



Publisher's Perspective

People Power

The citizens of Irvine are taking action. They are not only speaking up, they are organizing themselves and using the tools of democracy to try to set things straight and ensure the safety and well-being of our community. A number of articles in this month's paper are indicative of this people power.

As Publisher of this newspaper — but also as a lawyer and businessman, married to a retired Irvine teacher — I am appalled that the Irvine Unified School District and Irvine School Board members continue to “stonewall” the public. They refuse to undertake comprehensive soil-testing of the entire 40-acre Portola High School site, even though there have been previous discoveries of significant toxic contamination at the site's perimeter, including dangerous and, in some cases, carcinogenic (cancer-causing) materials.

Proper, comprehensive testing of the entire school site would cost less than \$100,000 — as against the \$300 million cost of the high school. Moreover, there is open-ended moral and legal liability for the failure to ensure the health and safety of faculty, staff and thousands of future students. **To not test is a very risky business.**

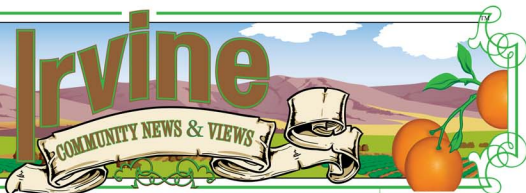
Nearly 1200 Irvine residents — mostly parents and grandparents of school children — have petitioned the School Board, but so far to no avail.

On another matter, citizens are so angry at our City Council, they are starting an initiative to reinstate Irvine's once heralded “Living Wage” of \$10.82 per hour that was repealed by Mayor Steven Choi and Councilmembers Christina Shea, Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott. Take a look at Luis Alemán's “Call to Action” — organizing a citywide initiative — in our Community Views section (see page 11). *Irvine Community News* and *Views* will be following this initiative drive closely.

Franklin J. Lunding

Franklin J. Lunding • Publisher and Editor
www.IrvineCommunityNews.org

A lawyer and businessman, Frank Lunding has served on the Irvine Planning Commission and, prior to that, as Chair of the Irvine Transportation Commission.



PROTESTS, PETITIONS, PEOPLE POWER

Citizens Reacting to Unpopular Council and IUSD Decisions

Shortly after his election in 2012, Mayor Steven Choi and his new City Council majority — including Councilmembers Christina Shea and Jeff Lalloway — proclaimed to Irvine citizens that they were committed to taking the City in a “different direction.” The nature of that “different direction” soon became clear.

In early 2013, the new City Council majority adopted policies to downgrade and dismantle citizen committees and citizen participation in the planning process. This was followed by mid-year attempts to defund City support for the arts, including the Irvine Barclay Theater, and to eliminate funding for legal services and other programs involving children's services.

But most consequential were the Council's radical revisions to the City General Plan — approving thousands of new housing units that are bringing tens of thousands of additional people and cars to the City — in violation of the General Plan's established limits on development.

With each of these unpopular actions, citizen protests have been growing. Ironically, it's not the “giveaways” to wealthy developers that are prompting civic action; it's the Council “takeaways” from Irvine's lowest-paid workers that have angered citizens the most and has inspired a citizen-based, citywide initiative effort to restore Irvine's “living wage” policies.

IRVINE'S LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE

While a number of states and scores of U.S. cities, including nearby cities — Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego — have been adopting ordinances incrementally raising their minimum wage toward \$15 per hour, Irvine is apparently America's only major city now headed in the opposite direction, actually *cutting* its minimum wage by about 20 percent.



Unpopular Policy. Mayor Steven Choi and City Councilmembers Christina Shea (top), Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott banded together to repeal Irvine's Living Wage Ordinance, cutting the City's minimum wage from \$10.82 per hour to just \$9 per hour (the State minimum). Choi and Shea argued that by paying more than the State minimum wage, Irvine taxpayers were “subsidizing” low-wage workers. Lalloway indicated he was against all minimum wages, and he dismissed Irvine's Living Wage as a “feel-good wage.” Schott said her Christian faith tells her to be generous voluntarily but not to impose the requirement of a City Living Wage.

Despite citizen protests and emotional public testimony, on June 9, 2015 Mayor Steven Choi, along with Councilmembers Christina Shea, Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott, voted to

→ continued on page 2 →



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→ continued from page 1 → **PROTESTS, PETITIONS, PEOPLE POWER**

repeal Irvine's "Living Wage" law — which had set the City's minimum wage at \$10.82 per hour. The practical effect of the repeal will be to allow the hourly wage paid to hundreds of low-income Irvine workers to fall to the State minimum wage of \$9 per hour.

The elimination of the Irvine Living Wage requirement will hit lowest-paid workers the hardest — mostly the hundreds of landscape workers, janitors and maintenance workers who are employed by large private companies under "outsourced" contracts with the City.

