



HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



Dedicated to the improvement of our community through awareness and involvement in local issues
(FREE) Local News for the Highgrove Area October 2016

Grand Jury closes investigation on parcel fees for Highgrove Sheriff!

We have still been receiving signed petitions for a Grand Jury Investigation from residents on the east side of I-215 because we are still paying for the dedicated Highgrove Sheriff Deputy that was eliminated about 6 years ago. A request for a Grand Jury Investigation was filed on June 24, 2016 on behalf of the Highgrove residents who paid for their own Sheriff Deputy that was assigned exclusively to the east side of the I-215 freeway that was a special assessment that was paid with their property taxes. The complaint included 47 pages of documents

including photographs and copies of the 1992 ballot and the 1997 ballot that were mailed to the Grand Jury. The Highgrove Happenings included a form that residents could fill out asking for a Grand Jury Investigation that were mailed in for forwarding to the Grand Jury. Members of our community circulated petitions door to door that were also mailed to the Grand Jury. But on August 29, 2016 I received the following letter from the Grand Jury which offered this brief explanation:

Highgrove's John Deere dealership making room for new building on their property.



Highgrove's RDO Equipment building started with demolishing their parking lot. RDO is the John Deere dealership located by the I-215 freeway on the S/E corner of East La Cadena Dr. and Main Street. Demolition of the building on the right is shown below.



RIVERSIDE COUNTY GRAND JURY
(951) 955-8990 OFFICE • (951) 955-8989 FAX

August 29, 2016

Richard A. Barnett
474 Prospect Ave.
Highgrove, CA 92507

Subject: Complaint No. 16-17-004

Dear Mr. Barnett:

The 2016-2017 Riverside County Grand Jury has received your complaint, dated June 24, 2016.

After examining numerous documents and interviewing relevant individuals it appears that evidence does not exist to support continued inquiry in your complaint at this time.

Therefore, this case is closed

Sincerely,

George F. Kossler, Foreperson
2016-17 Riverside County Grand Jury

Special MAC Meeting
Oct. 11, 2016 Highgrove Library
530 Center Street 7:00 pm
to discuss Parcel Fees/Highgrove Sheriff
East side property owners please attend!

Request for extra Sheriff protection was done the right way!

In a Preass Enterprise article on March 14, 1991 a Highgrove resident was quoted saying: "In the past 6 months I have been broken into twice and I have waited for 4 hours for the Sheriff's Department to come" and in another Press Enterprise article the pastor of the United Methodist Church, Virginia Fifield at that time, said the parsonage where she lives, has been burglarized five times and the church sanctuary was burglarized twice. These and other comments resulted in the community responding by asking Riverside County for a Deputy Sheriff assigned exclusively to Highgrove on the east side of the freeway. The cost had previously been set at \$10.00 per month per parcel.

At Highgrove's CSA 126 Community meeting on Feb. 12, 1992 the minutes show that the \$10.00 per month assessment would be broken down to \$7.96 for extra police and

\$2.04 for park and recreation.

In 1992 a ballot was distributed to property owners on the east side of the freeway only because the west side did not want to pay for the extra Sheriff. The first line of the 1992 ballot stated: **"The need for extended police protection will be decided with this ballot."**

There was a YES box and a NO box to indicate if the property owner wanted to: **"Continue present level of police protection with no increase of parcel fee"**.

The ballot passed and the county was notified in a letter dated Feb. 25, 1992. Then in 1997 proposition 218 required that assessments or fees had to be re-affirmed by a 2/3 vote and another ballot was voted on that passed by 75.8 % of the Highgrove property owners. The proposition was known as Measure T. There were no arguments printed against Measure T and yours truly (R. A. Barnett)



The old steps are visible in the middle of the crane if you look closely.

Barnett) wrote the Argument in favor of Measure T. Also the most important part of Measure T was the impartial analysis of Measure T written by William C. Katzenstein, County Council, County of Riverside. Here is the most important part of the impartial analysis: **"THIS TAX WILL BE RETAINED IN THE CSA 126 FUND TO BE USED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINUING EXTENDED SHERIFF, AND PARK & RECREATION SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS."** The last vote on this issue was taken in 1997 and according to the County's interpretation, and since the taxes are still being collected for the special assessment there should be a "CSA 126 FUND" to be used only for the extended Sheriff or Park & recreation services and improvements.

The Riverside County Economic Development Agency shows that the extended Highgrove Sheriff Deputy's position was eliminated on Dec. 30 2009.

Here are the figures from the Riverside County Auditor's office that show how much was collected after the Sheriff was eliminated:

Fiscal year 2009/10	\$132,960.00
2010/11	132,840.00.
2011/12	132,840.00
2012/13	132,840.00
2013/14	132,840.00
2014/15	132,930.00
2015/16	651,592.46
Total	1,448,842.46

Note: 1/2 of the 2009/10 costs were during the extended Sheriff's on duty time from July 1, 2009 to Dec. 2009. And the 2015/16 figure shows a marked increase that was collected. If Spring Mountain Ranch properties are paying the fee then we would Cont. on P. 3

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



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

Highgrove Community Park Hours: Dawn to Dusk

Contact: (951) 241-7221



THE NORTON YOUNGLOVE COMMUNITY CENTER
459 Center Street- Highgrove web site: www.nycchighgrove.com

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,

Enjoy the cool air at your local Community Center by joining us on **Tuesday Bingo Hour 12:30 PM!**



4 cards for \$1.00

County Regional Medical Center Mobile Health Clinic is back! 9AM - 2PM every 1st and 3rd Friday of each month: RCRMC will be here to answer your personal health questions and provide baseline assessment which include Health screenings (blood pressure /Diabetes-blood sugar screenings,) sick child visits. These health care services are being offered free as a community service to assist families, especially those who do not have, or who have recently lost, their health insurance.

Oct 7 8AM - 9:30 AM: Shield yourself from the Flu. Sign up for your flu Shot with Rite Aid Pharmacy here and get a free immunization evaluation.

October 8th 7 AM - 12 Noon: Community Rummage Sale. Reserve your space! 1 Table and 2 chairs available to the first 20 vendor participants, \$10 for 2 car space.

October 13th 10:15AM: Spanish movie hosted by Regal Medical Group. -0- cost. Snacks provided

October 18th 11:30 PM: Join us for an Overview Presentation on Diabetes Self Management Workshop. Sign Up for Monday workshop to Begin Nov 7, 2016 from 12:30 - 2:30. Focusing to Seniors 65 and older Medicare beneficiary. No cost to participate.

