

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
December 17, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council FROM: Scott Stiles, City Manager
Members

I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES

None.

II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

None.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

- NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information.
- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
Items of interest are included.



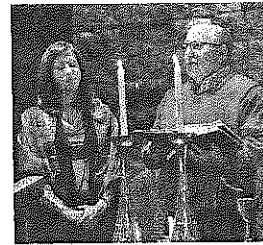
SCOTT C. STILES
City Manager

Weekly Memo 12/17/15

**NEWSPAPER
ARTICLES**

THE GARDEN GROVE JOURNAL

ALSO SERVING STANTON, WESTMINSTER AND MIDWAY CITY



SEASON TO CELEBRATE
HANUKKAH
FESTIVITIES WITH
TEMPLE BETH
DAVID
PAGE 8

AN EDITION OF THE
REGISTER

Garden Grove Journal / Register

Dec. 17, 2015

THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 2015

OCREGISTER.COM/JOURNAL

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PHOTOS: DREW A. KELLEY, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden Grove's Jenna Tower takes a moment while she works Saturday morning at Fountain Valley Skating Center

At 16, a roller-skating veteran

Pacifica High junior won two national titles before retiring from competitive roller skating.

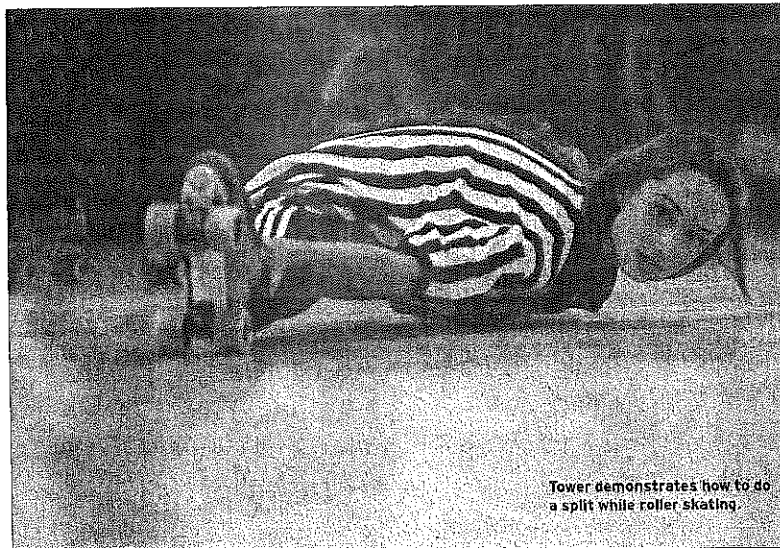
By CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

Jenna Tower talks about roller skating the way some former professional athletes talk about their sports.

There's the nostalgia for competition. The been-there-done-that desire for new challenges. And the acceptance – and appreciation – that even though there are no more trophies to win, a part of her will always be more comfortable in skates than any other footwear.

That's because Tower, too, has hung up her skates – at least competitively.

Just 16 years old and still in high school, Tower is, in terms of competitive roller skating, a decorated



Tower demonstrates how to do a split while roller skating.

“

I want to try as many new things as I can. But skating will stick with me forever. I will probably be that 80-year-old lady skating around with her walker.”

JENNA
TOWER
16, FORMER
COMPETITIVE
ROLLER
SKATER

TOWER

FROM PAGE 1

veteran of the sport. She started private lessons at 5. By 7, she was competing in regional championships. She broke through with back-to-back national titles when she was 10 and 11.

And then, she decided it was time to move on to other things.

"I did everything I could in skating," she said. "I won nationals. I wanted to try something new."

But Tower isn't sitting still. She competes with the Pacifica High School dance team, which won a national title in 2014 when she was a sophomore. She raises money for animal shelters. And she works at Fountain Valley Skating Center, where she teaches kids how to skate - keeping an eye on those who show the same passion she has - and acts as DJ when the center is open to the public.

Tower is also the 2016 Garden Grove Miss Outstanding Teen. For the talent portion of the October scholarship pageant, she threw on her skates and dusted off one of her routines. She earned the top talent score.

"I want to try as many new things as I can," she said. "But skating will stick with me forever. I will probably be that 80-year-old lady skating around with her walker."

On a recent Saturday morning, Tower sat at a table near the snack counter of the Fountain Valley Skating Center. Her pink roller skates were on the bench next to her and she waited for the class that precedes hers to wrap up.

Tower described herself as a goofball, both personally and on the rink. But she is also, in many ways, precocious - speaking with poise and insight about her skating career and what she wants for the future.

"Skating has been a part

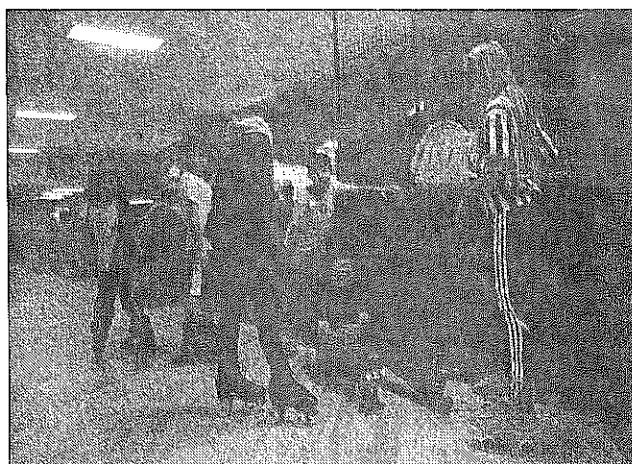
of my life for the last 11 years," she said. "Something about it stuck with me. ... I just feel really comfortable on wheels."

Roller-skating competitions are similar to the ice skating ones during the Winter Olympics. There is music and choreographed routines. Judges award scores.

Her mom, Sharon Tower, said that even though her daughter seems easygoing today, she was fiercely competitive during regionals and nationals.

"She used to get really upset when she made a mistake," Sharon Tower said. "She got better at it, but she was really competitive."

Nationals, which are broken down by age group, are the highest championship



Jenna Tower, right, checks on Aaron Tran after he fell Saturday at Fountain Valley Skating Center.

she could win; but there is a chance the sport makes the 2020 Olympics.

But now she is retired. And so she skates entirely for the love of it.

That's why she spends

her Saturday mornings teaching kids to balance on wheels, how to stop and how to roll across the hardwood.

After her class last week, she threw on a referees jer-

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Jenna Tower

Age: 16

School: Pacifica High School

Prospective university: Cal State Long Beach

Titles: Two-time roller-skating national champion, 2016 Garden Grove Miss Outstanding Teen

sey as the rink opened to the public. She took some time off from her DJ responsibilities to do the splits and some break dancing - all on eight wheels.

Skating, she said, will always be a huge part of who she is: many of her friends are skaters, she met her boyfriend at the Fountain Valley rink, and she gets to teach children (which she loves doing) while being on skates.

But now, it's more of a hobby. Tower says her focus is now on dance, surviving high school, going to college, learning sign language, studying animal science and competing in another pageant - when she is old enough to compete not for Outstanding Teen, but for Miss Garden Grove.

"It's really weird to think I've done so many things already," Tower said. "But I've always had this love for skating."

If Tower does compete in Miss Garden Grove again, she said perhaps the audience and judges will get another look at her skills on roller skates.

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714-704-3707 or

chaire@ocregister.com

How long will the rusty skeleton stand?

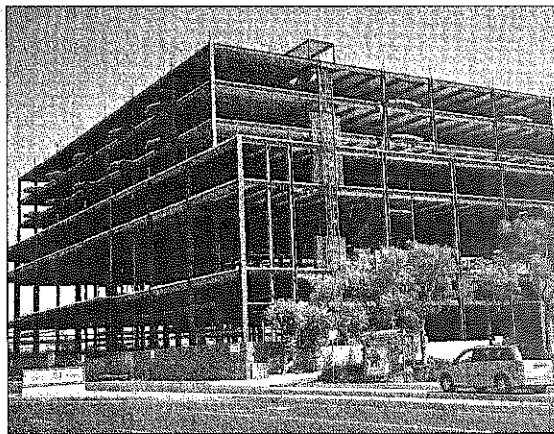
City Council delays decision on fate of unfinished Galleria.

By CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

The Garden Grove City Council last week, in a contentious 3-2 vote, decided not to enforce its longstanding order to demolish the 90-foot unfinished structure known as the rusty skeleton, which has been untouched since 2009. Instead, the council will hold off its decision until the end of May.

Earlier this year, there was hope that the latest mixed-use development proposed for the site at Brookhurst Street and Garden Grove Boulevard, called Lotus Plaza, would be successful.

But negotiations between the property's owner, the nonprofit Hoag Foundation, and the money lender for the project, Cath-



The partly-built Garden Grove Galleria sits near the intersection of Brookhurst Street and Garden Grove Boulevard.

KEVIN SULLIVAN,
FILE PHOTO

ay Bank, have since stalled. The developer would be Brooks Street.

Hoag wants to walk away from negotiations and have the city tear down the metal structure. Cathay has said it's possible it can work with what is already built.

Here are some things to know to stay up to date on the rusty skeleton.

Q. Why did the council hold off on executing the demolition order?

A. A majority of the council, led by the usually cautious Steve Jones, is hesitant to interfere with what is essentially a dispute between two private parties.

Jones said he would like to see what happens in a Cali-

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Community Meeting Center set to reopen by February

By CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

The \$1.1 million in renovations at the Garden Grove Community Meeting Center are about a month behind schedule but should be completed by the end of January.

The center, at 11300 Stanford Ave., has been closed since June.

Kim Huy, the city's community services director, said minor setbacks in renovating the roof caused the delay. But, she said, the upgrades have cost about \$200,000 less than the original estimate of \$1.3 million.

The renovations on the 40-year-old building include replacing the Plexiglas-like roof, which has leaks and has caused water damage; installing new flooring and carpeting in the lobby; replacing some of the overgrown trees in the lobby, which is also an atrium; and giving some of the rooms an updated look. The roof will remain see-

through.

Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades are also in the planning.

"It's not a major renovation," Huy said. "It's mostly just replacing really old stuff."

The renovations have forced the City Council to conduct its typically biweekly meetings at the Courtyard Center in Village Green Park since late August.

But the council will be back in its permanent council chambers in the Meeting Center around the beginning of February.

In April, the city will begin ADA renovations to the chambers, which will take until about June and cost \$375,000 to \$400,000, Huy said.

At that point, the council's meetings either will move back to the Courtyard Center or, more likely, to the Meeting Center's banquet hall, known as the Butterfield A & B Room.

PROJECT

FROM PAGE 1

ifornia Supreme Court case that will determine if Cathay Bank owes \$11 million to the developer for the unfinished Garden Grove Galleria. It is unclear, though, what bearing that case has on the relationship between Hoag and Cathay.

Q. What are the chances the stalemate ends?

A. That seems to rest with the Hoag board of directors.

In November, when the council last weighed what to do, William Grant, the president of the Hoag Foundation board of directors, said the board unanimously decided to walk away from negotiations with Cathay.

Among the board's issues with Cathay was about \$550,000 in attorney's fees Cathay had not paid Hoag despite agreeing to do so.

Cathay officials, though, surprised the room when they announced they had a check with them to give to

Hoag officials, if they agreed to keep negotiating. The council gave two weeks for the Hoag board to reconsider.

In a letter dated Dec. 3, Grant wrote that the board unanimously upheld its decision to pull out of talks with Cathay.

"The board of trustees," the letter said, "determined the potential benefit, if any, to be derived by Hoag Foundation is far outweighed by the potential detriment to Hoag Foundation by participating in any transaction with Cathay Bank."

Q. What are some of the other issues Hoag has with Cathay Bank?

A. Hoag, as a nonprofit, is prevented from entering into what is known as "speculative investing," according to its letter to the city.

The project is speculative, according to Hoag, because of the long dormancy of the project, the need to eventually enter into an agreement with a developer - in this case, Brooks Street - and the inability to agree on conceptual ideas for the pro-

ject.

Q. What options does the city have?

A. It only has one: Enforce the demolition order granted by a judge in 2013.

As the council has conceded, the proposed Lotus Plaza project and its related dispute is between private parties.

At last week's meeting, Councilman Phat Bui said the council can only "facilitate. We can not be referees or judges."

The council does, however, have a right to declare the rusty skeleton a public nuisance and have it demolished.

Q. What happens if and when the council decides to enforce the demolition order?

A. What will follow is, at minimum, a six-month process costing the city about \$6,000 to \$8,000, according to acting City Attorney Omar Sandoval.

The city will have to go back to the judge to ask him to enforce the demolition order. Assuming Cathay doesn't try to block enforcement, the city then has to find a company to tear down the structure.

YOU CAN FIND SOME

LOCAL HISTORY ON EBAY

Like a lot of you, Brainiac loves a good deal on a one-of-a-kind item. Even more so if we can shop while sitting on the couch in our boxers and slippers while working through the morning's pot of coffee.

Which is where we found ourselves one day not long ago browsing eBay when an idea occurred to us: What are people hawking on these sell-it-yourself sites that comes from Garden Grove, Westminster, Stanton and Midway City.

In just a minute or two of clicking a few trends emerged, and you can raise your hand now if you knew that post cards, matchbooks and police patches would be the most commonly offered items out there.

No you didn't. But it's true.

