

Dedicated to the improvement of our community through awareness and involvement in local issues (FREE) Local News for the Highgrove Area JULY 2017

# MORE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR IMPROVEMENTS COMING TO HIGHGROVE!



The John Deere dealership in Highgrove is on the S/E corner of Iowa Ave. and Main St. and is finishing up with brand new larger buildings.



Ronald D. Offudt is the John Deere franchise owner. More photos on P. 6

## NO FIREWORKS IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY ALL fireworks, including sparklers, are illegal in Riverside County.



36 new homes are almost completed and new families are moving in on the N/E corner of Spring and Garfield by the Highgrove Elementary school.



The perimiter has a block wall with Landscaping.

More photos on P. 7

## NEW HIGHGROVE COMMUNITY GROUP BEING FORMED

## **IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS:**

### Where is the money now?

The "Impartial Analysis" of Measure T that was given to the Highgrove property owners in 1997 was written by William C. Katzenstein, County Council, Riverside County, and states in part: "This tax will be retained in the CSA 126 fund to be used only for purposes of continuing Extended Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services and improvements." But were the taxes that were collected from Highgrove residents actually: "retained in the CSA 126 fund to be used only for purposes of continuing Extended Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services and improvements"? (turn to: Where is the money now? on page 4)

Since the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council was eliminated by Supervisor Tavaglione on April 11, 2017, the Highgrove Community is in the process of forming a new group that will be independent of the Supervisor's jurisdiction but will still enable the community to relay the needs of the community to our County Supervisor.

The new group will be called "The Highgrove Community" and all residents of County Service Area 126 are urged to attend the meetings as this group is being formed. The leaders of this new group should be selected from all of the CSA 126 property owners on both sides of the freeway including Spring Mountain Ranch, the old part of Highgrove

east of the freeway and CSA 126 property owners on the west side of the freeway.

At the Public Hearing on April 11, 2017, Supervisor Tavaglione asked Becky Luther to be the "point of contact" between Highgrove and the Supervisor's office. But if Becky is the point of contact, she could be the PIO (Public Information Officer) or secretary to supply information to Supervisor Tavaglione of what the Highgrove community wants. Becky asked me if I would support her as leader of the new group but I refused, and here is why......

(Cont. on Page 3)



### 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

## Family Service Association

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.



### Hello Community Members,

It's a Open House....

The community is getting together on July 13, 2017 at the Norton Younglove Community Center at 7:00 P.M. to es-tablish a Community board, everyone is welcome. If you are a property owner and would be interested in being on this board we will be holding election this night. The meeting will be held the 2nd Thursday of every month from this point. from this point on.

JULY 4TH:

Center Closed



County Regional Medical Center Mobile Health Clinic 9AM - 2PM July 7th & 21st: 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.

July 11 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Resource information on planning healthy meals and exercise tips to build a healthy life style hosted by Rose with City of Riverside/Champions for Change.

### Saturday July 15th: 7 AM - 12 Noon



Vendor space participation is Available. Sign up includes 2 spaces, table and chair.

July 21st 8 AM - 10AM: Resources on Medical Groups and programs hosted by Juan with Regal Medical Group, Inc./ Lakeside Community Health.

# @nycchighgrove (951) 241-7221

951-779-3099 fax

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

**CIZE LIVE Hip Hop Class** Wednesday 7:30 PM / \$5 per class

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

Sewing Class \$7.50 per class Wed 10:30-

1:30. Note\*2nd Wednesday @ 11:30-2:30. Call Sandra 951-616-7787 for project materials info and clothing alteration services.

### **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 Sunday 11:00 AM. For 6:30-7:30pm \$3 per more info call Pastor Pete Sarry 951-237class or \$8 per week The Art of Cake Sr. Nutrition Lunch **Decorating Baking** Program Mon - Fri Intensive course/25 classes. \$15 per class. @11:30 AM \$3 sug-Info: Call Marivel 951-275-6815 . 5 students minimum sign up to schedule course Cer-Advanced Square tificate Completion awarded and 3-D **Gelatin Molding** Sunday 6 PM - 8PM Class 5 students minimum sign up to schedule classes. \$15 class/10 class course

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.