October 19 1:15 PM: Wednesday After School Family Matinee. \$1.00 per participant, -0- for 3 and under, concession included. Need to complete your homework? Stay after the matinee and finish your homework before you



October 21st 8AM - 9:30 A.M: Shield yourself from the Flu. Rite Aid Pharmacy will be here with your flu shots. Please bring your Insurance Card. Call Rite Aid if you have any questions: Pamela J. / Wellness Ambassador Rite Aid 5717 951-686-2203

October 28th 6PM - 8PM: 8th Annual Harvest Costume Ball.



Norton Younglove Community Center

459 Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507

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



@nycchighgrove

Aerodance Exercise

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

Sewing Class

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

3-D Gelatin Molding Class

5 students minimum sign up to schedule classes. \$15 class/10 class course.

Polynesian Dance Class

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

The Art of Cake Decorating Baking

Intensive course/25 classes. \$15 per class. Info: Call Marivel 951-275-6815. 5 students minimum sign up to schedule course Certificate Completion awarded

E-Taekwondo Unit-ed

(Taekwondo Class) Mon 5 50 PM & Thurs. 6pm For details please call Master Elvis Chavez 909-578-479 etkduc@yahoo.com or www.etkdu.com

Square & Line Dance

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

Zion Assembly Church of God

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

Sr. Nutrition Lunch Program

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

Child Development Center Has Openings!!

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

Can't wait to hear from you!

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

Daily lunch for ages 60 and over

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

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

8th Annual Harvest Costume Ball

DATE: OCTOBER 28 2016
TIME: 6PM-8PM

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE CENTER

Come one, Come all! Join us dressed as your favorite character from a movie, book, or T.V. show

Games, Food, & Fun!!
Tickets \$2.00 for Adults
\$ 1.00 for 12& under

CONTACT LEILA OR PRISCILLA FOR INFORMATION CALL -
**VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED

Norton Younglove Community Center
459 Center Street
Riverside, Ca. 92507 951-241-7221

Harvest Festival

Rummage Sale

October 8, 2016
From 7am - 12noon
Setup at 6am

\$10.00 per space

* Includes 1 table and 1 chair (limited to 20 tables. first come first serve)

* FSA Booth is going to be placed in front office side

Contact the Center for more info: (951) 341-6634

SHIELD YOURSELF FROM THE FLU.

PLUS, GET A FREE IMMUNIZATION EVALUATION.

Flu shots coming to you from Rite Aid Pharmacy

Sign-ups will be held on: Sept. 2, 2016 & Oct. 7, 2016 @8:00am to 9:30am. Flu shots to be given on: Oct. 21, 2016 @ 8:00am to 9:30am

Location: Norton Younglove Community Center

If you have any questions call our Wellness Ambassador or Staff @ 951-686-2203

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



Fatal Traffic Collision

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, California- On Wednesday, August 31, 2016, at approximately 2:06 pm, an adult female driver was driving a 2003 Toyota Corolla, southbound on Interstate 15 north of Mission Blvd. For an unknown reason the driver was driving at a high rate of speed within the dirt center median, approaching a steep dirt embankment at the Mission Blvd. under-crossing. The driver continued within the center median until the vehicle traveled down the embankment, colliding with a tree as well as the embankment. Emergency personnel responded and transported the driver to Kaiser Hospital in Ontario, where she succumbed to her injuries. The identity of the decedent is unknown at this time; pending identification by the San Bernardino County Coroner's Office.

This traffic collision is still under investigation and if anyone has further information regarding this incident; please contact the California Highway Patrol, Riverside Area office at: 951-637-8000.

HIGHGROVE SHERIFF REPORT



Lieutenant David Kondrit has been promoted to Captain and will be working out of the Larry H. Smith correctional facility in Banning.

Congratulations and good luck to Captain Kondrit for his promotion.

Our new Lieutenant is Dean Spiback from the Jurupa Valley station who is replacing David Kondrit. No stats available during the transition.

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

Capt. Jason B. Horton (951) 955 2600

Lieutenant Dave Kondrit (951) 955 2632

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

(Parcel Fee from P. 1) like to see what amount is going into the "FUND" TO BE USED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINUING EXTENDED SHERIFF, AND PARK & RECREATION SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Another question that needs to be answered is: Has there currently or has there ever been a "FUND" established that address these specific purposes? This should have been a simple bookkeeping item that would show how much was in the "fund" each year.

And if any of the special assessment tax money was given to the Sheriff Dept. for any other purposes other than the east side of Highgrove, then a miss-appropriation of funds may need to be implemented because this assessment was for specific services only in Highgrove.

Another question that needs an answer is: Why was the designation or name of the assessment changed on our tax bill without a vote? The previous years all indicate the special assessment to be CSA 126E but now appears on our tax bills as CSA 126, PARK & REC LNDSCPE.

On August 5, 2015 when I gave Supervisor Tavaglione the request for an audit, I told him this issue would not just go away.

Here is an update of what was done in September.

9 15 16 RAB went to Riverside to Self Help for legal advise.

9 19 16 RAB went to Clerk of Board of Supervisors (where I obtained a copy of the Highgrove Sheriff Agreement from Riverside County microfilm)

9 20 16 RAB contacted Attorney to discuss the parcel issue

9 20 16 RAB went to Clerk of Board of Supervisors and requested copy of Measure T) Referred to Registrar of Voters.

9 20 16 RAB sent e-mail to Registrar of Voters and received copy of Measure T.

Note: A copy of the Impartial Analysis of Measure T is shown on the front page. Related article on P. 7



a walk for our community...
On October 15th, Riverside will walk for breast cancer awareness in our own backyards - giving hope and support for our families and our neighbors. 100% of the proceeds will go towards the programs at The Pink Ribbon Place and stay within our community. That means every dollar and every cent counts!

