

#### www.rossmoor-csd.org-rcsd@rossmoor-csd.org-Main Office: 562.430.3707

3001 Blume Drive, Rossmoor, California 90720 / For the latest updates follow us on Facebook and Twitter IN THIS ISSUE al mail belief its dates to us multiple provider to us mit belief and

COLORING OUTSIDE THE LANES

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Start your engines----and prepare to idle! Today the San Diego Freeway (I-405) is one of the most congested freeways in Orange County. Some sections carry more than 300,000 vehicles per day. Traffic volumes are expected to increase a projected fifty percent in the next twenty years.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), is proposing to widen the I-405 between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Interstate 605 (I-605); purportedly to improve travel conditions, freeway capacity and interchange operations for daily commuters, and commerce as well as enhancing road safety to meet state and federal standards. The I-405 Improvement Project is funded by Measure M—Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

There has been much debate and controversy over which of the three alternatives will ultimately prevail in widening the freeway and improving the infrastructure. Will there be one additional lane in each direction on the I-405 or two? Will there be an additional "HOV" lane? Will a toll lane be part of the improvement project? At present we still do not know the final answer. Either way we are still left with traffic congestion and excruciating commutes.

One thing we do have control over is how many vehicle trips will be made per day on the I-405 freeway. Mass transportation is a significant help in keeping many vehicles off of our freeways, but for many of us it's an impractical and time consuming solution, due to scheduling difficulties between bus and rail services. One approach in maximizing our throughput on the I-405 is in less personal usage of this scarce resource. Many companies, (and soon our own school district) use staggered schedules and allow telecommuting to relieve some of the stress on our highways. Certain businesses only allow deliveries of merchandise at off peak hours and this also helps. However, we are capable of and must do much more to solve our transportation issues.

By promoting a traffic austerity program through our internet resources we could educate our neighbors and business owners in no time about the benefits of telecommuting and alternate work schedules. If our community could accomplish effective traffic control during the 1984 Olympic Games we should be able to do as well or even better today. After all, today's technology far exceeds what was available then. The sooner we start getting more creative about transportation, the sooner we free ourselves to color outside the lanes.

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#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

2nd Tuesday of each month @7 p.m. in the Rush Park Auditorium. Aired on LATV3.



**RCSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 

**President Michael Maynard** 1st VP Bill Kahlert 2nd VP Ron Casev **Director Alfred Coletta** Director Tony DeMarco



Staff: General Manager J.D. Ruth—Admin Assistant E. Deering—Accountant K. Bell—General Clerk J. Verduzco—Park Superintendent O. Perez-Maintenance/Rec. C. Argueta-Tree Consultant M. Kingman-Rec. Superintendent E. Gingras-Rec. Assistant C. Deaton an and in himselfades in an and in hereit in here in the second in here the second



# **EXECUTIVE MATTERS**

December 4, 2014 will mark a year that I have served as general manager of the Rossmoor Community Services District. Time flies when you are accomplishing goals. I would like to thank the Board of Directors and staff for their excellent support as we work together to enhance the quality of life for our

residents. Our Board of Directors has focused on a close working relationship with our Sheriff's Department to assure the continued safety for our residents while addressing modest improvements to our public facilities at Rossmoor and Rush Parks and the Montecito Center. We have represented Rossmoor on issues that impact the everyday lives of residents, such as the I-405 Improvement Project toll roads and urban coyotes. We will continue to maintain Rossmoor as a special community and work closely with our school district to address issues of mutual concern. RCSD is very financially solvent and continues to look for ways to create greater efficiencies in our service delivery systems.

#### **RHA HOSTS MEET YOUR CANDIDATES NIGHT**



Put a face to that name on the ballot! The RHA will host a <u>Meet Your Candidates Night</u>, on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Rush Park Auditorium, located at 3021 Blume Drive in Rossmoor. The event will give voters the opportunity to learn about candidates running for election in this District. All the candidates for the following offices have been invited with many already confirmed:47th Congressional District, 34th State Senate District, 72nd Assembly District, 2nd District Orange County Supervisor, Los Alamitos Unified School District Board of Education (4 candidates/2 seats) Ross-

moor Community Services District (4 candidates/2 seats). Everyone is urged to participate!