**Tuesday Bingo** 

### 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: 000-823-0294 or 951-788-4245 www.riversidesingles wingers.com

Zion Assembly

Church of God

2337

gested donation

Intermediate/

Dance

Resources on free flu shots hosted by Pamela /Wellness Ambassador with Rite Aid.

July 21 and 28th 8 AM - 11AM: Resources on free Dental Education and Dental Screening hosted by Veronica with Riverside Community Health Foundation.

### Save The Date:

August 4th 8 AM-11 AM: Dental Education and Dental Screening hosted by Riverside Community Health Foundation. -o- cost program. Sign ups will be held in July

Child Development Center Has Openings!!

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



### Group being formed

(Cont from Page 3)

Becky Luther was a member of the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council and at one of our previous MAC meetings she abstained from voting about contacting an attorney about the Highgrove property owners still paying for the Highgrove Sheriff that was eliminated 7 1/2 years ago. The decision to contact an Attorney was after we had received an Audit back from the county and after we had given the County ample time to answer 27 questions before contacting an attorney.

The following statement was printed on page 5 of the November 2016 issue of the Highgrove Happenings newspaper: "On Oct. 11, 2016 a Special meeting was called and the Highgrove MAC and members of the community who are property owners on the east side of the freeway voted to contact an Attorney about taking legal action but the questions will go to the county before legal action"

A list of the 27 questions that were submitted to Riverside County on November 16, 2016 can be seen in the January 2017 issue of the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper on page 5.

(www.highgrovehappenings.net Latest issue)

The answers to the 27 questions were due back from the County on Jan. 18, 2017 but no one from Riverside County attended our MAC meetings in Jan., Feb. or March and on April 11, 2017, (8 days before the April MAC meeting), Supervisor Tavaglione eliminated the Highgrove MAC at a Public Hearing in spite of protests from 6 Highgrove residents who spoke at the Public Hearing during public comments. (Video available on our website: www.highgrovehappenings.net)

Recently, on June 17, 2017 Becky Luther told me the reason she abstained from voting was that since she was an employee of the State she was not supposed to be involved in that type of legal action.

But if the other Highgrove MAC members and the community members voted to talk to an attorney, no community representative should have to abstain from voting for political reasons or because she felt her retirement may be in jeopardy if she voted to contact an attorney who would help Highgrove residents correct inappropriate actions by Riverside County.

The purpose of the community members who volunteer for Highgrove is to represent the Highgrove residents. The Highgrove Community representatives should be able to stand up for what is best for the Highgrove people and should not have a conflict of interest if the people of Highgrove want to oppose an action made by Riverside County that is detrimental to the Highgrove property owners.

Becky and I are in agreement that the leaders of the new community group should be open to all property owners in the entire CSA 126 on both sides of the freeway. Other details such as by-laws and the qualifications of the leaders of the new organization are yet to be decided but the former qualifications were that the applicants must be 18 years of age, own property or a business within the CSA 126 boundaries, and be able to attend the monthly meetings.

## **NEW HIGHGROVE COMMUNITY MEETING** JULY 13TH, 7:00 pm

### A short history of the **Highgrove Parcel Fees**

When County Service Area 126 Highgrove was organized in 1991, I was there when we met at the Methodist Church to begin the process of establishing better communications between Highgrove and our Riverside County Supervisor's office. At that time Supervisor Younglove was our Supervisor and there was no Community Center or Park in Highgrove. And there was no extra Deputy Sheriff dedicated exclusively to Highgrove. Supervisor Younglove said if we wanted our own Deputy Sheriff we would have to pay for it.

