



August 2018 - Volume 5, No. 8

Serving the Villages and Neighborhoods of Irvine

Circulation: 53,300
IrvineCommunityNews.org



Publisher's Perspective

The City Council Won't Listen!

Sometimes, the obvious turns out to be not so obvious. It should have been obvious that after the June 5th landslide defeat of Measure B, the City Council would get the message that they should begin building the Veterans Cemetery immediately — at the original Great Park site — or face the voters' wrath.

Since, apparently, the Council wasn't listening, it looks like we at *ICNV* will have to go to work in the coming months to make sure that those 28,638 "NO on B" voters show up on Election Day (Nov 6th), to elect a proven "NO on B" Council majority! No imposters or late-comers will do. Irvine deserves dependable candidates and Councilmembers.

ICNV is Irvine's only independent community newspaper, free of developer control. Our mission is to provide the Irvine community with accurate, fact-based news and commentary to strengthen our local democracy.

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Franklin J. Lunding



Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor

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Irvine Community News & Views is the official sponsor of the committee to Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery.
BuildTheGreatParkVeteransCemetery.org

Tumultuous Council Meeting

City Council ignores "NO on B" Irvine voter mandate. Votes 3-to-2 to derail Great Park Veterans Cemetery.



Talking but not listening. Councilwoman Melissa Fox (l) joined with Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilwoman Christina Shea (r) in rejecting the voters' June 5th mandate to immediately begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery at the original, State-approved Great Park site. Angry residents left City Hall shouting "Recall! Recall!"

At a tumultuous July 10th Irvine City Council meeting, Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Melissa Fox and Christina Shea doubled-down on their decision to ignore the outcome of the June 5th election by rejecting Councilmember Jeff Lalloway's motion to "immediately begin construction" of the Veterans Cemetery at its originally designated 125-acre site in the Great Park.

Lalloway's motion, seconded by Councilmember Lynn Schott, was intended to implement the will of the people, as expressed June 5th in a resounding 63% "NO on B" vote.

Measure B was the unpopular Wagner-Shea-Fox plan, heavily backed by developer FivePoint Communities, to replace the long-planned and previously approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with FivePoint's massive office, industrial and apartment development.

An estimated 200 Irvine residents packed

the Council Chamber at City Hall to support the Lalloway "build-it-now" motion. Dozens testified at the three-hour hearing, urging Council adoption of Lalloway's motion, which called for demolition, cleanup and preliminary preparation of the Veterans Cemetery site to begin immediately.

The first resident to testify was **Ed Pope**, who chaired the successful "NO on B" campaign. Pope noted that, since June 5th, his NO on B committee has been renamed. The new name is **Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery** — with a mission to ensure that the the people's mandate is implemented so that the Veterans Cemetery is quickly built at its original Great Park location, and that

it becomes operational by Veterans Day, November 11, 2020.

Speaking directly to the Mayor and Council, Pope, who is a U.S. Army veteran, a retired social studies teacher, and a 46-year Irvine resident, sounded a theme that has echoed



→ continued from page 1 → City Council ignores “NO on B” Irvine voter mandate.



Artist depiction of Great Park Veterans Cemetery

from one end of Irvine to the other since the June 5th election: “Listen to the people, not developer FivePoint Communities.”

Others were even more direct, noting that FivePoint organized and spent more than \$1 million to support Wagner’s election as Mayor and Shea’s re-election to City Council in 2016, and that FivePoint political operatives have recently showered Fox with thousands of dollars in campaign donations.

Several residents decried FivePoint’s expenditure of more than \$1 million (more than \$60 per vote) in their failed campaign to win voter approval of Measure B on June 5th.

At the conclusion of nearly two hours of public comments, it quickly became clear that the passionate and sometimes eloquent testimony of Irvine citizens had fallen on deaf ears. Mayor Wagner introduced and passed out copies of a complicated, multi-part “substitute motion” that had obviously been prepared in advance of the Council hearing.

As if on cue, Councilmembers Shea and Fox then, in lockstep, expressed support for Wagner’s substitute motion, which involved the creation of layers of City staff and City commissions to conduct studies, searches, site visits, and prepare voluminous reports — all of these bureaucratic steps to start all over and find a new site in Irvine (or elsewhere) for a State-funded Veterans Cemetery that, magically, will somehow gain

City, State and Federal approval...and be built by the end of 2020.

Oposing the substitute motion, Councilmember Lalloway said it was nothing less than a purposeful effort to intentionally “kill the Veterans Cemetery by processing it to death.”

Exasperated, Lalloway lamented that he found it hard to understand why three of his colleagues are apparently unwilling to simply do the right thing — which is to accept the ballot-box verdict of the people, and implement the Irvine voters’ mandate to build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery now.

Unconvinced, Wagner, Shea and Fox proceeded to vote for the substitute motion. Lalloway and Schott voted NO. When the 3-2 vote was announced by the City Clerk, dozens in the audience shouted “Recall! Recall!” as they rose from their seats and slowly exited the Council Chamber. [ICNV](#)

What Do YOU Think? Take the online Irvine Community Poll!

Should Councilmembers Melissa Fox and Christina Shea be recalled and removed from office in a special recall election?

- Would you favor circulation of a Recall Petition against Councilmember Melissa Fox?
- Would you favor circulation of a Recall Petition against Councilmember Christina Shea?

You Can Take Our Poll Right Now! Go to: IrvineCommunityNews.org and click on “Community Poll” on the top navigation bar.

The Irvine Community Poll is an opportunity for YOU to let the Irvine community know how YOU feel about issues of citywide concern.



