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Serving the Villages and Neighborhoods of Irvine

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Publisher's Perspective

Save the Great Park Veterans Cemetery! Save the Great Park!

In my 30 years in Irvine, I've been privileged to serve the public — first as president of my homeowners' association, then as Chair of the Irvine Transportation Commission and, later, on the Irvine Planning Commission. I've seen good development, bad development and, recently, lots of *overdevelopment*. But I've never seen anything like what's going on now.

Plied by massive campaign contributions and promises of more financial help, three members of the Irvine City Council — Mayor Don Wagner, and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — appear determined to give away 125 acres of our Great Park to developer FivePoint Communities. Why? So FivePoint can build huge commercial and residential projects (generating more than 10,000 cars per day and hundreds of millions in profits!) on land that was set aside for a State-approved Great Park Veterans Cemetery.

What's more outrageous, these three City Councilmembers announced their Great Park giveaway scheme on June 6th, just 9 days before the State was set to send \$30 million to Irvine to immediately begin construction on the Great Park Veterans Cemetery. *By the way, the State had agreed to maintain the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in perpetuity — forever — at absolutely no cost to the City of Irvine.*

THIS FIGHT IS NOT OVER!

Here's what you can do: Read pages 1-3 in this issue of *ICNV*. Understand what's going on! Then turn to pages 10 and 11. Join your neighbors in signing the Veterans Cemetery online petition — and stay tuned!

Franklin J. Lunding

Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor



It's Decision-Time (Again) for the Veterans Cemetery and Great Park



Donald Wagner



Christina Shea



Melissa Fox



Jeff Lalloway



Lynn Schott

In June, Irvine Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox voted their "intention" to abandon the Great Park site for the Veterans Cemetery. The three voted, instead, to embrace developer FivePoint Communities' "land-swap" scheme. Councilmembers Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott have opposed the FivePoint land-swap, warning it would result in the permanent giveaway of 125 acres of the Great Park to FivePoint, while bringing massive office, commercial, and residential development — and traffic congestion — to north Irvine.

Baseball legend Yogi Berra, in the heat of a 1973 come-from-behind pennant race, sounded a hopeful note for his team when he told a reporter, "It ain't over 'til it's over."

Irvine Councilman Jeff Lalloway invoked Yogi Berra's now-famous remark as he spoke about the continuing fight to save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. Lalloway described the contentious issue as a vitally important land-use choice for the entire Irvine community: "Will the 125-acre Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery be built in the Great Park, as originally planned and approved by the City and the State dating back to 2014?" Or, alternatively, asks Lalloway: "Will three members of the City Council — Mayor Don Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — double-down on their June 6th decision to derail the already-approved and shovel-ready Great Park Veterans Cemetery project?"

Lalloway, joined by Councilwoman

Lynn Schott, has led the effort to get the Veterans Cemetery project approved — and built — since 2014.

Past and Future Decisions

The five members of the Irvine City Council will be re-visiting and deciding the matter again at Council meetings in September and October. The Council last addressed this issue three months ago. In a tumultuous June 6th "special meeting" of the City Council — called on just 24-hours' notice — Wagner, Shea and Fox adopted a hurriedly prepared "resolution of intent" to *derail* the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park; *reject* \$30 million in State construction funds; and prepare to *transfer ownership* of the 125-acre Great Park site from the City to developer FivePoint Communities — along with a grant of zoning rights so FivePoint could quickly develop huge commercial and residential projects on the property.

For its part, FivePoint has said it will make available a similarly-sized parcel

→ continued on page 2 →

→ continued from page 1 → **It's Decision-Time (Again) for the Veterans Cemetery and Great Park**

of land at the junction of the I-5 and I-405 freeways for a Veterans Cemetery. Opponents of the FivePoint "land-swap" contend the FivePoint freeway site is noisy and inappropriate for a Veterans Cemetery especially when compared with the Great Park site. Moreover, opponents say, the FivePoint freeway site is years behind the Great Park site in gaining the necessary City, State and Federal approvals before it can be built.

public's trust will be etched on a wall of shame some day!" And 30-year resident and Vietnam-era veteran Jim Swaniger said, "The Veterans Cemetery fiasco is heartbreaking for all local veterans, and in my view the motivation is clear — greed."