At a public meeting at the Highgrove Elementary School on Feb. 12, 1992 due to residents complaining about the poor response time to get a Deputy Sheriff from the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's station to Highgrove, the Highgrove residents and committee members of CSA 126 agreed to assess each parcel \$10.00 per month for one additional Deputy Sheriff assigned exclusively to Highgrove on the east side of the freeway and I was at that meeting as Vice-Chairman of the committee. Also present were representatives from the Sheriff Department and the Riverside County Administration Office. The west side of the freeway is also part of CSA 126 but did not want assess themselves so the Sheriff's jurisdiction was confined to the Highgrove area east of the freeway. At this meeting the distribution of the \$10.00 was set as \$7.96 for the extra Sheriff Deputy and \$2.04 for park and recreation services as previously stated.

In 1997 proposition 218 required that any previous assessments, fees, or charges had to be voted on to continue and a 2/3 vote was needed to keep the assessment going. Highgrove approved keeping our own Deputy Sheriff by a vote of 75.8 % under Supervisor Tom Mullen's Jurisdiction.

The extra Deputy Sheriff's position worked for many years and continued successfully under Supervisor Ashley's jurisdiction. But since there was no cost of living provision, the annual cost of the Sheriff continued to rise while the fee remained the same at \$120.00 per parcel. The Highgrove MAC knew that we may not be able to keep up with the rising Sheriff costs but we were counting on more contributions being added to our funds from the new homes being built in Spring Mountain Ranch. When Riverside County CSA Administrator, Bill Brown attended our MAC meeting on Feb. 18, 2015, he stated that the new Spring Mountain Ranch residents would not have to pay the \$120.00 fee (See July 2015 issue of Highgrove Happenings). But since all of the new homes in Spring Mountain Ranch are within the boundaries of CSA 126 on the east side of the freeway, we started asking questions such as: Why not? (Cont. on Page 10)



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at Norton Younglove **Community Center** 459 Center St. Highgrove All county members on

## both sides of freeway invited!



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Friday:	7:30am - 4:30pm
Saturday:	9:00am - 3:00pm
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Where is the money now? (Cont from Page 1) **25 YEAR OLD CSA 126 MINUTES REVEAL DISTRIBUTION OF \$10.00 A MONTH PARCEL FEE!** 

Here is a portion of the actual wording taken from the Feb. 12, 1992 minutes of CSA 126 (HIGHGROVE EAST SIDE)

"Joe Barber explained to cost out separately the extra police protection from park and recreation would be a county auditing/accounting office procedure and the \$10.00/month-\$120.00/year fee was rounded off to \$10.00/month than the original \$7.96/month for extra police and \$2.04/ month for park and recreation development fees, it made the accounting process simpler to assess through County's Assessors office."

Joe Barber was the Chairman at that time, Richard Barnett, Vice Chairman, and David Melilli, was the Secretary/Treasurer who were all present. Also present were CSA 126 members Raul Ochoa and the late David M. Tinker. In addition, there were other staff members present from Riverside County that included Lieutenant Borden from the Riverside County Sheriff Department and Deputy Sheriff Chuck Ortiz who became Highgrove's first Deputy Sheriff.

One of the most important attendees at this meeting was Doug Vierra, who was the County Administrative Planner for Riverside County.

The reason this is important is because Mr. Vierra was present at the meeting in 1992 that showed how CSA 126 wanted the \$10.00 /month fee to be distributed. It specified that the \$10.00/month assessment would be distributed by using \$7.96 for extra police protection and \$2.04/month for park and recreation. This action was approved when a Riverside County Administration Planner, a Riverside County Sheriff Lieutenant, and a Deputy from the Sheriff Department, were all present at the Highgrove public CSA 126 meeting twenty-five years ago when this was approved.

(Cont. at top right)

### **HIGHGROVEVIDEOSAVAILABLEONOURWEBSITE EVENTS AVAILABLE:**

- Tavaglione eliminates Highgrove MAC April 11, 2017
- Highgrove Community meeting April 19, 2017

### www.HighgroveHappenings.net



This 1992 formula means that \$7.96 (or 79.6 %) of the \$10.00 of the monthly income was to be used for the extra Sheriff and \$2.04 (or 20.4%) of the monthly income was for park and recreation.

