

**City of Garden Grove**  
**WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO**  
**February 12, 2015**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council      FROM: Allan Roeder, City Manager  
Members

**I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES**

None.

**II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS**

**A. NEW STREAMING AND ARCHIVED VIDEO SERVICES**

Charles Kalil provides information on the availability of live and archived videos of the City Council meetings on Youtube.

**III. ITEMS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, OUTSIDE AGENCIES, BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS**

None.

**• OTHER ITEMS**

– NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information\_

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



ALLAN L. ROEDER  
City Manager

**City of Garden Grove**

**INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

To: Allan Roeder  
Dept: City Manager  
Subject: NEW STREAMING AND  
ARCHIVED VIDEO SERVICES

From: Charles Kalil  
Dept: Information Technology  
Date: February 12, 2015

For the last five years, Garden Grove has been offering both live and archived video on the web through a company called Granicus. While this system served us well in the past, it has a limited reach to an increasingly diverse Internet customer base. Video could only be viewed on Windows PCs running Internet Explorer. Many of our constituents utilize non-Windows computers as well as smartphones and tablets to surf the web. Information Technology with the help of our Channel 3 cable staff has implemented a new system for watching streaming video on the web.

Both live and archived video will now be available on YouTube. This content is available on any device that can view YouTube. This includes Windows and Mac computers as well as all makes of smartphone, tablets, smart TVs and even Apple TV and Chromecast. Customers can find our content on our City Website's "Most Requested" section under both "City Council Meetings" and "Garden Grove TV3". Live and Archived Videos can also be found by searching YouTube for Garden Grove TV3. Staff is still working to move all of our archived content from Granicus to YouTube. Archived video that has not yet been moved to YouTube is still available on Granicus. A link to that site is available from our website on the City Council Meeting page.

Video is the first phase in a larger project to make information easier to access on our website. In a couple of months, Staff will be launching a completely new website. The site is being redesigned with the intent of making it easier to navigate. This includes using a "responsive" design. This will enable our site to modify its appearance based on the size of the device used to view it. Thus it will appear differently on a large screen used by a computer, a smaller screen on a tablet, or a small screen on a smartphone. Staff will be presenting the new website to both a focus group from our community and to our City Council before going live.



CHARLES KALIL

Information Technology Director

**Weekly Memo 2/12/15**

**NEWSPAPER  
ARTICLES**



JOSHUA SUDOCK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Retired Garden Grove Police Chief Kevin Rainey speaks during a dinner for recipients of the Chief's Coin for Merit, a silver-dollar-size coin awarded to good Samaritans who did an exceptional act of kindness or heroism that aided in public safety. The Police Department honored 111 people who received coins in 2014.

# IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE

The Police Department honors residents who made extraordinary contributions to public safety.

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

**A** Garden Grove girl launched a one-person fundraiser to buy a bulletproof vest for a K-9 unit.

A group aided police during the investigation of the Bolsa Grande High School fire.

These are just a few of the good Samaritans who stepped up when police needed the public's help and were recognized with the Chief's Coin for Merit.

Every year, the Garden Grove Police Department gives each officer one merit coin, which they are to give to a civilian who demonstrates kindness or heroism and helps maintain public safety. Since 2011, when then-police

Chief Kevin Rainey created the program, more than 400 people have received coins. Last week, the Police Department honored the 111 people who helped the department in 2014.

"It's poetic justice that my last semi-official role is to come back and say thank you for your contributions," said Rainey, who retired in December but presented certificates of recognition last week with Chief Todd Elgin. "It's not an 'us against them' mentality anymore. It's a 'we' philosophy. And you have demonstrated your dedication to the community."

To read more about the stories of some merit coin recipients, go to Page 6.

## CHIEF'S COIN FOR MERIT

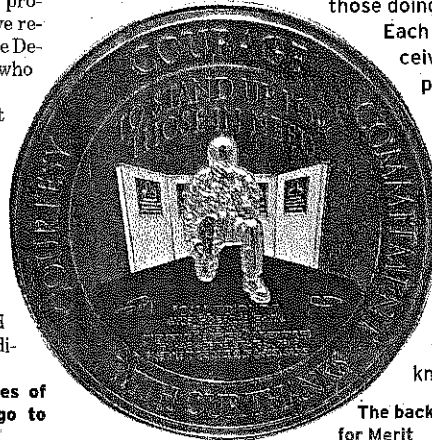
Former police Chief Kevin Rainey started the Coin for Merit program in 2011 because, he said, he wanted officers to look for those doing good, not just those doing bad.

Each officer in the 200-member force receives a coin every year that they are supposed to give to one person who demonstrated kindness or heroism.

Since 2011, the department has handed out more than 400 coins.

"It's a unique honor that, we, as a department, have the ability to recognize our community members for what they do to assist us in our daily work," Chief Todd Elgin, who is continuing the program, said in a statement.

"Each of them should be very proud - I know I am."



The back of the Chief's Coin for Merit



# POLICE CELEBRATE THOSE WHO DO GOOD



PHOTOS: JOSHUA SUDOCK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detective David Lopez, left, appears with Lori Young, Julie Day, Mark Van Grootheest, Louise Milner and Kelly McAmis, whose collaboration helped police identify and arrest a suspect in connection with a fire and subsequent bomb threats at Bolsa Grande High.

## BOLSA GRANDE HIGH FIRE INVESTIGATION

**W**hen a fire damaged Bolsa Grande High School in December - followed shortly after by bomb threats - Garden Grove Unified School District staff jumped into action.

Assistant Superintendent Kelly McAmis, Principal Louise Milner, Julie Day, Lori Young and Mark Van Grootheest all are credited with helping the Police Department investigate the arson, as well as the bomb threats.

The arson investigation involved multiple agencies and staff working on the campus. Day, a secretary, McAmis and Milner helped keep the lines of communication organized among the many groups. Police say without their help a suspect may not have been identified and arrested.

Van Grootheest and Young recognized the handwriting on the threats.

## PROTECTING THE DEPARTMENT'S K9

Man's best friends are also the perfect police officers. Dogs are loyal, obey commands, can sniff out drugs and help apprehend dangerous suspects.

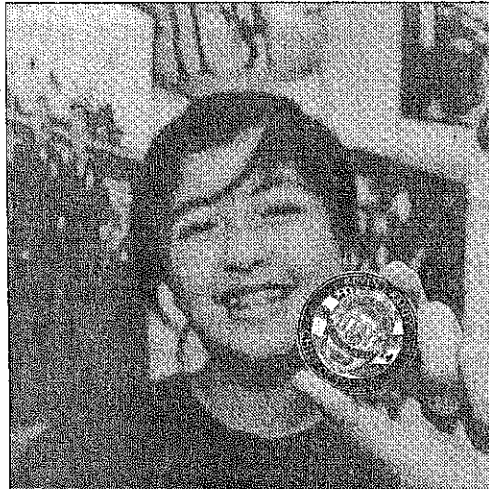
But that also puts police dogs in significant danger.

So Veronica Gomez, a Fountain Valley Girl Scout who is also the sister of a Garden Grove police officer, started a fundraising campaign to buy a bulletproof vest for the department's K9, Strauss.

She raised more than \$1,000 for the vest by selling buttons with Strauss' picture on them.



Veronica Gomez is joined by Master Officer Omar Perez, who works with Strauss, the police dog that has a bulletproof vest as a result of Gomez's fundraising effort.



Kayla Tran, 14, who helped translate for officers during a misunderstanding, shows off her Chief's Coin for Merit.

## SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE

An elderly Vietnamese American man said his wife stole his gun.

His wife said it fell to the side of the bed.

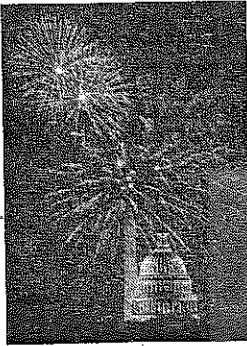
Police officers tried to figure out what was going on, but the man didn't speak English well - so his granddaughter, Kayla Tran, intervened.

The 14-year-old translated for the police, explaining to the officers that her grandfather is forgetful and persuading her grandfather to let the police take the gun for safekeeping.

# City halls will be closed on Monday

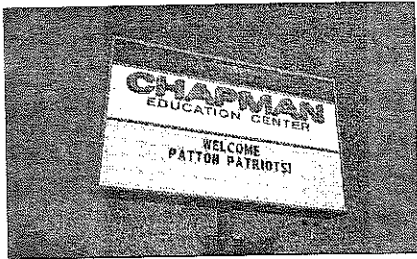
All hail the chiefs - Washington, Lincoln, et al. Garden Grove, Stanton and Westminster city halls are all closed Monday in observance of Presidents Day, first observed in 1885 to honor of George Washington's birthday.

Garden Grove City Hall and the Westminster Civic Center both reopen at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday; Stanton City Hall reopens at 7 a.m. Tuesday.



GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

**Many government buildings will close for Presidents Day.**



CHRIS HAIRE, STAFF

**Hare Continuation High School is moving to a larger facility.**

## Hare continues to new location

The Hare Continuation High School is hopping to a larger facility next year - drawing the ire of some in West Garden Grove.

The school allows students who may have fallen behind in their coursework to make up credits in accelerated classes. It will be moving from its current building at 12012 Magnolia St. to the larger Chapman Hettinga Education Center at Chapman Avenue and Knott Street.

At a recent Garden Grove Unified School District board meeting, residents living near the center said they worried relocating the school would lead to problems in the community.

# New court now in session for kids

## Boys & Girls Clubs of G.G. unveils new gym floor to aid knees.

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

Snap, crackle, (no) pop. The main branch of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove has replaced its 20-year-old gymnasium floor with a new, technologically advanced surface that will not crack, fade or peel, and provides shock absorption to reduce knee injuries - one of the most common basketball-related issues.

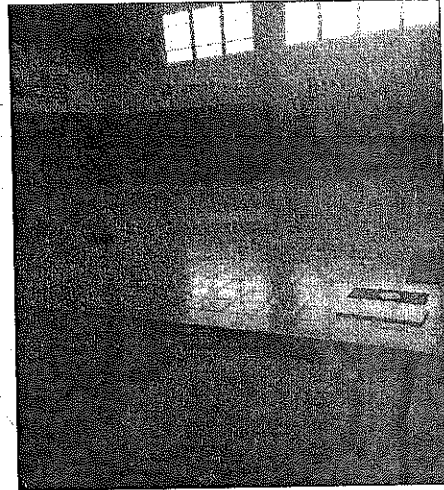
The club, at 9860 Larson Ave., had been looking to replace the old floor for several years. However, it had been unable to afford it until Buffalo Wild Wings, a sports bar and restaurant chain, gave it a \$25,000 grant as part of its Team Up for Kids initiative.

"We knew it had to be replaced, and we started holding fundraisers," said club spokeswoman Rachelle Gillerman. "When this grant came up, we thought it was the best opportunity to replace it."

Buffalo Wild Wings has donated more than \$1.5 million to Boys & Girls Club programs since 2013 and plans on giving at least \$1 million this year and in 2016.

"We're very excited to introduce these Team Up for Kids grants to support the improvement or addition of critical Boys & Girls Club sports facilities," Mary Twinem, executive vice president and chief financial officer at Buffalo Wild Wings, said in a statement. "It's one more way our Team Up for Kids initiative is bringing sports into the lives of kids who need it most."

The new flooring is what



COURTESY OF BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

**The gym floor at the Boy & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove before replacing.**

is known as a modular design. It is composed of interlocking squares that fit together like puzzle pieces. The pieces, which look like maple but are actually a rubber material, can be removed a section at a time - making it cheaper and more efficient to repair.

The floor installation is part of an overall gym renovation that includes replacing the approximately 50-year-old bleachers with newer, retractable benches. The bleachers have been ordered.

Once installed, the bleachers will allow those using the gym to create more floor space by pushing the seating against the wall.

About 200 children come through the gym daily as part of club programs, and several groups also use the gym on weekdays in the evenings.

Because children's joints are still growing, Gillerman

said, one of the most important aspects of the floor installation is its shock absorption. The new floor has a certain amount of "give," she said.

"It's very innovative, which I'm excited about," she said. "It's a physically safe floor for kids to play on, which is what you want."

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chaire@ocregister.com

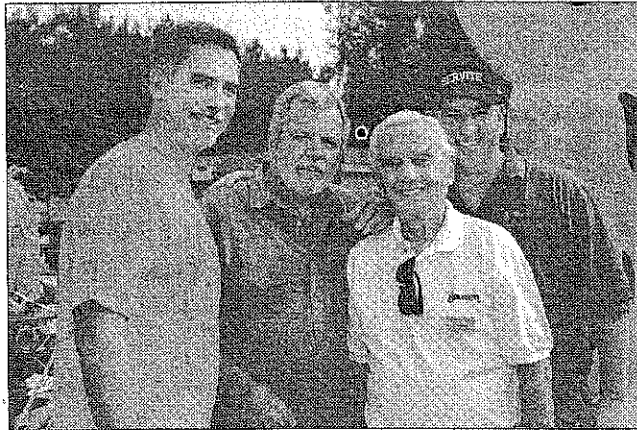
# Not everyone is a fan of Brainiac's take on social media

We thought we were done with the social-media lives of the elected officials of Garden Grove, Westminster and Stanton, but as **Michael Corleone** learned the hard way back in the day, "Just when I thought I was out ... they pull me back in!"

A word of explanation in case you've missed any of the past three weeks. Brainiac had the idea to scope out what our elected officials put on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and so forth. And the first two weeks, focusing on Garden Grove and Westminster, went just swimmingly.

We wrote about discovering that Garden Grove Mayor **Bao Nguyen** had been voted Most Spirited when he was at Pacifica High School. It seemed to go down OK, too. Nguyen retweeted our link to the story and started following us on Twitter.

The next week, we swung by the virtual homes of the Westminster City Council and had a bit of fun with their online presence, espe-



FRANK D'AMATO, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

**City of Stanton Councilman Rigo Ramirez, left, and Councilman Brian Donahue, second from left, are definitely NOT James Bond types with secrets to hide. Mayor Ai Ethans, second from right, and City Manager Jim Box, right, are almost certainly also not secret agents, spies or otherwise people with important things they're hiding.**

cially Councilwoman **Diana Carey**, who as we learned, has an "apparently vast collection of traditional ao dai dresses and (a) willingness to go all none-of-your-business about her age on Facebook. Unless she really is 29, in which case she's really accomplished a lot in a short time."

A day later, the phone rang, and after we answered, the woman on the other end said, "Is this Brainiac? This is Councilwoman Carey."

Uh-oh, we thought, but then she laughed and let us off the hook, saying she got a kick out of the column and even laughed at our joke

about her official Facebook age.

Around the same time, Westminster Councilman **Sergio Contreras** sent over an email saying, "Thanks for inspiring me to create a public Facebook page :). I hope you are one of the first to like it."

We liked it and so did a couple hundred other people.

So, riding high, we tackled the Stanton City Council last week and came up with so little that in our panic and flop sweat we resorted to feverish imaginations, writing:

"We started to wonder: Is there a reason why their social-media profiles are blank? Instead of a retired public school administrator, a retirement-services director and a retired high school teacher, maybe they're **James Bond**-types under deep cover.

"What are they trying to hide in Stanton? Snap out of it, Brainiac - it's probably nothing."

Harmless little joke,

right? Yeahhhh, not according to **Hedy Donahue**, wife of Councilman **Brian Donahue**, who had a word or two she wanted to share with us.

"As a law-abiding citizen and member of the Stanton community, I must say that I found (the column) extremely offensive," Donahue wrote. "How dare you suggest that our City Council members are 'hiding something' simply because they don't have a social-media presence?"

