



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

AINE STREET FIR



Рното ву MICHAEL MURPHY

The fire started at the east end of Blain St. at 4:10 pm on Sunday Aug. 13, 2017 that quickly spread to the foothills on the south side of the hills that are visible from Highgrove. You may recall that the Highgrove side of these foothills also caught on fire on April 30, 2017 that was called the Opera fire because it started near one of the new streets in the Spring Mountain Ranch area named the Opera Loop. Luckily the brush fires from both fires did not result in any loss of homes although the latest fire turned some of the houses and adjacent property into a red mess due to the Phos-Chek being dropped by airplanes to save the houses. After the fire was extinguished, the next day the firemen washed down the red Phos-Chek with their hoses and many residents appreciated that their homes were saved even though a lot of cleaning up had to be done to their properties. (More fire photos on page 6)

THE PRESS~ENTERPRISE PUBLISHES HIGHGROVE OP-ED

On Sunday Aug. 20, 2017 the Press Enterprise published the following article submitted by the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper and we want to thank them for printing the following 600 word article. The Press enterprise circulation for the Sunday issue was 160,040 which is a considerable amount more than the Highgrove Happenings and we thank the Press Enterprise for their help to get the word out.

HIGHGROVE Voice silenced in wake of questions about tax

By R.A. Barnett

In 1992 property owners in the unincorporated part of Riverside County known as Highgrove voted to assess themselves \$10 per month per parcel for their own deputy sheriff who would be assigned exclusively to the small, 3½-square-mile area east of the 215 Freeway.

The 1992 ballot was mailed out by Riverside County administration, and Highgrove property owners approved an annual \$120 parcel assessment that was added to their property tax bills. Then again in 1997, another ballot was mailed out by Riverside County and 75.8 percent of the Highgrove property owners voted to continue paying for their own deputy because it worked so well. Years later we discovered that the sheriff's car that was seen patrolling in Highgrove was not the sheriff's deputy assigned exclusively to Highgrove. The Highgrove deputy's position had actually been eliminated on Dec. 30, 2009, but nothing was sent out to the property owners by Riverside County or the Sheriff's Department to indicate that the exclusive Highgrove sheriff's position

was eliminated.

On Aug. 5, 2015, the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council requested from Riverside County Supervisor John Tavaglione an audit of the Community Service Area 126 fund. The audit was received five months later, but I discovered many discrepancies in it.

Then on Nov. 16, 2016, in order to try to prevent Highgrove taxpayers from having to take legal action, 27 written questions were submitted to Supervisor Tavaglione regarding this subject. (The 27 questions were published in the December 2016 issue of the Highgrove Happenings newspaper, www.highgrovehappenings.net.) Answers were due back from the county at the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council meeting on Jan. 18, 2017, but no one from Supervisor Tavaglione's office attended the January, February or March meetings. Then, eight days before the April MAC meeting, Supervisor Tavaglione scheduled a public hearing for April 11, 2017, to eliminate the entire Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council.

Numerous calls were made to Tavaglione's office before the public hearing asking him not to eliminate the Highgrove MAC. Twelve Highgrove residents attended the public hearing, six speakers spoke during public comments, and one of the speakers presented a petition to continue the MAC.

But in spite of public opposition, Supervisor Tavaglione motioned to eliminate the entire Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council in his district and the other supervisors, who very seldom oppose what another supervisor wants in his district, voted to eliminate the 25-year-old collective voice of the Highgrove people. During Supervisor Tavaglione's jurisdiction I also discovered a written agreement between Supervisor Marion Ashley (the former county supervisor for Highgrove), the Sheriff's Department, and the Riverside County Economic Development Agency that would provide for additional sheriff's patrols due to Highgrove's exclusive deputy being eliminated. The agreement states: "This agreement does not include

the use of CSA funds for the patrols." But under Supervisor Tavaglione's jurisdiction, an additional \$60,000 was taken out of our CSA 126 funds for these patrols (www.highgrovehappenings.net, July 2017, page 8). Supervisor Tavaglione considered me to be his main problem in Highgrove, so on March 15, 2017 (almost a month before the public hearing), I resigned from the Highgrove MAC and asked him to allow the rest of the five MAC members to continue to hold community meetings without me. After my resignation there was no reason for Supervisor Tavaglione to abolish the rest of the MAC and eliminate the only collective voice of the Highgrove people. But the 25-year-old collective voice of the Highgrove people was silenced at the public hearing on April 11, 2017. R.A. Barnett is a resident of Highgrove and was chairman of the now-disbanded Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council. He is the editor of Highgrove Happenings newspaper.

