

Chino Champion

& Chino Valley News

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Local businesses thank members of the armed services for Veterans Day, today (Nov. 11).
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John Miller returns to Chino High, now as a principal.
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Industry says it will provide "a space for people"

By Marianne Napoles

The City of Industry reiterated its commitment to use the 2,450-acre Tres Hermanos Ranch for open space, public use, and preservation purposes, after the Department of Finance announced last week that it would take no action on the sale.

Industry is also stating that it is not proposing a 450-megawatt solar facility. A plan will be developed in the coming months, according to Industry city manager

Paul Philips.

"We will work collaboratively with interested stakeholders and residents to ultimately create a space for people to enjoy," Mr. Philips said in a statement released after the Department of Finance announced its decision on Nov. 2.

Tres Hermanos is located on both sides of Grand Avenue in Chino Hills and Diamond Bar. The oversight board governing the sale of the land voted 4-3 in August to sell the property to the

City of Industry for \$41.65 million.

The board is requiring Industry to include a restrictive covenant that would not allow the land to be used for any purpose other than a renewable energy project, open space, public use, and preservation.

Chino Hills councilman Peter Rogers said he was surprised that the Department of Finance validated the purchase.

"We were given the impression they would review

this case after our team met with them in Sacramento," he said. "We had a feeling they would understand that something wasn't right about this."

Mr. Rogers said his gut feeling is that the state would rather have the courts render a decision.

"Until this shroud of secrecy is unveiled, the City of Chino Hills will stay vigilant in seeking information that defines this project," he said.

Diamond Bar city man-

ager Dan Fox said that although his city had hoped the Department of Finance would review the sale as it had initially stated, it does provide the opportunity to put the matter in front of the court.

Mr. Fox said the sale of Tres Hermanos must be consistent with the successor agency's long-range property management plan that requires the land be sold in a manner that maxi-

See **INDUSTRY**, Page A2

Closed for a crosswalk



ABOVE: West Meridian Park is located at the section of Mill Creek that will be closed to traffic in both directions on Monday Nov. 13 through Monday Nov. 20.

RIGHT: A traffic sign announces that the road will be closed.

Champion photos by Josh Thompson

Residents who have signed up with Chino Notify have received alerts that, starting Monday, a portion of Mill Creek Avenue will be temporarily closed in both directions, eliminating the road as a throughfare between Pine and Bickmore avenues.

Pedestrian crosswalk equipment will be installed and the road is scheduled to be re-opened Monday, Nov. 20.

Motorists are encouraged to use West Preserve Loop to access Pine and Bickmore avenues.



Saluting those who served

Magdalena Orozco isn't a veteran, nor does she have family members in the military, but when she heard stories from James Tyrer Jr. about his time in the Vietnam War, she felt motivated to do something for veterans.

Lee Sandwiches in Chino, where Ms. Orozco is an assistant manager, already offers veterans and military personnel 20 percent off their orders everyday but she wanted to do something more.

She is asking veterans to bring in photographs from their time in service, which will be mounted on a wall in the restaurant.

"We have veterans every once in awhile, but no one has ever told us their stories," said Ms. Orozco, who has been with the res-

taurant for more than seven years.

Today, (Nov. 11) is Veterans Day, a time for Americans to honor and thank those who have served in the military. Many Chino Valley schools paid homage to veterans throughout the week and some Veterans Day events were held Friday. However, there's still plenty happening today. Here are a few events that will be taking place.

•Chino American Legion Post 299 Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion will offer soup and sandwiches at noon to veterans and their families. The post is located at 13759 Central Ave.

•Chino added 45 bricks honoring service people to Chino Liberty Courtyard that was dedicated on Nov.

See **VETERANS**, Page A3



Champion photo by Dawn Marks

U.S. Army veteran James Bradley reads a thank you note written by a student at Levi Dickey Elementary in appreciation of his military service. Mr. Bradley's granddaughter Ana Frank attends the Chino Valley district school where students held a special event Tuesday for veterans.

Applications sought for Chino commission

Applications will be accepted until 5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1 for three scheduled vacancies on the Chino planning commission. The term-out positions are for a four-year term beginning in January 2018.

One seat was vacated by Harvey Luth when he was selected to serve on the Chino Valley Fire District board. The other two seats are currently occupied by Kathleen Patterson and Sherman Jones.