Garden Grove Police Department patches go from a few bucks for the current style up to \$99 bucks for a vintage style that features a wheel with angels' wings embroidered in yellow on a rust-colored fabric. The same seems true for Westminster police patches, though we mostly found new ones you could snag, auction permitting, for less than \$10.

And the city of Stanton, which uses the Orange County Sheriff's Depart-

ment now, has a police department that lives on still in the patches of its now disbanded department.

The postcards and matchbooks, though, offered a much cooler glimpse of these places we call home, especially in days past where Brainiac's imagination often likes to

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linger.

There are plenty of the old Crystal Cathedral, one of the most prominent landmarks in Garden Grove for decades. But the oddballs are the most interesting to us.

A hand-tinted postcard from the '30s or '40s that's yours for \$5.99 advertised

the Imperial Restaurant, **George and Nora Berris'** place in a building that looked like a log cabin at 8641 Garden Grove Blvd. "The finest French food & restaurant in Orange County," the back of the card declared.

Searching for Westminster postcards we were

puzzled at first by who would want a photo card of the chapel at the Westminster Memorial Park Mortuary and Cemetery on Beach Boulevard.

Then you click to view the back and find a note that shoots an arrow to the heart: "This is the chapel where they held services

for Josephine. It's a beautiful little chapel. They sure had her laid out nice, she looked about 60 years old."

That one made us sad, so we switched to the matchbooks, figuring they might testify to happier, or at least boozier memories. And they did.

And old matchbook cover for the Coachman on Haster Street in Garden Grove featured a martini glass and musical notes with the promise of lunch, dinner, cocktails and entertainment. Mei's Family Restaurant on Beach Boulevard in Westminster promised "Chinese dinners - eat here or food to go."

Other Garden Grove restaurants and night spots for which you can still own their classic matchbook art include such places as the Jolly Knight - "famous for steaks" - on Garden Grove Boulevard or the Ploughman's Retreat on Valley View Street, and Belisle's Restaurant at the corner of Garden Grove and Beach boulevards where "Le connoisseur welcomes you" and invites you to make a reservation by ringing Jefferson 7-5697.

So there you have it, pieces of local history, just a click and a few bucks away. Now it's time to put on our long pants and get out of the house.

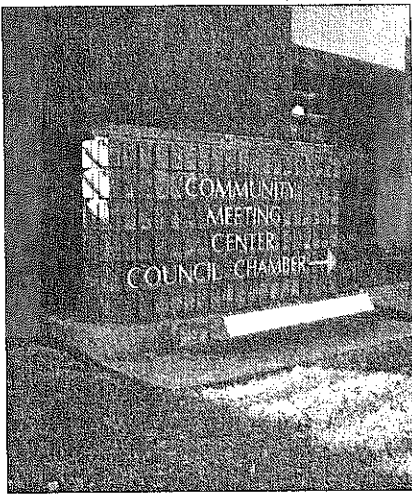
City Council gets its hands dirty

The work at the Brookhurst Triangle had already begun, but that didn't mean City Council members didn't want to get their hands dirty.

The council and representatives from developer Kam Sang Co. held the official groundbreaking ceremony for the multiphase, nearly 14-acre mixed-used project last week - with City Council members donning hard-hats and sticking shovels in the ground.

The first phase of the project, apartment units, will cost the developer about \$40 million to build. The triangle has been empty for decades.

- Chris Haire



CHRIS HAIRE, FILE PHOTO

Garden Grove Senior Center's annual Christmas dinner and dance is planned.

It's party time with Mr. Claus

Who wants to kiss Santa Claus under the mistletoe?

Get your party on at Garden Grove Senior Center's annual Christmas dinner and dance at 6 p.m. Friday at 11300 Stanford Ave.

The Serenaders will perform all night, and there will be dinner and beverages. Santa will stop by - and maybe show off some of his moves.

Tickets are \$10 and include dinner. You must order the tickets before the event. Call 714-741-5253 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Chris Haire



KYUSUNG GONG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden Grove fans watch the home match against Segerstrom on Dec. 10.

CAPTURING SUNSET OVER GARDEN GROVE HIGH

Sometimes not all the great action is on the field.

While the Argonauts recently battled Segerstrom High down on the field for control of the soccer ball, photographer Kyusung Gong caught a battle between light and dark going on up in the sky.

He captured this moment of sunset backlighting the fans who watched the girls soccer match from the Garden Grove High stands.

Segerstrom went on to win the soccer game 3-2.

- Heather McRea

Opening Day fees waived

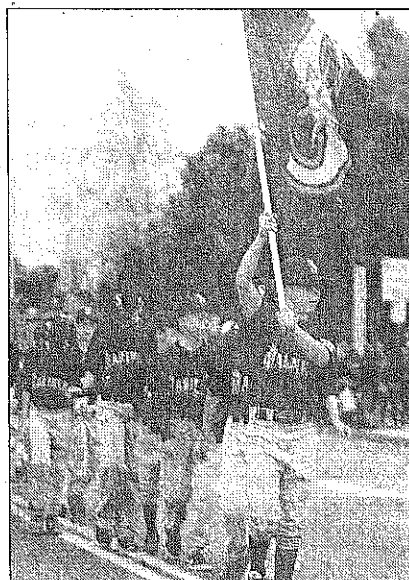
The Garden Grove City Council hit a home run - though the pitch was definitely a softball.

The council agreed last week to waive the \$2,500 in fees it would have cost West Garden Grove Youth Baseball to host its annual Opening Day Parade, scheduled for Feb. 20.

This year, the baseball league, which has held a parade annually for nearly 60 years, is joining forces with the softball girls and creating a "family fun day." During the carnival-like event, there will be food, business vendors and other activities.

Terry Anderson, the baseball league's new president, said the price tag was hefty for the all-volunteer nonprofit.

- Chris Haire



DREW A. KELLEY, FILE PHOTO

Boys walk down Springdale Street during the West Garden Grove Youth Baseball parade in February.

Holocaust survivor, war hero dies

Tibor Rubin, 86, recently had a library named after him

By Loreen Berlin

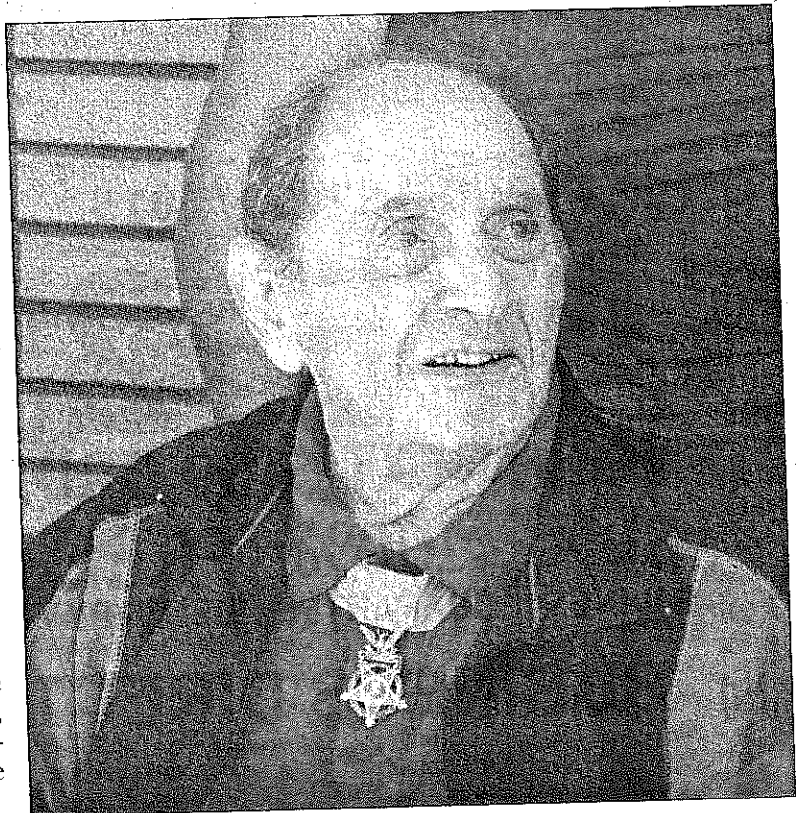
A mere nine months ago, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Tibor Rubin was further recognized when the West Garden Grove Library on Bailey Street was renamed for him.

Rubin, a Garden Grove resident, was a Holocaust survivor; a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient; and had been awarded two Purple Hearts.

"The Garden Grove Tibor Rubin Library" is listed on the front of the building, where a bronze bust of Rubin stands at the front door.

In his honor, the front of the library was landscaped in red, white and blue plants, representing the flag's stars and stripes.

It was President George W. Bush who presented Rubin the country's highest military honor, the "Congressional Medal of Honor," on Sept. 23, 2005, at the White House in Washington D.C.



Tibor Rubin

see HERO, page 4



Photos by Loreen Berlin

Congressional Medal of Honor, recipient of two Purple Hearts and Holocaust survivor Tibor Rubin of Garden Grove (center) is flanked from left by Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen, daughter Rosie and son Frank earlier this year when the Garden Grove Library was renamed the "Garden Grove Tibor Rubin Library."

HERO:

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At that time, Rubin was one of only nine Korean War Medal of Honor recipients — 145 were awarded — who was still alive. But

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two-thirds were killed in action.

The award was presented 55 years after Rubin's service in the Korean War. According to history, the honor was overlooked because of anti-Semitism by a superior. According to studies in the late 1990s by the U.S. Army, discrimination against Rubin and other Jewish veterans was found.

In 2014, the United States Postal Service unveiled a Forever Stamp Prestige Folio with 13 Korean War Medal of Honor recipients, which included Rubin.

Rubin was born in Hungary. In 1942, when Rubin was 13 years old, Nazi soldiers forced his family into concentration camps; Rubin was in the Mauthausen Concentration Camp, where he remained until 1945, when the American's liberated that camp and its prisoners from a sure death in the gas chambers.

His father and mother and a younger sister were not so fortunate.

The Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp was a large group of German concentration camps built around the villages of Mauthausen and Gusen in Upper Austria, approximately 12.5 miles

east of the city of Linz.

Rubin decided he would come to America to defend the country that saved his life, enlisting in the U.S. Army and being sent to the front lines of the Korean War, where Rubin single-handedly slowed an enemy advance for 24-hours, thereby distinguishing himself with extraordinary heroism.

Rubin is also credited with being able to once again slow the enemy, as it advanced; however, he was wounded and captured by the Chinese.

The Chinese told Rubin they would send him back to Hungary, but not to the U.S. Rubin chose to remain with his fellow soldiers in the POW camp for three years, risking death each night as he sneaked out to steal food and medical supplies, saving the lives of 40 other prisoners.

In 1990, Congress designated March 25 as National Medal of Honor Day.

The re-naming of the Garden Grove Library is a well-deserved tribute to Tibor Rubin.

Rubin is survived by wife Evonne, daughter Rosie and son Frank.

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Leaders break ground on homes project

Development will feature 670 condos and apartments and a retail center

By Loreen Berlin

The long-awaited development at "Brookhurst Triangle," now designated as "Brookhurst Place," was saluted with a ground-breaking and a toast last week.

The project is at the junction of Garden Grove Boulevard, Brookhurst Street and Brookhurst Way

"Driven in the spirit of working together for the good of the community, despite challenges and obstacles, this project exemplifies working with community, business and public and private entities, where we have worked to solve issues and reach a goal," said new Garden Grove City Manager Scott Stiles.

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HOMES:

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The groundbreaking was held along Brookhurst Way, where Phase I is the construction of 180 luxury apartments, on 3 acres of the total property, with a completion date set for 2017. Phase one is expected to cost the developer approximately \$40 million.

In total, there will be 670 mixed-use condo/apartments when the project is built, with the last building set to contain a retail center, making a total of six buildings on the site, with 272,000 square-feet of open space and 65,000 square-feet of commercial space.

Heading up the project is the Kam Sang Company, headquartered in Arcadia.

Stiles said the groundbreaking is the city's largest mixed-use development, which encompasses 14 acres with 670-plus market apartments along with commercial and open space.

"I want to thank president and CEO Ronnie Lam of the Kam Sang Company for their valued partnership," said Stiles.

Stiles also acknowledged city staff past and present and city departments for their tireless work on the project and "For obtaining the needed entitlements and for getting the plan approved."

The area has been a patch of

dirt for more than 20 years and so it's an exciting time for Garden Grove, as excavation of the area began in mid-November.

Kam Sang officials said there will be a winding path of more than one-mile for walking around the inside of the development area.

Kam Sang senior Vice President Phil Wolfgramm said, "The area is beginning to get life again and it will bring more housing and revenue to the city and revitalization to the area. We will have our first residents in mid 2017."

Community Services Director Kim Huy, who emceed the groundbreaking, said that construction was to begin in 2014, "But there were delays at the State Finance Department that held up Kam Sang's purchase of the former Redevelopment Agency property from the city; the Phase I sale, for \$6.5 million dollars, was finalized Nov. 9."

Kam Sang Project Manager John Hicks said once his company received the final OK in March of 2015, they began to submit their drawings. "Before that, we had to wait for the state," he said.

Mayor Bao Nguyen said the project is a place where all people can come to live and work.

"This is being constructed with our community in mind and it takes many helping hands to make this happen," he said. "It's

a significant project for our city and community."

Mayor Pro Tem Steve Jones said the project goes back a long time; back to when he was still serving on the Planning Commission.

