



Dedicated to the improvement of our community through awareness and involvement in local issues

(FREE) Local News for the Highgrove Area

April 2020

## Suppervisors postpone decision on distances between pot shops to May 19, 2020



First Pot Shop



## Second Pot Shop



Third Pot Shop? A third Pot Shop is seeking approval for the S/W corner of Iowa

#### Volunteers needed to circulate petition to stop paying for the Deputy Sheriff we have not had for 10 years!

Check your tax bill and if the amount directly across from CSA 126 is \$120.00 or more you are paying too much. New home owners in Spring Mountain Ranch, D R Horton and Lennar homes are asked to look at the amount directly across from CSA 126 on their tax bill. Some of the new homes show CSA 126 as much as \$2,176.92 and I have copies of their tax bills to prove it. **But we need more petitions!!!!!!** 

Sign the petition and get your neighbors to sign because door to door is the best way due to homeowners having access to their property tax bills so they can get their parcel number from their files. Then mail them to:

Highgrove Happenings Newspaper 474 Prospect Ave., Riverside/Highgrove, Ca. 92507

# Sign the Petition On Line

This petition is for all Highgrove property owners east of the I-215 freeway including the old part of Highgrove, DR Horton homes, Spring Mountain Ranch, and Lennar homes.

- Instructions:
- 1. Go to: www.highgrovehappenings.net
- 2. Print out the petition

3. Fill it out and include your Parcel Number that appears on your property tax bill and

4. mail to: Highgrove Happenings Newspaper

474 Prospect Ave.

Riverside/Highgrove, Ca.

92507

This petition is to eliminate the property tax we are required to pay for the Highgrove Sheriff Deputy that was eliminated by Riverside County on Dec. 30, 2009. Ten years after our Deputy was eliminated we still are paying for the Deputy we do not have!

Every Highgrove property owner should check their property tax bill and look at the amount straight across from CSA 126. If that amount is \$120.00 or more you should ask Riverside County for a written detailed breakdown explaning how every dollar of our CSA 126 tax money has been spent for the last ten years!

#### GRAND JURY INVESTIGASTION:

In 2017/18 there was a Grand Jury investigation about our CSA 126 funds. The Grand Jury instructions to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and the Riverside County Economic Development Agency contained the following statement:

Development Agency contained the following statement:

*"The CSA 126 management provide a one-time public notice"* clarifying exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed. So far Riverside County has not followed these instructions! Highgrove has a new Municipal Advisory Council but the Grand Jury's instructions were never mentioned at the Oct. 30, 2019 meeting or the Jan. 29, 2020 meeting. The MAC is the only community organization in Highgrove that is recognized by the Board of Supervisors and since the Coronavirus Pandemic there won't be another MAC meeting until July 29, 2020. This is important because prior to the 1997 ballot, Riverside County stated: "This tax will be retained in the CSA 126 fund to be used only for purposes of continuingExtended Sheriff and Park & Recreation services and improvements" The Highgrove Property Owners AND the Grand Jury want to know where our money has been spent for the last 10 years. And if it wasn't "retained" in Highgrove's CSA 126 account, where is it? Related article on Page 3 (Video of Parcel owner's meeting) Letter to Politicians on Page 5 Copy of 1997 Ballot on Page 8 Highgrove treated fairley? on Page 10

Ave. and Villa Street across from Zorbas and Reliable Tire.

## Pot Shops trying to invade Highgrove

<u>The first Pot Shop in Riverside County</u> was approved at 240 Iowa Avenue in Highgrove on Dec. 10, 2019. Prior to this approval back on Nov. 20, 2019, the City of Riverside sent a letter to Riverside County opposing the first pot shop on Iowa Ave. because, even though it was 1,500 feet from the city limits of Riverside, they opposed it because it was too close to their city limits.

The second applicant wants to build another pot shop on the S/E corner of Center St. and Iowa Ave and in order to do this they need to have the distance between cannabis stores shortened to 250 feet because the first store is only a short distance away and the existing 1,000 foot ordinance would prevent allowing another store to be built because they would be too close together other. The second Pot Shop is even closer to Riverside's city limits and the 3rd one is only a few feet from Riverside's city limits. At their meeting on March 17, 2020, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors postponed changing the distance between Pot Shops from 1,000 ft. to 250 ft. (Cont. on P. 3)

#### Highgrove Community Center Hours: Mon-Thur 8am-4pm; Fri 8am-2pm

Contact: (951) 241-7221





THE NORTON YOUNGLOVE COMMUNITY CENTER

459 Center Street- Highgrove web site: www.nycchighgrove.com

# **Family Service Association**

Leila Santamaria Center Manager Priscilla Burton Office Assistant II Clerical Volunteers: Jack Aboytes, Cynthia Kupfer and Rosie Navarro

Hello Community Members,



Family Service Association's Missión: Building community one family at a time, through compassion, advocacy and comprehensive model services, fostering self-sufficiency and sustainable impacts.