"You may have written it facetiously (I'm giving you the benefit of the doubt here), but don't you realize that this is how rumors and scandals get started? You are basing your statement on absolutely nothing other than your own selfish motivation to come up with a good story and make some waves."

She continued for a few more paragraphs, praising the Stanton City Council as "the most honest, committed and caring group of individuals," and letting Brai-

niac know we are "presumptuous and insulting" and generally implying that we're such a lowly cur that not even the Stanton dog catcher would sully his cages with our mangy mannered self.

"P.S. If you're truly a 'Brainiac,' you're smart enough to know that you should print this letter and issue a public apology," Donahue concluded.

OK, fine.

We'll put her full letter online (there's not room enough in the print edition). And right here we'd like to apologize for suggesting that Stanton council members **Brian Donahue**, **David Shawver** and **Rigo Rodriguez** are "James Bond-types under deep cover."

And now we'll do Donahue one better, too, and invite her to join us for a cup of coffee at the Stanton coffee shop of her choosing, to chat with her about what she loves about her hometown, and then do a future column on Hedy Donahue's Hot Spots Around Town.

# WINNING TO THE LETTER

“Asthmogenic3” was the deciding word.

And with the reciting of the last letter, Theodore Nguyen of Irvine Intermediate School became champion of the Garden Grove Unified School District’s 28th annual spelling bee.

Spelling went on for about an hour and a half. Each of the 10 district intermediate schools had entered their four best spellers.

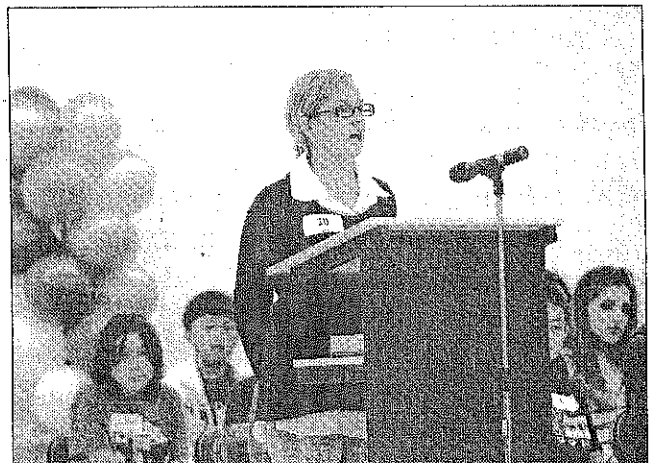
Nguyen and the nine runners-up move on to the county competition, which feeds into the national spelling bee.

A district speller has yet to move past the county level .... Y-E-T.

Garden Grove Journal / Register  
Feb. 12, 2015  
1 of 2



**Raiston Intermediate students walk to the stage during the 28th annual spelling bee.**



**Katia Boose with Bell Intermediate School spells the word she was given.**



### Runners-up

The following students places second through 10th in the district spelling bee:

**Adalyn Ngo** of Bell Intermediate

**Dalton Ho** of McGarvin Intermediate

**Angel Huynh** of Raiston Intermediate

**Jimmy Dinh** of McGarvin Intermediate

**Katia Boose** of Bell Intermediate

**Kimhuy Ngo** of Irvine Intermediate

**Benjamin Le** of Raiston Intermediate

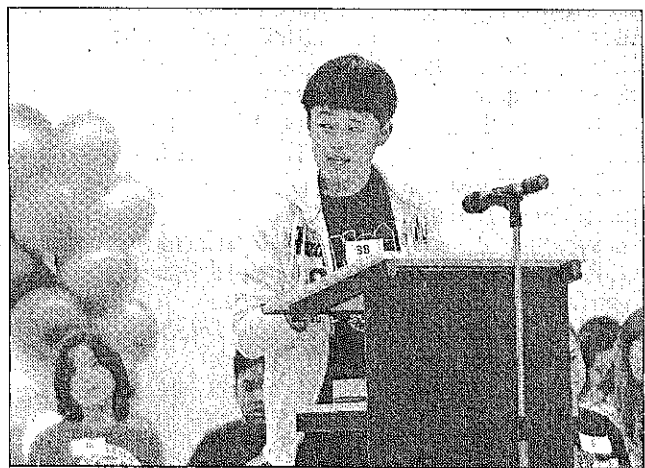
**Alan Nguyen** of McGarvin Intermediate

**Benjamin Olson** of Bell Intermediate

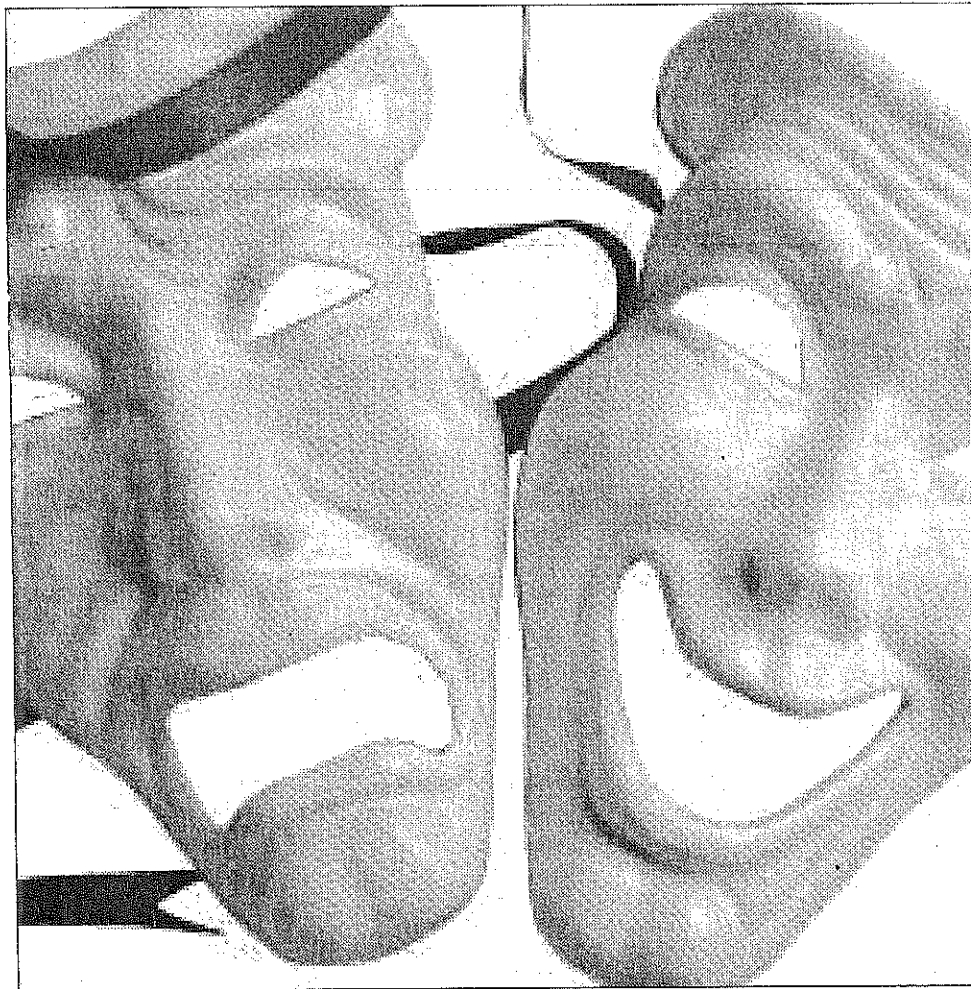


PHOTOS: FRANK D'AMATO, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

From left: Dalton Ho from McGarvin Intermediate School took third, Theodore Nguyen with Irvine Intermediate School took first place, and Adalyn Ngo of Bell Intermediate School took second during the Intermediate School Spelling Bee Championship.



Jimmy Dinh with McGarvin Intermediate School asks pronouncer Pete Parcell for clarification of the word.



FILE PHOTO

The Gem Theater opens its 2015 season with a production of "City of Angels."

## 'City of Angels' production opens Gem season

The scene: 1940s Hollywood. A writer pounding away on his typewriter, struggling to convert his book into a screenplay. The real world melts into fiction, the author's life blending with the film noir world of his movie-to-be.

It's just another day in the City of Angels.

The Gem Theater opens its 2015 season with a production of "City of Angels," a 1989 Tony Award-winning Broadway musical about Stine, a young novelist, writing a screenplay for

movie producer-director Buddy Fidler. The musical weaves the real world and that of Stine's fictional film.

Cy Coleman wrote the music for "City of Angels," David Zippel did the lyrics, and Larry Gelbart wrote the book. It won six Tony Awards, including best musical.

The Gem's production runs for three nights and is part of One More Productions' Hearts for the Arts fundraising event; Opening night is the gala with a post-show sparkling-wine recep-

### If you go

**When:** 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday

**Where:** The Gem Theater, 12852 Main St.

**Cost:** \$45

**More info:** 714-741-9550, ext. 221, or [onemoreproductions.com](http://onemoreproductions.com).

tion with the cast; Saturday, there is a silent auction; and on Sunday, you'll be able to try an assortment of desserts.

- Chris Haire

friday 13th

### THEATER

**'City of Angels':** For three nights, this concert version of a Broadway classic will be staged as part of the annual Hearts for the Arts fundraising event. The cast will be backed by a jazz band. Also Saturday and Sunday. Tickets: \$25. 8 p.m. at The Gem Theater, 12852 Main St., Garden Grove. Information: [onemoreproductions.com](http://onemoreproductions.com)

Garden Grove Journal / Register  
Feb. 12, 2015



# Garden Grove mayor won't sign sister city letter

He says it's not his place to tell Riverside what to do.

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

**GARDEN GROVE** • Mayor Bao Nguyen will not sign a letter asking Riverside to rescind its recently formalized sister city relationship with Can Tho, Vietnam - a cultural partnership that has angered many here in the Little Saigon community.

Opting to not sign the letter puts him, essentially, in disagreement with many Vietnamese American leaders, activists and local residents. Nguyen, who recently became the first Vietnamese American mayor in a city with a pop-



Nguyen

ulation larger than 100,000, jilted many in a crucial voting bloc. Nguyen stressed that he is not the mayor for one group but represents the entire city - and is doing what he thinks is right despite the political costs.

"I don't think it's appropriate to tell another American city what to do," he said Wednesday evening. "I'm being true to myself, and I'm deliberating and leading as mayor based on what's best for the entire city of Garden Grove."

After Tuesday's City Council meeting, when the council majority decided to sign the letter, a group confronted the mayor, Nguyen said, with one going so far

as to blame his parents for his views - a big insult in Vietnamese culture.

A few shouted, "Down with Bao Nguyen!" and called for a recall.

"He should remember his roots and why he was born in a refugee camp instead of Vietnam," said Leslie Le, former president of the Vietnamese Community of Southern California and a longtime anti-Communist activist. "If he doesn't, I feel sorry for him, and I don't think he deserves the honor of being the mayor of Garden Grove."

In March 2014, the Riverside City Council voted 4-3 to have the city enter into a sister city relationship with Can Tho to cultivate cultural, economic and educational exchanges between the two cities.

## BROTHERS ARRESTED; ONE BIT BY K-9

**GARDEN GROVE** • A parolee at large tried to hide from police officers Tuesday night but was detained with the help of a K-9 after officials arrived at a Garden Grove apartment where the man apparently was fighting with his brother.

Garden Grove police received a call around 6:45 p.m. from a woman who said her boyfriend was fighting with his brother inside a unit at the Beach Creek Resort Apartments, 12221 Beach Blvd.

When officers arrived, both men were inside the apartment. Both men had criminal records and warrants. Both tried to run. Jose Aguirre, 21, was caught a short distance away, police said.

His brother, Edwin Aguirre, 23, required a police helicopter and K-9 unit before he was located hiding in a bush.

When Edwin Aguirre wouldn't come out, police said they released the dog off its leash. Aguirre sustained bite wounds to his right calf and was taken to an Anaheim hospital for treatment.

Police did not find a weapon.

- Alyssa Duranty

Register  
Feb. 12, 2015

# English/Vietnamese language program sure to draw sparks

School district embarks on first dual immersion program in the state



**Tony on the Town**

**By Tony Cheong**

The Westminster School District is embarking on a groundbreaking program that I bet is going to tick off some people.

Others will be happy.

The district will be the first in the state to offer a dual language immersion program in the 2015-16 school year. Put plainly, that means students learn English and Vietnamese.

The reason is obvious: The district has a high number of

Vietnamese-American students - maybe the most, percentage-wise, in the country, who speak English as a second language.

Vietnamese-Americans will learn English (albeit a bit more slowly than if they were TOTALLY immersed in the language) and English-speaking children will learn Vietnamese. I'd love to hear your thoughts on this. Good thing? Bad thing?

A couple of changes have occurred on Historic Main Street in Garden Grove. First, Zlaket's Market, which was open for 80-plus years, has closed, and the \$64,000 question is: Who will fill that spot? Second, the 7 Seas restaurant - which I reviewed awhile back on our Dining & Entertainment page - is history. It's been replaced by a restaurant whose name nobody can seem to get straight. This I know: The word "Brick" is in there someplace. I plan on heading down this weekend. Look for an upcoming food review. Townies tell me the interior hasn't changed much but the menu has.

For goodness-sake, can we

finally - finally! - make Beach Boulevard a safe and sane thoroughfare? At least in the Stanton area?

Last week, a man, who had been lingering on the center divider, stepped off and was struck by two cars and killed. It was near Chapman Avenue.

Listen: I drive Beach Boulevard. I see a lot of troublesome things. One of them is jaywalking. Not just jaywalking. Reckless jaywalking. The City of Stanton has taken steps. Code enforcement officers are citing jaywalkers, especially homeless people who are slowly pushing their shopping carts full of stuff across the boulevard.

I don't know the story of the man who was killed last week. It's tragic. Stanton can't completely safeguard Beach Boulevard, or give it a total facelift anytime soon. But here's hoping that, step by step, we turn one of the biggest and most well-known boulevards in Orange County into something we can be proud of.

*Tony on the Town can be reached at [tonyontown@yahoo.com](mailto:tonyontown@yahoo.com).*

# Community Calendar

## Ongoing

**Overachievers, check this out** Achievers Club 9331 is hosting communication and leadership meetings featuring professional speakers at the Crystal Cathedral Tower of Hope, 12141 Lewis St. Meetings will be held every Thursday except during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holiday weeks. For more information, call Barbara Barrientas at 714-971-4123, e-mail [bbarrientas@crystalcathedral.org](mailto:bbarrientas@crystalcathedral.org) or visit [www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331](http://www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331).

**Chamber holds Friday meetings** The Garden Grove Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee meets the second Friday of the month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call the chamber at 714-638-7950.

**Grief support** The Grief Share Support Group is for mothers who have lost children of every age. The group meets Thursday evenings at 12831 Olive St., Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-892-1520 or 714-343-7516.

**Learn about Alzheimer's** The Alzheimer's Association of Orange County hosts a support group to provide an opportunity to meet other caregivers and

families, share experiences and exchange ideas. These meetings are free and open to all caregivers and family members of individuals with dementia. All groups listed are in compliance with chapter and national standards. This is a faith-based meeting and may include prayer or pastoral speaker, and will take place at 1 p.m. Saturdays at the Crystal Cathedral Arboretum, 12141 Lewis St. in Garden Grove. For more information, call Peggy Woelke at 714-634-2161.

**Dance Center hosts social** Join the staff of the Cedarbrook Dance Center for nights of square dancing, line dancing, round dancing (pre-choreographed social dancing) and salsa. The Dance Center is at 12812 Garden Grove Blvd. For more information on classes, call Eileen Silvia at (949) 637-4169.

