

Chino Champion

& Chino Valley News

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Quick TAKES

It's about the money

Chino prepares to battle the state for \$16 million the city is owed by its former redevelopment agency. **Page A5**

Water and power

Neighbors of the Edison easement blame the utility for frequent flooding of their homes. **Page A5**

Doing the math

Ayala High volunteers help make elementary school mathematics elementary. **Page A8**

A little bit extra

Winter calls for special precautions, and even special clothing, for furry family members. The Pet Paparazzi explains. **Page A10**

What, when and where

Mark your event on the Champion's 2017 Community Calendar. **Page A12**

Showing their stuff

Two Ayala High School wrestlers finish first and second in their divisions at the Ayala Women's Wrestling Invitational. **Page C1**

Our 130th year

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Wild weekend's weather



Champion photo by Josh Thompson

Hail turned the 5400 block of D Street in Chino into a winter scene Monday morning. Hundreds of streets in Chino and Chino Hills were covered during the hail storm that lasted about 20 minutes.

Storm closes roads, floods homes

By Josh Thompson

As the Chino Valley dries out from last weekend's torrential rainstorm and a surprise hail storm Monday morning that blanketed much of the area, residents can expect a few days of sunshine next week before rain is expected again Thursday and Friday.

Monday's hail storm, which struck shortly after 11 a.m., was the grand finale of last weekend's storm that flooded dozens of streets and freeway lanes and left hundreds of South Chino residents frustrated by closed roads.

Dozens of people took pictures and videos of the hail-covered streets and posted on local social

media pages. During the hail storm, an eight-car crash tied up the southbound 71 Freeway at Grand Avenue, leaving five drivers with minor injuries, the California Highway Patrol said.

Last Sunday's 3.30 inches of rain was the greatest one-day total in at least 12 years, and brought January's accumulation to 8.96 inches, the wettest month since December 2010. That month, 10.89 inches of rain drenched Chino and Chino Hills.

Since Sept. 1, the Chino Valley has received 14.23 inches of rain, including 4.79 inches last month. Average annual rainfall in Chino Valley since 2005 is 10.89 inches.

See STORM, Page A4

Thieves target Huskies' souvenirs

By Josh Thompson

Merchandise autographed by members of the Chino Hills High School boys basketball national championship team was stolen early Tuesday from a Preserve resident's car while it was parked in front of her home near East Preserve Loop and Flight Avenue.

Cheryl Manor believes the burglars knew the memorabilia was in her car.

Taken were two basketballs autographed by 2015-16 team members, a stack of autographed photos, including caricature photos, 80 to 90 T-shirts and Huskies' media guides.

Huskies keep rolling

Page C1

Ayala wrestling burglarized

Page A10

Her son, Nick Manor-Hall, is a sophomore on the team that was 21-0 as of Friday morning with a 56-game winning streak dating back to the start of the 2015-16 season.

"We were selling the items in our concession stand to raise money for the program," Mrs. Manor said. "We are a public school and don't have the money coming in."

With the Huskies a national story with potential NBA players on the roster, Mrs. Manor believes the items were taken to be sold online.

"It's so sad they would steal from the boys. It frustrates me that they took from the team. I believe someone followed me. Why was that car targeted only when my other car had more stuff, such as concession items and such?" Mrs. Manor said.

See STOLEN, Page A2

School board assigns bond priorities

By Dawn Marks

All the projects contained in Chino Valley school district's \$1 billion master facilities plan can be accomplished in two bond increments of \$200 million each, Jim DiCamillo said Thursday.

The architect gave a presentation to a study session called to prioritize

projects and spending for the district's \$750 million Measure G bond, which passed in November.

Based on comments from school board members and residents who filled the board meeting room, renovation projects will be done before additions. Rebuilding Chino High School remains at the top of the list.

The new high school will be built on

the site of the current Chino High at a cost of \$120 million and will be constructed in two phases. Options include building the school in two parts, or purchasing portable buildings to house students while the project is under construction.

Proposition 51, the state's school facilities bond, and other grants will help fund the work, Mr. DiCamillo

said.

Modernization projects will receive priority, along with a new elementary school in the Preserve, which will be paid for by Lewis Homes. An elementary school in College Park is planned for the second issue.

Schools that are more than 25 years old qualify to receive up to 60

See BOND, Page A2



Champion photos by Marianne Napoles

A view of Tres Hermanos from eastbound Grand Avenue at the Chino Hills and Diamond Bar line.

Industry faces scrutiny over 3 Hermanos

By Marianne Napoles

City of Industry officials are balking at a demand from an oversight board governing the sale of Tres Hermanos Ranch to produce a detailed plan about how the 2,450-acre property would be used.

