

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

(FREE) Local News for the Highgrove Area

August, 2008

### Three more reasons why we need a short road between Spring St. and Iowa Ave.!



On May 16, 2006, this derailment blocked the Center Street crossing for **4 hours.** (L-R: Conductor Jimmy Coe and BNSF employee John Salvini)



Again on July 18, 2008 both Center St. and Main St. were closed for almost **10 hours** These 2 streets are the only BNSF RR crossings in Highgrove and if they are blocked by a train the community is cut in half!

Channel 11 reporter Rick Lozano is shown broadcasting live from the middle of Main St. on Friday morning July 18th after a freight train ran over a body on the track north of Main Street. The victim was identified as David Leal Martinez, 44 from Riverside. An autopsy revealed that the victim found on the track had been shot and placed on the track.

The incident occurred at 11:45 pm Thursday night but blocked both Center St. and Main St. all night and during the rush hour on Friday morning.



About 3 months later on Aug. 26, 2006 another derailment closed both Center St. and Main Street, and Highgrove was cut off for **18 hours**.

# 4 The solution: Build a new road parallel to the railroad tracks instead of crossing over them!



This photo shows where Citrus St. presently curves east by Iowa Ave. and the RR tracks. A new short road could go straight, parallel to the railroad tracks, through the vacant field and.....



Here is part of the statements I made <u>over 2 years ago</u> in the June 2006 issue of the Highgrove Happenings: "For many months, I have been trying to convince the Riverside County transportation Commission and the City of Riverside to extend Spring St. westward to connect to Citrus St. on the east side of the BNSF railroad tracks so vehicles could reach the I-215 freeway at Columbia when Main St. and/or Center St. are blocked by trains. Access around the derailment would have been just south of Center St. to Spring St. to Citrus would have prevented Highgrove from being cut off for 18 hours like it was!"

This same property is still vacant but <u>now</u> there is a new dirt road over the arroyo that solved the access problem to the other side. These delays do not include other delays that occur frequently. The City and County need to work together to build a new short road through this vacant property.

A short road is a whole lot cheaper than building another overpass!

across this new dirt road that now crosses the arroyo, then angle eastward to connect to Spring Street. This new road is needed now when freight trains block Main St. and/or Center Street. We need to have a better long term plan to address the future needs of this community by not allowing warehouses on the north side of the arroyo. Turn to **New road needed on P. 3** 

MAC Community meetings changed to the 4th Wednesday of each month. Next meeting Wed. August 27, 2008 7:00 PM Norton Younglove Community Center, 931 Center St. Highgrove 7:00 pm Bring a neighbor!

norton younglove Highgrove Community Center Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am-2:00 pm Highgrove Community Park Hours: Dawn to Dusk Contact: Sherry at (951) 341-6634 (951) 786-6912 THE NORTON YOUNGLOVE COMMUNITY CENTER 459 Center Street- Highgrove



### **NYCC** get new Project Manager

community center



Sherry Morris-Logan (Left) has been selected as the new Project Manager for the Norton Younglove Community Center. Sherry is Nurse Educator (LVN) and has been with Family Service Association of Western Riverside County (FSA) for over a year. Mrs. Logan has been a nurse for over 10 years and has worked in such departments as Hospice and Pediatric. Currently Sherry is working as a Health Educator at the Mead Valley Community Complex for FSA.

"I am excited about working with the Highgrove Community" she said.

Ann Slocum, (Right) who has been the manager of the Center since October 2006, recently accepted a position as Public Relations Specialist and Volunteer Program Coordinator for Family Service Association. Ann will be working in FSA's administration building in Moreno Valley.

Ann said, "I really enjoyed my days at the Center and the community of Highgrove will always have a place in my heart."

Sherry and Ann will begin functioning in their new job positions on August 4th, 2008.

### **Country Line Dance Classes** Wednesday's 10:00am-11:30am Cost: \$2 per class

Line dancing is a great, low-impact exercise that offers emotional and physical benefits. Come join the fun! Lessons are taught by Martha Quintero.



### **AROUND THE WORLD**

Mondays and Wednesdays From 1:30 to 3 p.m. "Mr. B." will teach children (ages 5 to 12 years old) about the Earth's surface, atmosphere, and people. He's helped kids learn about places like Europe, Mexico, Central America, Germany and more. During the six week seminar, Mr. B will help children learn about customs, flags, animals and other things that compose our world. This seminar promises to be both fun and educational for kids. For more information, please call the Center at 951-341-6634



### Spend time with the Masters Thursdays, from 9:30 to 11:00am

Register now for Adult Art Classes. Learn the basics of art and color and create your own personal creations by using the techniques of the art masters at each session. The instructor will be Annette Ramsey of HeArt Enterprise. Classes begin on Friday Aug 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 p.m. (right after daily lunch) Cost is free but a donation is requested for supplies. Please contact the center for a registration sheet.





Are you looking for a cool place to Sept 11<sup>th</sup> from beat the heat? The Center has been designated as an official Cool Center. Anyone who visits the Cool Center may receive energy-saving tips, energy-saving light bulbs, water and a snack. Information about senior discounts on SCE bills is also available. The Cool Center's hours of operations are Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On August 8th, from 2 to 4 p.m., the Cool Center will host "Edison at Work in the Community." This special event will feature two raffle baskets, refreshments, energy-

### **FREE WI-FI**

The Center now offers FREE access to high-speed WiFi network. The community is now free to bring their laptops to the Center and surf the net in the Cool Center.

### Don't Forget!!!



saving tips and a movie. On 2 to 4 p.m., the Cool Center will host an



"Autumn Dance." This event will feature prizes for the best dressed couple or single person. It will also feature disco and big band music, dancing and a disco ball to enhance the atmosphere. There will also be refreshments and information about Edison's programs and services. These events are hosted by the Fair Housing Council of Riverside California Inc. and sponsored by Southern California Edison.

### **Rolling Cart** FOOD GIVE AWAY

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month Bring a rolling cart to the Center and our volunteers will attempt to fil it with food. Community members are asked to provide their own cart sturdy enough to carry about 40 pounds of food. However, we can not guarantee how much food each family will receive. This program is sponsored by the Second Harvest Food Bank.

