



HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



Dedicated to the improvement of our community through awareness and involvement in local issues
(FREE) Local News for the Highgrove Area

December 2016

Merry Christmas

Special Parcel Assessment: To pay or not to pay!

Special Parcel Assessment: To pay or not to pay?

The Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council and its predecessor County Service Area 126 consists of volunteers who live in Highgrove or own property in Highgrove. These community volunteers handle no money or pay any bills acquired by the community. The volunteers serve without compensation and relay information to the Supervisor in our district about the needs of the community. The county collects and disperses money on Highgrove's behalf.

This is what happened in 1991 when CSA 126 notified the County Supervisor Norton Younglove that the community wants the county to circulate a ballot to ask property owners if they are willing to pay for an extra Deputy Sheriff exclusive to CSA 126 on the east side of the freeway.

Supervisor Younglove said that if you want your own Deputy Sheriff you will have to pay for it.

The 1991 minutes state that the \$10.00 per month assessment will be divided into two categories. \$7.96 will be used for Sheriff's protection and \$2.04 for park and recreation improvements.

Riverside County, using their tax records, mailed out ballots to the property owners that included property owners who live inside or outside of the CSA 126 boundaries. And in 1992 the property owners voted to assess themselves \$120.00 per year per parcel for the extra Deputy. After the ballots were counted the County was notified of the results and the \$120.00 started to appear on our property tax bills and we had our own Deputy assigned exclusively to the east side of Highgrove.

Then in 1997 proposition 218 required we vote on it again. The 1997 ballot was also mailed out by Riverside County and the results showed that 75.8 % of the property owners wanted to continue paying for our own deputy sheriff. But this \$120.00 annual fee is still being paid by the property owners on the property tax bills that are due on December 10, 2016 even though the Deputy sheriff was eliminated 7 years ago!

Remember, you should pay your entire property tax bill in full including the CSA 126 fee of \$120.00 because if you do not include the \$120.00, your property may have a lien attached to it for not paying the entire amount that is due. The assessment is still on the tax records even though we do not have our Deputy Sheriff any more. We received information from the Riverside County Economic Development Agency that the last day the sheriff (assigned exclusively to Highgrove) was Dec. 30, 2009. Until legal action changes or eliminates this special assessment I recommend paying the amount shown on your tax bill that is due this month.

The Highgrove MAC has given the County a list of questions that need to be answered about our property owners being required to pay for a deputy Sheriff exclusive to the east side of Highgrove even though the deputy's position was eliminated over 7 years ago.

Riverside County has until Jan. 18, 2017 to answer our questions. Depending on the answers to these questions we will re-evaluate their answers and decide whether or not to pursue legal action against the county for re-imbursement of property taxes that were collected for a specific purpose but was eliminated without another ballot or proper notification of the date that the Sheriff's position was eliminated.

In 1992 and 1997 ballots were mailed out to the property owners by Riverside County to create the Sheriff position but when the Sheriff was eliminated the property owners were not given written notice that on a particular day the Highgrove Deputy's position would be eliminated.

Another ballot should have been mailed out by Riverside County that could have had 3 choices: Reduce the time the Highgrove Deputy spent on duty to stay within our budget, increase the assessment, or eliminate the assessment entirely. Unfortunately no ballot was mailed out to give the property owners any of these choices but we still are paying for a Deputy Sheriff we no longer have! Pay the entire amount due!

**PAY YOUR PROPERTY
TAXES BY Dec. 10, 2016!**

Revised plan to include new retail along Center St., Townhouses, Condominiums, and Apartments on Bixby property.



The Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council meeting on Nov. 16, 2016 was well attended and the 68 acre property owned by the Bixby Land Company was discussed at length in regard to changing the density from single family homes to more dense dwellings that would include provisions for a shopping center. The Bixby property is currently zoned for single family homes but there is no provision for a shopping center to provide services so badly needed by Highgrove residents.

The September issue of the Highgrove Happenings showed this area as High Density Housing that is being considered in order to comply with the **Riverside County General Plan** that is set to go before the Board of Supervisors on Dec. 6, 2016.

Unfortunately the days of owning large lots are in jeopardy due to State mandates that are putting pressure to use the land for more dense residential use.

A presentation was made by Gregory Lansing President and CEO of Lansing Companies from San Diego who is interested in purchasing the Bixby property. After listening to the presentation and after many questions, the MAC considered whether or not to oppose the Townhouses, Condominiums and Apartments and insist on the land being used for single family homes. The MAC asked the developer to increase the size of the area needed for a shopping center along Center St., build the Townhouses and Condominiums, and reduce the number of Apartments. Townhouses and (Cont. on P. 4)

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



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

Highgrove Community Park Hours: Dawn to Dusk

Contact: (951) 241-7221

THE NORTON YOUNGLOVE COMMUNITY CENTER

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



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Program Coordinator
Leila Santamaria

Clerical Volunteers
Priscilla Burton, Jack Aboytes,
Rosie Navarro and Cynthia Kupfer

Family Service Association's Mission is to provide quality human services, child development, housing and senior services to residents of the Inland Empire and Desert Communities.

DECEMBER 2016



Hello Community Members,

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas! We hope this Holiday season brings you peace, relaxation, and joyful times with your friends and family! Happy Holidays

December 1st and 16th 8AM - 10AM: Resource table hosted by Riverside University Health System. Information and Sign up for Nutrition Series to begin Jan 12th.

County Regional Medical Center Mobile Health Clinic is back! 9AM - 2PM December 16: RCRMC will be here to answer your personal health questions and provide baselines assessment which include Health screenings (blood pressure /Diabetes-blood sugar screenings,) sick child visits. These health care services are being offered free as a community service to assist families, especially those who do not have, or who have recently lost, their health insurance.

December 5, 12, 19 Diabetes Workshop 12:30 - 2:30 : Do you or someone you love have diabetes? Enjoy the benefits of a healthier, more energetic lifestyle by signing up for the 6 series Diabetes Workshops today! -o- cost

December 16th 8 AM - 10AM : Resource table hosted by Riverside County Office on Aging. Information to older to older adults, adults with disabilities, caregivers, and other programs available. **Resource table hosted by Mini Medical School at UCR.:** A student-run community that serves the residents of the Inland Empire by providing professionally approved medical and health-related information to those in community settings in order to help bridge health disparities.

December 7, 14, 21, 28 7:30 PM CIZE LIVE Class: What is CIZE LIVE? It is a professionally choreographed dance program created by world-famous choreographer and fitness trainer, Shaun T. The class breaks down dance routines, step-by-step, so that anyone can dance. You will burn serious calories, and it's so much fun.

December 26th: Center Closed

Save The DATE! Nutrition and Education Program: 10 AM hosted by RUHS- Public Health. *Certificate of Completion awarded! Topics include Build a Healthy Plate, What's on a label, Shopping on a budget, Planning Healthy Meals and Rethink your Drink. Spanish class every other Thursday Beginning Jan 12. English class every other Thursday Beginning Jan 19. -o- cost program*

Norton Younglove Community Center
459 Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507
(951) 241-7221
951-779-3099 fax
@nycchighgrove

Aerodance Exercise
Mon-Thurs 9am-10am
\$3.00/per class.



Tuesday Bingo

12:30 PM 4 card for \$3
Includes refreshments

Sewing Class \$7.50
per class Wed 10:30-1:30. Note* 2nd
Wednesday of the
month @ 11:30- 2:30.
Call Sandra 951-616-
7787 for project materials
info and clothing alteration
services.