3 Milestones to Create the Great Park Veterans Cemetery...Stalled at No. 2



MILESTONE NO. 1. On June 5th, a majority of Irvine voters must cast “NO on B” ballots, thereby rejecting Zone Change Ordinance No. 17-08 — the land swap scheme that would permit developer FivePoint to replace the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive office and industrial projects.



MILESTONE NO. 2. On July 10th, City staff is directed to immediately commence construction of the previously approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park — beginning with demolition, cleanup, and site preparation — in accordance with the approved 333-page CalVet design and Concept Plan.



MILESTONE NO. 3. Opening Ceremony! The Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park becomes operational by Veterans Day, November 11, 2020. The Cemetery, by law, will be operated and maintained in perpetuity by the State (CalVet) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at no cost to the City.



CityWatch by Larry Agran

The Veterans Cemetery: Consensus and a Voter Mandate!

The historic June 5th, 63% “NO on B” vote wasn’t simply the rejection of an unpopular zone change and land-swap. The landslide vote was indisputable confirmation of a positive, two-part citywide consensus and voter mandate.

- **First**, the people of Irvine — whether they voted YES or NO on Measure B — want to see the State-funded Southern California Veterans Cemetery located in the City of Irvine, not elsewhere in Orange County.
- **Second**, the vast majority of Irvine residents want the Veterans Cemetery to be located — and built now, without any further delay — at its original site in the Great Park, as planned and approved (2014-2017) by the City, State (CalVet) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Residents Infuriated

Mindful of this voter mandate, thousands of Irvine residents find it infuriating to watch Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Shea and Fox arrogantly ignoring the will of the people — absolutely refusing to move ahead and immediately start building the Great Park Veterans Cemetery.

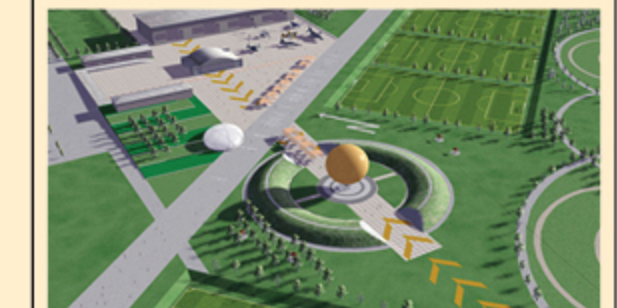
Wagner, Shea and Fox invoke all kinds of ridiculous excuses and rationalizations. Chief among these is the false and insulting claim that the Veterans Cemetery is somehow unaffordable — that it’s “prohibitively expensive,” according to Melissa Fox and Christina Shea; and that it will even put the City itself on the verge of bankruptcy. Oh, please, stop the nonsense!

Let’s Talk Dollars and Sense

Here are the true facts of the matter: Because of smart financial planning dating back 15 years — when I was Mayor of Irvine and then Chair of the Great Park Corporation — hundreds of millions of dollars continue to flow into a special Great Park Development Fund, known as Fund 180. This fund is a special-purpose account set up to build, maintain and operate major features of the Great Park. Many of these features are already in place — built, paid for, and operational.

Fund 180 is not part of the City’s General Fund. It is a separate, special fund. According to the City financial statements, Fund 180 has

a current balance of \$48 million; yet, \$263 million more will flow into the fund the next 6-7 years at a rate of nearly \$40 million per year. This is money owed to the Great Park Development Fund by the State of California



These Great Park features, and others, have been built with investments from the special Great Park Development Fund, known as Fund 180.

as a result of the shrewd “redevelopment tax-increment” funding we negotiated with the State more than 10 years ago.

Now, flash forward to today: According to the State, the CalVet-approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park will cost an



The Great Park Veterans Cemetery, Phase 1, can be built in just two years with \$38 million in funding from the Great Park Development Fund.

estimated \$78 million to build. (By the way, that’s the price of just one railroad under-crossing in Irvine — and we have three!)

But Irvine is not called upon to come up with the full \$78 million to build the Veterans Cemetery. Last year, before Wagner, Shea and Fox abruptly changed course — remember the Fox “flip”? — the State and Federal governments agreed to put up \$40 million if the City would follow through on its pledge to put up \$38 million.

An Affordable, Wise Investment

Accordingly, our one-time \$38 million financial contribution would make the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park a pre-funded reality within two years. The plain truth is that \$38 million is not “prohibitively expensive,” as Fox and Shea claim. In fact, it’s an eminently affordable investment, and a wise one too. Why? Because the Veterans Cemetery, located on 125 acres of our 1,300-acre Great Park, will no doubt be the Park’s most compelling, most appreciated, and most important feature.

Certainly, the Veterans Cemetery is more important than the \$25 million golf course that is on Councilmember Shea’s wish list; or Councilmember Melissa Fox’s fixation on putting tens of millions of dollars into a subsidized commercial water park; or former Mayor Steven Choi’s \$200 million library, which would cost an estimated \$10 million per year to operate and maintain.

Can anyone honestly say that these proposed Great Park projects are a higher priority than a one-time investment of \$38 million in an already-designed and approved Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery?

And let’s remember this very important point: Under State law, from Day One, the beautiful Great Park Veterans Cemetery would be operated and maintained in perpetuity by the State of California, at no cost whatsoever to the City of Irvine.

A Lie and an Insult

To say that we can’t afford to build the Veterans Cemetery — in the Great Park, as originally promised and planned — is a lie and an insult to veterans and their families, and to every Irvine resident who wants to see the Veterans Cemetery built now!

Larry Agran served on the Irvine City Council for almost three decades — including ten years as Mayor. He led the fight to preserve Irvine Open Space, and defeat an international airport at the former El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, creating the opportunity to build the Orange County Great Park and the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery within the Great Park.