For more information, please call the Center, (951) 341-6634

#### **Brown Bag:** 1st & 3rd Tues. 8:00am - 10:00am

**Commodities:** 4th Friday of the month 7am -10am

Local meetings move to Wednesday After a request from the Riverside County Economic Development Agency, the Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council voted unanimously to change the meeting dates from the 4th Tuesday to the 4th Wednesday starting on July 23, 2008. The time and place will remain the same but our community meetings will now be one day later. We would like to see some new faces and hear your opinions at our meetings that start at 7:00 pm at 931 Center St. in Highgrove. Mark your calendar for Aug. 27, 2008 and bring a neighbor!

### New road needed

There is a new dirt road across the arroyo by the BNSF RR tracks that is about 4 lanes wide. But the plans show that this new dirt road will only be used for access to future warehouses north of the arroyo. The proposed road dead ends and would <u>not</u> connect to Villa St. or Spring Street. Phase one of this project, is for the placement of 2 giant warehouses between the south side of the arroyo, and Citrus Street toward the east side of the property. If the property on the north side of the arroyo is not sold for the Metrolink curve, the developer's plans show 2 more warehouses on the north side but do not include any road that could be used by the public to get through. This is a mistake! The north side of the arroyo should be used for a Metrolink connection between the Perris Valley Line RR and the BNSF RR, and a new road from Spring St. to Iowa Avenue.



Thanks to the Riverside County Economic Development Agency, another business (formerly Hughes Appliances and later Lady Cool Stuff) has been upgraded on Iowa Ave. and its a beautiful improvement!

### Riverside HIGHGROVE PONY LEAGUE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL 2008

For Grand Terrace & City of Riverside, and Highgrove residents. We are a Team of Parents and citizens from Riverside, Highgrove and Grand Terrace re-developing this program from scratch and under ALL NEW leadership. We are committed to providing a safe, fun

environment to learn baseball or softball and developing the valuable life skills of attitude, determination and leadership that team sports encourage. It will be great to have Pony Ball available right here in/near our communities! Come back to see about the possibility of

joining us for WinterBall 2008! We will be at the Highgrove Park to answer questions and for registrations on Saturdays after July 4th, 2008. We need participation to make it happen! If you are interested please contact: Linda Tobin 951-323-1467 Ron & Cynthia Cruz RiversideHighgrovePony@wwdb.org

### HIGHGROVE SHERIFF

**Deputy Bryan Vig Stats :** 

Felony Arrests

Citations



Call **911** for

"Before" 6-30-2008 Arrow points to drain pipe under road and tracks This photo shows the arroyo before the trees were cut "After" 7-21-2008 New dirt roadway across the aroyo (no drain pipe) **New shipment For Sale** "Highgrove Song" Highgrove **T-Shirts** Music Video 1916 citrus label \$3.00 CD **\$12.00** Adult S,M,L \$14.00 Adult XL, 2XL DVD \$10.00 T-shirt samples can be seen at: Zorba's Burgers: 450 Iowa Ave. Chris' Burgers: 407 Iowa Ave. (951) 683 4994 Give us a call! hello, sunshine!

Now you have another reason for a supply

Misdemeanor Arrests 3 Arrest warrants served 8

3

Phone Number for the Sheriff Dept.: (951) 776-1099 (Non emergency) Hot line tips for Highgrove Deputy Bryan Vig: (951) 955-2611

# **Highgrove Library**

The library is open Tues., Thur: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Wed., 10:00 am to 2:00pm Closed Sun., Mon. & Friday. 690 Center St., Highgrove (951) 682 1507 www.riverside.lib.ca.us



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### **Gardeners Delight** Down and Out in August

The heat is getting to us. Now I know why they call it the "dog days of August." It really has to do with the "Dog Star" (Sirius) but I think it's because all the dogs in this show are pooped out with the heat, including our three and the three humans in the house too. The dogs have all learned the joys of lying in front of the fans.

As you all know, I am a self-admitted plant addict, and to show the depth of my "problem" I am already planning my fall vegetable garden! Crazy, I know, but even though it seems outlandish, August is actually a great time to start planting the seeds for many of the things we like to eat from our winter garden - which in southern California is actually less work than the summer garden and just as rewarding. From now until the end of September and into October is a good time to get those seeds and seedlings into the ground and something to think about as you pull up your spent summer vegetables. The remaining warm days will get your plants off to a good start. Here are a few general timelines:

• August – plant your first crop of beets and carrots toward the middle of the month. We have a raised bed that will be in shade during the winter, but should be able to hold the beets and carrots that should be big enough to eat by the time the sun goes too far south. Also, even though I always put my sweet peas (flowers) in on Labor Day weekend, this year I will be planting them even sooner in the hope of having sweet peas for Christmas! If you want to try cabbage, broccoli or any other cole crop, this is the time to plant seeds in six packs.

• September – Plant garlic and onion seeds. They will mature in late spring of next year. You can also start



lettuce, spinach, Swiss chard, bush peas, and fennel. Every two or three weeks, sow a row or two of beets, carrots, lettuce and spinach, so you will have an on-going crop.

• October and beyond – Keep up your succession planting. By not over planting at any one time, you will continue to have a steady (but not overwhelming) supply of fresh vegetables.

It's also important to be extra careful about renewing your garden beds. Add as much compost as you can find and turn the soil over well. Also add some bone or fish meal, or if you are not 100% organic, some slow release fertilizer such as Osmocote. The colder temperatures in the soil as the fall progresses make the nitrogen less accessible to the plants so it is important to have plenty available.

In our garden this month we have finished the plum and peach crops which were very successful this year. We were able to freeze peaches and make both plum and peach jam. A friend gave us part of his bumper crop of pickling cukes, so we made a ton of bread and butter pickles (about 20 jars!). The tomatoes are becoming more enthusiastic (a little slow this year due to the heat - too warm at night and nobody wanted to set fruit) and we have had masses of the most delicious summer squash ever. The winter squash is rambling everywhere in the orchard and we will have lots of squash to store. We have also planted a second round of squash and cucumbers (we'll see if it's too late or not) and a bed of late corn. These last are experiments but you never

know unless you try, and we're only out the cost of some seeds and a little water.