## Let's do the Math!

The Fiscal Year 2016/2017, figures from the Riverside County Auditor-Controller's Office showed that there were 1,138 parcels that paid the \$120.00 assessment. Riverside County received \$136,560.00 from the Highgrove taxpayers during this one-year period.

Using the formula that was adopted 25 years ago, 79.6% of the \$136,560.00 amounts to \$108,701.76 that was supposed to be for extra Sheriff protection and 20.4% \$ 27,858.24 that was supposed to be for Park and Recreation for a total of \$136,560.00 that was received from Highgrove property owners for the Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

If \$108,701.76 was collected for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 that was supposed to be for extra Sheriff protection but there was no extra Deputy Sheriff because that position was eliminated, where is the \$108,701.76 that was collected for the Sheriff for the Fiscal Year 2016/2017? And was the \$108,701.76 "retained" in the CSA 126 fund for present or future Sheriff protection to comply with the County Attorney's "Impartial Analysis" instructions that appeared with the 1997 Ballot?

The 1997 instructions stated that the funds were supposed to be: "retained in the CSA fund to be used only for purposes of continuing Extended Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services and improvements."

These figures are for only one year but what about the other years?

What happened to the 79.6 % of the annual taxes that were collected from Highgrove property owners after the Sheriff had been eliminated for the fiscal years of 2009/2010, 2010/2011, 2011/2012, 2012/2013, 2013/2014, 2014/2015, and 2015/2016?

Each year there may have been different amounts collected because the number of parcels may have changed due to new construction, but the annual fee has always remained at \$120.00 per year per parcel since the extra Sheriff Deputy started in 1992. The Riverside County Assessor-Controllers Office knows how many parcels were assessed the special tax in Highgrove for each year after the Sheriff was eliminated. And since the annual rate has always been \$120.00, these figures are just a matter of accessing that information from Riverside County's records.

## Questions that need answers!

Was everything put into one fund for these 2 specific purposes or did the County keep the money separated for 25 years? This is the exact wording taken from the Highgrove minutes dated Feb. 12, 1992.

Item K. reads: "Mr. Ralph Crabtree asked about separation of Park and Recreation assessment fee from extra police protection costs to be accomplished? Joe Barber explained to cost out separately the extra police protection from park and recreation fees would be a county auditing/ accounting office procedure and the \$10.00/month-\$120.00/year fee was rounded off to \$10.00/month than the original \$7.96/month for extra police and \$2.04/month for park and recreation development fees. It made the accounting process simpler to assess through County Assessor's office." Riverside County Administrative Planner, Doug Vierra was present at the Feb. 12, 1992 meeting.

Even if all of the money was all put into one fund, and there was no separation of costs for the extra Highgrove Deputy Sheriff, and there were (Cont. on Page 5)



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### Questions that need answers

### (Cont from Page 4)

no improvements to the Highgrove Community Park, then where is the money that was collected for 7 1/2 years for these 2 specific purposes after the sheriff was eliminated? There should be thousands of un-spent funds still in the CSA 126 account because the funds were designated for only 2 specific purposes and were to be: "retained" in the CSA fund to be used only for purposes of continuing Extended Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services and improvements.

If property owners paid \$120.00 each year for 7 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years for these 2 services and one of them was eliminated, does that mean that the other account (park and recreation) contains the remainder of the money that was collected for extra police protection or was the money spent for something else?

20.4 % of \$136,560.00 equals \$27,858.24 for the FY 2016/2017 year that was supposed to be for park and recreation. But we need to know how much was actually spent each year on park and recreation from Dec. 30, 2009 to June 30, 2017. In addition, we need to know if any of the park and recreation money was spent on construction costs for a new park in Spring Mountain Ranch because in the past, Riverside County built the Highgrove Community Park and CSA 126 funds are used to maintain the park. We anxiously look forward to another park in Spring Mountain Ranch but new resident homebuyers are already charged fees for parks, schools, and other costs related to new construction. Once a new park is completed, the maintenance of the park could come out of the parcel assessment but parcel assessment money should not be used for the actual construction of a new park. Also, since the County added "Landscaping" to the description on our tax bills, we need to know if any funds for "Landscaping" were used in Spring Mountain Ranch or anywhere in Highgrove because the 1997 ballot did not include any provision for "Landscaping".

