

Ladera Rancho Times &
LADERA TIMES

News Monthly

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April 2015



SPECIAL REPORT
CALIFORNIA
DROUGHT

**WE ALL MUST UNDERTAKE
SERIOUS WATER
CONSERVATION
NOW AND
FOREVER
GOING FORWARD**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER



Fellow Laderians,

California is in the middle of the longest drought in the state's recorded history, and experts predict that it could continue for many years to come, heaven forbid. As a result, many of the state's reservoirs are either completely or nearly depleted, and it's estimated that, under current conditions, the state has about a year's worth of water supplies remaining.

While the customers of the Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) are in much better shape due to long-term planning by its Directors and staff, the state itself has devastating water shortage problems. The winter snow-pack is the lowest in state's history, and the underground aquifers are being sucked dry. And while SMWD has ample water supplies for the foreseeable future, its water supplies are **not** infinite.

Given we are surrounded by lush green grass and beautiful plantings, it may not appear so, but we live in a dessert. Ladera Ranch does not produce one drop of its own potable water; it comes from other sources outside the state – sources that are also being severely depleted of their own water supplies (Google "Lake Powell water"). California provides over 30% of the country's fruit and produce and, in some cases, as much as 80%. The upstate agriculture industry is huge and without a regular source of water, this industry will collapse. Since the state authorities are not going to allow that to happen, our own waters supplies could be rationed so the state can commandeer much of our water for upstate.

It's typically American to wait to the last minute to address serious problems, and this water shortage is not the only major crisis facing the United States. Much of the country's infrastructure – such as roads, highways, bridges, the electrical grid, airport traffic control, and sanitation facilities, much of which haven't been upgraded since the 1950s – has been allowed to deteriorate to the point of near collapse. There are devastating disasters in our future if we don't do something about upgrading our country's infrastructure. Instead, our politicians in Washington have wasted years conducting a cultural and religious war without addressing the country's most desperate needs.

When there's a problem, we largely rely on technology and engineering to save the day. But fixing the water problem with technology, such as desalination of sea water, will be expensive and will take years to implement once we pull the trigger.

It's hard to wrap our head around a water shortage when we turn on the faucet and water pours out. But, the truth is, we must significantly reduce our water consumption **now** and forever. Unfortunately, Ladera Ranch has not significantly reduced its use of what must surely be our most precious life affirming need. The good news is, there's a lot we can do right now to substantially reduce our individual water consumption, such as installing drip-style irrigation for our plants and shrubs (very inexpensive), replacing our lawns with artificial turf (prices have plunged), purchasing water-saving appliances, (dishwashers, washing machines, low flow faucets and shower heads), and so on. SMWD provides rebates for many water-saving installations.

Read more throughout this issue of the Ladera Times and let's show how much we can accomplish when we put our collective minds to it. Let's do it!