We had one disaster this year (well, actually two, no, wait a minute, three). First, the cucumbers died practically overnight due to a mass infestation of ants and aphids. Within a week, I had lost the yellow crookneck to the same invaders. I was despairing and thought that I might lose the patty pan too, but I started to use a strong jet of water on any of the leaves with aphids and also my neighborhood legions of lady bugs flew in to the rescue. Between my hose and the lady bugs, we have been able to keep the zucchini and the patty pan alive, although we may lose the battle here pretty soon. Finally, my beefsteak tomato was stomped flat by my Great Pyrenees Maggie in a showdown with the neighbor dogs. 105 lbs. of big white dog versus a tomato plant - you KNOW who's going to win!

Things to do in your August garden:

• Pull out spent vegetable plants and keep produce picked to encourage continued production

• Water deeply, don't sprinkle – sprinkling encourages shallow roots which are much more susceptible to drying out

• Prune back bloomed out perennials and shrubs • Keep flowers picked off zinnias, asters, petunias and other annuals to keep them blooming, fertilize sometime during the month

• Cover any late fruit crops with bird nets until they are ready to pick

• Run in the sprinkler or jump in the pool if you have one, or at the very least, squirt yourself with a hose

• Take a nap in your hammock or lounge chair

• Read a book

• Sit out in the evening and watch the sunset and the bats and/or owls come out

Here's a recipe for a refreshing summer salad:

**Coleslaw with Imitation Crab** 

1 bag of coleslaw

1 package of imitation crab

1 cucumber, cut up

1 small sweet onion, cut up

A squirt of lemon juice

2-3 T of milk

 $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of reduced fat mayo (or the real stuff if you don't care about the calories)

Salt and pepper to taste

Mix everything together in a large bowl. You can get away with less mayo if you use a large bowl and can mix thoroughly. Serve immediately or wait until the next day. This is one of those salads which is still good even if it sits for a while. jtexera@msn.com







### How fast is too fast? Correction:

In our July issue I incorrectly referred to Jim Dunn as the one who made statements about shortening the distance for drag racing from 1,320 feet to 1,000 feet. It was Jim Head that made these statements not Jim Dunn. We thank you for letting us know about this mistake and it is good to know that someone is paying attention to the details. See related article below:

For the last 60 years the distance for 2 Drag Racing vehicles to race has been  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile which is 1,320 feet.

At the Denver NHRA Drag races on the weekend of July 12 & 13, 2008 the distance for Nitro burning Dragsters and Funny Cars was shortened from the regular 1,320 feet to 1,000 feet. This was an interim decision made by NHRA to address the problem that these 2 types of race cars are getting too fast for the existing tracks. Some of these cars that use Nitromethane for fuel can go from a standing start to 330 MPH in around  $4\frac{1}{2}$  seconds in the  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. The remaining classes or slower classes such as pro stock will continue to race the <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile distance.

Something had to be done to either slow these cars down or shorten the distance they travel. By shortening the distance to the finish line the cars will have 320 more feet of stopping distance.

The recent death of Funny Car driver, Scott Kalitta while trying to qualify for the "Supernationals" in Englishtown, New Jersey and the previous death of Eric Medlin who was also a Funny Car driver has again brought the attention to the forefront of the safety issue for these race cars and the drivers.

Shortening the distance is not the only change being made to these 8,000 HP race cars. They will be re-



quired to have thicker walled tubing in the chassis, and be required to run Goodyear D2550 tires instead of the D 2420. Plus there are many other new rules. During the careers of most of the drivers of the cars in the Nitro classes, they all have had engines explode, fire, and violent wrecks. Other classes have also had their share of problems too and the sport can be very dangerous for the drivers in any class and sometimes to the fans or crew members of the racing teams. Even with the distance being shortened for these 2 Nitro classes, they still are able to go over 300 MPH in 1,000 feet but now they have more distance to try and get stopped.

The race track at Denver has been equipped with a new track cooling system that starts 50 feet before the starting line, and continues underneath the track for the first 150 feet. It circulates water under the track to keep the track cooler for better traction for the initial launching of these cars. If you have ever walked out onto the track you know that your shoes tend to stick to the track due to the traction compound that is sprayed on the track to give the tires more grip. The Denver track is also entirely concrete whereas some of the other tracks go from concrete to asphalt. When some of the higher powered classes are accelerating at such a high rate the rear tires are on the verge of spinning and loosing traction. The transformation from where the water cooled track ends to

where the un-cooled track begins, results in a difference in track temperature that some of the crew chiefs and drivers compare to going from concrete to asphalt on some of the other tracks. There are many changes on the horizon and I am sure they will be met with some resistance but in the long run, the builders and crew chiefs will still try to determine what scientific change they can do to their race car to beat the other car to the finish line. The technological changes that have taken place in this sport and the computerized knowledge that is now available will continue to be an important part of this type of racing. The computers monitor conditions such as air temp., water grains per pound of air, track temp., density altitude and humidity to name a few. Unlike other sports, it is the car that is on steroids - not the driver! When a driver's life is lost it becomes a real safety issue. NASCAR cars have restrictor plates to slow them down. As in most racing, its the first one to the finish line but the difference is that there are no pit stops and the drag race is over in just a few seconds. The difference now is that if you are in the Nitro burning fuel car that finish line is a

little closer than before. Most of the Nitro racers understand that it is necessary to shorten the distance because of driver protection and to help lessen the possibility of engine explosions that tend to occur after the 1,000 foot mark. The nitromethane fuel that is burned by these cars (at about \$41.00 a gallon) is very hard to ignite but once it explodes-watch out! All of the Nitro comes from China and is also used in the pharmaceutical industry and agriculture industry? These other industries are in direct competition with the fuel for the race cars and may have an influence on the availability for racing due to the world wide need for its use in other fields. One of the major race teams Schumacher racing has a good stockpile of nitromethane but may have to consider selling the product for uses other than fuel due to its demand. We see the results of this economic formula every day of the week at the gas pump. It's the same age old economic rule of supply and demand. You can watch the drags on ESPN 2 on most weekends but the closest race will be in Pomona at the Fairplex on Nov. 13 to 16, 2008. Also, use Google and just type in NHRA to find more information.