OCTOBER
15
7:30 AM - 12 PM



**RIVERSIDE'S
BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS WALK**

**REGISTRATION
STARTING AT \$30
FOR ADULTS***

**DISCOUNTS
FOR STUDENTS AND SENIORS**

**CHILDREN UNDER 10
WALK FOR FREE!**

**5K WALK
MT. RUBIDOUX
FAMILY FUN WALK**

REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.PINKONPARADE.ORG

/ RYAN BONAMINIO PARK / 5000 TEQUESQUITE AVE, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501 /
/ REGISTRATION OPENS AT 7:30AM / WALK BEGINS AT 8:30AM /

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY



THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

EVENT ORGANIZER



ANTI x BULLYING CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 19, 2016

RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTER

Sign up at AntiBullyingInstitute.org

Keynote Speaker - Marc Mero from Thinkpoz Organization

Sessions will include:

- OLWEUS - Creating a Tolerant Climate in the Classroom
- Responding to Current Anti-Bullying Laws and Civil Rights
- Creating a Restorative School Culture, Engaging Parents
- Cyber Bullying
- Prevention and Intervention - Paving the Way for at Risk Youth
- GLSEN - Tolerance and Acceptance of Race, Religion and Sexual Orientation, LGBTQ

Full Schedule And Speaker Information at AntiBullyingInstitute.org

\$179 • Parking - Continental Breakfast & Lunch Included



Highgrove Spay/Neuter Bus Day



Riverside County Department of Animal Services will be in High Grove on:
October 13

To perform free dog & cat spay/neuters to include vaccines and microchip

(Additional fee for dog license - not purchasable on site)



Highgrove Library
530 Center St
Highgrove, CA 92507

Please contact Craig 951-358-7335 between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday to schedule an appointment

Check in will be from 8:00 am - 9:00 am and pick up will be between 1:00 pm to 5:00pm. We will only be able to alter dogs under 50 pounds.

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Phil's Philosophy

By: Phil Turner

America the Beautiful

In so much of the news, with talking heads going on about how awful things are, I thought I would give us, and myself included, a reality check on what a beautiful country we live in. My wife and I retired last year, moved from Grand Terrace, after 25 years of residence, up to Sequim, WA. In doing so, we have driven, flown, ridden, and sailed over a large portions of the United States. One can only conclude that we live in a very beautiful, eclectic, and majestic land. Most of our travels have been in the western states recently, so I will stay the course here. My wife and I are not RV people. We like to stay in small out of the way hotels and motels. My depth perception is horrible, so driving a big RV would be a ticket to disaster. Besides we like to be waited on. I think the most surprising drive is on Hwy 395 up the Eastern Sierras. At first the drive looks to be rather forbidding and desolate. Then the wonder of the Sierras comes into view, including Mt. Whitney. There are small, but very interesting town of Independence, Lone Pine, Big Pine, and Bishop, each with their local county fairs, and proud histories. There are small hometown eateries all along the way that serve wonderful country breakfasts. An hour north of bishop is Mammoth Lakes. This is a year

round outdoors resort area that has some of the most beautiful scenery imaginable. It's world-class ski area in the winter, and a great fishing, mountain biking, and hiking in the summer. Several of the small lakes are breathtakingly beautiful. My favorite is Lake George. Traveling further north, of course, is lake Tahoe, one of the most beautiful lakes in the world. Great ski areas in the winter, boating, water skiing, in the summer. Casinos with top notch entertainment year round. Emerald Bay is one of the most scenic sights imaginable. Continue driving north from Lake Tahoe are large cattle ranches, farms and wonderful lakes. If you transition over to the 5 Freeway, you continue up to Oregon, Ashland, Medford and Grants Pass are beautiful cities. Taking a rubber raft down the Rogue River is a thrill I will never forget. In Cottage Grove is perhaps my favorite small independent hotel, The Village Inn. Portland is a city to behold. There is a bookstore, Powell's that covers an entire city block. A must see and experience. Seattle is one of the most beautiful cities in the U.S. Pike's Market, the mother Nordstrom's, the daddy Starbuck's, Ivar's Acres of Clams, all within a short walk. Just taking a ferryboat ride to any of the many islands, or over to the Olympic Peninsula, on Puget Sound is both relaxing, and scenic. Yes just a narrow peak at our wonderful country is fulfilling. I will try to follow up with additional drives.





MY BARBER SHOP

Where men walk in and gentlemen walk out!

All types of Haircuts:

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



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



IE ALARM SYSTEMS

FIRE - INTRUSION - ACCESS CONTROL - CLOSED CIRCUIT TV

Richard Jimenez
General Manager
richard@IEalarm.com

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

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

Diabetes



Self-Management Workshop



There's still time to sign up!

Do you or someone you love have diabetes? *Everyone with Diabetes Counts* is a program that encourages lifestyle changes while learning about your diabetes and the way it affects your health. Enjoy the benefits of a healthier, more energetic lifestyle by signing up today!

Please join us if you:

- Are 65 years of age or older
- Are a Medicare beneficiary
- Have borderline diabetes or diabetes

Program details:

- Begins Monday, 11/07/2016 -
- Each class is 2 hours
- Six short weekly workshops
- No cost to participate!



Where: Norton Younglove Community Center
459 Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507

When: Monday, 11/07/2016 - 12/19/2016

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

To register, call Leila: 951.241.7221
or register at Norton Younglove Community Center

This material was prepared by Health Services Advisory Group, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for California, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. Publication No. CA-11SOW-B.2-01042016-04






Do you or someone you love have diabetes? *Everyone with Diabetes Counts* is a program that encourages small lifestyle changes while learning about your diabetes and the way it affects your health. Enjoy the benefits of a healthier, more energetic lifestyle by signing up today!

To participate, you must:

- Be 65 years of age or older
- Be a Medicare beneficiary
- Have pre-diabetes or Type 2 diabetes

Topics include:

- What is Diabetes?
- Diet and Exercise
- The Importance of Taking Your Medications
- How to Manage and Prevent Complications
- Eyes, Teeth, Toes, and Feet—What You Need to Know

Program details:

- Begins: 11/07/2016
- Six short weekly workshops
- Each class is a couple of hours
- No cost to attend or participate!

This program is not a replacement for medical care. Participants should keep all medical appointments and follow the direction of healthcare providers.
Where: Norton Younglove Community Center

459 Center St, Highgrove, CA 92507
When: Monday, 11/07/2016 - 12/19/2016
Time: 12:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

To register, call:
Please Join Us For An Overview Presentation on: Tuesday, 10/18/2016
at 11:30 a.m. For information Call: Leila Santamaria: 951.241.7221



Everyone with Diabetes Count

ACURA
HONDA
LEXUS
NISSAN
INFINITY

TOY TECH

Auto Repair
Specializing In Toyota
(951)781-7633

983 Center St.
Highgrove, CA 92507

JAMES JAURIGUE
Certified Master Technician

TRANSMISSION TUNE-UP

\$44⁵⁰

• Change Fluid • Clean Screen
• Replace Pan Gasket • Check Adjustments
• Road Test

For most Foreign & American Cars
Light Duty Mini Vans & Trucks

BUDGET TRANSMISSION, INC. #1

2129 3rd Street, Riverside, CA 951 683-0774
(Corner of 3rd & Kansas)




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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



Play & Learn Workshop

Have fun with your toddler while you play, explore and learn together!

