



February 2018 - Volume 5, No. 2

Serving the Villages and Neighborhoods of Irvine

Circulation: 50,300



## Publisher's Perspective

### Another Milestone

- >> This month, *Irvine Community News & Views* reached another milestone: *ICNV* now has a combined circulation — traditional print format and online followers — of more than 50,000 people. Our loyal readers tell us they appreciate that *ICNV* is independent and unafraid to take on the big developers and the City Councilmembers who do their bidding.
- >> Well, someone has to! Just take a look at our Page 1 and Page 2 stories. It has taken a voter uprising — an historic referendum petition — to possibly break the control that developer FivePoint has over three members of the City Council. *ICNV* is proud to have been part of the referendum effort that will give voters the chance, on June 5th, to say **NO** to developer FivePoint's scheme to replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive development.
- >> Page 2 also includes a report on the shameful \$1.7 million political witch hunt, led by Councilmember Christina Shea, under the guise of doing a Great Park "audit." What was done was so bad that the auditing firm hired by Shea could lose its license to practice public accounting.
- >> Take a look at our other popular features, too: **CityWatch** (Page 3); and **SchoolWatch** and **Rx for Child Health** (Page 8).
- >> And, of course, **Open Forum** and **Community Voices** (Pages 10 and 11) lets you know what your Irvine friends and neighbors are thinking about what's going on in our City.
- >> Speaking of what's going on, our readers tell us that our monthly **Community Calendar**, featured on Pages 6 and 7, is the most user-friendly Community Calendar in Irvine. We agree!

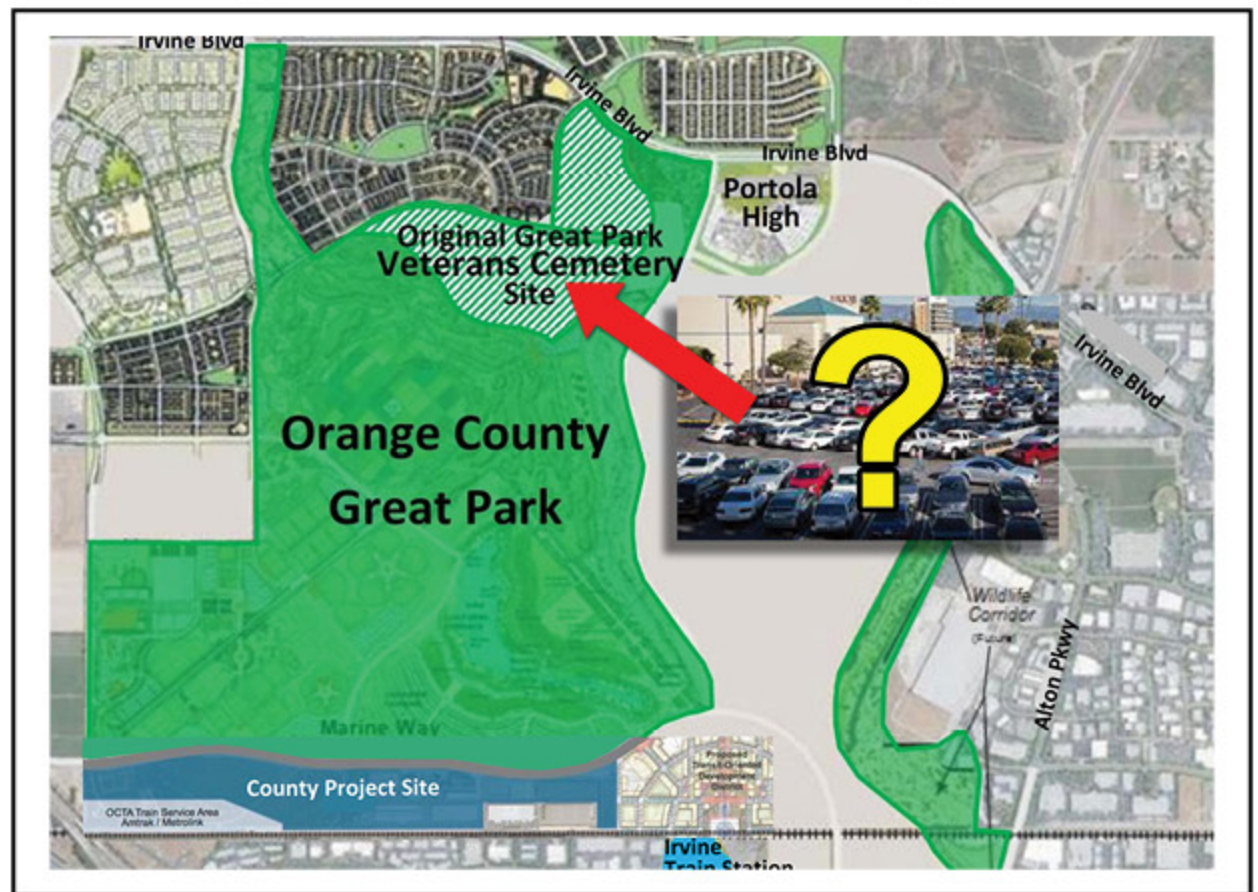
*Franklin J. Lunding*

Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor



## "...Our Chance to Say NO!"

# Development Put on June 5th Ballot



### Will the long-planned and approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park be replaced with massive office and commercial development?

Ignoring testimony from dozens of Irvine residents who urged the City Council to "listen to the people" and repeal its previous action to replace the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive development, Councilmembers voted (3-to-2) to put the matter on the June 5th ballot for the people of Irvine to decide.

This final Council action comes after more than six months of turmoil, beginning last June when Councilmember Melissa Fox "flipped" her vote and joined Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmember Christina Shea to support a "replace-and-rezone" scheme pushed by developer FivePoint Communities. Ordinance No. 17-08, eventually adopted by the Council on a 3-to-2 vote, would replace the planned, promised and State-approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park; it would be replaced with zoning for developer

FivePoint to build 812,000 square feet of office and commercial projects, generating nearly 10,000 additional *daily* auto and truck trips in north Irvine and throughout the City.

After the controversial replace-and-rezone ordinance was officially adopted by the Council on a "second-reading" last October 10th, an Irvine citizens' committee was hastily organized. Relying on hundreds of Irvine volunteers, the Committee to Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park managed to gather nearly 20,000 Irvine resident signatures on petitions in just 28 days — far more signatures than the 12,000 needed to qualify the referendum for the ballot.

Under the terms of the referendum petition, the City Council was given one last chance to reconsider and repeal its deeply unpopular

→ continued from page 1 → **June 5th ballot**

action; or, alternatively, the Council would be required to put the matter on the ballot for the people of Irvine to decide.

In the end, at a tumultuous January 9th meeting, the City Council majority — Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — refused to repeal their replace-and-rezone ordinance; instead they voted to put the entire ordinance on the June 5th election ballot. But, first, they had to hear an earful of public testimony from dozens of angry Irvine constituents who came to the Council meeting.