Turn to P. 3 & 5 to see how to submit your comments



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 September 14, 2017 at the Norton Younglove Community Center at 7:00 P.M. to read/discuss Bylaws to be finalized in November. Eve-ryone 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 on.

<u>September 1st 8AM - 10AM</u>: Resources on Medical Groups and programs hosted by Juan with **Regal Medical** Group, Inc.

September 1st 8AM to 10AM: Shield Yourself From The Flu. Rite Aid will be here for flu shot sign ups, Resources on free flu shots hosted by Pamela /Wellness Ambassador with Rite Aid.

The following Insurance covers the flu shot at no cost:

IEHP, MEDI-CAL, MOLINA, CIGNA, UNITED HEALTH CARE, AND MOST MEDICARE PLANS AND MANY OTH-ERS. Bring your insurance cards!

County Regional Medical Center Mobile Health Clinic 9AM - 2PM September 1st and 15th: 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.

September 4th: Center Closed

Honoring the American Worker

@nycchighgrove (951) 241-7221 951-779-3099 fax

Aerodance Exercise

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

Tuesday Bingo



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 Medi-

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.riversidesingles wingers.com

Zion Assembly Church of God

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). Secunity 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



<u>September 15th 8AM to 10 AM</u>: Rite Aid Pharmacy Flu Shot Clinic

<u>September 20th</u>: Every Third Wednesday of the month beginning Sept 20th: 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM After School Activity –o– cost program sponsored by Miles of Smiles/Riverside Community Health Foundation.

Note* NO Sunday Square Dance Sessions for the month of September. Classes will resume on October 1, 2017.

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

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

Sr. Nutrition Lunch Program Mon - Fri @11:30 AM \$3 sug-

gested donation Intermediate/

Advanced Square Dance

Sunday 6 PM - 8PM

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.



Page 2 • September 2017

Social Media comments needed!

Are you into social media such as facebook, texting, instagram, twitter, skype, video messaging or e-mailing your frinds? If you are using any of these methods, we need your assistance to help spread the word about what our Riverside County Supervisor has done to Highgrove. Even if you don't live in Highgrove you should be aware of what this long time career politician has done to silence the collective voices of the Highgrove people.

I guarantee that the article on the front page is how things actually happened because these statements are true. And since these facts are true, we need your help to pass the word via Social Media to let everyone else know about these injustices. Please relay the article on page 1 to your friends on Social Media and your Congressman.

We still have Sheriff coverage just like everyone else who is entitled to when they pay their taxes, but after 7 1/2 years we are still paying for our own extra Deputy Sheriff that was eliminated without anyone notifying the voters that our Sheriff was gone!

Whatever happened to "No Taxation without Representation" because the Highgrove people are being taxed and this spacific tax does not represent what was voted on by a legal ballot. We need your help to use Social Media to help expose Supervisor Tavaglione who eliminated the Highgrove Municipal Advisroy Council.

Please e-mail your comments to: highgrovenews@roadrunner.com and we will print your comments subject to editing.

Artifacts being collected for Highgrove Museum

Highgrove has a rich history that goes back to 1886 and I want to collect items related to our citrus industry and other items of historical significance such as railroad pictures or items that can be used to remind us of our heritage. If you have old photographs, a P. O. mail box from the Highgrove Post Office, a check

from the Highgrove Bank or a smudge pot, please give me a call because we are starting to collect things that you may have in your closet or attic that we can use for the museum. Please call: (951) 683 4994 and ask for "Barney"



Actual photograph of the Safe from the 1930's Highgrove Bank

ACTON FLOOD/ SKATEBOARD

Did anyone see the pick-up truck that was caught in a flash flood in Acton, California on August 3, 2017 where the driver was sitting on top of his truck waiting to be rescued by a helicopter? I guess maybe his truck was "flooded"! When the helicopter was ready to pick him up he wanted to take his skateboard with him but the fireman wouldn't allow the skateboard to go with them on the cable hanging from the helicopter and the fireman threw it back in the pick-up bed. I thought it was particularly funny that his skateboard was the most important thing he wanted to save when the fireman was trying to save this guys life! Where were his priorities?