459 Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507

**E-Taekwondo** 

**United Martial** 

Arts For all Ages Todas las edades Tues & Thurs 5:00 PM For details

call Master

Chavez 909-578-4799 www.etkdu.com

**Riverside Single** 

do si do

Swingers Square Dance Club

Tues 6:30pm-9pm \$6 donation. Info: 909-823-0294 or 951-788-



The City of Riverside and Family Service Association are monitoring county, state and national reports on the impact of COVID-19 and responding appropriately. The health and safety of the community, our participants, staff and volunteers is our top priority. The Norton Younglove Community Center is closed, with all programming suspended until further notice. Staff is available by telephone at 951-241-7221 should you

have questions Monday through Thursday, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Our Senior Nutrition program is currently offering frozen meals to registered participants for pick-up on Wednesdays, 11:00 am. To 1:00 PM. This program is open to participants age 60 and above only. We will make all attempts to keep you informed as information becomes available. Stay safe and we look forward to welcoming you back soon!

#### During these uncertain times it is important to receive factual information from reliable sources. Below is a list of trusted agencies.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) www.cdc.gov or 1-800-232-4636

State of California www.covid19.gov During these uncertain times it is important to receive factual information from reliable sources. Below is a list of trusted agencies.

Riverside County Department of Public Health www.rivcoph.org

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health www.sbcounty.gov

National Institutes of Health (NIH) www.nih.gov

Social Security Administration Information www.ssa.gov Online services www.socialsecurity.gov

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) www.irs.gov

Coronavirus tax relief www.irs.gov/coronavirus

Institute on Aging Senior Intervention & Friendship Hotline Age 60 and above seeking interaction and experiencing feelings of isolation 1-800-971-0016 or www.ioaging.org

**Tuesday Bingo** 



12:30 PM - 1:30 PM 4 cards for \$1.00 Includes refreshments



A social gathering for 18+ every 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 am

**Line Dance** 



wingers.com

ommunity Center

#### *iazzercise*. JAZZERCISE.

**Zion Assembly** Church of God Sunday 11:00 AM Pastor Pete Sarry 95

-237-2337

Thurs 6:15 PM, ,Sat

8;30 & 9:15 AM for

2815

**Sewing Class** 

Mon 8:30 AM Begin-

951-779-3099 fax www.fsaca.org

(951) 241-7221

## Let's Celebrate!

Whether you are having a wedding, birthday, anniversary, company or church event; our banquet hall is the place for you. Room capacity is 150 people at a rate of \$100 per hour (Kitchen available for additional flat rate cost). Security needed with all rental event (additional cost). To reserve your party's date a \$200 non-refundable deposit is required. For further details contact center at 951 241 -7221

Daily lunch for ages 60 and

over The Center offers a daily lunch for people 60 and over. It's a great way to meet new people and get familiar with our center and all the services we offer. Delicious meals are served Mondays through Fridays, from 11:30 am to 12:30 p.m.

Child Development Center Has Openings!!

Mon 7:30 PM Inter-mediate, Wed 7:30 PM Beginner \$2 per class. For more de-tails call 951-329-7867 underthesun-linedar co.com linedance.com

Bailando en Fila

#### What you need to know about coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

#### How can I protect myself?

People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. •
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands .
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. • Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water is not available.

For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

#### .000 SAVE DATE

May 9th: 8:00 AM - 12 :00 Noon

"Highgrove Community Clean by day" sponsored by County of Riverside Code Enforcement Department.





Volunteer



MBA

ner and 1:30 PM, Intermediate . Wed 1 **Opportunity!** 1st, 2nd, 3rd Friday - 4 PM For details call Maria with Sew of each month. 8 AM-11 AM. Call 951-& Vac 909-825-6009 241-7221 for details.

Mon 5:20 PM, Tues 4 PM, Wed 5:20 PM, III

Free or low cost Early Care and Preschool Programs call 951-342-3151.

Call our FSA Administrative Office 951-686-1096 for details on other program services provided: Clinical Services, Housing Services, Mobile Fresh, and Hope Collaborative.



#### Pot Shops from P. 1

but another public hearing is scheduled for May 19, 2020.