### IN LOVING MEMORY

Maria Ann DeVries, 63, of Colton, CA. passed away on Monday, June 23, 2008 in Fontana, CA. She is survived by her husband, Victor, children, Xiomara Martin of New Mexico, Robert Curl of Ill., Gina Curl of Ill., Bridget Jensen of Ill., Charles Straka of Riverside, CA., Cynthia Straka of Riverside, CA., Kelsey Marie DeVries of Colton, CA. and her mother, Maria Quintero. Seventeen grandchildren and six great grandchildren.



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# **PVL Metrolink: Highgrove** to Riverside not on track!

There have been many meetings about the Perris Valley Line and the plans for rebuilding and upgrading the track for commuter train service between Riverside and Perris.

RCTC already owns the 38 mile Perris Valley Line track from Highgrove to San Jacinto but their jurisdiction ends at the location where they need to leave their track on the PVL between Citrus St. and Spring St. and start the curve from their track to the BNSF tracks. But the property that is needed for the curve between the Perris Valley Line and the BNSF tracks is still owned by a developer. And even though the property is "For Sale", RCTC has not yet purchased it.

In addition even if they <u>did</u> own the land for the curve, it is almost unbelievable that there still is no written agreement between RCTC and the BNSF Railroad for the Perris Valley Line commuter trains to operate between Highgrove and Riverside. On July 30, 2008, RCTC confirmed that-even if RCTC pays for the cost of building a 4th main line between Highgrove and Riverside, there is no written agreement with the BNSF to let them run more commuter trains. RCTC can not connect to the BNSF into Riverside without an agreement with the BNSF because it is on the railroad's right-of-way.

Here are two important issues that could stop the project in its tracks:

**1.** The property for the curve between the two railroads is not owned by RCTC.

2. There is no agreement with the railroad to use the BNSF rightof-way for PVL commuter trains between Highgrove and Riverside.

Both of these important issues need to be resolved before commuter trains can operate between Riverside and Perris. Without both of these steps being resolved, the commuter trains can only operate between Highgrove and San Jacinto on their

stopping long enough to pick up passengers. The Highgrove location is only 1/2 mile north of the proposed Palmyrita Ave. station that RCTC wants. We oppose the Palmyrita Ave. station because the PVL will not have any commuter trains for another 3 or 4 years even if the 2 previously mentioned issues are resolved tomorrow.

On July 9, 2008 I spoke at the **RCTC** meeting during the 3 minute "Public Comments" and I gave a copy of my statements to each of the 30 Commissioners. This was my presentation:

"For the last 6 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years surrounding cities and organizations have continually pointed to Highgrove as an ideal location for a Metrolink stop.

In the past, we have been told that SANBAG needs to be financially involved if a station were to be located in the Highgrove area because it is so close to the county line. RCTC needs the property at the Highgrove location for a curved track from the Perris Valley Line to the BNSF right of way, but this same property could <u>also</u> be used for a Metrolink platform. In addition, RCTC also wants to purchase another piece of property south of Palmyrita Ave. for a platform and parking where there are no existing commuter trains.

With this plan, I see a duplication of expenses for the purchase of 2 properties instead of 1 and I also see a delay of several more years for Metrolink service to this area. And I am sure these expenses are without any help from SANBAG for the purchase of the 2 different properties.

7 days a week, there are commuter trains that pass through Highgrove but do not stop. This amounts to 62 trains a week or 3, 224 commuter trains per year. Highgrove has commuter trains that can serve riders in 3 different directions: To and from Riverside, to and from San Bernardino, and eventually to and from Perris, and it is only  $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the Palmyrita location.

# Locals attend closed meeting A few local residents from Highgrove, Grand Terrace and the UCR

area were allowed to sit in on an Ad Hoc committee meeting that was attended by high-ranking transportation officials when the Perris Valley Line was the topic of discussion by select members of the Riverside County Transportation Commission. The meeting was not open to the public and we were not allowed to speak or ask any questions. (We were more like the fly on the wall as we listened to the proceedings). The consultants and staff presented their information to the committee but I can not divulge what happened during the meeting. The meeting was held at the County Administration Building on June 26, 2008 and even though we were unable to make any comments, we learned a lot just by listening. It was a worthwhile learning experience just to see what happens at this type of meeting.

Later that same day we attended a meeting at the Colton Civic Center about the Colton Crossing that was held and hosted by Assemblymember Wilmer Carter of the 62 District. This meeting was open to the public. Then on July 9, 2008, Denis Kidd and I spoke during the 3 minute public comments at the RCTC meeting where we opposed building a Metrolink Station on the Perris Valley Line south of Palmyrita Ave. where there will be no commuter trains for several more years. Within 1/2 mile of the Palmyrita Ave. location, on the BNSF main line, there are currently 62 existing commuter trains per week that pass through Highgrove that could be used immediately- but the commission approved their staff's recommendation for the Palmyrita Ave. location- as we expected!

We believe the Highgrove location would benefit the entire region on both sides of the county line.

Why is Highgrove preferred over Palmyrita?

1. One platform on the west side of the Highgrove property would immediately serve riders between Riverside and San Bernardino and this same platform could serve rid-3 or 4 years.

2. During the Perris Valley Line construction time frame of 3 years, for example, there will be 9,672 commuter trains that pass through Highgrove that could stop for passengers! 3. Grading has been completed

for 2 warehouses on the south side of the arroyo but all of the 35 acres are still vacant and are "For Sale"!

4. The dirt road that has been graded across the arroyo near the BNSF tracks makes the north 19 acres accessible to Metrolink commuters where there is ample parking.

We oppose building a station at ers between Riverside and Perris in Palmyrita where there will be no commuter trains for several years. We have waited  $6 \frac{1}{2}$  years and there is no need to wait an additional 3 years or more for commuter service. We already have commuter trains every day of the week! (Cont. P. 7)



own Perris Valley Line.