Local resource professionals will be on hand to answer questions and serve as resources.

Tuesdays 11:00 - 12:30pm
October 4th - November 1st

Casa Blanca Branch Library
Community Room

For children ages 1-3
(siblings welcome)



TRI-CITY

SELF STORAGE
www.tricityselfstorage.com
485 W. La Cadena Dr. Riverside, CA 92501

951-784-0102

FUN! **JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY COMMUNITY SALE!!**
10-15-16



MUSIC! **STORAGE SPECIALS** **SELL!**
LOW MONTHLY RATES, FREE LOCK W/RENTAL, FREE MOVE IN TRUCK W/ RENTAL, ON SITE SHREDDING, MONTHLY YARD SALES, COMMERCIAL DELIVERIES ACCEPTED SALVATION ARMY DROP-SITE, WIDE AISLES FOR EASY ACCESS, DRIVE UP/GROUND LEVEL UNITS, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND COURTEOUS STAFF, CLEAN AND SECURE PROPERTY.

FREE ADMISSION!!

SWAP! **TRADE!** **CALL TODAY!!** **SAVE!**

1/2 OFF UP TO 2 MONTHS STORAGE ON SELECT SIZES. NEW RENTALS ONLY

CALL TODAY AND SECURE YOUR SPACE! IN LIGHT OF OUR ECONOMY SPACES ARE AVAILABLE AT NO COST!!! SO TELL YOUR NEIGHBORS, TELL YOUR CO-WORKERS AND COME ON OUT AND JOIN US! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

- SELL YOUR USED/NEW HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, CLOTHES, TOYS, BOOKS, ELECTRONICS, AUTO PARTS, ETC.
- SELL YOUR HANDCRAFTED GOODS!
- PROMOTE YOUR SMALL BUSINESS!
- NON-PROFIT FREE SET UP



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2016

RIVERSIDE ZOMBIE CRAWL!

2-6 PM

MAIN STREET
Between University & City Hall

- 2-6 PM - DJ Albert Figueroa
- 2-4:30 PM - Free Children's Halloween Crafts by DragonMarsh, Face painting, Balloon Art and Zombie-themed Carnival Games with prizes.
- 4:30 PM - Zombie Crawl Parade of Zombies versus Survivalists - which side will you choose?
- 5 PM - Zombie costume Contest with prizes for all ages

HOSTED BY RIVERSIDE DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
for more info call 951.781.7335
www.riversidedowntown.org
f / RiversideZombieCrawl
#RiversideZombieCrawl



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

COCKTAILS
Margaritas,
Piña Colada, Daiquiri,
Wine

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

SAVE THE DATE

to
HONOR OUR HEROES

A Raceway Ford fundraising event benefitting the
Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee

Saturday, October 22, 2016

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Raceway Ford
5900 Sycamore Canyon Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92507

For your enjoyment our evening will consist of
Food Tasting,
Wine and Craft Beer Tasting,
Silent Auction and Live Music
from "Little on the Side" Band
Tickets - \$75 Table for 8 - \$500

To RSVP or become a sponsor please contact Debbie at 951-784-1000 x322 or at dc@racewayford.com or Bill Chamberlain at 951-784-1000 x324 or at bc@racewayford.com

The Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee (RNCSC) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization comprised of volunteers dedicated to preserving and enhancing Riverside National Cemetery. RNCSC led the development and construction of the National POW/MIA Memorial, the Veterans Memorial, provided extensive repairs and maintenance of the National Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial, as well as many short term projects such as annual flower cone purchase, financial support to the Memorial Honor Detail, hosting the Memorial Day and Veterans Day Ceremonies, support for the Annual July Concert for Heroes Program and more. We also sponsor the Indigent/Unclaimed Veterans Memorial Service the 3rd Wednesday of each month.
Federal Tax ID: 33-0722700. P.O. Box 7519, Redlands, CA 92375 • www.rncsc.org

Highgrove e-mail address needed!

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



TUESDAY SPECIAL

25% off

entire check for local residents

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

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

22400 Barton Rd. Suite 1
Grand Terrace, CA 92313

909-783-3106



(Where Fine Elegance Meets Old Fashioned Customer Service)

909-783-0143

22533 Barton Rd., Grand Terrace, CA 92313



Frank O. Tetley
Attorney at Law

(909) 872-0405 direct
(909) 872-0440 fax

22365 Barton Rd. Suite 206
Grand Terrace, CA



Bobbie Kay Forbes
(909) 783-8888

BobbieKay@BarnettHomes.net
BobbieKayForbes@gmail.com



BRE #01004980



MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
MLS

22365 Barton Rd Suite #204
Grand Terrace, CA 92313

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

116 year old redwood siding suffers dry rot



Almost everything has a time limit and in this case only one side of this old house had seen better times. The nails had to be removed in order to pull the beveled siding straight down so the old siding could be removed. New redwood siding was no longer available but thanks to Champion Lumber, a company was found in Los Angeles that took a special order and duplicated the siding with new redwood just like the original. Each piece is 2 boards wide and the lower lip of the board fits over the previous panel. When we picked up the new siding they were in 20 foot lengths that had to be cut in order to get them into the truck.



The old construction was called lath and plaster that was replaced with drywall many years ago. The horizontal boards were plastered on the inside and in this view from the outside you can see some of the hardened plaster that came out between the boards 116 years ago. Back when this house was built you can see that the walls were not insulated. No wonder the Heating and Air Conditioning are so expensive!



Here is how the the new redwood siding now looks on the south side.

City of Riverside Recognizes National Disability Employment Awareness Month

City working with UC Riverside, California Department of Rehabilitation to raise awareness

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside is partnering with UC Riverside and the California Department of Rehabilitation to promote three events in October as part of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, which highlights the benefits of recruiting employees with disabilities and celebrating their contributions in the workplace. “The City of Riverside is excited to work with such impressive partners to bring attention to the valued contributions made every day by our disabled employees,” Mayor Rusty Bailey said. “One of our City’s core values is inclusivity, and one of the ways we can demonstrate that is through worthy efforts such as this.”

The theme for the month’s events is “Inclusion Works.” All events are free, but a reservation is required.

“We are excited to join with our campus and community partners in celebrating the contributions of employees with disabilities while increasing awareness of the value of a diverse workforce inclusive of their skills and talents,” said UCR Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources Jadie Lee.

The events include:

“A Piece of My Mind,” a one-man show by Eric Barr, a UCR professor emeritus who survived a major stroke. The performance, which is based on Barr’s struggle with grueling and frustrating rehabilitation sessions, and his gratitude for the support of family and friends, is at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1 in the University Theatre at UCR.