The two-page letter from Riverside reads in part: "The City of Riverside respects the County of Riverside's authority to permit cannabis businesses in its jurisdiction. However, the proposed Retail cannabis business is located approximately 1,500 feet from the boundary of the City of Riverside. While the County can offset health, safety and enforcement impacts through fees and other measures in its development agreement; the City cannot. As a result, the proximity of this business to the City of Riverside will result in direct and indirect impacts to the City without mitigating resources. The city respects the County's authority to approve cannabis businesses within its jurisdiction, but asked that such approvals not occur near the City of Riverside."

If a Pot Shop in Highgrove is 1,500 feet from Riverside's City limits and that is too close for them, what about Highgrove residents? Highgrove needs services such as a Grocery Store, Shopping Center, a Bank, and a Post Office due to all the new and older homes that need these services instead of Pot Shops. When Highgrove residents go to Stater Bros. in Grand Terrace they are taking their tax money to San Bernardino County but if some of these services were in Highgrove, the tax revenue would go to Riverside County.

Highgrove residents are under attack from outside sources that will only benefit **<u>them</u>** while **<u>our</u>** necessary services continue to be neglected.

### Do Public Comments serve the public's needs?

During Supervisor Ashley's jurisdiction, developers or builders who wanted to make changes in Highgrove were directed to present their project to the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council before going directly to the Planning Commission. This process enabled the community to know what is being planned for their neighborhood and it worked very well.

But when Supervisor Tavaglione replaced Supervisor Ashley due to boundary adjustments, Supervisor Tavaglione eliminated the entire Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council at a public hearing on April 11, 2017 and for 2 1/2years Highgrove was left without any voice of the people to our County Supervisor.

The new Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council under Supervisor Spiegel held their first meeting at the Highgrove Library on October 30, 2019 but the meeting was only to review the Brown Act.

Then on Nov. 20, 2019, the following month after the first MAC meeting, I learned about the letter (Shown above) from the City of Riverside to Riverside County opposing a marijuana store in Highgrove.

So what happened to Supervisor Ashley's agreement about the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council being made aware of significant changes to Highgrove?

Supervisor Tavaglione eliminated the first Highgrove MAC and it is apparent that the applicant for the first pot shop went directly to the Planning Commission instead of the applicant or Planning Commission notifying the Highgrove MAC. Then it happened again because nothing was mentioned at the second Highgrove MAC meeting on Jan. 29, 2020 about a request for a 2<sup>nd</sup> marijuana store in Highgrove or changing the ordinance from 1,000 feet to 250 feet between marijuana stores.

For the 2nd time, the applicants went directly to the Planning Commission instead of notifying the new Highgrove MAC about the ordinance change because the **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS** from the Planning Commission were to approve shortening the distance between the stores.



:गारलवरस

**Family Restaurants** 

# Video of Highgrove Property owners meeting now on-line

On Jan. 15, 2020, I hosted a meeting for Highgrove parcel owners at the Riverside Eagles Aerie # 997 located in Highgrove.

A. J. Benson from Benson Productions Video taped this meeting and Adrien Reyes put the Video on discs with subtitle text that matches my talking points. This 13 minute video and a cover letter were mailed to the following people on March 16, 2020. Senator Richard Roth, Congressman Mark Takano, Asembleyman Jose Medina, Governor Gavin Newsom, Jeff Horseman Riverside Press, Rob McMillan Channel 7, Frank Buckley Channel 5, David Goldstein Channels 2 & 9, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn., California False Claims unit, and the Associated Press in Wasington. These were mailed to expose what Riverside County is doing to the small community of Highgrove. For Letter: Page 5 For Video: go to: www.highgrovehappenings.net, double click on Property Owner's Meeting & click on the play arrow in the lower left corner.

**COVID-19 Virus cancels Highgrove events** The meeting of the new Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council

scheduled for April 29, 2020 has been cancelled and the next Highgrove MAC meeting won't be until July 29, 2020. This means that there have only been two new MAC meetings, one on October 31, 2019 (that was only for explaining the Brown Act to the new MAC members) and another one on Jan. 29,

2020. Why is this important?

Because 9 months have passes since the new MAC was formed and only 2 meetings have been held. Previous to these two meetings there had not been a Highgrove MAC meeting for 2 1/2 years. The new MAC members should insist that the Grand Jury recommendations are adhered to by requiring Riverside County to furnish a written report to the MAC to: *clarify exactly how the CSA 126 funds are duistributed.*"

Previous CSA 126 /MAC meetings have been held every month since 1991 except for the months of December. And when the Highgrove MAC was created by Supervisor Ashley on August 23, 2006 the monthly meetings continued until Supervisor Tavagklione eliminated the Highgrove MAC on April 11, 2017.