3-D Gelatin Molding Class 5 students
minimum sign up to
schedule classes. \$15
class/10 class course.

Polynesian Dance Class

Mon 7:15 pm. Wed 10
am Sponsored by
Regal Medical Group
\$0 COST for Regal
Med Members \$2 for
non Regal members .
Wed & Fri 6:30-
7:30pm \$3 per class or
\$8 per week

The Art of Cake Decorating Baking
Intensive course/25
classes. \$15 per class.
Info: Call Marivel 951-
275-6815 . 5 students

minimum sign up to
schedule course Certificate
Completion awarded

CIZE LIVE Hip Hop Class

Wednesday 7:30 PM
\$5 per class

E-Taekwondo United (Taekwondo Class)
Mon 5 50 PM &
Thurs. 6pm For details
please call Master Elvis
Chavez 909-578-4798
etkdumc@yahoo.com
or www.etkdu.com

Square & Line Dance

Tue 6:30pm \$6 donation.
Info: 909-823-0294 or 951-788-4245
www.riversidesingleswingers.com

Zion Assembly Church of God

Sunday 11:00 AM. For
more info call Pastor
Pete Sarry 951-237-
2337

Sr. Nutrition Lunch Program

Mon - Fri @11:30 AM
\$3 suggested donation

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 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Child Development Center
Has Openings!!

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

Monday thru Thursday 8AM to 4PM
Friday 8AM to 2PM
HOURS OF OPERATION

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



CHP HELPS SENIORS TO STAY SHARP AND STAY SAFE

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Every year, drivers 65 years of age and older look to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for assistance in maintaining or improving their ability to drive safely. In response, the CHP provides the Age Well, Drive Smart program to equip senior drivers with the necessary tools to remain safe and confident on the road.

The Age Well, Drive Smart program covers various topics ranging from California driving laws, safe driving practices, and the effects of aging on a person's ability to drive safely. It is not uncommon for senior drivers to be unaware or deny changes in their physical or mental conditions which negatively affect their ability to drive safely. Therefore the Age Well, Drive Smart program was designed with a self-assessment component to assist senior drivers with identifying these changes and providing possible corrective options.

"Giving senior drivers the tools they need to continue to be safe drivers is not only important to the safety of the motoring public, but also for seniors to maintain

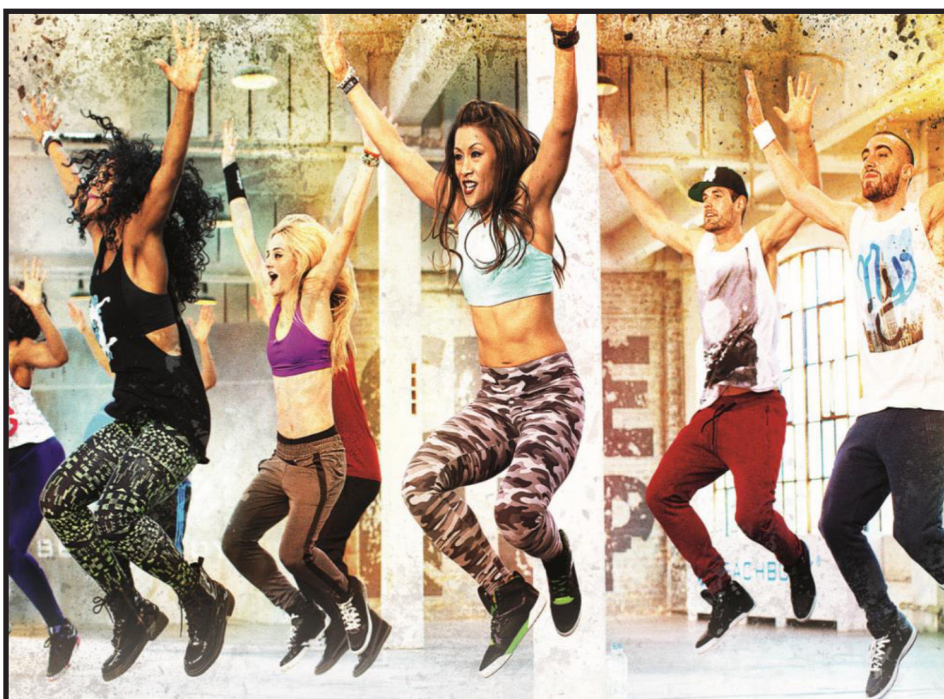
their independence." said CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow. "Our senior driving course affords the continued education that can benefit seniors, helping to ensure they enjoy safe driving well into their golden years."

The CHP invites senior drivers to attend a free, two-hour Age Well, Drive Smart class at their nearest CHP Area office or specified venue. This class is an excellent opportunity for senior drivers to refresh their knowledge of California driving laws, evaluate their driving abilities, and improve their driving skills

If you or a family member would like to attend an Age Well, Drive Smart class, please contact your local CHP office. To locate an office near you, visit www.chp.ca.gov.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Dan Olivas
Public Information Officer
California Highway Patrol
Riverside Area
8118 Lincoln Ave
Riverside, CA 92504
Office: (951) 637-8000
Fax: (951) 637-8003



SIMPLE MOVES. SERIOUS SWEAT.

Ready to take the work out of your workout? Whether you want to learn a hot new dance routine or simply move to the beat of the music, CIZE® LIVE will have you burnin' up the dance floor—and burning off the calories. From your very first class, you'll feel the beat and contagious energy, and you'll sweat as you learn the hottest dance routines step-by-step! It's so fun, so addicting, you'll forget you are getting an amazing total-body cardio workout. *READY TO CIZE IT UP?*

Where: Norton Younglove Community Center
459 Center Street, Highgrove CA 92507
When: Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 PM



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HIGHGROVE SHERIFF REPORT

These figures are based on reports from 10/18/16 to 11/14/16.

Highgrove had:

2 Assaults
1 Robbery
4 Burglaries
1 Vehicle Theft
9 Larceny Thefts

Lt. Don Sharp
Jurupa Valley Sheriff Station
Desk 951-955-2629

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department encourages people to take reasonable care to protect their property. Theft is usually a crime of opportunity. Thieves often look for an easy target to make a fast and easy score, Remove valuables from your car, lock your car and house, and look out for one another. If you see something say something by calling the Sheriff!

Sheriff Dept.: (951) 776-1099 X 5 (Non emergency)

Capt. Jason B. Horton (951) 955 2600

Lieutenant Don Sharp (951) 955 2629

Hot line tips for Highgrove area: (951) 955-2600



RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING *West Info Van*



Is coming to Norton Younglove Community Center

459 Center Street, Highgrove, CA 92507

Friday, December 16, 2016
8:00am-10:00pm

The Goals of the West Info Van:

To provide quality, up to date information to older adults, adults with disabilities, caregivers, and the community about programs and services such as

- Elder Abuse
- Caregiving Assistance
- Care Management
- Employment Assistance
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Nutrition Services
- Transportation Services
- Social Activities and much more!

Please join us on this day to receive more information and receive giveaways!

Riverside County Office on Aging
1-800-510-2020

The City of Grand Terrace Presents

DONATIONS WELCOME!

Tuesday December 6, 2016
6:00 - 8:00pm
Tree Lighting 6:30pm

Azure Hills Church (Parking Lot)
22633 Barton Rd.
Grand Terrace

FREE Event Entertainment Toy Drive

22795 Barton Rd.
Grand Terrace, CA 92313
(909) 824-6621

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Revised plan to include new retail along Center St., Townhouses, Condominiums, and Apartments on Bixby property. (Cont. from front page)

Condominiums are properties that are sold to customers instead of rented. The apartments will not be subsidized apartments that will be rented on a month to month basis but will be units that will be apartments that are leased.