The Decision Ahead

Anticipating yet another contentious Council hearing on the Veterans Cemetery issue, Lalloway noted Councilmember Lynn Schott's memorable remark in June — that the proposed "land-swap" is a "giveaway of our Great Park." At the time, Schott added, "I, for one, will not participate in it."

Lalloway says that, like Schott, he will continue to oppose the "giveaway," making the case yet one more time that the State-approved Veterans Cemetery belongs in the Great Park. Both Schott and Lalloway have said that once it's built and operational, the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery will quickly be recognized as the Great Park's most important and most appreciated feature.

"And remember," says Lalloway, "once the State builds the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, it will be operated and maintained to the highest standards by the State of California in perpetuity — in other words, forever — without any cost whatsoever to Irvine."

Lalloway added this thought: "To replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive FivePoint development, would be a terrible land-use decision — bringing added traffic congestion to Irvine Boulevard, north Irvine, and, in fact, all of Irvine. It's clear to me that's *not* what Irvine residents want. **ICNV**"



The original Veterans Cemetery, which has been approved by the City, State, and Federal governments, is pictured here in diagonally-hatched, light-green, as part of the Great Park. The FivePoint land-swap property is pictured here (lower right corner) as the vertically-hatched, orange site near the convergence of the I-5 and I-405 freeways, known as the El Toro "Y."

Public Voices

Reacting to the Council action of June 6th, hundreds of Irvine residents, including many veterans and their families, have expressed disappointment, dismay, and even anger. The anger has been mainly directed toward the three Councilmembers who sided with developer FivePoint and voted to abandon the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park at the very moment when the City was about to receive \$30 million in State funds to begin project construction.

Referring to the Council's unpopular 3-to-2 vote in June, University Park resident and musician Payam Larijani said the Council should "stick with the original plan" to locate the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. "The resting place for heroes is supposed to be a peaceful, quiet and beautiful place. Haphazardly moving these veterans to the I-5/I-405 freeway site is just plain disrespectful," Larijani added, "Shame on Fox, Shea and Wagner for essentially being a subsidiary for the developers!"

Along the same lines, Irvine resident Rosemarie Strauss said, "It's disgusting that we have given away so much of our treasured Great Park to FivePoint to make a profit. It's just wrong! I hope the names of the three Councilmembers who have betrayed the

**Sign Our Online Petition
to
Build the Veterans
Cemetery in the Great
Park, as planned.**

**Please Join Us! Go To:
IrvineCommunityNewsandViews.org/
VeteransCemeteryPetition**

**Sign our Veterans Cemetery
petition and voice your support!**



CityWatch by Larry Agran

What's Happening to Our City?

Although it has been a number of years since I was on the City Council, as a former Irvine Mayor and City Councilmember I'm frequently pulled aside by friends and neighbors who complain to me about our City — the density, the overcrowding, the horrendous traffic. One way or another, they wind up asking me: "What's happening to our City?"

Well, what's happening to our City is this: For the past 5 years, Irvine's Mayor and City Council have abandoned good land-use planning and strong environmental standards in favor of developer-driven, uncontrolled growth that is seriously eroding Irvine's once-vaunted quality of life. A number of recent aggressive development proposals can best be described as land-use schemes that are all about scoring big profits, fast, in brazen disregard of the City's General Plan — doing major harm to Irvine residents and our quality of life.

The Veterans Cemetery

An immediate case-in-point is the Veterans Cemetery "land-swap" proposal — some call it a "land-swindle" — that developer FivePoint Communities now has pending before the City Council. Mayor Don Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — all three are FivePoint-friendly — are expected to soon follow through on their joint "Resolution of Intent," adopted in June, to halt construction of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park and transfer ownership of the 125-acre Great Park site from the City of Irvine to developer FivePoint. Along with ownership of the land, the City Council is expected to also transfer zoning rights so FivePoint can quickly develop huge commercial and residential projects on the property.