**Edward S. Pope, long-time Irvine resident and Chair of the Save the Veterans Cemetery Committee, urged the Council to respect the referendum process by reconsidering and repealing their previous actions.** Others echoed Pope's comments, calling on the three-member Council majority to "do the right thing" — to "listen to the people" instead of developer FivePoint, and return to the original plan to build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.



Councilmember Jeff Lalloway

**Councilmember Jeff Lalloway pointed out that if the Council had stuck with the original plan, which was approved and pre-funded by the State and Federal governments and was "shovel-ready," the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park would**

**be under construction right now.** Lalloway underscored this point by offering a motion to repeal the replace-and-rezone ordinance and direct City staff to immediately begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.

**Lalloway's motion, supported by Councilmember Lynn Schott, failed when the two were outvoted by Wagner, Shea and Fox.**

In an interview after the meeting, Ed Pope, himself a U.S. Army veteran as well as Chair of the Committee to Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, said: "The City Council's replace-and-rezone scheme is a travesty — it's an insult to veterans, veterans' families, and our entire Irvine community. Wagner, Shea and Fox again refused to listen to the people and do the right thing."

Then, shaking his head, Pope paused and added, "Well, at least all of us will finally have our chance to say NO to the Council majority and NO to FivePoint — this time in unison, at the ballot box, on June 5th!" [ICNV](#)

**News & Analysis**

**City's Great Park Auditing Firm Under Fire for Negligence and Incompetence**

Yet another major embarrassment has befallen the Irvine City Council, especially City Councilmember Christina Shea. This time, it involves the scandalous misconduct of Shea and her hand-picked accounting firm to conduct a "forensic audit" of the Great Park.

This was the "audit" that took two years (2013-2014) and consumed an astounding \$1.7 million of Irvine taxpayer funds to ultimately find there were no problems with the seven previous public audits of the Great Park, and that the financial affairs of the Great Park from 2005-2012 were in good order.

Along the way, however, the so-called "independent" accounting firm — Hagen, Streiff, Newton & Oshiro (HSNO) — made all kinds of wild charges, each proven false, against political opponents of Councilmember Shea.

Critics of the "audit" called it a taxpayer-funded, Shea-directed "witch hunt" — a "fraudit" — aimed primarily at former Irvine Mayor and Councilmember Larry Agran, who chaired the Board of Directors of the Great Park from 2005 to 2010.

**In fact, after a comprehensive State review of the so-called "forensic audit," the State Auditor reported in 2016 that HSNO had not conducted an "audit" at all; that HSNO was chosen pursuant to a rigged bidding process; that HSNO's contract with the City of Irvine allowed for hundreds of thousands of dollars in no-bid extensions, in violation of City policy; and that so-called "independent" attorneys (from the Aleshire & Wynder law firm) hired in place of the City's regular attorneys were guilty of major violations of professional standards while filing false reports apparently timed for political purposes.**

Now, in January 2018, yet another State report and complaint has been filed against the HSNO accounting firm regarding its shoddy work for the City on the Great Park. The 30-page complaint filed by the Executive Officer of the California Board of Accountancy, represented by the State Attorney General, alleges: 21 instances where HSNO failed to be "impartial and intellectually honest" regarding the Great Park; a number of acts of "negligence" that "indicate a lack of competency in the practice of public accountancy;" and that HSNO "knowingly prepared, published or otherwise disseminated a materially misleading report or information." (emphasis added)

The Attorney General asks for a hearing, later this year, before the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs and for an order "revoking or suspending, restricting, limiting or otherwise imposing discipline" upon HSNO's license to practice public accountancy. The complaint also asks for an order that HSNO pay the reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement, as well as administrative penalties.

**With the documented record of serious wrongdoing now in hand, yet another "ask" should be forthcoming. The City Council, on behalf of Irvine taxpayers, should be "asking" — in truth, demanding — its money back.** The City contracted with HSNO for a comprehensive "forensic audit" of Great Park finances. Instead, at a cost of \$1.7 million — more than five times the originally projected costs — what the City Council and the Irvine taxpayers got was a series of politically-driven reports from HSNO that were so negligent, incompetent, and knowingly misleading that HSNO and selected principals at the firm could actually lose their professional licenses. It doesn't get much worse than that. [ICNV](#)



CHRISTINA L. SHEA  
COUNCILMEMBER

**For updates and Other Irvine news...  
IrvineCommunityNews.org**

**Follow Us on Facebook at:  
Facebook.com/IrvineCommunityNews**



CityWatch by Larry Agran

**David vs. Goliath!**

**W**hether taken as the literal truth or simply as an inspiring parable, the Biblical story of David vs. Goliath holds special meaning for just about all of us. The idea that a boy, David, armed with nothing more than a slingshot and some rocks, could successfully defend his community against a fearsome giant, Goliath, speaks to our affinity for the courageous underdog who manages to defy the odds and defeat a powerful foe.

**Here comes Goliath!**

Well, a David vs. Goliath struggle is coming to Irvine. In fact, it's already here. But the Goliath in this case comes in the form of an aggressive land developer, FivePoint Communities, that is part of the multi-billion-dollar corporation, FivePoint Holdings, now a publicly-listed company on the New York Stock Exchange. This Goliath — among the biggest land development companies in Southern California — has been running roughshod over the people of Irvine for the past five years, spending millions to elect and cultivate

developer-friendly City Councilmembers who then rubber-stamp massive FivePoint projects that explode our City's General Plan and bring wildly excessive development and traffic to Irvine.

Throughout 2017, three City Councilmembers — I think of them as Goliath's helpers...**Mayor Don Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox** — have pushed ahead with FivePoint's deeply unpopular "replace-and-rezone" scheme. This is the developer's dream scheme to have the Council *replace* the long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park and *rezone* the property, transferring it to FivePoint to develop huge office, commercial and industrial projects. Of course, this will produce hundreds of millions of dollars in windfall profits for FivePoint, but intolerable added traffic and a diminished quality of life for the rest of us.

**Who is Irvine's David?**

So, with Goliath on the move, this time pressing forward with crushing new development to replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great

Park, who is taking the role of David in this high-stakes Irvine drama? Well, in this case David is not a boy armed with a slingshot. *David is us!* David is the thousands of Irvine citizens who circulated and signed Referendum Petitions to put this FivePoint development issue on the June 5, 2018 ballot for Irvine voters to decide. We now have the chance to fight back against FivePoint and other special interests.

**Together, we are all David. We can say NO by voting NO on June 5th.** We can overturn the odious replace-and-rezone ordinance adopted by just three members of the Irvine City Council, at the behest of developer FivePoint.