"I've seen the project go through many hands, so this is an exciting day. This site is like the crossroads in the town, as we have the Korean Business District, Little Saigon and City Hall and it's a great partnership with the Kam Sang Company," he said.

"I thank the city for all of their support in helping me to do this development," said Lam. "The project took a long time to put it together. I thank staff and everyone so that we could come to today. I thank the citizens for support and the families and company staff. This project will be one of the many for hopefully the future."

"The city of Garden Grove will sell the rest of the property for \$18 million once Phase II begins. Not all of that money, though, will go to Garden Grove. With the dissolution of redevelopment agencies statewide, Orange County gets a sizable amount of that money to distribute to other taxing agencies," Huy explained.

Huy further said that the project has the potential to be an economic boon for the city.

"The residential units alone are expected to bring in approxi-

mately \$550,000 a year in property taxes, said Greg Blodgett, with the city's Economic Development Department.

Blodgett said that it's unclear how much sales tax the city will get because no retailers have been finalized.

Wolfgramm said most of the businesses will be smaller, independent stores and restaurants - some of which may have influences banking off of the nearby Korean Business District and Little Saigon.

A parking garage is planned.

"Throughout Orange County we see successful mixed-use projects being constructed. It's a positive for the city," said Blodgett. "We've taken a property that was blighted and created an environment with residential and community spaces, and a lot of great things for the city. It's a starting point for the area."



Photo by Loreen Berlin

Garden Grove broke ground last week on Brookhurst Place. From left are Councilmen Christopher Pham and Phat Bui, Mayor Bao Nguyen and Mayor Pro Tem Steve Jones. Brookhurst Place will feature 670 mixed-use condo/apartments and a retail center when it is completed.

Police plan 2 DUI checkpoints

Holidays are a prime time for
those who drink and drive

Orange County News
Dec. 16, 2015

The Garden Grove Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Driver License Checkpoint on Dec. 18 and Dec. 19 at an undisclosed location within the city limits between the hours of 9 p.m. and 3 a.m.

The deterrent effect of DUI checkpoints is a proven resource in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving an impaired driver can be reduced by up to 20 percent when well-publicized DUI checkpoints and proactive DUI patrols are conducted routinely.

DUI checkpoints are placed in locations based on collision statistics and frequency of DUI arrests, affording the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence. Locations are chosen with safety considerations for the officers and the public.

In California, this deadly crime led to 867 deaths and more than 23,000 serious injuries in 2013 because someone failed to designate a sober driver. Nationally, the latest data shows more than 10,000 were killed by an impaired driver.

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DUI:

Continued from page 1

Over the course of the past three years, officers have investigated 693 DUI collisions that have claimed nine lives and resulted in another 225 injuries.

Officers will be looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment with officers checking drivers for proper licensing delaying motorists only momentarily. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving, which now accounts for

a growing number of impaired driving crashes.

Recent statistics reveal that 30 percent of drivers in fatal crashes had one or more drugs in their systems.

A study of active drivers showed more tested positive for drugs that may impair driving (14 percent) than did for alcohol (7.3 percent). Of the drugs, marijuana was most prevalent, at 7.4 percent, slightly more than alcohol. Everyone should be mindful that if you're taking medication – whether prescription or over-the-counter – drinking even small amounts of alcohol can greatly intensify the

impairment effect.

Law enforcement emphasizes the preventable nature of drunk driving reminding everyone that all it takes is a little planning ahead. Designate a sober driver or call a cab. But whatever you do, don't drink and drive. The California Office of Traffic Safety DDVIP (Designated Driver VIP) mobile app is now available for free download on iOS and Android devices. Launched last year, the new DDVIP app offers enhanced features, allowing users to "Map a Spot" with their current location

to find DDVIP partnering establishments in their area or a "List of Spots" to search all participating bars and restaurants throughout California.

Users will be offered free incentives at each bar to celebrate their life saving role.

They can stay up-to-date with the latest from DDVIP and see what other users are saying via its social tab. Also through the app, for those who want to imbibe but also make it a point to plan ahead, users can easily order a sober ride from Uber, Lyft or Curb – all from

one screen.

Drivers caught driving impaired can expect the impact of a DUI arrest to include jail time, fines, fees, DUI classes, other expenses that can exceed \$10,000 not to mention the embarrassment when friends and family find out.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to Garden Grove Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone report drunk drivers by calling 9-1-1.

Hundreds of kids

in military families

get toys for the holidays

Orange County News
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State Sen. Janet Nguyen's Veterans and Military Families Toy Drive is a home run

'Tis the season...

To be jolly.

But also to be kind.

The spirit of Christmas was alive and well last week as State Sen. Janet Nguyen, who represents Garden Grove and Westminster, distributed toys to the children of military families as part of the

34th District Veterans and Military Families Toy Drive.

"I was truly amazed to see the amount of community support that went into making this Toy Drive such a wonderful success," said Nguyen. "Our military service members and their families have sacrificed so much for this

nation, and I am proud that we were able to show them our appreciation through this great event."

The toy distribution took place from 3 to 7 p.m. at Nguyen's district office where she, along with volunteers, staff, local nonprofits and organizations, handed



State Sen. Janet Nguyen helps hand out toys to children in military families.

out over 300 toys to the children of veteran and military families.

The Toy Drive was made possible by donations from residents of the 34th District, as well as organizations such as Wells Fargo, the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Association of the United States Army, Strong Families, Strong Children, Military Children's Collaborative Group and Don Juan Avila Middle School.

"I could not have asked from a more generous response from

the community," said Nguyen. "I sincerely hope that the toys the children received will fill their holiday season with cheer and convey our gratitude to those who are both serving and who have served to protect our nation's liberties."

Nguyen partnered with Active Duty Families, Veterans Legal Institute, Veterans First, Families Forward, Strong Families, Strong Children, and Volunteers of America to make this day of giving a reality.

Study of Anaheim streetcar idea continues after vote of divided board

OCTA committee's recommendation to halt process is rejected.

By HEATHER McCREA
STAFF WRITER

County transportation officials won't ask Anaheim to pull the plug on its study of a streetcar connecting the Disneyland area and the ARTIC transit hub - but they didn't overwhelmingly shout support for the \$300 million-plus project, either.

Instead of touting the merits of a proposed 3.2-mile streetcar, which likely

would run in a lane of Katella Avenue, several Orange County Transportation Authority board members expressed concern Monday with how they were being asked to take a stand on the project without a thorough staff report.

Instead, they received what some viewed as merely the opinions of a four-strong ad hoc committee.

The committee had made a case for asking the city to stop its analysis of the Anaheim Rapid Connection Project and instead look at other options, such as using buses.

Anaheim Mayor Tom Tait, who opposes the streetcar, was on the ad hoc

committee, which got six OCTA board members in all supporting the recommendation.

But nine others opposed - preferring to let the city do further study. Then, the OCTA can take a deeper look at the proposal.

The county transportation authority had previously supplied \$7.9 million to Anaheim for the environmental analysis that should be complete in the summer.

The city has used \$100,000 from its general fund for the environmental study, and \$1.1 million from the Anaheim Tourism Improvement District, funded from a 2 percent tax on ho-

tel room rentals in the area.

Anaheim's internal disagreements over the streetcar project played out at Monday's meeting: City Manager Paul Emery and council members Kris Murray and Lucille Kring encouraged the board to wait for the environmental impact report to be completed.

Streetcar supporters said Anaheim would work closely with the county and other cities on planning a streetcar that could possibly share maintenance facilities with one proposed for Santa Ana and Garden Grove, or even eventually tie into it.

Ex-Mexican Mafia leader testifies about rivalry

Register
Dec. 13, 2015

Armando Moreno describes how that led to bloodshed.

SANTA ANA • A former Mexican Mafia leader testified in federal court last week about how his years-long battle with longtime gang chief-tain Peter Ojeda led



SEAN EMERY
STAFF WRITER

to confusion and bloodshed in Orange County jails and streets.

During a day and a half of testimony in the courtroom of U.S. District Judge James V. Selna, Armando Moreno provided a rare first-hand glimpse into the secretive world of the higher-echelon of the powerful, prison-based Mexican Mafia. Like Ojeda, Moreno, 44, was indicted on allegations of extortion and racketeering, but has opted to cooperate with authorities.

Moreno's testimony came in the midst of the federal trial of 73-year-old Ojeda, the oldest ranking member of the Orange County Mexican Mafia, who authorities allege continued to run local streets and jails despite being shipped to a prison across the country following a 2006 racketeering conviction. Ojeda's attorney claims it was Moreno, not Ojeda, responsible for the violence following the 2006 conviction.

A former member of a Garden Grove street gang, Moreno has spent nearly his entire life behind bars. His first trip to prison was at the age of 18 after being convicted in connection to a gang murder. In court, he described spending years

forging connections with "made" members of the Mexican Mafia before he was voted into leadership in 2006.

Prosecutors allege that Ojeda backed Moreno's ascension into Mexican Mafia leadership and tasked him with looking after gang activity in Orange County after Ojeda



Ojeda

was transferred to an out-of-state prison. Moreno testified that the brief discussion with Ojeda took place in a federal holding center at a San Bernardino County Jail after a guard accidentally left a door open separating their cells.

"I told him, 'Don't worry, I won't let you down,'" Moreno said.

Moreno was soon back behind bars, but said he used his girlfriends to communicate with his crew on the streets. Moreno said it wasn't until he ended up at the federal penitentiary at Victorville that he learned from a fellow Mexican Mafia member with Orange County ties that Ojeda no longer trusted him.

"He explained that Sana had sent word that I had no foundation," Moreno said, claiming that meant Ojeda was telling people Moreno was not a Mexican Mafia member and should be killed for claiming to be.

Moreno, as well as former associates of Ojeda, testified that loyalists on both sides of the divide were placed on "Hard Candy" lists that marked them for death. Others inside the

jails were viciously beaten by rivals.

Beyond the war with Ojeda, Moreno acknowledged his role in a variety of other plots while behind bars, including trying unsuccessfully to have a guard who disrespected him and another Mexican Mafia member followed home and killed.

Soon after his arrest in a bank and ID fraud case, Moreno learned he was also facing racketeering charges in connection with his battle with Ojeda. Knowing he was facing decades behind bars, and tired by the Mexican Mafia lifestyle, Moreno said he decided to cooperate with authorities.

"My life is in danger, my family's," Moreno acknowledged. "Because of what I decided, I turned their lives upside-down."

Ojeda's attorney, Craig Wilke, questioned Moreno's apparent change of heart.

"Is it still your desire to kill everyone who disrespected you?" Wilke asked.

"No," Moreno answered.

"When did that desire leave?" Wilke replied.

"The day I decided to cooperate," Moreno said.

"All that hate just went out?" Wilke said.

"Yes," Moreno answered.

Wilke also questioned Moreno's story about Ojeda, who he said barely knew Moreno; turning over control of Orange County when the two allegedly met at San Bernardino lockup.

The trial is expected to continue through the month at the U.S. District Court in Santa Ana.

5 Garden Grove schools locked down over gunshots nearby; man arrested

By ALMA FAUSTO
and SCOTT SCHWEBKE
and LOUIS CASIANO Jr.
STAFF WRITERS

GARDEN GROVE • Five schools were locked down Thursday morning after a man fired a shotgun into the air, police said.

Police received a call at 7:44 a.m. that someone had heard gunshots, Lt. Bob Bogue of the Garden Grove Police Department said. The caller reported hearing the shots in the 8500 block of Blanche Avenue east of Dale Street and seeing a man walking away from the



Villanueva

area with a shotgun, Bogue said. Investigators believe Carlos Villanueva, 27, fired a shotgun into the air in front of a home.

"There were people inside the house that the gun was fired at," Bogue said. "It appears to be a gang rivalry."

During the investigation, investigators learned that Villanueva lived nearby in the 8500 block of Haga Street.

A perimeter was set up near the home, and five schools were on lockdown until 10:15 a.m. as a result, said Alan Trudell, a Garden Grove Unified spokesman.

The affected schools were Alamitos Intermediate School, Lawrence Elementary, Stanford Elementary, Faylane Elementary and Zeyen Elementary.

When he tried to escape the perimeter, Villanueva was arrested on suspicion of discharging of a firearm in a negligent manner, assault with a deadly weapon and making criminal threats.

Garden Grove businessmen face charges of tax fraud

By SEAN EMERY
STAFF WRITER

Two Garden Grove businessmen are facing criminal charges after authorities allege they filed more than \$1 million in fraudulent tax returns.

Young Eui Hong, the owner of Grand Motors Inc., and James Jun Kul Pak, owner of a firm that did accounting work for the Garden Grove dealership, have each been charged

with more than a dozen felony counts, including grand theft by an employee and making a false and fraudulent return, according to an Orange County District Attorney's Office statement.

Prosecutors allege that Hong, 51, and Pak, 49, in returns filed between January 2009 and December 2014 understated the number of vehicles sold by the dealership and the amount of sales tax they received

from customers.

Investigators suspect the number of sales the pair reported during that time frame was approximately half of what actually took place and was owed.

The two men were arrested following an investigation by the California State Board of Equalization. If convicted, they face up to 19 years in prison.