Heated barbs were exchanged Monday in Industry council chambers over the city's \$100 million offer for the undeveloped land bisected by Grand Avenue in Chino Hills and Diamond Bar.

The oversight board will resume its discussion at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at Industry council chambers, 15651 Stafford St.

Tres Hermanos Ranch is owned by the successor agency to the City of Industry's former redevelopment agency, but the zoning is controlled by Chino Hills and Diamond Bar. The successor agency consists of the Industry city council.

For decades, Industry has expressed its desire to build reservoirs but city attorney James Casso said the council has not settled on what it wishes to do with the land. He made clear that Industry will use the land for open space, public uses and public facilities. "An analysis is under way, but I'm not willing to share it because we're not even close to completing it," Mr.



Chino Hills resident Jim Gallagher, spokesman for Save Tres Hermanos Ranch, displays a poster depicting wildlife and riparian habitat. The display used in Mr. Gallagher's presentation to the oversight board of the former City of Industry redevelopment agency was created by Amanda Chase of Chino Hills, a fellow grass-roots member.

Casso said.

Board vice chairman Michael Gregory said he would vote against the proposal if no plan is attached. He noted that Industry has already acquired 3,000 acres surrounding the ranch in the area known as Tonner Canyon. "I don't know how you publicly use 2,500 acres along with the other 3,000, but there has to be a plan," he said. "What

does open space mean for the City of Industry?"

The City of Industry or its former redevelopment agency owns nearly all of the 6,000-acre Tonner Canyon, having purchased it in three major transactions over the last 35 years, extending from the 60 Freeway in Diamond Bar to the 57 Freeway near Brea. It

See RANCH, Page A4

County lowers lake at Prado

Storm inundation prompted San Bernardino County to lower the level of Prado Lake this week after many roads and basins were flooded, a county spokesman said. Water was discharged into the Prado Flood Control Basin after consultation with Inland Empire Utilities Agency.

The heavy rain aggravated the need to repair the lake's diversion system, which will require complete draining, David Wert said. Draining and repairs will begin when all permits have been acquired and an estimated completion date will be provided at that time, he said. In the meantime, fishing is still allowed.

The lake will be restocked with fish after it is refilled, Mr. Wert said.

The basin diversion system sits at the bottom of the lake in large concrete pipes. "This system has several compromised areas that have caused several basins to not operate properly," the spokesman said. A cost estimate for the work was not available.

The system diverts runoff water to avoid filling the lake with unwanted chemicals.

The project continues work begun in February 2016, when the lake was drained for similar repairs. Drainage basins were cleaned out, removing hundreds of pounds of trash including a Chevrolet pickup that had been reported stolen several years earlier.

The lake was refilled with recycled water.



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Continued from Page A1

Flooded streets and flooded houses, a roof collapse and several cars stuck in water or mud kept Chino Valley Fire District firefighters and Chino and Chino Hills police officers scrambling last weekend. The most hectic time was between 2:12 and 10:29 p.m. Sunday.

"It was very busy for our firefighters," said fire district spokeswoman Massiel Ladron De Guevara. "There was a very short time when all of our fire engines were out on calls, but at no time was there any delay in responding to calls."

On Sunday, car crashes were reported on the westbound 60 at Reservoir Street, the 1300 block of Grand Avenue in Chino Hills, the southbound 71 Freeway at Pine Avenue, the southbound 71 Freeway at Soquel Canyon Parkway, the northbound 71 Freeway at Ramona Avenue and the westbound 60 Freeway at Euclid Avenue, according to fire dispatch reports. No major injuries were reported in any of the collisions.

Fire crews also responded to cars stuck in water or mud in Chino at Chino Corona Road and Cucamonga Avenue and Pine and Fern avenues. Stuck vehicles were reported in Chino Hills at Chino Hills Parkway and Rolling Ridge Drive, Soquel Canyon Parkway and Butterfield Ranch Road, and Central Avenue and Fairfield Ranch Road.

Flooding was reported in nine houses, eight in Chino Hills and one in Chino.

In Chino Hills, flooded homes were reported in the 15400 block of Country Club Drive, the 15600 block of Palomino Drive, the 4600 block of Fairway Boulevard, 3700 block of Tovar Way, the 4600 block of Bird Farm Road, the 3400 block of Whirlaway Lane, the 4200 block of Descanso Avenue and the 15600 block of Ladera Vista Drive. In Chino, a house was flooded in the 3600 block of Riverside Drive, west of East End Avenue.

Firefighters also went to reported mudslides in the 16500 block of Misty Hill Drive, the 16600 block of Cobalt Court and 4000 block of Valle Vista Drive, all in Chino Hills.