The Referendum hasn't received a ballot designation yet — that probably won't happen until March. But whether it is designated as Measure A, Measure G, or Measure Z, remember this: **Now that we have the power to vote NO on June 5th, we must use it!** If, together, we say NO by voting NO, we can push back against Goliath, and we can get back to the business of immediately building the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, as originally planned and promised!

**Think "NO" ... Say "NO" ... and get ready to Vote "NO" on June 5th!**

**Beginning in 2014, the City won State and Federal approval for the planned 125-acre Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in the Great Park.**



**Here Is What You Need to Know**

Last year, in a momentous land-use decision, Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox voted to *replace* the long-planned, pre-funded, and construction-ready Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park (left). They voted to *transfer* the 125-acre parcel of City-owned land to developer FivePoint Communities, *along with zoning* to build 812,000 square feet of office and commercial development (right) that would bring nearly 10,000 added daily auto and truck trips to north Irvine. This would especially afflict residents who use Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon, and Jeffrey.

Now, because of an amazing Referendum Petition drive, Irvine voters will have the chance on June 5th to **Vote NO** and **Say NO** to developer FivePoint and their latest development scheme. By saying NO, voters can restore the Veterans Cemetery to its original site in the Great Park, where it belongs, as promised and as planned, and where construction of the Southern California Veterans Cemetery can begin immediately.

— LA

**In 2017, the City Council voted (3-to-2) to replace the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with FivePoint office and commercial development.**



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



Published Monthly  
Vol. 5, No. 2 • February 2018  
© Copyright 2018

Irvine Community News & Views, LLC  
A California Limited Liability Company  
[www.IrvineCommunityNews.org](http://www.IrvineCommunityNews.org)  
Irvine Community News & Views is published by Irvine Community News & Views, LLC, a community newspaper established under the laws of the State of California, registered with the California Secretary of State, and licensed to do business in the City of Irvine. Irvine Community News & Views, LLC dba Irvine Community News & Views has its office at:  
4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550  
Irvine CA 92612.  
Phone: (949) 725-2950  
Email: [Info@IrvineCommunityNews.org](mailto:Info@IrvineCommunityNews.org)

Irvine Community News & Views provides a forum for Irvine residents and others to post events and voice their opinions. Irvine Community News & Views does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed in this publication.

For Advertising Inquiries:  
Kerrie Mahan 949-725-2950  
[kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org](mailto:kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org)

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Franklin J. Lundung  
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief  
Kerrie Mahan  
Chief Operations Officer & Calendar Editor

LOGISTICS, DISTRIBUTION & ADVERTISING

Joel Smith  
John Barbod  
Mary Edmonds  
Alan Meyerson

STAFF WRITERS & CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Agran  
Phyllis Agran  
Evelyn Caicedo  
Roger Gloss  
Carolyn Inmon  
Jake Jacobs  
Harris Kershner  
Steve Layton  
Harvey Liss

Carl Mariz  
Sarah "Steve" Mosko  
Ed Sharmar  
Sarita Sidhu  
Joel Smith  
Mark Tabbert  
Angelo Vassos  
Marilyn Vassos