All three spots had terms

beginning in 2014 and ending in 2018.

The Chino planning commission meets the first and third Monday of each month. The commission reviews new development applications and makes recommendations to the

city council on planning, land use, and development.

Applications are available at the city clerk's office on the second floor of city hall and on the city website at cityofchino.org.

Information: city clerk Angela Robles, 334-3306.

Personal use

Individuals will be allowed to grow up to six plants inside a private residence, but that too comes with regulations.

The plants must be completely indoors, whether in a home or apartment, or inside an enclosed accessory structure such as a shed or greenhouse.

Plants must not be visible from a neighboring property or the public right-of-way.

Any odor from the plant must not be detectable by the public, so the homes must have functioning ventilation and filtration systems that comply with all applicable building code regulations.

Lighting must not exceed rated wattage and must be confined to the interior of the home or structure.

Homes where marijuana is grown are not allowed to exceed the maximum rating of the approved electrical panel for the residence.

"Outdoor and visible marijuana plants, which can grow quite large, are a concern from both safety and enforcement issues," Mr. Galante said.

Homes with marijuana plants are also required to

See **CANNABIS**, Page A2



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Cannabis

Continued from Page A1

keep a working fire extinguisher in the same room where the plants are stored, and the plants or any material from the plants in excess of 28.5 grams must be kept in a locked space.

"The indoor regulation essentially makes sure growing doesn't have a negative influence on the surrounding environment," Mr. Galante said.

Mr. Galante added that there were requirements for a space to meet the qualification of "private residence," to prevent people from sim-

ply gutting homes and using them primarily as marijuana cultivation sites.

The house or apartment must have fully functional and usable kitchens, bathrooms and bedroom areas and is prohibited from being used primarily for marijuana cultivation.

The residence must also continue to meet parking standards, so entire garages can't be completely converted into cultivation areas.

Tenants would also need consent from a landlord or property owner to grow marijuana on the property.

Marijuana cultivation will be regulated like any other code enforcement issue, said

Mr. Galante, and will rely on community complaints to initiate investigations.

"In a practical sense, we aren't going to have marijuana police that go around and visit every home," Mayor Eunice Ulloa said. "I would assume that a neighbor who noticed suspicious activity would be calling the city to complain."

According to David Wert, public information officer for San Bernardino County, Chino's marijuana ordinance falls in line with county policies, which would regulate communities in Chino's sphere of influence.

The City of Chino Hills has a similar ordinance.

Chino city manager Matt Ballantyne said the cities of La Verne, Pomona and Fontana have adopted similar ordinances. The city of San Bernardino allows commercial cannabis use.

Chino council member Gary George raised a question about violating federal law which still prohibits any and all marijuana use and cultivation.

Mr. Galante admitted the answer would rely on the political climate.

"The council is following the law as strict as the state will allow you to follow it," he said. "I don't see Chino's ordinance ever coming into conflict with federal law."

School district offers free state-of-affairs address

Chino Valley school district will hold its 2016-17 State of the District address Tuesday, Nov. 14 at Chino Hills High, 16150 Pomona Rincon Road.

School board president Sylvia Orozco will deliver the free public address from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Chino Hills High theater.

A paid reception will be held in the multi-purpose room from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. with food and entertainment provided by students.

Tickets to the reception are \$20.

Information: chinovalleychamberofcommerce.com.

Industry

Continued from Page A1

mizes its value for the benefit of public agencies.

"The actions taken by the successor agency and oversight board to sell Tres Hermanos to the City of Industry for less than half its value so Industry could have more cash to develop a massive solar generating facility is clearly inconsistent with the plan and Dia-

mond Bar believes a court will agree," Mr. Fox said.

When asked if a 450-megawatt solar factory is being proposed, an Industry spokesperson stated: "The City of Industry has never said they are doing a project of that size. Others have said that but not the city."

The spokesperson added, "Industry has been very public with its commitment regarding Tres Hermanos on preserving open space, recreation space, and ex-

ploring public projects."

According to lawsuits filed by Chino Hills and Diamond Bar against Industry, the industry city council on Oct. 12 ratified a master ground lease with San Gabriel Valley Water and Power, LLC, for a solar project "with an aggregate of 450 megawatts of rated annual output" on Tres Hermanos and the adjacent land parcels, from which Industry would receive significant financial benefit.