Beth Krom, the lone Councilmember voting against the repeal, reflected widespread public sentiment when she said, "This is just plain mean. This City Council is not acting in a manner consistent with the spirit of our community. Irvine is a City with nice people who don't want to hurt the people who work very hard for us. Irvine is a prosperous City with ample resources that enable us to recruit and maintain an outstanding workforce."

Krom added, "I don't know of any residents or

businesses that want us to do this."

In fact, over the course of two public hearings, no residents or businesses testified in support of the Council's repeal of the Living Wage Ordinance.



Councilmember Beth Krom stood alone in opposing repeal of Irvine's Living Wage Ordinance.

A CITIZEN INITIATIVE

Angry at the injustice and unpopularity of the Council repeal of the Living Wage Ordinance, a number of Irvine residents began meeting to consider what might be done to reinstate the law. **Their conclusion: It's time to invoke "people power," using the power of the initiative and the ballot box to override the Council's bad policies.**

Long-time Irvine Planning Commissioner and former City Councilmember Mary Ann Gaido and Luis Alemán, a UCI honors student, writer and community activist, took the lead and agreed to become official proponents of a popular initiative to reinstate Irvine's Living Wage Ordinance, word-for-word.

In a letter, Gaido said, "It is up to Irvine citizens to restore and reinstate our living wage policies. Civic decency demands it."

Gaido and Alemán are filing the required papers to launch the initiative in September, beginning the daunting five-month process of gathering more than 10,000 signatures of registered Irvine voters in order to qualify the measure for the November, 2016 City election ballot.

Look for more information on the Living Wage Initiative in the September Irvine Community News & Views

Irvine Is Out Of Step With What Others Are Doing

• **On the Living Wage.** Irvine is the only city in California cutting its living wage — and reverting to a State minimum wage (\$9 per hour) for its low-income workers, such as janitors and landscape workers paid under "outsourced" contracts. While Irvine is moving backwards, other communities — the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and the entire University of California, including UCI — are moving forward by adopting their own living wage policies that will, step-by-step, lift their own minimum wage to a level of \$15 over the next several years.

• **On the Business License Tax.** As part of the Council majority's commitment to take Irvine in a "different direction," not only did Councilmembers eliminate the Living Wage Ordinance; the majority also voted to eliminate Irvine's remarkably low business license tax of \$50. Without business license tax revenue, Irvine must nevertheless continue to administer business licenses — at a cost of \$625,000 per year. Now, instead of Irvine businesses footing the bill, regular Irvine taxpayers are stuck with the tab.

Asking to remain anonymous, one business leader said, "Eliminating the business license tax is really dumb, and it just hurts the ordinary residential taxpayer." Then, he noted the practices in other cities: Newport Beach has a business license fee, which varies by type of business, from \$164 to \$820; Costa Mesa's business license tax varies from \$50 to \$200 annually; and Mission Viejo requires its businesses to obtain a "certificate of occupancy" for \$217.

SCHOOL BOARD STONEWALLS ON TESTING FOR TOXICS AT SCHOOL SITE

Another source of simmering resident anger is the Irvine Unified School District's (IUSD) controversial decision — at the behest of developers and with support from the Irvine City Council — to locate Irvine's next high school on a highly problematic site. The \$300 million Portola High School, now under construction, is on a remote 40-acre site on Irvine Boulevard, only 250 yards from a capped, toxic waste dump formerly used by the military, and at the end of an abandoned runway where direct dumping of toxic materials was commonplace when the area was part of the El Toro Marine Corp Airbase.

The recent discovery of apparently extensive toxic contamination on the Portola High School site

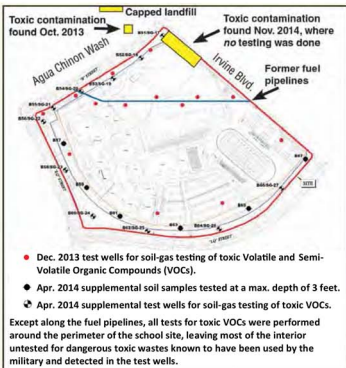
Published Monthly
Vol. 2, No. 8 • August 2015
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**Portola High School Site
Locations Where VOCs Were Tested**



the 40-acre high school site remains untested for the VOCs that may pose a clear and present danger to the health and safety of thousands of Portola High School teachers, staff, and future students."

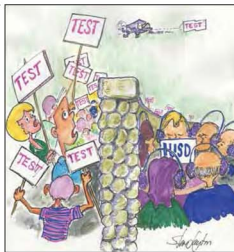
Amid the mounting evidence of a serious toxic contamination problem at Portola High School, more than 1,200 concerned Irvine citizens have signed a petition [See Page 4] calling for independent, comprehensive soil-testing for toxics.

A delegation of retired teachers and community leaders presented the petition at the July 21st IUSD Board meeting, and asked the School Board to order the testing, or at least hold a special public hearing on the matter right away.