## **Supervisor Tavaglione's Violation** of Supervisor Ashley's agreement

Under Supervisor Tavaglione's jurisdiction, \$60,000.00 was used for extra sheriff patrols that was a violation of the agreement made by Highgrove's previous Supervisor Ashley that was printed in the Highgrove MAC minutes on Nov. 9, 2009 that stated: "This agreement does not include the use of CSA funds for the patrols".

Here is the answer to our question to the Economic Development Agency asking if the \$35,000 comes out of the CSA 126 account:

The letter from EDA dated October 19th, 2016 states: YES \$35,000 does come out of CSA 126. But <u>\$60,000.00</u> has been taken. (See Sheriff letter on P. 8)

To make up for the extra Highgrove Sheriff being eliminated, Supervisor Ashley's agreement was made to provide additional patrols to Highgrove but the cost was supposed to come out of Riverside County's General Fund. That is why the agreement states: "This agreement does not include the use of CSA funds for the patrols"

But instead of sending out another ballot that could have (1) reduced the number of hours the extra Highgrove Sheriff was on duty to stay within our budget or (2) increased the fee to provide additional revenue to cover

(Cont. top right)





the increased costs of the Sheriff services or (3) eliminated the fee all together. The property owners were not notified in writing that after a certain day the Highgrove Deputy Sheriff's position would be eliminated.

Two Ballots were sent out by Riverside County to establish the special assessment. One was in 1992 and the other in 1997 but when the Sheriff's position was eliminated in 2010, no ballot or written notice was sent out to the property owner to tell them that the extra Highgrove Sheriff's' position had been eliminated. How would property owners who live in other cities know that the extra Sheriff had been eliminated or how would Highgrove residents who see a Sheriff car drive by know if that was the Sheriff Deputy they are paying for or if it was a different deputy in the beat 40 car?

For 7 1/2 years every parcel owner on the east side has been paying \$120.00 for the extra Sheriff we no longer have. In addition another \$60,000.00 has been illegally taken out of our CSA 126 funds. (See Sheriff letter on P. 8)

### **SHOW Meetings with** NO **Supervisor Tavaglione!**

If you were invited to meet with someone at their office, wouldn't you expect them to be there?

NO SHOW: On March 7, 2016 at the request of Supervisor Tavaglione's office, Highgrove MAC members R. A. "Barney" Barnett, Vince Yu, and Raina Boal went to the County Administration building to meet with Supervisor Tavaglione but he was not there. Instead, the 3 Highgrove MAC members met with John Field, Tavaglione's Chief of Staff and Jason Farin Tavaglione's Legislative Director.

### MEETING DENIED

Ten days later on March 17, 2016 I requested another meeting with Supervisor Tavaglione but his office called and said that Supervisor (Cont. on Page 8)





Add this to your bucket list: Make sure you stop by RDO Equipment in Highgrove and see their beautiful new building, service area, and equipment.



Behind this sign you will find 35,000 Sq. Ft. of new John Deere facilities.



The new shop area is well equipped to service and repair large machinery and every type of heavy equipment.





This is the new entry for customers going to the Service Department, Parts Department, or Sales Department. This is a beautiful brand new facility!



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• Exterior Mobile homes

- Gum removal
- Heavy equipment

**James Kincaid** 

If you need to jack up heavy equipment you will need a floor jack this size.

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36 new homes are being built on the N/E corner of spring and Garfield.



The new streets include Lone St., Fernwood Ct., and Sage Tree Ct. and have the Highgrove logo at the top of the street signs.



This is the sales office for the 36 new homes in Meridian Pointe. When I talked to them recently they had already sold 13 of the new homes.



These new homes are within walking distance of the elementary school.