FivePoint officials have said they're prepared to "swap" 125 acres of their land at the junction of the I-5 and I-405 freeways, where a Veterans Cemetery could be built later. To hear FivePoint officials tell it, this is a simple, smooth, exchange of property. No problems. No muss, no fuss. No environmental studies. No traffic studies. FivePoint calls it a "win-win."

The On-the-Ground Reality

But wait a minute! That's just nonsense! The on-the-ground environmental reality is

that the proposed land-swap will replace the low-impact Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive new FivePoint development. Here's what this means: nearly 1 million square feet of office and commercial development (that's the equivalent of about 10 to 15 big-box stores!) generating about 10,000 average daily automobile trips and a whole lot of localized air pollution. Add to that the expectation that Irvine's pliant, pro-FivePoint City Council will stand ready to grant additional "upzoning" — say, 1,000 or 2,000 housing units — and there will be yet another 5,000 daily auto trips.



implicitly acknowledged that the land-swap is a good deal for FivePoint (and a very bad deal for the rest of us), when he blurted out, "FivePoint is going to make some money off of this. I wouldn't expect them to be doing it otherwise. So what!"

Here's what! Experts estimate that FivePoint could net about \$500 million — *yes, that's \$500,000,000.00!* — in quick profits from the land-swap. But that's totally at the expense of the public. We're losing the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park; we're losing ownership of 125 acres of our Great Park property; and we're experiencing the further degradation of our quality of life from mindless overdevelopment.

At a public hearing in June, Councilmember Lynn Schott voiced her opposition to the FivePoint land-swap proposal, correctly labeling the scheme a "giveaway of our Great Park." Also opposed is Councilmember Jeff Lalloway, who has repeatedly pointed out that the land-swap is about land-use entitlement and enrichment for FivePoint — at the expense of veterans and their families, and the entire Irvine community.

Lalloway and Schott continue to assert that the land-swap should be rejected once and for all, and that the City should immediately begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, as promised. I agree. And I thank them for their steadfast leadership on this issue.

If you agree that the Veterans Cemetery should be built on the already-approved site in the Great Park, and that the FivePoint land-swap should be rejected, please sign our online Veterans Cemetery Petition. Make your voice heard!

**www.IrvineCommunityNews.org/
VeteransCemeteryPetition**

If you have already signed, feel free to go online again to make additional comments. And, tell others to sign the Petition, too.

A Giveaway to Developer FivePoint
At a public hearing last June, Mayor Wagner

Larry Agran is a former Irvine City Councilmember and a public interest attorney. He served as Mayor of Irvine from 2000-2004.