**Eco-friendly storytime** Family storytime all through the summer will highlight books about our environment and the animals that live in rivers, oceans and icy places. All ages are encouraged to attend at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Garden Grove Regional Library, 11200 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-530-0711.

**Rotary Club to meet** The Rotary Club of Garden Grove meets at 12:10 p.m. Wednesdays at The Marriott Hotel, at Chapman Avenue and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

**GG Kiwanis to meet** The Kiwanis Club of Garden Grove hosts dinner meetings at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Kiwanisland, 9840 Larson Ave. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. For more information, call 714-892-7267.  
**School Board to meet**

## New supervisor

Former Garden Grove City Councilman Andrew Do prevailed as the District 1 Orange County Supervisor in one of the closest elections in county history.

Coming in second was former Supervisor and Assemblyman Lou Correa. At one point during the certification process of the votes, Do led by two votes.

A large Vietnamese-American turnout is credited in part for Do's victory.

The District 1 seat, which represents Garden Grove, Westminster and other cities, was left vacant when former Supervisor Janet Nguyen won the election for a State Senate seat (District 34).

## Sweetheart dance

Senior sweethearts are invited to attend a romantic night at the annual Sweetheart Dance hosted by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue.

The event is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 13.

For more information, call the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at 714-741-5253.

## A bloody good cause

As part of its ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion, and in celebration of Lunar New Year, Union Bank welcomes the Year of the Sheep by hosting Wishing Trees at participating California branches, including in Garden Grove and Westminster.

In the spirit of the Year of the Sheep, customers who visit 15 participating Union Bank branches throughout California through March 14 will have an opportunity to share their wishes and support their local community by making a contribution to a local non-profit organization.

Donations will be matched (up to \$2,500 per organization) by the MUFG Union Bank Foundation.

Orange County News  
Feb. 11, 2015

**The Garden Grove Unified School District holds its regular meetings at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month at the district offices, 10331 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove.**

# Garden Grove police to hold DUI checkpoint

The Garden Grove Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Driver License Checkpoint on Friday, Feb. 13 from 9 p.m. to 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.

In California, this deadly crime has led to 802 deaths and nearly 24,000 serious injuries in 2012 because someone failed to designate a sober driver. The latest data shows nationally that impaired driving killed nearly 10,000

people.

"Over the course of the past three years; DUI collisions have claimed 9 lives, and resulted in 144 injury crashes harming 211 of our friends, and neighbors," said Sgt. J. Fischer.

Officers will be looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment; in addition, officers will be checking driver's for proper licensing that may delay 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.

Drugs that may impair driving not only include illegal narcotics, but many prescription drugs, marijuana, and even some over-the-counter medications.

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.

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 from friends and family.

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

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

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 Furnish all Labor, Material, Tools and Equipment to build an Exterior Cover for Materials at the Garden Grove Municipal Service Center located at 13802 Newhope Street, Garden Grove, CA 92843. A copy of the bid document may be obtained from the City of Garden Grove's website. Contractors interested in submitting a bid for this project are required to attend a MANDATORY pre-bid meeting and job walk scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at Garden Grove Municipal Service Center located at 13802 Newhope Street, Garden Grove, CA 92843. 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 Monday, March 16, 2015. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

Dated: February 11, 2015

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

**Orange County News**

15-50087

**Publish Feb. 11, 18, 2015**

Orange County News  
Feb. 11, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE  
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF GARDEN GROVE  
CITY COUNCIL

A Public Hearing will be held by Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. and a second Public Hearing will be held by the Garden Grove City Council on April 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chamber, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, California.

The Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission and the City Council will consider the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the City's five-year Consolidated Plan (2015-2020), and a one-year Action Plan FY 2015-2016.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) periodically requires the City of Garden Grove to prepare and adopt a Consolidated Plan for the City's federal grants. The Consolidated Plan is a long-term strategy for the use of the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds over the next five years (2015-2020). The Consolidated Plan identifies prioritized programs to assist the City in providing decent housing and suitable living environments, addressing community service and facility needs, and expanding economic opportunities for primarily low and moderate income persons.

Along with the five year Consolidated Plan, HUD requires an annual Action Plan outlining the City's uses of the federal grant funds for one year. HUD allocated CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding to eligible jurisdictions on a formula basis, using factors such as population, income distribution, and poverty rate. For Fiscal Year 2015-16, Garden Grove's estimated funding allocations are \$1,910,000 for CDBG, \$470,000 for HOME, and \$154,000 for ESG. The funds are designed to assist the City in providing decent and affordable housing; provide community and supportive services; improve public facilities and infrastructure, and expand economic opportunities and anti-poverty activities for primarily low-and-moderate income persons.

Opportunity for Public Review and Comment

From March 2, 2015, through April 14, 2015, the proposed Draft Consolidated Plan, including the FY 2015-2016 Draft Action Plan will be available for public review at the following locations:

City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 11222 Acacia Parkway  
City Hall, Community Development Department, 11222 Acacia Parkway  
Garden Grove Public Library, 11200 Stanford Avenue  
Chamber of Commerce, 12866 Main Street

Following adoption, the final Consolidated Plan and Action Plan will be submitted to HUD and will remain available for public review throughout the program year.

If you wish to comment verbally, you are particularly encouraged to attend the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission's meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2015. City Council will then hold a Public Hearing and consider adoption of the final Consolidated Plan and Action Plan at the City Council Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. Written and verbal comments will be accepted by the Community Development Department until 4:00 p.m. on April 14, 2015. Please direct any questions or comments to Allison Mills, Neighborhood Improvement Manager via 714-741-5139, allisonj@garden-grove.org, or 800-735-2929 (TDD to voice).

/s/ Kathleen Bailor, CMC  
City Clerk

Dated: 2/5/15

Publish: 2/11/15

**Orange County News**  
15-50096  
Publish Feb. 11, 2015

LEGAL NOTICE  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER, 11300 STANFORD AVENUE, GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA, ON THE DATE \* INDICATED BELOW TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ALL EVIDENCE AND REPORTS RELATIVE TO THE APPLICATION(S) DESCRIBED BELOW:

THURSDAY, 7:00 P.M., MARCH 5, 2015

VARIANCE NO. V-010-2015

A request, by Inge Realty/Sophie Inge, for Variance approval to deviate from the sign design and removal requirements of Garden Grove Municipal Code Section 9.20.045, in order to allow the existing nonconforming freestanding pylon sign, located at 12461 Harbor Boulevard (Assessor's Parcel No. 231-455-33), to remain in its current location, partially within the Harbor Boulevard right-of-way. On May 13, 2014, the Garden Grove City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2837, enacting Municipal Code Section 9.20.045 and adopting specified standards for the placement of design of freestanding signs ("Sign Standards") for specified properties located along or near Harbor Boulevard, north of the Garden Grove Freeway, including the applicant's property. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 9.20.045, existing freestanding signs that have been in place for 15 years or more prior to the effective date of Ordinance No. 2837, and which do not conform to the Sign Standards, are subject to removal and replacement, provided the City pays the owner fair and just compensation to remove and replace the sign with one that conforms to the Sign Standards. The subject sign is an approximately forty-foot (40'-0") tall pylon sign that does not conform to the Sign Standards and which has been in place since approximately 1965. The subject sign is also partially located within the existing public right-of-way. The applicant is requesting relief from the provision of Municipal Code Section 9.20.045 authorizing the City to require the removal of its nonconforming sign upon payment of fair and just compensation by the City and to keep the sign in its current location. The sign is in the PUD-121-98 (Planned Unit Development) zone.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES are invited to attend said Hearing and express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposal as outlined above, on March 5, 2015. If you challenge the application in Court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. Further information on the above may be obtained at the Planning Services Division, City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, or by telephone at (714) 741-5312.

DATE: February 10, 2015  
PUBLISH: February 11, 2015  
**Orange County News**  
15-50102  
Publish Feb. 11, 2015

Orange County News  
Feb. 11, 2015

# Council to cooperate with D.A.'s Office

Garden Grove will waive attorney-client privilege in investigation.

BY CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITER

**GARDEN GROVE** • The Orange County District Attorney's Office is looking into whether city officials broke any laws by hiring previous Mayor Bruce Broadwater's son onto the Fire Department and offering an employment contract to David Barlag on the day he resigned as fire chief.

That probe is mentioned in a Feb. 6 letter from the D.A.'s Office asking the City Council to waive its attorney-client privilege of the panel's closed-session meetings about the ex-mayor's son and the ex-fire chief.

Usually, a council's private discussions - which are tightly restricted by law - aren't available to outsiders. Investigators would be



Bruce  
Broadwater



Jeremy  
Broadwater

able to ask council members about closed sessions.

"We are looking into any possible wrongdoing," said Ebrahim Baytieh, an assistant district attorney in the special-prosecutions unit who made the request.

Baytieh's letter says there are allegations concerning possible violations of the Brown Act, which govern what a council can discuss in private.

Two council members, including the mayor, just came aboard the five-member panel in December.

Tuesday night, the City Council held a closed session to consider waiving the attorney-client privilege. The members came out and voted 4-0, in public, to waive the attorney-client privilege without commenting.

Previously, new Mayor Bao Nguyen had said publicly that he wanted the D.A.'s Office and the State Attorney General's Office to look into Barlag's agreement.

Barlag received a no-confidence vote from the firefighters' union in early 2014 and resigned Sept. 30 - though he signed a settlement agreement that same day that created a consultant position within the city with a \$226,380 salary.

Since his resignation, Barlag, who did not return multiple calls for comment, has rarely been seen in City Hall, city officials say.

Meanwhile, three battalion chiefs from the Garden Grove Fire Department were served subpoenas to testify to the Orange County Grand Jury this month. It is unclear why.

The three were on the interview panel when Jeremy Broadwater became a firefighter in October 2013 despite a criminal record. Former Mayor Broadwater, who in the past adamantly defended his son and the city, declined to comment and

hung up the phone when asked about any investigation.

The Grand Jury hearings could instead be linked to hazardous-materials inspections. City documents say the Fire Department inspected nearly 100 businesses for hazardous materials in 2012, but a Register investigation found that that wasn't the case even though the department collectively charged the businesses more than \$150,000.

These various issues have rankled residents in recent months, leading them to speak out at public council meetings and send complaints to the District Attorney's Office. Those complaints, Baytieh said, is why the D.A.'s Office began investigating.

"I want to put these issues to rest," said Councilman Chris Phan, who recused himself from the Tuesday night decision because he works for the D.A.'s Office.

"If we don't let this run its course, there will always be those saying we're trying to cover something up."





MINDY SCHAUER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Poll workers tally votes at a table while others observe the first and last day of a recount for the County Board of Supervisors 1st District election. Lou Correa requested the recount after Andrew Do beat him by 43 votes.

# DO STAYS ON TOP IN RECOUNT

Correa campaign will now examine voter registration legality in supervisorial race.

BY MEGHANN M. CUNIFF  
STAFF WRITER



Andrew Do

The first day of the recount in the 1st District Board of Supervisors election will be the last after Monday ended with no changes to Republican Andrew Do's 43-vote victory.

Supporters of Democrat Lou Correa, who requested the recount, said they instead will examine registration materials for the roughly 1,200 provisional

ballots, which include votes that Correa has said were illegally cast. Provisional ballots are used to record votes when a voter's eligibility is in question.

But Correa would need to wage a costly legal challenge to get those votes removed from the official tally.

His lawyer, Fredric Woocher, said Monday they'll decide whether to do



Lou Correa

SEE RECOUNT

# RECOUNT

FROM PAGE 1

so after seeing how many questionable ballots there might be today. One issue with Monday's review is that the registration materials don't indicate how the person voted, so Correa's supporters must be cautious to not challenge a ballot that turns out to be in their favor.

Correa, a 57-year-old former state senator, has said he doesn't expect the recount to change the final result but that he owed it to his supporters to request one.

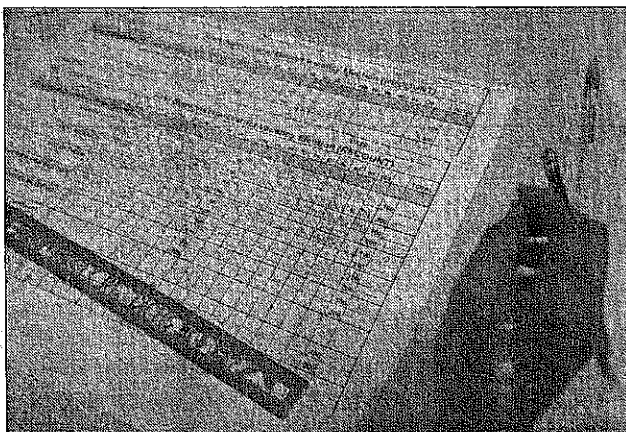
"We wanted to see how clean the ballots are, and as it turned out, they did a very good job," Woocher said.

Eight paid poll workers with the Registrar counted about 7,000 ballots by hand Monday; there were 48,626 cast in the election, about 22.6 percent of the district's eligible voters.

Do's supporters said they will be on hand today to question any challenges Correa's team makes to provisional ballots.

"Let's not exclude voters from this process," Jimmy Camp, Do's political adviser, said.

Correa's team paid \$2,400 for Monday's process, Orange County Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley said. Today's review will



MINDY SCHAUER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**A poll worker tallies votes at a table for the 1st District Board of Supervisors election.**

cost about \$589.

Meanwhile, Do is in his second week as supervisor for the 1st District after being sworn in last week. The district includes Westminster, Garden Grove, Fountain Valley and parts of Santa Ana.

While a political novice, 51-year-old Do has experience with recounts: He was Janet Nguyen's lawyer and chief of staff for the recount in 2007 in another special election for the same Board of Supervisors seat.

Nguyen had trailed opponent Trung Nguyen by three votes after the initial count, but her observers successfully challenged enough ballots during the recount to put her on top by seven votes. Trung Nguyen challenged the recount results and an Orange County Superior Court judge tossed four, but Janet

Nguyen's three-vote lead remained.

She stayed in the seat until the fall when she was elected to the state Senate.

But circumstances differed in 2007.

Voters now aren't prohibited from leaving distinguishing marks on their ballots. Whereas eight years ago election officials tossed ballots with writing on them — including one with an intricate flower drawing that now hangs framed in Kelley's office — no such ballots can be eliminated this time.

The previous recount saw 40 to 50 ballot challenges each day, but Monday's recount saw just 12 challenges. None changed the original vote tally.

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**

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TERI SFORZA  
STAFF COLUMNIST

WATCHDOG

## CITIES CASH IN ON RETAIL SALES BOOST

**Strong economy lifts tax revenue, though not all see big improvement.**

Sales taxes are gushing into many city coffers in Orange County - surpassing the totals even at the height of the financial boom.

Buena Park, which spiffed up its mall a decade ago with a Walmart, Bed Bath & Beyond and Ross Dress for Less (and a \$3.2 million public investment), has seen sales tax revenue double. So has Seal Beach, which shepherded in a reinvigorated retail area near I-405 (and committed no city money).

Still, more than half of Orange County's cities haven't seen sales tax revenue grow enough to keep pace with inflation. And at the far end of the spectrum are outliers like Laguna Woods and Laguna Hills, where sales tax revenue actually fell over the past 12 years - even without accounting for inflation.

This matters because, in

# SFORZA

FROM PAGE 1

many cities, sales taxes that once made up just one-tenth of revenue now bring in as much as a quarter to a third of the total. That makes sales taxes a vital but also erratic source of income for funding public services - and a big reason why cities were so slammed during the recession.

Seal Beach's success can be explained this way, said finance director Victoria L. Beatley: "The Target shopping center was created, the Shops at Rossmoor were updated twice, and the Vons shopping center on PCH was updated."

And envy the coast for its black gold: "Sales in the petroleum industry added to the improvement from about 2008 on," Beatley said.