The request was met with stony silence, leading retired teacher Ed Pope to later decry the Board's reaction in one word: "Stonewalling." Pope added, "If these Board members don't do the right thing...and fast...Irvine residents ought to launch a recall to remove them from office."



Jean Anne Turner, retired Irvine teacher and two-time recipient of the "Irvine Teacher of the Year" award, delivered the "Safe Schools Petition" to IUSD Board members — signed by more than 1,100 Irvine citizens. The petition calls for comprehensive soil-testing at the new Portola High School construction site, where toxic contamination has been discovered at multiple locations along the school site perimeter. Turner pleaded for more testing to make sure the entire site, including all so-far untested areas, are determined to be safe for teachers, staff and students.



ICNV

Stonewalling.

has put thousands of Irvine parents, grandparents and their families on edge. In November of 2014, while trenching for a huge storm drain on the north edge of the site, jet fuel residues, and toxic chemicals — including carcinogenic (cancer-causing) naphthalene — were discovered in large amounts, requiring 78 truckloads of dirt to be removed from the site.

Earlier in 2014, soil-testing wells at the perimeter of the high school site revealed significant toxic contamination with dangerous volatile organic compounds (VOCs) detected in most of the perimeter wells. One of the wells tested positive for benzene — a known, potent carcinogen — at twice the concentration considered "unsafe" for human exposure.

It was Dr. Harvey Liss, whose investigative reporting broke open the Portola High School toxic contamination story in a 5-part series in Irvine Community News & Views. Dr. Liss recently observed, "The big, unanswered question is this: To what extent is the site contaminated and how large are the health and safety risks to students?" Dr. Liss added, "That question can only be answered by doing proper, comprehensive soil-testing right now — before the school is built and occupied."

Sounding a note of frustration, Dr. Liss added, "The plain truth is that nearly the entire interior of

to order the testing, or at least hold a special public hearing on the matter right away.

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LET'S GO OUTSIDE



The Orchard Hills loop trails offer expansive views of Irvine and beyond. There are regularly-scheduled, free hikes led by Irvine Ranch Conservancy guides. Register at www.LetsGoOutside.org
 Photo credit: Irvine Ranch Conservancy



Carolyn Inmon

SCHOOLWATCH

by Carolyn Inmon*

CITY HELP FOR IRVINE SCHOOLS — A PROVEN SUCCESS

I am pleased to report that the City Council is apparently going to extend a commitment of more than \$4 million a year in City support for all Irvine schools. At its July 14th meeting, a unanimous City Council voted to extend what is known as "Measure BB" funding for at least a year or two beyond its scheduled expiration date in 2016.

In 2012, it was my privilege to Co-Chair a citywide Support Our Schools initiative effort — which became known as the SOS "Yes" on Measure BB campaign. A second Co-Chair of the historic Measure BB effort was P.K. Wong, who is also a leader in Irvine's senior citizen community. The two of us worked with then-



Larry Agran



P.K. Wong

City Councilmember Larry Agran, whose vision it was to rally the Irvine community — by way of an initiative — to allocate millions of dollars from the City's surplus to help fund all Irvine schools for at least three years.

Larry Agran, a Harvard-educated attorney, wrote Measure BB. Instead of just handing over City money to the schools, Measure BB specified where the funding was to go. The added City funding — amounting to about \$100 per student per year — was designated to hire more school nurses and dozens of part-time teaching assistants to help with classroom instruction. Funding was also provided to assign additional School Resource Officers to provide a greater measure of police protection and public safety in our high schools and middle schools.

In 2012, to qualify the initiative for the ballot, we needed to gather about 11,000 valid signatures — one at a time — from registered Irvine voters. To accomplish this daunting task, we enlisted scores of volunteers, some going door-to-door while others of us gathered signatures at markets and coffee shops, on sidewalks outside the schools, and at sporting events and concerts and graduations... wherever we could talk with Irvine voters and explain the importance of the initiative. It was a lot of hard work, but what a great experience in grassroots democracy!

In the end, we turned in 18,000 signatures, an astounding achievement that ensured that the initiative would qualify for the November, 2012 ballot. On Election Night, when the votes were counted, a remarkable 70 percent of Irvine voters said "yes" to Measure BB — and so it became the law of the City for its specified three years.

The broad, citywide consensus, which now includes a unanimous City Council, is that Measure BB is a huge success, improving the quality of the educational experience for every child in every public school in Irvine — whether that school is administered by the Irvine Unified School District or the Tustin Unified School District.

Thank you, P.K. Wong. Thank you, Larry Agran. And thanks to the hundreds of Irvine citizen-activists who worked so hard for our Measure BB victory!