CONTACT THE WRITER:
semery@ocregister.com

GARDEN GROVE

Groundbreaking: The City Council and representatives from developer Kam Sang Co. held the official groundbreaking for the Brookhurst Triangle on Tuesday evening. The multiple-phase, nearly 14-acre mixed-used project has been years in the making. The council donned hard hats and stuck shovels in the ground.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

Register
Dec. 11, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Senior dance: The Garden Grove Senior Center's annual Christmas dinner and dance is at 6 p.m. Friday at 11300 Stanford Ave. "The Serenaders" will perform all night, and there will be dinner and beverages. Tickets are \$10 and includes dinner. Tickets must be ordered before the event: 714-741-5253 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

Register
Dec. 15, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Baseball parade: The City Council on Tuesday agreed to waive the \$2,500 in fees it would have cost West Garden Grove Youth Baseball to host its Opening Day Parade, scheduled for Feb. 20. This year, the league, which has held a parade annually for nearly 60 years, is joining forces with girls who play softball and creating a "family fun day."

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

Register
Dec. 12, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Meeting center: The Community Meeting Center, at 11300 Stanford Ave., will likely reopen at the end of January or in early February after being refurbished. When it does, the City Council will again hold its meetings in its regular council chambers inside the center - until about April, when renovations to that room will begin. The chambers will reopen around June.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 16, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Fire station: The Fire Department is hosting a public community meeting from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at Walton Intermediate School, 12181 Buaro St., to discuss the possible relocation or reconstruction of Fire Station No. 6, currently at 12111 Chapman Ave. The current station is a 45-year-old, 8,100-square-foot single-family home that was repurposed as a fire station.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 14, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Auction: A 15-foot-tall giraffe sculpture is one of several pieces up for auction until 5:30 p.m. today as part of the city's Palm Frond Art Auction. Winners of the auction will be notified Friday and proceeds will go toward purchasing art for the community. Each piece is made entirely of palm fronds by artist Glenn Mann. More info: 714-741-5200.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707

chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Dec. 17, 2015

10 Friday, December 11, 2015

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

Project No. S-1184

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent for the City of Garden Grove, Room 220, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840 to Provide Ninety (90) New and Unused HP Computers. A copy of the bid document may be obtained from the City of Garden Grove's website. Please direct any questions regarding this bid process to Sandra Segawa via email sandras@ci.garden-grove.ca.us. Bids are due and will be opened in the office of the Purchasing Agent at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2016. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

**Orange County News
Dec. 11, 2015**

Dated: December 4, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB
Purchasing Agent
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

**Orange County News
15-50775
Publish Dec. 4, 11, 2015**

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

IFB No. S-1182-A

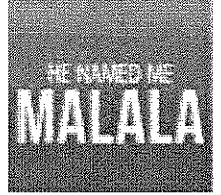
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent for the City of Garden Grove, Room 220, Second Floor, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840 to Provide One New and Unused 2016 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited RHD (Right Hand Drive). A copy of the bid document may be obtained from the City of Garden Grove's website. Direct any questions regarding this bid process to Sandra Segawa via email at sandras@garden-grove.org. Bids are due and will be opened in the office of the Purchasing Agent at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2016. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

**Orange County News
Dec. 16, 2015**

Dated: December 9, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB
Purchasing Agent
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

**Orange County News
15-50783
Publish Dec. 9, 16, 2015**



The New York Times | <http://nyti.ms/1PX8eVC>

U.S.

Tibor Rubin Is Dead at 86; Medal of Honor Was Delayed by Anti-Semitism

By **BRUCE WEBER** DEC. 8, 2015

“When Corporal Rubin’s battalion found itself ambushed by thousands of Chinese troops,” the president said at a White House ceremony, “the Americans’ firepower soon dwindled to a single machine gun. The weapon was in an exposed position and three soldiers had already died manning it. That was when Corporal Rubin stepped forward. He fought until his ammunition was gone. He was badly wounded, captured and sent to a P.O.W. camp.”

The episode the president — it was George W. Bush — was describing with frank astonishment and admiration took place at Unsan, North Korea, in the fall of 1950. In a long-overdue tribute, he was speaking more than half a century later, on Sept. 23, 2005, as he prepared to present Tibor Rubin, then 76 years old, with the Medal of Honor.

There was much more to Mr. Bush’s encomium that day, but even he did not tell the whole story of the remarkable courage and forbearance of a Hungarian-born American hero, a man who joined the United States Army to

thank the nation and the troops that rescued him from the concentration camp where he had been imprisoned as a teenager, and for whom recognition was delayed for decades because he happened to be Jewish.

Corporal Rubin, who was known familiarly as Ted, had lived quietly in Southern California since the end of the Korean War, mostly working in a liquor store owned by his brother Emery. He was 86 when he died on Saturday at his home in Garden Grove, Calif., a nephew, Robert Huntly, said.

The narrative of Corporal Rubin's life is Hollywood-worthy. He was born on June 18, 1929, in Paszto, a Hungarian shtetl with a reported 120 Jewish families, to Ferenc and Rosa Rubin; his father, who had served in the Hungarian Army during World War I and spent several years as a prisoner of war in Russia, worked in a shoe store. According to "Single Handed," a 2015 book about Corporal Rubin by Daniel M. Cohen, in the days before the Nazi occupation of Hungary in March 1944, his parents sent him with a band of adult escorts in an attempt to reach Switzerland, but they were captured.

Young Tibor, then 14, was sent to the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria, where, on his arrival, a commandant told him and his six comrades that none would get out alive. He barely survived the 14 months before the camp was liberated by American soldiers on May 5, 1945.

In a 2013 documentary film, "Finnigan's War," about veterans of the Korean War, Corporal Rubin recalled, "I promised the good Lord that if I get out of here alive, I'd become a G.I. Joe, to give back something."

Corporal Rubin came to the United States in 1948 but was prevented from enlisting until his English improved enough to meet Army standards, which he managed by 1950; he worked for a time as a butcher before he entered the service. The Korean War was in its early stages, but because he was not a citizen, he was not required to fight.

"My commander told me that I didn't have to go to war," he said. "So I

told him: ‘Well, what about the others? I cannot leave my fellow brothers.’ ”

Chillingly, Corporal Rubin had an enemy on his own side. Numerous reports detail affidavits submitted by his fellow soldiers who described their sergeant as a virulent anti-Semite who repeatedly assigned him the most dangerous missions, including one in which he single-handedly held off a wave of North Korean soldiers for 24 hours, securing for his own troops a safe route of retreat.

The affidavits also suggested that though Corporal Rubin was recommended more than once for the Medal of Honor, the same sergeant, Artice V. Watson, deliberately ignored the orders from his own superiors to prepare the appropriate paperwork.

In 2002, after Congress passed the Leonard Kravitz Jewish War Veterans Act — named for a Jewish soldier killed in an act of heroism in 1951 and subsequently denied the Medal of Honor — President Bush ordered a review of the records of 137 Jewish veterans. Corporal Rubin’s case was deemed among the most egregious. At the time, The Jewish Journal, a Southern California newspaper, published a statement from a notarized affidavit about Corporal Rubin and Sergeant Watson.

“I really believe, in my heart, that First Sgt. Watson would have jeopardized his own safety rather than assist in any way whatsoever in the awarding of the medal to a person of Jewish descent,” Cpl. Harold Speakman wrote.

When Corporal Rubin was awarded the medal, an Army spokeswoman told The Los Angeles Times that notarized documents showed that “Rubin’s first sergeant did the circular trash can on these” — that is, the recommendations — “and did not process them.”

“Rubin is a true American hero and deserves this honor,” she said.

(Leonard Kravitz, the uncle of the musician Lenny Kravitz, did not receive his posthumous Medal of Honor until it was awarded by President Obama in 2014.)

Corporal Rubin spent 30 months as a prisoner of war in North Korea, where testimony from his fellow prisoners detailed his willingness to sacrifice for the good of others. He had been steeled for captivity and privation, he said, by his experience in Mauthausen. And he declined the offer of his Communist captors to return him to Hungary, then under the influence of the Soviet Union. Instead, he made a habit of sneaking out of the camp at night and foraging for food, stealing from enemy supplies, and bringing back what he could to help nourish his comrades.

“He shared the food evenly among the G.I.’s,” Sgt. Leo A. Cormier Jr., a fellow prisoner, wrote in a statement, according to The Jewish Journal. “He also took care of us, nursed us, carried us to the latrine.” He added, “Helping his fellow men was the most important thing to him.”

Corporal Rubin’s father died in the Buchenwald concentration camp; his mother and a younger sister died at Auschwitz. He is survived by his wife, Yvonne; a sister, Edith Rittri; a daughter, Rosalyn; and a son, Frank. In addition to his Medal of Honor, he was the recipient of two Purple Hearts.

“I have a mom who was very religious,” Corporal Rubin said in the documentary. “And she always teach us: ‘There is one God, and we are all brothers and sisters. You have to take care of your brothers, and save them.’ To her, to save somebody’s life is the greatest honor. And I did that.”

A version of this article appears in print on December 9, 2015, on page B15 of the New York edition with the headline: Tibor Rubin Is Dead at 86; Award of Medal of Honor Was Long Delayed by Bias.



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

CONTACT: Juan Medina (714) 741-5253
H. Louis Lake Senior Center

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

GARDEN GROVE SENIORS CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE

In celebration of the year 2016, Garden Grove's H. Louis Lake Senior Center will be hosting a New Year's Eve party on Wednesday, December 30, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., in the Senior Center Dining Room, located at 11300 Stanford Avenue.

Seniors are invited to enjoy a fun day of live entertainment provided by "The Serenaders." Lunch will also be available for a suggested donation of \$3.50 per person.

For more information and reservations, please call the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at (714) 741-5253 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:

Greg Blodgett (714) 741-5124

Sr. Project Manager, Economic Development Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, December 14, 2015

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS FOR BROOKHURST PLACE

This past Tuesday, December 8, City officials announced that the long-awaited start of construction for the City's largest proposed commercial and residential development – Brookhurst Triangle, officially named Brookhurst Place - had arrived. Construction for the 14-acre, master-planned community will begin this month.

At the groundbreaking event last Tuesday, Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen said, "This is a very significant day for the Garden Grove history books. This project will provide our city with new housing options for current and future residents and opens wide doors for new, small-business endeavors."

The project area, bound by Garden Grove Boulevard, Brookhurst Street, and Brookhurst Way, that had been undisturbed for nearly three decades, will include 600 residential units, built-in urban trails, and open spaces that will create a healthy and inviting environment for residents and visitors.

"It will appeal to many different demographics, particularly to young families and millennials," said Mayor Pro Tem and Chairman of the Garden Grove Successor Agency Steve Jones.

The planned 50,000 square-feet of commercial and retail space, with a potential for 200,000 square-feet, will build on the variety of large and small businesses in the adjoining areas, like the Korean District and Little Saigon, offering new shopping and dining experiences.

Construction Begins for Brookhurst Place
2-2-2

The generated property tax is estimated at \$50,000 annually, with 200 to 400 permanent and temporary retail jobs created.

"This exciting development will serve as a landmark for one of the city's key intersections," says City Manager Scott Stiles. "It will be a place where all people can come, to live, work, and visit."

The Brookhurst Triangle mixed-use development began in the early 2000's when the plot of land became redevelopment property. It wasn't until 2009, when the City partnered with developer Kam Sang Company, owners of the Sheraton Garden Grove, that the project seemed to start moving.

Five years later, the City's Planning Commission approved Kam Sang Company's development plans and early this year, the state gave their approval to begin construction.

The project will be broken into two phases. The first phase will begin this month and is projected to be complete in Summer 2017.

A fact sheet and PowerPoint presentation about the development of Brookhurst Place can be seen on the City's website at www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us.

For more information and other development opportunities in Garden Grove, call Greg Blodgett, Sr. Project Manager for the City of Garden Grove, at (714) 741-5124.

Visit Garden Grove City Hall on Facebook to view photos of the groundbreaking event.

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CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Contact: Mark Ladney (714) 741-5382
Public Works Department

Monday, December 14, 2015

**CITY HALL CLOSED, NO STREET SWEEPING
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS DAY**

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays, Garden Grove City Hall and the H. Louis Lake Senior Center will be closed from Thursday, December 24, 2015 through Friday, January 1, 2016. Street sweeping services and trash pick-up will not be provided on December 25 and January 1. Streets will be swept and trash will be collected as scheduled on all other days.

There will be a free pick up of holiday trees during the two-week period following Christmas Day, beginning Monday, December 28 through Friday, January 8. Trees must be out by 7:00 a.m. on regular trash collection days. Flocked trees are not recyclable and are not eligible for the free collection, but may be disposed of in the regular trash container or by scheduling a bulky item pickup.

For more information on street sweeping, please call the Public Works Department at (714) 741-5375. For questions about holiday tree pickups, call Republic Services at (800) 299-4898 or visit <http://www.republicservices.com/>.

###

Monday, December 14, 2015

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 \$34

Hãy mua bảo hiểm cho gia đình.

Chỉ danh trước December 15 để có bảo hiểm bắt đầu January 1.