A “Walk and Roll” event with UCR Chancellor Kim A. Wilcox, Vice Chancellor Ron T. Coley, Vice Chancellor James Sandoval and leaders from the City of Riverside. Students, faculty, staff and local community members are encouraged to arrive at the university flagpole near Hinderaker Hall at 11:45 a.m. Friday, Oct. 7 for a walk around the campus. Booths with disability resources and career information will be positioned along the path. Participants will receive bottled water, snacks and have an opportunity to win prizes.

A “Windmills” workshop -- a formal disability, sensitivity and awareness training -- will be offered by UCR and the state Department of Rehabilitation to anyone who wants to interact more effectively with individuals with disabilities. It focuses on attitudes and human factors, as well as concerns and issues related to legal requirements and accommodation. The workshop will be held at the university’s Highlander Union Building (HUB), on Tuesday, October 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. A box lunch will be provided to all participants.

“It’s really gratifying to be able to combine our efforts with other great organizations in our community to provide these consciousness-raising events,” Mayor Pro Tem Andy Melendrez said. “We’re all better when we recognize that all people have a unique contribution to make to our community, and to the workplace.”

MEDIA RELATIONS

METROLINK.

Riverside Line Pedley station to change name to Jurupa Valley/Pedley station

Effective October 3, Metrolink’s Pedley station on the Riverside Line will be renamed to the Jurupa Valley/Pedley station.

The station’s name is being updated to reflect the city’s incorporation as Jurupa Valley.

When the Pedley station was created in 1993, it was located in an unincorporated area of Riverside County. In 2011, this 44-square mile region was incorporated as the City of Jurupa Valley, which encompasses the Metrolink Pedley station.

Due to the renaming of the station, ticket vending machines will require passengers to select “J” for Jurupa Valley/Pedley instead of “P” for fare media to and from the station formerly known as Pedley.

Pedley station information seen in the Metrolink timetable, station signage, online, and other sources will be listed as Jurupa Valley/Pedley information as of October 3.

MEDIA CONTACT: Gina Mack at mackg@scrra.net (213) 452-0205.

For more information regarding Metrolink service go to www.metro-linktrains.com.

ABOUT METROLINK: Metrolink is Southern California’s regional commuter rail service in its 23rd year of operation. The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRRA), a joint powers authority made up of an 11-member board representing the transportation commissions of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties, governs the service. Metrolink operates over seven routes through a six-county, 536 route-mile network. Metrolink is the third largest commuter rail agency in the United States based on directional route miles and the eighth largest based on annual ridership.

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Answers still needed from Riverside County Economic Development Agency!

July 21, 2016

Suzanne Holland

Assistant Director

Riverside County Economic Development Agency

3403 10th St., Suite 400

Riverside, Ca.

92502

Suzanne,

I understand that \$35,000 is being used to supplement the Sheriff protection in Highgrove and I have several questions on this subject.

1. Does the \$35,000 come from the money collected from the annual \$120.00 parcel assessment?
2. If not, where does this money come from?

At our meeting with you on April 27, 2016 you stated that the Spring Mountain Ranch parcels are paying the annual \$120.00 parcel fee.

3. Do all of the Spring Mountain Ranch tax bills include the \$120.00 assessment and if so, how much money is being given to the Sheriff Dept. and how much is given to Park & Rec. or other costs?
4. Is the \$120.00 collected only after the parcel is actually sold?
5. How much money is in the CSA 126E account as of July 1, 2016?

Thank you,

R. A. "Barney" Barnett

Chmn. Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council

474 Prospect Ave.

Highgrove, Ca. 92507

(951) 683 4994

highgrovenews@roadrunner.com

Sept. 5, 2016

Suzanne, I received information from your office that was given to me at the Aug. 17, 2016 Highgrove MAC meeting about the former Highgrove Deputy Sheriff and CSA 126 finances. This was in response to my original five questions that I asked on July 21, 2016 and re-asked on August 8, 2016. The information I received states that the Deputy stopped patrolling Highgrove in December 30, 2009 due to depleted funds. Do you have supporting documentation?

I would like to meet with you for clarification about the information you sent to the Highgrove MAC and where I can find the answers to my five questions. Please let me know when we can meet to discuss these and other items.

Thank you,

R. A. "Barney" Barnett

Chairman: Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council

Editor: Highgrove Happenings Newspaper

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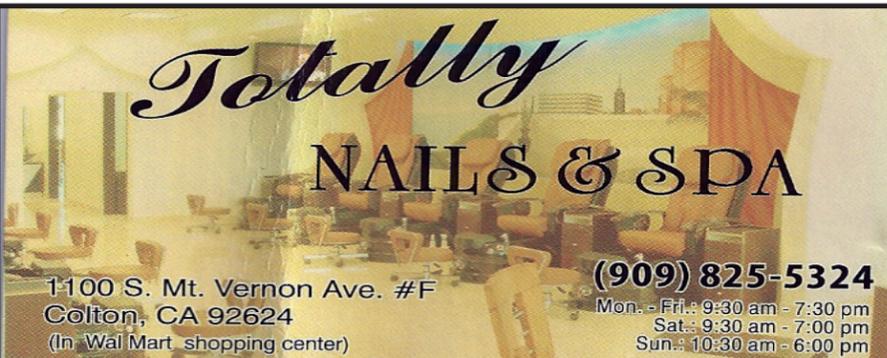
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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Time on RCTC Agenda denied regarding Highgrove Metrolink!

RCTC Clerk of the Board
Jennifer Harmon,
I have a presentation to make to the commission on the Sept. 14, 2016 Agenda. It will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes. I will call you tomorrow to see what is required to be placed on the Agenda
Thank you,
R. A. Barnett

(e-mail from Jennifer Harmon)
Good morning Mr. Barnett,
The public is provided three minutes to address the Commission at its meetings. Items can only be placed on an agenda by a Commissioner or staff.
Respectfully, Jennifer Harmon
Clerk of the Board

Here is a copy of the letter I then sent to Supervisor Tavaglione requesting 15 to 20 minutes on the Sept. 14, 2016 RCTC Agenda:

Supervisor Tavaglione
John,

It has been several years since I attended an RCTC meeting but many things have changed since then including the completion of the Perris Valley Line and new rooftops and residents in Spring Mountain Ranch. After 15 years of support for a Highgrove Metrolink station and 33,852 Metrolink trains later (that have passed through Highgrove since July 15, 2006), I encourage you to let me show the other Commissioners how RCTC's property at Highgrove can be used that will not only allow Metrolink commuters to travel between counties, but will also contribute to cleaner air by parking vehicles and using some of the daily Metrolink trains that go through Highgrove.