*Carolyn Inmon is a retired Irvine teacher. She has taught at virtually every grade level, from K - 12, as well as community college. She served as President of the Community College Association from 2005-2007. Carolyn has recently co-authored a forthcoming book with Tanya Brown, available this Fall. It is entitled "The Seven Characters of Abuse: Domestic Violence — Where It Starts and Where It Can End." Carolyn always welcomes your comments and ideas at: Carolyn@IrvineCommunityNews.org

SPORTSWATCH

by Joel Smith*

USA WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM WINS WORLD CUP — BUT PRIZE MONEY SHOWS HUGE PAY GAP BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN



Joel Smith

Last month, the USA Women's Soccer Team completed a thrilling run by winning the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup in Vancouver, Canada. The international tournament happens once every four years and pits the best soccer teams of nations all across the world against each other.

This year, the USA team went into the tournament as the No. 2 ranked team in the world, behind Germany. USA faced off against the Germans in the semi-finals and came away with a narrow 2-1 win. In the finals, they faced Japan, the team that defeated the USA team in the 2011 World Cup final in a heartbreaking penalty shootout. This time, USA came out firing and defeated the Japanese squad 5-2, winning its first Women's World Cup since 1999.

Winning such a prestigious tournament like the World Cup comes with quite a bit of prize money. This year, the winning team came away with about \$2 million in prize money. The only problem is that the men's team that won the World Cup received \$35 million for taking home the championship last year.

Soccer in Irvine has been booming over the past few decades. You can't drive by one of Irvine's beautiful sports parks on a weekday afternoon without seeing kids kicking a soccer ball around. Irvine, in particular, has been quite the hub for women's soccer as every year more and more girls are signing up to play soccer, starting as early as the age of 5.

The USA Women's World Cup final last month between USA and Japan was the most-watched soccer game — men's or women's — in US television history, with over 25.4 million viewers. Don't you think it's time to close the gender pay gap in sports?

As always, *Irvine Community News & Views* will be linking you to the latest Irvine sports news each day at www.247irvine.com.

*Joel Smith is a hometown Irvine athlete and Concordia University graduate who excelled in soccer, and now coaches in Irvine.

247IRVINE.COM

ALL IRVINE.
ALL SPORTS.
ALL THE TIME.



WORDSWATCH

by Harris E. Kershner*

On June 26, 2015, in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the United States Supreme Court held that the Constitution requires that the fundamental right to marry must be applied equally to all couples. This month's quote comes from Justice Kennedy's majority opinion (which was joined by Justices Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor and Kagan):

"The nature of marriage is that, through its enduring bond, two persons together can find other freedoms, such as expression, intimacy, and spirituality. This is true for all persons, whatever their sexual orientation."

*Harris E. Kershner is a local attorney, specializing in Employment Law. Harris has lived in Irvine for over 30 years. He currently lives in Woodbridge.

Community Calendar

Exploring The Original Manassero Farms

by Cheryl Honig

The feeling starts in your feet as you step out of your car onto the gravel parking lot. It works its way up to your fingers and nose as you stroll through the herbs, feel their textures, and savor their aromas. You sense this is a special place because you feel transported and calm at the same time.

Gazing out to the fields reminds you that this is the stuff that has been sustaining the human race since the beginning of time — fresh fruits and vegetables. This field (the Irvine Market location along Jeffrey Road, next to Irvine Valley College) is courtesy of Dan and Anne Manassero, part of a third-generation farming family that has been growing the tastiest strawberries and other wonderful produce since 1922.

But they do much more than grow and sell it. They give it away, too! The Original Manassero Farms has partnered with Loaves and Fishes X10 to distribute donated fresh produce to food pantries and food banks across Orange County — 250,000 pounds were donated in 2014. That's a lot of harvesting... and heart!

The Manasseros have succeeded in helping us escape the frenzy of modern life by creating their Irvine Market location, where you can browse shelves of jams and preserves, canned veggies, raw organic honey, and specialty salsas. But there's more — try "Breakfast in the Barn," learn a thing or two at a "Farm to Fork" cooking class, or design a "Pick Your Own Event" for any occasion. By supporting The Original Manassero Farms, we uplift the entire community. That's a good and tasty thing to do! Visit www.manasserofarms.com to learn more.