GHI DANH HÔM NAY >



« Trở về trang trước

Garden Grove ráo riết lấy ý kiến cư dân để vẽ địa hạt

Thursday, December 10, 2015 5:01:09 PM

Like Share Print Email G+1 0

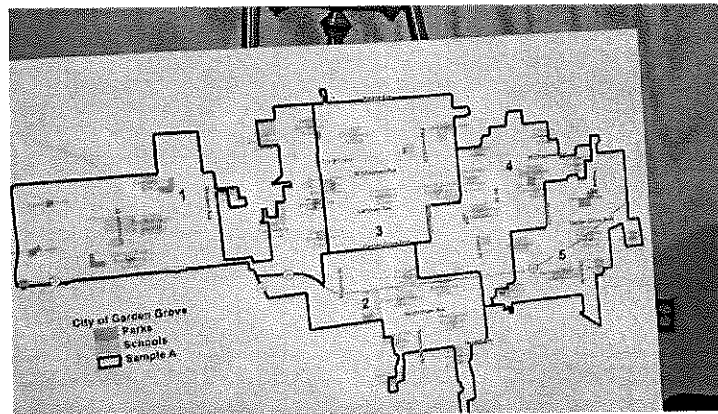
Bài liên quan

- Garden Grove có thể bị kiện và đòi bồi cứu theo địa hạt
- Garden Grove sẽ bầu dân cử theo địa hạt, không bầu thị trường

Đăng-Giao/Người Việt

GARDEN GROVE, California (NV) – Tối Thứ Tư, 11 Tháng Mười Hai, một cuộc họp cộng đồng để lấy ý kiến cư dân đã được tổ chức tại phòng họp trong Garden Grove Sports and Recreation Center, Garden Grove, liên quan đến việc vẽ địa hạt cho cuộc bầu cử vào năm tới.

Đây là buổi họp thứ nhì của một chương trình gồm hai giai đoạn.



Bản vẽ đề nghị A. (Hình: Đăng-Giao/Người Việt)

Trong buổi họp này, ông David Ely, giám đốc công ty nghiên cứu nhân khẩu Compass Demographics, trình bày và giải thích những yêu cầu cấu trúc và đủ để mọi người nắm vững thông tin hướng dẫn khi giới thiệu thành phố những đề nghị về cách chia năm địa hạt.

Việc vẽ Garden Grove thành năm địa hạt là kết quả của việc dàn xếp một vụ kiện giữa hội đồng thành phố và ông Rickk Montoya, một cư dân gốc Latino.

Garden Grove sẽ vẽ ra năm địa hạt, không chồng lấn lên nhau, để mỗi địa hạt bầu ra một nghị viên.

Các địa hạt này sẽ được vẽ dựa theo luật bầu cử California.

Việc vẽ thành phố thành năm địa hạt không đơn giản chút nào vì mỗi đơn vị sẽ phải hội đủ những cân bằng tương đối, dựa trên tình trạng tài chính, tuổi tác cư dân, địa hình, sự liên kết, sự toàn vẹn, sự tiếp giáp, và mật độ của các khu vực dân cư, cũng như quyền lợi của các sắc dân trong thành phố. Các địa hạt này cũng phải có diện tích hợp lý.

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TANG LÊ TERESA NGUYỄN THANH TÍN

CÁC TIN KHÁC >

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- Người thấp sáng sao trời cho đứa con quá cố
- Nhạc sỹ Việt Khang ra tù: 'Tôi không bao giờ lùi bước'
- Điểm tin buổi sáng ngày 14 tháng 12 năm 2015
- Bạo động ở Đông nước Đức: 69 cánh sắt bị thương

ĐỌC NHIỀU NHẤT >

Mở tiệm ăn Việt, nghề mưu sinh của người Việt ở

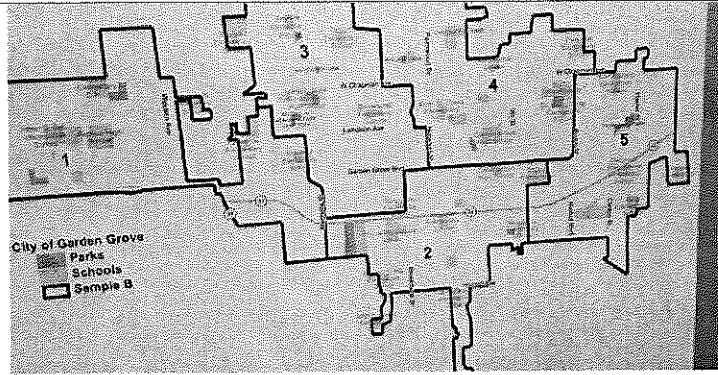


Đang viên, nhan si, trí thức kêu gọi dẹp đảng CSVN

USS Milwaukee mới hạ thủy đã hư máy, phải kéo về bến Virginia

Linh mục ở New Jersey bị giáo dân kiện 'lấy tiền bao trai'

Nhóm nổi dậy ở Syria do Mỹ ủng hộ có nguy cơ tan rã



Bản vẽ đề nghị B. (Hình: Đảng-Giao/Người Việt)

Ông Ely giải thích: "Phân chia các sắc dân đồng đều là việc tối quan trọng. Những địa điểm công cộng như nhà thờ, trường học, công viên, siêu thị, hay trung tâm thương mại cũng là những điều cần cứu xét kỹ lưỡng."

Vấn đề cốt lõi có thể gây ra nhiều khó khăn là dân số của mỗi địa hạt phải đồng đều và không được mang tính chất kỳ thị, theo luật lệ hiện hành.

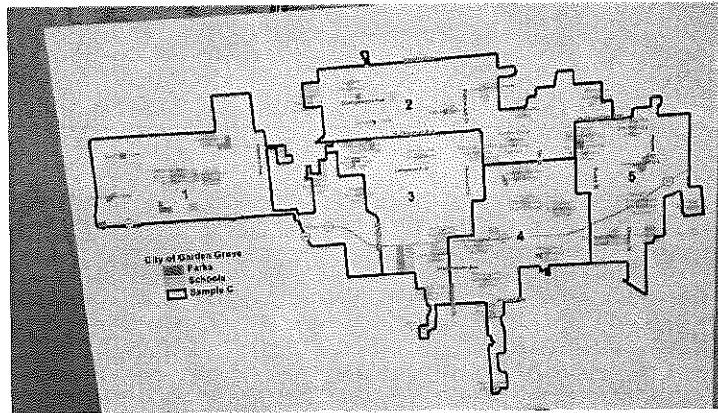
Thị Trưởng Bảo Nguyễn nói: "Việc phải thu xếp với ông Rick Montoya, một phần là vì chúng tôi muốn tiết kiệm cho thành phố. Cứ nhìn Fullerton đi. Trong một vụ kiện tương tự, họ đã tốn nhiều triệu đô la. Và bây giờ là Anaheim cũng chưa giải quyết xong việc của họ. Và một phần đây là luật nên chúng ta phải tuân thủ thôi."

Ông Ely nói: "Hội đồng thành phố sẽ phải có quyết định dứt khoát trước Tháng Bảy, 2016 vì đó là ngày ứng cử viên bắt đầu nộp đơn. Họ cũng cần thời gian để chuẩn bị."

Theo dự trù, vì nhiệm kỳ hai năm của ông Bảo Nguyễn sẽ hết, nhiệm kỳ bốn năm của hai ông Steve Jones và Chris Phan cũng hết, nên ba địa hạt của ba vị này sẽ bầu cử trước vào Tháng Mười Một, 2016. Hai địa hạt của ông Phát Bùi và ông Kris Beard sẽ được bầu cử năm 2018, khi nhiệm kỳ bốn năm của hai vị này mãn.

Theo luật hiện nay, vì giới hạn nhiệm kỳ, ông Steve Jones không được tái ứng cử. Còn ông Chris Phan được quyền tái ứng cử.

Hiện nay, Garden Grove có một phần ba cư dân Mỹ trắng, một phần ba cư dân gốc Việt, và một phần ba gốc Latino.



Bản vẽ đề nghị C. (Hình: Đảng-Giao/Người Việt)

Nghị Viên Phát Bùi chia sẻ: "Người gốc Latino nên chịu khó đi bầu nhiều hơn. Nếu họ không chọn người đại diện thì có vẽ địa hạt cách gì cũng khó giải quyết được vấn đề."

"Với đề này, việc vẽ địa hạt sẽ có lợi cho người gốc Việt vì các vị dân cử gốc Việt rất xông xáo trong công việc cho nên nếu không có ứng cử viên da trắng tài giỏi thì họ sẽ bầu cho người gốc Việt," ông Phát nhận xét.

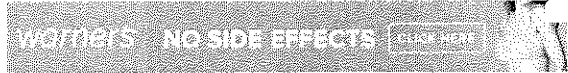
Vấn theo quy định mới, cư dân sẽ không bầu cho thị trưởng nữa. Chức thị trưởng sẽ do các nghị viên thành phố chọn từ trong hội đồng thành phố.

Như vậy, trong cuộc bầu cử năm tới, Garden Grove sẽ có ba ghế trống.

Riêng trường hợp thị trưởng, nhóm Neighborhood Association không đồng ý với cách bầu mới. Họ vẫn muốn người đứng đầu thành phố được cư dân trực tiếp bầu.

Nhóm này đã đâm đơn kiện, và theo Nghị Viên Phát Bùi cho biết, "ngày 5 Tháng Giêng, 2016 sẽ có phiên tòa sơ khởi" về vụ này.

Monday, December 14, 2015




TIN TỨC GIẢI TRÍ VĂN HỌC NGHỆ THUẬT ĐỜI SỐNG DIỄN ĐÀN LUẬT PHÁP KIẾN THỨC THƯ VIỆN LIÊN LẠC NGƯỜI VIỆT ABOUT US



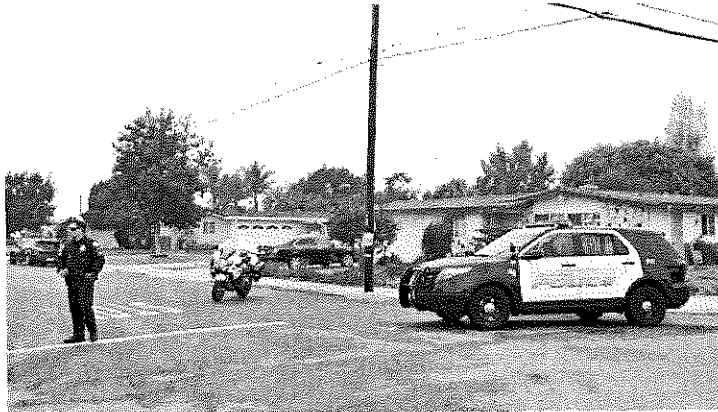
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Garden Grove: Nổ súng gần trường học, một thanh niên bị bắt
Thursday, December 10, 2015 11:32:09 AM

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Đỗ Dzũng/Người Việt

GARDEN GROVE, California (NV) - Một thanh niên vừa bị bắt sau khi nổ hai phát súng tại khu vực gần trường học ở Garden Grove sáng Thứ Năm, làm cảnh sát phải ra lệnh đóng cửa ít nhất năm trường để đề phòng sự việc xấu có thể xảy ra, trong khi bao vây truy tìm nghi can.



Cảnh sát chặn lối vào đường Haga, Garden Grove. (Hình: Dân Huỳnh/Người Việt)



PHOTO Blog »



TANG LỄ TERESA NGUYỄN THANH TÍN

Hãy mua bảo hiểm cho gia đình.

Ghi danh trước December 15 để có bảo hiểm bắt đầu January 1.

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- Diễm tin buổi sáng ngày 14 tháng 12 năm 2015
- Bạo động ở Đông nước Đức: 69 cảnh sát bị thương

Tại hiện trường, Trung Úy Robert Bogue, phát ngôn viên Sở Cảnh Sát Garden Grove, nói: "Chúng tôi nhận được tin báo khoảng 7 giờ 45 phút sáng, có một thanh niên gốc Hispanic bắn hai phát súng, trên đường Blanche, gần góc đường Haga."

"Khi đến nơi, thanh niên này chạy vào một căn nhà trên đường Haga. Chúng tôi bao vây khu vực, trong lúc báo cho năm trường học gần khu vực đóng cửa hoàn toàn để đề phòng bắt trộm. Chúng tôi có hỏi một số người trong căn nhà, nhưng không ai hợp tác. Tuy nhiên, cho đến giờ này, lúc 10 giờ sáng, chúng tôi tin là chúng tôi đã bắt được nghi can," ông Bogue nói tiếp.

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Virginia

Linh mục ở New
Jersey bị giáo dân
kiện 'lấy tiền bao trai'

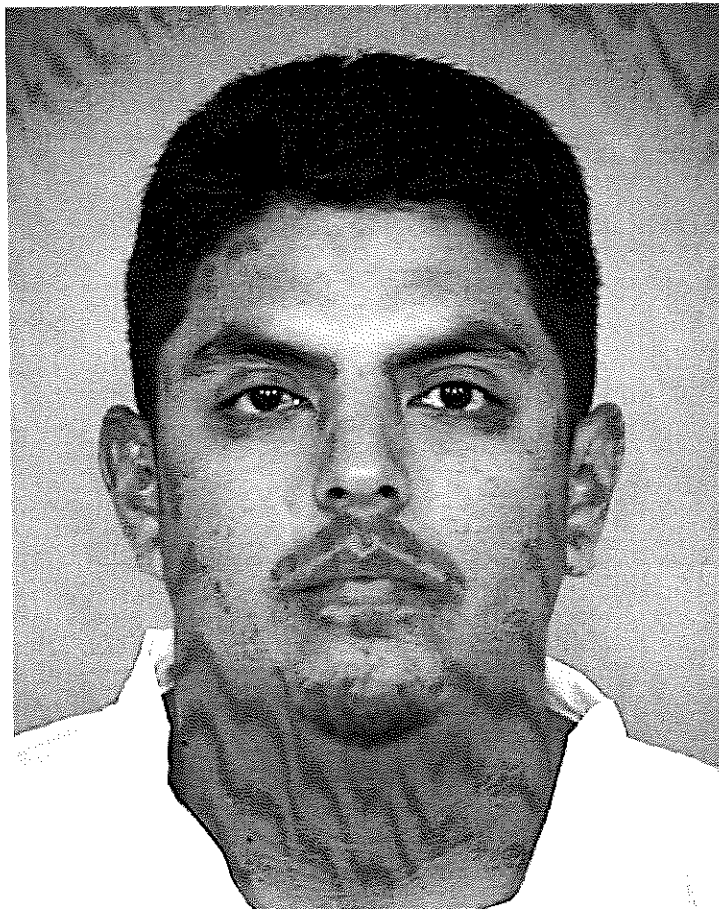
Nhóm nổi dậy ở
Syria do Mỹ ủng hộ
có nguy cơ tan rã

Trên đường đến nơi, chúng tôi thấy ba cảnh sát viên cùng một thanh niên chừng 30 tuổi, để ngồi trên lề đường Loma, kế đường Haga.