Huntington Beach, which saw a rise of almost 45 percent, points to its Bella Terra shopping complex and new Costco as significant engines of sales tax revenue. Other large retail recruits such as Dick's Sporting Goods, Nordstrom Rack, Hobby Lobby, etc. also helped, City Manager Fred Wilson said.

Neighboring Newport Beach, which clocked an almost 50 percent increase, chalked up the gains to new car sales and "some remarkably innovative and competitive retail, restaurant and auto services," said City Manager Dave Kiff. "We try and facilitate their success as best we can, sometimes by staying out of the way, other times by working hard to expedite plan check approvals."

On the flip side, Laguna Woods' and Laguna Hills' challenges can be explained this way, officials said: Laguna Woods, largely a retirement village, doesn't have much retail to speak of, magnifying the effect of minor changes. And Laguna Hills has an aging mall

readying for renovation.

"Over the past several years, the new mall owners have systematically reduced the number of retail tenants in preparation for a major overhaul," said City Manager Bruce Channing. "Sears has closed and most of the shop space located south of the center court area of the mall is vacant. So the loss of the sales taxes from this mall, while painful in the short term, will hopefully be restored and even enlarged by the redevelopment to come," Channing said.

The Laguna Hills Mall has a movie theater and a booming Trader Joe's, but those don't help as much as you might think: Entertainment spending and most groceries aren't subject to sales taxes in California.

### ODD LOGIC?

"You don't pay sales tax on the movie ticket, but you do pay sales tax on the popcorn - if it's hot - but not on the candy," said Michael Coleman, fiscal policy adviser to the League of California Cities and the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers. "You could certainly say there's room for reform."

The outsized impact of a mall, car dealership or big-box store on a city's fiscal well-being has long been of concern to government types. Not so very long ago, fights over them became Darwinian and warped land-use decisions, scholars said.

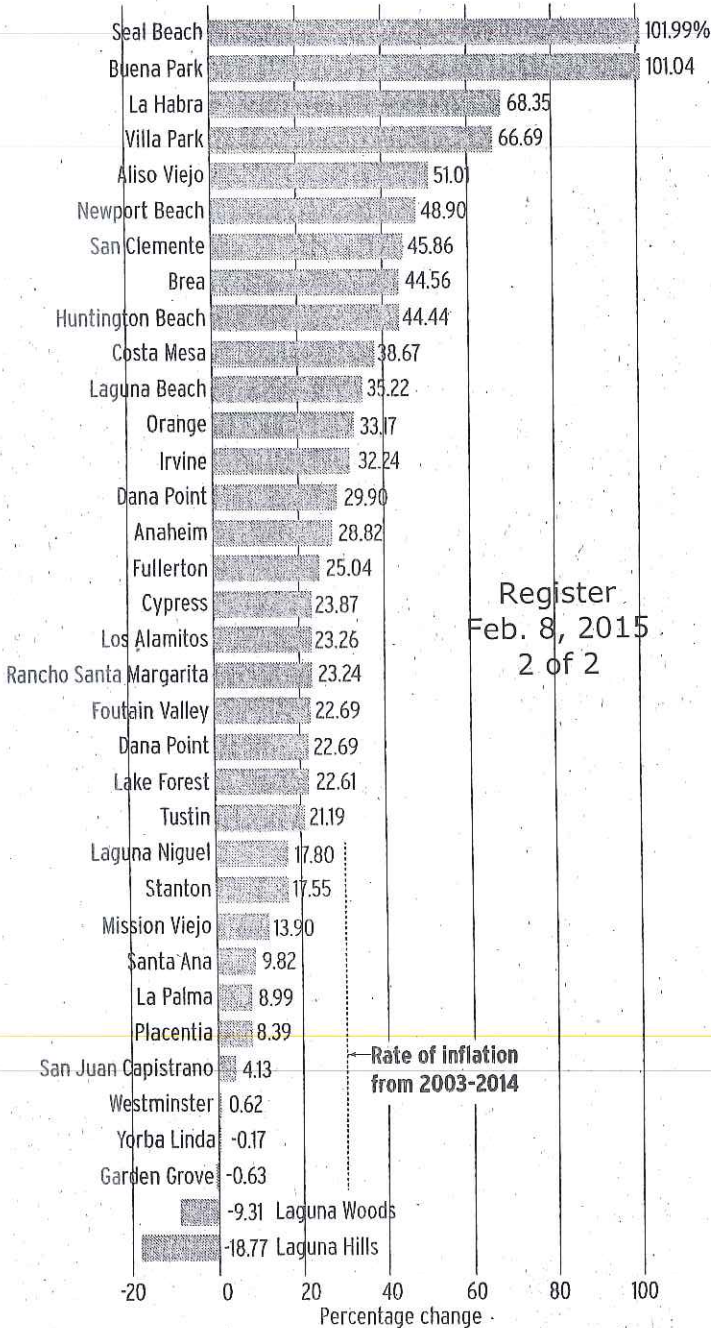
Why? Of that 8 or 9 percent sales tax that consumers pay - it varies from city to city - 1 percent goes back to the local government where the sale happened.

"(T)here has been a 'fiscalization' of land-use decisions: Retail land uses are preferred over residential and heavy industrial uses by a substantial margin," said a



# Sales tax to the rescue?

Many cities have seen healthy growth in sales taxes over the past dozen years, but many haven't been able to keep pace with the rate of inflation, which was almost 29 percent over that time frame. This chart illustrates the growth or decline of sales tax revenues between 2003 and 2014.



Sources: State Controller; Cities

STAFF GRAPHIC

study by the Public Policy Institute of California. "City policymakers pursue land uses that generate high levels of sales tax revenues. ... The competition is intense and the incentives offered to developers can be substantial."

Buena Park, for example, aided the metamorphosis of the Buena Park Mall into

Buena Park Downtown by using \$3.2 million of redevelopment money to transfer a lease to Wal-Mart, and by issuing special tax bonds in excess of \$7 million to fund infrastructure for the project, to be repaid with money generated by the project itself.

"Statewide, we are seeing a gradual recovery that's re-

flected in these sales tax revenues," said Coleman, the finance expert. But if you go back a couple of decades, and take into account inflation and population growth, "you see a very clear decline. The system we've designed in California doesn't accommodate the way our economy is growing. It's in need of some reform to become a reliable source of revenue."

## EGGS IN ONE BASKET

Channing, of Laguna Hills, tends to agree with Coleman's analysis that the sales tax system needs to change. "Broadening the base and lowering the rate may be a solution (but obviously not an easy one to achieve)," Channing said. "This reality of the new (service-based) economy cannot be ignored forever, but will clearly require a great deal of political will to tackle successfully."

Until then, cities will continue to count on shoppers to help make ends meet. And some are more blessed than others.

In Newport Beach, City Manager Kiff noted that a number of important things happened in the years we examined: "The arrival of Newport Lexus was (and still is) a big deal," Kiff said. "Of course, so is Fletcher Jones Motorcars' continued prominence in the nation in terms of high sales.

Kiff added, "We've seen some major expansions in our restaurant sector, too. On top of that, I think we're always impressed with how well Fashion Island continues to identify its target audience and niche, changing with the times to stay a desirable place to shop and eat."

New car sales and restaurants/hotels are trending well above the previous peak in 2006-07, but receipts from the general con-

sumer goods group have not yet reached pre-recession levels, said Newport Finance Director Dan Matu-siewicz.

Anaheim spokeswoman Ruth Ruiz was pleased to report that sales taxes met projections at the midyear budget review, coming in 9.2 percent higher over the previous year. That was the first year that Anaheim's sales taxes were above pre-recession levels, she said. And that's important: Sales, property and hotel taxes make up about 96 percent of Anaheim's general fund budget.

But even the cities enjoying the greatest growth are not swimming in money; expenses for everything from personnel to pensions are often rising faster.

"Huntington Beach numbers amount to about 3.7 percent growth annually, so average annual growth is modestly above annual rate of inflation," noted City Manager Wilson, pointing out that many costs have risen over the dozen years examined, especially fuel prices, even though they've recently dropped.

Surf City, he said, has a strong commitment to economic development and tourism. It rolls out the red carpet for businesses and works to retain what it has, and attract new ones.

"Maybe most important, H.B.'s perfect pie chart of sales tax revenues, which shows that we are not overly concentrated in any one industry, puts us in a unique position to weather economic downturns because we are not overly reliant on any one industry (much like other cities with malls or auto malls)," Wilsons aid.

"We have a diversified sales tax base which helps to provide a buffer during economic downturns so that if one industry is really hard hit, we don't suffer disproportionately."

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Participants have fun interacting with a lion during a lion dance at the 2014 Tet Festival in Costa Mesa.



SAM GANGWER, FILE PHOTO

# TALE OF TWO TETS

Could it increase interest in Vietnamese American culture, or is it a divisive force?

BY ROXANA KOPETMAN  
and CHRIS HAIRE  
STAFF WRITERS

The party is on in Little Saigon. And in Costa Mesa.

And, even though few people seem to want it this way, both parties will be happening the same weekend, Feb. 20-22.

The concurrent Vietnamese Tet celebrations, which will honor Lunar New Year, a time of family gathering and jubilation, could encourage a growing interest in Vietna-

mese culture beyond the traditional area of Little Saigon.

Or they might signal division within the Vietnamese American community still centered in the Garden Grove and Westminster area.

Organizers of the two Tets say they aren't competing. Yet they're both wooing some of the same vendors. And going after the same visitors. On the same weekend.

How well they do, indivi-

SEE FESTIVALS • PAGE 17

## STOP AND SMELL THE...

The Flower Festival is a popular lead-in to the Lunar New Year. The flora offers symbols of hope and luck. NEWS 17

## STREET NAME LEANS ON HISTORY

New signage will say, simply, "Saigon," referencing the former capital. NEWS 17



Westminster Mayor Tri Ta shows a rendering of a new street sign that will hang at the entry to the Asian Garden Mall on Bolsa Avenue.



# FESTIVALS

FROM PAGE 1

dually or collectively, could determine the fate of future Tet festivals in Orange County.

"The point of having this festival is for everyone from the community to get together and have fun," said Julie Huynh, marketing director for the Tet Festival in Costa Mesa, sponsored by the Union of the Vietnamese Student Associations of Southern California, or UVSA. "But now it's, 'Which festival are you going to? Who are you supporting?'"

"It's divisive to our community," added Huynh, who said she is speaking on behalf of herself and not for the student group that has hosted the event for 34 years. "(Tet) is a time to celebrate and be together ... not to be apart."

Garden Grove Councilman Chris Phan believes having concurrent festivals hurts the community.

"Two of anything dilutes it."

But others say more events equal more fun. And some even argue that two large and similar events show that the Vietnamese American community has grown beyond Little Saigon and into mainstream Orange County.

"I don't think it's undermining our unity. Our community is growing so much, it can support two festivals," said Dina Nguyen, a former Garden Grove councilwoman.

"We're Americans now. Having a second location, and bringing the festival to other communities, is a good thing."

Last year, the student group-run festival left Garden Grove, following a controversy about its contract with the city. Organizers moved the event - billed as the largest Tet Festival out-



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SAM GANGWER, FILE PHOTO

**The Van Lang Lion Dancers team performs for The Tet Festival of Southern California last year at the OC Fair & Event Center in Costa Mesa.**

side of Vietnam - to the Orange County fairgrounds in Costa Mesa.

Meanwhile, another organization, the Vietnamese Community of Southern California, stepped up to keep a festival in Garden Grove.

Neither festival drew as well as a single festival has in the past. And, with very little time to prepare, neither made much money.

This year, both festivals will feature beauty pageants, a cultural village, traditional music, food and programs that celebrate the Vietnamese culture. And with the 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon - April 30, 1975 - fast approaching, both also plan to commemorate their cultural history.

Still, organizers say the two Tet festivals will have different flavors.

## DOUBLE IMAGES

In Costa Mesa, student organizers hope to build on what they started last year - to reach a mainstream au-

dience while still capturing the county's large Vietnamese American population.

The event's cultural village will focus on rice production, and Sunday's entertainment will be geared to an older generation, but their festival also will have an "atmosphere of youth," said Billy Le, a former UVSA president and adviser to the festival in Costa Mesa.

About 800 volunteers, mostly high school students, will help run the program. And some of the events, such as hip-hop music on Saturday night, will be tailored to younger visitors.

And, while they're looking to advertise in Vietnamese media, the young organizers also will turn to their peers to pass out fliers at universities extending from Riverside and San Bernardino to Santa Barbara and San Diego, and using Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

The festival will have programs to draw people

from other cultures, including a short-film contest that is not focused on Vietnamese themes, Huynh said.

Meanwhile, organizers from the Vietnamese Community of Southern California said their event is about culture and heritage. Exhibits will include Buddha relics and a history of the boat people.

"Our (festival) is more religious, historical, political," said Bao Nguyen, who goes by the same name as the Garden Grove mayor but is not related.

"We do it in Orange County, for our community. We don't do it for the money."

## FINANCES

Last year, when the two organizations hosted festivals a week apart, they each drew about 30,000 people. By comparison, the UVSA, when it was solo, has drawn as many as 100,000 attendees over a three-day period.

The Vietnamese Community of Southern Califor-



nia's festival turned a profit of \$341 last year, according to a city audit. The student group, meanwhile, netted about \$6,000, according to Le.

By comparison, in previous years, the UVSA group earned enough to donate to community organizations, as per their contract with the city. Over the years, they say, they have donated more than \$1 million to nonprofits.

In 2014, there wasn't enough for community grants, Le said.

Who got what and how much was at the heart of a contract controversy that ended last year with the UVSA group leaving Garden Grove.

A proposed deal would have sent more festival money to the city, and would have given the City Council the right to choose which organizations would receive donations.

Some city officials wanted money to go toward one of their favorite projects: a proposed Vietnam War Museum.

"Some people might have had their own agenda," Le said. "We want the ability to give to whoever we want."

The Vietnamese Community group hosting this year's event in Garden Grove is willing to operate under that contract.

"The organizers know that there's a lot of money and power and influence involved in the Tet festival. That's the subplot. And the publicity is incredible," said Van Tran, a former state Assemblyman and a former Garden Grove councilman.

"So the city knows that if one organizer is out, there will be other organizations to take its place."

### GENERATION GAP

Another subplot is a rift between younger and older Vietnamese Americans.

"It's sad that we really have challenges in bridging the generational gap between first generation and

## LUNAR NEW YEAR EVENTS

**Now-Feb. 17:** Flower Festival at Asian Garden Mall, 9200 Bolsa Avenue

**Feb. 17:** at noon on the Lunar New Year, the Asian Garden Mall will host its annual Firecracker Celebration to scare away ill-fortune.

**Feb. 20-22:** The Costa Mesa and Garden Grove Tet festivals. The Costa Mesa one is at the Orange County fairgrounds, 88 Fair Drive, and the other is at Garden Grove Park, 9301 Westminster Ave.

**Feb. 21:** at 9 a.m., the Vietnamese American Federation of Southern California will host the annual Tet Parade on Bolsa Avenue between Bushard Street and Magnolia Avenue.

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the future. It's totally a generational issue," said Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen.

Said Huynh, of the UVSA group: "We have a responsibility to take this community into the future and consider where we are going."

Where next year's Tet festivals will be held might depend on what happens this month.

"We consider this as a cultural activity," said Leslie K. Le, also known as Le Khac Ly, of the Vietnamese Community group.

"If they consider it the same thing, and have same purpose, we do just one. But if they think it's a business ... then we have a different direction to go."

But Nina Tran, president of the UVSA, said this:

"I can't speak for future boards. But our board, we don't foresee going back to Garden Grove."