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

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>ALTON SQUARE</b><br/>Alton &amp; Jeffrey<br/>• Chronic Tacos • Donut Star • Mario's Shoe Repair<br/>• Ralphs • The UPS Store • Olive's Branch Express<br/>• Togo's Great Sandwiches</p>  | <p><b>IRVINE AUTO CENTER</b><br/>• Auto Check Center • The Auto Shop<br/>• Norm Reeves Honda</p>  | <p><b>SAND CANYON PLAZA</b><br/>Sand Canyon &amp; Irvine Center Dr.<br/>• Irvine Bicycles • Starbucks<br/>• Oak Creek Pet Hospital • Sand Canyon Barber<br/>• Juice it Up • Jimmy John's • Gourmet Sandwiches<br/>• Tacos &amp; Co. • FlameBroiler • Sushi Boy</p> |
| <p><b>AMTRAK TRAIN STATION</b><br/>Barranca Pkwy &amp; Ada.<br/>• Amtrak Train Station/Entrance</p>  | <p><b>IRVINE BUSINESS COMPLEX</b><br/>• Astoria at Central Park West • El Torito<br/>• Gymboree - Irvine • FastFrame - Irvine<br/>• EvoFitnessUSA • Toscana Luxury Apartments</p>                               | <p><b>STONECREEK PLAZA</b><br/>Barranca in Woodbridge<br/>• Las Fajitas Grill • Stonecreek Barbers<br/>• Happy Dining • Layer Cake Bakery<br/>• Philly's Best • Thai Kitchen<br/>• Tony's Custom Tailoring &amp; Cleaner</p>                                       |
| <p><b>AUTO CARE CENTER</b><br/>Irvine Center Dr. &amp; Hubble<br/>• Auto Craft • The Auto Shop • Big O Tires<br/>• The Swedish Mechanic • Car Tech<br/>• Irvine Auto Repair • Jiffy Lube</p>   | <p><b>IRVINE VILLAGE CENTER</b><br/>Jeffrey &amp; Irvine Center Dr.<br/>• The Nail Bar • Irvine Valley Animal Hospital<br/>• Sherwin-Williams Paints • Thai Spice</p>   | <p><b>TUSTIN — EL CAMINO REAL</b><br/>• Toyota Dealership in Tustin Auto Center<br/>• Ansar International Market</p>   |
| <p><b>CAMPUS PLAZA</b><br/>Campus &amp; California<br/>• Albertsons • Gina's Pizza • Hen House Grill<br/>• Vitality Bowls</p>  | <p><b>IRVINE OAKS EXECUTIVE PARK/LAGUNA CANYON &amp; ALTON</b><br/>• A Whale of a Tale Bookstore • s'wich BISTRO<br/>• Yasai Japanese Grill</p>   | <p><b>UNIVERSITY PARK CENTER</b><br/>Culver &amp; Michelson<br/>• Ameci Pizza &amp; Pasta • Mag's Donuts &amp; Bakery<br/>• Poke Me • Tacos &amp; Co. • The Shoe Clinic</p>  |
| <p><b>CROSSROADS</b><br/>Culver &amp; Barranca<br/>• Paradise Bowls • Floyd's Barbershop<br/>• The Joint Chiropractic</p>  | <p><b>NORTH PARK PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER</b><br/>Culver &amp; Irvine Blvd.<br/>• Champagne French Bakery Cafe</p>   | <p><b>UNIVERSITY TOWN CENTER</b><br/>Campus Dr.<br/>• California Gogi - Korean Grill • Luna Grill<br/>• Ray's Pizza - New York Style<br/>• Yushoken - Izakaya &amp; Ramen</p>  |
| <p><b>CULVER PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER</b><br/>Culver &amp; Irvine Center Drive<br/>• All That Barbeque / Korean BBQ<br/>• The Car Spa • Postal Annex</p>  | <p><b>OAK CREEK SHOPPING CENTER</b><br/>Jeffrey &amp; Alton<br/>• Gelson's • Jack's Surfboards • Upper Crust Pizza<br/>• Maizuru Sushi Bar - Japanese Restaurant<br/>• Mustard Cafe • Orange Theory Fitness</p> | <p><b>THE VILLAGE AT IRVINE SPECTRUM CENTER</b><br/>Prism &amp; Spectrum<br/>• Starbucks • Village Market</p>  |
| <p><b>CYPRESS VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER</b><br/>Jeffrey &amp; Trabuco<br/>• Albertsons • Olive Oil Mediterranean Grill<br/>• Honey Pig • Da Luau Hawaiian Grill</p>  | <p><b>OLD MYFORD ROAD &amp; IRVINE BLVD.</b><br/>• Katie Wheeler Library</p>  | <p><b>WALNUT VILLAGE CENTER</b><br/>Culver &amp; Walnut<br/>• Chronic Tacos • Curves/Jenny Craig<br/>• Jamba Juice • Starbucks Coffee • Yes Cleaners</p>   |
| <p><b>DIAMOND JAMBOREE</b><br/>Alton &amp; Jamboree<br/>• Konaloo Coffee • Tokyo Table<br/>• Lower Level - Food Court Seating</p>  | <p><b>OLD TOWN IRVINE</b><br/>Sand Canyon &amp; 5 Fwy<br/>• Knowlwood • Denny's</p>   | <p><b>WESTPARK PLAZA</b><br/>Alton &amp; Culver<br/>• Albertsons • Dickey's Barbeque Pit<br/>• Starbucks Coffee • Sprouts Farmers Market</p>   |
| <p><b>HARVARD &amp; MICHELSON</b><br/>• Irvine Lanes</p>   | <p><b>ORCHARD HILLS VILLAGE CENTER</b><br/>Culver &amp; Portola<br/>• Green Cleaners • Peet's Coffee &amp; Tea • Pavilions</p>  | <p><b>WOODBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTER</b><br/>Barranca &amp; Woodbridge Square<br/>• Woodbridge Walk-In Urgent Care</p>  |
| <p><b>HARVARD PLACE</b><br/>Harvard &amp; Main<br/>• Rubio's • Jamba Juice • Poet Donuts<br/>• Honeybee Ice Cream • Paradise Cleaners<br/>• Irvine Optometry - Dr. Ruth Tang, O.D. • Ralphs<br/>• Einstein Brothers Bagels • Nutrishop/Sports Nutrition</p>            | <p><b>2 OSBORN ST.</b><br/>East Yale Loop &amp; Barranca<br/>• Dr. John Pasko, DDS • Dr. Ghatnekar, DDS</p>   | <p><b>WOODBRIDGE VILLAGE CENTER</b><br/>Barranca &amp; Creek<br/>• Champagne French Bakery Cafe<br/>• Grocery Outlet Bargain Market</p>  |
| <p><b>HERITAGE PARK</b><br/>Walnut &amp; Yale<br/>• Heritage Park Regional Library</p>   | <p><b>PARK PLACE</b><br/>Michelson &amp; Jamboree<br/>• Social Dry Lounge • Starbucks</p>   | <p><b>WOODBURY TOWN CENTER</b><br/>Sand Canyon &amp; Irvine Blvd.<br/>• GNC • NIKO NIKO Sushi<br/>• Ralphs • Rock n' Road Cyclery</p>  |
| <p><b>HERITAGE PLAZA</b><br/>Culver &amp; Walnut<br/>• Caspian Restaurant • L &amp; L Hawaiian Barbeque<br/>• Super Irvine International Market • Poke Me<br/>• Culver Shoe Repair • India Cook House • Ralphs<br/>• Spicy City-Gourmet Chinese Food • Cafe' Mochi</p> | <p><b>PARKVIEW CENTER</b><br/>University &amp; Michelson<br/>• AIM Mail Centers - PostalAnnex<br/>• Dr. Sarlitt, Dr. Vo - Optometry<br/>• Maxwell's Salon of London<br/>• Pho-Tasia</p>                         | <p><b>QUAIL HILL SHOPPING CENTER</b><br/>Sand Canyon<br/>• Albertsons • Starbucks<br/>• Johnny's Real N.Y. Pizza<br/>• Natraj's Tandoori - Indian Food<br/>• Chill Pistachios Frozen Treats<br/>• Sharky's Woodfired Mexican Grill</p>                             |
| <p><b>HOAG MEDICAL GROUP</b><br/>4870 Barranca Parkway<br/>• Physical Therapy, Suite 340</p>   | <p>FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES:<br/>Kerrie Mahan 949-725-2950<br/><a href="mailto:kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org">kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org</a></p>  |  |

Senior Life — Youthful Lifestyle

An ICNV Feature Series On  
Healthful Living As We Age

John Inmon's New Activity

by Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D.

Each time I investigate another of Irvine's senior services, I am more astonished, amazed and astounded. But by now, I'm not surprised. In addition to the other services I've written about, the Lakeview Senior Center (LSC) houses the non-profit, Irvine Adult Day Health Services, Inc. (IADHS). Their website — [irvineadhs.org](http://irvineadhs.org) — describes their services as: "structured adult day programs in a safe and encouraging environment for seniors and disabled adults, while they continue to live in the comfort of their own home. In addition, we also offer counseling services and support groups for family caregivers."

the staff treated him as an "honored guest," constantly attentive to ensure that everyone's needs were met while keeping everyone involved. John described the entire staff as "extremely accommodative. Everyone is encouraged, but no one is forced to do anything. And no one is just left alone to sit. It's a great atmosphere." John went further in describing the staff as "incredibly well qualified, always positive and very knowledgeable."



John Inmon

**The Person Who Knows Best**  
To find out the quality of a service, it's always best to talk to the people who experience it — the participants. So, I talked to John Inmon, 85, who recently enrolled in IADHS. When I talked to John, he had already participated in many different activities. John happens to be the fellow who had a street in Irvine named after him — John Inmon Way. This was in honor of his many years of service to the IUSD as beloved Principal of several Irvine schools.

John described one physical therapy session involving about 20 seniors, divided into one group that was performing various exercises with a physical therapist, tailored to each individual, while another group was working on the various machines — stationary bicycles, stair steppers, treadmills. Then, they switched activities. John described a later session in which he said he was playing "games." But that is better described on [irvineadhs.org](http://irvineadhs.org), and confirmed by John, as activities that "present 'fun' social and therapeutic activities that challenge a participant in a variety of ways to promote socialization, cognitive stimulation, independence, and encourage new friendships."

Before enrolling in the IADHS program, participants must undergo an in-depth assessment that John said was "to ensure the staff really gets to know the person." The program is offered Monday through Friday; however, no one is required to attend all five days, although some do. The staff recommends attending a minimum of two days per week (Tues & Thurs) or three days per week (Mon, Wed, Fri).