Jim Schmitt, Editor and Publisher



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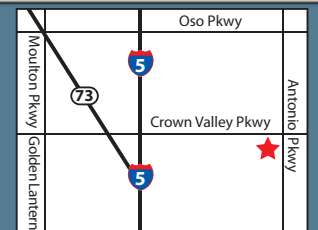
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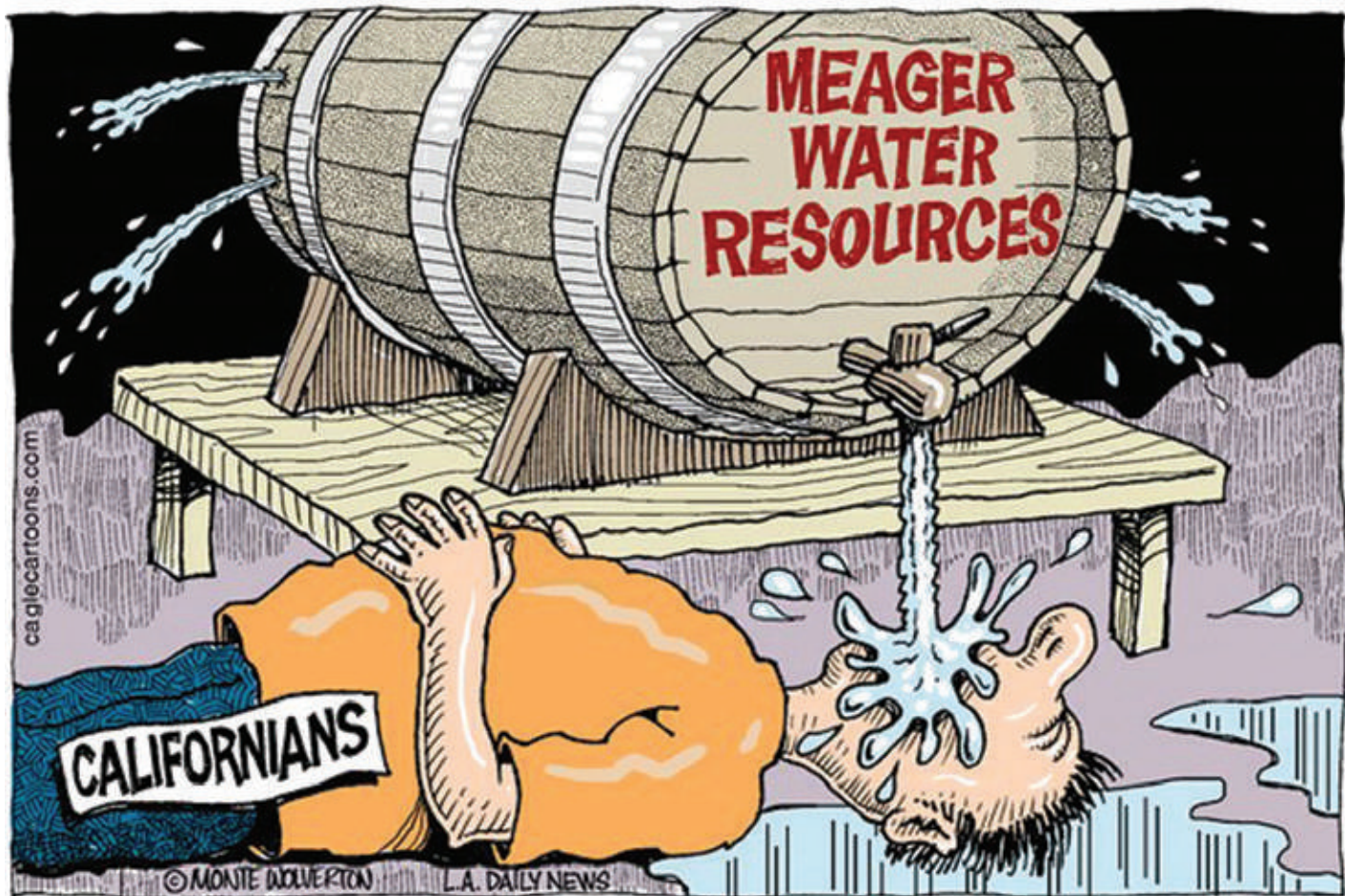
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Letters to the Editor

Dear Jim,

First, let me say I am a big fan of what you do. Your editorials are well-informed, and, at the risk of hurting your business, honest and brave. I also love the fact that you print the bile of the uninformed right-wingers that make up so much of Orange County.

Although I normally agree with you, I think you're going to find Ben Carson is about as reasonable as Ted Cruz. He's clearly accomplished and we'll educated, but that's about all I can say for him. He may be able to write a coherent fundraising letter, but, unfortunately for him,

he's nothing more than the same old Tea Party kook.

Just this week he had to apologize for his ignorant, and frankly dumb position on homosexuality.

He also doesn't believe in global warming or evolu-

tion. He said "Obamacare is the worst thing to happen to this country since slavery." Really??? And his similarities to the lunatic fringe go a lot deeper than that.

I would recommend you take a few minutes to watch some interviews with Dr. Carson. He may be educated (hmmm, didn't G.W.

Bush go to Yale?), but he does not appear to be very bright. Since when are smart people so inarticulate?

Needless to say, I remain a fan of yours, and look forward to your coming editorial about Dr. Carson's crazy train.

Best, Bruce
Ladera Ranch

Rules for Submissions

Submission of signed letters, articles, photos, and news tips are not only welcomed but encouraged. This is a community newspaper strives to publish all points of view.

■ All submissions must contain the name, address, phone number, signature and email of person submitting the material.

■ Photos should be high quality color photos. If emailing a photo, send it as a jpeg, tiff, or gif. Photos send by email must be a minimum resolution of at least 200 pixels per inch. When sending more than one photo, send them in separate emails. Be sure to include a detailed description of the photo, including identifications (left to right).

■ Ladera Times reserves the right to accept, reject, or edit editorial material, photos, letters to the editor, and/or advertisements as it deems appropriate and consistent with the family-oriented editorial policy of the publication.

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yelp Dr. Parker and his staff are absolutely amazing. Having given up on my pursuit to a healthy, beautiful smile, meeting Dr. Parker was refreshing to say the least. His office is beautiful and his staff gentle and kind. What I liked most about my visit with Dr. Parker was his willingness to thoroughly explain my conditions to me and what would need to be done to correct them in a way I could understand. I have recommended Dr. Parker to my family and friends and encourage anyone seeking a new dentist to make a visit to Dr. Parker's office. I'm positive you will feel at home with Parker Dentistry.

Amanda N.
Rancho Santa Margarita



Are We in for a Megadrought?

Newser.com reports that within a few decades, a significant chunk of the US could be in for the worst drought in more than a millennium. That's if we don't change our greenhouse-gas-emitting ways.

A study coauthor says the chance of a megadrought – one lasting at least 35 years – in the central and western US sometime this century is more than 80%.