CONTACT THE WRITER:

714-796-7829 or

rkopetman@ocregister.com

# Killer sentenced to death, again

Richard Raymond Ramirez, 55, originally was convicted in 1985.

BY KELLY PUENTE  
STAFF WRITER

Register  
Feb. 7, 2015

For the family of a young woman killed in 1983, the third murder trial was hopefully the last.

An Orange County Superior Court judge on Friday sentenced convicted killer Richard Raymond Ramirez to death for the second time for the murder of 22-year-old Kimberly Gonzalez, who was raped and stabbed behind a Garden Grove bar more than three decades ago.



Ramirez

Ramirez, 55, originally was convicted and sentenced to death in 1985, but the conviction was overturned in 2008 after it was discovered that the jury foreman failed to disclose his status as an FBI candidate — a position for which he later was hired.

Prosecutors retried the case, and Ramirez was con-

# RAMIREZ: Judge denies request for life sentence

FROM PAGE 1

victed for a second time in 2013. However, the jury that year deadlocked on whether he should receive the death penalty, leading the judge to declare a mistrial.

After a third trial, a jury in November decided Ramirez should return to San Quentin's death row.

More than a dozen of Gonzalez's family members flooded the courtroom for the sentencing, each holding a single pink rose. They described the pain of sitting through three trials, reliving the horror of her final moments.

"It has been an emotional roller coaster for us," said her sister Yvette Mejia. "Hopefully this is the last chapter."

"I'm thankful to God that he has let me live to see this day," said her mother, Mary Helen Hernandez, 79.

Judge Gregg L. Pickett denied the defense's request for a life sentence over death, noting the egregiousness of the crime and a previous conviction for rape. In that case, Ramirez assaulted the victim and threatened to cut off her baby's legs.

Prosecutors said Ramirez was a savage killer who met and befriended Gonzalez at a bar and then lured her into an alleyway, where he raped her and stabbed her more than 20 times.

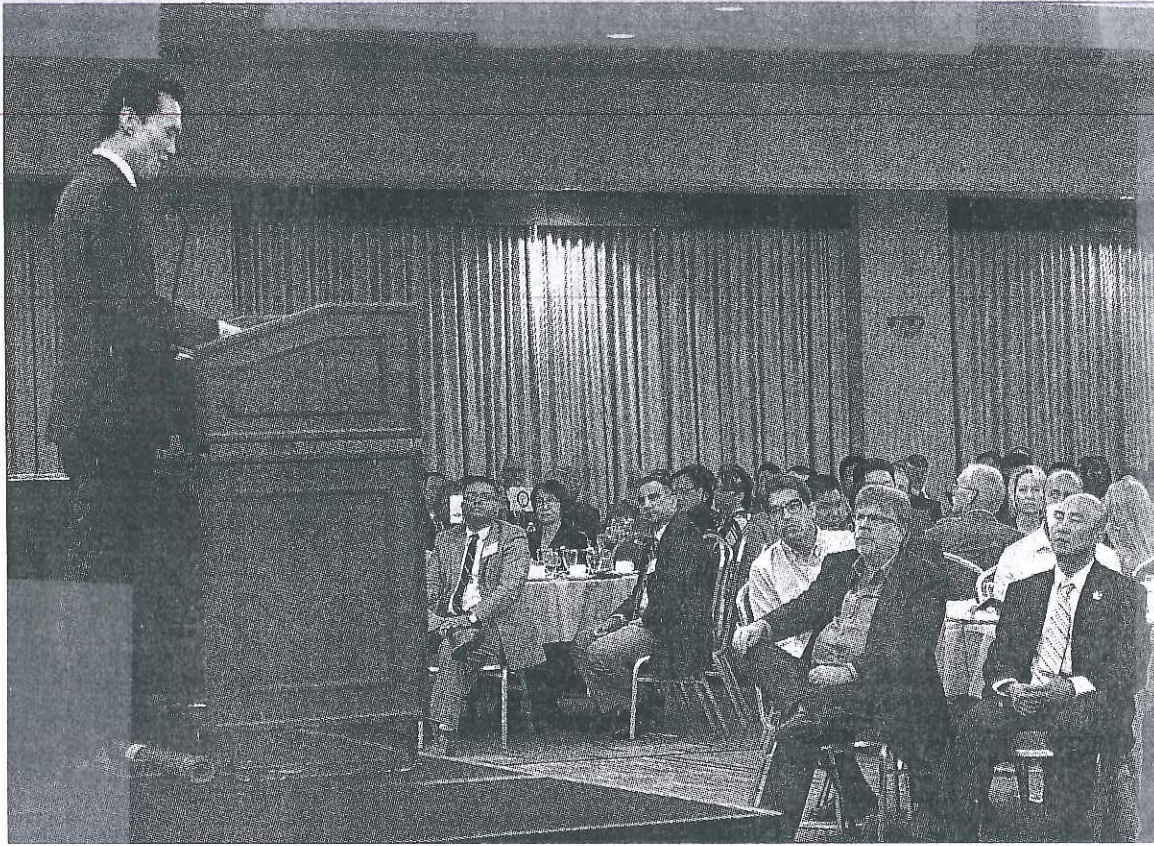
The defense argued for a life sentence over the death penalty. Attorneys told the jury about Ramirez's dysfunctional childhood in a household dominated by a violent and alcoholic father, and his drug abuse beginning in his teen years.

The jury foreman, who came to watch the sentencing, said jurors weren't swayed by Ramirez's tough childhood.

"A lot of people have had a bad upbringing and went on to do good things. It isn't an excuse," said the foreman, who identified himself as Larry K. "He still had a choice."

CONTACT THE WRITER:  
kpuente@ocregister.com





Newly-elected Mayor Bao Nguyen addresses a crowd of about 400 at last week's State of the City address.

Courtesy photo

"Education and investment in our youth are two things that are very near and dear to my heart," said Nguyen, as he invited his former colleague and personal friend, Garden Grove Unified School District Board President Dr. George West to the podium to speak about the state of the school district.

The mayor followed up by announcing a new marketing campaign between the city and the district to promote the quality of local schools and the affordability of housing, specifically to young professionals.

Prior to the mayor's speech, Kim Schaefer, CEO of Great Wolf Resorts, Inc., made a presentation on the progress of the city's most anticipated development, the Great Wolf Lodge Southern California. The city's GG-TV3 news team presented a short video on Re:Imagine Garden Grove - A Downtown Open Streets Event that took place last October.

The event was hosted by the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce.

The video, along with the mayor's complete speech can be accessed via the City's website at [www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us).

# Mayor delivers State of the City address

## Bao Nguyen emphasizes community engagement, education

Speaking before a sell-out crowd of 400 attendees at last week's State of the City luncheon, Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen pointed to community engagement as the fundamental principle and driving force guiding the city's future direction.

"This City Council believes that community engagement is at the heart of what needs to happen to move this city forward," said Mayor Nguyen. "Informing and educating the community of the policy direction of the City Council and consulting the community as

part of a process to develop government policy, are just a couple of ways to build community awareness and understanding."

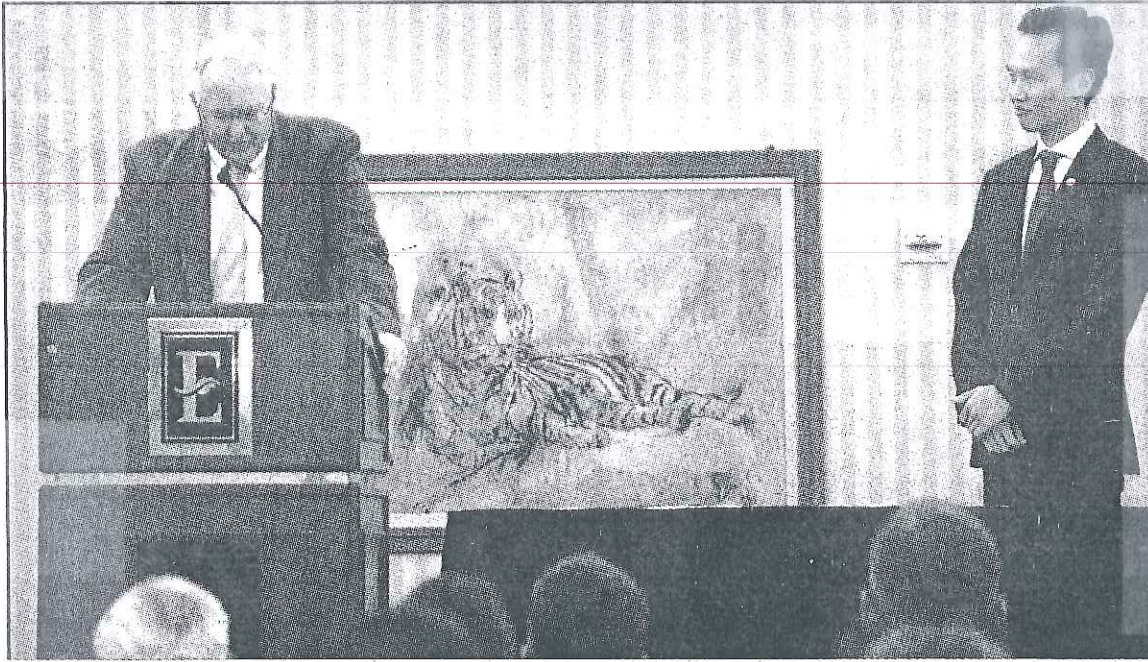
Mayor Nguyen expressed plans to work with local businesses and neighborhoods to identify needs and provide resources, saying, "We can't assume success, until we know it's a success for everyone."

Providing an update on the city's financial climate from 2014, the mayor noted the county's unemployment rate at just under 5 percent, as the lowest percentage since 2008. The mayor pointed to

the struggles facing many young families searching for housing in Orange County and discussed how Garden Grove provides a "clear advantage for young, first-time homebuyers...offering larger yards and more square footage than many South County cities."

The mayor also reported on the city's healthy state of building construction, emphasizing that \$126.4 million in valued construction permits issued by the city last year represented a 127 percent increase over the year prior.





Courtesy photo

School Board President George West delivers the state of the schools address as Mayor Bao Nguyen looks on.

# School Board president delivers speech on heels of mayor's address

George West notes challenges of poverty among students, but stresses that schools are thriving

*Editor's note: Following is the speech delivered by Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees President George West at Mayor Bao Nguyen's State of the City address last week. Both West and Nguyen emphasized that the city and school district will work together in 2015.*

It is my pleasure to provide a short update on the state of the Garden Grove Unified School District.

There are a number of research studies that indicate, "great communities have outstanding schools."

On July 1, 2015, we will celebrate our 50th anniversary as a "unified" school district; the district was created by the merger of three districts - the Alamitos and Garden Grove elementary school districts and the Garden Grove Union High School District.

Today we are the city's largest employer, with over 5,600 employees. We serve more than 47,600 students in preschool through 12th grade programs. Fifty-five of our 72 sites are located within the city. And our all-funds budget is in excess of \$500 million.

We are proud of the number of schools that have been recognized by the state and federal government as Distinguished and Blue Ribbon Schools. All of our high schools have been recognized by US News and World Report as among the nation's elite.

More than 70 percent of our students speak a language other than English at home and live near or below the poverty-line. However, the district continues to decrease our drop-out rate and increase the number of students graduating from high school.

We have more students than ever before completing the requirements for the University of California system and an ever increasing number of students taking challenging Advanced Placement courses.

Based on our demographics, the district is considered an urban school district. We are especially proud that the GGUSD has the highest Academic Performance

Index Score among the state's 25 largest urban school districts.

Thanks to the voters in the city, we were able to purchase \$250,000 in bonds for the modernization of our schools. With state matching funds, federal funds, and restricted facility funds, over \$550 million has been allocated to upgrade 69 school sites.

Thirty-three projects have been completed and 15 are currently under-way. The Board of Education has been good stewards of these one-time funds; to date, all finished projects were on-time and within allocated budgets. Attractive schools with quality programs are a factor in maintaining and increasing home values.

The modernization projects have created hundreds of jobs related to construction; each day, the workers at the school sites purchase goods and services within the community.

By the end of this calendar year, the district will have the fastest fiber-optic, 40Gbps, broadband system in the region. The district

will serve as the "back-up" system for the Orange County Department of Education. Mayor Nguyen was a proponent of developing this robust network.

The district believes that long term partnerships can improve the quality of the district and the community. Some ideas for consideration are:

- Mentoring and intern programs for high school students with the city, chamber, and local colleges and universities;
- Participation in the Next Century Cities initiative to enhance communication and internet accessibility;
- Increased use of school facilities when school is not in session - every school is a potential neighborhood community center, health clinic, or site where computers can be utilized;
- And, cooperation in improving existing sports facilities and expanding the number of gymnasiums;

We are very proud to be part of the City of Garden Grove.

Orange County News  
Feb. 6, 2015



# New mayor distinguishes himself from predecessor

Dapper, dashing Bao Nguyen couldn't be more different from no-frills Bruce Broadwater



**Tony on the Town**

By Tony Cheong

Newly-elected Mayor Bao Nguyen can't be any more different from the guy he replaced: former Mayor Bruce Broadwater.

That was on display at last week's State of the City address. How many mayors talk about karma while addressing 400 people? For that matter, what mayor talks about the moral and spiritual health of residents? Nguyen, who received his master's degree in Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies, did both.

It was quite a contrast from Broadwater's address last year,

in which he mainly focused on generating tax revenue for city coffers.

The most startling fact that came out of the address was when George West, the president of the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees, noted that about 70 percent of students in the district - a thriving district, by the way - live below the poverty line.

I didn't know the number was even close to that, and I thought: unacceptable.

The Southern Section All CIF team was announced recently, and some of my townies tell me Westminster High all-purpose player Humberto Maciel got robbed. Sure, he made the team. That was a no brainer. But they think he should have been named Offensive Player of the Year (that honor went to Rancho Alamitos quarterback "Slingin" Nick Brown, who set an Orange County record by tossing 52 touchdown passes).

As for Maciel? The term "all-purpose" is fitting. The 5-feet-9, 190 pound senior does everything. First and foremost, he's a top-notch running back. He's also a kicker. And a punter. The main point: He scores a lot of points.

Last season, he scored more than 150 when you combine his rushing touchdowns, PATs and field goals.

Then again, there's an argument to be made for "Slingin" Nick, who also threw for more than 3,000 yards and led his team to the CIF finals, where they lost to Garden Grove High.

Stanton has implemented a program that I think every city should have. It's called "Honor a Veteran a Month." Once a month, at a City Council meeting, the council will honor a veteran for his or her service. The first recipient of the award was Past Flotilla Coast Guard Commander John Doogan.

Garden Grove and Westminster should follow suits. They are both cities with strong military histories. Thousands of veterans of the Vietnam War for instance - both born in America and Vietnamese-American - are in our midst. And Garden Grove holds the unfortunate distinction of losing more troops in that ghastly war than any city in Orange County. The number is 41, for the record.

*Tony on the Town can be reached at [tonyontown@yahoo.com](mailto:tonyontown@yahoo.com).*



# Community Calendar

## Ongoing

**Overachievers, check this out** Achievers Club 9331 is hosting communication and leadership meetings featuring professional speakers at the Crystal Cathedral Tower of Hope, 12141 Lewis St. Meetings will be held every Thursday except during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holiday weeks. For more information, call Barbara Barrientas at 714-971-4123, e-mail [bbarrientas@crystalcathedral.org](mailto:bbarrientas@crystalcathedral.org) or visit [www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331](http://www.orgsites.com/ca/achievers9331).

**Chamber holds Friday meetings** The Garden Grove Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee meets the second Friday of the month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call the chamber at 714-638-7950.