Published Monthly
Vol. 5, No. 8 • August 2018
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<p>CROSSROADS Culver & Barranca</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paradise Bowls • Floyd's Barbershop • The Joint Chiropractic 	<p>IRVINE OAKS EXECUTIVE PARK/ LAGUNA CANYON & ALTON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Whale of a Tale Bookstore • s'wich Bistro • Yasai Japanese Grill 	<p>TUSTIN — EL CAMINO REAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toyota Dealership in Tustin Auto Center
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<p>CYPRESS VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER Jeffrey & Trabuco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albertsons • Honey Pig • Olive Oil Mediterranean Grill • Da Luau Hawaiian Grill 	<p>OAK CREEK SHOPPING CENTER Jeffrey & Alton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gelson's • Jack's Surfboards • Upper Crust Pizza • Maizuru Sushi Bar - Japanese Restaurant • Mustard Cafe • Orange Theory Fitness 	<p>THE VILLAGE AT IRVINE SPECTRUM CENTER Prism & Spectrum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starbucks • Village Market
<p>DIAMOND JAMBOREE Alton & Jamboree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Konalona Coffee • Tokyo Table • Lower Level - Food Court Seating 	<p>OLD MYFORD ROAD & IRVINE BLVD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Wheeler Library 	<p>WALMART SHOPPING CENTER Barranca & Von Karman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APOLA Gyro Grill
<p>HARVARD & MICHELSON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irvine Lanes 	<p>OLD TOWN IRVINE Sand Canyon & 5 Fwy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowlwood • Denny's 	<p>WALNUT VILLAGE CENTER Culver & Walnut</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic Tacos • Jamba Juice • Starbucks • Yes Cleaners
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	<p>PARK PLACE Michelson & Jamboree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Dry Lounge • Starbucks 	<p>WOODBURY TOWN CENTER Sand Canyon & Irvine Blvd.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ralphs

Senior Life — Youthful Lifestyle

An ICNV Feature Series On
Healthful Living As We Age

Dancing at Irvine's Senior Centers

by Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D.

In previous articles, I emphasized the absolute necessity for significant exercise, most days of the week, for both prevention and remission of chronic diseases.

To engage in significant exercise, it's not necessary to be a gym bunny, if that's not your thing. Exercise should be fun and rewarding so you are motivated to sustain it. Irvine's remarkable Senior Services program offers a



Marge's dancers

wide array of activities, including activities not sponsored by the City. All of these activities take place in one of the City's three Senior Centers and are open to Irvine residents.

For example, you might not know you like tap dancing until you try it (or even watch it being performed by your neighbors).

On Tuesday, July 10th, I attended a 10am session of Tap Dance with Marge at the Rancho Senior Center. Marge Forehan, 91, has been teaching the class for 15 years. And her dance groups have been performing at the Orange County Fair for 15 years!



Marge Forehan

Although I visited during a regular class session (beginners at 9am, intermediate at 10am, and advanced students at 11am), this session was a rehearsal for their performance at the Orange County Fair. So, I got to see and hear all three levels of student tap dancing. Although the entire performance lasted about 45 minutes, showcasing all levels of students, all the dance numbers were impressive.

Watch out for the ringer!

As I was watching, I noticed one dancer, in particular, who seemed to be in every group, performing flawlessly. So, I talked to her after the rehearsal. Marlys Pearson, 84, had, indeed, been a Las Vegas showgirl for many years. Is it a coincidence that she's still dancing at 84? Or, did she get to 84, apparently in good health, because she's still dancing? I also spoke with Shizhao Xu (known as Julia), 75, another member of the dance class. She has been dancing with the group since 2013, soon after moving to Irvine from San Diego. She had gone to the Lakeview Senior Center to volunteer, and discovered Marge's tap dance class.

There are currently 8 students in Marge's beginners class, and 15 each in the intermediate and advanced classes. Tap Dance with Marge is free, and you can sign up at Irvine Valley College. Call 949-367-8343. Although I highlighted the older dancers, there is no minimum age, and no minimum level of ability is required.

So, throw away your inhibitions, pick a dance class, and just go to see what it offers! No one will laugh at you, unless you tell a joke! (Check out the array of dance classes in the box.)



Harvey H. Liss, 76, is a 42-year resident of Woodbridge. He was a Project Engineer for that iconic Irvine village during the late 1970s. A licensed Professional Civil Engineer in California, Dr. Liss received his B.C.E. from The Cooper Union, in New York City, and his Ph.D. in Applied Mechanics from NYU. Dr. Liss has had a lifelong interest in maintaining the most healthful lifestyle possible.

DANCE CLASSES are listed on the Irvine Senior Connection booklet (available at all Irvine Senior Centers) centerfold. For info on how to sign up, call any of the Senior Centers, except for listings followed by # call IVC at 949-367-8343 or go to 123getsmart.com and search for the class.

LSC = Lakeview Senior Ctr 949-724-6900 RSC = Rancho Senior Ctr 949-724-6800 TRA = Trabuco Ctr 949-724-7300

Tap Dance with Marge #	RSC: Tue 9am-noon
Social Tap Dance	RSC: Wed 11:30am-1pm; Thu 9:30-11:30am
Line Dancing	RSC: Thu 2:30-4:30pm TRA: Tue 2:30-4:30pm; Wed 10am-noon
Country Line Dancing #	LSC: Mon 10:30-11:50am; Thu 9-10:20am; Fri 10:30-11:50am
Open Dance Studio	TRA: Mon 3-5pm RSC: Fri 3-5pm
Dance Instruction	LSC: Thu 10:30am-noon
Little Big Band and Dance	LSC: Thu 2-4pm
Raggtimers Music & Dance	LSC: Thu (2nd & 4th) noon-1:30pm
Ballroom Dance	TRA: Thu 10-11am
Bollywood Dance Fitness	TRA: Thu 1-2pm

Advertisement

Learn to sleep better...from the comfort of home!