NEW HIGHGROVE COMMUNITY MEETING SEPT. 14TH, 7:00 pm at Norton Younglove **Community Center** 459 Center St. Highgrove

OBITUARIES



FRANK M. ZIMMERMANN Born to Ruby and David Zimmermann on April 2, 1929 in Everett, Washington. Survived by wife of 61 years Marie; son David and daughter -inlaw Melanie; brother Dayton and sister Mary Ann. Predeceased by parents and brother Edward. Moved to Spokane, Washington after graduation from high

school, attended Whitworth College for 3 years. Korean conflict intervened and he spent 2 years in Germany in the army. Married Marie December 15, 1956 in Spokane, they moved to Riverside, CA. in 1960. He attended UCLA dental lab school and spent nearly 35 years as a certified dental lab technician. Favorite place to work Loma Linda School of Dentistry Dental Lab. After retirement he and Marie enjoyed exercising with friends at Drayson Center Loma Linda.

Services where held on August 9th, 10:00am at Acheson and Graham, 7944 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, CA. 92507 with burial at 12 noon at Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside CA. 92518.

Glen Campbell April 22, 1936 - August 8, 2017



About 10 years ago we saw Andy Williams and Glen Campbell in Branson, Missouri at the Andy Williams Theater and we have fond memories of these two fine artists that are now gone. Both artists were really terrific!

MENTONE MACA

On Aug. 28, 2017 I was asked to speak at the Mentone Area Community Association meeting because Mentone and Highgrove have similar problems. In September of 2016 Gabe DeLaRosa and Angie LaDuke attended our Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council meeting and they came to our house a couple of weeks ago to tell us about reading our paper and some of their problems they have about being in the un-incorporated part of San Bernardino County. They have similar problems and have asked if I would help them.



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Thursday:	10:00am - 7:00pm
Friday:	7:30am - 4:30pm
Saturday:	9:00am - 3:00pm
	9:00am - 3:00pm days for your convenience



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or use as \$50 Coupon	
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NEW PASTOR AT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN HIGHGROVE



It has been joy and blessing- filled 4 weeks since I joined Highgrove United Methodist Church and Box Springs Cooperative Parish as one of their pastors. I would like to take a moment to say "Thank you!" to church members for their loving and gracious hospitality.

I was born into a devout Methodist family in S. Korea and my parents have been active lay leaders

in their church all their lives. My call to ordained ministry has revealed itself to me persistently yet dramatically over the years in my young adult life. Without a concrete idea of the setting I was called to serve, I left my home in S. Korea for graduate studies at the Iliff School of Theology, Denver Colorado, where I was offered a full scholarship for my first master's degree. I hold 2 master's degrees, Masters of Theological Studies from Iliff, and Master of Divinity from Claremont School of Theology. During my 2nd semester at Claremont, I received a strong sense of call to ordained ministry for local church, which prompted me to pursue ordination in the United Methodist Church. By God's grace, support from my family, churches, mentors, and friends, I was commissioned as a Provisional Elder in 2010 and was ordained as a Full-Connection Elder in 2015 in California-Pacific Conference.

Prior to Highgrove and Box Springs Cooperative Parish, I pastored at Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church, in Alhambra, CA as the lead pastor for 6 years. During my 6 year-pastorate there, God blessed us with a strong growth in financial giving and reach-out ministries. In addition to my congregational ministry experience, I also bring my clinical pastoral experience to Highgrove and Box Springs Parish. Two summers in a row, 2008 and 2009, I interned at Loma Linda University Medical Center as a chaplain for Trauma and Cardio-Vascular units. Most recently, from 2016 to 2017, I worked as an employed chaplain resident for Cardiac and infectious disease units at Washington University Medical Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO.

I am happily married and my husband teaches at a (Cont. on P. 5)

HIGHGROVEVIDEOSAVAILABLEONOURWEBSITE

EVENTS AVAILABLE:

• Tavaglione eliminates Highgrove MAC April 11, 2017

• Highgrove Community meeting April 19, 2017





LOCKED IN OR LOCKED OUT?