The data shows, "... more convincingly than ever before that unchecked climate change will drive



unprecedented drying across much of the United States – even eclipsing the huge megadroughts of medieval times," an outside expert tells the Smithsonian Institute. The Southwest has an 80% risk of

megadrought at the current rate of emissions, but even if we drop to "moderate" emissions, the risk remains high, the Smithsonian reports.

Scientists turned to more than a dozen different

climate models to examine the future; as for the past, they got information from tree rings, which show how wet each year was.

"There are degrees of screwed, and this paper suggests we're falling off the cliff," another expert says. Still, we have "ample warning" to make changes. "We just need to make serious cuts in greenhouse gas emissions ... Otherwise the

next generations of Americans are going to have a huge problem on their hands." (Already, California's drought has reportedly meant the loss of 11 trillion gallons of water.)

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Ambulance 911 Services Contracts Update

Before I was elected to serve as the 5th District Supervisor, the California State Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) determined that the Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS), a subdivision of the County's Health Care Agency (HCA), is now required to conduct the ambulance request for proposals (RFP) process for 19 contract cities contracts.

Previously, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) handled the procurement process.

The previous Board

of Supervisors directed OCEMS to publish a draft RFP for public review, comment. OCEMS provided an online forum for the public to provide comments on the published RFP.

Following the public review in April of last year, the Board was provided a final opportunity to weigh in on the content of the RFP.

One of the most substantial changes is the RFP has reduced the previous 19 ambulance operating areas into five exclusive operating areas (EOAS) and the manner in which prospec-

tive bidders will be chosen. While this change is critical, my primary concern pertains to the ten contract cities and unincorporated areas.

The RFP process progressed and HCA released the RFP on May 19, 2014.

Notices of Intent to Award and of Non-Selection for the RFP were released to all bidders, EMSA, on October 9, 2014.

Thereafter, three bidders submitted seven protests to the Notices of Intent to Award based upon the individual proposals in some

of the five Exclusive Operating Areas. In addition to bid protests, a number of city managers submitted letters of concern related to the RFP scoring process.

Accordingly, HCA and its counsel reviewed the RFP process and made the determination to cancel the RFP.

On December 9, 2014, during my first Board of Supervisors meeting, my colleagues and I voted to rescind the cancellation of the 911 Emergency Ambulance Transportation RFP and directed HCA to convene new evaluation panels for rescoring of the proposals received.

Since then, evaluation panels consisting of First Responder, Nurse/Physician, Hospital, City, and Out-of-County EMS Agency have convened and the Intent to Award notifications have been distributed.

Several appeals have been filed and are currently under review in the County's Procurement Office. I believe the County developed the RFP in a transparent manner, where public input was actively sought, however it is my primary goal to ensure that the process from start to finish is a fair and competitive process.

I am anticipating the Board of Supervisors will be voting on the contracts this month, and will continue to keep you updated on this contentious RFP process of any critical developments.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at (714) 834-3550 or Lisa.Bartlett@ocgov.com if I can ever be of assistance.



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Issue	News and Advertising Deadline	Date Delivered
May 2015	Wednesday, April 22	Thursday, April 30
June 2015	Wednesday, May 20	Thursday, May 28
July 2015	Wednesday, June 24	Thursday, July 2
August 2015	Wednesday, July 22	Thursday, July 30
September 2015	Wednesday, August 26	Thursday, September 3
October 2015	Wednesday, September 23	Thursday, October 1
November 2015	Wednesday, October 21	Thursday, October 29



Spring Cleaning For Home, Community, Earth!

It's that time of the year again! Spring has finally arrived and it's time to get rid of the incessant clutter that has been filling your garage and storage space all winter long.

Did you know that your health care equipment like walkers, crutches, braces, wheelchairs, shower chairs or portable toilets, that have been sitting in your garage for many years collecting dust, can be put to good use?

If this applies to you, Julian Tedja, a Lad-

era Ranch resident and a student at Tesoro High School, has the answer!

Julian Tedja, shown in the photo above, is carrying out a project he named RehabCycle with his team at Tesoro High School's Key Club to collect unused home medical equipment and donate it to people who can put them to good use.

This health care equipment drive allows for people who would like to make a difference in the well-being of their com-

munity to fulfill that goal and clean out their homes in the process.

This Saturday, April 4, from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon, Tesoro's Key Club is hosting the RehabCycle Project in front of Tesoro High School that is open to the public.

Anyone is free to donate any type of used medical equipment that they believe can be reused by individuals or nonprofit organizations.

Donations are tax deductible, and all dona-

tions will be passed over to PTFORALL, a recognized IRS nonprofit charity dedicated to helping individuals with limited financial resources to get the physical rehabilitation they need.

Julian and Tesoro's Key Club hope that this event will have a big turnout. "Please spread the word about this event and Go Green," he said.

Those wishing more information can email Julian at rehabcycle@yahoo.com.

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Pleasant Holidays



9th Annual Stoneybrooke Golf Classic Is Friday, May 1

Stoneybrooke Christian Schools is hosting their 9th Annual Stoneybrooke Golf Classic on Friday, May 1, at the Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club.