Sarah Mosko, Ph.D., is an accredited sleep disorders specialist (Diplomate of the American Board of Sleep Medicine) and a California-licensed psychologist. She has nearly four decades of experience in both university and hospital-based sleep disorders centers.

Dr. Mosko provides Tele-Video Sleep Therapy, which are face-to-face sessions over computer or tablet screens with the same quality communication one expects from in-person consultation.

Payment is by credit or debit card only, as she is not in-network with any insurance. However, you are free to submit a claim to your insurer.

Contact:
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Community Calendar

August 2018

ALL MEDIA 2018

Irvine Fine Arts Center

Opening reception:
Saturday, August 25, 4-6pm

Exhibition Dates:
August 25 through October 27

All Media 2018, the Irvine Fine Arts Center's annual Juried art exhibition showcases California artists. Juried by OC Weekly's arts writer Dave Barton this year, the exhibition features painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, printmaking, ceramics, digital media and more.

The *ALL MEDIA 2018* juror, Dave Barton, has written for the *OC Weekly* for more than 20 years, the last nine as its lead art critic. As a contributing editor for Orange Coast magazine for two years, he wrote an art column focusing on the work of a single artist each month. He has contributed to the *OC/LB Blade*, *LA Weekly*, and *American Theatre* magazines, as well as for the online publication 1888center. He received concurrent Orange County Press Club Best Arts or Culture Review awards for the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

The Irvine Fine Arts Center is an outstanding community venue that presents exhibitions designed to expand awareness, understanding and sensitivity to art, and provide an exploratory and educational viewing experience for diverse audiences. Admission and parking are free. The Irvine Fine Arts Center is located inside Heritage Community Park at 14321 Yale Ave.

Info: 949-724-6880.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Multicultural Association. Lakeview Senior Center. 5-7:30pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	2 Writer's Ink. Heritage Park Library. 3-4pm. Info: 949-936-4040 	3 Movie Matinee. Trabuco Center. 2pm. Info: 949-724-7300	4 Saturday Review Show. Knowlwood Restaurant. 7-9:30pm. Info: 949-388-2784
5 Sizzlin' Summer Concert: Undercover Live (Pop Variety). Mike Ward Community Park. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6606 	6 Ride the Carousel. Irvine Spectrum Center. 10am-11pm. \$3/person. Info: 949-790-4871 	7 Bingo. Lakeview Senior Center. 12:15-3:15pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	8 Reach Out to Knowledge. University Park Library. 2pm. Info: 949-786-4001 	9 When I Grow Up Day. Pretend City Children's Museum. 10am-2pm. Info: 949-428-3900 	10 A Midsummer Night's Dream. UCI New Swan Theater. 8pm. Tickets on Sale. Info: lbrough@uci.edu 	11 Seasoned Chefs: Corn. Farm + Food Lab. 10-11am. Info: 949-724-6599
12 Sizzling Summer Concert: The Emperors (Classic Rock). Mike Ward Community Park. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6606 	13 Evening Hike. Orchard Hills. 6:30-8:30pm. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	14 2 for Tuesday. Dave & Busters. 10am-11pm. Info: 949-727-0555 	15 Storytime. Barnes & Noble. 11am. Info: 949-790-4871	16 Scrabble. Rancho Senior Center. 1-4pm. Info: 949-724-6800 	17 Happy Hour. Two Left Forks. 4-5:30pm. Info: 949-387-6700 	18 AU Chapter Meeting. Guest Speaker Rev. Nancy Brink. IRWD Community Room, 15500 Sand Cyn. 1:45pm. Info: 714-299-4551
19 Children's Garden Workshop: Homemade Seed Pots. Farm + Food Lab. 10-11am. Info: 949-724-6599	20 Waterworks Trails Restoration. Fremont Canyon. 9-11am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	21 Sunset Mountain Bike Ride. Mini Moab. 5-8:30pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org	22 Tooth Fairy Day. Pretend City Children's Museum. 11am-5pm. Info: 949-428-3900 	23 Thursday Morning Trek. Fremont Canyon. 7-10:30am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	24 Lady Antebellum & Guests on Tour. FivePoint Amphitheatre. 7-11pm. Tickets on Sale. Info: 800-854-2196 	25 Splash-In Movie & Recreation Swim. Woollett Jr. Aquatics Center. 6:30pm. Info: 949-724-6117
26 Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Weather Permitting. Info: 866-829-3829 	27 Mindfulness & Parenting. Pretend City Children's Museum. 5:30-7:30pm. Info: 949-428-3900 	28 City Council meeting 4pm Morning Book Club. Katie Wheeler Library. 10:30am-12pm. Info: 714-669-8753 	29 Pretend City's 9th Birthday Bash. Pretend City Children's Museum. 10am-5pm. Info: 949-428-3900	30 Little Big Band Dance. Lakeview Senior Center. 2-4pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	31 Senior Fitness Expo. Ranch Senior Center. 9am-12pm. Info: 949-724-6800 	SEPTEMBER

Adoptable Pet of the Month

Each issue we feature one "adoptable" pet from the Irvine Animal Care Center.

The Irvine Animal Care Center (IACC) is a progressive and innovative municipal animal shelter that continually strives to strengthen the human-animal bond and improve the welfare of animals by promoting their humane care and treatment. The Center's 3.73 acre, park-like facility cares for thousands of homeless, neglected abused animals every year. All animals in their care receive veterinary care, high-quality food, soft bedding and daily socialization.