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| CULVER PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER Culver & Irvine Center Drive • All That Barbecue • Korean BBQ • Postal Annex • The Car Spa • Armstrong Garden Center | OAK CREEK SHOPPING CENTER Jeffrey & Alton • Daphne's Greek Cafe • Gelson's • Jack's Surfboards • Upper Crust Pizza • Maizuru Sushi Bar - Japanese Restaurant • Mustard Cafe • Orange Theory Fitness | THE VILLAGE AT IRVINE SPECTRUM CENTER Prism & Spectrum • Starbucks • Village Market |
| CYPRESS VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER Jeffrey & Trabuco • Albertsons • Olive Oil Mediterranean Grill • Honey Pig • Da Luau Hawaiian Grill | OLD MYFORD ROAD & IRVINE BLVD. • Katie Wheeler Library | WALNUT VILLAGE CENTER Culver & Walnut • Curves/Jenny Craig • Jamba Juice • Starbucks Coffee • Yes Cleaners |
| DIAMOND JAMBOREE Alton & Jamboree • Lower Level - Food Court Seating • Tokyo Table | OLD TOWN IRVINE Sand Canyon & 5 Fwy • Knowlwood • Denny's | WESTPARK PLAZA Alton & Culver • Albertsons • Dickey's Barbecue Pit • Starbucks Coffee • Sprouts Farmers Market |
| HARVARD & MICHELSON • Irvine Lanes | ORCHARD HILLS VILLAGE CENTER Culver & Portola • Green Cleaners • Peet's Coffee & Tea • Pavilions | WOODBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTER Barranca & Woodbridge Square • Woodbridge Walk-In Urgent Care |
| HARVARD PLACE Harvard & Main • Togo's Great Sandwiches • Fresh Brothers • Rubio's • Jamba Juice • Poget Donuts • Honeybee Ice Cream • Irvine Optometry - Dr. Ruth Tang, O.D. • Ralphs • Einstein Brothers Bagels • Nutrishop Sports Nutrition | 2 OSBORN ST. East Yale Loop & Barranca • Dr. John Pasko, DDS • Dr. Ghatnekar, DDS | WOODBRIDGE VILLAGE CENTER Barranca & Creek • Champagne French Bakery Cafe • Irvine Car Wash |
| HERITAGE PARK Walnut & Yale • Heritage Park Regional Library | PARK PLACE Michelson & Jamboree • Social Dry Lounge • Starbucks | WOODBURY TOWN CENTER Sand Canyon • CNC • NIKO NIKO Sushi • Ralphs • Rock n' Road Cyclery |
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Jake's iPhone Tips: Hidden Features Revealed by Jake Jacobs
TIPS ON USING THE CAMERA APP

- A. **Take a picture:** tap the on-screen shutter button or press either volume button. Pictures are placed into the Photos app Camera Roll. You can even use the volume buttons on the earbuds.
- B. **Burst mode:** Hold down the shutter release or a volume button.
- C. **Top Row feature buttons**



- 1. **Flash:** Auto, On or Off. When should the iPhone's flash be used?
Answer: almost never!
- 2. **HDR:** tap to turn on or off **High Dynamic Range**, which takes three quick shots at long, normal and short exposures and blends them into a single, optimal photo.
- 3. **Live Photos:** On or Off. A snippet of animation is captured in each photo.
- 4. **Self-timer:** set 3 or 10 seconds. Takes a short burst.
- 5. **Toggle** between rear and front (selfie) cameras.
- D. **Bottom Row formats**
Tap or slide the selector labels above the shutter to select ...



Thinking Of Selling Your Irvine Home? Read This First:
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- > The 12 most important questions to ask when selecting an agent...
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(NOTE: Most agents don't want you to know this.)
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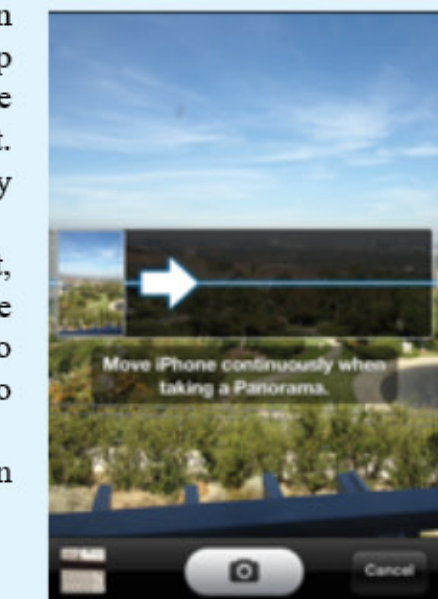
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Jake Jacobs

- 6. **TIME-LAPSE:** the camera automatically selects the best frame rate.
- 7. **SLO-MO:** select 120 or 240 fps in Settings.
- 8. **VIDEO:** record HD video, tap the record button or a volume button. Tap again to stop recording. Turn the "flash fill light" on and off any time during the capturing of a video.
- 9. **PHOTO:** rectangular format pictures.
- 10. **SQUARE:** format pictures (for Facebook and Instagram).
- 11. **PANO:** Hold the iPhone in the vertical orientation. Tap the shutter release or a volume button and pan left-to-right. The iPhone will automatically create a panoramic picture.
>> When panning left-to-right, keep the arrow centered on the horizontal line. If you pan too fast, a prompt will warn you to slow down.
>> Tap the arrow to change the pan direction right-to-left.