I guess you could say it depends on whether you are inside the car our outside the car but I recently experienced a situation with my driver's door that prevented both the inside and outside door handles from opening the driver's door. I ended up taking it to the dealer where I bought the car and after them having it for 5 hours they were unable to get the door open either. I took it home and spent about 3 more days trying to release the door and was unable to get it open even after drilling the door panel and trying to gain access to the lock mechanism. The next day I returned it to the dealer and told them I wanted the door open and after several more hours they called and said they got it open but if they close it they may not be able to get it open again. There were broken parts in the lock and new parts had to be ordered. I told them to remove the catch on the body so it wouldn't lock again and I drove it home by using zip ties around the post with the 2 windows partly open. I had to keep extra zip ties inside the car and wire cutters so I could get in and out until the parts arrived. Meanwhile I checked wrecking yards for a door panel and none were available. The only new one in the United States was in North Carolina and they wanted over \$ 700.00 plus tax and shipping.

Thanks to Ardie she was able to find a used one in Texas for \$150.00 so we bought it and had it shipped and it turned out to be a really good one so we lucked out! Later when the parts came in I took the door panel to the dealer and they put everything back like it is supposed to be and we are now back on the road again without the zip ties and both handles actually work!

I intend to keep this vehicle and I just finished paying off an extended warranty. But wouldn't you know- the broken door latch and door panel were not covered!



FAKE NEWS CHALLENGE:

Sometimes the articles in the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper may seem too political but we are printing articles about what is actually happening to Highgrove and we have verification to prove that what we print is true! We print information that affects Highgrove and documentation is available upon request. We will continue to print the truth and we welcome anyone who wants to challenge any statements in our paper. (Except for P. 5 of this issue) Go to our web site: www.highgrovehappenings.net and click on "Latest issues" that go back to July of 2008.





Page 4 • September 2017

NEW CONSTRUCTION ON WEST SIDE OF FREEWAY?

Two builders attended the Springbrook Heritage Alliance meeting on Aug. 17, 2017 in regard to projects that they want to build. One is on 13 acres on the S/E corner of Center St. and North Orange. Joel Farkas wants to construct 107 lots for manufactured homes which other people may refer to as mobile homes or a trailer park. But he says they are not mobile because the double wides will be elevated and made to look like houses. The property in question is actually within the Riverside city limits and would have entry at 3444 Center Street. Another property in this same area was presented that would be a 25,000 sq. ft. warehouse on almost 6 acres on the same S/E corner of Center St. and North Orange that is also in the Riverside City Limits. Their eastern boundary would also be the western boundary of Highgrove's CSA 126 boundary. AC Campbell from Highgrove owns 15 trucks and wants to build a warehouse on his property at this location. Trucks will be entering from Orange St. if and when approved. It was good to hear that these 2 projects were brought to the community where they are planned just like builders used to do when we had a Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council on the east side of the freeway before it was cancelled by Supervisor Tavaglione.

Phils Philosophy: By Phil Turner FOOTBALL

I'm debating with myself, as to whether or not to continue to be a professional football fan. At the moment, I need to convince myself why I would continue to be a fan. I played sand lot, Pee Wee, Pop Warner, junior high, and high school football and I love the game.

I've been a San Diego Charger fan for more than 40 years. 23 of those years, I was a season ticket holder. My seats were on the 50yard line, 11 rows up behind the Charger bench.

In 1984 Alex Spanos bought The Chargers from Gene Klein. Almost from the start, Spanos made rumblings about wanting San Diego to build a new football stadium for the team and I don't know if you have priced stadiums lately, but 1.2 to 1.5 billion dollars is a round number to start with.

San Diego voters have rejected plans to use tax dollars to fund such a stadium. Stadiums are a losing proposition for a city. The billion plus dollars never gets repaid for this or any city.

So, The Chargers have now moved to Los Angeles, Making them The Los Angeles Chargers. I still respect and want to root for many of the players but today I read that several players on the Cleveland Browns have refused to stand for the National Anthem. This is on the heels of Colin Kapernick's refusal to stand beginning last season. Several other players have joined in this "protest", if you wish to call it so.

Last year I moved to the State of Washington. Up here fans are crazed over the Seattle Seahawks. I was trying to be a fan, as I like Pete Carroll, their coach, and Russell Wilson, their quarterback. Now I'm finding that Michael Bennett, one of their linemen, is now refusing to stand for the anthem.