"Sprout" is a neutered male, brown tabby Domestic Mediumhair. He is about 2 years old.

For more information about Sprout and other adoptable pets, or the IACC, call 949-724-7740 or email info@irvineshelter.org www.cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center

MAKE YOUR PET A Star

PHOTO SUBMISSION CONTEST

Make Your Pet A Star

Don't miss out on making your furry, feathered or scaled friend a star! With a \$25 entry fee donation, you can submit your pet's picture for guaranteed inclusion in the 2019 Irvine Animal Care Center calendar. For more information and submission link, visit Irvine Animal Care Center website. Last day to enter is August 31.

Info: 949-724-7740
cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center

SchoolWatch: IUSD to Hold First-Ever Elections in "Area 2" and "Area 4"

by Carolyn Inmon



This November's Irvine School Board election will usher in a new and improved system for Board representation. The Irvine Unified School District (IUSD), with nearly 200,000 Irvine residents, is transitioning from a single, district-wide, "at-large" election system to a system of five sub-districts, known as "Areas." Each of these smaller Areas has about 37,000 Irvine residents. There will be elections held in two of the five Areas this November 6th.

The filing period for Irvine School Board is July 16 - August 10. For more information, contact IUSD: iusd.org/BoardElectoralProcess or Phone (949) 936-5000.

I take this opportunity to thank the candidates who are running for School Board and other local public offices this year. I hope your campaigns will elevate our politics and our civic discourse.

Irvine Community News & Views publisher, Frank Lunding, has asked me to keep a close watch on the Irvine School Board race in the weeks and months ahead. I'm planning to do just that.

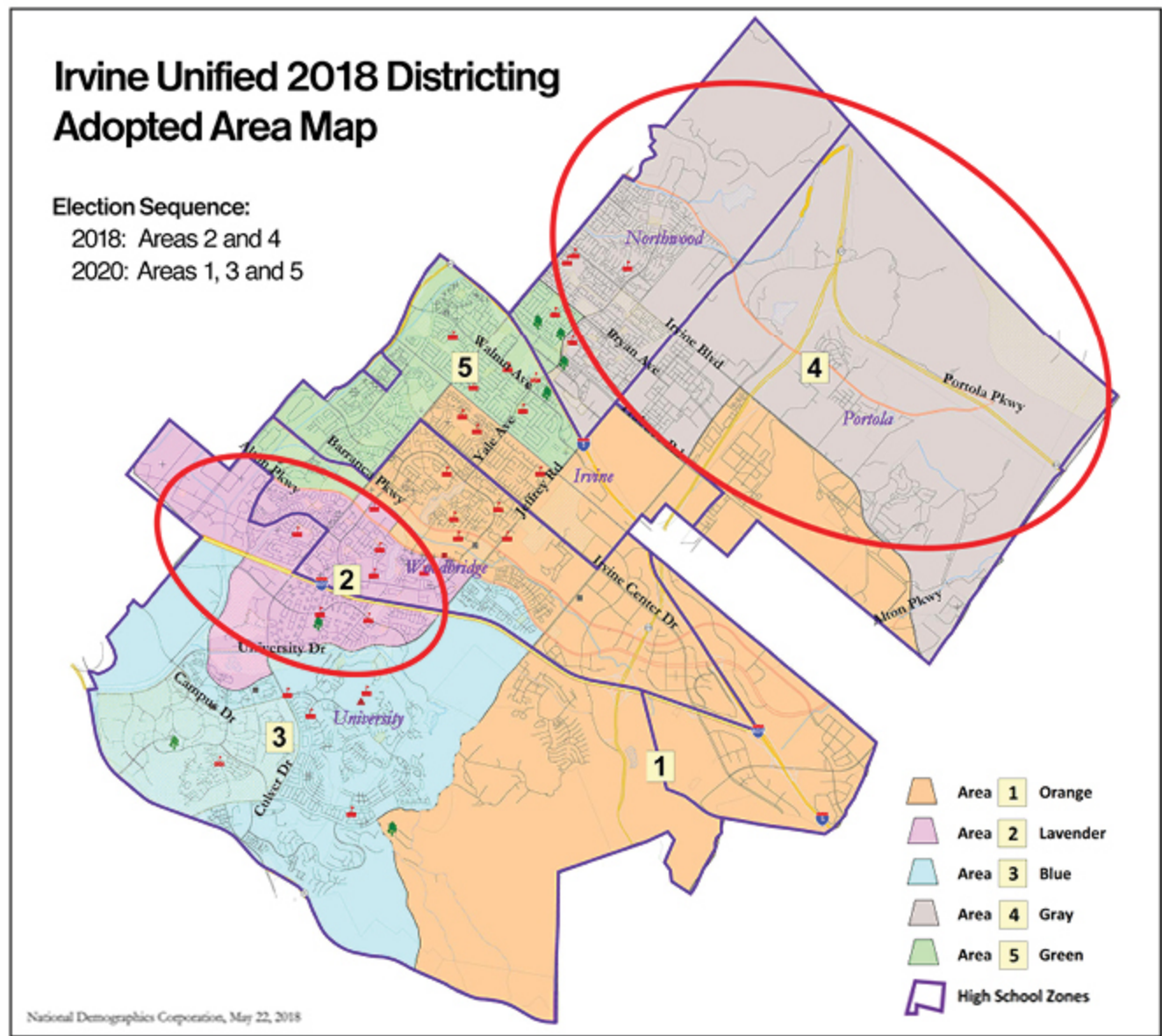
Carolyn Inmon is a retired Irvine teacher. She has taught at virtually every grade level, from K through 12, as well as at the community college level.