## **Grand Terrace Smog**

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### **NO SHOW**

### (Cont. from Page 5)

Tavaglione said another meeting would not be necessary.

NO SHOW: On June 30, 2016 another meeting was scheduled with Supervisor Tavaglione but he was not at that meeting either.

NO SHOW: On Feb. 22, 2017 at the request of Tavaglione's office, MAC Chairman R. A. "Barney" Barnett and Vice Chairman Becky Luther were called to Tavaglione's office but Supervisor Tavaglione was not present at this meeting either. The county was represented again by John Field and Jason Farin and Suzanne Holland from the Riverside County Economic Development Agency. Meeting with the Supervisor's staff is not the same as talking directly with Supervisor Tavaglione because the staff cannot make decisions.

NO SHOW: The deadline for Supervisor Tavaglione to answers to the 27 questions submitted from the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council to the County was on Jan 18, 2017 but no one from the county was present at the January, February or March 2017 MAC meetings. Then 8 days before the April meeting, Supervisor Tavaglione eliminated the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council at a public hearing on April 11, 2017.

## Here is proof to show that \$60,000.00 was taken out of Highgrove's CSA 126 funds:

	<b>RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT</b> Stanley Sniff, Sheriff-Coroner-PA Jurupa Valley Station Inter-Departmental Memorandum	
• Professionals Who Care	February 9, 2017	
То:	Lieutenant Don Sharp, Jurupa Valley Station	
From:	Tammy Nelson, Supv. Acct Tёch Jurupa Valley Station	
RE:	CSA Highgrove Supplemental Law Enforcement Funding for FY15-16 and FY16-17	
FY16-17) for	Valley Station has been funded over the last two fiscal years (FY15-16 and r Supplemental Law Enforcement for CSA Highgrove. Below is a summary of received and utilized (spent) for each year:	
<u>FY15-16</u> : We received \$25,000 in funding for the entire fiscal year. We began operations on July 10, 2015 and finished on June 24, 2016. We expended \$24,902.47 of the funds received leaving a small balance of \$97.53 unspent.		
<u>FY16-17</u> : We received \$35,000 in funding for the entire fiscal year. We began operations on July 4, 2016. We have expended \$21,951.37 to date (including January 2017 operations). This leaves a balance remaining of \$13,048.63 to be expended before June 30, 2017.		
If you have a	any questions, feel free to contact me at (951) 955-2488.	
Sincerely,		
	nine Mater	
Tammy Nels Jurupa Valle	son, Supv. Acct Tech av Station	

## Statement by Sheriff Sniff

In an article printed in the Press Enterprise on June 27, 2016 Sheriff Stan Sniff stated: "*The department can't trim patrols in cities that contract with the sheriff, because these partners, also pinched by labor agreements, pay their own way for specific service levels*".

Highgrove may not be a city but as an un-incorporated part of Riverside County that receives services from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, we are *"paying our own way for specific service levels"*. Unfortunately, Highgrove property owners are still: paying their own way but the specific service levels have been completely eliminated!

## Elimination of Highgrove MAC also eliminated Sheriff Stats

For the last 25 years the Sheriff Department has provided statistics about the crime activity in Highgrove that we printed in the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper. This information was available for residents to see what type of crimes were occurring and what to watch out for.

But on June 20, 2017, I was informed that since the Highgrove MAC was eliminated (by Supervisor Tavaglione), the Riverside County Sheriff Department will no longer provide information to the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper about Sheriff activity in Highgrove.

We still receive press releases from the California Highway Patrol.

Is it just a coincidence that shortly after the Highgrove MAC was eliminated this important service to our Highgrove residents was also eliminated? This is another example how the Highgrove residents are being treated unfairly by Riverside County.



681 W. La Cadena Dr., Riverside 909-228-5392 Info/Appt



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## You Can Quote Me!