The day of golf and fun will begin at 9:00 am with registration and time to hit the driving range.

Later there will be a putting contest and a savory BBQ lunch with the

shotgun start following at 12:00 noon.

Wrapping up the day will be a golf ball drop, delicious dinner, and an awards reception.

The cost per golfer is \$225 and includes the BBQ lunch and dinner reception.

To register online, go to the Stoneybrooke website, www.stoney-brooke.com and click on the Golf Classic link.

Added fun for the day will include a 50/50 Helicopter Ball Drop. The 50/50 prize is up for grabs

The more golf balls in the drop, the bigger the prize! Balls are \$10 each or 12 for \$100, the ball closest to the pin or in the hole wins! To participate, go to www.stoney-brooke.com and click on the Golf Classic link.

Stoneybrooke Christian Schools is a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence serving South Orange County for 30+ years. Stoneybrooke currently has campuses in Ladera Ranch and San Juan Capistrano offering classes beginning in Preschool through 8th grade.

Winner does not need to be present to win.

Stoneybrooke Christian Schools is a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence serving South Orange County for 30+ years. Stoneybrooke currently has campuses in Ladera Ranch and San Juan Capistrano offering classes beginning in Preschool through 8th grade.

For more information about the 9th Annual Stoneybrooke Golf Classic, go to www.stoney-brooke.com or contact Shawn Werner at 949-364-4407 ext. 140 or swerner@stoney-brooke.com.

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At The Goddard School located in Ladera Ranch, CA, on-site owner Michael Smithers works to make sure every family enjoys a warm, positive experience. "We strive to provide the best quality program for each child," says Michael. "Our play-based F.L.E.X.[®] Learning Program ensures that we meet high standards specific to early learning, development and care."

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"The Goddard School has become the first preschool program to join The Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21), a national organization championing 21st century skills," explains Michael. "Children at our School not only learn the 4Cs, but also executive function skills, which include planning, organizing and strategizing."

"In order to thrive in today's world, children need to be equipped with 21st century skills," says Helen Soule, Executive Director of P21. "P21 applauds The Goddard School's focus on developing these skills early so that students can be successful in and out of school."

21st century skills also tie in directly with STEAM learning (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics). Introducing STEAM concepts early on helps to promote children's natural curiosity in STEAM, increasing the chance that children will pursue STEAM-related careers later on in life.

"Supporting STEAM learning at the preschool level involves identifying activities children naturally do for opportunities to further guide them," says Michael.

"At The Goddard School, when children solve puzzles or



play with blocks, they essentially create pathways in their brains that help with STEAM learning later on."

The Goddard School's summer camp curriculum incorporates STEAM learning into exciting, one-of-a-kind and fun experiences for children every day! This year's summer camp theme is The Great Outdoors. In this program, children will have the opportunity to explore why trees have rings, how sunshine affects plants, how weather patterns work and so much more. The camp runs from June 29th to August 21st and is for children two to six years old.

Another important aspect of The Goddard School located in Ladera Ranch is the importance of safety at the School. "Nothing is more important than the health and safety of your children," Michael says. "That's why, at The Goddard School, we consider their security in all we do. From every detail of our classroom and playground design to our high standards of cleanliness to how we respond in an emergency—we've tried to think of everything. Our diligent hiring practices ensure that we have the best people in our Schools, and our teachers are thoroughly trained in safety and wellness principles from day one."

For more information, please visit www.goddardschool.com or call 949-218-6200. The Goddard School located in Ladera Ranch is located at 1 Aura Lane, Ladera Ranch, CA.



1 Aura Lane, Ladera Ranch, CA 92694

Help Is Coming for Left-Turn Access at Waterpark

by Carlo Tomaiuno, Vice Chairman
Ladera Ranch Civic Council



Carlo Tomaiuno

As we all know, dropping our kids off at Oso Grande Elementary School can be

extremely challenging. However, work is finally underway to improve this situation.

After working with the County of Orange for months to identify solutions, the County has started construction on a new turn pocket that will allow left-hand turns from the Ladera Ranch Water Park. This will enable drivers to avoid the roundabout along O'Neill and Sienna, effectively reducing traffic congestion in this area during certain peak hours.

This is especially important in the morning hours when motorists are attempting to drop their children off at school and/or access O'Neill Parkway to get to either Crown Valley Parkway or Antonio Parkway on their way to work.

This is yet another example of the collaborative relationship between the County and the Civic Council to improve our community. Councilman Jeff Hamilton spearheaded this effort and spent many hours with the County conducting traffic counts and petitioning for a

solution. The Civic Council wishes to recognize Councilman Hamilton for all of this hard work. Construction is anticipated to be complete by April 10.

Community Survey Results

The Ladera Ranch Civic Council recently completed its 2014 Community Survey. We received nearly 200 responses and wish to sincerely thank all of you that participated. Your feedback is truly valuable and will help to make Ladera Ranch an even better community.