The Irvine Market location



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>9 AUGUST</p> <p>Certified Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Rain or Shine.</p> <p>Sizzlin' Summer Concert. Hot August Night: Tribute to Neil Diamond, Mike Ward Community Park. Concerts start at 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Info: 949-724-6606</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Parenting of Teens Workshop. University Park Library. Free. Designed for those caring for children ages 13 to 18. Offered by BoysTown California. 6 pm.</p> <p>Register: 714-602-0375 or Janet.Najera@boystown.org</p>	<p>11</p> <p>City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 5pm.</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>Persoids Meteor Shower Hike & Stargaze. Gear up for this amazing star gazing night as we capture this summer's meteor shower! The evening will begin with a 2-mile hike along the paved Hicks Haul Road, then stretch out under the stars to capture one of this season's spectacular outer galactic shows! 8-11pm. Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Certified Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Rain or Shine.</p> <p>Sizzlin' Summer Concert. Bella Donna: A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac and Stevie Nicks. Mike Ward Community Park. Concerts start at 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Info: 949-724-6606</p>	<p>17</p> <p>After Work Fitness Hike. Paved Hicks Haul Road. 6-7:30pm.</p> <p>Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Short Story Book Club. Heritage Park Library. Led by Doug Brown 14361 Yale Ave. 2:30pm.</p> <p>Info: 949-936-4040</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Harvest Wildflower Seeds. Native Seed Farm. Want to smell the sun-dried sweetness of summertime? Want to feel the crunch of crispy golden brown pods? Come and refresh your senses while giving back to Nature! 9am-12pm.</p> <p>Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Certified Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Rain or shine.</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>Orchard Hills Evening Hike. This trail meanders through an active avocado orchard and provides fantastic ridge-top views of Irvine and the Pacific coastline. 6:30-8:30pm.</p> <p>Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p>	<p>25</p> <p>City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 5pm.</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Sunset Yoga in Bommer Canyon. A relaxing combination of hiking and yoga in Bommer Canyon. 6-7:30pm.</p> <p>Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Certified Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Rain or Shine.</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>After Work Fitness Hike. Paved Hicks Haul Road. 6-7:30pm.</p> <p>Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p> 	<p>1 SEPTEMBER</p> <p>Great Books Book Discussion. University Park Library. 4512 Sandburg. 7-8:45pm.</p> <p>Info: 949-786-4001</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Mid-Week Hike in Bommer Canyon. Recharge your batteries with a refreshing mid-week hike through Bommer Canyon. 7am-12pm.</p> <p>Info & Registration: LetsGoOutside.org</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Certified Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Rain or Shine.</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>Labor Day.</p> 	<p>FREE</p> <p>Sizzlin' Summer CONCERTS</p> <p>SUNDAYS AT 5:30 P.M.</p> 	

August/September 2015

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

13

Orange County Fair.
Irvine is celebrated as part of the OC Fair's Orange County Cities Promotion.
Info: OCFair.com



20

Third Thursday Philosophy Group.
University Park Library.
4512 Sandburg
10:30am-12pm
Info: 949-786-4001

27

Live Music at Eureka!
4143 Campus Dr.
Each Thursday night Eureka! features Live Music at their University Town Center location! 8pm.
Info: 949-596-8881

3

Yesterday's Future.
Exhibit at the Great Park Palm Court Arts Complex.
Yesterday's Future is a contemporary exhibition that considers the future of innovation and design while celebrating the past. Runs through September 20. 12-4pm.
Info: OCGP.org

14

Friday Night Lawn Games.
OC Great Park. Put some fun into your Fridays! Whether you are taking your date on a balloon ride or going for an evening stroll with the family, these trendy lawn games are a perfect addition to your evening at the Great Park. 6-8pm.
Info: OCGP.org

21

Canyon Explorers: Shooting Stars. Bommer Canyon
Come explore our night sky as we discover the creatures in our constellations during this summertime evening 1.5 mile hike. 7-8:30pm.
Info & Registration:
LetsGoOutside.org

Info & Registration:
LetsGoOutside.org

28

Sunlight and Shadow: The Tradition of Plain Air Painting.
Irvine Museum Exhibit runs through September 24. 11am-5pm.
Info: IrvineMuseum.org



4

Friday Night Lawn Games.
OC Great Park. Put some fun into your Fridays! Whether you are taking your date on a balloon ride or going for an evening stroll with the family, these trendy lawn games are a perfect addition to your evening at the Great Park. 6-8pm.
Info: OCGP.org

Info: OCGP.org

15

Saturday Family Park Play.
OC Great Park. Learn about the Great Park through new, family friendly activities! Each week will feature a themed craft for children. Free. While supplies last. 10am-2pm.
Info: OCGP.org

22

The Art Lab: Creation Stations.
OC Great Park Artists Studios. Play, create and explore at our self-directed creation stations. These hands-on activities emphasize divergent thinking, problem solving skills and innovation. Families with children of all ages are welcome. Free. 10am-4pm.
Info: OCGP.org

Info: OCGP.org

29

Saturday Family Park Play.
OC Great Park. Learn about the Great Park through new, family-friendly activities! Each week will feature a themed craft for children. Free. While supplies last. 10am-2pm.
Info: OCGP.org

Info: OCGP.org

5

Wilderness Access Day at Black Star Canyon.
Take time to explore the local plant communities and beautiful scenery in easy 30-minute walks or take in 7+ miles in a strong cardio trek. 8am-2pm.
Info: LetsGoOutside.org

Info: LetsGoOutside.org

Adoptable Pet of the Month

Each month 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 and abused animals every year. All animals in their care receive veterinary care, high-quality food, soft bedding and daily socialization.

"Magoo" is a male, neutered, black terrier mix, weighing 14 pounds. He is 3 years old.