*By: Dr. Cynthia Williams* 



"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." ~~ Declaration of Independence

When these words were written and then ratified in July 1776, they, along with the full text, were considered subversive and the men who signed the document were considered traitors. They were standing up to the King of England and all the might of the most powerful monarchy in the world at the time. It took a tremendous amount of courage and conviction to do this. And yet, 241 years later, men AND women, in these United States, are still struggling to assert their "unalienable rights". You are either part of the problem or you are part of the solution.

"Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon. July 1969 AD. We came in peace for all mankind." ~~ Neil Armstrong

At first, a moon-landing mission raised a lot of eyebrows at NASA- especially among the astronaut crew. Jim Lovell (Apollo 13) recalls Atlas rockets- the base of the space crafts- were blowing up every day at Cape Canaveral in Florida. "It looked like a quick way to have a short career." People had been carefully studying what it would take to get this wild idea to become a reality, particularly after President Kennedy was assassinated and it looked like the Russians were going to beat us to the moon. The thought that the Russians could land first was the fire in the belly NASA needed to get it done. Our team had the "right stuff". Arizona was the testing ground for lunar rovers and crawling over "moon rocks". It was going to happen!

I am fortunate enough to be part of the generation who got to experience the thrill of the moon landing. The impossible became possible and my generation became the one who could and would make anything in the future happen. I was at Girl Scout camp up above Idyllwild that July summer in 1969. TVs and radios were not usually on site but an exception was made for this historic event. A radio was brought in so we could all hear history being made. It was incredibly exciting and being part of such a huge event was a thrill.

The country came together and worked hard towards the goal of the moon landing. NASA had 100% support and every little kid wanted to grow up to be an astronaut. There was talk of building on the moon, people living there, it being a pit-stop for other space vehicles on their way to other planets. Star Trek was suddenly very real and the stars were our goal.

Nearly 50 years later the dream is nearly dead. Now NASA has to beg for every cent it gets and walking on the moon is something our kids learn about in their history classes. December 1972 Apollo 17 made the last moon landing; that is before my daughters were born. To our kids and grandkids, that is ancient history.

The real tragedy is the loss of the sense of adventure, the loss of the excitement and curiosity. Unfortunately, most students graduating from school are poorly prepared for the task of space exploration. The "science geeks" are outnumbered (and often bullied) by the social media masters. Without enough emphasis and interest on the STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics) the skills needed to reach beyond our solar system aren't there.

We need to get excited again! We need to feel the thrill and the

### **OBITUARY**

### ADAM ORNELAS

After a long illness, longtime Highgrove barber Adam Ornelas passed away June 2, 2017. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Martha; daughter Felicia (Charlie) and son Michael (Kathy); 7 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, 1 brother and 4 sisters. Services were on June 15, 2017 at Montecito Memorial Park in Colton.



American Pride of doing something no one else in the world was able to do! It starts at home and in the schools. It starts with our little children, getting them interested in the possibilities. It starts with YOU.



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## SOME OF THE REASONS **THE HIGHGROVE MAC WAS ELIMINATED**

In keeping with my belief that everyone should be held accountable for their own actions, I want everyone to know what part I played in contributing to the elimination of the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council.

As owner of the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper I have printed the truth about what is happening to our small community and my responsibility is to be able to prove that what we print is accurate and can be documented and is not just our opinion of how things should be.

I have been the one who printed articles about the political decisions being made by Supervisor Tavaglione that directly affects Highgrove and its residents. And I was the one who handed Supervisor Tavaglione the request for the Audit on Aug. 5, 2015. And I was also the one who printed the 27 questions to the county in the Dec. 2016 and Jan. 2017 issues of the Highgrove Happenings.

So it is understandable why Supervisor Tavaglione has criticized my "leadership" because he needs to protect the County by eliminating the Highgrove MAC or downplaying and ignoring printed information that may be detrimental to Riverside County.

But his efforts to eliminate the collective voice of the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council was not fair to the Highgrove community. And in my opinion, it was an un-ethical move and inappropriate to silence the entire collective voice of the Highgrove MAC and punish all of Highgrove because Supervisor Tavaglione was upset with me as the MAC Chairman who also happened to own the local newspaper, especially since I had already resigned prior to the public hearing.