Area 2 (see map and graphic) is located in the older southern and southwestern side of Irvine, with students and families living in south Woodbridge, Westpark, and University Park. Most of the students in Area 2 will eventually be assigned to attend Woodbridge High School or University High.

Area 4 is located in the northern and northeastern part of Irvine. It includes Northwood and many of the newer villages and neighborhoods where thousands of homes and apartments have been built in recent years. Most students in Area 4, depending on where they live, will be assigned to attend Northwood High School or Portola High.

This is an excellent time for new people to emerge to run for the Irvine School Board. With smaller, more manageable sub-districts, it costs much less for a candidate to reach, say, 15,000 voters in an Area than 75,000 in a district-wide race under the old system. Candidates and their volunteers can knock on doors and personally connect with thousands of voters. Perhaps enough to win!

I really encourage Irvine residents — and students! — to get involved in a local City Council or School Board campaign. I ran for School Board several years ago. While I didn't win, I came in close...twice. I look back fondly on the experience of running for office. Yes, it was a lot of hard work and, admittedly, a bit stressful at times. But I met many wonderful people in the course of campaigning. And, I learned a great deal about our community and the important issues we must address.



Science, Technology & Environment

You Don't Have to Go it Alone in Going Solar!

by Rebecca Tuhus-Dubrow and Senait Forthal

Are you interested in getting rooftop solar, but you're not sure where to start, or you're overwhelmed by the choices, or it seems too expensive? We can help.

We are a small group of neighbors in University Hills (that's the neighborhood adjacent to UC Irvine). Last year, we ran a successful initiative to get a group discount to bring more rooftop solar to our community. This year, we are embarking on another round, and we are hoping to spread this great opportunity more widely in Orange County. We are volunteers; we are not making a single cent off this project. Our motive is simply to help accelerate the transition to clean, renewable energy in California and throughout the world.

How the Program Began

About two years ago, several of us in the neighborhood started talking about solar. We were interested in getting solar panels on our roofs, but some of us felt daunted by all the different options. One of us, Senait Forthal, works in the solar industry (primarily in commercial buildings), and she was confident that we could get a group discount if we banded together.

Next, Senait came across a nonprofit organization, Community Environmental Council (CEC), based in Santa Barbara. They had previously run several programs called Solarize (Solarize Ojai, Solarize Santa Barbara) in which they negotiated a time-limited discount available to anyone in those cities. We enlisted them to help us. Our point person was April Price, a Renewable Energy & Efficiency Specialist at CEC. In March 2017, April sent out an RFP to all of the companies that had done work in Irvine. We ultimately chose Urban Energy, a small, local company based in Cerritos. (CEC got a cut of \$.10/watt.)

Group Discount

This group discount was announced April 25, 2017 and was available through July 19, 2017. In the end, 58 Irvine homeowners (all but one in University Hills) participated. (There were also two homes in Newport Beach that piggy-backed on this initiative, and several others that were able to get the same deal after the deadline passed.) Here are a couple of the comments we got from a survey we later conducted: "Everything was super-clear the whole way through." "Great price, great product."

Now, we have launched a second round of this program, which we call **OC Goes Solar**. This time, we decided to do it on our own, without CEC. In the spring, we sent out another RFP, reviewed proposals, and interviewed finalists. This time, we selected two contractors: **Aikyum Solar** and **Altair Solar**. Both have offered us below-retail group discounts on rooftop solar panels. Both have also offered excellent warranties. Their offers are good through October 1, 2018.

Each contractor is offering three options for panels. To give you a rough sense of costs, here's one example: Say you have an average monthly electric bill of \$100, and you chose one of Aikeyum's panel options, LG Electronics 310-watt solar panels. Based on your bill, you would need about 12 (depending on the orientation of your roof) of these panels to provide you with the electrical power you typically use. The estimated cost of the system, including installation, would be \$9,200. The selection of different panel efficiencies would also depend on your available roof areas.

However, most homeowners will be eligible for a federal tax credit of 30%. (Note that this tax credit will start to decline after 2019 — motivation to install solar sooner rather than later). So, the net system cost (after the 30% income tax credit) would be \$6,440.

When you start producing your own energy from solar panels, Southern California Edison still charges you a minimum of \$10/month. Given all this, the estimated time for system payback would be a little more than 5 years, but that is not a guarantee, just an educated guess. (Note that this estimate depends on the assumption that SCE rates will increase 5% each year.)

Already, more than a dozen homeowners in University Hills have started the process of taking advantage of this new opportunity. Our goal is to spread the program and scale

up throughout Irvine and the entire County. Any homeowner in Orange County is eligible to participate.

How to Begin

If you are interested in purchasing solar panels through this program, great! Email us at solar@uhills.org to let us know you are interested, to ask any questions, and to join the Google group to receive updates.

You can get in touch directly with either or both contractors to get quotes:

Altair Solar:
Khaled Elsheref
President
khaled@altairsolar.com
949-783-8681

Aikyum Solar:
Harina Kapoor
Principal Engineer
harina@aikyum.com
949-705-6797

If you are interested in doing more — in publicizing the deal in your HOA and getting your HOA on board — fantastic! Also email solar@uhills.org, and let us know that you'd like to play this role.

For details on the different panels, visit: uhills.org/oc-goes-solar. Together, we can accelerate the energy transition to reliable and pollution-free energy.

Rebecca Tuhus-Dubrow and Senait Forthal are members of the Sustainability Committee of the Homeowner Representative Board (HRB) of University Hills, which is the housing community for UCI's faculty and staff.