The Center provides breakfast, lunch and a snack. The facility opens at 8am, while the programs begin at 9am, continuing until 3pm; but, every day is different.

According to the website, "The Center charges a daily fee for service for both the social day program and the health care program. Prices vary according to each program. The social day program fee structure includes private pay and long-term care insurance, as available." For further information, call Jill Upton at 949-262-1123x662, or reach her at [jupton@irvineadhs.org](mailto:jupton@irvineadhs.org).

Honored Guest

Prior to enrolling in the IADHS, John participated in a Medi-gap insurance-funded, private facility. He described the differences as dramatic. At the private facility he said that he was left alone most of the time. John stated, "The staff showed no interest in me, just ignored me, and was very lackadaisical."

In contrast, he said, at the IADHS facility,

**IRVINE SENIOR RESOURCES**  
Directory of Essentials

- For full information about any senior activity or resource: Call or visit any Irvine Senior Center, open M-F, 8am to 6pm
- Website: [IrvineSeniors.org](http://IrvineSeniors.org)
- Activity & Resource Guide: *Irvine Senior Connection* (bi-monthly) Pick up copy and/or subscribe at any Irvine Senior Center (below)
- Irvine Senior Centers:
  - Trabuco Center (TC), (has Fitness Center with Wed evening hours) 5701 Trabuco Road 92620 949-724-7300
  - Lakeview Senior Center (LSC). 20 Lake Road 92604 949-724-6900 Daily lunch served 11:45am -12:30pm, \$4 - \$5 donation No pre-registration required.
  - Rancho Senior Center (RSC), (has Fitness Center) 3 Ethel Coplen Way 92612 949-724-6800
- Fitness Centers: Must first schedule an orientation by calling RSC or TC. Ask about one-time and annual fees.
- Adult Day Health Care Services at Keen Center for Senior Resources: 949-724-6926.
- Irvine Meals on Wheels, Cheryl Hanna: 949-724-6910
- Computer Lab: At LSC. Open M-F 8am-6pm. Membership fee is \$17/yr for Irvine residents. Only very few of Irvine's Senior Services are listed above. This list is only intended to get you started!



Harvey H. Liss, 76, is a 41-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.

**Be a Local Hero**  
Become a **VOLUNTEER DRIVER** for Seniors  
It may be the most rewarding thing you've ever done!  
We reimburse you for your gas!  
Contact Kayla at Jewish Federation & Family Services  
949.435.3460 or [Kayla@JFFS.org](mailto:Kayla@JFFS.org)

iCracked **MOBILE service** REPAIR & TRADE-IN  
\$10 OFF YOUR NEXT SCREEN REPAIR  
Jason Tu (949) 347-5086 [Jason.Tu@iTechs.com](mailto:Jason.Tu@iTechs.com)  
Certified iTech Mobile Device Repair Specialist [www.iCracked.com](http://www.iCracked.com)

Let us help you spread the word about your business throughout Irvine!  
Call or email Kerrie Mahan, Advertising Coordinator • 949-725-2950 • [kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org](mailto:kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org)

# Community Calendar

# February / March 2018



## MATTERS OF TIME

Curated by Brianna Bakke

Now – February 10, 2018  
Contemporary Arts Center  
Gallery at UC Irvine

WHAT CAN  
TIME HEAL?

WHAT CAN ONLY  
TIME TELL?

*Matters of Time* positions the group exhibition form as a locus to challenge conventional concepts of time as a linear progression. This exhibition will feature artwork that materializes the durational in a way that does not render a moment, but translates a semblance of time, an image that evokes a sensorial response activating an awareness of shifting conditions. Moments are suspended rather than depicted, moving us to consider wider contexts of before, after, and consequences.

Info: [www.arts.uci.edu](http://www.arts.uci.edu)

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| <b>FEBRUARY</b>  |   |   |   |  |   |   |
| <b>4</b><br>Computer Help.<br>University Park Library.<br>12:30-2:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001              | <b>5</b><br>Boy Scout's Week.<br>Pretend City Children's Museum.<br>1:30-5pm.<br>Info: 949-428-3900 | <b>6</b><br>Great Book Discussion Group.<br>University Park Library.<br>6-8pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001  | <b>7</b><br>Crazy 8's Math Club.<br>University Park Library.<br>3:30-4:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001              | <b>8</b><br>Teen Movie Event.<br>Heritage Park Library.<br>4:30-6:30pm.<br>Info: 949-936-4040                    | <b>9</b><br>Lego Block Party.<br>University Park Library.<br>3:30-4:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001   | <b>10</b><br>Seasoned Chefs: No Fuss<br>Valentine's Dinner.<br>Farm + Food Lab.<br>10-11am.<br>Info: 949-724-6599 |
| <b>11</b><br>Panel Discussion: Jen and<br>Amy Hood.<br>Great Park Gallery.<br>1-3pm.<br>Info: 949-724-6247 | <b>12</b><br>Lincoln's Birthday.  | <b>13</b> City Council meeting<br>Prevention & Detection of<br>Heart Disease.<br>Lakeview Senior Center.<br>10-11:30am.<br>Info: 949-724-6900 | <b>14</b><br>Valentine's Day Luncheon.<br><br>Lakeview Senior Center.<br>11:30am-12:30pm.<br>Info: 949-724-6900 | <b>15</b><br>Chinese New Year Celebration.<br>Pretend City Children's Museum.<br>11am-4pm.<br>Info: 949-428-3900 | <b>16</b><br>Chinese New Year.<br><br>Happy Chinese New Year  | <b>17</b><br>Steamport.<br>University Park Library.<br>3:30-4:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001                         |
| <b>18</b><br>Children's Garden Workshop.<br><br>Farm + Food Lab.<br>10-11am.<br>Info: 949-724-6599         | <b>19</b><br>President's Day.   | <b>20</b><br>Twilight Hike.<br><br>Orchard Hills.<br>4-6pm. Registration<br>Required.<br>Info: LetsGoOutside.org                              | <b>21</b><br>Crazy 8's Math Club.<br>University Park Library.<br>3:30-4:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001             | <b>22</b><br>Astronomy Club for Kids.<br>Katie Wheeler Library.<br>5:30-6:30pm.<br>Info: 714-669-8753            | <b>23</b><br>California Lilacs and Other<br>Early Bloomers.<br>Black Star Canyon.<br>8-11:30am. Registration Required.<br>Info: LetsGoOutside.org | <b>24</b><br>Family Game Day.<br><br>OC Great Park.<br>10am-2pm.<br>Info: 949-724-6599                            |
| <b>25</b><br>Chess Club for Adults.<br>Katie Wheeler Library.<br>1-3pm.<br>Info: 714-669-8753              | <b>26</b><br>Homework H.E.L.P.<br><br>University Park Library.<br>4-5:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001   | <b>27</b> City Council meeting<br>Vision Loss Prevention.<br>Lakeview Senior Center.<br>10-11:30am.<br>Info: 949-724-6900                     | <b>28</b><br>Crazy 8's Math Club.<br>University Park Library.<br>3:30-4:30pm.<br>Info: 949-786-4001             | <b>1</b> MARCH<br>Toddler Storytime.<br>Katie Wheeler Library.<br>10:30-11am.<br>Info: 714-669-8753              | <b>2</b><br>Read Across America.<br>Pretend City Children's Museum.<br>10am-5pm.<br>Info: PretendCity.org   | <b>3</b><br>Park Exploration.<br>Farm + Food Lab.<br>11am-3pm.<br>Info: 949-724-6599                              |

## 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.

"Mesa" is a spayed female, white Shorthaired Rabbit. She is about 2 years old.