The developer agreed to send the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper a revised schematic to reflect the changes requested by the Highgrove MAC. These changes are also subject

to review by Supervisor Tavaglione and the Riverside County Planning Commission and may not be the final plan that is approved.

The revised map that is shown on the front page was also accompanied with the attached visionary note from the potential property owner, Gregory Lansing:

"We have increased the retail along Center street. The vision is for one corner to have a Grocery

store as big as Ralph's and a drug store, with shops. The smaller strip center is intended to offer more services such as a Starbucks, nail salon, hair salon, a cafe, possibly a dentist and/or chiropractor. We would also target a book store for the larger center. And we have trimmed down the for rent housing substantially."

We were basically faced with a choice to support more residential

density with a provision for a shopping center on Center St. or hold out for single family homes, without a shopping center that may sit vacant for many more years that may not be marketable to a future developer. The project will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at a public hearing on Dec. 6, 2016 at 9:00 am on the ground floor of the Riverside County Administration building 4080 Lemon St. in Riverside.

Sanctuary Cities:

"To Protect and to Serve"

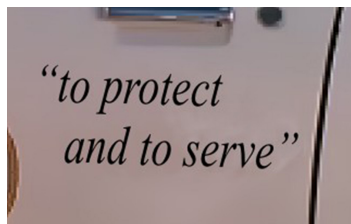
But who are they protecting and who are they serving?

This motto appears on the sides of many police cars but listening to the various Police Chief's, Mayors and Governors around the country it makes me wonder who are they protecting and who are they serving?

Sanctuary cities are in many major cities in America that allow criminals to have a safe haven from those who would pursue them for crimes they have committed or for those who want to be protected from being arrested. There has been a lot of coverage recently about Sanctuary cities with Police Chiefs, Mayors and Governors stating that their city or police forces will not turn over criminals to other authorities such as the INS or other Federal agencies.

I may be wrong but I always thought that Federal laws supercede State or local laws but that does not seem to apply any more. One example that comes to mind is the drug enforcement laws. On one hand the Federal laws say certain drug possessions or abuses are illegal while on the other hand States are passing laws that permit incidents that are supposed to be violations of the Federal laws.

Does the phrase: **"To protect and to Serve"** apply to the victims of crime who call the police for protection or does it apply to the criminals who are running from the Law?



Four times and counting!

After 3 vehicles crash into house, house torn down but they still crash through the fence!



BUTLER

Racing

909-648-0320

MY BARBER SHOP

Where men walk in and gentlemen walk out!

All types of Haircuts:

- Fades
- Tapers
- Mohawks / Fohawks
- Flat Tops / Crew Cuts
- Razor Finish

982 B Center Street ♦ Highgrove Ca 92507 ♦ (951) 341 - 5916

IE ALARM

SYSTEMS

FIRE - INTRUSION - ACCESS CONTROL - CLOSED CIRCUIT TV

Richard Jimenez
General Manager
richard@IEalarm.com

IE Alarm Systems
1175 Center Street
Riverside, CA 92507
www.IEalarm.com
Lic #ACO4343 • CL#670389

Direct: 951.367.0762
Cell: 909.208.7997
Office: 951.686.2029
Central: 866.703.2896
Fax: 951.686.6318

Veterans Wall of Freedom

Dedication Ceremony

Friday, November 11, 2016

at

Pico Park
Grand Terrace, CA 92313

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

27 Questions submitted to Riverside County about parcel fees. Answers due Jan 18, 2017.

Riverside County Supervisor John Tavaglione
Nov. 16, 2016
Supervisor Tavaglione,

Attached is a list of 27 questions from the Highgrove MAC and the Highgrove parcel owners about the annual \$120.00 assessment that was implemented in 1992 and re-affirmed in 1997 for a Deputy Sheriff that was assigned exclusively to the east side of CSA 126 in Highgrove, and Park & Recreation services and improvements.

Please direct the questions to the appropriate County agencies and see that the answers to these specific questions are provided no later than Jan. 18, 2017.

The answers can be submitted via e-mail to: highgrovenews@roadrunner.com or mailed to:

R. A. Barnett, 474 Prospect Ave., Highgrove, Ca. 92507
(951) 683 4994

Please list each answer separately to correspond with the numbered questions.

Thank you,

R. A. "Barney" Barnett

Chmn.: Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council

Questions that need answers from Riverside County about Highgrove Parcel fees:

1. When was the last day the designate Highgrove Deputy Sheriff was on duty?
2. How much was collected from the Highgrove property owners after the designated Highgrove Deputy Sheriffs position was eliminated?
3. Do you have a copy of the written agreement between the Riverside County Administration and the Riverside County Sheriff s Department about the designated Highgrove Deputy Sheriff?
4. A portion of the Impartial Analysis of measure "T" in 1997, written by Riverside County Council states: **"The 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"**
Our records show the amount of the tax that was collected after the Extended Sheriffs position was eliminated on Dec. 30, 2009 was \$1,382,362.46.
Why did the CSA 126E fund only show a balance of \$164,962 on July 1, 2016?

5. If the special assessment collected \$120.00 from each parcel for 7 years after the Sheriff was eliminated, was any of this Special Assessment money given to the Sheriff Department that was used outside the boundaries of the east side of Highgrove's CSA 126 after the Deputy was gone?
6. On Feb. 18, 2015, CSA Administrator Bill Brown told the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council that the property owners in the new Spring Mountain Ranch homes do not have to pay the special \$120.00 annual parcel assessment. Are the Spring Mountain Ranch property owners now paying the \$120.00 annual Fee?
7. If Spring Mountain Ranch property owners are now paying the special assessment of \$120.00 and there is no designated Highgrove Sheriff, does any of the Spring Mountain Ranch money go into a **"fund to be used only**

Sheriff and Park & Recreation services and improvements" for purposes of continuing Extended Sheriff, and Park & Recreation services and improvements"?
8. If the Spring Mountain Ranch property owners are now paying the annual \$120.00 assessment, how much of the money collected from Spring Mountain Ranch is going for Extended Sheriff?
9. Is any of the money collected from the parcel assessment being used for Park and Recreation services and improvements or landscaping in Spring Mountain Ranch?

10. In 1991 the distribution of the \$10.00 per month assessment was decided and specified that \$7.96 would go toward Sheriff protection and \$2.04 would go to Park and Recreation. How much of the CSA 126E funds are currently designated to be used for "Sheriff" protection and how much is designated for "Park & Recreation services and improvements"?

11. Who authorized changing the name of our special assessment on our tax bills from CSA 126E to CSA 126 PARK & REC LNDSCPE then changed it again to just CSA 126?

12. Was Bill Brown the County Service Area Administrator on the day the Highgrove Sheriff was eliminated?

13. On May 9, 2009, were any CSA 126 funds used to pay for entertainment or food for Highgrove Day? How much was used and did Bill Brown authorize it?

14. Why weren't the voters notified prior to eliminating the designated Highgrove Sheriff?

15. Physical ballots were mailed out by Riverside County in 1992 and 1997 to the east side of Highgrove's CSA 126 parcel owners. Why wasn't another ballot mailed out to give voters other options such as reducing the amount of the Highgrove Deputy Sheriff's hours to stay within our budget, increase the annual fee, or eliminate the extra Sheriff's position entirely.