Jake Jacobs is a retired electrical engineer. He has worked many years in the high tech arenas of Silicon Valley, MIT, and Orange County, where he co-founded a medical device company. He has taught introductory computer science at Stanford University. He has created and taught iPhone workshops locally for three years. If you would like more information on Jake's workshops, check out his website at JakeAir.weebly.com for the Fall schedule. Email Jake Jacobs at JakeAir@cox.net.

Community Calendar

August/September 2017



THE MARCONI AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM & FOUNDATION FOR KIDS

"The Marconi Automotive Museum & Foundation for Kids" exhibit is on display at John Wayne Airport's ORANGE COUNTY: Destination Art & Culture exhibition space through September 2017. Featured as part of John Wayne Airport's (JWA) Arts Program, the exhibit may be viewed pre-securely along the pedestrian walkway connecting Riley Terminals B and C.

The Marconi Automotive Museum & Foundation for Kids was founded by Dick Marconi and opened to the public in 1994. Always a great car enthusiast, over the years Marconi amassed an impressive collection of high-performance street cars and race cars. The Marconi Automotive Museum in Tustin features one of the largest collections of rare, exotic and high-performance street cars in North America.

"This exhibit highlights the history of Dick Marconi, the auto museum, and the foundation for at-risk children that he established," said Board Chairwoman Michelle Steel. "I encourage John Wayne Airport visitors to enjoy this meaningful slice of local history."

Founder Dick Marconi relocated from Gary, Indiana, in the late 1950s. Based in Southern California, he built a company that became the world's largest manufacturer of vitamins, food supplements and weight loss products. Along the way, Dick developed his life's mantra which is to "learn, earn and return." In keeping with this personal philosophy, Marconi established the Marconi Foundation for Kids and donated all of his vehicles and the building which housed his former race team. Today, the Marconi Auto Museum & Foundation for Kids hosts private events and sponsors fundraisers to support charities serving at-risk children that include Olive Crest, Drug Use is Life Abuse, Child Help, Orangewood, Covenant House, KidWorks and OC Rescue Mission.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| SEPTEMBER | | | | | | |
| 3 Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10-2pm. Info: 866-829-3829 | 4 Labor Day & Adventure Under the Sea Theme. Pretend City Children's Museum. 11am-4pm. Info: www.PretendCity.org | 5 Comedy Juice. Irvine Improv. 8pm. Info: Irvine.Improv.com | 6 Meditative Yoga and Meadow Walk. Bommer Canyon. 9:30-11am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org | 7 Tween Thursday. Heritage Park Library. 4:30-5:30pm. Info: 949-936-4040 | 8 Great Glow & Flow Yoga: End of Summer Celebration. OC Great Park Artist Studios. 8-9:15pm. Ages 16+/\$15. Info: 866-829-3829 | 9 Pointers for Successful Bond Investing. University Community Park Center. 8:45-11am. Tickets \$5. Info: www.robertsgeneral.com/oc_aall |
| 10 Farmers Market Yoga. OC Great Park Palm Court Arts Complex. 9:30-10:30am. Ages 13+/\$9. Info: 866-829-3829 | 11 Day of Remembrance. Pretend City Children's Museum. 12-4:30pm. Info: 949-428-3900 | 12 City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: CityOfIrvine.org/ICTV | 13 Tea Time Book Club. Heritage Park Library. 3-4:30pm. Info: 949-936-4040 | 14 Author Days Featuring Dr. Patricia Riba. Pretend City Children's Museum. Info: 949-428-3900 | 15 Carlos Mencla. Irvine Improv. 7:30pm. Tickets \$30-\$55. Info: Improv.com | 16 Wilderness Access Day. Bommer Canyon. 8am-2pm. Info: LetsGoOutside.org |
| 17 Children's Garden Workshop: Planting Bulbs & Bulb Covers. Farm + Food Lab. 9-11am. Free/Ages 3-9. Info: urbanagriculture@ocgp.org | 18 Tai Chi in the Canyon. Blackstar Canyon. 9-11am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org | 19 Comedy Unleashed. Fundraiser for the IACC. Irvine Improv. 5:30-7:30pm. Info: 949-724-7740 | 20 Bouncing Babies. Heritage Park Library. 10-10:15am. Info: 949-936-4040 | 21 Live Music. Eureka! 8pm-12am. Info: 949-596-8881 | 22 Fall Festival Fun. Pretend City Children's Museum. 11am-4:30pm. Info: PretendCity.org | 23 Irvine Global Village Festival. Bill Barber Memorial Park. 10am-6pm. Free. Info: IrvineFestival.org |
| 24 Sunday Brunch. Eats Kitchen & Bar. 10am-2pm. Info: 949-225-6780 | 25 USAF Airmen of Note. Irvine Barclay Theatre. 7:30pm. Free. Registration Required. Info: TheBarclay.org | 26 City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: cityofirvine.org/ictv | 27 Family Movie Night. Heritage Park Library. 4:30-6pm. Info: 949-936-4040 | 28 Toddler Storytime. Irvine Katie Wheeler Library. 10:30-11am. Info: 714-669-8753 | 29 Oktoberfest Luncheon. Lakeview Senior Center. 11:30-12:30pm. Info: 949-724-6900 | 30 Into the Wild: 28.8k Trail Race. Fremont Canyon. 7:30am-12:30pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org |