For more information about Mesa and other adoptable pets, or the IACC, call 949-724-7740 or email [info@irvineshelter.org](mailto:info@irvineshelter.org) [www.cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center](http://www.cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center)



## High School Art Exhibition

Exhibition Dates: March 23-April 14, 2018  
Opening Reception: Friday, March 23, 4-6pm

The High School Art Exhibition is a multimedia show featuring art produced by students from Irvine high schools, including drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, digital media, ceramics and sculpture.

Venue: Irvine Fine Arts Center  
Info: 949-724-6880



# Rx Child Health & Safety by Phyllis Agran, M.D. AEDs in Schools and Public Places

Two years ago, at my granddaughter's middle school, a student sustained a cardiac arrest. His life was saved because the school nurse was nearby and so was an AED — an automated external defibrillator. A recent article in the American Academy of Pediatrics News (Sept. 7, 2017), by AAP staff writer Trisha Koriath, explains why this equipment is essential in schools and other public places, and in large workplaces across the country. The bottom line is this: Every one of us should be trained in basic cardiac pulmonary resuscitation (CPR)...and be able to use an AED.

In her AAP article, Ms. Koriath focused her attention on a startling fact: Sudden cardiac arrest — when the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating — is the No. 1 cause of death in young athletes. It usually strikes, without warning, in the midst of sporting competition or at practices. There is growing recognition that the lifesaving remedy for these young athletes — and for people of all ages

who may experience sudden cardiac arrest — is to have an AED nearby.

That's why a growing number of states, cities and school districts are making sure that their public facilities are equipped with AEDs — and that people know where they are located — so

stops beating, just a few minutes can mean the difference between life and death. With each passing minute, the chance of survival goes down by 10 percent.

Dr. Alex B. Diamond, an American Academy of Pediatrics sports medicine expert, has a message for all of us: "You need to be prepared to save a life, and these devices without a doubt can save a life." An AED is easy to use. According to Dr. Diamond, "As soon as you open the AED, a recorded voice will automatically tell you exactly what to do." The AED, once applied to the victim, checks the person's heart rhythm, and sends a shock that will return the heart rhythm to normal. "It will not shock someone who doesn't need it," says Dr. Diamond. "You don't have to worry about hurting someone by discharging a shock when they don't actually need it."

This is a good time for City leaders, School District leaders, school nurses and others to undertake a comprehensive citywide inventory of AEDs — and our preparedness as individuals and as a community to save lives in emergencies.



A Defibtech Lifeline AED

the device can be quickly accessed and applied in an emergency. When a sudden cardiac arrest occurs, time is of the essence. When the heart

Phyllis Agran is a practicing Orange County pediatrician, a Professor at the UCI 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.



# SchoolWatch: Noise and Air Pollution by Carolyn Inmon

As many of my friends and neighbors know, right now I'm wearing a number of public service "hats" in Irvine. Recently, I found myself wearing two hats at once. One hat I wear is writer of this regular SchoolWatch column. Another hat I wear is that of president of my homeowners association — the Village Park Community Association (VPCA), in University Park, Irvine's oldest residential village.

University Park and the VPCA are right next to the I-405, one of the most crowded freeways in California. And the Rancho San Joaquin Middle School in University Park backs up to the I-405, as well.

So, what's the problem? The I-405 generates tremendous noise and air pollution. And the localized noise pollution and air pollution are about to get worse. Why? Caltrans and the Orange County Transportation Agency (OCTA) are planning the so-called "I-405 South Improvement Project." As it turns out, the "improvement" is the proposed widening of the freeway, bringing an additional lane closer to our homes and to the Rancho Middle School in order to accommodate yet more freeway traffic.

An "improvement" project? What will not be improved is the health and well being of residents and Rancho Middle School students, teachers and staff who will be enduring worsening levels of noise and air pollution.

My husband, John Inmon, and I have a personal stake in all this. Not only do we live close to the freeway, John served as Principal of Rancho Middle School, and I taught for many years in the Irvine Unified School District. We are deeply concerned about this freeway-widening project and its effects on children.

The plain truth is that official reports confirm that many locations along the entire length of the southbound side of the I-405 will approach or even exceed permissible noise levels.



"Open House" format precludes public comments and questions.

voiced the frustration of many when he asked: "Where are the decision makers? I came here to talk to the decision makers."

Yes, where are our local elected officials? Why aren't they proactively meeting with their constituents and advocating for noise abatement procedures such as higher and thicker sound-walls? (Now, that's a Wall I can get excited about!) And how about installing indoor air monitoring equipment at Rancho Middle School? Let's keep track of indoor air pollution levels so we know just how bad things are, and whether they are getting worse.

It's time for the City and IUSD officials to show up, get involved, and start doing their jobs — looking after the health and welfare of their constituents! Meanwhile, instead of waiting for our elected officials to act, you and your neighbors can stay involved on your own by checking the OCTA website — www.octa.net/oc405south. Be sure to get on their mailing list.

## Meeting Format Prevents Public Comment

Caltrans and OCTA held a meeting on December 5th. The University Community Park meeting room was packed. But the "Open House" format — with multiple "stations" — actually was designed to preclude oral testimony. It discouraged any sense of real community involvement. Worse yet, none of our local elected officials was present — no School Board members, no City Councilmembers.

Frank McGill, a highly respected, retired County planner and long-time homeowner association board member,

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 and Environment

### Response received to ICNV's letter asking the City to explain its plans to reduce the City's GHG emissions

A letter, written by ICNV's contributing science writers, Carl Mariz and Ed Sharman, and published in the December, 2017 ICNV, was sent to Irvine's City Manager, Sean Joyce, on December 20th. The letter asks the following:

"California, with passage of SB32 last year, has set a statewide target of 40 percent GHG reduction, from 1990 levels, by the year 2030. What does the City understand to be its obligations under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to comply with this goal?"

The City responded on January 5th, with a comprehensive reply that we are now analyzing with great care. We shall report our in-depth analysis in the March issue of the ICNV.