**Grief support** The Grief Share Support Group is for mothers who have lost children of every age. The group meets Thursday evenings at 12831 Olive St., Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-892-1520 or 714-343-7516.

and icy places. All ages are encouraged to attend at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Garden Grove Regional Library, 11200 Stanford Ave. in Garden Grove. For more information, call 714-530-0711.

**Learn about Alzheimer's** The Alzheimer's Association of Orange County hosts a support group to provide an opportunity to meet other caregivers and families, share experiences and exchange ideas. These meetings are free and open to all caregivers and family members of individuals with dementia. All groups listed are in compliance with chapter and national standards. This is a faith-based meeting and may include prayer or pastoral speaker, and will take place at 1 p.m. Saturdays at the Crystal Cathedral Arboretum, 12141 Lewis St. in Garden Grove. For more information, call Peggy Woelke at 714-634-2161.

**Dance Center hosts social** Join the staff of the Cedarbrook Dance Center for nights of square dancing, line dancing, round dancing (pre-choreographed social dancing) and salsa. The Dance Center is at 12812 Garden Grove Blvd. For more information on classes, call Eileen Silvia at (949) 637-4169.

**Eco-friendly storytime** Family storytime all through the summer will highlight books about our environment and the animals that live in rivers, oceans

**Rotary Club to meet** The Rotary Club of Garden Grove meets at 12:10 p.m. Wednesdays at The Marriott Hotel, at Chapman Avenue and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

**GG Kiwanis to meet** The Kiwanis Club of Garden Grove hosts dinner meetings at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Kiwanisland, 9840 Larson Ave. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. For more infor-

## Sweethearts dance

Senior sweethearts are invited to attend a romantic night at the annual Sweetheart Dance hosted by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue.

The event is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 13.

Cost of admission is \$10, pre-sale only. Deadline for tickets is Wednesday, Feb. 11.

For more information, call the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at 714-741-5253.

## Bank holds event

As part of its ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion, and in celebration of Lunar New Year, Union Bank welcomes the Year of the Sheep by hosting Wishing Trees at participating California branches, including in Garden Grove and Westminster.

In the spirit of the Year of the Sheep, customers who visit 15 participating Union Bank branches throughout California through March 14 will have an opportunity to share their wishes and support their local community by making a contribution to a local non-profit organization.

Donations will be matched (up to \$2,500 per organization) by the MUFG Union Bank Foundation.

"We're excited to join the community to honor traditions such as Lunar New Year," said Union Bank Multicultural Strategy Manager Frank Robinson.

Orange County News  
Feb. 6, 2015



City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

Project No. S-1159

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 (1) New and Unused Extended Cab/Super Cab Utility Truck. 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 2:00p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

Dated: January 30, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB  
Purchasing Agent  
City of Garden Grove  
11222 Acacia Parkway  
Garden Grove, CA 92840  
**Orange County News**  
14-50068  
**Publish Jan. 30, Feb, 6, 2015**

Orange County News  
Feb. 6, 2015

City of Garden Grove

Notice Inviting Sealed Bids (IFB)

Project No. S-1160

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 Two (2) New and Unused Chevrolet Colorado Extended Cab Long Box Pick-Up Trucks. 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 2:00p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Bids received after that exact time will not be considered.

Dated: January 30, 2015

Sandra Segawa, C.P.M., CPPB  
Purchasing Agent  
City of Garden Grove  
11222 Acacia Parkway  
Garden Grove, CA-92840  
**Orange County News**  
14-50069  
**Publish Jan. 30, Feb, 6, 2015**

Register  
Feb. 6, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Cool coins:** The Police Department honored more than 100 people Tuesday night who received the Chief's Coin for Merit. Every year, each police officer is given one coin to award to an individual who demonstrated kindness and heroism and helped improve public safety.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
Feb. 7, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**Can Tho:** The City Council on Tuesday evening will weigh whether to follow in the footsteps of its neighbor Westminster by sending a letter to the Riverside City Council urging it to rescind its sister-city relationship with Can Tho, Vietnam, because of that country's record of human-rights record.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
Feb. 10, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**New floor:** The main branch of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove, at 9860 Larson Ave., has replaced its 20-year-old gymnasium floor thanks to a \$25,000 grant from Buffalo Wild Wings. The new floor provides shock absorption that creates a safer surface for athletes.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
Feb. 11, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**DUI arrest:** A woman was arrested early Tuesday morning on suspicion of driving under the influence after her vehicle hit several parked cars and rolled over, landing on its side, police said. The crash happened around 1 a.m. at Haster Street and Lampson Avenue.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Register  
Feb. 12, 2015

### GARDEN GROVE

**New president:** Jeremy Harris, the senior vice president of the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, is the new president of the Garden Grove Community Foundation. Harris, a Garden Grove resident, is replacing Councilman Steve Jones, who served a two-year two term. The foundation also has a new vice president, secretary and treasurer.  
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707  
chaire@ocregister.com

Hôm nay, 11/02/2015 9:24 SA

Trang nhà

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Tìm kiếm

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### Garden Grove Đóng Cửa Lễ President's Day

11/02/2015 00:00:00 (Xem: 23)

Like  Tweet

Thành phố Garden Grove xin thông báo sẽ đóng cửa City hall, Phòng sinh hoạt cộng đồng, và trung tâm H. Louis Lake Senior Center vào ngày Thứ Hai, 16 tháng 2, 2015 nhân dịp ngày lễ Tổng Thống Hoa Kỳ (President's Day.)

Hơn nữa, phục vụ quét đường cũng sẽ nghỉ vào ngày này. Thứ Ba, ngày 17 tháng 2, Thành phố sẽ mở cửa lại như thường lệ.

Để biết thêm chi tiết, liên lạc về Ban Công Tác Công Cộng tại số điện thoại (714) 741-5382.

###

11222 Acacia Parkway P.O. Box 3070 Garden Grove, CA 92842.

[www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us)



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- [Tin Trong Ngày](#)
- [Trước Thời Cuộc](#)
- [Việt Nam](#)
- [Tin Công Nghệ](#)
- [Blogger](#)

Chọn ngày

Tháng Hai 2015						
CN	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Garden Grove

President's Day





GARDEN GROVE, California (NV) - Sở Cảnh Sát Garden Grove sẽ đặt trạm để kiểm tra người say rượu lái xe (DUI) và xét bằng lái xe từ 9 giờ tối Thứ Sáu, 13 Tháng Hai, tới 3 giờ sáng ngày hôm sau, theo thông báo của cơ quan công lực này.

- Cựu bà Việt Nam bị xe đụng chết gần bệnh viện Fountain Valley
- Học sinh gốc Việt đoạt vô địch đánh võn Học Khu Garden Grove
- Ngày thứ nhì tái kiểm phiếu bầu cử giám sát viên: Kết quả như cũ



Kiểm soát DUI. (Hình minh họa: Joe Reagle/Getty Images)

#### ĐỌC NHIỀU NHẤT»

**Cựu bà Việt Nam bị xe đụng chết gần bệnh viện Fountain Valley**

**Chụp hình khóa thân ở Angkor, nhiều du khách bị trục xuất**

**Blogger Điếu Cày: Cầu Lạc Bộ Nhà Báo Tự Do hoạt động lại**

**Nhà văn Nguyễn Quang Lập được 'tạ ngoại hậu tra'**

**Khám phá ký vật Apollo 11 trong nhà Neil Armstrong**

Thông báo không cho biết sẽ kiểm tra DUI và xét bằng lái tại địa điểm nào.

Các cuộc kiểm tra này giúp giảm số người bị thiệt mạng và bị thương do nạn DUI gây ra, theo Sở Cảnh Sát Garden Grove. Nghiên cứu cũng cho thấy tai nạn liên quan đến DUI giảm 20% khi các cuộc kiểm tra được thông báo công khai đến công chúng và được thực hiện thường xuyên một cách đầy đủ.

Cảnh sát sẽ kiểm tra nồng độ rượu và bằng lái của người lái xe đi qua trạm kiểm soát. Người vi phạm DUI sẽ bị ở tù, giam bằng lái, tăng tiền bảo hiểm, đóng tiền phạt và lệ phí, học lớp cai rượu và trả một số chi phí khác có thể lên tới hơn \$10,000, chưa kể đến việc gây hồ thẹn cho bạn bè và gia đình.

Trong năm 2011, gần 10,000 người bị thiệt mạng khắp Hoa Kỳ do các tai nạn liên quan đến người uống rượu lái xe có nồng độ rượu trong máu tương đương hoặc vượt quá .08%.

Tại California, tai nạn giao thông liên quan đến DUI làm 802 người thiệt mạng và gần 24,000 người bị thương trong năm 2012.

Trong ba năm qua, tai nạn liên quan đến DUI tại Garden Grove làm 9 người thiệt mạng và 144 người bị thương, và tai nạn thương tổn đến 211 bạn hữu và lối xóm của chúng ta, cũng theo bản thống cáo.

Các trạm kiểm soát DUI được đặt tại các địa điểm thường xảy ra tai nạn, dựa theo thống kê, để ngăn ngừa người say rượu lái xe, và được chọn theo tiêu chuẩn an toàn cho nhân viên cảnh sát và công chúng.

Nếu thấy ai uống rượu lái xe, quý vị nên gọi 9-1-1 ngay lập tức.

Kính phí cho đợt kiểm tra lần này do văn phòng An Toàn Giao Thông California, thông qua NHTSA, tài trợ. (L.N.)

## '30 Tháng Tư, 1975 – 2015: Tị Nạn và Hội Nhập'

### Hãy Viết Cùng Chúng Tôi

"30 Tháng Tư, 1975 – 2015: Tị Nạn và Hội Nhập" là trang mục đặc biệt trên Người Việt Online và Nhật Báo Người Việt, trong chương trình tưởng niệm 40 năm biến cố 30 tháng Tư, 1975.

Tòa Soạn xin mời quý độc giả cùng chia sẻ những hồi ức của quý vị về biến cố này cũng như kinh nghiệm trải qua trong những ngày đầu định cư tại quê hương mới. Mỗi cá nhân, cho dầu rời Việt Nam bằng phương cách nào, tị nạn, thuyền nhân, H.O. hay đoàn tụ gia đình, đều có những kinh nghiệm rất riêng, cần được kể lại.

Chẳng hạn, quý độc giả có thể viết về cảm tưởng của mình khi nghe Tổng Thống Dương Văn Minh đọc lời đầu hàng ngày 30 tháng Tư, 1975. Thời khắc đó, quý vị đang làm gì, ở đâu, và nghĩ gì?

Quý vị cũng có thể viết về những kỷ niệm, kinh nghiệm, trong những ngày đầu ở trại tị nạn, ở trại tiếp cư hay khi hội nhập vào đời sống ở Mỹ hay các quốc gia đến tị nạn.

Quý vị cũng có thể kể về sự vượt khó của con cái thế hệ thuyền nhân hay chương trình H.O., ngay cả những kinh nghiệm học tập trong các trường trung học, đại học... và hơn hết là thành công của quý vị trong ngày hôm nay.

Bài viết xin gửi về Tòa Soạn tại địa chỉ email: [toasoan@nguoi-viet.com](mailto:toasoan@nguoi-viet.com), hoặc gửi bằng thư tay đến Nhật Báo Người Việt, 14771 Moran Street, Westminster, CA 92683.

Nhật báo Người Việt



**Để phổ biến trên các phương tiện truyền thông**  
Văn phòng thông tin liên lạc: (714) 741-5280

Liên lạc: Mark Ladney, (714) 741-5382  
Ban Công Tác Công Cộng

Thứ Ba, 10/2/2015

**THÀNH PHỐ GARDEN GROVE ĐÓNG CỬA LỄ PRESIDENT'S DAY**

Thành phố Garden Grove xin thông báo sẽ đóng cửa City hall, Phòng sinh hoạt cộng đồng, và trung tâm H. Louis Lake Senior Center vào ngày Thứ Hai, 16 tháng 2, 2015 nhân dịp ngày lễ Tổng Thống Hoa Kỳ (President's Day.)

Hơn nữa, phục vụ quét đường cũng sẽ nghỉ vào ngày này. Thứ Ba, ngày 17 tháng 2, Thành phố sẽ mở cửa lại như thường lệ.

Để biết thêm chi tiết, liên lạc về Ban Công Tác Công Cộng tại số điện thoại (714) 741-5382.

# # #

CONTACT: Kimberly Huy (714) 741-5280

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

## **GGCF INTRODUCES NEW PRESIDENT, OFFICERS**

The Garden Grove Community Foundation (GGCF) begins the year with a new President and Board of Directors. This year's President is Jeremy Harris, Garden Grove resident and Senior Vice President for the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce. Harris is a long time GGCF member of the Foundation, and former Vice-President.

"Despite these very challenging economic times, it is our goal to continue providing the same high level of programs and activities that enhance the quality of life for the Garden Grove community," said Harris. Harris officially assumed his new title at the organization's first board meeting of the year on Monday, February 9.

Other incoming GGCF board officers are: Vice President Andrew Kanzler, Garden Grove Planning Commission; Secretary Liz Polisar, community leader; and Treasurer Jane Oglesby, community leader and arts enthusiast.

Harris takes over leadership of the Foundation from President Steve Jones, who served a two-year term and is also a member of the Garden Grove City Council.

-more-



In 2014, the Foundation continued its mission to enrich the community of Garden Grove with programs and events that offered entertainment, enhancement, and something for the entire family.

Over 17,500 music lovers attended the Summer Concert Series, held at Eastgate Park, which has become one of the most popular Foundation events. Over 2,500 concertgoers came out to the final concert and enjoyed entertainment by crowd favorite 'The Answer,' playing classic rock and roll. The six-week concert series will be back at Eastgate Park on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 PM starting on July 9, 2015.

Other successful events included the annual Food For Thought Luncheon, along with the Golf Tournament co-sponsored by the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce. The eleventh annual tournament, scheduled for May 6, 2015 at Willowick Golf Course, is expected to be another sell-out event.

Established in 1998, the GGCF is a non-profit 501c(3) organization dedicated to providing leadership and resources to enhance community life in Garden Grove. The Foundation often partners with other local civic and community groups that promote a similar mission, in order to assist them in their financial endeavors.

If you are a Garden Grove resident, and are interested in supporting the GGCF to ensure that these successful programs continue, tax-deductible donations can be automatically added to your water bill as a pre-designated line item. For further information visit the GGCF website at <http://www.ggcf.com> or contact the Foundation office at (714) 741-5280.

# # #



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Contact: Juan Medina (714) 741-5242  
Community Services Department

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

## **SENIOR DAY TRIP TO PECHANGA RESORT AND CASINO**

The H. Louis Lake Senior Center is coordinating a day trip to Pechanga Resort and Casino. Join the fun on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at a cost of \$35 per person. The price includes bus transportation, continental breakfast, and \$20 back in slot play.

The bus departs from the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, located at 11300 Stanford Avenue, promptly at 8:00 a.m., and will return by approximately 5:00 p.m.

Seniors are invited to sit back and enjoy the air-conditioned deluxe motor coach while it makes its way to Pechanga Casino in Temecula. Once there, the playing floor includes over 3,000 slots, 130 table games, Poker, PaiGow, BlackJack, Baccarat, Mystery Card Roulette, and Three Card Poker.

A valid California I.D., driver's license, or military I.D. is mandatory to board the bus.

Advance tickets are required. To obtain additional information, please contact the H. Louis Lake Senior Center at (714) 741-5242.

# # #



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

CONTACT:

Kim Huy, Director  
Community Services Department  
(714) 741-5200

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Public Information Office (714) 741-5280

Monday, February 9, 2015

## **WATCH CHANNEL 3 LIVE ON YOUTUBE**

The new year brings new technology for the City of Garden Grove's Cable Division. Garden Grove's local Channel 3 can now be accessed live on the City's YouTube Channel. To access the channel visit the City of Garden Grove website at [www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us), click on the YouTube link, and then select "Garden Grove TV3 Live Streaming."