There are many players in the game that deserve my admiration, and maybe loyalty. But too many of today's players are trash talking thugs. I'm not sure if the sports reporter for KNX radio still has "The athlete arrest of the day", but that highlights the direction that today's games are going!

Once in a while we just have to stand back in awe of government. The Food Stamp Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is proud to be distributing the greatest amount of free Meals and Food Stamps ever - 46 million people now receive Food Stamps.

Meanwhile, the National Park Service, administered by the U.S. Department





New Pastor (Cont. from P. 4)

University as a professor of Marketing Research/Analysis. My husband and I have 4 feline kids, Oliver, Francis, Perky and Stella. In my spare time, I enjoy sightseeing local shops where cute knick-knacks are found, going to the beach, sipping French press coffee, watching Netflix dramas with my husband and cuddling with my cats. I am looking forward to sharing my passion with Highgrove community for the Word of God, for the un-churched and de-churched people. I am excited to see how God will continue to work through and with us! In Gratitude, Rev. Sunyoung Park.

We want your comments! Please send your comments about the article on the front page to: letters@pe.com and a copy to: Highgrovenews@roadrunner.com for comments about page 1 or any other article. Please include your name, where you live and limit your comments to

150 words. Let both papers know how you feel about this subject!

Here is some FAKE NEWS:

Protesters clash over Solar Eclipse!

Did I miss another protest on TV because with all of the people who are protesting everything and anything, I thought I might see one group that was protesting because they were in favor of the Solar Eclipse while another group was protesting because they were against the Solar Eclipse. This was a great opportunity for protesters to take sides to promote their own special interests. But where were the protesters during this important event and where were their hand made signs? Maybe in another 7 years these groups will be better organized when the next Solar Eclipse takes place. Meanwhile set your sun dials and get ready for the next one! Did you watch the eclipse? I recorded the instructions on television about how to use a cereal box to make a safe way to see the Solar Eclipse but it didn't work!

By the time I ate all of the cereal, the eclipse was already over!



CENTER ST. GETTING SEWER LINE EXTENSION

Center St. is being dug up in order to install a new sewer line from Center St. and Michigan Ave. eastward to Orielo which is east of Mt. Vernon Avenue. The new sewer line is 18 feet deep at the east end of the intersection of Center and Michigan. The new sewer line will attach to the existing sewer line on the west side of the intersection of Center and Michigan that was constructed to accommodate the Highgrove library that was dedicated on March 19, 2011 and extends westward toward the I-215 freeway. Please drive carefully during this construction period.

CENTER ST. SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

> BEGINNING AUGUST 17, 2017

OCTOBER 27, 2017



More sewer lines for Highgrove!

These pictures were taken on Aug. 23, 2017 on Center St. looking west toward the freeway just east of Michigan Avenue. This new line will connect to the existing line that goes down Center St. to East La Cadena Drive then turns southward and connects to Riverside's system

connect to the existing line that goes down Center St. to East La Cadena Drive then turns southward and connects to Riverside's system near Palmyrita Avenue on the east side of the freeway. Every time new homes are built in Highgrove the need for new sewer lines increases.



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Page 6 • September 2017

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BRE #01300312

the second meal equal of lesser value) when you buy one meal from the main menu after 4 pm. Must purchase two sodas. Valid until 11/30/17. Please bring this ad.

22488 Barton Rd. #106 Grand Terrace, 92313 909-533-4747



Concrete Cleaning



Reprint from Press Enterprise also applies to Highgrove:

Government Actions and the Newspaper's Role

Throughout our Natiuons history, governmental agencies have been required to alert citizens of certain government activities that may impact a local community, providing citizens with an opportunity to stay informed and take action when necessary. Newspapers have long partnered with government agencies by publishing public notices, enabling the government to be fully transparent and accountable to citizen taxpayers. Publishing public notices in newspapers informs a wide audience in a local community of a government agency's actions, reaching citizens that are passive information seekers. Publishing public notices through the local newspaper acts as an independent third party able to legally verify that the government agency has given the public notice.





Eagles Aerie 997 getting communications tower. This trench will carry power to the base of the new communications tower that is shown below.