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.

"Haffalop" is a spayed female, lilac point Shorthaired Rabbit. She is about 2 years old.

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



IRVINE GLOBAL VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Experience sights and sounds from around the world at the 16th annual Irvine Global Village Festival. This daylong event features more than 100 musical, dance and demonstration performances; international cuisine; a Kids Village with crafts and activities; cultural and religious exhibits; and an international marketplace.

Info: (949) 724-6606

Time: September 23, 10am-6pm

Where: Bill Barber Memorial Park

RE-VISITING AND RE-THINKING SCHOOL ISSUES



Rx Child Health & Safety by Phyllis Agran, M.D.
Sleep Matters! Start the Irvine School Day Later!

How is your adolescent's sleep health? Does your teenager get the recommended 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night? Or, does your son or daughter have to get up too early — arriving at school sleep-deprived and too tired to learn?

Common sense, coupled with good science, confirms that sleep deprivation is a very serious problem. Children who do not get adequate sleep are more likely to suffer from poor physical and emotional health, as well as diminished academic performance. Daytime sleepiness also impairs athletic performance. Sleep deprivation is associated with high-risk behaviors, too — over-eating, drinking alcohol, smoking tobacco, and using drugs.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sets clear goals and objectives for sleep health for America's children. For adolescents, the national objective is to "increase the proportion of students in grades 9 through 12 who get sufficient sleep" (defined as 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night).

One of the reasons adolescents do not get enough sleep is that school starts just too early in the morning. Based on powerful evidence, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy

of Sleep Medicine recommend that no middle or high school classroom instruction should begin before 8:30am.

Here is the good news. When teenagers get the sleep they need — perhaps getting an extra hour's sleep, getting up when it's light outside rather than dark — they, of course, arrive at school more rested; their academic performance generally improves; they tend to engage in fewer risky behaviors; they're less likely to suffer from depression or other disorders; their athletic performance improves; and they even have better driving records.

As pediatricians, we educate adolescents and families on the importance of adequate sleep. We understand that with crowded schedules and lots of demands on their time, the temptation for teens — and parents, too — is to cut back on sleep. Parents can play a critically important role in promoting sleep health for the entire family by modeling and encouraging good sleep habits; setting a regular bedtime and rise time; and setting and enforcing a media curfew.