Sau đó, Sở Cảnh Sát Garden Grove gửi ra một thông cáo báo chí cho biết nghi can tên là Carlos Villanueva, 27 tuổi, và cư ngụ trong căn nhà nghi can trốn.

Ông Bogue cho biết, nghi can dùng súng shotgun, có lẽ chỉ bắn lên trời, nên không ai bị thương vong.

Tuy nhiên, cho đến buổi chiều, cảnh sát vẫn chưa thu hồi được cây súng, theo bản thông cáo.



Nghi can Carlos Villanueva. (Hình: Sở Cảnh Sát Garden Grove cung cấp)

Các trường học bị đóng bao gồm các trường Hare, Alamitos, Rancho Alamitos, Zion, và Lawrence.

Cho đến 10 giờ 15 phút, phát ngôn viên cảnh sát nói lệnh đóng cửa các trường học đã được bỏ.

Khu vực xảy ra sự việc tọa lạc gần góc đường Lampson và đường Dale, Garden Grove, ngay sát khu vực Little Saigon.



Thứ hai, 14/12/2015 - 13:39:26 PM

THỜI SỰ **VIỆT NAM** **DIỄN ĐÀN** **PHIẾM LUẬN** **BẾP HỒNG** **ĐỜI SỐNG VIỆT** **SỨC KHỎE** **ĐẠO VÀ ĐC**

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Lễ Động Thổ Xây Dựng Dự Án Brookhurst Triangle Tại TP Garden Grove

(VienDongDaily.Com - 09/12/2015)

Bài **THANH PHONG**

GARDEN GROVE - Vào lúc 4 giờ 30 chiều Thứ Ba ngày 8.12.2015 một buổi lễ động thổ để khởi công xây dựng dự án mang tên là Brookhurst Triangle hay Brookhurst Place được tổ chức tại ngay địa điểm sẽ xây dựng, khu tam giác giữa các đường Garden Grove, Brookhurst và Brookhurst Way thuộc City Garden Grove. Hiện diện trong lễ động thổ có ông Bảo Nguyễn, Thị Trưởng, và đầy đủ các Nghị Viên cũng như ông Scott Stiles, Tổng Quản Trị của thành phố Garden Grove, ông Roni Lam, Tổng Giám Đốc Kam Sang Company, Inc.; các viên chức Sở Cảnh Sát cũng như các cơ quan trong thành phố. Ngoài ra có Nghị sĩ Janet Nguyễn, cô Roxanne Chow và một số cơ quan truyền thông.



Thị Trưởng Bảo Nguyễn, Nghị sĩ Janet Nguyễn và các Nghị Viên HĐTP cùng quan khách cầm xẻng "động thổ" (Thanh Phong/Viễn Đông).

Phát biểu trong lễ động thổ, Thị Trưởng Nguyễn Quốc Bảo nói: "Hôm nay thật là một ngày vui cho thành phố Garden Grove. Đây là một nơi chốn đặc biệt cho nhiều người đến thăm thành phố. Tại đây, ngoài những căn hộ cho gia cư còn có hồ bơi, có khu giải trí, có đường dành riêng cho người đi bộ và đây là nơi nằm ngay giữa thành phố Garden Grove, gần khu vực Đại Hàn và cũng gần khu vực Little Saigon, gần tòa thị chính thành phố nên sẽ đem lại nhiều quyền lợi cho Học Khu và cho người dân, thật là ngày vui. Tôi xin chúc mừng tất cả những vị đã bỏ công sức ra để làm thành công lễ động thổ hôm nay, và cũng chúc may mắn đến với mọi người, và hy



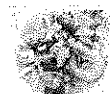
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Sài Gòn



Quảng cáo căn nhà mới sắp xây dựng ở đây sẽ là nơi cho giới trẻ và những gia đình muốn chọn thành phố Garden Grove để định cư"

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SẢN PHẨM - DỊCH VỤ ững vị trên, người điều hợp chương trình mời Thị Trường Bảo Nguyễn, Nghị sĩ Janet Nguyễn, ông Scott Stiles, ông Roni Lam và các Nghị viên HĐTP cũng như Manager lên xúc các xềng đất

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phổ và mang lại cảnh quan cho thành phố Garden Grove.

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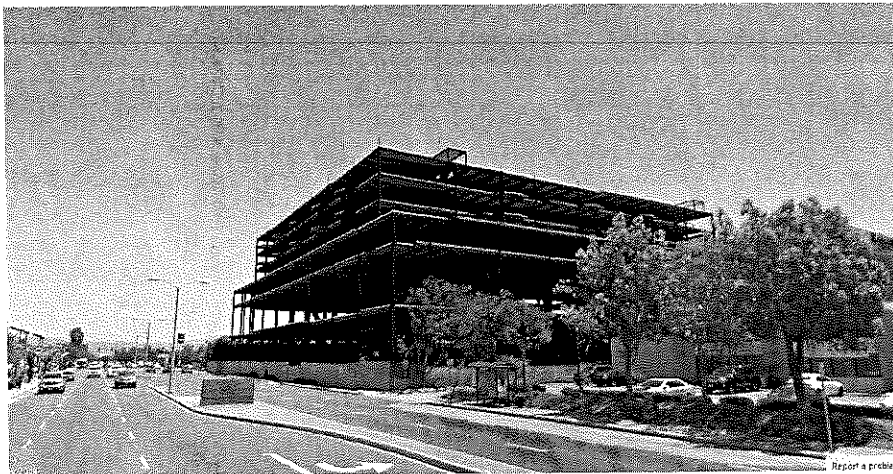
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HĐTP Garden Grove triển hạn việc phá hủy "bộ xương han rỉ" đến tháng 5

(VienDongDaily.Com - 09/12/2015)



Giàn khung sắt rỉ sét trên đường Garden Grove

GARDEN GROVE - Với tỷ lệ phiếu 3-2, vào tối thứ Ba, Hội Đồng Thành Phố Garden Grove một lần nữa triển hạn một lệnh đã có từ lâu, bắt phải phá bỏ cái được gọi là "bộ xương han rỉ". Đây là một kiến trúc bằng thép dở dang dài 90 bộ năm nguyên từ năm 2009. Hội đồng sẽ xem xét việc cưỡng bách thi hành lệnh phá hủy vào cuối tháng. Thành phố đã có một lệnh phá hủy từ năm 2013. Nhiều người trong cộng đồng coi kiến trúc này là một điều chướng mắt. Nhưng họ đã thất vọng, vì không thấy tiến bộ nào trong việc giải quyết bộ khung thép này.

Nhưng sau nhiều năm và sau khi tốn hàng triệu Mỹ kim tiền đầu tư của một số công ty tư nhân và của thành phố, HĐTP vẫn do dự trong việc cưỡng bách thi hành lệnh phá bỏ, hy vọng tránh được việc phá sập bộ khung thép. Có nhiều dự án gắn liền với kiến trúc này, mà gần đây nhất là dự án phát triển khu Lotus Plaza, sẽ được sử dụng vào nhiều mục đích khác nhau. Tuy nhiên, các cuộc thương lượng giữa ngân hàng cho vay tiền làm dự án, công ty xây nhà, và chủ nhân của tòa nhà này, đều đã bị đình trệ trong mấy tháng qua. Cathay Bank, ngân hàng cho vay, và công ty xây dựng Brooks Street, nói rằng họ muốn có một dự án phát triển việc sử dụng hỗn hợp cho tòa cao ốc nằm ở góc đường Garden Grove Boulevard và đường Brookhurst Street. Nhưng Hoag Foundation, chủ nhân của tòa nhà này, và một tổ chức phi lợi nhuận hỗ trợ cho Boy and Girl's Club của Garden Grove, nói rằng họ muốn rút ra khỏi dự án và phá hủy cấu trúc này đi. Hội đồng thành phố đã thảo luận về chuyện có nên thực hiện lệnh phá dỡ này hay không trong tháng 11. Nhưng hội

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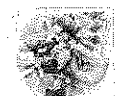
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Mới Nhậ



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Đồng yêu cầu ông William Grant, chủ tịch ban giám đốc của Hoag Foundation, hãy quay trở lại với ủy ban của ông và làm cho ủy ban xem xét lại việc rút ra khỏi dự

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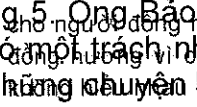
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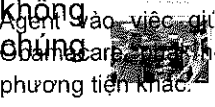
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Nguồn: http://www.viendongdaily.com/hdtp-garden-grove-trien-han-viec-pha-huy-34bo-xuong-han-ri34-...
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Beyond INSURANCE

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Bcx Juniors' Cuffed Boyfriend Blazer...

INSURANCE

Bảo hiểm giá... 877.7

Mọi chi tiết liên quan hoặc đăng Quảng Cáo xin quý khách liên lạc về địa chỉ: 14891 Mora
Email: viendong@aol.com hoặc baoviendong@...
Phone: (1)714-379-2851 hoặc Fax: 714-379-2853 - Chúng tôi nhận

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

December 17, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
2. Southern California Association of Government's Notice of availability of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy.
3. Notice of cancellation for the Zoning Administrator meeting scheduled for December 24, 2015.
4. League of California Cities, "CA Cities Advocates" dated December 11 and 15, 2015.

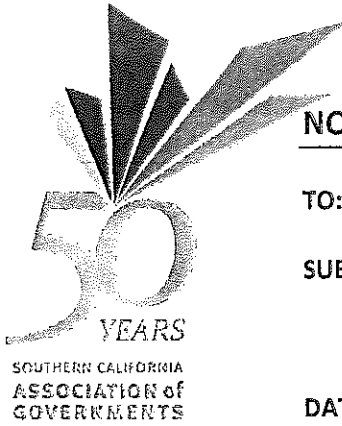


GARDEN GROVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 17, 2015 – January 12, 2016

	December 17- December 24		Spark of Love Toy Drive Drop off Locations: Garden Grove Fire Stations And Garden Grove City Hall
Thursday	December 17		Casual Day - Holiday Theme
		7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED
Friday- Sunday	December 18- December 20		One More Productions presents "Holiday Gem" Gem Theater
Friday	December 18	6:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.	Here Comes Santa Claus Dinner/Dance coordinated By the H. Louis Lake Senior Center
Tuesday	December 22	6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting, Courtyard Center Housing Authority Meeting, Courtyard Center Sanitary District Meeting, Courtyard Center Successor Agency Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED (ALL)
Wednesday	December 23	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Courtyard Center CANCELLED
	December 24- January 1		City Hall Closed – Holiday Season
Wednesday	December 30	10:00 a.m.- Noon	New Year's Eve party hosted by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, Senior Center Dining Room
Tuesday	January 5	6:00 p.m.	Traffic Commission Meeting, Council Chamber CANCELLED
Thursday	January 7	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Friday	January 8		City Closed
Tuesday	January 12	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, Courtyard Center Activity Room Successor Agency Meeting, Courtyard Center City Council Meeting, Courtyard Center



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Main Office

818 West Seventh Street
12th Floor
Los Angeles, California
90017-3435
(213) 236-1800
(213) 236-1825
www.scag.ca.gov

Officers

President
Carl Morehouse, San Buenaventura
First Vice President
Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro
Second Vice President
Michele Martinez, Santa Ana
Immediate Past President
Greg Pettis, Cathedral City

Executive/Administration Committee Chair

Carl Morehouse, San Buenaventura

Policy Committee Chairs

Community, Economic and Human Development
Margaret Finlay, Duarte
Energy & Environment
Deborah Robertson, Rialto
Transportation
Alan Wapner, San Bernardino Associated Governments

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

RECEIVED
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2015 DEC -8 P 5:11

TO: Interested Agencies, Organizations and Individuals
SUBJECT: Public Notice of Availability of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy
DATE: December 4, 2015
LEAD AGENCY: Southern California Association of Governments
818 West Seventh Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017-3435

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), as Lead Agency, has prepared a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) (SCH#2015031035) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan /Sustainable Communities Strategy ("2016 RTP/SCS," "Plan" or "Project").