Page 8 • September 2017

You Can Quote Me! EXCLUSIVE SOLAR ECLIPSE FROM GROUND ZERO

By: Dr. Cynthia Williams

What if there was a full solar eclipse and no one came?

I survived the 2017 Solar Eclipse at ground-zero. Central Oregon was considered by NASA and most scientists and eclipse chasers to be the sweetest spot for watching this year's incredible event. With unobstructed views, clear skies and the first state to be directly in the path of totality, the dry, hot, remote city of Madras, Oregon was THE place to be for prime viewing. I was settled at home, about 20 miles from Madras with a 99.98% totality, which was fine by me.

Pre-Eclipe: Deschutes and Crook Counties prepared for the influx of visitors like SoCal does for the "Big One" in earthquake country. All vacation and leave for hospital, clinic, law enforcement, and fire personnel was cancelled. Mobile nurses by the dozens were hired and employers all over the area scheduled tons of overtime. The mortuaries were included in the preparation activities "in case of a disaster." On Eclipse day, libraries and schools were closed; police, sheriff, and fire department lobbies were closed and many business either closed for the day or they opened after noon.

All authorities were predicting a huge influx of visitors which was expected to have a serious impact on our daily activities. The prognosticators painted a dire picture of our city streets paved and plugged with cars and visitors. This part of Oregon, while not as metropolitan as I would like sometimes, is very adequate for the combined 100,000 population we usually have. We typically have 10,000 or so visitors coming in year-round who are interested in the sports, beer, art and hiking and camping; the infrastructure is adequate for that. The solar eclipse event was predicted to have a whole different impact on the

area. Many locals chose to get out of town, rather than deal with the craziness. Others rented out rooms in their houses and garages or their entire house for premium rates. Farmers partitioned their fields for RVs and tent dry-camping. Solar Eclipse festivals and fairs corralled thousands for three and four-day long parties.

For weeks leading up to the "Apoc-Eclipse" as it was jokingly referred to, we were urged to heavily prepare. Get the groceries and gas up the cars by Wednesday. Lay in extra water, batteries, and pet food. Hit the pharmacy before the weekend. Expect to lose cell phone, cable and internet service. Expect to not get any fresh food, gas, etc until the end of the week after the eclipse. Going shopping was like the ultimate "Doomsday" preparation. The stores were packed with Solar "swag" of every variety of T-shirt, cup, jewelry and keychain commemorating the event. The Thursday before Eclipse Weekend many grocery shelves were bare, gas stations were running out of fuel, and the streets were eerily quiet. We were hunkered down for the invasion of the predicted hoards.

The breweries were well stocked; after all, Bend is considered the Number One micro brewing location in the country. The Black Bear Diner in Madras prepared for the hoards by reducing their menu choices, ordered a huge amount of extra food, brought in extra chest freezers and port-a-potties, and even rented a golf cart to ferry their employees so they wouldn't get bogged down in traffic. Most businesses along the eclipse path prepared in a similar way.

One heavily promoted festival- the Symbiosis Gathering- sold over 30,000 tickets for a six-day event, promising parties, bands and BBQs. It's been estimated that anywhere from 60,000 to 100,000 people actually attended. All these people were just outside the city of Prineville, normally populated by less than 10,000. On Wednesday night and Thursday morning traffic into Prineville and the event was backed up for over three hours.

During Eclipse: My four-year-old grandson and I settled in on our lawn chairs with solar viewing glasses in hand in the backyard. We had a clear open view of the sun and the moon; there wasn't a cloud in the sky. As the moon started its path across the sun the temperature dropped rapidly. It looked like dusk outside and the street lights came on. The birds were flitting around more, probably tying to figure out what was going on. The crickets were chirping and a gentle stillness came over the area. As we reached totality I was feeling a bit emotional, it was such a moving experience. The feeling was eerie but also surrealwatching our little moon obscure the mighty sun. At totality we were able to take off our glasses and just look up at the sun. The moon was totally blocking the sun and then there was the tiniest of glint on one spot gradually showing as the moon crossed from totality. Called the Baily's Bead Effect or the Diamond Ring effect, it's the sun shining through the valleys on the surface of the moon. It was awesome to see in person. Then the moon continued to move across the sky and we were left wanting more. My grandson- "I want it to do it again!" Yeh, so do I little guy.