16. Were the plants or shrubs in the Highgrove Community Park replaced with drought resistant vegetation?

17. How many parcels are now paying the special assessment after the Sheriff was eliminated? Please list each year separately.

18. Please provide a list of names of property owners who paid the special assessment after the Sheriff was eliminated. Please list each year separately.

19. The report the MAC received on Oct. 19, 2016 states that on July 1, 2016 the balance for CSA 126E is **\$164,962** and the SMR balance is **\$543,649**. If all parcels are within the same area on the east side of CSA 126, is there one fund for the older part of Highgrove and another fund for Spring Mountain Ranch? Why are there 2 separate funds?

20. What is the amount of CSA 126E funds used to pay for **"PARK & Recreation services and improvements"**?

Cont. on P. 6



TACOS EL JR. #6
Open Daily 9-9
Family Restaurant
Serving Breakfast,

COCKTAILS
Margaritas,
Piña Colada, Daiquiri,
Wine

126 Iowa Ave., Highgrove (951) 683-5921

Highgrove e-mail address needed!

We are in the process of establishing better communication between Highgrove residents to keep everyone aware of what is happening in our community between the monthly publications of the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper. If you would like to send us your e-mail address we will add you to our list. Please indicate if you live on the east side or west side of the freeway and whether you are a property owner or renter. Send your e-mail address to: highgrovenews@roadrunner.com and we will keep you better informed. Thank you!



TUESDAY SPECIAL

25% off
entire check for local residents

Purchase of at least one beverage required.
Not valid with any other coupon.

22400 Barton Rd. Suite 1
Grand Terrace, CA 92313

909-783-3106


New Hours:
Monday-Saturday
7am-3pm
Sunday 8am-3pm
Close for dinner



(Where Fine Elegance Meets Old Fashioned Customer Service)

909-783-0143

22533 Barton Rd. ,Grand Terrace, CA 92313



TETLEY
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Bobbie Kay Forbes
(909) 783-8888

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BobbieKayForbes@gmail.com

22365 Barton Rd Suite #204
Grand Terrace, CA 92313

BRE #01004980

 **MLS**

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

27 Questions Cont. from P. 5

RECREATION SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS” for each year starting in 2010 and ending on the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2016? Please list each year separately.

21.Does the current CSA designation on our latest tax bills mean that both sides are now paying the special assessment? Won’t this latest designation cause confusion?

22.Will Riverside County refund the taxpayer’s money that was collected after the Highgrove Sheriff’s position was eliminated, or will legal action be necessary?

23.Will Riverside County provide a Deputy Sheriff assigned exclusively to the east side of CSA 126 for the next 7 years without taking any funds out of the CSA 126 account?

24.Has there ever been a FUND that shows how much of the parcel assessments was allocated for Extended Sheriff, and how much was designated for “Park & Recreation services and improvements”?

25.Was there ever a bookkeeping procedure put into place that separated the two different purposes for this assessment?

26. The 1997 ballot’s “Impartial Analysis” by Riverside County Council stated: **“The tax cannot be increased except by a 2/3 vote of the electorate.”** Was the electorate ever given the opportunity to vote on increasing the assessment?

27. The Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council is requesting a monthly financial report from Riverside County showing income and expenses for CSA 126

Additional questions:

From 2010 to 2016 what is the average annual cost of maintenance for the following:

Norton Younglove Community Center

Highgrove Community Park

Welcome to Highgrove sign and vegetation at northbound I 215 exit at Center Street

Maintenance of Iowa Ave. medians between Main St. and Spring Street.

Does the new vegetation in the Iowa Ave. medians require irrigation or are the plants plastic?

Since there is no MAC meeting in December, the answers to these questions will be provided at the Jan. 18, 2017 MAC meeting at the Library.

FOUR VEHICLE COLLISION KILLS MOTORCYCLIST

San Bernardino, Calif.- On November 19th, 2016 at approximately 5:40 a.m., Carolina Tinajero (24, Riverside) was driving a 2015 Honda, southbound on Interstate 215 south of 2nd St., in the #1 lane. Robin Cuong Le (42, Gallup, NM) was driving a 2002 Toyota, southbound on I-215 south of 2nd St., in the #2 lane slightly ahead of Tinajero. Denuce Rissworth (21, Apple Valley) was driving a 2011 Kia, southbound on I-215 south of

2nd St., in the #2 lane behind Tinajero and Le. A male rider (53, San Bernardino) was driving 2008 Harley-Davidson southbound on I-215 south of 2nd St., in the #2 lane. The Honda moved into the #2 lane striking the Toyota. The collision caused the Honda to strike the center median guardrail and spin out of control into traffic in the #1 and #2 lanes. The driver of the Kia applied the brakes to avoid a collision with the Honda and was struck from behind by the Harley-Davidson. The rider was ejected from the motorcycle and landed on the roadway.

Emergency personnel arrived on scene and determined the rider sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene. Denuce Rissworth received minor injuries and was transported to a local hospital. The collision is still under investigation. The identity of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin. Anyone with further information is encouraged to call Officer Fadgen at (909) 383-4247.



California Dreaming

By: Dr. Cynthia Williams



On the first day of Christmas I asked for a home for anyone who needs one. The housing market in many parts of the country is horrible. The vacancy rate in Bend is about 1% and the rental rates are to the point of being gouged. Many, like me, can’t find affordable housing and have had to make other arrangements. All this while bank repos still sit empty for years.

On the second day of Christmas I asked for two good jobs to choose from. The employment gap continues in this country. The jobs, too often like in this area, are either minimum wage or they are high end jobs for a specialized segment. College graduates can’t find work, people with incredible experience who are over 55 are disregarded and women are paid 79% of what men make. America can do better than this.

On the third day of Christmas I asked for three months of fall weather. Autumn is lovely. It means an end is in sight to the heat, the colors are brilliant and the snap in the air is refreshing.

On the fourth day of Christmas I asked for four months of Spring. Who wouldn’t want a longer spring? The trees are blooming, the birds are chirping, the squirrels are running about and the fawns are walking on wobbly legs. I love Spring.

On the fifth day of Christmas I asked for five months of Summer weather. I love Summer in central Oregon. The mornings are cool, the evenings are cool, the days can be spend on the river. It’s idyllic. (This is for me up north; if you’re in another weather zone, feel free to swap the months and seasons that work best for you.)

If you did the math, you notice there are no more months left for winter. I don’t like winter here. It’s too cold. Period. If anyone is wanting snow, well, tough.

On the sixth day of Christmas I asked for six weeks vacation for every American worker. Americans receive an average of 13 paid days leave a year; almost 1 in 4 receive NO paid leave at all. Americans receive less vacation time than any industrialized nation and it’s crazy, but we take even less than we’re entitled to. Only 57% take the little

time they are allowed and many companies won’t allow a worker to take more than one full week off even if they are given two or three weeks of vacation a year.

On the seventh day of Christmas I asked for seven days a week of good traffic for you SoCal people. Life’s too short to waste it in traffic. If you must, spend it well. Books on CDs or podcasts are a great way to pass the time. You will enrich your life and you’ll be less stressed about the traffic jams.

On the eighth day of Christmas I asked for eight days at Disneyland Resort for everyone because I LOVE Disneyland. I really miss working there as well. It was one of my favorite jobs of all time and I would go back to work there in a Mickey moment!

On the ninth day of Christmas I asked for nine months of wages saved for each adult. 30% have zero savings, 62% have less than \$1000 saved. The television campaign says “Feed the pig”. At feed-thepig.org you can learn strategies for saving for retirement, vacation and emergencies.