Meanwhile every day of the week, existing commuter trains continue to pass through Highgrove without



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### The Hawkeye Building has seen many uses



I was born upstairs in this former hospital in Orange City, Iowa. Photo taken in 2003. (by Ardie Barnett)

Although Highgrove is my home now, Orange City Iowa was my birth place and where I grew up. This past month I received a very disturbing text message from my daughter inlaw Lori Wassenaar.

It showed a building on fire. It was the historical building that once was the Orange City Hospital and where I was born. Needless to say I was very upset upon hearing this news. I was in contact with the local home town newspaper editor Doug Calsbeek and asked if we could print some of the story in our newspaper along with some of the pictures. He was kind enough to send me some information and he even took a picture from about the same location that Barney had taken of me back in 2003.

Not only was this the location where I was born, but I also worked in the Village Cafe on the ground floor and I remember as a youngster one of my friend's grandmother worked at the hotel and we used to



After the fire, fortunately the brick walls are still standing.

hang out there and go exploring around. It is so sad to see history gone in a flash! I am just grateful that no one was injured.

Photos and following story provided by Doug Calsbeek: Editor, Sioux County Capital Democrat. A history of the building was detailed in the Orange City Centennial Book, published for the 1970 event.

In 1919, the Orange City Hotel Company built the Hawkeye Hotel. In 1944, the hotel was partially converted into a hospital by Dr. William Doornink and was the medical center of the community until 1951. A portion of the building was used as medical office until 1957. A Gambles Hardware store occupied the building in the early 1950s. During that time, the hotel lobby and dining area was converted into Village Drug and the office area into the Village Cafe. Later, Kraai Furniture occupied the space in which the Gambles store was. The ho-



The Orange City Fire Department benefited from a plan constructed earlier in the event of a fire in the Hawkeye Building. That plan aided fighting the Sunday, June 29, blaze, according to Fire Chief Dennis Vander Wel.

tel continued operations. The roof was destroyed and the rooms Tulip Time Gift House then moved into the area of the cafe. For the last three decades, Wally Tschopp of Spirit Lake has owned the building, named Hannah's Hallmark, a national card-store franchise, the name of which reflected one of the coowner's daughter's name. The upper story was vacant at the time of the fire on June 29 and 30.

In 1932, according to The Democrat, a paper published in Alton, fire broke out in the basement of the Hawkeye Hotel, and fireman battled through the night to control the blaze. That fire had a good start and almost demolished the building as the fireman attempted to put it out. At that time, the law offices of Van Oosterhout and Kolyn were located in the southwest portion of the building, the area suffering the least amount of damage. The

on the second floor badly damaged. Furniture in the store was completely burned, as was the floor. The Pure Food grocery suffered little damage, only smoke leaking through the brick wall separating it from the furniture store.

The Orange City library, housed in the basement was forced to move to the Ford building.

The structure was rebuilt in 1933, according to the newspaper. The hotel reopened, complete with running hot and cold water in each room. The library moved back, as did the law firm.

The Orange City and Alton fire departments responded to the fire call from a passerby just a minute before 6 pm on Sunday afternoon, June 29, 2008. Approximately 75 to 90 firefighters were on hand from surrounding community fire departments who responded.

(Cont. from P. 6) We just need some of these trains to stop at Highgrove. Simply put: **BUILD A PLATFORM WHERE THE COMUTER TRAINS ALREADY EXIST!** visit our web site at: www.highgrovehappenings.net & click on Metrolink

#### HAND U.S.A. HAND CAR WASH U.S.A. Open 7 Days 1340 E. Washington St., Colton (909) 824-1597 simply The Best Across From Fiesta Village (next to Goodyear) 8:00 am

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# HERB <sup>•</sup>N LORE

#### By Kathlyn Quatrochi, M.H., N.D.

Oil...it's all about oil these days. Most people believe the premier issue is what we put in our automobile tanks. However, you may not be aware of the many places we use petroleum and it's by products. You may think by using less gasoline we will impact the oil industry, and that's absolutely true. But, I'm here to tell you that there is another industry that uses billions of gallons of petroleum and its by products...and you might never guess what it is. Did home heating come to your mind? How about how much is used to create electricity? What about it's use in the plastics industry?....nearly all plastics are petroleum based. All of those are certainly ways we consume petroleum, but the one you would not likely consider is a HUGE industry.

Are you ready? Have you considered riding a bicycle to boycott the use of gasoline? Well, hold on to your handlebars....because this may come as a big surprise. Unless you are a seasoned label reader or semi chemist, you would not realize that one of the largest consumers of petroleum is the cosmetic industry. Yes, read the labels dear friends. Every time you see the ingredients, "mineral oil", "petrolatum", "isopropanol", "isopropyl alcohol", "microcrystalline wax", "propylene glycol", "PVP/VA Copolymer", "Polyethylene Glycol (PEG) compounds", "paraffin" of any kind...and on and on...(the list is longer than this page can hold), you are sending money to oil companies. I was not able to find any statistics as to any percentages

of petroleum used from particular sources, but, I've been in the cosmetic industry for 37 years and was in the chemical business for more than 10 years....I never knew of any domestic sources for petroleum derived cosmetic ingredients. I'm not saying that we shouldn't do business with foreign companies, in fact, I prefer buying many ingredients for the cosmetics I make from Italy and France, as their standards are more stringent than ours when it comes to some products. It's a matter of being informed and consumer conscious.

Now, I will resist my lecture on how dangerous petroleum and it's derivatives are for the skin, and your health, but encourage you to do your own research or contact me. My point of this writing now, is to be aware of how you are supporting the oil industry. Plastics and cosmetics are two major industries who are billion dollar consumers of petroleum.

If you thought that was overwhelming...get ready for more. Do you know how much petroleum you are eating? Yes....chewing, and swallowing. Can you believe that your favorite chocolate candy in the black and white box is riddled with paraffin wax? Many other candies are sprayed with paraffin. Vegetables are often coated with paraffin wax to keep them shiny and from oxidation. Eggs are sprayed with mineral oil. You can do the research yourself....you will find that, although the FDA says paraffin is edible, it is not digestible, yet, it is still approved for use on and in food.



