



# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



**Dedicated to the improvement of our community through awareness and involvement in local issues**  
**(FREE) Local News for the Highgrove Area** **March 2020**

## Second Pot shop approved in Highgrove!



Second Pot shop

On Feb. 19, 2020 I attended a Riverside County Planning Commission meeting at the Riverside County Administration building in Riverside. I did not know until Monday evening that Highgrove was on the agenda on the following Wednesday morning which was a request to change the distance between Pot shops from 1,000 feet to only 250 feet.

When I found out about this proposal I called several people and sent e-mails to all seven of the new Highgrove MAC members. I received responses from three of the members stating that they had to work and could not attend but I did not hear from any of the other members.

Item 4.3 came up at 10:00 am and lasted until 11:00 am while the applicants made their presentations to the Planning Commissioners. All this time I waited for Public comments so I could use my three minutes to oppose shortening the distance between cannabis shops from 1,000 feet to only 250 feet. I was the only one from Highgrove in the audience.

When I was called during public comments I stated that Highgrove was the first un-incorporated community in Riverside County to pay extra for its own Deputy Sheriff in 1992.

I also said that Highgrove was the first un-incorporated community in Riverside County that Riverside County approved for a marijuana store ten years **AFTER** Riverside County eliminated the Highgrove Deputy 10 years ago on Dec. 30, 2009.

The applicants want to build another pot shop on the S/E corner of Center St. and Iowa Ave and in order to do this they need to have the distance between cannabis stores shortened to 250 feet because the first store is only a short distance away and the existing 1,000 foot ordinance would prevent allowing another store to be built because they would be too close to each other.

I pointed out that if the Planning Commission allowed reducing the distance between pot shops from 1,000 feet to 250 feet they would be creating an un-desirable area in Highgrove that already has a liquor store across the street, a Hookah Bar nearby, two cannabis stores, and possible alcoholic beverages being sold at the new 76 gas station.

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

Cont. on P. 3



Whats happening to Highgrove?



First Pot Shop

### Sign the Petition

to eliminate property tax fee for Highgrove Sheriff Deputy that was eliminated by Riverside County on Dec. 30, 2009. This petition is only for Highgrove property owners east of the I-215 freeway. (Room for 4 signatures)  
**Fill out and take to Norton Younglove Community Center, 459 Center St.; Toy Tech Auto Repair, 983 Center St.; Zorbas, 450 Iowa Ave.; or mail to: Highgrove Happenings Newspaper, 474 Prospect Ave., Riverside, Ca., 92507.**

**I support eliminating the CSA 126 parcel tax assessment that pays for the Sheriff Deputy that was assigned exclusively to Highgrove.**

SIGN NAME	ADDRESS
PRINT NAME	APN PARCEL NUMBER
*****	
SIGN NAME	ADDRESS
PRINT NAME	APN PARCEL NUMBER
*****	
SIGN NAME	ADDRESS
PRINT NAME	APN PARCEL NUMBER
*****	
SIGN NAME	ADDRESS
PRINT NAME	APN PARCEL NUMBER
*****	

Fill this up with 4 property owners signatures.  
The APN parcel number is on your tax bill.



# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

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



Contact: (951) 241-7221

THE NORTON YOUNGLOVE COMMUNITY CENTER

459 Center Street- Highgrove web site: [www.nycchighgrove.com](http://www.nycchighgrove.com)



## Family Service Association

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

Hello Community Members,



*May your troubles be less  
and your blessings be more  
And nothing but happiness  
come through your door*

Family Service Association's  
Mission: Building community  
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comprehensive model services,  
fostering self-sufficiency and  
sustainable impacts.



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**Riverside University Health System Mobile Health Clinic 9 AM - 2 PM on First Friday of each month:** 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. Family Services: Primary Care, Health Screenings, Well Child Checks, Vision/Hearing Testing, Women's Health Services, Treatment for Acute and Chronic Illness, Patient Education. RUHealth.org/mobilehealthclinic 951-486-5765 for more info

### Information Resource Day

**March 6th, 13th and 20th: 8 AM - 10 AM** AGA Rep Dulce Tee-Sy 800-498-6880 x 2911 resource table regarding Medicare Advantage & Medical Supplement. Representing Scan, United, Blue Shield, Inter Valley. Lic #0141978

### March 3rd:

7 AM - 8 PM



### March 8th:



### March 28th: 10:30AM to 5:30 PM

**LISTOS** A FREE Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Course created specifically for the Latino Population. Listos is brought to you by the County of Riverside, Emergency Management Department. Call 91-955-711 for more information. How to Register: <https://tinyurl.com/LISTOSHIGHGROVE> 228

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

### April 18th Saturday: 7 AM - 12 Noon

Reserve your participation space! \$10 includes 2 spaces, 1 table and chair.