It is important to note that the Community Survey reflects the direct opinions of the subset of those that participated.

Consequently, the information is very valuable in that it helps the Civic Council identify current priorities and areas where residents may require enhanced services from the County, LARCS, or LAR-MAC.

The survey results indicate that, with certain exceptions, residents are generally satisfied with the services in the community. Residents indicated that overall satisfaction with County services was 77%, of that amount 46% indicated that they were highly satisfied. Conversely, 23% indicated they were generally dissatisfied with County services.

Community satisfaction with services such as public

safety, transportation, and business development, varied significantly depending on the issue. Generally, there are various factors that may lead to these preliminary conclusions, which the Civic Council will explore in subsequent versions of the Community Survey.

The Community Survey also found that there are specific areas where residents indicated a desire for enhanced levels of service, including traffic; transportation infrastructure; public safety; speeding; maintaining a low crime rate; response times to calls for police services; landscape maintenance; economic/business development; and community services. Residents also expressed a desire to see additional public amenities such as a teen center, performing arts center, and a civic center.

While the survey represents only a snapshot in time, it does begin to reflect trends about emerging issues in the community. As a result, we feel the Community Survey better defines some of the core issues wherein the County and the Civic Council may work closely to address current and future community needs.

The survey will serve as a tool to provide information to both the Civic Council and the County of Orange regarding specific areas of service or focus for our community.

For its part, the Civic Council will ensure that its annual goals and its sub-committees are working diligently to address the community issues identified through the survey.

In this way, all of the work the Civic Council undertakes will be tailored to the priorities highlighted by the community.

The Civic Council hopes that the Community Survey results will also inform the County of Orange as it prepares its annual budget.

For example, the Civic Council will be meeting with Supervisor Bartlett to discuss the results and request additional funding be made available to facilitate new projects in our community.

If you are interested in seeing the results of the survey, please visit the Civic Council website: www.lrciviccouncil.org

Next Meeting

The LRCC's next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on April 20 at the Santa Margarita Water District building. Help your Civic Council help you. Your membership will ensure you have a voice in your community's future and keep you informed on community issues.

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Ladera Ranch's Dave Bacani Baseball 'Coach of the Year'

For most people spring means warm weather and longer day, but for Ladera resident Dave Bacani, it

means the start of baseball season and the most exciting part of the year.

Dave is the coach of the

Santa Margarita Catholic High School Eagles baseball team, and the 2014 CIF Division 1 Coach of the Year.



The Coach of the Year Award followed an incredible 2014 season that saw Coach Bacani lead the Eagles to the CIF Division 1 Championship and the first baseball title for Santa Margarita High.

Baseball success isn't new to Dave. A four-year-starter at Cal State Fullerton, he still holds the school records for most Hit By Pitches, Runs Scored, and Walks and, in 2001, Baseball America created the "David Bacani Award" to be annually awarded to the best college player under 5'10".

What followed was a career with the Mets and Red Sox organizations.

In six-plus years in affiliated professional baseball, Coach Bacani won three championships and went to the playoffs every year.

After an injury in 2007, he came back to Orange County to chase a new calling, coaching.

Starting his 6th year with the Eagles, Dave knows life is good.

He lives in Ladera Ranch with his wife, Jamie, a registered nurse, and their two daughters, Maison, 4, and Madden, 1.

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10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
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www.smwd.com
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Join us for a free day of fun and learning!

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- Hands-On Tide Pool Exhibit
- Water Presentations, Games, and Crafts
- Music, Fire Truck Rides, and Face Painting
- Scavenger Hunt and Native Flower Pot Planting
- Demonstrations on Water-Efficient Landscaping

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Spring Celebration Photo Feature



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Girls.....	\$18-\$25		
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MERCANTILE EAST Shopping Center




Directory of Shops

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BevMo!	347-9850	Auto Club	347-2940
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HomeGoods	364-3755	CrossFit Ethos	305-3334
Justice	347-0249	Finest Nails & Spa	364-6368
Kohl's	365-0034	Ladera Dentistry	347-7083
Staples	365-1321	Melt Ladera Hot Yoga	388-5711
Tilly's	347-8823	Sport Clips	364-7900
		The UPS Store	218-2200
		The Urge Dance Complex	812-1156
		View Cleaners	365-1030
		Wells Fargo	364-5766
EATERIES			
Baskin Robbins	347-9131		
BLK Burgz	429-6666		
Corky's Homestyle Kitchen & Bakery	364-4439		
Jalapeños	364-5614		
Kanpai Sushi	429-2772		
KFC / A&W	364-2982		
Loving Hut Vegan Cuisine	365-1077		
McDonald's	364-8500		
Panda Express	365-0291		
Pizza Hut	364-1551		
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Tacos & Co.	364-2937		
The Ranch Sports Grill	429-7737		

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WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER!

with Michelle Patterson, Founder & CEO

Many years ago, as I began a project far beyond my experience or my skill level, I had a fairly impressive anxiety attack.