On the tenth day of Christmas I asked for ten new books for every child to read. Reading skills can never be too advanced for anyone. Tons of statistics show that frequent readers make better students. Frequent reading can raise grades, improve high school graduation rates and increase college admission and graduation. Make a life-long reader! Give books as gifts; your librarian can give you recommendations for the books your students will love to read.

On the eleventh day of Christmas I asked for eleven days to visit our national, state and local parks, county heritage sites, museums, and live theatre productions. Just get away from the couch, cell phone, tv, computer, shopping centers and malls and do something nice for your body, mind and soul.

On the twelfth day of Christmas I asked for twelve months of peace, health and happiness for everyone. We all deserve this. Take time to take care of yourself. Stop and breathe, stretch and appreciate. Give the gift of peace, health and happiness. If you aren’t part of the solution you are part of the problem. Do your bit to be part of the solution.

My last Christmas wish is for an endless supply of friends and loving family members for everyone. Be kind to each other.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Phil's Philosophy

By: Phil Turner

There Oughta be a Law!

There oughta be a law against toilets that need a flush, flush, and flush, three times to get the toilet flushed. What genius thought of that as a water savings device? Similarly, showerheads that are so restrictive, you must stay in the shower twice as long to rinse off.

There oughta be a law requiring roadside signs telling you what the crops are that you are watching go by for miles and miles along the highway. Some, I suppose are obvious, but for most of us non-FFA students, signs would be nice.

There oughta be a law against weather reporters standing in the rain, telling us it's raining outside. That goes for wind, sun, and hurricanes. A weather map, and a camera pointing outside are sufficient.

There oughta be a law against news teasers that tell you how to survive something that will be on at the 11:00 pm news. Just tell us now! I don't want to wait until 11:00 pm to find out how to survive!

There oughta be a law against retailers promoting Christmas before Thanksgiving. It seems that shortly after the fourth of July we start seeing Christmas decorations and products front and center at retail stores.

There oughta be a law against canned spray paint. The only people using them are taggers. They turn our cities into dirty, dangerous looking, third world ghettos. Further, lawn furniture is primarily plastic these days, and does not need to be sanded and repainted to prevent rust.

There oughta be a law against packaging that is impossible to open. Opening the package of some products is even dangerous. Getting

cut by the packaging on some products is almost a given. Some packaging is, I'm sure, much more expensive, and better made than the product inside.

There oughta be a law forbidding lawyers from legislative office. There are judges, at every level of government, and legislative assistants that can add the legalese later. They make too many dumb laws, vote themselves raises, and give themselves perks. Only voters should vote them pay raises, and benefits.

Speaking of lawyers, there oughta be a law against ambulance chasers, and slip and fall lawyers. Their zillion dollar lawsuits make our medical coverage and every other thing we buy or use cost too much. At the very least they could have a pretty woman to declare:

"We will fight for you!", instead of two old guys in bad suits.

There oughta be a law against

taxes being levied that don't expire in one year. Legislators should be made to vote on them yearly in open session. We keep getting 1/2 cent here, 1/4 cent there, and they are supposed to expire in two years, five years, and such. But do they ever expire? Of course not!

There oughta be a law against talking on a cell phone in a restaurant. This is too rude! This law should also apply to the movies, concerts, or many other public places. I just don't want to hear your private conversations. If I want to hear your conversation, I can sneak a little eavesdrop on my own.

There oughta be a law against celebrities trying to tell me ANYTHING! Because he or she is an actor, or famous, does not make their opinion valid. To me it is just the opposite. Most actors have not graduated from anything. Where does their expertise comes from?

Cruising around the world on the "Symphony"

By Tim Shelby

Working as a male nurse on a cruise ship has its benefits!



One hundred years ago the world was traveled in creaky wooden ships. But today is the time of mega ships with dining 24 hours a day and shows that would rival Las Vegas. As a registered nurse, my specialty on board is to make sure the fun seekers remain healthy and happy. From 2007 to 2009, I had the honor to be in charge of the

Crystal Cruise Line "Symphony" ship's clinic/Infirmary. Crystal Cruise Lines is one of the world most lavish and expensive cruises to travel. The trip around the world could cost as much as \$55,000.

From the start of the cruise at the New York City dock, the passengers enter into a fairy land at the entrance of the Crystal stair case,

rounding down 3 stories surrounded by gold. The water fall behind the stair case cascades over crystal statues. The chandeliers are made of crystal and too many to count. I am one of a hundred of the staff in line greeting all the new friends. The Captain, the Entertainment Director, the Medical staff (that's me), are all considered Officers. On the cruise, all officers must be dressed in tuxedos when they are in front of the public. Even women have tuxedos with skirts to match. White tuxedos are worn during the day, black tuxedos for nights, and apple red tuxedos for greetings and special events such as the Captain's Ball.

After greeting all of the passengers and directing them to their staterooms, I rush to the Infirmary. This is where my action begins. First, all water is tested for any disease or infection. Over 50 small bottles are lined up, representing all reservoirs in the ship. The ship is not allowed to leave dock until the Captain gets the OK from Medical, Mechanical,

and Food Service. Once all is secure and affirmed, the ship is on its way to the Panama Canal. Use of the Locks is to raise the ship from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, which is at a higher level. People cover the deck to enjoy the site of the 100,000 ton ship being pulled through the canal. Once the Symphony is through the canal, the fun begins. The Night clubs and the Casino are alive with activity. The shows are large and eye popping! While the action is going on, I remain on duty in my black tuxedo, strolling from room to room looking for sickness or injuries. When at sea, passengers sometimes get bored. Many times the visitors call for me to come to their stateroom if they are feeling sick. I enjoy this the most because I get to know them and all the wonderful stories they bring onboard the ship with them. Once the Symphony reached China, the trip takes a complete attitude change. These same people who were sick on the long journey over the pacific are never seen in

Cont. on P. 12

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

HIGHGROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CELEBRATES 126 YEARS OF WORSHIP SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY



On November 6th, the Highgrove United Methodist church celebrated their 126th anniversary. There were approximately 78 members and visitors of which some had been members years ago.

Gail Seekins, the Liturgist, began the service with a hymn, played by our wonderful organist Donna Samson. Announcements were then given by Jolene Ayers followed by Rev. Vives for the "Joys and Concerns".

Denis Kidd then gave a very interesting presentation of the history of the church which goes back to 1890. The history of this building is very important to the community and everyone is invited to attend one of our services.

Following Denis, a song was sung by Jeanne Terrell, followed by the Tongan Choir who sang just beautifully.

They are children of all ages and they filled the room with such beautiful music.

It was a "Special Honor" to have Rev. Lisa Wright conduct the sermon, which I might add was very nice. Rev. Wright has been a pastor here at Highgrove Methodist church in the past. Everyone was thanked by Rev. Vives and we all went and shared lunch together.

All in all this was a wonderful time spent together to celebrate this wonderful event. Our church service starts at 10:45 A.M. every Sunday, and everyone is invited. We also have Bible Study on Tuesday's (Spanish) and Thursday's (English) from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Upcoming Events for December:

Sunday December 11th, 10:45 A.M., Christmas Community Worship

Saturday December 24th, 7:00-8:00 P.M., Christmas Eve Service

Sunday December 25th, 10:45 AM, Christmas Service

Saturday December 31st 9:00 AM Free Commiunity Breakfast

Help wanted: We need your help!

The Highgrove Happenings has brought you "free" local news for over 25 years. Your monthly paper is delivered to your address each month that contains information that is vital to the Highgrove area and the surrounding areas.