Our preliminary review indicates that the response is light on specifics, includes many positive, small steps, but does not appear to include any major City initiatives. ICNV

## APOLA — Irvine's New Greek Restaurant

In the 1970s, when Irvine was a town of 50,000 people mostly clustered in newly built "villages" close to UCI, it was a big deal when a new restaurant opened. The arrival of Bob's Big Boy on Campus Drive — now long gone — was cause for real celebration back then.

In those days, "diversity" and "ethnic" eateries were hard to find in Irvine. But, all that has changed now. Today, with a population of 275,000, Irvine has achieved a remarkable mix of racial, ethnic and cultural diversity that has given rise to scores of restaurants and small eateries reflective of the City's burgeoning population. Whatever the cuisine — Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indian, Persian, Italian, Middle Eastern, Mexican, Cuban, French — you can find it in Irvine.

Seriously under-represented, however, has been Greek cuisine, according to Yianni and Stefano Kosmides. The two brothers recently opened APOLA, a new Greek restaurant located on the corner of Von Karman and Barranca, next to Starbucks in the Walmart shopping center. APOLA, says Yianni, offers a fast-casual dining experience that stresses "authentic" Greek food at reasonable prices.

The Kosmides brothers should know. Born in the United States, Yianni and Stefano were raised in Greece for most of their childhood years, later returning to the U.S. and Southern California where they both earned university degrees, including masters degrees from USC in business management.

Now in their 30s, the two are owners of several restaurants in Southern California, but those restaurants feature American cuisine from top to bottom. The brothers see APOLA as their chance to market authentic Greek cuisine in Irvine, a sophisticated multi-cultural community.

"Authenticity is what makes this Greek restaurant special," says Yianni. He and Stefano rely on special New York suppliers for their gyro meats and imported Greek ingredients — feta cheese, Greek olive oil, even salt that comes from Greek salt lakes. Specialists are flown in from Greece to train the APOLA staff in cutting the gyro meats and preparing the gyros.

Imported Greek beer and wines are served. Also available are Greek chocolate bars, and traditional Greek baklava (a puff pastry made with clover honey and walnuts). Especially appetizing is the array of sauces and spreads made from family recipes developed over the years. Interestingly, the menu also lists mustard and ketchup, but Yianni humorously admits that these are made by the Heinz family, with no known connection to Greece at all.

More than just another restaurant, Yianni and Stefano want people to see APOLA as an integral part of Irvine and the larger Orange County community. The brothers are proud to let folks know that they sponsor high school sports teams and, just recently, donated 40 percent of their Christmas Eve sales to Children's Hospital of Orange County. "Giving back is a big part of what we do," says Yianni.

APOLA is advertised as a Greek Gyro Grill, with "Gyro Done Right." So, what does the name "APOLA" mean? According to Yianni, it means "The Works" — your gyro with everything on it. APOLA is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner — seven days a week. The breakfasts are mostly traditional American offerings with generous portions, but also with a choice of accompanying gyro meats — seasoned chicken, pork, or a blend of beef and lamb — that give omelettes and breakfast burritos a very special Greek influence. ICNV



**Now Open!** "LONG HISTORY - DELICIOUS FOOD"

**APOLA GREEK GYRO GRILL** Gyro Done Right

Order Online @ EatApola.com

Breakfast Lunch Dinner  
16569 Von Karman Ave, Irvine, CA 92606  
Barranca and Von Karman - By Walmart - Next to Starbucks (former Garbanzo)

**949.474.GYRO (4976)**

Open Mon - Fri 6:30 am • Open Sat & Sun 7:30 am

**\$5 OFF FREE**

Buy any Entrée and 2 Beverages and receive \$5 OFF of 2nd Entrée

Buy any Breakfast Plate or Breakfast Burrito and 2 Beverages at Regular Price and Receive 2nd Breakfast Plate or Breakfast Burrito of Equal or Lesser Value FREE!

Valid daily after 10:30 am - Not valid with any Specials or any other offers. \* Must present Coupon BEFORE Purchase. Limit one coupon per customer per visit. Expires 12/31/18. AD, CA

# OPEN FORUM *FREE SPEECH FOREVER!*



Franklin J. Lunding  
Publisher

## Irvine Community Poll on the Veterans Cemetery

I'm pleased to take this opportunity to invite you to participate in our **Irvine Community Poll**. Created and owned by *Irvine Community News & Views (ICNV)*, the online Irvine Community Poll enables us here at *ICNV* to "take the pulse of the Irvine community" by creating a real opportunity for Irvine citizens to be heard on important issues of citywide concern.

Irvine City Council — to *replace* the long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park and *rezone* the property for FivePoint to begin massive office, commercial, and industrial development on the site.

Published below is our poll question as it appears online, along with the background information available for poll-takers. Also published are poll results, to date. This is followed by a sampling of the scores of comments we are receiving, so far.

An important point: **The Irvine Community Poll remains open for those who have not yet had the opportunity to participate, and for those who may have additional comments to offer.**

To take the online poll, go to: [IrvineCommunityNews.org](http://IrvineCommunityNews.org) and click on "Community Poll" on the top navigation bar. We will continue to update the results in the weeks ahead.

—FJL

We at *ICNV* believe this is especially important at this time when, unfortunately, a majority of the City Council — especially on issues of growth and development — is doing the bidding of big developers and not listening to what the people of Irvine want.

In January, we again activated the Irvine Community Poll with a question about the "replace-and-rezone" scheme — pushed by multi-billion-dollar developer FivePoint Communities and approved on a 3-to-2 vote of the

## Irvine Community Poll

Replacing the Veterans Cemetery  
With Massive Development . . .  
What do YOU think?

### Results:

(first 350 respondents)

Do you favor or oppose the City Council action to replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with zoning for developer FivePoint to build 812,000 square feet of office and commercial development?



**BACKGROUND:** For four years, from 2013 to 2017, the City of Irvine successfully pursued establishing a Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery on a 125-acre site within the City's 1300-acre Great Park.

With broad public support, City leaders gained all necessary State and Federal approvals for the project, including adoption of a 333-page State Concept Plan and Design for the \$78 million project. In fact, in June of 2017, the City was just 10 days away from receiving a State Budget appropriation of \$30 million to immediately begin site cleanup and construction of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.

Suddenly, at a "special" June 6, 2017 City Council meeting — called on just 24-hours notice at the behest of developer FivePoint Communities — three members (Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox) of the five-member Irvine City Council voted to do the following:

1. *Reject* the \$30 million in State construction funding;
2. *Abandon* the Great Park Veterans Cemetery project;
3. *Transfer* ownership of the property from the City to developer FivePoint;
4. *Rezone* the 125-acre site so FivePoint could build 812,000 square feet of office, commercial, industrial, and manufacturing development on the site.

Councilmembers Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott voted against the radical property "giveaway."

Shocked and outraged at the giveaway of our Great Park Veterans Cemetery site to developer FivePoint, thousands of citizens in the Irvine community rallied to the cause to **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park** — and stop the FivePoint land-grab and development scheme.