Not only was I overwhelmed by work, but my family was going through a particularly challenging time.

The responsibilities of home and family, coupled with the project had me in an old fashioned dither.

It was not pretty. I remember the advice that changed everything for me. It set me on a path to excellence in a way I would not have thought of on my own.

In the midst of what surely must have been a messy meltdown, my husband consoled me in a way that was neither coddling nor cold.

He simply told me, "Michelle, you don't need to know how to do everything, you just need to know the best person for every job."

And it was true. From the top shelf accountant who prepared the corporate taxes that year to the exceptional builder who crafted remarkable homes for us, I neither needed my calculator nor my hammer to complete what was ultimately conceded by all as a completely successful venture.

I'm not sure why we, as women, believe we need to

know how to do it all.

Is it something someone told us or did we surmise it from insinuation or possibly make up unreasonable rules for ourselves as we went along?

Whatever causes us to take on the troubles of the world, wouldn't it be nice to finally lay them down?

It's taken me a long time to admit to myself that having someone clean my house isn't overly indulgent for my circumstances.

I now see it as a wise use of resources. I'm not very good at it anyway if we're being honest.

The fact that I use experts as diverse as housekeepers to psychiatrists is smart. We cannot know or possibly do it all.

And when we can look at our lives and find the areas where we do not shine and delegate them out, that is brilliance at it's best.

As a woman living a multifaceted life, I sometimes let my ambitions get the best of me.

From time to time as I take on the world, my good intentions get away from me and I begin to think I've got everything covered. And then of course, I get overwhelmed.

No one has it "all covered" but, if we use the best people and call in for back

ups when we need it, our next project will be our best project yet. And from there, we can take on the world... Together.

(Michelle Patterson is the CEO of Women Network LLC, a media and production company giving women a voice to share their message. Women Network's "umbrella platform" shines a light on organizations and corporations who empower women and bring them together as a community to experience "We are Better Together." Women Network is creating the largest community of women globally. They are the exclusive event producer of the California Women's Conference. This fortunate relationship allows Women

Network to provide additional promotional benefits to the California Women's Conference through its array of web media functions.

She is also the founder of Global Women Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit public charity created to bring women together to create global change by empowering them to transform their communities. Its mission supports women to effectuate this change through serving as a world-wide conduit for connecting community, mentoring, education, and financial support. Mrs. Patterson lives in Ladera Ranch, California with her husband of nearly twenty years, Eric, and their two children, Jacyln and Chase.)

KC Mitchell Sales Director Ladera Times



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CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

BY RAM MUKHERJI



The Capistrano Unified School District will observe its Spring break April 6 through 10. I am sure the students, teachers and staff are looking forward to the break. All schools are working towards the end of the school year, which is June 1.

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) practice and training test is available online.

This test is for students in grade 3 through 8 and grade 11 in both English/Language Arts and Math. These tests will be administered from end of April through early May.

At the March 11 Board meeting, the Trustees approved the start of the next two school years prior to Labor Day weekend.

Hence the 2016-17

school year will begin on Monday, August 15, 2016. The same will be the case for 2017-18 school year. This aligns the CUSD calendar with other Orange County school districts and local colleges.

This helps the students to take college classes, helps the graduating seniors participate in graduation ceremonies.

The District has chosen three teachers as the CUSD elementary, middle school and high school teachers of the year. They were selected from 56 school teachers from the District's individual schools. None were from Ladera Ranch Schools. We had our share in previous years with one being

named County teacher of the year.

Ladera Ranch sixth grader, Jaidyn Cooper, has collected donations to prepare 100 Easter Baskets for the patients in the Children Hospital of Orange County. Donations of toys, stickers, stuffed animals were accepted through March 31st at Ladera Ranch Elementary school. We at Ladera Times are proud of Jaidyn.

The Coast View Athletic Association has increased the Football ticket price from \$8 to \$10. This is CVAA's decision, not a CUSD decision.

March was a dreadful month for the teachers when layoff notices were issued.

This year only one layoff notice was issued to a special needs teacher in CUSD. This was due to the forecasted reduction of students, not funding!

As a comparison, in 2011 CUSD issued 348 notices. The passage of Proposition 30 raised taxes for public school funding.

Additionally, in January Governor Brown's initial State Budget allocated \$50.7 billion for K-12 schools. This is \$5.7 billion higher than projected because of higher than expected tax revenue through new SBAC tests.

Ram Mukherji is a former Trustee of Tri-City L.A. County Unified School District and Past President of Ladera Ranch Maintenance Corporation.



LADERA DERBY DAY

Live Kentucky Derby Race & Bidding
Benefiting Laura's House

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

1:30 - 4:30 PM

COVENANT HILLS CLUBHOUSE

Laura's House, in Partnership with LARCS, cordially invites you to join us for the 141st Run for the Roses Kentucky Derby

EVENT DETAILS:

- Southern Food Buffet & Mint Juleps
- Live Horseracing & Lawn Games
- Derby Hat Contest
- Silent Auction/Opportunity Drawings
- And more!

