22 years.

It is a labor of love, headed up by father and son team, Dave and Jacob Larson. That first year, Dave simply stood outside with a "Phantom of the Opera" mask and a shovel. The haunt has grown each year, with help from up to 25 volunteers working six months out to provide high-tech, non-gory scares and fun.

This year's theme is "Curse of Calico Jack." The footprint has been expanded, with a walk-through maze three times the size of previous years, recommended for ages 10 to adult. Families with younger children may attend the

new "No Scare Candy Hunt," where the lights are on and there are no monsters, just candy stations.

Pirates Cave, 2548 E. Garfield in Orange, is open Oct. 16-17, 22-24 and 29-31 from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., closing at 9 p.m. on Sundays. The Children's Candy Hunt will be Oct. 22-24, 29-31 from 5 to 6 p.m. Admission is free, but a \$4 donation per person is suggested. Reservations are not required, but may be made via Express Queue, \$8 per person; see the website at piratescavehaunt.wix-site.com. Donations and sponsorships by Jeffrey Simons of Keller Williams Realty and Pam Dunn of Mulberry Street Mortgage help defray costs.

Tustin Connect named "best"

Tustin Unified School District's Tustin Connect (TC) was honored by *Parenting OC* as the 2021 Reader's Choice Winner in Orange County for Best Virtual Learning School.

TC is a K-12 school serving 440 students, offering a blend of traditional schooling and online education.

The K-8 program offers a rigorous curriculum aligned with in person schools in an independent study format. The high school level offers all classes required for graduation, plus electives and honors courses.

Interested students and parents should contact TC at (714) 430-2052 or visit tustin.k12.ca.us/tustin-connect.

THOUGHTS from a TREE M.D.

by Vince Olivieri,
ISA Certified Arborist (WE-12884-A)



Communication comes in many forms

Communication. A skill left to be desired by many. For some of us, it comes naturally. We can talk to anybody about anything. For others, even a "hello" is awkward and uncomfortable.

Naturally, we are social creatures. Today's society does not operate the same as in the past, with technology pulling us away and distancing us. But, historically, humans have always grouped together.

There is strength in numbers. And although we are not the strongest species on the planet, we are the smartest.

Life on our planet is dependent upon survival, and in order to survive, we needed to band together, create fortifications and communities, set jobs, crafts and professions, and, of course, reproduce.

The only scenario where communication is not needed, is a solo scenario. And even then, I might attempt to talk to myself. Communication is something that all living organisms do -- sometimes visually, sometimes by pheromones and scents, audio communications or even chemical communication.

Trees use toxins to ward off other plants and animals, to keep them from encroaching into their

space or feeding on them. Acacia trees, for instance, will start pumping toxins into their leaves within minutes of a giraffe feeding on their leaves.

Spread the news

In the same function, the acacia trees give off a warning gas (specifically, ethylene) that signal to nearby trees to begin producing the same toxins, so they are not attacked either. Giraffes have since evolved and now feed upwind, since the gases released by the trees rely on the wind to travel.

Tree roots also warn each other of impending danger. The roots use fungal networks around their root tips that operate, no matter what the weather.

Even loner trees, would-be hermits who want to live alone, still receive messages from other trees. When a tree is under stress, or experiencing nutrient deficiencies, it will send out signals requesting help, and other trees will send over some of their back-up nutrients to help them out.

The trees teach me yet another life lesson, one I need to incorporate in all my relationships.

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ORANGE AUGUST 2021					
	AUG-21	LAST MO	LAST 3 MOS	AUG-20	YTD
Median Sales Price	\$841,000	-1%	-2%	12%	\$830,000
Average Sales Price	\$950,063	5%	3%	26%	\$903,178
Properties for Sale	144	17%	--	1%	--
Properties Sold	106	-23%	--	-15%	936
Avg Days on Market	22	-12%	-4%	-12%	25
Avg Price/Sq Ft (Sold)	\$505	2%	2%	20%	\$487
Inventory (Months)	1.4	51%	33%	20%	1.1

TUSTIN AUGUST 2021					
	AUG-21	LAST MO	LAST 3 MOS	AUG-20	YTD
Median Sales Price	\$891,000	13%	5%	16%	\$804,500
Average Sales Price	\$1,014,657	17%	9%	32%	\$870,806
Properties for Sale	76	62%	--	-33%	--
Properties Sold	68	8%	--	2%	540
Avg Days on Market	17	-6%	-15%	-45%	27
Avg Price/Sq Ft (Sold)	\$523	3%	3%	21%	\$488
Inventory (Months)	1.1	50%	26%	-34%	0.9

VILLA PARK AUGUST 2021					
	AUG-21	LAST MO	LAST 3 MOS	AUG-20	YTD
Median Sales Price	\$1,679,500	-12%	-10%	22%	\$1,743,000
Average Sales Price	\$1,802,100	-13%	-8%	27%	\$1,865,948
Properties for Sale	10	-29%	--	-50%	--
Properties Sold	10	-23%	--	11%	74
Avg Days on Market	24	-20%	-42%	-74%	48
Avg Price/Sq Ft (Sold)	\$545	-2%	2%	31%	\$513
Inventory (Months)	1.0	-7%	-11%	-55%	1.4



Villa Park readies for fall and winter holidays

The City of Villa Park has a long history of unique and fun activities during the holidays.