Here is some more good news: Policy-makers and educators have been getting the message. In Sacramento, State Senator Anthony Portantino (D-25th Senate District, Los Angeles County) and Senator Richard Pan (D-6th Senate District, Sacramento County) who is a pediatrician, have co-authored Senate Bill 328, "Pupil Attendance:

School Start Time," which would require that all middle schools and high schools in California begin the school day no earlier than 8:30 am. SB 328 is pending in the State Senate.



Of course, school districts don't have to wait for the State Legislature to act. In fact, school officials are initiating a pilot "late-start" policy in the La Cañada School District, taking on the formidable task of adjusting class schedules, school transportation, teacher contracts, and before-and-after-school schedules for sports and other activities.

This subject is too important to ignore. Our own School Boards here in Irvine — the Irvine Unified School District and the Tustin Unified School District — should at least begin to explore this issue ... and the sooner the better.

For further information, see: cdc.gov/features/school-start-times/index.html

Phyllis Agran is a practicing Orange County pediatrician, a Professor at the UC Irvine School of Medicine, and Past President of the Orange County Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Agran is a recognized national expert in pediatric injury control and prevention. She is also a member of the Irvine Unified School District's Medical Advisory Committee. Phyllis can be reached at phyllis@irvinecommunitynews.org



Improving School Transportation Safety by Carolyn Inmon

There is nothing more important than keeping our children safe — and this includes in getting them to and from school safely each day. Here are some very troubling things I've observed when visiting Irvine schools:

- I saw a little school girl almost run-over by a speeding car — the driver ignored the school crossing guard.
- I watched a parent park her car in the middle of the school block and then run across the busy street with her children.
- I witnessed many parents disobeying rules about using special traffic lanes and designated school drop-off areas.

In Irvine, as elsewhere, times have changed when it comes to school transportation. My grandchildren are students at the same Irvine elementary school that my daughter attended, so our family has seen the evolution of this challenge over the years.

Decades ago, most children walked to school. As parents, we accompanied them until they were ready to walk to school (and walk home) on their own. But as the number of families with two working parents increased, the number of vehicles also increased. Now, the vast majority of Irvine school children arrive at school (and get home) in private cars.

This means that school traffic congestion and school traffic management have become complicated, costly matters fraught with danger.

So, how do we improve the situation?

First, bring back a comprehensive school bus system. This would take a lot of pressure off the morning "crush" at dozens of Irvine schools. This improvement has been suggested to City leaders many times before, and yet the Mayor, City Councilmembers, and School Board members have let another year go by without rebuilding Irvine's comprehensive school bus system.

Second, school officials should do more to join with parents and students to find — and use — safe walking routes to schools. Walking to school — with parents, with neighborhood schoolmates, and even alone — was once regarded as a safe, healthful rite of passage for children. It's time to rediscover the many benefits of walking to school every day.

Third, Irvine residents should take more responsibility for the safe transportation of children to and from school. For those who drive kids to school, this means planning ahead, avoiding being rushed, driving slowly and carefully at school sites, obeying all traffic rules and regulations, and paying special attention to Irvine's outstanding crossing guards.

Have a good — and safe — school year!

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

Science & Technology AN ICNV SERIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE

ICNV's series on climate change began in June with an article that illustrated how Irvine's past activism on an issue of global importance — destruction of the atmosphere's ozone layer — helped provoke a worldwide solution to the problem. Subsequent articles have explained that although the climate crisis is global, it's time to act locally, especially since the national outlook under the Trump administration and Congress appears so poor. In this article, Dr. Sarah Mosko reveals how our Congressional Representative Mimi Walters (45th CD), is seriously out of step with her constituents on climate change. — Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D., ICNV editor for Science and Technology

Does Rep. Mimi Walters Represent Irvine and You on Climate Change? by Sarah "Steve" Mosko, Ph.D.