The entire financial income is derived by income from local businesses that take out an advertisement in our paper. This income covers the printing costs in Ontario and paying our people to hand deliver them to your residence.

We take pride in providing information to you that you will not receive anywhere else such as the articles printed in this issue.

Where else would you have learned that we are still paying for a Deputy Sheriff position with our property tax bills for a service that was eliminated 7 years ago?

And where else will you read about trying to get answers from Riverside County to the 27 questions recently submitted or where would you find a map showing what is planned on the 68 acre property between the Highgrove Methodist Church and the Highgrove Elementary school?

We are proud of our small newspaper but the young couple who were helping us has decided to go back to school so we can no longer depend on them.

Much of the help we need almost anyone can do. We need someone to sell advertising to local businesses and it is really easy because we work out of the home and our expenses allow us to only charge \$30.00 per month for a business card size advertisement. Other larger advertisements go up from there but someone needs to contact businesses that are not advertising in our paper. We pay a commission for the advertising you sell.

We also need writers about events Happening in Highgrove or past history of Highgrove. There are a lot of stories out there but we need someone to find them. Most everyone has a camera on their phone. We need photos submitted and your name will be credited for the photo.

We can also train someone who can work from home with their computer to assist us by "Team Viewing". Team Viewing is where you view the same thing we are seeing on our computer but you can view it from your computer at home.

Highgrove Happenings needs to receive a response from you because we want to train someone to eventually take over the paper so we can retire again. We are still printing 16 pages while other local papers have reduced to 12 pages or quit printing in this format. Call: (951) 683 4994
highgrovenews@roadrunner.com

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Street closure by Highgrove Elementary School necessary for new sewer line hook-ups



The short street between Center St. and Spring St. has been closed due to construction of a sewer line for 36 new houses at Garfield and Spring.



Behind the fence on the right side of this picture is where 36 new single family homes are being constructed. Photo looking north from Spring St.



As you can see Garfield Ave. will remain closed until the end of 2016.



This view shows workmen by the school on Garfield covering up the new sewer line that will tap into the existing sewer line along Center Street.



Behind the fence the land has been graded into level lots for 36 new homes. The 89 units of the Highgrove Blossom Apartments are on the left with Blue Mountain in the distance. This project was approved in 2005.

More changes are coming to Highgrove!

For many years I have been printing about how Highgrove's most valuable asset is our vacant land. This availability of vacant land coupled with Highgrove's ideal location makes it very attractive for future development.

Many long time residents feel we are losing the small time atmosphere of our rural community that has been dormant for many years. The addition of 1,409 new single family homes in Spring Mountain Ranch is adding new residents to Highgrove. Highgrove is known as Riverside County Service Area 126.

County Service Area 126 is south

of the Riverside/San Bernardino County line at Main St. and southward along the Spring Brook wash to the Riverside City Limits. All of the Spring Mountain Ranch homes are in Highgrove but the warehouses on both sides of Palmyrita Ave. are within the city limits of Riverside. CSA 126 also includes the west side of the I-215 freeway on both sides of Center St. on the east side of North Orange Street.

The 89 units of the new Highgrove Blossom Apartments have been full since they were completed a couple of years ago and another major development is planned for the 68 acre property (Cont. on P. 11)



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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

SMART: International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers.

Since the election our SMART-TD National Legislative Office has had many conversations with our members and retirees about the election results. Some members see the coming months as an exciting time, full of energy and new ideas; other members are worried for their future; while others tend to take a wait-and-see approach. Regardless of who you supported at the ballot-box, or whether you voted at all, it is important to remember that we are all Americans who care about our country and our jobs. Beyond that, we are union brothers and sisters that need to look out for one another.

We have all heard the phrase "elections have consequences" ... as your Legislative Director I can assure you that they do. Those consequences can turn out to be good or bad and only time will tell which is our future. That being said, I assure you that our National Legislative Office will not take a passive stance when it comes to fighting to keep all that we have earned and will continue working to try to make things better for our members.

We will continue to work with our old friends in Congress of both political parties, work to build new relationships with those newly elected, and to find ways to work with the new Trump administration. Every newly elected official and appointed administration official begins with a clean scorecard and we will not prejudice anyone and neither should you.

The railroad industry is one of the most heavily regulated industries in America. Sometimes that works against us, and sometimes it works for us. For example, Railroad Retirement is dependent on how members of Congress vote on this issue. In 2001, Congress voted to reduce our retirement age from 62 to age 60 with 30-years of service. Not to put a scare into anyone, but this law can change by a simple vote of Congress.

The good news is that we have friends on both sides of the aisle in Congress. We endorsed 46 Republicans that won election in 2016 and they will be in the majority party. Combine those with the 194 recommended Democrats and we have a workable majority of 240 members in the U.S. House of Representatives that in the past have listened to concerns that affect our members. If they all stick, we'll be able to defeat any bad ideas and hopefully pass some good laws too.

While Congress is important, it is ultimately the new administration that will set the overall tone for our members for the next four years. Of key

importance, President-elect Trump will appoint a new administrator to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). That is right. Trump's pick to head the FRA in large part will determine what kind (or even if) a two-person crew regulation will go into effect. The new administrator will determine whether or not we have regulations that require uniform speed signs and the new Federal Highway Administrator will decide what can be done to deal with the terrible issue of driver assault of our bus members, or do nothing at all.

The President will also appoint board members to key labor boards that impact our retirement, our contract grievances and our safety. And should rail labor and rail management not agree on a national contract, President Trump will appoint a PEB (Presidential Emergency Board) that could decide our contract. As you can see, President Trump will have a lot of impact on our future. We have been talking to folks on President-elect Trump's transition team and are attempting to find common ground on issues that are important to our members and to America. See President John Previsich's attached letter to President-Elect Trump.

As we head into 2017, we will be keeping score. When we see a decision that benefits rail members, we will give it a green thumbs up.

Something bad, a big red X. And once we finalize the 2017 scorecard with the issues that affect our members I will send a copy to every member on our Legislative Action Center.

On behalf of our National Legislative Office I assure you we will be doing the best that we can with the Congress and new Administration the American people have elected. We will play the hand we've been dealt, even though I wish I had a couple of more aces!

Until the next update, keep the faith.

Sincerely,

John Risch
National Legislative Director
SMART Transportation Division

.....
Here is a copy of John Previsich's letter to Present-Elect Trump:

November 18, 2016

Mr. President-elect Donald J. Trump

c/o The Trump Transition Team
Washington DC

Dear President-elect Trump:

On behalf of the 125,000 members of the Transportation Division of the International

Association of Sheet Metal Air Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART TD) I offer my

congratulations on your election to the Presidency of the United States of America. (Cont. on P. 11)



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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

SMART TD represents conductors, engineers, brakemen, switchmen and yardmasters on most of the freight and passenger railroads in the United States. We also represent bus and transit workers from Los Angeles to upstate New York and airline pilots and flight attendants in the Midwest. Our members are professionals who operate and maintain freight and passenger trains, drive buses and fly planes. We have a high level of interest in a safe and efficient transportation system, one that provides good service to the American public and good jobs for our members. Safety is a paramount concern and we plan to work with you and your administration to ensure that regulatory oversight continues to provide the safe working environment that

makes our transportation system the envy of the world.

In addition, we wholeheartedly agree with your campaign proposals to rebuild our nation's infrastructure and put Americans back to work again. We also share your concerns on the impact that unfavorable trade agreements and government policies have had on the well-being of the working men and women of America. As these issues come before the congress we hope to work with you to create new jobs and protect those that currently exist.