The lease's amendments

contain language that the lease does not constitute an entitlement to develop any particular project on all or any portion of the total site, and that the landlord (Industry) will not issue any approval or entitlement to proceed with any project until compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act is completed.

Chino Hills city attorney Mark Hensley said the documents he studied provide that the solar facility could be up to 450 megawatts,

but there are various numbers in various documents.

He said Industry generally denies that it has plans, but when documents are pointed out, Industry states those documents are incorrect.

He said Industry refuses to publicly disclose what it

is doing.

"When you are constantly working to hide the facts from the public and are untruthful when you are caught, it results in a lot of mistrust and confusion. Their documents are all we have to rely on," Mr. Hensley said.

The Week AHEAD

Saturday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day See Page A1.
Jack and the Giant, 7 p.m., final show, Chino Community Theatre. See Page B5.

Chino Tea Party, 9 a.m., Archibald's Drive-Thru, 15421 Fairfield Ranch Road, Chino Hills. See Page B4.

Veterans Day champagne brunch and patriotic ceremony, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oakmont of Chino Hills senior living center, 14837 Peyton Drive. Information: 962-8692.

Sunday, Nov. 12

Sunday dog hike, 8:45 a.m., walk your dog or walk a Priceless Pets dog, meet at The Orphanage, 2587 Chino Hills Parkway in the Gordon Ranch Marketplace.

Monday, Nov. 13

Cyn in the City "Sip and Shop" girls night out, 5 to 8 p.m., Los Serranos Country Club. See Page C8.

Chino Hills Healthy Hills Steering Committee meeting, 6 p.m., Community Center, 14250

Peyton Drive.

Chino Valley Democratic Club, 7 p.m., Lamplighter Chino Mobile Home Park, 4400 Philadelphia St. See Page B4.

Chino planning commission, 7 p.m., council chambers. See Page B1.

Tuesday, Nov. 14

Chino Valley Unified School District, State of the District Address, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Chino Hills High, 16150 Pomona Rincon Rd., Chino Hills. See this page.

Chino Hills city council, 7 p.m., council chambers.

Toy story party at library, 4 to 7 p.m., Chino Hills Branch Library, 14020 City Center Drive. See Page B4.

Wednesday, Nov. 15

Vietnam battle commemorated, 10 a.m., Yanks Aviation Museum, 7000 Merrill Ave. at the Chino Airport. See Page A3.

Friends of the Chino Hills Branch Library meeting, 6:30 p.m., conference room inside the library, 14020 City Center

Drive.

Chino Hills Parks and Recreation Commission, 7 p.m., council chambers.

Thursday, Nov. 16

2018 Season Preview for season ticket holders, 7 p.m., Chino Community Theatre, 13123 Seventh St. See Page B5

Chino Valley school board, 7 p.m., district office, 5130 Riverside Drive, Chino.

Great American Smokeout, 4 to 6 p.m., art showcase, activities encouraging people to stop using tobacco, Chino Teen Center, 13196 Monte Vista Ave.

Chino Valley Women's Group Thanksgiving event and luncheon, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Los Serranos Country Club, 15656 Yorba Ave. in Chino Hills. See Page B4.

Advance directive workshop, 5:30 to 7 p.m., free, learn how to prepare an advance directive before a hospital stay, Chino Valley Medical Center, 5451 Walnut Ave. See Page C8.
"Bingo at the Barn," hosted by the Chino Hills 55+ Club,

doors open at 11:15 a.m. and games begin at 12:30 p.m., McCoy Equestrian Center. See Page B5.

Friday, Nov. 17

Free movie "God Knows Where I Am." Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at 7 p.m., Inland Hills Church. See Page B4.

2018 Season Preview for the general public, 7 p.m., Chino Community Theatre, 13123 Seventh St.

Christmas tree lighting at The Shoppes at Chino Hills, 7 p.m. See Page C8.

Saturday, Nov. 18

Food preservation 101, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Healthy Chino garden workshop, Chino Community Garden, 5976 Riverside Drive.

Taste of Flight Gala, 5 p.m., Chino Airport. Planes of Fame Air Museum. See Page B4.

Friends of Boys Republic auction and dinner, 6 p.m., Boys Republic, 1907 Boys Republic Drive. See Page B4.

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