Even more invasive is the use of pesticides that are almost all petroleum based. That's "poison" folks.....petroleum = poison for most living things.

There is plastic in nearly every pill you take, prescription or over the counter, in the way of phthalates. Phthalates are hormone disrupters. meaning they can cause you to have hormone imbalances, leading to metabolic problems, depression, anxiety and obesity.

I hope this gives you a better understanding of how invasive the petroleum industry has become in our lives. Thus, the economic impact in practically every aspect of consumer goods. As with any discovery and invention, there is much to be said when it benefits humanity and the planet. It is now time for us to reevaluate the ways we use chemicals, and whether all the ways we are us-

ing them are serving us or killing us. I urge you to get informed, before you find out that what you thought was safe, has caused you or your loved ones harm. If you are interested in learning of alternatives for cosmetics, you may write to me at drkathlyn@airenetworks.com. I can share some insights and cosmetic recipes for you to make at home, with basic ingredients, that will improve your skin, creating your most beautiful complexion....naturally.

Until next month, when I hope to have a happier message ... "Count your blessings every day and love each other like there was no tomorrow".

Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this article are the viewpoints of its author and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the "Highgrove Happenings"

# **Demetri's Burgers** 20<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Specials

1/4 lb Hamburger\$1.0	0
DBL Hamburger\$2.00	0
2 Taco's Combination\$4.4	5
w/rice, beans, & drink	
Bean Burrito Special\$3.9	5
w/fries & drink	
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w/fries & drink	

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# Virginia's View Point

by Virginia Harford

#### **POTPOURRI**

At least for the present, the expected construction of a new power plant by a Long Beach headquartered company is a dead issue. The project was predicted to cost \$200 million and would have been a 300 megawatt power plant. Apparently there are some alternative energy ideas but there will be a delay even for discussion of at least three months and probably more like six. The plant would have been built across the street from the proposed high school that has also been put on hold. The last time I told you about the cost of the high school, the figure was \$100 million-it has now reached \$150 million.

Have you read Lee Iococca's book "Where have all the Leaders Gone?" You should!

I would like you to see the Grand Terrace seniors Blue Mountain Villas and senior center. It is located on Grand Terrace Road just east of Mt. Vernon. FINIS

Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this article are the viewpoints of its author and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the "Highgrove Happenings"

# **Riverside Authorities Seek Public's Help**

This is a Cold Case! Kayla Tolson, 22, was found dead on the roadside more than 2 years ago. POSTED: 4:10 pm PDT April 6, 2008, UPDATED: 5:13 pm PDT April 6, 2008 GOOD HOPE, Calif. — Homicide investigators are seeking the public's help in explaining the death of 22-yearold Kayla Marlene Tolson, (daughter of Kim Quinn, & granddaughter of Don & Marlene Ritz). Kayla's body was discovered on a Riverside County roadside on Thanksgiving night, 2005, City News Service reported. Tolson was found shortly after 10 p.m. on Nov. 24, 2005, lying in the 21,000 block of Ellis Road in rural Good Hope, west of Perris, Riverside County sheriff's officials said. Homicide investigators do not have any suspect information.



Detectives described her as 5 feet 4 inches tall, 130 pounds, with brown eyes and brown hair.

In the event potential witnesses recall Tolson from her appearance, deputies are asking anyone with information about Tolson's death to call homicide investigator Gary LeClair at (760) 393 3500, or (951) 955-2777 or 800 950-2444.

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You will want to come early for a front row seat!

SOCIAL 9:30 am, PRESENTATION 10:00 am FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2008 22627 GRAND TERRACE ROAD The public is invited! (on Grand Terrace Road, just east of Mt. Vernon)

.... Join us at the Grand Terrace Senior Center Second Monday 10:00 am Auto Guru, Robert Snyder Tuesdays Crafts 9:00am also on Tuesdays for Bridge, Samba, Hand and Foot, etc. 12:45pm Wednesdays Art at 9:00am and Guitar at 12:30pm (Birthday Cake 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at lunch) Wednesday evenings for Games at 6:00pm Thursdays Penny Bingo at 1:00pm and Bunco 6:45pm Light exercise Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. General Meeting on Second Friday 9:30 a.m. Game Night on Second Saturday 6:30 p.m. Lunch is served daily from 11:30am to 12:30pm For a \$3.00 donation if over 60 and a \$5.00 charge if not (no children please)

### Body discovered near former Highgrove dump

On Thursday July 17, 2008 a body was discovered in the Pigeon Pass area of Highgrove. And on July 28, 2008, the Riverside County Coroner's office said the cause of death is still pending but they said the man has been identified as Emil Roshau, age 73.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that the individual may have been in the area possibly searching for aluminum cans.

If you have any information concerning this incident or know any details that may be of interest to the Sheriff Department, please call (951) 955 2600 and refer to Coroner's file number 200805290.





#### 951-779-9155 1710 Palmyrita Ave. Suite #6







### Environmental Impact-who and what!

We have all heard about the Environmental Impact Reports that are submitted to various agencies when a major project is planned. One of the things that seems to have been forgotten is the possibility of problems that arise between the starting of construction and its final completion. Does the Environmental Impact Study consider what happens if the builder or developer goes broke, or cannot finish the project due to the economy, or for other reasons?

The former orange groves that once flourished in Highgrove were removed several years ago and there are still no rooftops. The grading has been completed and the power lines installed but everything is at a standstill. There has been millions of dollars spent on the removal of the groves, the extensive grading, flood control channels, and large power lines but what kind of "Environmental Impact" has it actually had on our community since the construction began?

Shortly after the grading, our garage was infested with field mice. Unfortunately we did not know it until the mice ate out an entire sack of flower from the inside. It was completely hallow and we caught 38 field mice before it was over. Since that time I have seen coyotes in and around our neighborhood. Two years ago we reported on the 2 owls that were released back into the wild after they had been nursed back to health after falling out of a palm tree on Villa Street. And several months later we had an owl roosting in our tree in our front yard where he spent several weeks sleeping during the daytime. Sometimes we could hear him at night. (Where was he when I had the mice?)