Monthly meetings enabled our community to know what is being planned for our neighborhood and it worked very well for 26 years. But holding MAC meetings quarterly instead of monthly enables developers to go directly to the Planning Commission without Highgrove knowing what the developer is planning to build in Highgrove. During the Corona Virus pandemic it is important for the new Highgrove MAC members to monotor the Riverside County Planning Commission's web site to keep an eye out for changes that effect Highgrove. Anyone can go on line to Riverside County Planning Department /Public Hearings and then notify the Highgrove Happenings at (951) 683 4994 or the e-mail address at: highgrovenews@roadrunner.com and we will notify residents about the proposed changes. Another important way is posting something on "Next Door". 33rd Highgrove Day Cancelled Also the 33rd Highgrove Day breakfast and Car Show scheduled for May 9, 2020 has also been cancelled for 2020. New 2 You 20%A Family Consignment Shop Antiques, Clothes, Collectibles, **O**FF Furniture, Tools, Toys, Books Your Shopping with items donated 909-824-0220 22400 Barton Rd. Suite 3 Grand Terrace,

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909~420~0041



# **FAKE NEWS CHALLENGE**

The articles in the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper are the truth of what is happening in and to Highgrove and we are not just printing our opinion. We print articles about what is actually happening to Highgrove that affect you and we have verification to prove that what we print is true-such as the Deputy Sheriff we are paying for that we do not have and the 18 year struggle to get a Metrolink station at Highgrove. Documentation is available upon request and we welcome anyone who wants to challenge any statements in our paper. Please go to: www.highgrovehappenings.net and click on "Latest Issue" to see articles that go back to July of 2008. Thank you for your many years of support!

R. A. "Barney" Barnett (951) 683 4994 highgrovenews@ roadrunner.com.



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HIGHGROVE

**Open** for



Page 4 April 2020

#### Here is a copy of the letter sent along with the videos

Taxation without representa-<br/>tion!March 16, 2020

In 1992 the small 3.2 square mile un-incorporated community of Highgrove in Riverside County voted to pay an extra annual fee of \$120.00 per parcel to pay for a Sheriff Deputy assigned exclusively to their community. The extra fee appeared on their property tax bills as:

CSA 126.....\$120.00.

Then, in 1997due to proposition 218, parcel owners voted again by 75.8% to keep their deputy. Both ballots were mailed out by Riverside County to the property owners and this worked well for many years.

Later I wondered why our Sheriff Deputy did not stop by my house anymore and I found out that on Dec. 30, 2009, Riverside County eliminated Highgrove's exclusive deputy without notifying any of the Highgrove voters!

As Chairman of the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council, I asked Riverside County to refund the voters the amount they paid <u>af-</u> <u>ter</u> the sheriff was eliminated. <u>But</u> <u>today, 10 years after our deputy</u> <u>was eliminated, Riverside County</u> <u>still requires the \$120.00 fee to be</u> <u>paid with our property taxes.</u>

On Aug. 5, 2015, I personally handed Riverside County Supervisor John Tavaglione a request for an audit of Highgrove's CSA 126 funds. (CSA stands for County Service Area and Highgrove's number is 126)

Then on April 11, 2017 Supervisor Tavaglione held a public hearing and eliminated the entire Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council because we were asking too many questions about our CSA 126 finances. He eliminated our monthly meetings to silence Highgrove's only community voice!

On Sept. 1, 2017, there was a **Grand Jury investigation** and the

Grand Jury stated that there should be: "a one-time public notice clarifying exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed" (As of the date of this letter, this notice has still not been complied with)

All CSA 126 assessments for the Sheriff have been \$120.00 per for many years but all of the new homes are being charged exorbitant amounts for the same CSA 126 item on their tax bills.

I have tax bills from some of the new homes being built in Highgrove and they are being charged as much as **\$2,176.92** for the same CSA 126 assessment that the older part is paying **\$120.0**0.

I am enclosing a homemade video of a meeting that I hosted for the Highgrove property owners on Jan. 15, 2020. All statements made at this meeting are backed up in writing.

Over 4,000 Highgrove property owners are tired of still being required to pay for a specific service (Deputy) that was eliminated 10 years ago by Riverside County!

We need your cooperation, assistance, and response to help expose this miss-use of Highgrove's CSA 126 funds. The public needs to know what Riverside County is doing to our small community. Please give me a call & I will answer any of your questions.