A large vacant building at Chino Hills Parkway and Eucalyptus Avenue in Chino Hills sustained major damage just after 5 p.m. Sunday when a 30- by 50-foot section of the roof collapsed. The structure was once home to Ralph's Market and Fresh and Easy.

Residents of the Preserve area in south Chino shared frustrations with city officials during Sunday's downpour because several streets leading in and out of the tract were flooded, prompting the city to close those streets.

City spokeswoman Monica Gutierrez said city staff found no problems with the new Riverside Drains, which functioned normally during the storm.

"The major streets in the southern part of Chino experienced several road closures for not only flooding, but also road debris that created unsafe conditions," she said.

The city issued a "shelter in place" warning Sunday night. It was lifted at 6 a.m. Monday.

Classes were cancelled Monday at Cal Aero Preserve Academy, 15850 Main St. in the Preserve, because of road closures. All students returned to school Tuesday, according to the school district.

In the Preserve area, Euclid Avenue was closed between Pine Avenue and the 71 Freeway along with Bickmore Avenue between Euclid and Meadowhouse; Kimball Avenue between Rincon Meadows and Euclid; and Merrill Avenue between Cal Aero Drive and Flight Avenue.

Other streets closed Sunday in Chino were Mountain Avenue between Bickmore Avenue and El Prado Road; southbound Benson Avenue at Francis Avenue; Pine Avenue between El Prado Road and Fern Avenues; and Schaefer Avenue between Monte Vista and Central avenues.

All roads were reopened by 6:30 a.m. Monday.

In Chino Hills, Carbon Canyon Road was closed for three days at the Brea city limit because of a mudslide and downed power line Sunday. The road reopened at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, according to Caltrans.

Continued from Page A1

includes the former Firestone Scout Reservation.

Oversight board chairman Santos Kreimann suggested that language be placed in the deed that restricts Tres Hermanos for open space or public use. He said unless deed restrictions are put into place, the oversight board may decide to accept public bids for the property.

Tres Hermanos Ranch is a showpiece for wildlife, oaks, sycamores and open grassland. It has been described by developers as a "jewel" and one of the largest A+ undeveloped properties in southern California.

Industry city manager Paul Philips said the city is pursuing the purchase because of its commitment to enhance the region's quality of life and ensure that the land is not turned into a massive development that will harm air quality and further gridlock the 57/60 freeways and Grand Avenue.

"The city continues to explore options for the property's future that will best preserve it for open space, public uses and public facilities," Mr. Philips said.

Chino Hills resident Jim Gallagher, spokesman for Save Tres Hermanos Ranch, told the oversight board that the grass-roots organization is united with the City of Industry in its support of open space but seeks clarification on the meaning of "public use."

Mr. Gallagher said Tres Hermanos Ranch is considered the "missing middle," a collection of unprotected land within the Puente-Chino

Hills wildlife corridor. Claire Schlotterbeck, executive director of Hills for Everyone, the group that founded Chino Hills State Park, said she has been watching Industry's actions for decades.

She said Industry has spent more than \$1 million studying the feasibility of building dams in Tonner Canyon to store water and generate electricity.

"Industry is whispering sweet nothings into the ears of people who want to believe it will stay open space," she said. "It will not. You can count on it."

Ms. Schlotterbeck said she could not support Industry's acquisition of land without a conservation easement and an endowment to enforce it.

She explained that a conservation easement requires an independent third party to enforce it. "The third party should have an endowment they can tap into in the event the easement is violated - it is basically a legal defense fund for the easement," Ms. Schlotterbeck said.

She believes Industry is not stating its intention for the land because it would have to produce an environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act.

If Industry purchases the property as open space, it would not have to produce the analysis.

"It is the same tactic they employed for the other parcels they purchased in middle and lower Tonner Canyon," Ms. Schlotterbeck said.

Before development can occur, Industry must face the cities of Chino Hills and Diamond Bar because they control the zoning. Depending on the city, the zoning includes agricultural, low



Champion photo by Marianne Napoles
Discussing a plan for Tres Hermanos are oversight board members Esteban Torres (left), Santos Kreimann, Michael Gregoryk, Yolanda Duarte and Paul Philips, city manager of Industry.

density residential, very high density residential, and commercial. Both cities require a master plan that would involve numerous public hear-

ings. Chino Hills contains 1,700 acres of which 55 acres are zoned mixed-use, allowing commercial use and up to

467 dwellings on both sides of Grand Avenue. Diamond Bar contains 729 acres and could yield no more than 628 residences and no commercial use. Chino Hills Mayor Ray Marquez, who addressed the oversight board and asked for the definition of open space, said the discussion opened his eyes, especially when Industry city attorney Mr. Casso said land can be purchased outside Industry's jurisdiction if it benefits the municipality. "Industry knows something and I'm concerned," Mr. Marquez said. "I don't like the secrecy."