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(must be 21 or older to attend)

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Friday, May 1st
Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club
Mission Viejo

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Stoneybrooke's 9th Annual Golf Classic!
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Monthly Real Estate Report by Cathie Berlin

LADERA RANCH RECENT SALES ACTIVITY - 30 DAYS ENDING MARCH 29, 2015*

Address	Beds	Baths	Sq Ft	Date Closed	Days On Market	List Price	Sold Price	Price Per Sq Foot
3 Granville	3	3	1635	3/27/15	45	\$459,000	\$450,500	\$276
8 Hinterland	1	2	1100	3/17/15	62	\$349,900	\$348,000	\$316
9 Viburnum	2	2	1135	3/17/15	264	\$368,000	\$364,000	\$321
93 Sansovino	2	2	1306	3/24/15	19	\$410,000	\$375,000	\$287
41 Quartz	2	3	1475	3/10/15	60	\$389,000	\$389,000	\$264
42 Garrison	2	2	1251	3/20/15	36	\$369,000	\$395,000	\$316
18 Granville	2	2	1670	3/26/15	51	\$450,000	\$423,000	\$253
26 Garrison	3	3	1417	3/13/15	50	\$439,000	\$439,000	\$310
67 Three Vines	3	3	1400	3/3/15	54	\$459,000	\$459,000	\$328
195 Sklar	3	3	1650	2/28/15	190	\$439,000	\$460,000	\$279
11 Attleboro	3	3	1500	3/13/15	43	\$464,900	\$460,000	\$307
15 Quartz	3	3	1700	3/10/15	47	\$464,900	\$472,000	\$278
44 Bayley	3	3	1636	3/18/15	25	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$315
8 Ballard	4	3	2000	3/20/15	66	\$554,999	\$555,000	\$278
26 Wood Barn	3	3	1500	3/22/15	64	\$567,500	\$568,000	\$379
4 Wood Barn	3	3	1500	3/27/15	55	\$569,000	\$569,000	\$379
4 Maple Run Farm	3	3	1771	3/12/15	305	\$579,900	\$578,000	\$326
4 Ivy Gate	3	3	1804	3/9/15	31	\$599,900	\$590,000	\$327
28 Potters	3	3	1825	3/20/15	14	\$619,900	\$592,500	\$325
61 Kyle	3	3	1700	3/19/15	26	\$599,900	\$605,000	\$356
12 Trumpet Vine	3	3	1800	3/6/15	35	\$619,500	\$620,000	\$344
48 Livingston	3	3	1667	3/6/15	45	\$599,900	\$625,000	\$375
42 Tarleton	3	3	2205	3/4/15	275	\$635,900	\$633,950	\$288
12 Tarleton	3	3	2086	3/20/15	25	\$639,000	\$635,000	\$304
10 Eton	3	3	1800	3/12/15	21	\$665,000	\$645,000	\$358
11 Longfield	3	3	1800	3/24/15	18	\$709,900	\$700,000	\$389
20 Bluewing	5	3	2436	3/2/15	48	\$724,000	\$724,000	\$297
17 Barnstable	4	3	2200	3/27/15	29	\$744,990	\$737,000	\$335
27 Bushwood	4	3	2700	3/23/15	209	\$849,000	\$839,000	\$311
12 Copious	5	5	4100	3/19/15	116	\$999,999	\$999,999	\$244
23 Winfield	4	3	3355	3/13/15	145	\$998,000	\$1,000,000	\$298
4 Newkirk	4	4	3297	3/2/15	223	\$1,049,000	\$1,040,000	\$315
4 Winslow	5	5	4000	3/12/15	285	\$1,049,900	\$1,049,900	\$262
8 Michael	4	5	3682	3/9/15	53	\$1,215,000	\$1,108,000	\$301
25 Abyssinian	4	3	3350	3/27/15	46	\$1,149,900	\$1,145,000	\$342
8 Galora	4	4	3710	3/2/15	31	\$1,149,900	\$1,147,500	\$309
12 Galora	5	5	4100	3/17/15	36	\$1,179,000	\$1,169,000	\$285
2 Pistoria	4	5	4000	3/24/15	27	\$1,250,000	\$1,243,922	\$311
1 Tranquility	5	5	3948	3/9/15	7	\$1,275,000	\$1,265,000	\$320
18 Galaxy	5	7	4922	3/4/15	47	\$1,675,000	\$1,650,000	\$335

*Based on information from the Association of Realtors/Multiple listing as of March 29, 2015, and/or other sources. MLS data is deemed reliable but not guaranteed accurate by the MLS. The Broker/Agent providing the information contained herein may or may not have been the listing agent.

Be Informed When It Comes to FHA Loans

by Cathie Berlin, Real Estate Editor

FHA and government backed loans have been made by lenders in Ladera Ranch and Talega for more than 10 years, but HUD has recently said that these type government backed loans are no longer authorized where there are required private transfer fees, such as the Ladera Ranch community enhancement fee.