This year, with COVID restrictions changing, Villa Park Community Services Foundation has safe plans underway to bring back the celebrations that were missed in 2020.

HalloweenFest, Sat., Oct. 30, 4 to 7 p.m. The Town Center will be filled with kids and canines in costumes, competing for prizes in age-group categories, while also enjoying the opportunity to win at carnival games, and snacking on pre-packaged food from a variety of vendors. Beware of witches with wishes to scare you!

Santa Tour, Sat., Dec. 4. A notorious old bearded guy from the North Pole will drive through town on the Orange County Fire Department engine, sirens signaling the arrival at strategic stopping points throughout the town.

Santa will pose for photos for family holiday cards and listen to children's gift desires. City councilmembers will be on board, too, handing out sweet treats.

Dryland Boat Parade, Sun., Dec. 12. The "asphalt harbor" in Villa Park will be host to the wackiest event in the OC during the holiday season.

Creatively decorated and lighted land yachts -- a myriad assortment of boats, cars, trucks, carts or crafts -- sail through the city on a predetermined route, as on-lookers cheer and catch the holiday spirit.

For further information, see vpcsfoundation.org.

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Canyon High's Fox Haugen (7) beat the Fullerton defensive back for the touchdown. Haugen had 216 yards receiving against Fullerton.



Canyon High's Sean Edmiston (23) completes a pass. Edmiston posted 10 completions for 89 yards.



Nathan Kornely (11) from Villa Park escapes the tackle from Orange's Edward Fonua (72).



Taylor Cowle (28) from Villa Park serves it up against Sunny Hills. Villa Park won, 3-0.



Canyon quarterback Christian Lundsberg, (12) threw for six touchdowns and 413 yards. Canyon won over Fullerton, 39-28.



Villa Park's Benjie Lewis (7) stops Orange Panther Jakob Coleman mid-field with a flying tackle.



Erica Hanks (15) returns the serve for Villa Park in the game against Irvine, as teammate Aubrey Lilomaiava (27) looks on.



Alex Sanchez (24) from Villa Park blocks Foothill's Lola Wendenburg's shot at the net. Foothill swept Villa Park, 3-0, in league play.



Jay Joo (35) and Arthur Orta (right) from Villa Park High team up to stop Kobe Boykin (2) from Orange High School; Spartan Vincent Furtdo, far right, moves in to assist. Villa Park won the season opener, 29-22.



Avery Ancich from Villa Park High sets the ball.



Lauren Jacela (3) from Villa Park dives to save the serve, as Aubrey Lilomaiava (left) is ready to dive in.



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FALL IS FINALLY HERE!



Autumn has always been my favorite season. Not just for the fashion, color schemes, pumpkin spice lattes, and Halloween but we finally get a break from the crazy heat and get new smells and scents in the air. Our trees actually love it too and many give us showy, brilliant shades of red, pink, orange, yellow and brown. But why do the deciduous trees change the color of their leaves? Deciduous trees actively produce pigments that are called 'anthocyanins' in the fall. This group of polyphenolic pigments gets the credit for the splash of colors the leaves take on in the fall which lower the freezing point of the leaves allowing the tree to retain the leaves for a longer period of time, maximizing the nutrients and energy absorbed by the tree before it becomes dormant. Energy absorbed by the leaves are stored in their woody branches, trunks and larger, structural roots.

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- Be careful not to allow mulching to build up on the trunk, this can lead to rot and decay
- Fall is the perfect time to plant new trees here in Southern California

PEST OF THE MONTH

Most pest activity dies down in the cooler months of the year, as the weather gets too cold for the small insects. However, pests that are not affected by the weather change, like the Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (PSHB), keep feeding as they have the warmth of the tree to protect them.

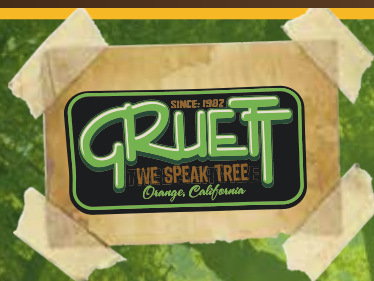
This pest, a small, flying beetle, bores into the tree, bringing with it a pathogenic fungus (*Fusarium* spp.). The fungus infects the hydraulic and cambial tissues of the tree, restricting movement of water and nutrients, and leading to black staining. The larvae of the beetle feed on both the cambial/hydraulic tissues of the tree, and on the fungus. If you see what looks like your tree leaking sap, call Gruett Tree Company's ISA Certified Arborists so we can help rid your poor trees of these ugly buggers.

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Expires 10/31/21 *Not to be combined with any other offer. Invoice to be paid upon completion of work

20% OFF
Pneumatic Aeration & Re-Mineralization Soil Services

GOOD THRU 10/31/21 *Not to be combined with any other offer

15% OFF
TREE PLANTING QUOTES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Expires 10/31/21 *Not to be combined with any other offer

*All coupons are valid one time only. One coupon per customer per job. Not to be combined with any other offer. Coupons discounts are subject to change at any time.

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