A few days ago, underneath our palm tree in the front yard, there was a complete mess of palm fronds and brown palm leaves that was the result of a hawk again cleaning out the bird's nests for food. The following day after I cleaned up the yard it happened all over again. This was not the first time this has happened but it was the first time it happened 2 days in a row. I know it was a hawk because there was no wind that day that could have done such extensive stripping of this tree. We have a bird bath in the front yard and I have seen the hawk drinking from it. A few days after the hawk visited, I had to put heavy screen wire over the oak barrel where the goldfish are because something got 2 of the goldfish during the night. This may have been a cat but we have also seen opossum and raccoon in the neighborhood. On July 15, 2008 my neighbor said that he had a snake in his back yard but he admitted he did not know what kind it was. It could have been a gopher snake. And yet again it could have been a rattlesnake!

So what is the point about all these animals looking for food? The point <u>is</u>, their natural habitat has been upset by the changing of their environment. They no longer have orange groves or open space to flourish. When they are hungry they need to eat and feed their young.

The removal of the groves is the result of the land becoming more valuable and the shortage of water to irrigate the trees. But what happens now with the economy like it is? The developer has sold to the builder but the builder is not building because of the present condition of the economy. Meanwhile these dirt pads sit idle with no houses. We realize a project this size takes a long time, this but the impact on the residents and animals is very real and long lasting. The animals are affected by this man-made environmental change and so are the residents. The dirt road between Highgrove and Moreno Valley through Pigeon Pass was really steep, narrow and windy but many people used it in spite of its drawbacks. That road has been closed for almost 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years since March of 2005 and the surrounding landscape has changed dramatically. Now Mt. Vernon Ave. has a new paved road over the Springbrook

wash that is paved all the way to Palmyrita Avenue. The new asphalt road continues west on Palmyrita but does not connect to the existing asphalt. There is a portion a little over <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile in length that has not been paved near the east end of Palmyrita Avenue. And there is a concrete barrier at the newly paved intersection of Mt. Vernon and Palmyrita that prevents anyone from using the new road that goes across the arroyo. The paving needs to be completed, the K rails removed and this road needs to be opened. It has been closed way too long! If the builder has to wait until the real estate market starts up again then at least this road should be opened up so it can be used while they are waiting for an upturn in the economy. (See photos on right).



This is the bottom of the dry arroyo in the Springbrook wash where the water flows when the rains come!



Continued from page 10

# These barriers need to be removed and the road re-opened!



The newly paved road could be used if these barriers were removed. This photo was taken from the intersection of Palmyrita Ave and Mt. Vernon Ave. That is Blue Mountain in Grand Terrace in the background.



A small portion of Palmyrita Ave. is still dirt and has not been paved!





This photo was taken from the east end of Palmyrita Ave. looking north where Mt. Vernon crosses the Springbrook wash. Under this road is the former location of Horseshoe Bend where Pigeon Pass Road started.



The north end of this new pavement is at Mt. Vernon and Spring St. but you can not get through due to the barriers at Palmyrita Ave. (Top left)



### Iowa Avenue may be closed for 24 months during overpass construction!

The following information was taken from the Riverside City Planning Dept. computer information site: Iowa overpass Cost-\$32,056,436, Start-2010, Status-In design, Description- Planning and design for the railroad grade separation at Iowa Ave. and the BNSF railroad tracks is underway. Iowa Ave. will be raised over the BNSF railroad tracks between Palmyrita Ave. and Spring Street. Citrus St. east of Iowa Ave. will remain in its current location but turns will be restricted to right in from northbound Iowa Ave. and right turn out onto northbound Iowa Avenue. Citrus St. west of Iowa Ave. will go under the new Iowa overpass and loop back to intersect with Iowa Ave. to retain access. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2010. The project will take approximately 24 months to construct. Iowa Ave. will be closed to through traffic during construction. Contact person: danderson@riversideca.gov (951) 826 5517

The City of Riverside's Iowa Ave. overpass plan that is in the preliminary design stages requires that all westbound traffic from Citrus St. will have to make a mandatory right hand turn northbound onto part of the overpass near the giant Lily Cup. This plan will take all vehicles east of the Iowa Ave. overpass (where Highgrove is located), in the opposite direction from Riverside and the \$381 million dollar 60/215/91 interchange. It would direct traffic northward over the Iowa Ave. overpass toward San Bernardino only. We have expressed our concerns to the City of Riverside Public works director, Tom Boyd when he was a guest speaker at our April 22, 2008 CSA 126E meeting but our area having freeway access is not his priorite.



The Iowa overpass will be located near the south west corner of the same 35 acres we have been talking about for the last 6 1/2 years where we have requested a Metrolink stop. This area has also seen a new 48" pipeline installed recently that is now burried. And the land has just been graded for 2 warehouses along Citrus St. on the south side of the arroyo. The Iowa overpass will help vehicles from being blocked by freight trains and is surely needed. But the planning of this overpass needs to include a design that will also accommodate other traffic in the area both present and future, and not just limited to Iowa Ave. going over the railroad tracks. Derailments and train delays have cut Highgrove right down the middle. The excessive delays caused by each one of these incidents could have been prevented by the addition of the new short road (shaded part of map) that would allow access to Riverside and the new \$381 million I-60/215/91 interchange without having to cross the tracks. Anyone east of the BNSF RR tracks would be able to get to the west side without being cut off by the trains and vice versa. We are fast approaching several decisions that are going to be made that will have a long term affects on our local transportation issues. The addition of this new short road would be millions of dollars cheaper than building another overpass at Main St. or Center St. in the future.

This is a good example how city and county agencies have a difference of opinion. The City of Riverside wants to divert all automobile commuters **away from Riverside** and the Riverside County Transportation Commission wants to divert all rail commuters **toward Riverside**!