An historic citizen-led "Referendum Petition" was launched, gathering the signatures of a record-breaking 19,125 Irvine residents in just 28 days — qualifying the Referendum for the ballot on June 5, 2018 election ballot.

## You can still take our Poll!

Remember, the Irvine Community Poll is an opportunity for YOU to let the Irvine community know how YOU feel about this important issue right now! What do YOU think?



To take our Poll, go to:

[IrvineCommunityNews.org](http://IrvineCommunityNews.org)  
and click on "Community Poll" on the top navigation bar.

## Comments from Irvine Veterans, Veterans' Families and Residents

■ I'm both a proud U.S. Navy Veteran and a resident of the City of Irvine. The recent decision to literally give away valuable property for less valuable property to facilitate further commercial development while taking away a currently approved, El Toro military-based Veterans Cemetery [part of the Great Park] based on the pro-development attitude of the current City Council is, to me, unconscionable and outrageous. If Mayor Don Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox hadn't succumbed to developer FivePoint and their self-serving scheme, construction of our Cemetery would be under way right now. These three members of the City Council should feel ashamed. They should not be trusted to act on our behalf again.

— E.R. Hilderbrand

■ Having served my country in both Iraq and Afghanistan, I feel the Veterans Cemetery should remain on the old El Toro Marine base, as planned. I currently reside at the edge of the Great Park and would be honored to have those who served our great country interred as my neighbors.

— William C. Hyser

■ I am a retired military member who served 30 years in the Air Force. What the City Council has done is a slap in the face to all veterans living in Orange County, and not just Irvine.

— George Gumbrecht

■ My husband would like to be buried in the Veterans Cemetery, as originally planned, where he was stationed at El Toro in 1943. When he returned from overseas, we married and later bought our home in Turtle Rock in 1972, and still reside here. It is sinful what is happening. It is all political and disgraceful to our vets.

— Aggie Piampiano

■ I'm a Vietnam-era veteran that would most probably be using the cemetery when my time comes. There must be some under-the-table inducements to the council members supporting the change. I would consider a recall of the three members who are thwarting the will of the people on this issue. The shift by the three "co-conspirators" smacks of some under-the-table payola from FivePoint to enrich themselves at the expense of the people of Irvine.

— Timothy Hoffmann

■ The Attorney General of California should open an investigation into the circumstances regarding this land-swap and entanglements between FivePoint and the Irvine City Council.

— Arthur Strauss

■ Drain the swamp in Irvine too! It's time to restore the Veterans Cemetery to its rightful place in the Great Park. Recall Wagner, Shea and Fox. Make Irvine GREAT again!!!

— The Honorable Eddie Rose (former Laguna Niguel Councilmember)

■ The Veterans Cemetery was planned for the Great Park and should remain there. FivePoint has been running a very deceptive and misleading campaign from the start. Has anyone found out why the three Councilmembers that voted for the swap did so? What did they get from FivePoint?

— John O'Connor

■ This is so appalling, outrageous and atrocious. Our vets deserve much better. I'm surprised at Melissa Fox flip-flopping. I regret giving her my vote in the election. That will never happen again. Every day I am on Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon and Jeffrey, I dread the thought of more traffic on these streets. Count me in on the fight to help in any way I can.

— Tiffany Lewis



Steve Jeym

■ I'd rather have more shops, restaurants, and things to do than a cemetery.

— JR Vigil

■ I am a U.S. Army Veteran and have done hundreds of Honor Guard missions, honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We have been looking forward to the Veterans Cemetery. I am highly disappointed that the corrupt City Council would change the plans at the last moment and think that the people wouldn't notice. We took notice!

— Jeffrey Woo

■ My grandfather was a World War II veteran and my cousin is currently a Navy man, so I know the importance of our veterans. I think that it's outrageous for some Councilmembers to replace the land for development purposes. These men and women fought for our country and deserve recognition.

— Taylor Morales

■ This decision is against the initial plans of the Great Park and against the best interests of Irvine.

— Teresita Vanderdys

■ I vehemently oppose the City Council's action to replace the Veterans Cemetery. The influence the FivePoint company has with the Mayor and the two Councilmembers is questionable. Their duty is to the residents of Irvine, not to the financial gains of FivePoint.

— Candace Murry

■ Please stick with the original plan. My Uncle and his Army Air Corps buddies trained there during WWII — some of them did not come back. Even though I do not live in the City of Irvine proper, but live one mile from the City limits, this over-development will impact our quality of life as a result of increased traffic and water usage. I urge the Council to do the right thing and vote for the original plan. This would show our veterans, including me, that we honor their sacrifice to keep our American way of life and our freedom secure. Thank you for your great efforts and commitment!

— James Larsen, US Navy Veteran

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](mailto:Editor@IrvineCommunityNews.org). Letters may be edited for publication. Unpublished letters will not be acknowledged or returned.

**ATTENTION IRVINE VOTERS: On Election Day, June 5th...**

## Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park! Say NO to the FivePoint Development Scheme!

The long-planned **Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park** — approved and funded by the City, State and Federal governments — should be under construction today. But it's not.

That's because last year three Irvine City Councilmembers — Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — shocked our Irvine community by voting to give away the approved Veterans Cemetery site in our Great Park to developer FivePoint Communities, along with zone changes to permit FivePoint to replace our planned 125-acre Veterans Cemetery with massive office, commercial and industrial development that would bring *10,000 added cars and trucks to Irvine's streets and neighborhoods every day.*

In response to this travesty, we formed an Irvine citizens' committee to **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park**. We launched an historic Referendum Petition, gathering nearly 20,000 Irvine resident signatures to **stop the development giveaway to FivePoint by putting this issue on the ballot for Irvine voters to decide.**

As a U.S. Army veteran and Chair of our committee, I am proud that because of our efforts Irvine voters will now have the opportunity — on the upcoming June 5th ballot — to **STOP the giveaway to FivePoint**. We can, once and for all, **just say NO** to FivePoint's scheme to replace our long-planned

Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with 812,000 square feet of traffic-inducing development.

We know that in the months ahead FivePoint and other big developers will spend millions of dollars on a campaign to mislead Irvine voters —

trying to get Irvine voters to approve their huge development. Of course, we can't match FivePoint's money. **But I believe we *can* win this fight with developer FivePoint. We can now say NO by voting NO!**

But to reach Irvine voters with our message, we need to enlist many more volunteers in our campaign. **And we will need hundreds of donations.** I hope we can count on your help!



**To learn more about the next steps in this critically important campaign — and how YOU can help us win this fight — please visit our website: [SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org](http://SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org).**

*Edward S. Pope*

**Edward S. Pope**

U.S. Army (1961-1963), Chair, *Save the Veterans*

*Cemetery in the Great Park*, and a 45-year Irvine resident