The 2016 RTP/SCS is a long-range regional transportation plan that provides a blueprint for the region to achieve coordinated regional land use strategies and transportation investments for more than a 20-year period. The 2016 RTP/SCS seeks to improve mobility, promote sustainability, facilitate economic development and preserve the quality of life for the residents in the region.

The Proposed 2016 RTP/SCS provides land use and transportation strategies to help achieve a coordinated balance of land uses and transportation investments. The 2016 RTP/SCS envisions future regional growth that is well coordinated with the transportation system improvements, as well as anticipates new transportation projects planned for the region.

- 1. The No Project Alternative is required by Section 15126.6(e)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines and assumes that the proposed Project would not be implemented. The No Project Alternative evaluates "what would be reasonably expected to occur in the foreseeable future if the project were not approved, based on

current plans and consistent with available infrastructure and community services” (CEQA Section 15126.6[e][2]). The No Project Alternative includes those transportation projects that are included in the first year of the previously conforming transportation plan and/or transportation improvement program (TIP), or have completed environmental review by December 2014. The No Project Alternative also includes “exempt projects” such as safety projects and certain mass transit projects, transportation control measures (“TCMs”) that are included in the approved State Implementation Plan, and project phases that were authorized by the Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Administration prior to expiration of SCAG’s conformity finding for the last 2012-2035 RTP/SCS. These reasonably foreseeable projects fulfill the CEQA definition of the No Project Alternative.

2. The 2012 RTP/SCS Updated with Local Input Alternative retains transportation investments and land use strategies of the adopted 2012-2035 RTP/SCS, updated to reflect the most recent local input growth estimates in the region. This Alternative considers continued implementation of the adopted 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and includes all of the modifications and projects in the adopted 2012-2035 RTP/SCS, as last amended in September 2014. This Alternative does not include land use strategies included within the proposed 2016 RTP/SCS.
3. The Intensified Land Use Alternative builds on the land use strategies in the 2016 RTP/SCS and goes further. This Alternative focuses on analyzing more intensified land use patterns aimed at further reducing vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions to improve mobility, sustainability, and economy. It includes more mixed-use and infill development, increased densities in HQTAs, livable corridors, and neighborhood mobility areas, new technology innovations and enhancement, and/or additional transit and active transportation strategies than the 2016 RTP/SCS.

The Draft PEIR serves as a programmatic document that conducts a region-wide assessment of potential significant environmental effects of the 2016 RTP/SCS. The PEIR provides an opportunity to inform decision-makers and the public about these effects. The PEIR must evaluate region-wide, potential significant environmental effects, including direct and indirect effects, growth-inducing impacts, and cumulative impacts of the 2016 RTP/SCS at a programmatic level.

The Draft PEIR discusses significant impacts to the following issue areas: Aesthetics; Agriculture and Forestry Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Energy; Geology and Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land Use and Planning; Mineral Resources; Noise; Population, Housing, and Employment; Public Services; Recreation; Transportation, Traffic, and Safety; and Utilities and Service Systems.

The Draft PEIR is available on SCAG’s website, at: <http://scagrtpscs.net/Pages/Draft2016PEIR.aspx>. Hard copies of the Draft PEIR are available for review at SCAG’s office in Main Office (Los Angeles office, see above). CDs are available at major libraries in the region (contact SCAG for specific locations). Hard copies and CDs are also available upon request by contacting SCAG (see below).

The Draft PEIR is available for a 60-day public review and comment period, which begins December 4, 2015 and ends February 1, 2016. Written comments will be accepted until the close of business or no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2016. Please direct written comments to Ms. Lijin Sun, Senior Regional Planner, to the address shown above. Comments may also be submitted electronically to 2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov.

Two Draft PEIR public workshops, each providing the same information, will be held at SCAG’s Main Office (Los Angeles office, see above), Board Room, Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and at 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Videoconferencing will also be available from SCAG’s regional offices.

SCAG Orange County Regional Office
600 South Main Street, Suite 906
Orange, CA 92868

SCAG San Bernardino County Regional Office
1170 West 3rd Street, Suite 140
San Bernardino, CA 92410

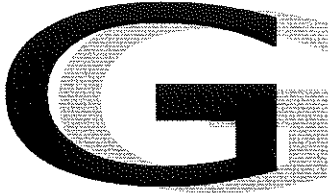
SCAG Imperial County Regional Office
1405 N. Imperial Avenue, Suite 1
El Centro, CA 92243

SCAG Ventura County Regional Office
950 County Square Drive, Suite 101
Ventura, CA 93003

SCAG Riverside County Regional Office
3403 10th Street, Suite 805
Riverside, CA 92501

Signature: *Ping Chang*
Ping Chang, Acting Manager of Compliance and Performance Assessment
Land Use & Environmental Planning Division
Southern California Association of Governments
Telephone: (213) 236-1839
E-mail: Chang@scag.ca.gov; or 2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov

Date: 12/4/15



GARDEN GROVE

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

OF THE

GARDEN GROVE

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 24, 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator scheduled for Thursday, December 24, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Third Floor Training Room, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled pursuant to the attached Cancellation Notice.

DATED: December 17, 2015

KARL HILL
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

CA Cities Advocate



REGISTRATION AND POLICY AFFECTING CALIFORNIA CITIES

Dec. 11, 2015
Issue #103

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Page 4: Internet Tax Freedom Act Included in Trade Agreement, Cities Need to Email U.S. Senate Immediately
- Page 5: U.S. Communities Home Depot Rebate Program
League-Sponsored Bond Agency Finances Affordable Housing Projects in Moreno Valley and Montebello
- Page 6: Registration Open for 2016 Municipal Law Symposium

Legislature Reconvenes Jan. 4, New Year Begins with Speaker Election and Budget Proposal

Sacramento has been relatively quiet since the Legislature adjourned on Sept. 11, with the Gov. Jerry Brown making his final decisions on legislation on Oct. 11. That all changes in four weeks when legislators return to the Capitol on Jan. 4 to begin the start of the second year of the 2015-16 legislative session. *For more, see Page 2.*



Calling All Outstanding City Street Projects *Nominations for the 2016 Local Streets and Roads Awards due Jan. 13*

The Save California Streets Coalition has opened the nomination period for its annual Local Streets and Roads Awards. Submissions should highlight a street infrastructure project or program that has demonstrated a significant improvement in your community's street system. The coalition comprises a number of organizations including the League of California Cities® and the California State Association of Counties. *For more, see Page 3.*



California City Officials Appointed to National League of Cities' Policy and Advocacy Committees

The National League of Cities (NLC) on Dec. 7 announced the appointment of members to the organization's 2016 policy and advocacy committees by NLC President Melodee Colbert Kean. California in the coming year will have 15 city officials serving on NLC's seven key committees. These committees are responsible for developing national municipal policy positions that form the basis for NLC's engagement on behalf of cities before Congress, the courts and federal agencies. Members are appointed for a one-year term and can be re-appointed annually. *For more, see Page 3.*

The few first weeks of January will set the pace and priorities for the session. Most 2015 statutes signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown will take effect Jan. 1. The Legislature reconvenes Jan. 4 and will adjourn on Aug. 31. Governor Brown must submit his proposed FY 2016-17 budget during the first week of January to meet the Jan. 10 constitutional deadline. The Governor will also deliver his annual state-of-the-state address in early January, though no details have been released yet.

Bills held over from 2015, known as two-year bills, are under pressure to make the Jan. 31 deadline to pass out of their house of origin. Fiscal committee bills from 2015 must be heard in policy committees by Jan. 15 and a week later, Jan. 22, is the deadline for policy committees to hear and report on floor bills introduced in their house last year.

In response to these deadlines, cities should expect a flurry of amendments offered on bills that did not move last year. The League will publish new bill lists shortly after Jan. 4, but for now is closely tracking the following two-year bills that may be set for hearing early in the year:

- AB 45 (Mullin) Household hazardous waste. *League position: Oppose.*
- AB 1159 (Gordon) Product stewardship: pilot program: household batteries and home-generated sharps waste. *League position: Support.*
- AB 1315 (Alejo). Public contracts: water pollution prevention plans. *League position: Oppose.*
- SB 47 (Hill) Environmental health: synthetic turf. *League position: Oppose.*
- SB 608 (Liu) Homelessness. *League position: Oppose.*

In addition, the League expects clean-up legislation to be quickly introduced to delete the preemption of local marijuana cultivation ordinances.

The full text of these bills and committee hearing schedules, as well as the League's position letters, can be found at www.cacities.org/billsearch. Plug the bill number into the search function to access information.

Capitol watchers can also expect a flood of bills to be introduced early in the year with Feb. 19 being the last day that legislators can introduce bills for the regular session.

Transportation remains a top priority for cities and the Special Session on Transportation will continue into 2016. The joint conference committee held several hearings early in the fall and then public negotiations slowed down with a shift to conversations behind the scenes. Cities can expect new announcements related to how to fund the state and local transportation system in early January.

League's 2016 Strategic Goals to Drive Legislative Engagement

The League set its course for 2016 in November when the organization's officers, board of directors and leaders of policy committees and divisions met in Sacramento to set the 2016 Strategic Priorities.

The 2016 Strategic Priorities are:

- Increase Funding for Critical Transportation and Water Infrastructure;
- Improve Housing Affordability; and
- Update the Local Government Tax Structure to Respond to the New Economy and Stimulate Economic Growth.

Leadership Changes in Both Houses

Changes in term limits are beginning to have a significant effect on the leaders of both houses with members elected after 2012 having the ability to serve up to 12 years in one house or two.

The Legislature's most recent leadership shakeup began this fall and will culminate in Spring 2016. Speaker Toni Atkins on Dec. 7 announced that the Assembly will hold its speakership election for Assembly Member Anthony Rendon (D-Los Angeles) on Jan. 11. The swearing-in

ceremony will be held on March 7. Elected in 2012, Assembly Member Rendon terms out in 2024.

Assembly Member Chad Mayes (R-Yucca Valley) will take over the mantle of Assembly Republican leader on Jan. 4 from Assembly Member Kristin Olsen (R-Modesto), who terms out at the end of 2016. Assembly Member Mayes won't term out until 2026, giving him the opportunity for a long leadership tenure.

And while the Senate's leaders are not currently changing, Sen. Jean Fuller (R-Bakersfield), who terms out in 2018, transitioned into the role of Senate Minority Leader just before session adjourned in September. Sen. Kevin De León (D-Los Angeles), who terms out in 2018, remains President pro Tempore.

New Mayors and Council Members to Head to Sacramento for League Training in Late January

The League's annual training for newly elected mayors and council members will be held Jan. 20-22 in Sacramento. Cities still have a few weeks to sign up their newly elected members before the Jan. 6 registration deadline.

The event will bring together more than 200 mayors and council members for education on the nuts and bolts of effectively serving on a California city council. The three days will feature sessions on a range of topics such as advocacy, the legal powers and obligations of office, land use, city finance and strategies to run effective city council meetings. Attendees can also take the AB 1234 ethics training.

'Awards' Continued from Page 1...

Nominations for this prestigious award are due by Wednesday, Jan. 13. Winners will be announced in February and awards will be presented during the Public Works Officers Institute and County Engineers Association of Counties conference March 9-11 in Sacramento. They will also be featured later in 2016 in *Western City*, the League's monthly magazine.

Projects nominated should address one of three categories that promote a comprehensive improvement of local streets:

- Efficient and Sustainable Road and Bridge Preservation, Maintenance and Construction and Reconstruction Projects;
- Complete Streets and Multi-Modal Mobility Projects; or
- Safety or Intelligent Transportation System Projects.

Applications must be submitted online.

Please contact Meghan McKelvey with any questions on the award program and application process.

'NLC' Continued from Page 1...

The Community and Economic Development Committee includes the following California members:

- Ventura Council Member Neal Andrews;
- Temecula Mayor Jeff Comerchero;
- Brea Council Member Cecilia Hupp; and
- Burbank Council Member David Gordon.

The Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee includes the following California members:

- Rosemead Mayor Margaret Clark; and
- Sacramento Director of Government Affairs Randi Knott.

The Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee includes Culver City Council Member Jim Clarke.

The Human Development Committee is vice chaired by Cathedral City Mayor Pro Tempore Gregory Pettis.

The Information Technology and Communications Committee includes San Leandro Council Member Corina Lopez.

The Public Safety and Crime Prevention Committee's vice chair is Thousand Oaks Mayor Joel Price and includes the following additional California members:

- Sunnyvale Council Member Jim Davis;
- Los Angeles Council Member Mitchell Englander;
- Brea Mayor Marty Simonoff; and
- Ontario Council Member Alan Wapner.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Services Committee's vice chair is Santa Monica Council Member Pam O'Connor and includes Sunnyvale Council Member Pat Meyering.

NLC Board of Directors

The Golden State is also well represented on the NLC board of directors with four members serving this year. Joining Mountain View Council Member and former League President Mike Kasperzak are Los Angeles Council Member Joe Buscaino and Rancho Cordova Council Member David Sander represent cities. Kasperzak's term ends in 2016. Buscaino and Sander were just elected and will serve through 2017. League Executive Director Chris McKenzie is one of the four municipal league directors and will serve through 2017.

Internet Tax Freedom Act Included in Trade Agreement, Cities Need to Email U.S. Senate Immediately

This week Congress moved to make the Internet Tax Freedom Act (ITFA) permanent when a conference committee included it in an unrelated Customs Reauthorization Conference Report. This action came without notice and was completely unexpected. The League joined with other stakeholders to urge the removal of the provisions of the Customs bill prior to its passage, but help is needed from individual cities.