I have a short video and a laptop presentation to show the Commissioners but 15 years cannot be compressed into 3 minutes during public comments.

I am asking for your support to allow me 15 to 20 minutes on the agenda. I understand that my request to be on the agenda has to come from a Commissioner or staff.

Please notify Jennifer Harmon, Clerk of the Board, that you recommend placing me on the Sept. 14, 2016 agenda for a: "Highgrove Metrolink Presentation"

Thank you,

R. A. "Barney" Barnett
Chairman: Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council
Editor: Highgrove Happenings Newspaper
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Jason Farin from Supervisor Tavaglione's office called to inform me that Supervisor Tavaglione will not support placing me on the RCTC Agenda!

Just Married

Wedding Bells rang on September 24th for the marriage of Jungyeon (Julia) and Vincent Yu of Zorba's Hamburgers.

CONGRATULATIONS!



This new Perris Valley Line Metrolink train is shown going through the middle of RCTC's property at Highgrove headed to Riverside.



This Metrolink train came from Riverside and is going around the curved track at Highgrove. The un-used vacant on the inside and outside of this curved track is where public support has been received for 15 years for a parking lot. A parking lot here would be for commuters using the straight track, in the distant behind this train, using the existing Metrolink trains on the BNSF Main line between Villa St. and Iowa Ave. that operate between Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The train shown above does not stop at this location. It's last stop was Riverside station and it's next stop is the new Marlborough Ave. station. Commuters getting on the train at the new Marlborough Ave. Metrolink station cannot get to San Bernardino because these trains only travel to Perris in one direction or to Riverside and Los Angeles in the opposite direction.



Sugarloaf is shown in the background of this Metrolink train rounding the curve at Highgrove and headed to Riverside. We congratulate RCTC for accomplishing their goal to establish Metrolink service between Riverside and Perris. This \$248.3 Million dollar project uses RCTC's property at Highgrove but now, even after 15 years, RCTC commissioners will only hear from the public- three minutes at a time! We have never opposed the PVL, we just want to use RCTC's excess land for a parking lot for the regional trains that go between the two counties.

HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Medians along Iowa Ave. looking better!



This is Iowa Ave in the Riverside City limits near Columbia Avenue.

Does standing water in this canal draw mosquitos?



If there is a threat of the Zika virus in other parts of the country like in Florida for example, is anyone concerned that the canal, that runs through Highgrove, may also be a breeding ground for mosquitos that may carry the West Nile Virus? On Sept. 21, 2016 the Press Enterprise printed an article about 2 local residents who have contacted the West Nile virus.



Close up of new bush in Median on Iowa Avenue

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

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An ordinary table, a book, a single napkin. Or, so you might think. The reality is that things are not always as they appear, especially when illusionist David Laflin is on stage. David has a unique ability to take what we may think is normal and do simply incredible things. That ordinary table begins to float through the air. As you think of

one word in a book your thoughts are revealed- before you say a thing. A simple napkin is torn into the shape of a snowflake and then transforms again and shoots snow from a performers hands! Did that really just happen? Since 2002, internationally recognized illusionist David Laflin has entertained and inspired audiences all across the

United States and in several foreign countries through his creative blend of both classic and cutting-edge illusions. His programs have been featured at numerous conferences and conventions throughout the world and have reached large-scale audiences through his television appearances. More than simply an entertainer, David is also a gifted speaker. He is quick to point out that everything he does is simply an illusion. Only God can do real miracles. The highenergy and fast-paced show that he presents captivates audiences. People simply cannot help but stop and pay close attention to what he is doing. As they watch the amazing things that happen, their attention also focuses in on the message David shares. Through his illusions, the reality of the love of God is revealed in a way that people of all ages connect with. And, this, is the ultimate goal. David has a desire to bring families together for an experience they will never forget. An experience, that may just change their lives forever.



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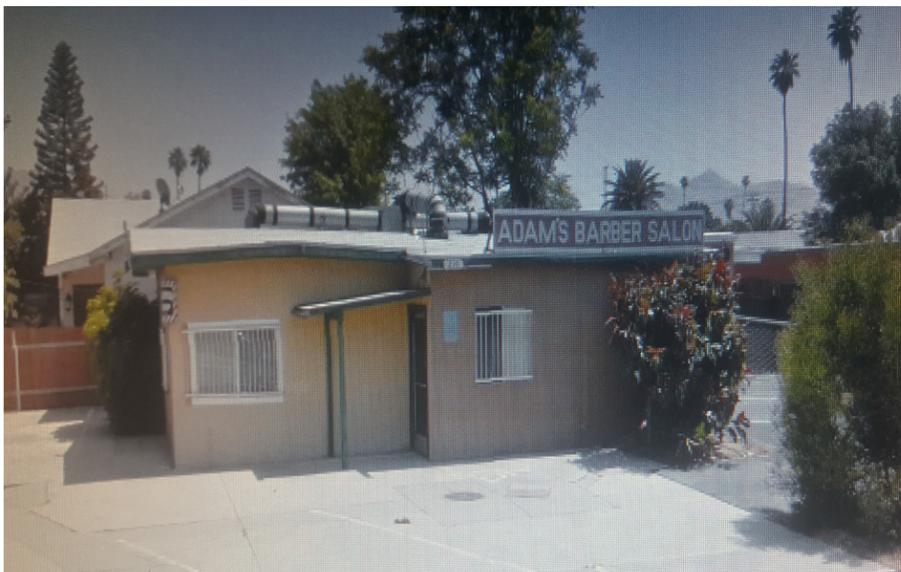
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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

Businesses going in and out of business and others expanding in our area!