I look forward to meeting with you and your administration at the earliest opportunity to help realize the vision of improvements for working people that you so clearly articulated in your campaign.

Sincerely, John Previsich
President – Transportation Division

More changes are coming to Highgrove!

Cont. from P. 9

in the middle of Highgrove that will include retail along Center Street, Townhouses, Condominiums, and Apartments. (See front page for a map and a draft of this project.)

Brace yourself because these changes may be coming whether we like them or not!

Highgrove residents can sit by and watch what happens to their

community from outside forces such as Riverside County and/or the State, or they can take a pro-active position to participate in local meetings, public hearings, the media, and public agencies to voice their opinion of what is important to their community.

Residents need to be actively involved in the planning of our community. We need to participate with other agencies in determining the future of our community and our neighborhood!



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WHAT: Stater Bros. Markets will hold a public "Celebration of Life" in remembrance of its Executive Chairman Jack H. Brown.

WHERE: Citizens Business Bank Arena
4000 E. Ontario Center Pkwy.
Ontario, CA 91764

WHEN: Saturday, December 3, 2016
Event begins at 9:00 a.m.

WHY: Through his commitment of "doing the right thing, for the right reason," Jack Brown touched many lives. Stater Bros. Markets invites our "valued" customers, members of the Stater Bros. "Family" and friends of the Stater Bros. "Family" to honor and celebrate his extraordinary life.

MEDIA CONTACT: Nancy Negrette
Director Corporate Affairs
Stater Bros. Supermarkets
909.733.5038



Event is open to the general public. Media is encouraged to attend.

About Jack H. Brown:

Brown served as the Chairman of the Board, President, Chief Executive Officer and most recently Executive Chairman of Stater Bros. Markets for over 35 years. Through Jack's vision and leadership, Stater Bros. has become the largest privately owned Supermarket Chain in Southern California, currently operating 169 Supermarkets in seven counties with nearly 18,000 members of the Stater Bros. Supermarket "Family". Brown served the Supermarket Industry for over 65 years.

About Stater Bros. Markets:

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



Spay neuter program available to Highgrove residents

The Riverside County Department of Animal Services is very pleased that the Highgrove community has embraced the pet service offered to the community. With a generous donation by the grantor, an organization which wishes to remain anonymous, the department has to date provided spay or neuter services to over 126 dogs and 12 cats at the Highgrove Library located at 530 Center Street in Highgrove.

The mobile clinic also provided complete core vaccination, rabies vaccination, microchip and flea treatments to your neighbor's pets.

Everyone knows that spayed and neutered pets live healthier and happier lives and vaccination prevents most of the common infectious diseases which can devastate young pets. Microchips provide permanent identification which can reunite lost pets with their owners. In the end, everyone benefits from this program, but it is the pet population which gains the most. The principal of herd health immunity helps protect even those pets which had not been vaccinated and a lowering of the reproduction rate of the population keeps unwanted pets from being born and out of animal shelters.

The community is welcome to stop by the Highgrove Library and obtain an appointment for a future spay neuter deployment or call 951 358 7335.

Allan Drusys, D.V.M., M.V.P.H.Mgt
Chief Veterinarian
Department of Animal Services
(951) 358 5034 www.rcdas.org



"Working together to improve Riverside County for people and animals".

Mission Inn Hotel and Spa hosts 24th annual "Festival of Lights"

This 24th annual event continues through Jan. 7, 2017 in historic downtown Riverside and is a must see event that will put you in the Christmas Spirit for the holidays!

RiversideFestivalofLights.com

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – New rides and attractions will be featured during the 24th Annual Riverside Festival of Lights holiday program, which kicked off Friday, Nov. 25 with a spectacular fireworks display and continues through Jan. 7, 2017 in beautiful downtown Riverside.

Anchoring the event once again this year is the annual Festival of Lights Switch-On Ceremony, which marks the beginning of the holiday season. The ceremony, produced by The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and the City of Riverside, kicked off at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 25, the Friday after Thanksgiving.

The event draws more than 75,000 visitors from all over Southern California to the corner of Orange Street and Mission Inn Avenue, in the shadow of the historic Mission Inn Hotel & Spa. After a welcome and brief remarks from local dignitaries, the millions of holiday lights spread out around the Mission Inn and the surrounding area are switched on, and the downtown sky erupts in a massive fireworks show.

"The Festival of Lights is one of the many things that make Riverside such a special place," Mayor Rusty Bailey said. "The Switch-On Ceremony is an annual tradition for many Riversiders and Inland Southern California residents who gather with their family and friends for an illuminating night of fun, fellowship and holiday cheer."

Photos and video of past events can be found at: <http://www.riverside-ca.gov/fol/connect.asp#gallery>

The Festival of Lights has taken Riverside to a new level in the past few years, attracting people of all ages from across the region. Riverside's Festival of Lights has won top honors as America's Best Holiday Festival (2015) and America's Best Public Lights Display (2014) by the USA TODAY 10 Best Readers' Choice Contest.

In an effort to continually improve the event, new attractions for 2016 include:

- Timeless Train Rides -- Take a train ride through Downtown Riverside on this new attraction! With 24 seats and a unique route along the pedestrian mall, this will definitely become an annual tradition.

- Century Wheel -- Take in all the sights of the Festival of Lights from atop a 15-gondola Century Wheel. The wheel is covered with more than 100,000 lights, but because they are LED lights, it only takes 7 amps to light it up – that is less than a toaster!

- A Colorful Carousel -- You'll see a variety of animals as you enjoy a ride on this beautiful 36-animal Carousel. Lions and tigers and bears – oh my!

"The Festival of Lights is a hallmark of the holiday season every year in Riverside," Mayor Pro Tem Andy Melendrez said. "It's exciting to see this event grow and improve every year as it becomes an even bigger draw around Southern California."

Other returning favorites this year include:

- Magical Moments with Santa Claus -- Treasure the memories you'll make this year at the Festival of Lights with a commemorative photo with Santa Claus.

- Tasty Treats and Holiday Drinks to Satisfy Your Taste Buds -- From delicious donuts, tasty popcorn, savory crepes and gourmet candies, we have a delectable delight for every member of the family!

Crusing around the world from P. 7



the clinic for the rest of the cruise.

The land excursions are many and exciting from Peking to Hong Kong, China. Also, Bangkok, Thailand; Mumbai, India; the Suez Canal; Cairo, Egypt; Tel Aviv, Israel; Cyprus; Athens, Greece; Rome, Italy; Barcelona, Spain; London, England; Dublin, Ireland; and back to home again in New

York City, all in a mere 140 days. Do I need a vacation?

That's right, my job is a vacation!

Tim Shelby, RN,BSN,CCRN
Registered Nurse

Bachelor of Science Nursing
Critical Care Registered Nurse

Tim has been visiting us in Highgrove while working in local hospitals in Redlands and San Bernardino. He calls South Bend, Indiana his home but he has traveled all over the country and the world working as a traveling nurse. His next assignment as a traveling nurse is in San Francisco.

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

It's Snowing in Riverside!

RIVERSIDE, CA –

Orange Terrace Park will transform into a festive snow-filled holiday site Friday, December 16 from 3 – 9 p.m. at the 2016 Winter Wonderland event. The family focused event will feature a wide variety of activities including snow sled runs with tons of snow, pictures with Santa, live entertainment, craft and food vendors, fun zone, petting zoo and Santa's Winter Workshop.