#### **RCSD BOARD ADOPTS NEW FEE SCHEDULE**

After a thorough review by the district and community, the RCSD Board of Directors unanimously adopted a new and improved comprehensive <u>fee schedule</u> at its August 8, 2014 regular meeting. The revised fee schedule includes more competitive rates for facility and field rentals. The consulting firm, HT Group was hired by the Board to work collaboratively with staff to conduct a comprehensive study of all user based fees and to provide a methodology for the General Manager to recommend a revised fee schedule. The new fee schedule is available on our website at <u>www.rossmoor-csd.org.</u>



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# SO CLOSE... IT'S SCARY!



The 3rd Annual School Ghoul 10k Run-5k Run/Walk and Kids Festival of Races Event is fast



approaching! The event takes place on Sunday, October 19th. To participate as a runner, walker, volunteer, expo vendor or sponsor call Gus Quinonez at 714-469-6061 or click on the banner to the left. You may also visit our website:<u>www.rossmoor-csd.org</u>.Rush Park is located at 3001 Blume Drive in Rossmoor.

#### THE HOLIDAYS ARE KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR



**ROSSMOOR WOMANS CLUB HOLIDAY HOME TOUR:** Looking for a way to get in the holiday spirit? Mark your calendar now for this most wonderful Rossmoor tradition. December 7th, 2014 the Rossmoor Woman's Club will once again tour some spectacular Rossmoor homes, all decorated and sparkling for the holidays. For more details and information on how to purchase tickets go to rossmoorwomansclub.org or call 562-810-7139. All proceeds go to local charities and high school scholarships.

**ROSSMOOR ANNUAL TOY AND GIFT DRIVE:** RCSD will partner again this year with the RHA and Orange County Sheriff's Department for its annual Toy and Gift Drive to benefit youth and seniors in the community. Starting November 17th, donations of *new, unwrapped* toys or gifts will be accepted thru mid-December. The OC Sheriff's Department distributes over 42,000 toys to children and provides over 2,100 gifts to seniors during the Holidays. Watch our website and connect on social media for details and future announcements.

### **OC VECTOR CONTROL WEST NILE VIRUS ALERT**

Orange County is currently experiencing the highest level of West Nile Virus infection ever recorded in the County. Here are some tips for reducing the threat:

- Eliminate any standing water around your house.
- Avoid runoff from overwatering lawns and washing vehicles.
- Make sure all the windows and door screens around your house are in good repair.
- Wear a repellant containing DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon, Eucalyptus, or IR 3535.
- Click here for the latest West Nile Virus activity map
- Click here for the latest West Nile Virus Human Infection Data

Quarterly Quote: "Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people." - Eleanor Roosevelt-



www.ocvcd.org

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## **BONUS E-CONTENT**

E-mail us at <u>rcsd@rossmoor-csd.org</u> and include the words SUBSCRIBE RCSD E-NEWS! in the subject line. Include your full name and street address.

#### **SIGN UP TODAY!**











BE INFORMED ABOUT CRIME, COYOTES, AND YOUR COMMUNITY! VIEW BOARD MEETINGS, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND SHARE VIEWS! JOIN ROSSMOOR CSD, OC SHERIFF AND OC CRIMESTOPPERS ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!





Sign up to receive your newsletter



**ELECTRONICALLY** 





#### **OUR TREES ARE THIRSTY!**

Did you know that Rossmoor's urban forest contains 5,553 public park and parkway trees? These trees provide us with protection from the "urban heat island effect" prevalent in many metro areas. This means you stay cooler in summer months and save on energy bills. <u>Drought</u> <u>conditions</u> have been tough on our trees which typically rely on rainfall to stay healthy.

Our trees are thirsty! Here is how you can help quench their thirst:

- Please water established trees: Twice monthly with hose nozzle on low pressure for 20 minutes.
- Increase to three times monthly for trees less than 10 years old and four times monthly for trees less than 5 years old.



Rossmoor now boasts 4 years as a Tree City USA!—MK