Champion e-Edition

Sat.-Fri., Dec. 31, 2011-Jan. 6, 2012

Ouick. TAKES

Live well, prosper

New Year greetings to Champion readers from Champion advertisers. Page A10

Park still opposed

A power transmission line would not be welcome in Chino Hills State Park, an official says. Page A10

Challenge falls short

The state Supreme Court dashes Chino's hopes of keeping its redevelopment agency going. Page B3

Cut rate for fines

California courts offer a discount to delinguent traffic ticket holders. Page A10

Sign on the line

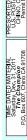
A proposed new charter school needs parents to commit to enroll their children. Page B3

Run, catch, hit, throw

The year in Chino Valley sports. Pages C1-3

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Candy in their wake



Several children grab candy thrown from parade participants at the annual Chino Hills boat parade Dec. 23 along Peyton and Boys Republic drives and Eucalyptus Avenue in Chino Hills. More than 5,000 people attended the event, and 60 boats took part.

Law reprieves unlicensed drivers from instant tow

Beginning Sunday, Jan. 1, police in California will no longer be able to tow a car at a sobriety check-point solely because the driver is uniformed by Assemblyman Gil Cadillo, D-Lincoln Heights, the new law is used to the car away from the checkpoint.

Assemblyman Cadillo said the law was proposed after officials in Bell, a largely Hispanic city near Los Angeles, raked in big fees from uniforemed drivers will bell, a largely Hispanic city near Los Angeles, raked in big fees from uniforemed drivers at checkpoints.

Chino Hills Police Department Chino Hills Police Department Chino Hills Police Department Shidls expense as the car is not being left and it becomes a public Austractive to drive the car away from the checkpoint.

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Chino Hills Police Department Shidls police department in the back seat, Older chillent of the car was proposed after officials in Bell, a largely Hispanic city near the work of the car was proposed after officials in Sell, a largely Hispanic city near Los Angeles, raked in big fees from uniformed methods the seat belt to fit properly must ride in \$100,000 cash or is a manager in equired that children remain in a booster or car seat. The previous law required that children remain in a booster seat until the vehicle a way back must college in the test as another way to child the vehicle a way back must college in the tot who car on the same the car is not the sate. This will begin to the test the fit is will be able to the seat belt to fit properly must ride in \$100,000 cash or is a manager in extending the proposed after officials in the seat belt to fit properly must ride in \$100,000 cash or is a manager in extending the properties and the properties and the car was the car is not uniformed the age of 8 must be the fit properly must ride in \$100,000 cash or is a manager in extending the properties and the properties and t

Oxford stays in **business**

Unanimous school board renews charter for 5 years

By Brenda Dunkle

Oxford Preparatory Academy students, par-ents and staff members danced on the charter school's Chino campus Thursday night after the school board unanimously renewed OPA's char-

school board unanimously renewed OPA's charter for five years.

In the weeks leading up to the special board meeting, rumors had circulated that the board would not renew Oxford, even though the charter school had the highest score in the Chino Valley and the county on state academic tests adminis-

would not renew Oxford, even though the charter school had the highest score in the Chino Valley and the county on state academic tests administered last spring.

Board members said they received hundreds of emals and calls from Oxford supporters, but that was not what determined their vote.

"By law, the legislature has removed all personal bias from our decision," newly appointed furstee Dave Black said. "Our personal opinions don't count. Even if we didn't receive a single phone call or emal, if the superintendent said OPA is compliant, we have to approve."

Superintendent Wayne Joseph said the school district had several problems with the first draft of the petition submitted by Oxford, requesting the five-year renewal. The superintendent said he and OPA executive director Sue Roche and OPA administrator Jason Watts met several times over the last few weeks to come to a resolution. Mrs. Roche said she worked on the negotiations even while visiting China during OPA's holiday break.

Mr. Joseph said a letter he sent to Mrs. Roche this fall, explaining the district's issues was not meant to raise alarm. He said OPA's growth in the last two years means the district has to ask more questions in its role as the monitoring agent for the charter.

The school board originally approved the OPA charter in January 2010 and the school opened that September. It now has 1,075 students in its K-8 program and 800 students on a waiting list. Trustee Fred Younghlood, speaking by telephone from Savannah, Ga., during the meeting, said he would have voted against the renewal, based on the first fraft of the petition. He commended Mr. Joseph for working with OPA administrators to get the renewal request in order.

See OXFORD, Page A2

The year that was

Chino, Chino Hills find themselves locked in struggles with the state, Edison

Chino, Chino Hills of The parade of 200-foot electric towers that marched across the pristical Chino Hills, changing the view in the historic Chino Valley, dominated the front pages of the Champion in 2011.
Chino Hills' year long fight against Southern California Edisoris heavy duty clean energy power lines ended with a plus and a minus. The plus was the willingness of members of the newly reconstituted state Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to personally visit the site, after ordering Edison to pause and submit afternative routes. The negative was the refused of the state Supreme Court to consider the clane Supreme Court to consider the clane Supreme Court to consider the state Supreme Court to consider

ter.

In February, the Prices face new charges for keeping unlicensed dogs. Priceless Pets opened "The Orphanage" for dog adoptions in December in Gordon Ranch Marketplace to avoid further trouble at their English Road

With an increase in public support, Chino Hills cleared the BAPS Hindu temple for higher spires, which had delayed the project because of earlier

detayed the project because of earlier opposition.
Chino Hills joined Chino on the national Best Cities for Youth honor roll.
The newest Chino Hills city councilman, Art Bennett, was appointed mayor. Charter councilwoman Gwenn Norton-Perry, the city's first mayor



Holiday schedule

Chino Hills city hall and Chino Hills city yard are closed until Tuesday, Jan, 3. Staff will be on call to respond to emergencies at 384-2860.

McCoy Equestrian Center wil be closed New
Year's Day, Mill not be affected in Chino. Trash service in Chino Hills will be delayed one day. Year's Day, McCoy wil be open from 8 a.m. to noon today (Dec. 31) and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 2.

Tuesday, Jan. 3, as will classes at St. Margaret Mary Catholic School, Cornerstone Christian School, New Hope Christian School, Loving Savior Luther-an School, Heights Christian Schools, and Ontario Christian Schools.

Oxford Preparatory Academy, a charter school in