### Historic sign to be restored!



This sign formerly hung near the base of Mt. Rubidoux and was visible when going to Riverside from Rubidoux (West Riverside) across the old bridge over the Santa Ana River. The Old Farts Racing Team is collecting donations to restore this old sign. This sign was not the only one of its type because I remember another one hanging over La Cadena Drive on the west side of the I-215 freeway. Before the freeway, La Cadena Drive was the main route between Colton and Riverside. If you would like to donate to the restoration of this historic sign please call (951) 966 2664



### Fond memories growing up in Highgrove

Victoria Bohannon Adkins and her Husband Pete, an Engineer for the Union Pacific Railroad, purchased a new home in Highgrove a few years ago. Victoria has 2 children. Daughter, Kacy Carlsen, owner of Cal Skate, Grand Terrace and Son Chris, Sales Rep for KFRG Radio Station and a Professional Baseball Umpire. Victoria is very proud of their accomplishments. She also has been blessed with 5 Grandchildren, Tyler, Tucker, Audrianna, Valerie and Daryel McKinley who lived on Cen-Logan.

her very special, wonderful and funny Grandmother, Eva Layman. Her great grandfather, Erwin Mathews owned many orange groves throughout the Inland Empire and she has fond memories of the wonderful times spent at his home that was surrounded by orange groves. The house was located on Palmyrita Ave., and the pickers would arrive each season to pick the oranges. Vicki and her younger sister Becky also recall picking oranges, smudging and catching gophers with their grandmother.

Vicki has been a Realtor/Sales Manager for over 30 years, serving the Inland Empire. Some of you will remember her as Vicki Bohannon Adkins, growing up at 210 Transit Avenue in Highgrove. Her Best Friends were Liannne and Raymond Snodgrass who lived 2 doors down from her. Vicki attended the very old Highgrove Elementary School and remembers how fun and exciting it was back



in those days. "I got my first kiss when I was 11 years old from ter Street and I fell deeply in As a young girl, Vicki lived with *love....who doesn't remember that* first kiss! Daryel's brother Bill became my very best friend and was the "Fonz" of Highgrove. He drove a very fast 1959 black Ford Ranchero and taught me how to drive a stick shift. He was very cool and is still a great friend today". Vicki was the first and only paper delivery girl for the Colton Courier at that time. Watching her Uncle Chuck play softball with all her friends at the softball field next to the Brown Estate Packing House on Center St. was something she always looked forward to. Vicki says: "What great times growing up in Highgrove.....I wouldn't change a thing!" She also remembers Ben's Café: "Ben & Bessie were the best! We would often stop after school for a coke.....they were so sweet and patient with us kids".

> Call Victoria to talk about the old Highgrove days and "To answer any/all Real Estate questions you may have". Cell: (909)-709-3882 or Pager Number: (909)-512-4428.



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VOCAL

ROCK VOICE GUITAR WRITER HIPHOP NAME: AGE: CITY: PHONE: SCHOOL:

RAP

The first child 12 or under to turn in the correct answer to the above puzzle will win a prize and get their picture in next months paper. (You can only win once) Take your completed puzzle to the Norton Younglove Community Center 459 Center Street during their regular business hours. Good Luck!

### Word Search Winner of the Month

FLUTE

Jessica Hildreth was very excited to win this past month's Word Search puzzle. Jessica is 11 yrs. old and is a student in the 6th grade at Sunnymead Middle School. Way to go Jessica. The competition is getting stronger so get your finished answers in as soon as you can! Jessica supplied the words for this month's word search puzzle.



Jessica Hildreth age 11

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Check it out at: http://www.google.com/goog411/

### Robin Zimpfer elected as Executive Officer

Sacramento, CA- The Riverside County Economic Development Agency and California's leading statewide economic development team are pleased to announce the election of Robin Zimpfer, Assistant County Executive Officer for Economic Development, to the Board of Directors of the California Association for local Economic Development (CALED) to a full three year term.

Zimpfer, who leds the county economic development agency, a team of 400 staffers, and manages its annual operationing budget of almost \$400 million, will work with a statewide network of economic development experts to build healthy communities by helping expand, retain, and attract new business to California.

County Executive Officer Larry Parrish said "We are all extremely proud of Robin Zimpfer and her election by her peers and fellow leaders to this prestigious post. Robin is a outstanding leader, has vast knowledge of the needs of the state and in particular our county in the field of economic development, business attractive, business retention, and Business expansion." OPR #3 10845 WWW.YELLOWJACKETEXT.COM



CALED has 700 members state wide, whose members represent cities, counties, state and federal government, and the private sector. Robin Zimpfer is the highest ranking woman is county government and the Economic Development Agencies top official. She has earned a Masters and Bachelors Degree from the California State University at San Bernardino, and is active in community affairs and philanthropic activities across the region. She resides in the City of Riverside with her husband Paul Mc Donnell. Together the couple has four adult children and two grandchildren.

For more information on this release please contact Tom Freeman at 951-201-7312 or via email at tomfreeman@rivcoeda.org.







# HIGHGROVE **CHURCHES**



### **Immanuel Baptist Temple**

45 Michigan Ave., Highgrove 951-784-1100

#### **Pastor John Pettit**

Sunday School: Church Service: Bible Study:

10:00 am 11:00 am 7:00 pm Wednesdays

### **United Methodist Church**

938 W. Center St., Highgrove (951)-684-1395

Pastor Dr. Lincoln Galloway **SUNDAY:** 

9:00am Sunday School

**10:00am Worship Time** (*Baby-sitting Available*)

1st & 3rd FRIDAYS: 1:30pm Quilters-bring your thimble and needles



#### **Good News Missionary Baptist Church** Rev. Levonzo Gray. Sr. Pastor Worship Service 11:30 am **Attention Boys & Girls** Do you need help with your homework? Hope and Help Learning Center is the place Tutoring classes are Mon. - Thur: 3:00pm - 6:00pm For more information & location call: (951)683-2916 178 Iowa Ave. Highgrove, CA 92507

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Saturday Evening 5:00 PM Weekly Mon-Fri 8:00 AM Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM: (English) NOON: (Spanish) E-Mail: CRGT@URS2.NET Sister Deanna O'Neill, OSB, Pastoral Coordinator Parish Office 909-783-3811 fax 909-783-4689







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