For more information about "Magoo" and other adoptable pets, or the IACC call 949-724-7740 or email info@irvineshelter.org

New Swan Shakespeare Festival

This summer's productions are "Macbeth" and "Much Ado About Nothing." The New Swan Theater is located on the UCI campus. Shows run through the end of August. Tickets: (949) 824-2787 or www.arts.uci.edu/tickets



Photo by Paul Kennedy

Coming Soon...

IRVINE GLOBAL VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Make plans to travel the world at the City of Irvine's annual Global Village Festival on Saturday, September 26, 2015, 10am-6pm at Bill Barber (Civic Center) Park. This multicultural event features international cuisine, live entertainment, a kids village with crafts and activities, cultural and religious exhibits and an international marketplace. Festival admission and parking are free.
Info: 949-724-6606 or festival@cityofirvine.org



SPOTLIGHT ON SMALL BUSINESS

By Mary Edmonds

THANK YOU TO THESE OUTSTANDING IRVINE BUSINESSES... WHERE YOU CAN PICK UP *IRVINE COMMUNITY NEWS & VIEWS*

Alton Square/Alton & Jeffrey

Chronos Tacos
Donut Star
Kriser's for Your Pets-All Natural Life
MOOYAH burgers-fries-shakes
Ralphs

Campus Plaza/Campus & California

Gatten Sushi
Gina's Pizza
Hen House Grill
Starbucks

Crossroads/Culver & Barranca

Floyd's Barbershop

Culver Plaza Shopping Center / Culver

& Irvine Center Drive
All That Barbeque / Korean BBQ
The Car Spa

Cypress Village Shopping Center

Jeffrey & Trabuco

Albertsons
Cumin
Da Luau Hawaiian Grill
Honey Pig

Farm Stands

Manassero Farms
on Jeffrey between Irvine Valley College
& Barranca Parkway
Manassero Farms
at the corner of Jeffrey & Walnut

Harvard & Michelson

Irvine Lanes

Harvard Place / Harvard & Main

Einstein Brothers Bagels
Irvine Optometry - Dr. Ruth Tang, O.D.
Nutrishop/Sports Nutrition
Ralphs
Rubio's
Togo's, Great Sandwiches
Z - Pizza

Heritage Park / Walnut & Yale

Heritage Park Regional Library

Heritage Plaza / Culver & Walnut

Caffé Bene
Caspian Restaurant
Ralphs

Irvine Market Place

Irvine Blvd & Jamboree
IHOP

Northpark Plaza Shopping Center

Albertsons
Champagne French Bakery Cafe



Oak Creek Shopping Center

Baja Fresh Mexican Grill
Daphne's Greek Cafe
Gelson's
Jack's Surfboards
Maizuru Sushi Bar - Japanese Restaurant
Mustard Cafe
Orange Theory Fitness
Upper Crust Pizza

Old Myford Road & Irvine Blvd.

Katie Wheeler Library

Old Town Irvine / Sand Canyon & 5 Fwy

Denny's Restaurant
Knowlwood

2 Osborn St. / East Yale Loop & Barranca

Dr. John Pasko, DDS
Dr. Ghantnekar, DDS

Parkview Center / University & Michelson

AIM Mail Centers-Postal Annex
Dr. Sarlitt, Dr. Vo - Optometry
Farm Direct Market
IHOP
Maxwell's Salon of London
Pho-Tasia

Quail Hill Shopping Center / Sand Canyon

Natraj's Tandoori - Indian Food
Johnny's Real N.Y. Pizza

University Park Center

Culver & Michelson
Ameci Pizza & Pasta
Barber Shop
Java Bakery Cafe
Mag's Donuts & Bakery
Tacos & Co.

University Town Center / Campus Drive

California Gogi - Korean Grill
Center for Living Peace
Eureka!
Koohee Kabob House
Peet's Coffee & Tea
Ray's Pizza - New York Style
Yushoken - Izakaya & Ramen

Walnut Village Center / Culver & Walnut

Curves/Jenny Craig
French's Bakery
Starbucks Coffee
Subway

Westpark Plaza / Alton & Culver

Albertsons
Eighteen Eight, Fine Men's Salon
SmashBurger
Sprouts Farmers Market
Starbucks Coffee

Woodbridge Medical Center/

Barranca & Woodbridge Square
Woodbridge Walk-In Urgent Care

Woodbridge Village Center

Champagne French Bakery Cafe
Irvine Car Wash
Pedeago Electric Bikes
Trehuff's Fine Jewelry

Woodbury Town Center

GNC
NIKO NIKO Sushi
Ralphs
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NEW SERVICES AT WOODBRIDGE WALK-IN ONLINE APPOINTMENTS AND EARLY-DETECTION SCREENINGS

For 35 years, the Woodbridge Walk-In Urgent Care — Irvine's premier urgent care facility — has been known for its convenience, high-quality care, and excellent customer service. Now, this tradition continues with the addition of two new services.