Pre-sale Snow Sled Run/Fun Zone wristbands (20 minutes of snow sledding, bounce house play and 10 fun zone games) are on sale now through 5 p.m. December 9 at RivReg.org or any local community center. Pre-sale wristbands are \$10 and \$12 day of event (if not sold

out). Fun Zone only (no snow play) wristbands may be purchased at \$3.

Beat the crowds at the event and pick up your pre-sale Snow Sled Run/Fun Zone or Fun Zone only wristbands from 4 – 8 p.m. at Orange Park December 13 - 15. Orange Terrace Park is located at 20010 Orange Terrace Parkway. (South of Allesandro & Trautwine) ERICA L. GREEN

Recreation Supervisor
City of Riverside Parks,
Recreation and Community Services
Department 6927 Magnolia Ave
Riverside

Second Floor, 92506

(951) 826-2230

Fax. (951) 826-2038

www.riversideca.gov/park_rec

The RTAReader

RTA Applauds Hero Bus Driver

An RTA coach operator is being praised for his quick thinking that helped two lost children return to their family. Sergio Valenzuela was parked at the Riverside Downtown Terminal last week, waiting for people to board his Route 13 bus, when he noticed two young girls alone in the crowded transit hub. A few minutes later, with no parent or guardian in sight, Sergio had seen enough. He got out of his bus and walked over to the girls and asked them if they were okay. They said they were lost and waiting for their grandmother. After hearing the story, Sergio called police to the scene, who were eventually able to reunite the five and seven-year-old girls with their family. On Thursday, the RTA Board of Directors honored Sergio with a hero award for his actions.

Ride RTA for Only 25 Cents on Winter Break

From December 18 through January 8, RTA will offer 25 cent fares aboard any fixed-route bus to students in grades 1-12. Just show your student ID and ride for a quarter to the movies, the mall, the beach --- anywhere we go, anytime we operate!

Holiday Schedule

On Christmas Day and New Year's Day, RTA will provide Sunday service, the Customer Information Center will be open and administrative offices will be closed. On December 23 and 30, RTA will provide regular service and administrative offices will close at noon. On December 26 and January 2, RTA will provide regular service, the Customer Information Center will be open and administrative

offices will be closed.

Free Rides on New Year's Eve
On New Year's Eve, December 31, RTA will offer free rides to passengers after 2:30 p.m. on all fixed-routes. It's our way of providing a safe transportation alternative during the holiday and saying thank you to our customers for their year-round patronage.

Service Changes Coming to Downtown Riverside

On January 8, RTA will launch a new way of serving downtown Riverside. The Riverside Downtown Terminal will close and customers will benefit from new and upgraded bus stops at more than 20 central locations. Customers can also look forward to a new bus lay-over location on Vine Street near the Riverside-Downtown Metrolink Station. In addition, RTA will upgrade several routes systemwide to boost productivity and enhance connections. Details inside onboard brochures, at RiversideTransit.com, and in Ride Guides debuting later this month.

Beginning December 2, RTA will be participating in holiday parades and events in Beaumont, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Perris, Temecula, and Yucaipa.

Financial Audit Yields Positive Results

Continuing a tradition of stellar audits, an independent accounting firm that audited RTA's financial activities for Fiscal Year 2016 concluded that the Agency is making efficient use of its funds and following proper accounting procedures. The audit gave RTA an unmodified, or clean, opinion, which essentially is the highest level of assurance an audit can give.

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Author David Boulé on *The Orange and the Dream of California*

David Boulé takes us to that place and time when the fruit of the gods intersected with the place of plenty – the great state of California.

His presentation delves into the history of the orange and how the orange industry and California built upon one another for many, many decades. David's book, which he will share with attendees and have available for them, is chock full of imagery created by marketers over the years. All that they developed was designed to captivate those living in the east, encouraging them to leave their homes and move west to a land rich with potential.



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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

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Jingle Bell Rock
Jingle Bells
Let it Snow
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Little St Nick
O Holy Night
Rudolph
Santa Baby
Silent Nigh
Silver Bells
The Christmas Song
The First Noel
Winter Wonderland

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No Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council meeting in December-Merry Christmas!

Highgrove MAC meeting Jan 18, 2017

7:00 PM Highgrove Library, 530 Center St. Highgrove. Public invited! Bring a friend!

Advertising rates

The “Highgrove Happenings” advertising rates are the lowest rates in town. If you have already trained your dog to bring in the paper (like the one on the right) you can be assured that he won’t be lifting anything too heavy by bringing in our little newspaper. Some of the other larger newspapers are wasting just too many trees, especially in their Sunday edition. No one should ever ask their dog to lift something that heavy! Our little paper has lots of local news and we take pride in providing you with something free of charge that will fit in the bottom of your birdcage! Give us a call (951) 683 4994 or check out our web site for pricing and sizes of our ads. Go to www.highgrovehappenings.net and click on the contact us page.



Call us !

We have no reporters so we are asking for your help. You can be a reporter by just giving us a call or sending us an E-mail or a picture. Small town news is what we are all about and we want to encourage you to participate. We try to print positive things since there is so much bad news on TV and in other newspapers. Send us a story, take a picture or call us about something that is happening in Highgrove. (951) 683 4994



Please visit our Highgrove Happenings website:

www.highgrovehappenings.net

Keep in touch: Send us your e-mail addresses to help us keep you informed of activities and projects that effect our community. Send your address to:

highgrovenews@roadrunner.com

Highgrove T-shirt prices reduced! (See P.3)

Notice: We have some Highgrove T-shirts in various sizes that have just been printed. They have the Highgrove logo on the front and a picture of a 1916 “Highgrove Brand” orange crate label showing Sugarloaf with an orange grove at it’s base. It states: Grown and Packed in Highgrove by Sugarloaf Orange Growers Assn., Highgrove. Call (951) 683 4994

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Monthly newspapers are delivered to each Highgrove resident along with Public Offices and businesses in Highgrove, Grand Terrace, Colton, Riverside County and Riverside City.

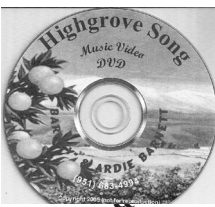
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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



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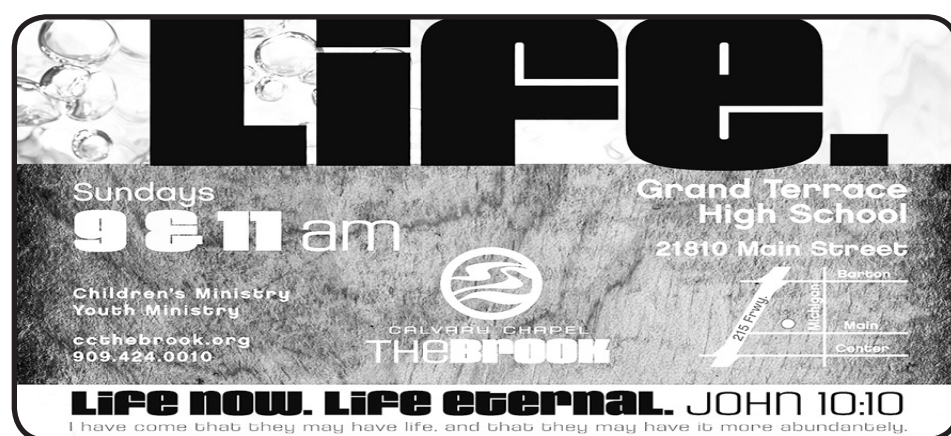


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