City Council meetings will be streaming live as of Tuesday, February 10, 2015. City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

The City's YouTube channel can be accessed via computer, smart phone, or tablet.

For further information, contact the Community Services Department at (714) 741-5200, or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

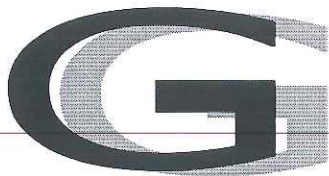
# # #

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

**February 12, 2015**

1. Calendar of Events
2. CityWorks Newsletter for February/March 2015.
3. Minutes from the February 12<sup>th</sup> Zoning Administrator meeting.
4. Planning Commission minutes from the January 15 meeting and the agenda for the February 19, 2015 meeting.
5. Cities Advocates dated February 6 and 10, 2015.





**GARDEN GROVE**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 12, 2015 – March 6, 2015

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Thursday	February 12	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Training Room
Friday	February 13	6:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.	Sweetheart Dance hosted by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center, Community Meeting Center
Friday- Sunday	February 13- February 15		Hearts for the Arts presents "City of Angels" Gem Theater
Saturday	February 14	8:00 a.m.- Noon	Project "GO" Graffiti Off, Municipal Service Center
Monday	February 16		City Hall Closed
Thursday	February 19		Casual Day – Valentine’s Day Theme (Wear Red or Pink Shirts)
		7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Friday	February 20		City Hall Closed
Friday- Sunday	February 20- February 22		Garden Grove Tet Festival 2015 - Year of the Goat Garden Grove Park, 9301 Westminster Ave.
Tuesday	February 24	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Closed Session, Founders Room Housing Authority Meeting, Council Chamber Sanitary District Meeting, Council Chamber Successor Agency Meeting, Council Chamber City Council Meeting, Council Chamber
Wednesday	February 25	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Council Chamber
Thursday	February 26	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Training Room
Monday	March 2	6:30 p.m.	Neighborhood Improvement & Conservation Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Tuesday	March 3	6:00 p.m.	Traffic Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Thursday	March 5	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chamber
Friday	March 6		City Hall Closed

# CITYWORKS

11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840

February / March 2015



Speaking before a sell-out crowd of 400 attendees at the State of the City Luncheon, Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen pointed to community engagement as the fundamental principle and driving force guiding the City's future direction.

The Mayor also expressed plans to work with local businesses and neighborhoods to identify needs and provide resources, and provided an update on the City's financial climate from 2014, noting Orange County's unemployment rate at just under 5%, as the lowest percentage since 2008.

Reinforcing economic recovery, Mayor Nguyen reported on the City's healthy state of building construction, emphasizing that \$126.4 million in valued construction permits issued by the City last year represented a 127% increase over the year prior.

He emphasized his commitment to education and investing in the community's youth, and followed that portion of his address by announcing a new marketing campaign between the City and the Garden Grove Unified School District to promote the quality of local schools, as well as the affordability of housing, specifically to young professionals.

Prior to the Mayor's speech, the City's GGTV3 news team presented a short video on "Re:Imagine Garden Grove – A Downtown Open Streets Event" that took place last October. The event was hosted by the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce. The video, along with the Mayor's complete speech, can be accessed via the City's website at [www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us).

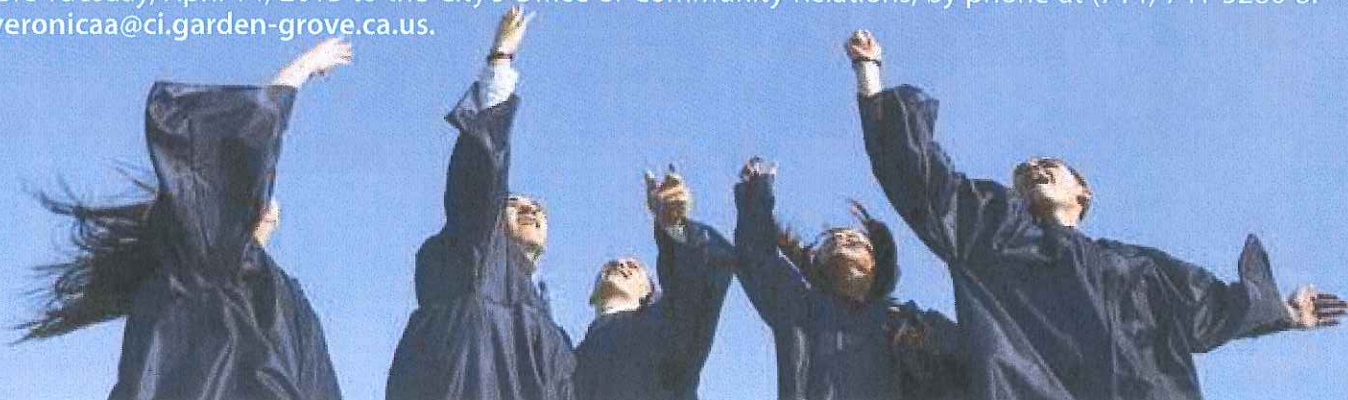


# Calling All Grads

The City of Garden Grove wants to recognize college graduates for their outstanding accomplishments. The City is seeking names and information from Garden Grove residents who will receive their Spring 2015 undergraduate or post-graduate academic degrees from any college, university, or higher learning institution.

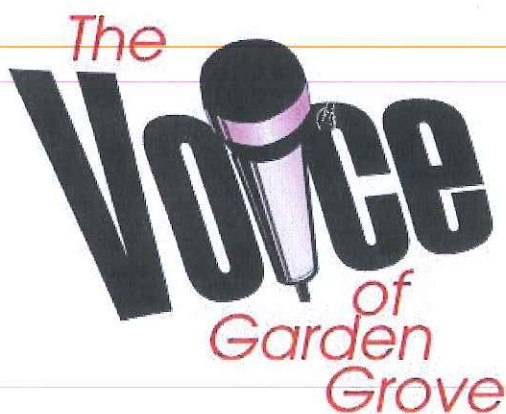
Graduates who submit their information will be recognized for their academic achievement at the Tuesday, April 28, 2015 City Council meeting, at 6:30 p.m. Prior to their Community Spotlight recognition, at 5:30 p.m., the higher education alumnae and their guests will attend a private reception hosted by the Mayor and the City Council.

Graduates must submit their name, address, phone number, email, school of attendance, degree, and area of study before Tuesday, April 14, 2015 to the City's Office of Community Relations, by phone at (714) 741-5280 or email to [veronicaa@ci.garden-grove.ca.us](mailto:veronicaa@ci.garden-grove.ca.us).



## Are you 'The Voice of Garden Grove?'

**Win \$500 CASH plus \$500  
for your school's choir!**



This 4th annual singing competition, sponsored by the Garden Grove Community Foundation (GGCF), is open to all local high school students. Contestants compete during the free Summer Concert Series, also hosted by the GGCF. Winners receive \$500 cash and \$500 goes to their high school choir program.

Auditions will be held in April and May. Contestants must first call the Office of Community Relations no later than March 31. For more information, visit [www.ggcf.com](http://www.ggcf.com) or email [thevoice@garden-grove.org](mailto:thevoice@garden-grove.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/GGCF.1998>



## Future Looks Brighter At Basketball Court

A widely-used, but until recently, unlit public basketball court at Magnolia Park in Garden Grove is now illuminated for night play, courtesy of the collaborative efforts of a neighborhood resident, a non-profit group, and an Orange County businessman.

The City Council recently dedicated two, 20-foot, light poles which now tower over a freshly-paved and striped basketball court. The partnership of Pastor Sam Barela, a Garden Grove resident, and David Atwood, founder of Building Blocks for Hope, Inc., (both pictured above with Mayor Nguyen and City Council members), made this improvement possible. They collaborated with the City's Public Works department on the project. The poles and floodlights, valued at \$2,500, were wired and cemented onto concrete bases and feature an optic eye sensor, triggered each evening at sunset.



## Seeking Water-Wise Winners



2014 Water-Wise Winning Home

Pride of ownership takes center stage each year at the Garden Grove Pride Awards Ceremony. While it takes a lot of work to keep the 'garden' in Garden Grove, it doesn't have to take a lot of water. In an effort to keep residents aware of our need to conserve water, the Pride program proudly recognizes "The Best Water-Wise Home."

The idea behind the category is that curbside appeal can come from curbing water. Judging will be based on the amount of California and southwestern native, and drought-tolerant plants used, along with factors like the use of permeable surfacing, such as rock, pea gravel, mulch, and decomposed granite.

If you'd like to nominate your home, please call the Office of Community Relations at (714) 741-5280 no later than April 27.



## How Brown Makes Green

Gardeners know the benefits of compost in their yards – brighter blooms and healthier soil. As a thank you for participating in green waste recycling, Republic Services is partnering with the City to offer a free compost giveaway on Saturday, March 21, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at the Municipal Service Center, 13802 Newhope Street.

Because this event is so popular each year, there is a 'while supplies last' and 60-gallon limit per household. Please bring a bucket or container, but no bags.



## City Calendar

### City Hall Closures

February 6, 16, 20  
March 6, 20  
April 3, 17  
May 1, 15, 25, 29

### "The Princesses"

Saturday, March 28-2:00 pm  
Festival Amphitheater  
12740 Main Street  
Children \$15 Adult \$10  
Cupcake Party and Photo Op  
(714) 928-3894

### 7th Annual Eggs-cavation

Saturday, April 4  
11:00 am -2:00 pm  
Atlantis Play Center  
13630 Atlantis Way  
\$7 children ages 3-10  
\$2 spectators  
(714) 741-5200 or  
In-person at City Hall  
11222 Acacia Parkway

### 11th Annual Golf Classic

Wednesday, May 6  
Willowick Golf Course  
3017 W. 5th Street  
Santa Ana  
\$150 per person  
\$600 a foursome  
Info: (714) 741-5280 or  
(714) 638-7950



GARDEN GROVE *Pride*  
2015

## Cast Your Eyes, Then Your Vote For Garden Grove's Best

Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes in Garden Grove – just ask a Garden Grove Pride judge. The 42nd annual Garden Grove Pride Awards, which recognizes the finest-looking homes in the city, is seeking volunteer judges. Judges do not have to be Garden Grove residents.

The home beautification program volunteers will select one of the city's 17 zones to review, and with a teammate, choose the top 23 best-kept homes, including the Home of the Year. Each zone is comprised of approximately 3,000 single-family homes, and judging averages 10 hours over a three-week period.

The winning homeowners and judges will be honored at the Garden Grove Pride Awards Reception on Monday, June 1, 2015. The 17 zone winners are also eligible to participate in an on-line voting contest for the title of Garden Grove's "Best Home and Garden."

To serve as a volunteer judge, please call the Office of Community Relations at (714) 741-5280 or sign up on-line via the Garden Grove Pride link at [www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us).

## Holiday Collection Calendar

Just a reminder that if your scheduled service day falls on or after Memorial, Independence, or Labor Day, then your pick-up will be delayed by one day. For all other holidays, collection will be on schedule. For questions, call Republic Services at (714) 238-3300.

### Follow us on



GARDEN GROVE  
(714) 741-5000  
[www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us](http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us)

GARDEN GROVE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MEETING  
City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840  
Third Floor Training Room

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 12, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-029-2015

Applicant: Submarine Crab  
Location: 10130 Garden Grove Boulevard, #129  
Date: February 12, 2015

Request: Conditional Use Permit approval to operate an existing restaurant, Submarine Crab, with a State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" (On-Sale, Beer and Wine, Public Premises) License. The site is in the GGMU1 (Garden Grove Mixed Use 1) zone. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 – Existing Facilities.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Ms. Thy Nguyen

Action: Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1709-15.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP-030-2015

Applicant: Doug Coleman  
Location: 12900 Main Street  
Date: February 12, 2015

Request: Conditional Use Permit approval to upgrade an existing Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" (On-Sale, Beer and Wine, Public Eating Place) License to a new ABC Type "47" (On-Sale, General, Public Eating Place) License for an existing restaurant, Doug's Downtown Grill. The site is in the CC-2 (Civic Center Main Street) zone. The project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 – Existing Facilities.

Action: Public Hearing Held. Speaker(s): Doug Coleman

Action: Zoning Administrator adopted Decision No. 1710-15.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The Zoning Administrator adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., in the City Hall Third Floor Training Room, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove.

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Judith Moore, Recording Secretary



**GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION**  
Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 15, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Lazenby  
Vice Chair Margolin  
Commissioner Alejandro  
Commissioner Brietigam  
Commissioner Silva

Absent: Zamora

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Brietigam.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: Mr. Ryan Farsai, owner of a gas station, mentioned gas prices and expressed the importance of creating revenue for his business in order to be successful.

DECEMBER 4, 2014 MINUTES:

Action: Received and filed.

Motion: Margolin Second: Alejandro

Ayes: (5) Alejandro, Brietigam, Lazenby, Margolin, Silva

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (1) Zamora

PUBLIC HEARING – SITE PLAN NO. SP-016-2014, VARIANCE NO. V-009-2014. FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 12502 BROOKHURST STREET, SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BROOKHURST STREET AND LAMPSON AVENUE.

Applicant: RAMCAM Engineering Group, Inc.

Date: January 15, 2015

Request: Site Plan approval to construct a new approximately 2,447 square foot one-story building on a lot improved with an existing approximately 1,755 square foot medical office building, located on the southeast corner of Brookhurst Street and Lampson Avenue at 12502 Brookhurst Street. The project scope also includes site improvements for a new parking lot and new landscaping. Also, a request for Variance approval to deviate from the minimum ten-foot (10'-0") interior side setback to

construct the new building and the new trash enclosure to encroach five feet (5'-0") into the interior side setback. The site is in the O-P (Office Professional) zone. This project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section – 15303(c) – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures and 15305(a) – Minor Alterations and Land Use Limitations.

Action: Public Hearing held. Speakers: Mr. Alex Irshaid.

Action: Resolution No. 5839-14 adopted.

Motion: Alejandro Second: Brietigam

Ayes: (5) Alejandro, Brietigam, Lazenby, Margolin, Silva

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (1) Zamora

PUBLIC HEARING – SITE PLAN NO. SP-017-2014. FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9472 KATELLA AVENUE, SOUTHWEST CORNER OF KATELLA AVENUE AND GILBERT STREET.

Applicant: Yenny Ng

Date: January 15, 2015

Request: Site Plan approval to construct a small, multi-tenant commercial building of approximately 1,600 square feet on a property that is improved with an existing gas station and convenience market. The site is in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) zone. This project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section – 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

Action: Public Hearing held. Speakers: Mr. Ali Farsai and Mr. Ryan Farsai.

Action: Resolution No. 5840-14 adopted.

Motion: Brietigam Second: Margolin

Ayes: (5) Alejandro, Brietigam, Lazenby, Margolin, Silva

Noes: (0) None

Absent: (1) Zamora

PUBLIC HEARING – SITE PLAN NO. SP-018-2014. FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9737 CHAPMAN AVENUE, NORTHWEST CORNER OF BROOKHURST STREET AND CHAPMAN AVENUE, BUILDING PAD "D" FRONTS ON CHAPMAN AVENUE.

Applicant: Geoff Reeslund, HGGA Promenade, L.P.

Date: January 15, 2015



**Request:** Site Plan approval to construct a 6,200 square foot pad building at the Promenade Shopping Mall. The building will have four tenant spaces occupied by proposed restaurants. The building is proposed on a pad that is along Chapman Avenue, west of the main drive aisle entrance to the Regal Theaters. The site is in the NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) zone. This project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15302 - Replacement or Reconstruction.