Thank you,

R. A. "Barney" Barnett Highgrove Happenings Newspaper 474 Prospet Ave. Highgrove, Ca. 92507

highgrovenews@roadrunner.com

FOR SALE MAKE OFFER



Electronic Giraffe repellant See page 9

that is likely extinct today, was spread by fleas on infected rodents. The colossal number of deaths were dealt with by using mass graves. The large number of lives lost didn't just reduce the population but changed the course of history because the surviving people had better access to food and the lack of numbers in the workforce lead to technological innovations.

16th Century "conquerers" from Spain brought a cluster of diseases to the Americas including smallpox and caused the deaths of an estimated indigenous population, including the Aztec and Inca, that is thought to be 90%! The Flu Pandemic of 1889-1890 took just FIVE weeks to reach peak mortality, in all, killing one million people. It took just a few months, in an age without air transportation, to travel from Russia to Europe and the rest of the world.

The Spanish Flu of 1918-1920 had an estimated 500 MILLION affected with a death rate of 1 in 5=100 million. It was during WWI so the troops living in close quarters were particularly hit hard. Despite the name, the flu didn't originate in Spain.

Modern times have seen the "Asian Flu", "Swine Flu", "Ebola", "Zika", and AIDS (which is still being transmitted). (livescience.com) We as 21st Century people have never been more fortunate in that we have very modern science and medicine to mitigate the toll this current viral outbreak can have. But no matter the century, the germ, or the outcome, one thing has been consistent since 3000 BC, containing the spread of an infection has remained in the hands of those closest to it.

LISTEN to the health experts not politicians. The HEALTH EXPERTS know their stuff. I'm a doctor and I'm listening to them. This is a bad nightmare but it's not a dream and it's not a joke. If we listen to the experts and do the things recommended, not matter how inconvenient and annoying and painful they are, you will be rewarded knowing you are part of the solution to get this pandemic over with as quickly as possible. Thank you for your help.

DO THE FIVE to Help stop coronavirus (World Health Organization)

HANDS - Wash them often
ELBOW - Cough into it
FACE - Don't touch it
SPACE - Keep safe distance

## Tax deadline extended to July 15, 2020.



#### Get Your Taxes Done FREE at the HIGHGROVE LIBRARY!

If you earned less than \$70K in 2019 and had no business losses or rental income you qualify!

Free Tax Preparation Services Provided by Community Action Partnership of Riverside County

Every Saturday during the month of February, March and April 11, 2020 from 10am-2pm. Free Tax Preparation Services will be available at the Highgrove Library located at 530 W Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507. For more information please call 951-682-1507.

Pre-School Story Time @ HIGHGROVE LIBRARY—Join us for stories and crafts every Wednesday at 11:30am and Thursday at 3pm.

For more information please call the library at: 951-682-1507

#### **Requests sent to Supervisor Karen Spiegel:** 1 Hold monthly MAC meetings instead of quarterly

## Cynthia Williams, DC

You Can Quote Me

# "KEEP CALM AND WASH YOUR HANDS, FREQUENTLY". $\sim \mathrm{Dr}\ \mathrm{Cindy}$

I would be remiss if, as a journalist, I didn't address the HUGE issue facing not only the USA but also the whole world. March has delivered a story straight out of a Hollywood B-movie. Panic, governmental ineptness and confusion, illness spreading like the virtual plague, and deaths; too many among the least expected. A prevalence of COVID lingo has crept into our collective language: "social distancing", "isolation", "hoarding", "transmission", "flatten the curve", and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). This particular virus knows no limits of age, gender, economic status, or political party. We are equal at the risk of being afflicted with this virulent virus.

Perspective is important. We've seen outbreaks before. 5,000 years ago, ironically in China, an epidemic wiped out a village in China. It's unknown what the killer was; what is known is that the bodies of the dead were crammed inside a house and then burned down. Skeletal remains of all ages were found there. After that the site was abandoned.

The "Black Death" from 1346-1353 started in Asia and trailed to Europe, wiping out over half of Europe's population along the way. A bacteria

1. Hold monthly MAC meetings instead of quarterly.

2. Comply with Grand Jury instructions that say: "CSA 126 management provide a one-time public notice clarifying exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed."

Please allow a 20 ft. container to be placed next to the existing 20 ft. container in the parking lot of the community center that is being used by the EDA. The new container will be purchased with donations and will be used for Highgrove items and Highgrove Day.
Please provide public information to the Highgrove Happenings

Newspaper concerning events or dates that concern Highgrove residents.

### **City of Riverside's Sunshine Ordinance**

The city of Riverside requires a 12 days public notice of upcoming meetings rather than the state-required 3 day notice.