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Disappointment and Anger



Franklin J. Lunding
Publisher

The July 10th Irvine City Council meeting presented an opportunity — in the form of a five-part resolution by Councilmember Jeff Lalloway — to implement the June 5th voter mandate to immediately begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery at its originally designated site in the Great Park. Instead, Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox once again managed to delay and derail the Great Park Veterans Cemetery project.

During the past two months, the mail we've received at *Irvine Community News & Views* reflects elation following the June 5th "NO on B" vote, and then disappointment and anger following the Council's July 10th disregard for the Irvine voters' June 5th mandate.

Ed Pope, Chair of the NO on B committee — now renamed the committee to **Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery** — reports a similar response. Many residents are urging the recall of Councilmembers Fox and Shea; others are more focused on replacing Wagner at the November 6th City election.

We take this opportunity to publish a sample of these letters and comments from your neighbors throughout Irvine. I'm guessing you'll agree with much of what they have to say.

Finally, in listening to Mayor Wagner at the July 10th meeting, I was offended by his deceptive attempt to portray himself as a leader in reining in the rampant overdevelopment that afflicts our City. Take a look at my own page 11 editorial and accompanying "1-2-3-4" graphic that we created.

—FJL

Letters & Comments following Council Rejection of the Voters' Will

I have lived in the same house in Irvine for over 45 years. I am a Vietnam Era Army veteran. Ever since former Irvine Mayor Mike Ward suggested it to me, I have had a very strong desire to be buried in a Veteran's Cemetery in the Great Park.

I have worked and donated to put the Veterans Cemetery back in the Great Park and the NO on B ballot measure in June. Since all the lies by FivePoint with support by Fox, Shea and Wagner, I have wondered why it's taken so long to come up with a recall effort. I think we should have gone about it sooner, but nonetheless, I am prepared to donate both time and money to a recall election for those three.

— Donald A. Berezin

Whichever way we can get those three out of office, you have my support.

— Daniel Yau

I sincerely hope we can change this decision. Apparently, Mayor Wagner went on TV and said it was unlikely a Cemetery would be built, which further illustrates the disingenuous nature of his proposal. As Councilmember Lalloway said, that is what you do to kill something, and Wagner obviously had that intent all along.

— David Lara

I'm sorry, but it sure looks like our Mayor and two City Councilmembers are ignoring the majority vote of the citizens of Irvine and trying to somehow allow FivePoint to grab the land that is supposed to be our Veterans Cemetery. I only hope they don't start the swap and allow any building before we can vote Don Wagner out of office. We must vote for someone who will follow the will of the people.

I am an Army veteran and served a year in Vietnam.

— George Mors

I believe that the current Council as constituted cannot and will not deliver a Veterans Cemetery no matter what the voters decide. For whatever reason, Mayor Wagner and Councilmembers Fox and Shea have decided (before the Council meeting even began) that they were going to side with FivePoint and deny the citizens of Irvine what they actually voted on. It was discouraging and disheartening, but I will not let them defeat us on the issue of the Cemetery.

As someone who has been a registered Republican for most of my life, I was truly ashamed to be part of a party that included Mayor Wagner and Councilmember Shea. They do not represent me or my family. They have betrayed the voters for their own self interests. I believe July 10th was their last chance to prove they are truly elected officials by the people and for the people.

I have talked to my husband and my brother who are the last surviving veterans of my family. We are all in agreement that we feel very strongly that any official that flouted the will of the voters, particularly on the issue of the Veterans Cemetery, should not continue to hold office. Please let me know what I can do to help.

— Michelle Johnson

I think we should try and recall Fox and Shea. I am sure this will cost a lot of money, unless there is another way to force this group to do the right thing. Or, go for a ballot measure to force the Cemetery to be in the Great Park, where it was originally located.

— Susan Finn

Wagner, Fox and Shea do not deserve to be elected officials. Ignoring the will of the people so clearly is a valid reason for them to be recalled. Instead of delaying the Veterans Cemetery, they should delay any further FivePoint projects, since they are behind the destruction of one of Irvine's best assets.

Vote them out! Recall them, ASAP!

— Cor Lageweg

While I really don't like the idea of another fight on our hands, I do feel that our elected officials must listen to the will of the people. This has gone on long enough. I don't think we have any other choice...RECALL.

B'shalom (in peace)

— Linda Shoham

We are beyond disgusted and distressed that our elected officials exhibit absolute hubris and arrogance flaunting their disdain for the will of the people. They must be held accountable for their manipulation and the true reasons for their actions must be exposed. Absolute power corrupts absolutely.

— Ashok and Kathleen Tahilramani

Mr. Mayor, Show Some Backbone!

At the July 10th Irvine City Council meeting, Mayor Donald Wagner sought to defend himself against charges that he is disregarding the interests of Irvine veterans and Irvine residents, while doing the bidding of his principal campaign backer, multi-billion-dollar developer FivePoint Communities.

Wagner claimed — as he has before — that he has voted for "no new development approvals" as Mayor. This is a demonstrably false and misleading statement. Wagner, of course, was for ballot Measure B, FivePoint's unpopular land-swap proposal which would have replaced the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with zoning for accelerated development, including houses and massive apartment buildings. This, in turn, would have put 10,000 more cars and trucks on Irvine's roads every day.

Moreover, in the two years since Wagner was elected in 2016, his administration has accelerated the issuance of building permits for residential units — now up to 4,000 per year, roughly double the City's historic average of 1,500 to 2,000 new houses and apartments each year.

Not once has Wagner or his Council majority publicly shown any interest in slowing and controlling the issuance of residential building permits — something the Council can legally do — to meet the overwhelming traffic emergency that is diminishing the quality of life in Irvine.