**Action:** Public Hearing held. Speakers: Mr. Geoff Reeslund.

**Action:** Resolution No. 5841-14 adopted.

**Motion:** Margolin **Second:** Alejandro

**Ayes:** (4) Alejandro, Lazenby, Margolin, Silva

**Noes:** (1) Brietigam

**Absent:** (1) Zamora

**MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Brietigam mentioned traffic signals near IHOP and wondered if there were studies to warrant signals to be removed. Staff was not aware of any such studies. The Commissioner then added that the Police Department needed to be increased by 20 and the Fire Department by seven and that a plan was needed to increase public safety.

Commissioner Silva asked for a study session on "Re:Imagine" as information had not been updated for over a year and he received questions from residents. Staff explained that "Re:Imagine" was not a 'plan' or 'document', rather the intent was to gather ideas and separate them into short/mid/long-term phases; that staff would meet with the Mayor over the Open Streets' success; that a Bike Master Plan initiative was in the works; that a plan was needed to secure grants; and that after the City Council was updated with a presentation, the information would be brought back to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Alejandro commended staff for their work, especially for the agenda items that night, which were pro-growth for the City. Fellow Commissioners also expressed their appreciation for staff.

**MATTERS FROM STAFF:**

Staff stated that the Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting would be cancelled and mentioned that Commission appointments should occur at the January 27<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:50 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Planning Commission on Thursday, February 5, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Garden Grove Council Chamber, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove.

Motion: Brietigam Second: Alejandro

Ayes: (5) Alejandro, Brietigam, Lazenby, Margolin, Silva

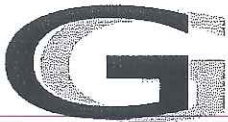
Noes: (0) None

Absent: (1) Zamora

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Judith Moore, Recording Secretary





GARDEN GROVE

A G E N D A

GARDEN GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

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FEBRUARY 19, 2015

COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER  
11300 STANFORD AVENUE

REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SWEARING IN OF PLANNING COMMISSIONERS BY THE CITY CLERK

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS KANZLER, MAI, MARGOLIN, O'NEILL, PAK,  
PAREDES, ZAMORA

SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Members of the public desiring to speak on any item of public interest, including any item on the agenda except public hearings, must do so during Oral Communications at the beginning of the meeting. Each speaker shall fill out a card stating name and address, to be presented to the Recording Secretary, and shall be limited to five (5) minutes. Members of the public wishing to address public hearing items shall do so at the time of the public hearing.

Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services due to a disability should contact the City Clerk's office at (714) 741-5035 to arrange for special accommodations. (Government Code §5494.3.2).

All revised or additional documents and writings related to any items on the agenda, which are distributed to all or a majority of the Planning Commissioners within 72 hours of a meeting, shall be available for public inspection (1) at the Planning Services Division during normal business hours; and (2) at the City Council Chambers at the time of the meeting.

Agenda item descriptions are intended to give a brief, general description of the item to advise the public of the item's general nature. The Planning Commission may take legislative action it deems appropriate with respect to the item and is not limited to the recommended action indicated in staff reports or the agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 15, 2015

C. STUDY SESSION: PLANNING COMMISSION ORIENTATION

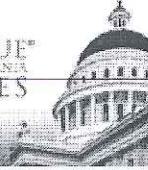
General discussion of the Brown Act, Conflicts of Interest, and related matters and issues within the Planning Commission's jurisdiction.

D. MATTERS FROM STAFF

E. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS

F. ADJOURNMENT





## Upcoming Legislative Hearings of Interest to Cities

The Legislature's bill introduction deadline is fast approaching on Friday, Feb. 27 and then legislative policy committees will begin to hold hearings on bills. There are also a number of oversight and informational hearings on a variety of policy areas of interest to cities. For more, see Page 2.



## California City Solutions: Visalia Reduces Health Care Cost by Providing Free Clinic for Employees

*This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2014 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called California City Solutions. The City of Visalia's Employee Health and Wellness Clinic was submitted in 2014 for the Internal Administration award category. For more, see Page 2.*



## Register for the Feb. 27 Municipal Law Institute's Symposium

The 2015 Municipal Law Institute Symposium will be held on Feb. 27 and presented by the Municipal Law Institute of the League of California Cities® and the Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law. This symposium is approved for five and a half hours of MCLE credits. For more, see Page 4.

'Leg Hearings' Continued from Page 1...

Here are a number of hearings of interest to cities:

**Feb. 10**

- **Joint Hearing of the Assembly Public Safety Committee and Senate Public Safety Committee**, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 4203
  - Informational Hearing on Law Enforcement and Community Trust in California
- **Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife**, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 437
  - Informational and Oversight Hearing on Proposition 1, Water Bond, Implementation

**Feb. 11**

- **Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy**, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 444
  - Informational Hearing on an Overview of the California Economy

**Feb. 12**

- **Senate on Budget and Fiscal Review**, 10 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203
  - Oversight Hearing on Local and State Water Funding Relationships

**Feb. 17**

- **Senate Committee on Judiciary**, 2:30 p.m. or upon adjournment of Floor Session, State Capitol, Room 4203
  - Oversight Hearing on Drones — Is California Law Ready?
- **Senate Joint Hearing of the Transportation and Housing and Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, Energy and Transportation**, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 4203
  - Informational Hearing on Transportation Funding

**Feb. 20**

- **Joint Hearing of the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee and Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee**, 10 a.m., Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Metro Board Meeting, third floor
  - Oversight Hearing on Los Angeles County Voter Turnout

**March 4:**

- **Joint Hearing of the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security and Senate Public Employees and Retirement Committees**, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 3191
  - Informational Hearing on Orientation and Report of the California Actuarial Advisory Panel

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'CCS - Visalia' Continued from Page 1...

Before opening what is believed to be California's first city-run employee health clinic, Visalia's employee health care cost roughly as much as fire protection for its citizens.

The clinic has helped Visalia begin stemming the tide of growing costs, saving about \$32,000 annually, while improving employee morale.

The clinic idea grew in response to factors it found were contributing to increased health care costs, including maintenance of prescribed medical treatments and regular health care office visits.

Employees also found it difficult to schedule timely appointments with their doctors and, once they arrived at their doctors' offices, time spent in the waiting room took away from time on the job.



Recognizing that good overall health makes for a productive work force, the Visalia City Council authorized the city to partner with a local health care provider to develop an on-site clinic for all those on the city's health plan.

Visalia, which is self-insured, faces health care costs about \$10 million annually. It has an a standing agreement with its bargaining units that health care costs will be shared equally between the city and its employees, allowing employees to receive quality care at a relatively low cost.

Open four hours per day, five days per week, the [city of Visalia's Health and Wellness Clinic](#) provides walk-in and appointment health services, wellness plans and immunization to its 579 employees, 150 retired staff and their 1,600 related dependents providing health services, wellness plans and more recently, immunizations.

The clinic also offers health and nutrition services 40 hours per week, with two nutrition and health counselors available.

The physician's level of care extends beyond patient appointments. Clinic staff members follow up with each patient after their visit to determine if their needs were met or if they have further health concerns. Additionally, the clinic helps schedule appointments for referrals services outside the clinic if needed.

With a relatively small number of clients, the clinic staff is able to build a closer relationship with city employees and patients, building trust and a willingness by patients to address potentially serious and chronic health issues that may have otherwise gone undetected.

Patients do not pay co-payments or deductibles for the medical care provided at the clinic. Commonly prescribed and generic brand medications, if available, are issued at no charge. This helps reduce out-of-pocket costs for the employee while encouraging the patient's long-term commitment to good health.

Employees can view healthy meal suggestions, changes to the clinic's schedule and upcoming events by following the [City of Visalia Health and Wellness Clinic Facebook page](#). Some of the events include an organization-wide Biggest Loser weight loss contest, Eat Fruit Month, flu shot reminders, healthy recipes and healthy activities.

The city reports that these activities have been successful in motivating staff to make healthy lifestyle decisions.

While the city's onsite clinic is still in its beginning stages, Visalia believes the increased focus and hands-on care by both the on-site provider and comprehensive wellness and prevention services will significantly impact employee health and help prevent future catastrophic claims.

The clinic also maintains a strong focus on existing disease management which provides a long-term benefit to the patient and the city.

About 440 of the 570 full-time employees have visited the clinic, many making it their primary front-line health care provider.

The benefits from the clinic include:

- **Quicker doctor visits.** The clinic is very close to where people work and there is almost no wait time when individuals come to the clinic.
- **Greater compliance with prescribed medical treatment.** Because employees and dependents are known by the clinic staff and the staff makes follow-up phone calls, the patients are complying with the prescribed treatment more regularly, improving the likelihood of good health outcomes.
- **Individuals are taking control of their health.** Because the clinic is free, readily available and employees have come to trust the staff, a number of employees have taken their own initiative to improve their health. Individuals have lost weight, gained control of their diabetes and are reducing other chronic health conditions.

- **Regular health screenings are also available in the clinic.** The city is required to provide a number of physical and screenings in the course of an individual's employment, which are being added to the clinic, making the clinic a one-stop shop.
  - **Costs are being controlled and should be reduced in the long-run.** The clinic's cost is about half of what the city would be charged if the employee were to seek services from a typical pay for service provider. The clinic's costs are essentially being covered by reduced cost while the satisfaction of the user is much higher at the clinic.
  - **The city believes the clinic's benefits outweigh the costs.** The numbers speak for themselves, not to mention improved morale and overall health, which are unmeasurable.
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**'MLI Symposium' Continued from Page 1...**

This year's symposium will cover "Local Government in a Brave New World: Law Enforcement, Code Enforcement, and Public Agency Liability." Public agencies have recently faced many new and challenging issues. Presenters will discuss issues arising from developing technology, including regulating businesses in the new "sharing economy" and balancing new technology with privacy concerns, particularly in the context of law enforcement. Additional topics are likely to include how public agencies have arisen from emerging jurisprudence in the areas of the Second Amendment and police and municipal liability.

The symposium will take place at Chapman University School of Law. The law school is situated 11 miles from John Wayne Airport in Orange County, one block from the lively Old Towne dining and shopping district in the city of Orange, and minutes from Disneyland.

It is important to register and make travel arrangements soon because there are a limited number of spaces for the conference.

Register [online](#).

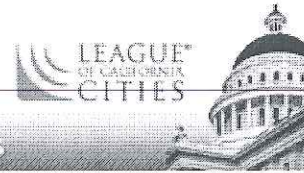
Chapman University School of Law has preferred rates at two hotels:

The Double Tree-Anaheim  
100 The City Drive  
Orange, CA 92868  
(714) 634-4500  
\$139 per night plus tax  
Book reservations [online](#) for Chapman preferred rates.

The Ayres Inn Orange  
3737 West Chapman  
Orange, CA 92868  
(714) 978-9168  
\$105 per night plus tax

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**Feb. 10 2015**  
**Issue #13**

## **Assembly Member Ken Cooley Announces New Medical Marijuana Legislation**

Assembly Member Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova) today announced the introduction of AB 266, medical marijuana legislation providing a much needed framework to effectively implement Proposition 215 (1996), the Compassionate Use Act. The bill is largely based on last year's SB 1262 by former Sen. Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana) and enjoys bipartisan support, as it has Assembly Member Tom Lackey (R-Palmdale) as co-author. AB 266 embodies three fundamental priorities: advancing local control; protecting public safety; and protecting public health by creating uniform health and safety standards to ensure the safe, lawful distribution of medical marijuana in those cities and counties in which it is authorized. *For more, see Page 2.*



## **2015 Helen Putnam Call for Entries Period Now Open** *Deadline to Submit, April 9*

It's time to submit your city's innovative program and compete for statewide recognition. Each year the League of California Cities honors outstanding solutions in member cities through the League Partner-sponsored Helen Putnam Awards for Excellence. If your city has done remarkable, innovative work in any of the 12 categories now is the time to get the recognition it deserves. *For more, see Page 2.*

**'Medical Marijuana' Continued from Page 1...**

Co-sponsored by the League of California Cities and the California Police Chiefs Association, the measure contains provisions that establish a dual licensing process under which the state would issue a conditional license only; an apprenticeship program for dispensary and other workers; phased-in implementation; and funding for environmental mitigation at cultivation sites. AB 266 is not an effort to legalize marijuana. Rather it is an attempt to establish a rational structure governing medical marijuana production and distribution that is consistent with the needs of cities and law enforcement, prior to the appearance of a 2016 ballot initiative geared toward legalization. This bill will not alter patients' existing rights to access medical marijuana or cultivate plants for medicinal purposes under Prop. 215.

Voters approved Prop. 215 in 1996 to give Californians access to marijuana for medical purposes. In 2003, Gov. Gray Davis signed SB 420 into law, allowing patients and primary care givers to cultivate marijuana for personal medical use. SB 420 also established a voluntary medical marijuana card program in the Department of Public Health. However, regulatory chaos has ensued because Prop. 215 did not include an implementation framework clearly delineating state and local authority, or an acknowledgment of the authority to create or enforce locally-driven policies. Finally, it did not ensure public safety by providing clear guidelines for medical marijuana regulations.

In sponsoring this legislation, the League and the Police Chiefs Association are continuing the effort begun in 2014 to craft a regulatory framework for medical marijuana that will protect the interests of cities and law enforcement, while ensuring patient access and safety. Much of the marijuana legislation of recent years has been geared toward state pre-emption of local ordinances, or has otherwise sought to limit local government authority. Last year, both organizations recognized the need to be proactive and in helping craft marijuana policy and took the unprecedented step of sponsoring their own bill, SB 1262, after years of opposing such legislation.

AB 266's provisions contain a dual licensing scheme that retains local governments' current authority over suspension and revocation, a labor peace agreement that ensures business operations are not disrupted by work stoppages or strikes, uniform health and safety standards (including testing) and security standards for dispensaries and transport. The bill will feature staggered implementation dates with the measure going into effect on Jan. 1, 2016, while giving dispensaries an additional year to obtain marijuana only from licensed cultivation sites via licensed transporters. Finally, the measure would earmark a revenue stream from the state's conditional license fee for cultivation with a portion going to a special fund for environmental enforcement.

The League will continue to update members with information on AB 266 as it moves through the legislative process. Resources, news articles and other materials will be continually updated on the League's [medical marijuana](#) hot issue webpage.

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**'Helen Putnam' Continued from Page 1...**

The award recognizes the successes of California cities as demonstrated by beneficial innovations, resourceful efficiencies, improved public service, and overall enhanced public trust and support. It is also an opportunity to thank your employees and collaborators, gain the appreciation of your residents and have a community celebration of the good work to better your city.

Does your city have an outstanding program that delivers efficiency, quality service and innovation? Enter your program at [www.helenputnam.org](http://www.helenputnam.org).

Award categories include:

- CCS Partnership Intergovernmental Collaboration Award
- Community Services and Economic Development
- Economic Development through the Arts
- Enhancing Public Trust, Ethics, and Community Involvement



- Health and Wellness Programs
- Housing Programs and Innovations
- Internal Administration
- League Partners Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations
- Planning and Environmental Quality
- Public Safety
- Public Works, Infrastructure, Transportation
- Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government

Additionally, your city can receive the President's Advocacy Award. This prestigious award honors a distinguished program or individual that best advocates for the League's annual strategic priorities. One outstanding winner may be chosen from the 12 categories.

To qualify, simply demonstrate that your city offered a program or service that has proven measurable and successful within a minimum of one year of actual implementation. Particular attention and credit is given to applications specifically advancing the League's strategic priorities, which are determined each year by the board of directors.

Your city must be a League member to apply. Submit your entry online by April 9.

Please contact Melissa Lienau with any questions at (916) 658-8216.

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