In a letter about this subject on Sept. 10, 2015, city manager John Russo stated: **"For a democracy to be truly representative, the people must have an opportunity to fully review and question the proposed actions of their government"** 

To prevent this from happening again maybe the Highgrove MAC should request a similar ordinance to be put in place by Riverside County to protect the un-incorporated communities.



# WWW.HIGHGROVEAUTOS.COM 951-777-0004

235 Iowa Ave Riverside, CA 92507

















## Joe LuJan Real Estate Agent Lic# 01476370

# 951-204-0502

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Dr. Ellen Park, DDS

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Page 6 April 2020



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# **Crime Stats for HIGHGROVE**

Crime stats from Feb. 29, to March 18, 2020

Petty (4)

Assaults (2)

**Robbery Firearm (0)** 



Veh. Theft (6)

Theft from veh. (2)

## CALL **911** FOR AN EMERGENCY Sheriff's beat car

## 951-776-1099 Ext. 5 Lieutenant Justin Rowan

**Riverside County Sheriffs Department** Jurupa Valley Station 7477 Mission Blvd. Desk 951-955-2612 Cell 951-906-9695

## **County Spokeswoman quoted** from Press Enterprise article:

On April 20, 2019 the Press Enterprise ran an article titled: "Residents file suit over servicee fee"

In reference to new Spring Mountain Ranch property owners paying as much as \$2,900.00 where older property owners in Highgrove only have to pay \$120.00 per year, here is what the spokeswoman from Riverside County, Brooke Federico stated: "The higher assessment covers costs associated with regular maintenance for more than 7 million square feet of landscaping, street lighting, enhanced sheriff services, Spring Mountain Ranch community park, community trails and water quality basins"

The ballot was not to be used for "Landscaping" or any of the other purposes mentioned by the Riverside County spokeswoman!

Were CSA 126 funds used for "lanscaping" in Spring Mountain Ranch? The fee was only for two purposes: The Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services. Read the wording on the 1997 ballot below!



Spring Mountain Ranch

Here is a copy of the 1997 ballot that was approved by 75.8 % of the Highgrove voters to keep our Deputy Sheriff The following statement was an MEASURES SUBMITTED TO VOTE OF VOTERS "Impartial Analysis" made by the Riverside County Council COUNTY prior to the 1997 Ballot: COUNTY SERVICE AREA 128 ZONE A "This tax will be retained in the CSA 126 fund to be used Shall the County of Riverside be authorized to Yes only for purposes of continureplace, at the same rate, the existing asseat-ment of \$120.00, with a Special Tax on all parcets within CSA 126 Zone A to continue to Nø ing Extended Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services finance the same Extended Sheriff and Park & Recreation Services? and improvements. This tax cannot be increased except by This ballot was approved for only for two spacific purposes. a 2/3 vote of the electorate" If not used for these two purposes the funds were supposed to be "Retained" in Highgrove's CSA 126 account!

**Code Enforcement responds to** complaints from Highgrove residents!

Before



After



Good News! The only thing left is this Volkswagen Bug. The clean up of this junkyard was covered in our January issue and we thank Riverside County for cleaning up this mess!





On Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, approximately 12 noon, a fire started in a gully just north of the Santa Ana River and east of La Cadena. A large piled up mountain of junk and debris that was accumulated caught on fire. It appears to have been started by a homeless encampment located there for some time. Two City of Colton fire trucks responded to the fire with the Colton Police Department assisting with traffic control.



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Highgrove Happenings to become on-line newspaper only! Starting with the April 2020 issue we will no longer provide printed newspapers but we will be available on-line only by going to: www.highgrovehappenings.net and clicking on "Latest Issue". Reminders can be sent to our readers who supply their e-mail addresses or social media preferences. Tell us how you want to be reminded and we will add you to our contact data base. Contact us at: highgrovenews@roadrunner.com or (951) 683 4994

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME! Monday-Taco Night 6-7:30pm Friday-Night Dinners Sunday- Karaoke & DinnerEntertainment (Call for details)

Eagles always welcomes new members!



**Electronic Giraffe Repellant** 



Recently this old detector went off and I didn't have time to take the batteries out to stop it so I just set it outside. 3 weeks later it is still churping so I left the batteries in and I re-named it an: **"Electronic Giraffe Repellant"** It really works great because we havn't seen any giraffes in our back yard ever since and it keeps the local cats away because they can't stand this loud chirping noise either! My invention works on elephants too!