The new "Skip the Wait" program now gives patients the ability to schedule appointments online. As one patient enthusiastically applauded on Yelp, "The online appointment system is fantastic!" Visit www.fccmg.com to schedule an appointment.

A second new service grows

out of Woodbridge Walk-In's partnership with Longevity, a local health-care organization offering state-of-the-art, early-detection screenings for cancer, heart disease and stroke. "The partnership is very exciting, and perfectly complements our medical practice," says Dr. Peter Monfroe, one of the physicians at Woodbridge Walk-In. "We provide high quality, immediate care for our patients — and Longevity provides an added option to obtain affordable screenings right in our office."

The founder of Longevity, Lou Weiss, is passionate about offering people an easy, low-cost option for

screenings not generally covered by insurance. "I lost my wife to cancer when she was 38, so I learned through personal tragedy that early detection of cancer, heart disease and stroke can save lives." To learn more and make an appointment, call Longevity at 888-55-HEART (43278).

After 35 years of excellent medical service for the Irvine community, the entire Woodbridge Walk-In team remains committed to caring for your urgent and longer-term healthcare needs.

A NUTRISHOP TESTIMONIAL

By Mary Edmonds

Meeting with Zack Bartell was inspirational — as you'll read in his following 'first person' testimonial...

My name is Zack Bartell. I'm 18 years old. I have three short-term goals — and many long-term goals for my future. In the short-term, I'm competing in powerlifting competitions — dead lifting more than 500 pounds. Having just graduated from Woodbridge High School, I'm headed to Cal State Fullerton to earn a bachelor's degree in kinesiology (the study of human anatomy and movement). The next step will be my post-graduate degree. I currently work as a consultant at NutriShop on Sundays.

Here is how all this happened for

me. The truth is, I was a heavy-set guy playing football on my high school team — the Woodbridge Warriors. At 5'9" and 245 pounds, I was strong and really big, but I was sick of being the slowest, least athletic player on the team. I lacked confidence, but I realized that inside myself I had the drive and ambition to be the VERY BEST in whatever I wanted to do in all aspects of my life, no matter what it took.

By eliminating fast food, decreasing unnecessary carbs and sugar, increasing lean protein intake and complex carbs (low G-index carbs), tracking my progress using "My Fitness Pal," hitting daily goals and continuing football, I lost 60 pounds over the course of one year, while also amassing 30 pounds of muscle. Now I'm 196 pounds of lean muscle.

It wasn't easy, yet during this remarkable process I gained insight

into myself, and I realized how rewarding it was to help myself get into shape — and to help others too.

I have two long-term goals: The first is to remain grateful to the important people who have given me unwavering support. The second is to open my own business, "Bartell Barbell," for the seriously fit.

Thank you NutriShop for helping me make all of this possible. I could never have done this without your guidance and encouragement. Seriously.

2014



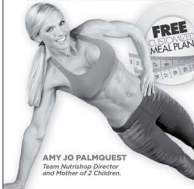
2015



Zack Bartell

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For several months now, we continue to hear from hundreds of Irvine residents about the City Council's very unpopular action to cut the City of Irvine minimum wage — known as the Irvine Living Wage — from about \$11 per hour to just \$9 per hour (which is the State minimum wage). Now, apparently, an initiative drive is getting underway — requiring more than 10,000 signatures — to restore and reinstate the Irvine Living Wage Ordinance. The initiative petition is expected to be ready for circulation in September. Helping lead this effort is

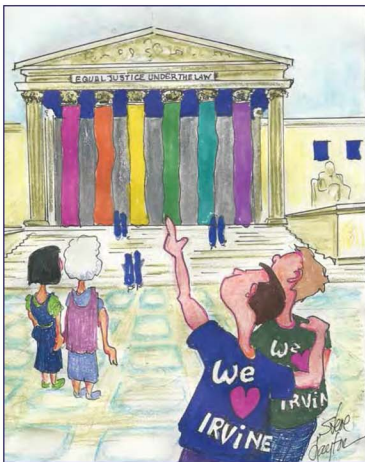
Luis Alemán, who has issued a Call to Action, published this month on Page 11.

The Irvine School Board's inexplicable — some would say arrogant — refusal to order comprehensive soil-testing at the new Portola High School site — continues to draw angry comments from anxious Irvine citizens.

Finally, with the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-to-4 decision on marriage equality, we decided to use our Irvine Community Poll (below) to take the pulse of Irvine citizens in response to this historic civil rights decision. - FJL

The Irvine Community Poll ... What Do You Think?

The **Irvine Community Poll** is owned by *Irvine Community News & Views*. It was created to give you and other residents a real opportunity to be heard regarding important issues of interest to Irvine residents. **Here's how the Irvine Community Poll works:** We present a question of public importance. You take the poll by going to our online website: www.IrvineCommunityPoll.org. It takes just a few minutes to read and answer the poll question. We invite and welcome your added comments.