Contrary to the declarations and actions of President Trump, Americans everywhere want their government to tackle climate change. The Yale Project on Climate Change Communication, a remarkable national survey spanning 8 years and covering over 18,000 adults, found that in all 50 states a solid majority of the public believes global warming is happening (60 percent to 78 percent), and favors regulating CO₂ as a pollutant (66 percent to 81 percent).

Here in California, 75 percent of us believe global warming is happening, and 77 percent want the government to regulate CO₂ as a pollutant.

A nationwide breakdown by individual Congressional Districts revealed a similar pattern of opinions, even in historically conservative areas like Orange County. Irvine is the largest city in California's 45th Congressional District (CD) which also includes Tustin, North Tustin, Villa Park,

Orange, Anaheim Hills, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, Rancho Margarita and Mission Viejo. House Republican Mimi Walters has represented the 45th CD since 2015. Of people living in Walters' District, 71 percent believe climate change is happening, and 74 percent want CO₂ regulated as a pollutant, according to the Yale Project.

opinions of the majority of her constituents. The plain fact is that in word and deed she has failed to represent the people of the 45th CD. In the last Congress, Walters voted in favor of repealing the rule establishing limits on CO₂ emissions from power plants, as set by Obama's Clean Power Plan (Senate Joint Resolutions 23 & 24). Three other Republicans also representing districts in Orange County voted with Walters to repeal the rule: Darrell Issa (49th CD), Dana Rohrabacher (48th CD) and Ed Royce (39th CD).

Worse still, Walters is currently co-sponsoring the Stopping EPA Overreach Act of 2017 (House Resolution 637) which is blatantly designed to block any national action on climate change. It amends the Clean Air Act to exclude CO₂ from regulation, and specifically nullifies any existing laws aimed at addressing global warming. Walters also co-sponsored an identical bill in the last Congress.

What Walters should do

Instead of actively thwarting the will of her constituents, Rep. Mimi Walters should be seizing new opportunities in the House that signal a long-overdue shift in the Republican Party — away from an intransigent stance against addressing climate change, and toward policies that acknowledge the magnitude of the problem and the need for bipartisan solutions.

Walters should follow the lead of fellow Orange County House Republicans Darrell Issa and Ed Royce who recently joined the Climate Solutions Caucus, a nascent and growing bipartisan coalition of more than 50 House members (evenly split between Republicans and Democrats) dedicated to addressing the climate change crisis.

Next, Walters should also step up and co-sponsor a first-ever all-Republican House Resolution introduced on March 15th calling for action on climate change.



Rep. Mimi Walters (45th Congressional District). Behind the smile, a deplorable record on climate change.

Walters votes against actions to combat climate change

In a representative democracy we should expect Rep. Walters to assume a stance on climate change that generally reflects the

Walters scrambles to overcome her unpopular position

With the 2018 mid-term election looming, Walters seems to be scrambling to at least appear to be responsive to the massive public protests of her deplorable record on climate change. On July 13th, she voted with 45 other Republicans and every House Democrat to successfully block an extremist Republican amendment to an appropriations bill that would have stripped funding for the Defense Department to prepare for the impending damage to military bases as a result of climate change.

Previously in April, Walters posted a picture on her Facebook page of herself posing with representatives from the local chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL), thanking them for the information they provided about climate change solutions. CCL lobbies House members nationwide to enact a national tax on carbon with the collections returned to every American household.

Climate change is the most serious environmental problem humankind has ever faced. It's deeply troubling that some of our representatives can be so out-of-step with their constituents on climate change. Are they genuinely clueless about what their constituents think, or do they just not care? Either is unacceptable.



Thousands have been protesting Rep. Mimi Walters' record on climate change, including here at this Irvine Town Hall meeting, where Walters was a no-show.



Sarah Mosko is a licensed psychologist and sleep disorders specialist, with a background in neurobiology and basic science research that enables her to explain the science behind current environmental problems and solutions. She received her Ph.D. at Princeton University, and held an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC San Diego.



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