The Yum Yum restaurant is closed and out of business

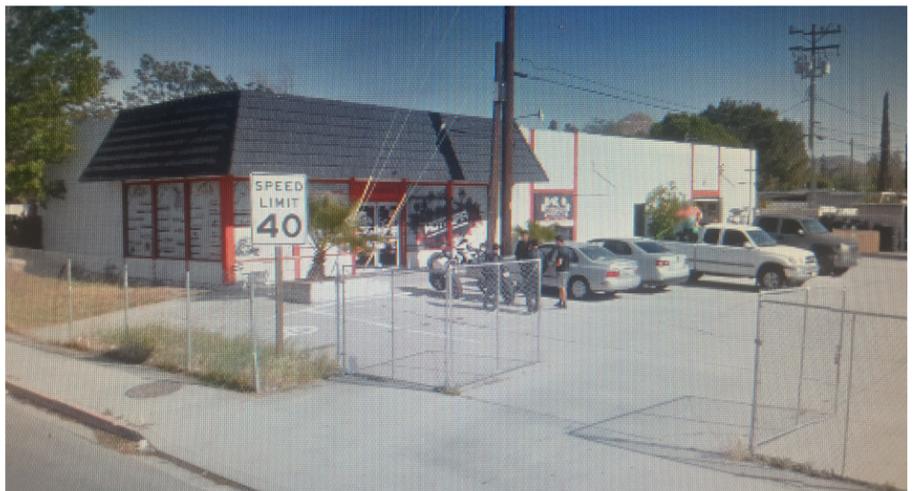


Adam's Barber Shop closed due to illness? Get well, Adam!



Photo by Jim Koker

RDO Equipment is expanding their John Deere in Highgrove



The motorcycle shop on the S/E corner of Center and Iowa is out of business and has been replaced by Star Rack
See their adv. on page 7

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS

California Dreaming

By: Dr. Cynthia Williams

The audacious greed of the "Big Pharma" industry is front page news again. After the hide-splitting public opinion lashing Martin Shkreli received because of the outrageous price hikes of his company's drug Daraprim (an anti-parasitic medication used by pregnant women and others with compromised immune systems), one would think an intelligent CEO of any company would think very carefully before introducing a huge price hike on a very popular life saving medication. How insulated are they, how disconnected from the real world are they, that they think it would go unnoticed and be acceptable?

Epinephrine is a lifesaver- it saved me once when I had an allergic reaction during a medical procedure. The EpiPen has been used to save countless lives, including my cousin's. Up until recently it was somewhat reasonably priced and available to everyone. In 2009 a two-pack of the Mylan product cost \$99. Considering the pen may never be used and have to be disposed of, \$99 hurts but it's doable. Also, students need several available; usually one on them in a backpack, one with the school nurse, one in the classroom, one with a parent, and one at home in a drawer or cabinet. And they need to be replaced almost yearly. When Mylan hiked the price to \$600 for a two-pack this last May, the concept of reasonable, available and doable was gone. People were angry and they were scared. Readily available epinephrine is literally a life saver. It is not optional medication. Mylan threw the public a bone and provided discount coupons but the price is still out of reach for most people.

The most significant drawback to epinephrine in any form is that it has a short shelf life. Currently the FDA acceptable life span for an autoinject epinephrine pen is 18 months and that's if it is stored in ideal conditions. Many people keep the pen in the glove box of their car; because of the heat, it can greatly reduce the effectiveness of the epinephrine. A study published in May 2000 reported that an EpiPen that is out of date- they tested ones that were one to ninety months out of date- were at best 65% effective. They concluded that the out of date ones could be used as long as there

was no discoloration or precipitates in the solution- the risk outweighed the benefits. The problem is that one may not take a close look at the solution when a person is in the throws of anaphylaxis and could die. With the outlandish price hike, many patients are looking for solutions. A web search revealed very few safe solutions, some coupons and some supplies for DIY pens; there are YouTube videos on how to DIY a pen (NOT recommended!). As with all pharmaceutical purchases made from an on-line source, it is highly risky to purchase from an unknown vendor. There is a very long history of medicines being sold on the internet that are of poor quality, completely inert, or at times, made with ingredients that are a health risk.

Typically a medication that's been on the market for a number of years will have a generic version available. In this situation, it's not the medication that's protected, it's the delivery system- the auto injection pen which is a device and doesn't fall in the same category as medication. So the options are severely limited. The August 2016 Consumer Reports magazine relayed this information: "the authorized generic of Adrenaclick (epinephrine auto-injector), is a cheaper option—we found it for \$142 at Walmart and Sam's Club using a coupon from GoodRx. While generic Adrenaclick isn't the same technology and is used differently than EpiPen, both auto-injectors contain the same drug, epinephrine, available in the same dosages, says Barbara Young, Pharm.D., of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists." Epinephrine is an inexpensive, readily available medication so there's not been any motivation to patent another delivery system other than EpiPen. The world's been happy to let Mylan carry the ball. Consumer Reports also mentioned that the crucial ingredient, epinephrine, is available in a bottle but has a very short shelf life, about 90 days. It is considerably less expensive but one must be trained on how to draw the medication in the safe correct dosage and then inject it properly- all while under stress when a loved one is having an anaphylactic attack. Clearly not an ideal time to be playing doctor. So what is a person to do? First, be very attentive to the availability of coupons for either the EpiPen or

the Adrenaclick. This is a financial solution. However, this doesn't address the biggest problem, the one of "Big Pharma" greed and predatory pricing. As with all things concerning money, the consumer must become an advocate and warrior to protect themselves. Become an activist. Even if the EpiPen is not a personal issue, there WILL be another medication someday that will eventually get too expensive for you. I think most of us can agree that there is something very wrong when a drug company CEO

pulls in a paycheck of over 18 million dollars a year. YOU are paying that! If you have insurance that is paying, you are still paying that via your premiums. Write letters, make phone calls to your elected officials and insist that the system be changed. Don't just gripe though; make a few reasonable solutions for them to work on. And get others to work with you. Hopefully a child won't have to die from the lack of an epinephrine injection before we see changes.



Stater Bros. Charities and Inland Women Fighting Cancer Present the 9th Annual Believe Walk on Sunday, October 2nd

Over \$3 Million Donated to Support "Hometown" Cancer Fighting Organizations

WHAT: The 9th Annual Believe Walk will take place on Sunday, October 2, 2016 in historic downtown Redlands, rain or shine.

Participants will walk along a family friendly and dog friendly 5K route lined with fun-filled entertainment including live music, motivational cheer groups and Bark and Believe stations for dogs. Pre-event festivities will include a Survivor Celebration area, and the walk will conclude with the Believe Bash celebration at the Redlands Bowl.

WHY: Stater Bros. has always believed in doing the right thing for the right reason and takes great pride in ensuring that the proceeds from the Annual Stater Bros. Charities Believe Walk goes right back into the communities where our valued customers and employees live and work. Since 2008, Stater Bros. Charities Annual Believe Walk has donated over \$3 million to local cancer fighting organizations.