RUMMAGE  
SALE

### May 9th Saturday: Highgrove Day

Celebrating the City of Highgrove at Highgrove Park 9 AM to 3 PM. Breakfast at Norton Younglove Community Center from 7:30 AM to 11 AM



Food, Entertainment, Vendors Kids fun zone, lots of fun for the whole family.



Is back! 9 AM - 10 AM

A body work out that will burn calories and fat, strengthen cardiovascular fitness, reduce stress and have fun, improve blood pressure and build confidence.

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12:30 PM - 1:30 PM  
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Includes refreshments



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

### Line Dance



Mon 7:30 PM Intermediate, Wed 7:30 PM Beginner \$2 per class. For more details call 951-320-7867 underthesunlinedance.com

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Mon-Wed-Fri

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Tues 6:30pm-9pm \$6 donation. Info: 909-823-0294 or 951-788-4245 [www.riversidesingleswingers.com](http://www.riversidesingleswingers.com)

### Zion Assembly Church of God



Sunday 11:00 AM Pastor Pete Sarry 951-237-2337

### jazzercise

Mon 5:20 PM, Tues 4 PM, Wed 5:20 PM, Thurs 6:15 PM, Sat 8:30 & 9:15 AM for details: Kim 909-721-2815

### Sewing Class



Mon 8:30 AM Beginner and 1:30 PM Intermediate. Wed 1-4 PM For details call Maria with Sew & Vac 909-825-6009



9:00 AM

Mon - Fri \$3 per class

## Let's Celebrate!

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

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

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

Monday thru  
Thursday 8AM to  
4PM

Friday 8AM to  
2PM

HOURS OF OPERATION



# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Pot Shops from P. 1

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

If 1,500 feet from Riverside’s City limits is too close for them, what about Highgrove residents? I pointed out that Highgrove needs services such as a Grocery Store, Shopping Center, a Bank, and Post Office due to all the new and older homes that need these services instead of two pot shops.

After my public comments, the applicant was allowed another 15 minutes to respond to my criticism.

When the final vote was taken, all five Planning Commissioners voted to approve reducing the distance between pot shops to 250 ft. but opposition can be made at the Board of Supervisors on March 17th. **TURN TO PAGE 5**

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

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

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

The new Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council under Supervisor Spiegel held their first meeting at the Highgrove Library on October 30, 2019 but the meeting was only to review the Brown Act. Supervisor Spiegel did not attend this meeting or the Jan 29, 2020 meeting.

On Nov. 20, 2019, the following month after the first MAC meeting on Oct. 30, 2019, I learned about the letter from the City of Riverside to Riverside County opposing a marijuana store in Highgrove. And on Dec. 10, 2019 the Board of Supervisors approved the first marijuana store in Riverside County and yes it is going to be located in Highgrove!

So what happened to Supervisor Ashley’s agreement about the Highgrove community being made aware of significant changes to their neighborhood?

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

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

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## Attention new Highgrove MAC members

You applied and were selected and you are to be commended for getting involved in your community. But you are not the target of the criticism. The criticism lies in the selection process that divides our neighborhoods instead of uniting us all as one Highgrove community. All Highgrove property owners within our boundaries are victims of having to pay for a service that was eliminated without proper notification. This includes all new homeowners in Highgrove and we all should be concerned!

Also, the Grand Jury recommendations should be a priority for the new MAC to: **“clarify exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed”** Here are the exact findings and recommendations taken from the 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report:

### 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report

#### Riverside County-County Service Area 126

#### Highgrove Communications Shortcomings

#### Findings: CSA 126 COMMUNICATION

**1. While the CSA 126 management has a policy of openness and transparency, it has not effectively communicated changes and agreements.**

Previous efforts by Riverside County officials to inform CSA 126 residents through public meetings have proven to be inadequate. Citizens don’t understand how CSA agreements were designed to work and how the funds are managed. For complete record access, a citizen would need to inquire at the Jurupa Valley Sheriff Station, the EDA, the landscaping contractor, a County Supervisor, Tax Collector, Assessor, and occasionally state records.