Mr. Mayor, it's time to show some backbone and say NO to developers, especially to your chief benefactor, FivePoint.

— Franklin J. Lunding

Publisher Franklin J. Lunding is a lawyer and businessman. He served on the Irvine Planning Commission and was Chair of the Irvine Transportation Commission during the 1980s.



Mayor Wagner

GrowthWatch & TrafficWatch

It's as simple as 1-2-3-4.

When Irvine residents say that they feel that traffic in Irvine is getting worse every day, they are right — it is! It's as simple — and as scary — as 1-2-3-4. On average, with every 1 housing unit that is built and occupied in Irvine, there are 2 cars, 3 people, and 4 daily rush-hour automobile trips.



In the past two years, building permits have been issued for 8,000 residential units — houses, condominiums and apartments — generating the following impacts



I attended July 10th's very long and very frustrating Council meeting. Thanks for all your hard work to get Measure B defeated and rally everyone for the meeting. I agree with Councilmember Lalloway that the Wagner motion they passed was designed to stall or kill the Cemetery. I also agree we should pursue a Recall of Shea and Fox, as well as defeating Mayor Wagner, this fall.

— Brian Woods

Definitely Recall! Definitely vote out Wagner. This is so appalling.

— Tiffany Lewis

When the people's vote is ignored, then it is time to remove people from office. What politicians want most is to stay in office.

— Gregory Springer

Is ignoring the votes of Irvine citizenry even legal? This is unbelievable! If this is how a democracy works, then the City Council is nothing more than a farce! Can't this be taken to the State? I am absolutely appalled and disgusted with those three CRIMINALS!

— Fran Carman (Irvine resident since 1977)

Please start a Recall movement.

— Robert MacArthur

I support the Recall of all three of these anti-Americans! It's time to drain the swamp and rid ourselves of these corrupt, unaccountable politicians!

I'll even donate money to support the Recall efforts of all three!!!

— Gary James

The ONLY path that I can see now is a RECALL of Shea and Fox. Strong candidates need to be available to provide positive alternatives to the wolf pack in power now.

— Don Ambrosion

July 10th, we all got a good look at these three corrupt individuals! How they can just ignore what the people are telling them makes it so blatantly clear that they plan on still making a deal with FivePoint, as if the "NO" on Measure B never happened!

— Dee Fox

Absolutely. Out. Now. A great NO on B campaign got us this far. Everyone who voted NO on B just got pissed on by these three. I have a feeling you'd get a million signatures for a Recall.

— Scott Montgomery

I have never heard of the government being able to ignore the results of a ballot measure. This sounds more like a dictator in a third-world country.

Wagner never should have been elected as Mayor in the first place. I don't even know where he came from. He's obviously a well-paid puppet placed here by FivePoint to do their bidding. The biggest red flag was his campaign funding at over a million dollars at the Mayor level. Of course, FivePoint again!!

Shea and Fox have gotten way too comfortable and obviously are following the money, too. The three of them need to be voted out.

— Ken McEwan

Letters to the editor are welcome. Please include your name and ZIP code. Letters for publication must be addressed to Editor, 4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550, Irvine, CA 92612 or email Editor@IrvineCommunityNews.org. Letters may be edited for publication. Unpublished letters will not be acknowledged or returned.

A CALL TO ACTION:

Build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, NOW!

On June 5th, our citizen-led “NO on B” referendum campaign culminated in a resounding 63 percent voter mandate. Irvine voters rejected the City Council’s corrupt landswap-and-development scheme and, instead, made it clear that they wanted the Mayor and City Council to immediately begin building the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park *...as originally promised, planned and approved.*

Shamefully, at the July 10th City Council meeting — with hundreds of citizens watching — Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox ignored the voters’ mandate and refused to start construction on the original Great Park Veterans Cemetery site.

Since that meeting, I’ve received hundreds of messages from Irvine residents who are outraged that Wagner, Shea and Fox continue to ignore the will of the people.

As a retired high school teacher, I’ll tell you what I used to tell my social studies students: **Elected officials who arrogantly ignore their constituents don’t belong in public office!** Let’s face it...we need to clean house at City Hall. Here’s how we can do it — in two steps:

- Fox and Shea, who are in the middle of their 4-year terms, should be recalled and removed from office. As a practical matter, it will take months to gather thousands of signatures and schedule a special recall election for early next year. I believe we can and should do this, and that we should start organizing right now.
- Wagner will be up for re-election this November 6th (the Mayor’s term is only two years). That means we have the chance to replace Wagner with an Irvine Mayor who is on *our* side. And if we hold the two Council seats now occupied by Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott, we will have a dependable NO on B majority that will immediately begin construction of the Great Park Veterans Cemetery.

I want to be upfront about what it will take to succeed with our two-step strategy. We will need hundreds of volunteers who are willing to support our team of proven NO on B candidates in November, and who will also help gather the thousands of petition signatures to qualify a Shea-Fox recall.

Realistically, we also need to raise at least \$75,000 right now to cover the initial legal fees, expected court challenges, and to pay for voter education materials, including mail, and the preparation and distribution of recall petitions.

It’s not easy for me to ask others for help. But, I must be honest: It will take a determined community effort to change this City Council and move our Great Park Veterans Cemetery forward. I’m counting on your help!



To donate, go to:

BuildTheVeteransCemetery.org/donate

To volunteer, sign up at:

BuildTheVeteransCemetery.org/volunteer

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward S. Pope".

Edward S. Pope

Veteran, U.S. Army

Chair, Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery

Retired teacher and 46-year Irvine resident