Call (951) 683 7770 for details

HALL FOR RENT

466 E. La Cadena Dr. Highgrove, CA 951-683-7770

### GARRETT B CLEMENS Owner - lead tech FEARLESSMOTERING@GMAIL.COM 951-496-7077 Complete auto service Guaranteed to Beat Any Shops Price ASE Certified



# **HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS** Has Highgrove been treated unfairly?

enjoyed volunteering for four different Riverside County Supervisors. I have been watching out for Highgrove under former Supervisors Younglove, Mullen, Ashley and Tavaglione. Supervisor Spiegel is now the Supervisor in Highgrove and I will volunteer if I am asked.

I love Highgrove and have tried to improve my community since I first became Vice Chairman of

For the last 25 years I have Highgrove's CSA 126 in 1991.

With help from Riverside County we have seen a new community center and fire station built that was dedicated on Sept. 28, 1996, a 5 acre community park that was dedicated Oct. 16, 1999 and a Highgrove entry monument at the northbound exit of the I-215 freeway and at both ends of Iowa Avenue.

businesses and our new library was dedicated on March 19, 2011.

Over many years I made a lot of friends at the county administration building when I delivered the Highgrove Happenings to various floors. Each Supervisor received

a copy on the 5th floor and other copies were delivered to the Riverside County **Transportation Commission** 

on the 3rd floor. Other floors that received copies included the 4th, 8th, 12th, and 14th floors of the Riverside County Administration Building. I also took copies to the Riverside County Traffic Engineer on 14th Street. and I delivered copies to the Mayor of Riverside and each City Council member on the 7th floor of city hall and other floors including the 3rd and 4th floors of City Hall.

The EDA also improved several store fronts of Highgrove

### But the request for an Audit of our CSA 126 funds changed everything on Aug. 5, 2015

Unfortunately, things changed on Aug. 5, 2915 when I handed Supervisor Tavaglione a request for an Audit about where our CSA 126 money was being spent that was collected by the CSA126 Special tax.

From that point on things went downhill and here are some of the things that happened:

- Meeting with Tavaglione only included his staff and Highgrove MAC members March 7, 2016
- Meeting with Tavaglione but he was not present June 30, 2016
- Oct. 19, 2016 Riverside County admits taking \$35,000.00 out of CSA 126 account instead of general fund
- Nov. 16, 2016 27 questions submitted to Riverside County by Highgrove MAC Answers due back Jan. 18,2017
- Answers due back but no county representative attended January MAC meeting Jan. 18, 2017
- " " " 2017 February " Feb. 15,
- " " " " March March 15, 2017
- Barnett resigned and asked Tavaglione to allow Highgrove MAC to continue without him March 16, 2017
- At public hearing Tavaglione eliminated entire Highgrove MAC-12 Highgrove people opposed and Tavaglione caught lying. April 11, 2017 (See bottom left video tape on: www.highgrovehappenings.net)
- Barnett called for a Grand Jury Investigation Sept. 1, 2017
- Nov. 14, 2017 Barnett testified at Grand Jury for 2 hours
- Jan. 25, 2018 Meeting for Spring Mountain Ranch residents at Eagles Aerie 997 in Highgrove about Sheriff fees
- Feb .21, 2018 Written response received from county: "The parcels that pay for this assessment pay for Park & Recreation and extended Sheriff. Developments that came in after the vote are assessed for these services as well".
- And Prior to the 1997 ballot this is what Riverside County Council said would happen if Highgrove voters voted "yes".

"This tax will be retained in the CSA 126 fund to be used only for purposes of continuing Extended Sheriff and Park & Recreation services and improvements".

BUT WAS THIS MONEY ACTUALLY "<u>RETAINED</u>"IN THE CSA 126 ACCOUNT or was it used for other purposes?

- May 21, 2018 Lawsuit filed against Riverside County about CSA 126 funds
- Several pot shops closed in Highgrove including the one at 240 Iowa Avenue May 22, 2018
- July 16, 2018 Candidate Karen Spiegel came to my house and I showed her around Highgrove for 2 hours

2017-2018 Printed below is Grand Jury's Recommendations to:

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors** 

**Riverside County Economic Development Agency** 

CSA 126 COMMUNICATION: CSA 126 management provide a one-time public notice clarifying exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed. This notice should include the number of assessed parcels, the amount per parcel for different housing areas, and current agreements and contracts in effect. At least every 2 years, CSA management should make a summary report available online and at a public meeting open to all interested Highgrove residents. This effort is appropriate and necessary since there is no current forum to discuss such issues in the Highgrove Community. Part of the summary of contracts and agreements should explain the effective date and cost of the current chain of agreements between CSA 126 management and the Jurupa Valley Sheriff Station for focused law enforcement coverage.