#### CSA 126 SERVICES PROVIDED

**2. An inspection of the other services that the CSA 126 funds are drawn upon to provide, revealed that the park, park maintenance, lighting and median landscaping are in excellent condition. Interviews of random citizens using the park and community center resulted in nothing but praise and some of them came from quite a distance to use the facilities.**

#### Recommendations:

##### Riverside County Board of Supervisors

##### Riverside County Economic Development Agency

#### CSA 126 COMMUNICATION

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

#### CSA 126 SERVICES PROVIDED

**2. CSA 126 management should continue to seek and employ the best qualified contractors to maintain CSA 126 services at the highest possible level and lowest cost.**

The Highgrove MAC should insist that the Grand Jury recommendations are adhered to with by a written report to the MAC to: **“clarify exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed”**. Also the Highgrove MAC should monitor the County Planning Commission meetings to see what outside developers or changes are being planned within our boundaries. MAC members should request that Riverside County send developers or others who want to make changes to Highgrove to MAC meetings before going to County Planning in order for us to have input in future construction projects or projects that directly challenge our quality of life issues. The new Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council is our only community organization designed to look out for all of Highgrove.

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# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

## FAKE NEWS CHALLENGE

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

Thank you for your many years of support!

R. A. "Barney" Barnett (951) 683 4994 [highgrovenews@roadrunner.com](mailto:highgrovenews@roadrunner.com).

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# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

**Volunteers are needed** to circulate the petition to stop paying for the Deputy Sheriff we have not had for 10 years. You can help by signing the petition and getting your neighbors to sign because door to door is the best way due to homeowners having access to their property tax bills so they can get their parcel number from their files.

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

Sign the petition and take to the Norton Younglove Community Center, 459 Center St., Toy Tech 983 Center St., Zorbas 450 Iowa Ave. or mail to:

**Highgrove Happenings Newspaper**

**R. A. “Barney” Barnett**

**474 Prospect Ave., Riverside/Highgrove, Ca.**

**92507**

This is a non-partisan effort because if you live in Highgrove east of the I-215 freeway it doesn’t matter if you are a Republican or Democrat or if you live in an old home or a new home because we should all want to stop paying for a Deputy Sheriff that Riverside County eliminated 10 years ago!

## Video available of Highgrove property owners meeting at the Highgrove Eagles on Jan. 15, 2020

On Jan. 15, the Eagles Aerie # 997 opened up their meeting room for a meeting about the Highgrove property owners being required to pay the special CSA 126 parcel tax for the Deputy Sheriff assigned exclusively to Highgrove that was eliminated 10 years ago by Riverside County on Dec. 30, 2009.

To view the video please go to: [www.highgrovehappenings.net](http://www.highgrovehappenings.net) and double click on **“Property Owners Meeting Jan. 15, 2020”**.

I apologize for my slow unprofessional presentation but the facts remain the same at any speed.

The statements I made at this meeting are backed up with written documents and the information on this video should make all Highgrove property owners want to unite to stop this tax.

## You Can Quote Me

Cynthia Williams, DC

SPRING!

It’s coming and never soon enough for me. I’m over winter by November so any bit of warmer weather is a thrill for me. When it’s a high of 55 degrees during the winter we burst out of our houses like we’re having a heat wave. Shorts and Teva sandals with a puffy jacket is seen at the parks. Dogs are chasing frisbees, kids are on the swings at the park, and the patio BBQs are smoking. Cold is in the eyes (and frozen fingers) of the beholder.

I MISS the Southern California weather! When I was in Murietta the end of January I was sitting in the sun; ok, basking in the sun!- I was thinking to myself- “why in the world are you freezing up north and not living down here?” I came up with a few answers but not great ones. Obviously there are reasons I stay up north in Oregon. I’ve got lovely friends, fun activities, and great medical care here. However I miss Southern California and not just the weather.

I hope you appreciate the profound quantity and varieties of activities you have around you in Southern California.

. The number and type of museums, the music venues, the parks and beaches, and the historic landmarks to visit are exciting. Southern California has a huge number of restaurants and shopping centers to taste and explore. Enjoy what you have as best as you can. Get out and soak up the sun and the fun for me! Tell me what you’ve been doing! I’ll take vicarious enjoyment!

### Did you know?

**21 years ago Highgrove residents prevented a zoning change!**

In 1999 the Riverside County Planning Commission wanted to change some of our Residential Districts to Industrial or Commercial zones.

I have a flyer that I made years ago that refers to a meeting on Dec. 15, 1999 to oppose changing the Highgrove zoning. Part of the flyer reads:

**Attention Highgrove Neighbors**

**Help stop our “RESIDENTIAL” neighborhoods from being changed to INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL ZONES! To prepare for what zoning our Highgrove people actually want, there will be a special meeting at the NYCC on Oct. 18, 1999.** These changes did not happen because Highgrove residents attended this meeting and opposed them.