The chambers of commerce and other business sooth-sayers fairly scared the heck out of business with visions of angry customers demanding the goods and services.

I am very glad I got to experience this solar eclipse. With being in near 100% totality- it was truly an awe inspiring event. My grandsons are old enough (12, 9, & 4) to have enjoyed and appreciate and learn from it. There will be many more eclipses for all to enjoy. God willing, I will get to catch a few more during my days on this round planet. I hope you were able to watch and enjoy your glimpse of it from the south. Maybe you will feel inspired to travel to the next one. I highly recommend it. I feel inspired to be an eclipse chaser, going for the 100% next time. Let's see, 2024- I'll be... well let's just say I'll be seven years older and more excited.

My great-grandson Michael and I are ready for totality. This photo made the banners of our local news channel website.



Post Eclipse: Within an hour after the eclipse ended the roads were a nightmare with traffic moving about a mile-an-hour. The small airport in Madras had four-hundred (400) small private planes waiting for clearance to take off and similar scenes played out at the small airports in Prineville and Bend. Traffic on the major highways was instantly backed up for miles and hours. A few fender benders and a truck that lost its load of hay further backed things up. (Think the I-10 at 4:00pm). People were urged to be patient, take their time and wait a day to leave but few appear to have taken that advice.



DANCING WITH THE SQUARES! By Marylin George

Singles and couples! Come dancing with the squares! Haha! Really, we are too fun to be square! This fall, consider our Class Instruction in Fun and Friends! Men, you are wanted here! Get off the couch! Put away DVDs, computer games, and loneliness for music, clapping, stomping, and whooping it up! Too refined? Nevermind, you'll fit! Too shy? You'll get over it! Not fit? We offer fun exercise for body and brain! No need to have a partner! We make sure everyone gets to dance! Dancing to all styles of music, you'll learn as we go! (Line-dancing instruction is an added bonus)! You are an old dog? You can learn new tricks! You are a stick-in-the-mud? You'll find your wings! Young? Get in on a good thing early! Can't dance? Then tap your foot and visit with the other wall flowers! No special attire is required. Class time is come-as-you-are casual! But sprucing up does add some class, guys! And, gals, it sure is fun to swish your skirt when he twirls you! **Riverside Single Swingers is a square**

dance family near you! We are a non-profit organization doing civic service in our communities, such as the annual fundraiser, Bob Hope USO Benefit. We have participated in the Highgrove Days, Inland Empire community parades and perform demos at other community events. Come join us!

Class Instruction is weekly, beginning Tuesday, September 5th, 6:30 p.m., at Norton-Younglove Community Center, 459 Center St. in Highgrove. Attention! First week is free, and enrollment is limited to two weeks! Find us at www.riversidesingleswingers.org . Call Marymary (quite contrary) at 909-822-4630. Don't miss the fun and friends! Come dancing with the squares! Dance to Live! Live to Dance!



CUSTOMERS RIDE FREE FIRST WEEK

RTA launched RapidLink Gold Line express service between UC Riverside and Corona with its own brand of buses and stops along Magnolia and University Avenues. Rides where free during the first week of service, August 28-September 1. General fares are \$1.50 per ride — the same as other routes with discounts available for seniors, disabled customers and veterans. To ride RapidLink, RTA will accept all 1-, 7- and 30-Day passes, and honor U-Pass, Go-Pass and City Pass programs. To help customers with the new route, RTA staff will be at selected stops the week prior to the launch of service, as well as the first week of service. Get details at RiversideTransit.com/rapidlink.

Attention Spring Mountain Ranch Residents:



R MLS 🗈

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Your employer is invited to advertise in the Highgrove Happenings Newspaper that is delivered free to all of the homes shown on the maps on pages 1, 4, and 5. In addition, copies go to all of the businesses in Grand Terrace, Colton and Riverside that advertise with us. They also go to the Mayor and City Council of Riverside, Riverside County Administration Offices, Grand Terrace Senior Center, library, and Civic Center, and Highgrove Library and NYCC Community Center. We have been bringing local news to our community for 23 years and our rates are low because we work out of our home. Business cards are only \$30.00 per month. and a 1/4 page is only \$100.00. Call (951) 683 4994 or go to: www.highgrovehappenings@roadrunner.com "Latest issues".





Page 10 • September 2017



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