START: Historic Downtown Redlands (State and Orange Streets)

END: Redlands Bowl – Believe Bash

WHEN: Sunday, October 2nd

§ 6:30 a.m. – Pre-Walk Festivities and Registration begins

§ 7:45 a.m. – Pre-Walk Program begins

§ 8:00 a.m. – Walk begins

PARKING: Free parking is available at:

§ Redlands Mall

§ Public Parking Structure, Citrus Avenue

§ Public Parking Lot off Redlands Boulevard

§ Street Parking

§ "No Parking" areas are monitored.

Vehicles will be towed at owner's expense

MEDIA CHECK-IN: Corner of Orange & State Streets near the Redlands Mall. Upon arrival contact Marisa Kutansky (909) 957-2199.

About Stater Bros. Charities

Stater Bros. Charities is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports critical needs in the communities where Stater Bros. employees live and work. Since 2008, Stater Bros. Charities has provided funding to countless local organizations and causes that benefit hunger relief, children's well-being, education, health, and help for our nation's veterans. Funds are raised throughout the year from generous customers, supplier friends, and caring members of the Stater Bros. Supermarket Family. For more information log onto www.staterbros.com.

About Inland Women Fighting Cancer (IWFC) and the creation of the Believe Walk

Local community leaders and cancer survivors Annie Sellas, Cathy Stockton, and Nancy Varner envisioned doing something in the community to raise awareness about cancer. During treatments, they had been each other's support group and decided to do something for local Inland women facing the same prognosis. Inland Women Fighting Cancer, a coalition of friends, fellow survivors and supporters was formed.

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HIGHGROVE HAPPENINGS



County of Riverside Code Enforcement Department

Church Becomes Marijuana Dispensary

Code Enforcement received a complaint of a Medical Marijuana Dispensary (MMD) operating at a property in the community of Home Gardens. Upon arrival, staff found that the MMD was operating at a location that was once a church and near the Home Gardens Academy, a school that serves grades K-8. The school was less than 600 feet away from the dispensary.



Contact was made with a security guard who verified that a marijuana dispensary was operating at the site. As with most dispensaries, the lobby was set up with security cameras, sign in sheets, and marijuana paraphernalia. The other rooms of the building were secured with no immediate access; however, there was strong odor of marijuana permeating throughout. Permission to inspect was asked for but denied by the security guard. A consensual inspection was conducted later with both the property owner and the marijuana

dispensary operator. Staff explained the County's outright ban against dispensaries and the direct conflict with the Health & Safety Code, but it must not have sunken in because the business continued to operate illegally after the Notices of Violation were issued. Code Enforcement personnel put together a Task Force comprised of County of Riverside Sheriff Deputies, State of CA Employment Development Department - Underground Economy Section, State of CA Department of Industrial Relations - Division of Labor Standards Enforcement Bureau, and County District Attorney Investigations Bureau and re-inspected the site. The MMD was closed soon after.



Butler Racing

Saturday, September 10th, 2016 Orange Show Speedway News! Driver, Jessica Welch of Grand Terrace, finishes out the season winning Rookie of the Year in her #22 Butler Racing, 1984 Dodge Daytona Barber Pole Race Car! It's no wonder Jessica's fan base has continued to grow throughout the season, she puts on one exciting competitive show against fellow drivers! Beginning her racing career in the Barber Pole Division at the start of the 2016 season in April, with only seven races under her belt and no previous racing experience, she has shown fellow drivers and fans what it's all about finishing the overall season 2nd in points for the Barber Pole Division! That same night, Driver, Rob

Anderson of Ontario, finished out the season winning the Barber Pole Trophy Dash and Main Event in his #127 Butler Racing Ford Probe Barber Pole Race Car! Rob started his racing career in 1989 and has raced in various divisions, winning numerous championships over the years. This is Rob's first year in the Barber Pole Division and based on Saturday nights show fans are in for an exciting season in 2017! Butler Racing would like to thank the following 2016 Season Sponsors: American Metal Recycling, JLT Guatemala, J. Riley Distillery, Bakers Drive Thru, GT Imprints, Old No. 22 Brand, Garcia Tires and Carpet Coop. For more race team information and pictures visit butlerracingteam.com

By: Jamie Lynn Lopez
San Bernardino, CA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RTA GETS GLOWING FEEDBACK FROM MAJOR AUDIT Ridership increased, service expanded during healthy three-year period

RIVERSIDE, CA — September 23, 2016 — Propelled by a recovering economy, the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) expanded service, boosted ridership and planned for future growth, according to a new audit that inspected virtually every area of operation over a three-year period.

The Transportation Development Act (TDA) Triennial Performance Audit, commissioned by the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), found the Agency in compliance with all areas of inspection, including administration; scheduling and dispatch; maintenance; marketing and public information; service planning; and general management and organization. The audit covered fiscal years 2013 through 2015.

During the three-year audit period, RTA's ridership grew by nearly 10 percent, from 8.4 million to 9.2 million boardings. The audit also determined that RTA's farebox recovery ratio (or the percentage of operating costs covered by passenger fares) hovered between 26 and 29 percent during the three-year period, easily exceeding the state's required minimum farebox ratio.

During the audit period, RTA modernized bus stops at the Galleria at Tyler in Riverside, concluded a major study that identified service upgrades for the next decade, continued work on the RapidLink express service project in Corona and Riverside, and improved routes to serve new and expanded Metrolink service in Riverside County. The Agency also received a regional clean air award for its use of compressed natural gas vehicles and its partnerships with area colleges.

RTA Chairman of the Board Frank Johnston said the audit reflects RTA's commitment to using taxpayer dollars wisely.

"Passing this audit with flying colors reflects RTA's conservative business approach and our commitment to operate a world-class transit system --- from the top management to the bus drivers and mechanics --- that adapts and thrives over the long run," Johnston said.

The audit is required every three years for agencies such as RTA that apply for and receive state funding. Specifically, those state funds are tied to TDA revenues: Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA). Over the course of several months, auditors interviewed RTA management, collected and reviewed documents and inspected the Agency's facilities. No deficiencies were found in any of the reviewed areas.

The Riverside Transit Agency provides public transportation for Western Riverside County, operating 36 fixed routes, 8 express routes and Dial-A-Ride service. RTA's service area spans 2,500 square miles, among the largest in the nation. For bus route and schedule information contact RTA at (951) 565-5002 or go to www.RiversideTransit.com.



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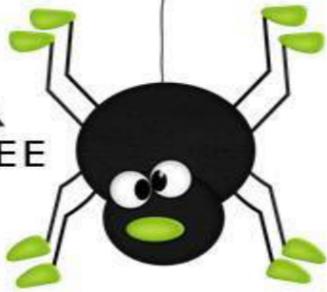
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Please visit our Highgrove Happenings website:

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

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