## Car show and Vendor applications available on line at [www.highgrovehappenings.net](http://www.highgrovehappenings.net)

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Highgrove Day will be on May 9, 2020 and applications are available on-line. Please go to: [www.highgrovehappenings.net](http://www.highgrovehappenings.net), scroll down to applications of your choice, print out and mail the applications as per the instructions.

Cars from 1980 or older are \$20.00 per vehicle and Vendor spaces are 10 ft. by 10 ft. Spaces and costs are shown on the flyer.

For views of past Highgrove Day celebrations please go to:

[www.highgrovehappenings.net](http://www.highgrovehappenings.net), latest issue, and look at Oct. 2018.

Breakfast at Norton Younglove Community Center

459 Center St. in Highgrove starting at 7:00 AM

Car Show in adjacent Highgrove Community Park 7:00 AM -2:00 PM

Cars for the Car Show: enter the park from Main St. between

Michigan and Heron.

## Volunteers needed to make phone calls

We need volunteers to make phone calls from past car show lists and past vendors lists who attended past Highgrove Days.

You can help right from your home by making calls from the list we provide to you. We will give you information about the event and give you a list of what to say but we need your help!

If you can make Car Show calls call: “Barney” (951) 683 4994

If you can make Vendor calls call: Dena (951) 213 2770

We also need someone to enter the names of the property owners who signed the petition so they can be put in alphabetical order.

## Requests sent to Supervisor Karen Spiegel:

1. Hold monthly MAC meetings instead of quarterly.
2. Comply with Grand Jury instructions that say: **“CSA 126 management provide a one-time public notice clarifying exactly how the CSA 126 funds are distributed.”**
3. Please allow a 20 ft. container to be placed next to the existing 20 ft. container in the parking lot of the community center that is being used by the EDA. The new container will be purchased with donations and will be used for Highgrove items and Highgrove Day.
4. Please provide public information to the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper concerning events or dates that concern Highgrove residents.

## City of Riverside’s Sunshine Ordinance

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

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

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

## ATTENTION HIGHGROVE RESIDENTS!

**The recommendations from the Riverside County Planning Commission are scheduled to go to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday March 17, 2020.**

**If you oppose having another marijuana store in Highgrove only 250 feet from the the first marijuana store on Iowa Ave., you need to sign a speaker card, speak up at this meeting, and express your views during your 3 minutes during Public Comments. Strong opposition to this change is the last chance Highgrove residents will have to stop this negative impact on our community! See Did you know? on the left. The meeting starts at 9:00 am on the first floor of the Administration Bldg.: 4080 Lemon St. in Riverside.**





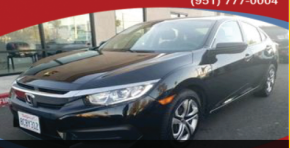






HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



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 <p>2015 KIA SOUL \$9,395</p>	 <p>2013 CADILLAC CTS \$9,384</p>	 <p>2018 HONDA CIVIC \$16,949</p>
 <p>2016 NISSAN FRONTIER KING CAB \$11,995</p>	 <p>2014 KIA FORTE \$6,087</p>	 <p>2012 NISSAN ALTIMA \$5,995</p>
 <p>2015 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA \$11,195</p>	 <p>2011 ACURA MDX \$13,498</p>	 <p>2017 TOYOTA COROLLA \$11,495</p>



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# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



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# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

## Crime Stats for HIGHGROVE

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

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Assaults (2)

Robbery Firearm (0)

Grand Theft (3)

Veh. Theft (1) Theft from veh. (3)



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## County Spokeswoman quoted from Press Enterprise article:

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

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

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

Were CSA 126 funds used for "landscaping" in Spring Mountain Ranch?

The fee was only for two purposes: The Sheriff, and Park and Recreation services.

Read the wording on the 1997 ballot below!



Spring Mountain Ranch

Here is a copy of the 1997 ballot that was approved by 75.8 % of the Highgrove voters to keep our Deputy Sheriff

The following statement was an "Impartial Analysis" made by the Riverside County Council prior to the 1997 Ballot:

*"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. This tax cannot be increased except by a 2/3 vote of the electorate"*

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO VOTE OF VOTERS	
COUNTY	
COUNTY SERVICE AREA 126 ZONE A	
† Shall the County of Riverside be authorized to replace, at the same rate, the existing assessment of \$120.00, with a Special Tax on all parcels within CSA 126 Zone A to continue to finance the same Extended Sheriff and Park & Recreation Services?	Yes
	No

This ballot was approved for only for two specific purposes. If not used for these two purposes the funds were supposed to be "Retained" in Highgrove's CSA 126 account!