“Marriage equality...YES!”

Take Our Poll at

www.IrvineCommunityPoll.org

“Do you agree or disagree with the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling that legalized marriage of same-sex couples, nationwide, overturning all state laws

that banned it?”

What Do You Think?

www.IrvineCommunityPoll.org



Luis Alemán is a UCI student, writer and civic activist.

Living Wage Initiative: A Call to Action

By Luis Alemán

In June, the Irvine City Council voted to cut the City's minimum wage for contract employees from \$10.82 (the Living Wage) to \$9 per hour (the State minimum wage). This action of the council will cause severe financial hardship to hundreds of families. The response from angry Irvine residents has been fast and furious, loud and clear.

Working with various civic and religious leaders, I am pleased to announce that in September we will begin circulating the Irvine Living Wage Initiative petition. Our goal is to collect enough signatures to restore Irvine's Living Wage Ordinance by ballot initiative in the November, 2016 election. Next month, we will issue an official "Call to Action" for Irvine residents to put our City back on the right track, beginning with this important issue.

Our civic leaders must understand that they are here to serve the public, not special interests. This initiative is a citizens' grassroots effort. Every signature collected, every person contacted and every donation received will help us achieve our goal.

MORE READER COMMENTS ON THE LIVING WAGE ISSUE



Mary Ann Gaido

■ In 2007, then-Mayor Beth Krom and Councilmember Larry Agran put Irvine at the forefront of America's Living Wage movement.

Joined by then-City Councilmember Sukhee Kang, the Krom-Agran-Kang Council majority adopted a \$10 per hour "living wage" (since raised to \$10.82 per hour). By its terms, the Living Wage Ordinance they adopted was to ensure that "City employees and employees of City service contractors earn an hourly wage that is sufficient to live with dignity and to achieve economic self-sufficiency." The Ordinance went on to note that "living wage jobs will decrease poverty, increase consumer income, invigorate community businesses and reduce the need for taxpayer-funded social service

programs."

For eight years, Irvine's Living Wage Ordinance worked — and worked beautifully.

Now that the City Council — apparently for ideological reasons — has repealed the Living Wage Ordinance, it is up to Irvine citizens to restore and reinstate our living wage policies. Civic decency demands that we act.

— MARY ANN GAIDO

Mary Ann Gaido is a long-time Irvine Planning Commissioner and former Irvine City Councilmember.

■ I disagree with the Irvine City Council's decision to eliminate the Irvine Living Wage Ordinance. Irvine was built on the belief that the City will prosper and grow when it shows leadership in attracting large business entities. There are news reports — some weekly, some monthly — that large business entities are beginning to recognize that forward-thinking social policies are beneficial to their long-term

growth. Like many Irvine citizens, I am both socially and fiscally conservative. But I simply cannot understand why the majority of our City Council are troglodytes.

— IRA GRUBER

■ The City Council's decision to eliminate the Irvine Living Wage is very sad. I moved here 8 years ago and fell in love with Irvine...but since Mayor Choi became Mayor, things seem to have changed for the worse.

— JOANNE SANTIAGO

■ I disagree with the Irvine City Council's decision to eliminate the Irvine Living Wage. In the early 1970s, a beautiful planned city — Irvine — was born, and we all had such pride and hope. Now Irvine is a cold, horrible, crowded City. We can only feel ashamed. What ignorance and stupidity on the part of citizens to elect such leaders. It's incomprehensible.

— MARGARET KOOPWITZ

MORE READER COMMENTS ON THE PORTOLA HIGH SCHOOL TOXIC CONTAMINATION ISSUE

■ We absolutely need comprehensive soil-testing for toxic VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) in the interior areas of the Portola High School site.

— KENNETH HUNG

■ I'm concerned about the health of our children and educators.

— JACKIE SARLITT

■ I live in Irvine and want my kids to be safe when they go to high school — without the possibility of being exposed to toxic waste.

— ANTHONY MAGNETTA

■ The health of our children should never be in the balance. There is nothing more important than our children. Stop this nonsense and go ahead with REAL tests.

— SIMONE REIS

■ It is appalling that the Irvine School Board, IUSD administrators and the City Council — who all work for the public — are turning a blind eye to any kind of toxic contamination. Instead of building a school at this site, let's build their offices on this site and just hope for the best. I'm outraged.

— SONIA THOMPSON

■ It should be obvious that an independent study of the Portola High School site must be carried out.

— JOHN CHANG

■ Safety is a No. 1 basic human right. People have a right to get an education in a safe environment.

— JIM WANG

■ I live in Portola Springs and have two little boys who mean the world to me. Why risk exposing them to any toxics?

— SYLVIA PHAM

■ Transparency is the taxpayer's right!

— LORENE SONG

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