Editor's Note: The above Grand Jury report is correct but the article about the Grand Jury investigation in the December 2019 issue on page 5 had 3 lines that were duplicates. Please accept our apology

From March 4, 2019 to Nov. 13, 2019 Barnett sent 13 E mails to Supervisor Spiegel but no response ever received back

(March 4 & 29, April 10, June 17, July 16 & 21, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct 11, 17, & 18, Nov. 4 & 13, 2019)

Also on Nov. 1, 2019 I asked who made the decision to select all of the new MAC members from Spring Mountain Ranch. Here is the reply I received:

"I'm working with our attorneys to determine what is permissible for public consumption related to the MAC applications and selection process". And on Nov. 19, 2019 my request for a meeting with Supervisor Spiegel was denied "until the ongoing litigation you have with Riverside County is resolved"

Here is another Riverside County agency who is not treating Highgrove fairly!

Metrolink: For the last 18 years, the Riverside County Transportation Commission has been the only organization to ever oppose building a Metrolink Station at Highgrove even though Senators from both counties, residents and civic groups from both counties, and Congressman Takano, have supported this location for many years.

RCTC owns 17.22 acres of vacant land at Highgrove that is right next to the # 3 BNSF main line where Metrolink trains go by in both directions seven days a week between San Bernardino and Oceanside.

There is plenty of room for a parking lot at Highgrove that is just growing weeds that was not needed for the Perris Valley Line. RCTC already owns this land and has already spent \$5,347,500.00 for this unused property that is needed for a parking lot and a Metrolink station. Entry to the parking lot could be straight down Spring St. from the new Spring Mountain Ranch homes.

## **Highgrove Firsts!**

Highgrove was the first un-incorporated community in Riverside County to pay extra for it's own Deputy Sheriff in 1992 Highgrove was the first un-incorporated community in Riverside County that Riverside County approved for a marijuana store ten years after they eliminated the Highgrove Deputy Sheriff.

For 28 years (since 1992) Highgrove has been paying for our deputy that Riverside County eliminated on Dec. 30, 2009.

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**Open minds Open Doors** 

Free Community Breakfast April 25, 2020 9:00-10:00 am



938 Center St. Highgrove 92507

Pastor Dr. Martin Niponi Finau

#### HIGHGROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Worship Starts @ 9:30am



"This church has been serving the Highgrove community since 1890"

## **Immanuel Baptist Temple**

45 Michigan Ave., Highgrove 951-784-1100 Pastor John Pettit

Sunday School: Church Service: Bible Study: 10:00 am 11:00 am & 6:00 pm 7:00 pm Wednesdays

## Zion Assembly Church of God Sundays 11:00 am

Norton Younglove Community Center 459 Center St. Highgrove, Ca. 92507

Join us in learning the word of God from the scriptures of the Holy Bible. All are welcome! www.zacoghighgroveca.org (Se Habla Español) For more information please call Pastor Pete Sarry at (951) 237 2337

**Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church** 12745 Oriole Avenue at Pico Street, Grand Terrace, CA 92313

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM Weekly Mon-Fri 8:00 AM Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:00AM (English) 12PM: (Spanish)

E-mail: <a href="mailto:christthereedemergt@sbdiocese.org">christthereedemergt@sbdiocese.org</a>

Rev. Anthony Waturuocha: Administrator Parish Office 909-783-3811 Fax 909-783-4689



Nondenominational Church  $\cdot$  Church of God  $\cdot$  Christian Church

## Sunday Service 10 AM







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## Parents: Please call Highgrove Elementary School first before trying to register your child for Kindergarten!

Hopefully, Highgrove Elementary School will soon be accepting 2020-2021 registration for Kindergarten students between the hours of 8:00 am and 12:00 noon.

To register please bring the Birth Certificate (County record), Passport, Hospital record Immunization record, 2 current proofs of address: (electric, water, or gas bill), government

**CARQUEST** 

document, lease/rental agreement, escrow papers or forwarded mail (all must be within the past 30 days), Parent/Guardian Photo ID, completed RUSD Registration packet. The first day of school for 2020-2021 will be on Monday August 10, 2020.

or Babtismal Certificate, current If you have any questions or for more information please call the Highgrove Elementary School first at: (951) 788 7296



 Charging System Testing \*Store services subject to change. Contact us to confirm service availability.

**Carquest Auto Parts** 795 Columbia, Ave. Enter off Northgate St. Riverside, CA 92507 951-684-0242 Doug Inaba Manager

## **HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS NEWSPAPER**

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YOUR FEEDBACK AND ARTICLES WANTED