## Intern wanted

After over 41 years on the railroad and 25 years of publishing the Highgrove Happenings we need someone we can train to take over the paper after we are gone. You can work from home on your computer and we will teach you the business so our/your newspaper can keep going. We have never lost money because we work out of our home.

I will continue to supply information and photos as long as I can but the business could eventually be given to the right person. You do not have to love Highgrove as much as I do but interest in local issues is what we are all about. On our web site: [www.highgrovehappenings.net](http://www.highgrovehappenings.net), our paper can be seen on-line clear back to July of 2008. If you go to our web site and click on "Latest Issue you can read every page of every month for the last 21 1/2 years.

I was going to write a book about Highgrove but I guess I have already done that! Remember, you can read my book free of charge on: [www.highgrovehappenings.net](http://www.highgrovehappenings.net). This is my gift to all of the members of the Highgrove community and I encourage all new residents and members of the new Highgrove MAC to read about Highgrove's past.

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Good News!

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# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

## Has Highgrove been treated unfairly?

For the last 25 years I have enjoyed volunteering for four different Riverside County Supervisors. I have been watching out for Highgrove under former Supervisors Younglove, Mullen, Ashley and Tavaglione. Supervisor Spiegel is now the Supervisor in Highgrove’s district.

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

grove’s CSA 126 in 1991. With help from Riverside County we have seen a new community center and fire station built that was dedicated on Sept. 28, 1996, a 5 acre community park that was dedicated Oct. 16, 1999 and a Highgrove entry monument at the northbound exit of the I-215 freeway and at both ends of Iowa Avenue.

The EDA also improved several store fronts of Highgrove businesses and our new library was dedicated

on March 19, 2011.

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

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

the 3rd floor and other floors including the 4th, 8th, 12th, and 14th floors. I also delivered copies to the Mayor and each of the City Council members on the 7th floor of city hall and the 3rd and 4th floors of Riverside City Hall.

And I took copies to the Riverside County Traffic Engineer on 14th street.

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

Unfortunately, things changed on **Aug. 5, 2015** when I handed Supervisor Tavaglione a request for an Audit about where our CSA 126 money was being spent that was collected by the CSA126 Special tax.

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

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

And Prior to the 1997 ballot this is what Riverside County Council said would happen if Highgrove voters voted “yes”.

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

**BUT WAS THIS MONEY ACTUALLY “RETAINED”IN THE CSA 126 ACCOUNT or was it used for other purposes?**

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

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

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors**

**Riverside County Economic Development Agency**

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

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

**From March 4, 2019 to Nov. 13, 2019**   Barnett sent 13 E mails to Supervisor Spiegel but no response ever received back (March 4 & 29, April 10, June 17, July 16 & 21, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct 11, 17, & 18, Nov. 4 & 13, 2019)

Also on Nov. 1, 2019 I asked who made the decision to select all of the new MAC members from Spring Mountain Ranch. Here is the reply I received: ***“I’m working with our attorneys to determine what is permissible for public consumption related to the MAC applications and selection process”.***

And on Nov. 19, 2019 my request for a meeting with Supervisor Spiegel was denied ***“until the ongoing litigation you have with Riverside County is resolved”***

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

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

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

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

### Highgrove Firsts!

**Highgrove was the first** un-incorporated community in Riverside County to pay extra for it’s own Deputy Sheriff. (1992)

**Highgrove was the first** un-incorporated community in Riverside County that Riverside County approved for a marijuana store ten years **after** they eliminated the Highgrove Deputy Sheriff. (2019)

### Highgrove Day Volunteers needed

The 33rd Highgrove Day will be on May 9, 2020 and volunteers are needed to make phone calls to the former participants. There will be a car show and vendors in the Highgrove Community Park but we need someone to make phone calls. Lists will be provided of former participants. Please call **(951) 683 4994** if you can make phone calls for Highgrove Day.



# HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



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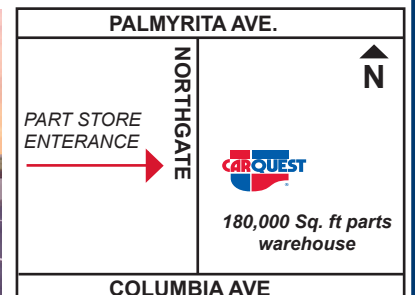
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