Chino Residents

Free Compost & Mulch Event

Saturday, February 25, 2017
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
5050 Schaefer Avenue
Chino, 91710

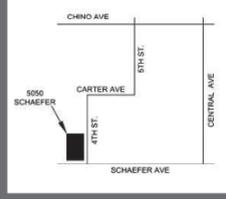
Viramontes Express/Red Star is the City's green waste processor. All residential green waste collected curbside is processed and made into a marketable soil conditioner specifically blended for Chino soil and provided to *Chino Residents*. These products do not contain chemicals and are produced using the residential green waste stream that consists of grass clippings and tree shrub trimmings. This organic solid conditioner (compost) blended for Chino soil is to help with water penetration and moisture retention.

- First Come First served to Chino Residents
- Residents are limited to 1/2 yard of each material depending on availability
- Please come prepared with a shovel and durable containers to load and transport material.

Note: Please be prepared to show identification and utility bill at entrance.
Compost will be available in the front parking lot. During inclement weather, the event will be cancelled.

Questions?
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13150 Seventh Street
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DIAMOND BAR \$518,000

1537 S. Diamond Bar Bl, Diamond Bar
3bd - 2.5ba - 1,391sqft
Sharp two story Condo in South Diamond Bar, Walnut School District. Excellent floor plan, private patio between condo and 2 car garage. Community pool/spa.

SANTA MONICA \$3,990,000

1124 15th St, Santa Monica
(Close to 3rd st. Promenade)
6 Units - 8,092sqft - 7,507sqft lot
Building consists of 5 bdrms, 15 bath units & one 4 bdrms, 3 bath unit. Onsite carport parking for tenants consists of 6 spaces plus a 2 car garage.

DIAMOND BAR \$918,888

852 Leyland Dr., Diamond Bar
4bd - 3ba - 2,933sqft - 31,04sqft lot
Sharp MODEL 26. Great floor plan. Plantation shutters and wood flooring. Spacious family room with fireplace 1 bdm, 1ba first floor, three more bedrooms up Plus a bonus room.

WALNUT \$859,000

1115 Sunset Bluff Rd., Walnut
3bd-3ba-2,816sqft-17,815sqft lot
View home in the most desirable location in the hills of Walnut. Park like backyard with view of mountains. Good floor plan, 3 car garage.

WALNUT \$1,299,000

18968 Sunset Vista Rd., Walnut
4bd-3ba-2,816sqft-17,815sqft lot
Beautiful view home in Belgrade. Walnut School District. 4 bdrms & a loft that can be 5th bdm. Great floor plan. Large master suite with vaulted ceilings, walk-in closet & balcony w/view of hills.




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CHINO HILLS

2543 Viewridge Dr., Chino Hills
3bd - 4ba - 4,259sqft - 16,363sqft lot
Beautiful custom view/pool/spa home in gated community of Grand Pointe. Huge master bedroom with retreat. Spacious kitchen, breakfast area. Huge family room.

\$1,638,999

CHINO HILLS \$685,000

5179 Copper Rd., Chino Hills
4bd-3ba-2,347sqft-7,200sqft lot
Very nice 2 story home on a large lot, remodeled and upgraded. Great floor plan. All bedroom on second floor, 3 car garage with plenty of storage.

DIAMOND BAR \$968,888

3185 Cherrydale Dr., Diamond Bar
4bd-3ba-2,814sqft-7,199sqft lot
Great curb appeal, professionally landscaped front and back yard. Very good floor plan, many upgrades throughout the house.

DIAMOND BAR \$728,000

14857 Foxwood Rd., Chino Hills
4bd-3ba-2,489sqft-6,000sqft lot
Very nice home in a great neighborhood. Huge family room with fireplace & built-ins, open & bright kitchen. Nice backyard with gazebo.

DIAMOND BAR \$848,000

23450 Amberwick Pl., Diamond Bar
4 bd-3ba-2,344sqft-6,559sqft lot
Very nice two story home with pool/spa and view in Walnut School District. Quiet cul de sac street, close and convenient to everything. 3 car garage.

WEST COVINA \$1,550,000

1137 Promontory Pl., West Covina
4bd-4ba-3,730sqft-99,691sqft lot
Very rare to find a large, mostly flat view lot in South Hills. Lot size is approx. 23 acres. The house is a floor, with most of the value in the land. Possibilities may be to remodel, add-on.

WEST COVINA \$690,000

1102 S Fircroft St., West Covina
5bd-3ba-1,810sqft-9,157sqft lot
Sharp single story home in a very nice neighborhood, on a quiet cul de sac street. Long time owners have converted the 2 car garage into 2 more bedrooms, Wok kitchen & shower unpermitted.