Cities are urged to immediately email California Sens. Barbara Boxer and Deanne Feinstein to urge them to oppose the Customs bill, officially known as the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015.

A vote on the conference report is expected next week before Congress breaks for the winter break.

Cities can use the League's letter as a sample, and sent the emails to ellen_freedman@feinstein.senate.gov, eric_haren@judiciary-dem.senate.gov and sean_moore@boxer.senate.gov.

The House has already acted on a bill to permanently extend ITFA, therefore the best opportunity to stop the extension is in the Senate.

Originally enacted in 1998, this legislation would place a permanent moratorium on taxes imposed on access to the internet. While there is no city in California that imposes such a tax, the League has raised concerns regarding the evolving nature of the internet and how a permanent moratorium will impact city revenues. For example, city utility user tax revenues are being eroded as consumers migrate from traditional phone lines to broadband-based telecommunications services.

The League has asked Congress to consider a short-term extension, instead of the permanent extension, to provide Congress an opportunity to revisit the policy in regular intervals. The [Center on Budget Policy and Priorities](#) has posted a blog that underscores the harm a permanent ban on internet access taxes would have on state and local revenues.

U.S. Communities Home Depot Rebate Program

During 2015, through the League of California Cities[®] sponsored U.S. Communities program, California cities have purchased more than \$3 million in products and services from The Home Depot. By enrolling in the rebate program provided for under The Home Depot contract with U.S. Communities, a city spending a minimum of \$10,000 during 2015 can receive a cash rebate for all Home Depot online and in-store purchases.

Retroactive to Jan. rebate levels are:

- 1 percent on spends of \$10,000 to \$25,000
- 2 percent on spends of \$25,000 to \$100,000
- 3 percent on spends of \$100,000+

Cities interested in the program should request information from the city's accounts payable department to determine the amount spent with Home Depot during 2015.

To participate, a city must enroll in the rebate program for 2015 before Dec. 31. Call (866) 333-3551 or [enroll online](#).

About U.S. Communities

The U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance, a strategic partner of the League of California Cities, is a government purchasing cooperative that reduces the cost of goods and services by aggregating the purchasing power of public agencies nationwide.

For additional information, please visit www.USCommunities/LCC or contact [Norman Coppinger](#), administrative services director, League of California Cities.

League-Sponsored Bond Agency Finances Affordable Housing Projects in Moreno Valley and Montebello

Some of the most significant benefits of League membership for cities since 1988 have flowed from the League's co-sponsorship of the [California Statewide Communities Development Authority \(CSCDA\)](#). This program provides a variety of public agencies and developers access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. CSCDA issued \$49.6 million in tax-exempt multifamily bonds that helped finance affordable housing projects in several California cities.

Moreno Valley: Cottonwood Place Apartments

Cottonwood Place Apartments is an acquisition and rehabilitation of 108 multifamily affordable housing apartments by Moreno Valley Cottonwood 1R Partners LP. The project sponsor is Palm Communities. Cottonwood Place will continue to be 100 percent affordable and provide 54 three-bedroom and 54 four-bedroom apartments to low-income families in Moreno Valley.

CSCDA and Palm Communities partnered with Citibank to provide \$9.9 million in tax-exempt and taxable multifamily affordable housing bonds for Cottonwood Place. The rehabilitation will include new kitchen appliances and cabinets, bathroom and lighting fixtures, ADA accessible unit conversions, exterior paint, upgraded HVAC systems, playground improvements, and a renovated community room. The financing of Cottonwood Place will maintain the affordability of units for low-income tenants for 55 years.

Montebello: Beverly Hospital

Beverly Hospital is a not-for-profit, leading and independent 224-bed acute care facility that is proud of the medical services and comfort provided to patients. From emergency room and hospitalization to outpatient procedures, Beverly offers a full range of services with the latest technology on diagnostic and treatment options. A medical staff of over 350 physicians, representing a wide spectrum of specialties, is supported by experienced and dedicated employees and volunteers, who strive to deliver high-tech, high-touch services, preventive education and patient care.

CSCDA partnered with Wells Fargo Securities to underwrite the \$39.7 million in tax-exempt bonds for Beverly. The proceeds of the investment grade rated bonds will be used to refinance two taxable bank loans, make seismic related renovations, expand the hospital's emergency department, and make various equipment purchases to maintain and enhance the services offered by Beverly.

Background

CSCDA is a joint powers authority created in 1988 and is sponsored by the League of California Cities® and the California State Association of Counties. It was created by cities and counties for cities and counties. More than 500 cities, counties and special districts are program participants in CSCDA, which serves as their conduit issuer and provides access to efficiently finance locally-approved projects. CSCDA has issued more than \$50 billion in tax exempt bonds for projects that provide a public benefit by creating jobs, affordable housing, healthcare, infrastructure, schools and other fundamental services. Visit <http://cscda.org> for additional information on the ways in which CSCDA can help your city.

Registration Open for 2016 Municipal Law Symposium

The 2016 Municipal Law Symposium will focus on the challenging issues public agency attorneys face in the areas of water and public works. Panels will focus on: water rights, drought, and enforcement; water issues related to CEQA and land use; alternative water supplies, including storm water, groundwater, and recycled water; water and public works finance issues including those related to Proposition 218; and conflicts of interest, including an update on the new FPPC Regulations and conflict of interest issues relevant to public works projects.

Titled "Ensuring Integrity in 21st Century California: Water & Public Works in Our Arid State," the symposium will be held on Feb. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. View information and register [online](#).

This annual event is co-sponsored by the Municipal Law Institute of the League of California Cities®, McGeorge School of Law, the County Counsels' Association and the State Bar of California Public Law Section.

Dec.15, 2015
Issue #104

Local Government Statement Regarding Filing of California Water Conservation, Flood Control and Stormwater Management Act

Measure Would Establish a New Optional Funding Method Local Agencies Can Use for Stormwater Management and Flood Control Projects and Establishment of Rates to Encourage Conservation and Protect Low-Income Customers

On Monday, Dec. 14, the Association of California Water Agencies, the California State Association of Counties, and the League of California Cities® filed a constitutional amendment with the Attorney General's office. The measure would create a new, optional funding method local agencies can use to finance stormwater management and flood control projects, set rates for customers to encourage conservation and reduce water and sewer bills for low-income customers. The measure includes strict accountability and transparency requirements for any local agency that chooses to avail itself of this new funding method. *For more, see Page 2.*



New FAA Regulations Require Registration for Recreational Drones

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced on Dec. 14 a new requirement in federal law requiring registration of all model aircraft, including recreational drones. It is reportedly a user-friendly web-based registration process. Under the new federal rule, anyone who operated a drone, or unmanned aircraft system (UAS) before Dec. 21, 2015, is required to register by Feb. 19, 2016. Owners of any drone or UAS purchased after Dec. 21 must register before their first flight outdoors. *For more, see Page 3.*



Registration is Now Open for the Public Works Officers Institute in Sacramento

Don't miss the opportunity to register early and secure your spot for the 2016 Public Works Officers Institute and Expo scheduled March 9-11 at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento. *For more, see Page 4.*

The following statement can be attributed to ACWA, CSAC and the League:

"California's historic drought and the likelihood of more severe droughts and heavy floods make it critical for local communities to have the tools needed to meet 21st century water management challenges. Those tools will help agencies to further encourage conservation and discourage excessive use of water; effectively capture, clean and eliminate pollution from local water sources; better protect people and property from the dangers of floods; and assist low-income customers.

"This measure recognizes current water realities and would create a new optional funding method local governments can use at their sole discretion to establish conservation pricing, to finance flood control and stormwater management, and to reduce charges for low-income consumers. To protect taxpayers, the measure includes a robust set of new accountability requirements for any local agencies that choose to utilize this new funding method.

"We have filed this measure in the hopes of advancing the discussions toward a viable policy solution in 2016. We will make a determination if we plan to proceed with this measure or some other policy solution in the coming months."

Information about the California Water Conservation, Flood Control and Stormwater Management Act:

- Constitutional amendment would establish a new, optional funding method that authorizes local agencies to:
 - Set rates for customers to encourage water conservation, prevent waste and discourage excessive use of water;
 - Levy fees and charges, subject to ratepayer protest, for flood control and for management of stormwater to protect coastal waters, rivers, lakes, streams, groundwater and other sources of drinking water from contamination; and
 - Use fees and charges to reduce water and sewer fees and charges for low-income customers.
- Any local agency that utilizes this optional funding method for water service and sewer service would be required to adhere to **strict accountability, transparency and ratepayer protections**. This includes:
 - Providing local ratepayers with a description of the services and facilities projected to be funded by any proposed fee or charge in advance of any public hearing or consideration of the fee or charge;
 - Posting the description of the proposal on the agency's Internet website with all applicable exhibits;
 - Providing local ratepayers a notice of the date and time of the public hearing the local agency will hold on the proposed fee and charges;
 - If written protests against the fee or charge are presented by a majority of persons to whom the local agency sent the notice about the proposal, then the local agency shall not impose, increase or extend the fee or charge;
 - All money must be spent for the local purpose for which the fee or charge was imposed and cannot be taken by state government;
 - Revenues derived from the fee or charge shall not exceed the reasonable cost to the local agency of providing the water or sewer service or be used for any purpose other than that for which it was imposed;
 - The manner in which the costs are allocated to a fee payer shall bear a fair or reasonable relationship to the fee payer's burden or benefits received from the water service or sewer service;
 - The initiative power of voters may be used to repeal or reduce the fee or charge in the future with the filing of a petition calling for an election on the question; and

- Independent annual audits shall be made available to the public showing how all funds are spent.
- This new, optional funding method will allow local agencies to invest in the water supplies, water quality, flood protection and water management and conservation programs we need, while guaranteeing a high level of accountability and ratepayer protections.

'Drones' Continued from Page 1...

Owners and operators can register at www.faa.gov/uas/registration. A registration fee of \$5.00 must be paid, but it will be waived for the first 30 days — until Jan. 20, 2016. In addition, drones will have to display a unique identifier, a registration number issued by the FAA. Registrants will need to provide their name, home address and e-mail address. Upon completion of the registration process, the web application will generate a Certificate of Aircraft Registration/Proof of Ownership that will include a unique identification number for the UAS owner, which must be marked on the aircraft.

These new regulations, while helpful, may not go far enough to adequately address the hazards and potential for misuse that drones represent. For example, registration is largely voluntary on the part of drone operators, and, for drones purchased after Dec. 21, registration is not required at the time of purchase or point of sale.

While registration is required prior to the operation of a drone in the national airspace, it is difficult to see how such a requirement will be enforced absent a point of sale registration requirement. In addition, there is no requirement that drone operators provide the FAA with the serial number assigned their drone by its manufacturer. This raises doubts about the effectiveness of the FAA's response, given the scope of the abuse of this technology that has occurred over the past two years.

FAA Enforcement

The Unmanned Aircraft System Registration Task Force, which made a series of recommendations leading to the new FAA regulations, considered the difficulties posed by enforcement, and the limitations of both the FAA and local law enforcement agencies. The FAA's primary enforcement mechanism will be outreach and education, which will likely be web-based (see "What's Required" below). However, the FAA may also employ administrative action or legal enforcement action to gain compliance with the new requirements.

Existing federal law already provides civil penalties of up to \$27,500 for failure to register, and corresponding criminal penalties including fines of up to \$250,000 under 18 U.S.C. 3571 and/or imprisonment up to three years under 49 U.S.C. 46306. However, under the new regulations there is no systematic mechanism to alert authorities as to who has and has not registered.

Why Yet Tighter Regulations May Be Urgently Needed

The Consumer Technology Association, a trade group, estimates that 400,000 drones will be sold this holiday season in the United States. Given the many safety hazards they pose and the current lack of comprehensive regulations and enforcement provisions to make them meaningful, many states, including California, may take the initiative and pursue enforcement legislation, notwithstanding potential conflicts with federal law.

During 2015 alone, several incidents underscore the urgent need for tighter regulations: the 19 occasions during wildfire season in which drones illegally operating in restricted airspace forced the grounding of firefighting aircraft nationwide; the increasing incidents of drones illegally operating near airports, inside the prohibited 5-mile radius, and often dangerously close to commercial airliners; and finally the near-collision that occurred between a California Highway Patrol (CHP) helicopter and a drone over a highway in Martinez on the evening Dec. 5, avoided only due to evasive action on the part of the CHP pilot.

What's Required of Drone Operators

One problem is that many drone operators are ignorant of the applicable rules. In an effort to help the public understand what is required of not only recreational drone operators, but also commercial and public agency users of unmanned aircraft systems, the FAA has also launched a [website](#) containing information on the federal requirements, including the many safety guidelines.

'Public Works' Continued from Page 1...

This important event is for professionals of all career levels, this institute offers education on the latest developments in public works, leadership, managing transportation, infrastructure, water, waste programs and more.

Full conference registration includes admission for:

- Two and a half days of important educational sessions which kicks off with a general session with journalist Dan Walters;
- Wednesday reception with expo, Thursday breakfast and lunch, and Friday breakfast; and
- Electronic access to all program materials.

Register [online](#) by Tuesday, Feb. 16. The full announcement, schedule and complete session information will be mailed next week.

If you have any questions, please contact [Brian Sanders](#) at (916) 658-8238.