After I resigned from the MAC, I asked that the Highgrove MAC be allowed to continue without me since Supervisor Tavaglione considered me to be the problem. And after I resigned, there was no reason to eliminate the entire 5 member Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council which along with its predecessor has been the collective voice of the Highgrove people for 25 years!

My apologies go out to the other Supervisors who I have volunteered for in the past and to the other county employees I have worked with in other departments. It is unfortunate that these proceedings may result in legal

action against the county but if the truth exposes something that is actually happening between Riverside County and the people of Highgrove, I will continue to stand up for the Highgrove people and expose those who are responsible.

As a member of this community and owner of the Highgrove Happenings, I will continue to insist that Highgrove is treated fairly and I promise to continue to provide the truth to our readers with information that effects our residents and our property owners. The incomplete answers to the Audit requested on August 5, 2015 and the answers to the 27 questions submitted on November 16, 2016 were both efforts to prevent legal action.

Question # 22 of the 27 questions submitted to Supervisor Tavaglione on Nov. 16, 2016 states: "Will Riverside County refund the taxpayers money that was collected after the Sheriff's position was eliminated or will legal action be necessary?"

The short answer was: No refunds will be issued! That is why we were forced to contact an Attorney!

### **Highgrove Parcel Fees** (Cont. from Page 3)

The 1997 ballot stated that: "ALL parcels within CSA 126 Zone A" were required to pay the fee and Zone A is all of the parcels in CSA 126 east of the freeway from the Riverside/San Bernardino county line at Main St., southward to the city limit boundaries of the City of Riverside.

After many conversations about this subject, the Spring Mountain Ranch homes are now paying into the fund that was created for the extra Deputy Sheriff (that was eliminated 7 1/2 years ago) and park and recreation, and Bill Brown is no longer an employee of Riverside County.





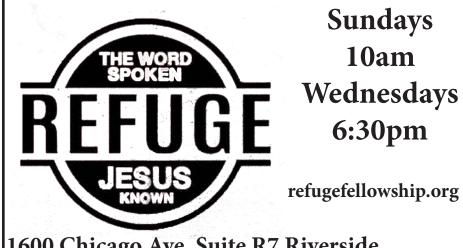
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# HIGHGROVE CHURCHES



**Immanuel Baptist Temple** 45 Michigan Ave., Highgrove 951-784-1100 **Pastor John Pettit** 10:00 am Sunday School: 11:00 am & 6:00 pm Church Service: Bible Study: 7:00 pm Wednesdays **Open hearts Open minds Open Doors** HIGHGROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 938 Center St., Highgrove, CA 92507 **Free Community Breakfast Sunday Worship** May 27, 2017 at 9:00-10:00 am Starts @ 10:45am Rev. Jackeline A. Vives "This church has been serving the Highgrove community since 1890"



1600 Chicago Ave. Suite R7 Riverside,CA 92507Phone: (951) 680-0167



### **Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church**

12745 Oriole Avenue at Pico Street, Grand Terrace, CA 92313

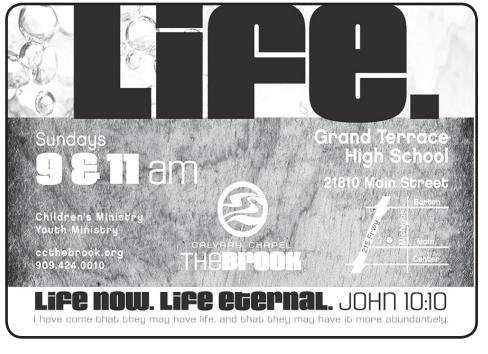
### **MASS SCHEDULE**

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>

Jose Crespo: Pastorial Coordinator Parish Office 909-783-3811 Fax 909-783-4689





## **Grand View Baptist Church**

Pastor Mat Pope

Service at 11:00am

(Across from the G.T. Senior Center)

## Sunday Service 10 AM

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### HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS NEWSPAPER

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