The community enhancement fee is collected each time a property is sold in Ladera Ranch, and the amount is 1/4 of 1% of the sales price. Most the time when a home closes escrow in Ladera Ranch, the community enhancement fee is paid by the buyer, because they will

be benefiting from the community events that are paid by the enhancement fee.

According to HUD (U.S. Housing and Urban Development), the lifestyle fee or community enhancement fee is a recorded covenant running with the land obligation of the sellers. Payment of this fee obligation is according to a recorded covenant and can't be avoided.

HUD representatives have stated that "Ladera Ranch is one of many master planned communities where mandatory private transfer or other transfer fees are required upon each conveyance of the property. This includes single-family dwellings, townhouses, PUD's and condos. Per

the regulation transfer fees are not authorized. This rule was put into place in 1994 and, according to HUD, the "requirements of the rule are still applicable."

So despite HUD not enforcing its own regulation after more than 10 years in Ladera Ranch and Talega, such purchase money loans will no longer be insured or purchased by HUD. And unless HUD changes its mind about declining to authorize loans where private transfer fees are required, FHA mortgages will no longer be available.

So what this means if you're in the market to purchase a home in Ladera Ranch or Talega, you will

need to talk with your lender and look at alternative types of financing. Under FHA financing, buyers could pay as little 3.5% down. But now that FHA backed loans are not an option in Ladera Ranch buyers will have to come up with a larger down payment.

If you have any questions or would like more info about selling or buying real estate, please feel free to contact me at 949-291-1959, or email me at: cathieberlin@cox.net, or contact any Realtor® of your choosing, including one of the several advertising their services in Ladera Times. You can also find me on Facebook at: **Ladera Ranch Homes-Cathie Berlin.**

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Cathie Berlin

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Ladera Ranch Homes - Cathie Berlin





Following are highlights from the Orange County Police Blotter. For more, go to LaderaTimes.com.

The Sheriff's Blotter was down for hours right up until press time, so we'll fill in this month's blotter with a rerun of the Blotter published in the April 2014 issue. We apologize for the inconvenience; we know the Blotter is the most popular page in the Times. Go to LaderaTimes.com in a day or so for the latest blotter report.



At 11:57 am on April 25, 2014, Sheriff's deputies were notified of a female in a purple shirt and jeans was running down Crown Valley Parkway with blood on her face while a male in a white Prius with black rims pulled over and got out and appeared to be running after her. The woman was treated for her injuries and the male was arrested and charged with domestic abuse.

his stepson's mother is drunk and is causing a ruckus and wants her removed from the house where she has lived

April 29

1:37 pm, informant says

for the past year, 100 Selles S.

1:15 pm, informant reported a dog locked in a car in the McDonald's parking lot.

April 28

8:48 pm, man says someone put a black box full of drugs inside his wife's vehicle while its was parked in the garage this morning, Ardenes Drive.

6:40 pm, woman reported her 10-y-o son was missing, but child was walking the dog on a different route than normal and forgot to tell his parents, Clifton.

April 27

10:49 pm, woman says her roommate is drunk and picked up a large bottle and threatened to hit her and her boyfriend, Citrus Lane.

6:41 pm, woman in a black Mercedes called from McDonald's parking lot and said a woman in a gray

BMW is following her.

5:18 pm, a patrol car was called to check on a grey small beat up vehicle that is occupied by a male who appears to be living out of it, Epona Way & Galora Lane.

3:35 pm, Spanish-speaking woman called to report that she cleaned a house and now the owner refuses to pay her, Moonlight Isle.

10:42 am, woman says she cannot find her 2-y-o son but child was found in the garage, Agapanthus Street.

2:27 am, three males took a 24-pack of Coors Light from the ARCO station in Mercantile East and headed towards Corky's.

April 26

8:51 pm, informant says several juveniles are arguing with her and her neighbor and refusing to leave the area, Garrison Loop.

8:43 pm, woman wants to speak with a deputy about and ongoing problem with kids playing and skateboarding under her window, Chadron Circle.

7:15 pm, woman is upset because she sent her 13-y-o son to a party with no adult supervision where the kids are drinking and smoking and she wants the deputies to try to find a way to get a hold of the parents and scare them, Chadron Circle.

April 25

8:42 pm, woman says her 26-y-o ex-boyfriend has her belonging and is refusing to give them back. Male is a drinker and has weapons in the residence but not out, Garrison Loop.



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LADERA TIMES

The Ladera Times is published monthly by Scholze Communications, 29851 Sienna Parkway, Ladera Ranch, CA 92694, and 12,500 copies are delivered to every home, business, corporate offices, and apartment complex in Ladera Ranch and now the new community of Rancho Mission Viejo the Thursday on or about the first of every month.

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Calendar of Events

Dates, times, locations, and events are subject to change without notice so double check before setting out to attend an event. Events can be added to the Calendar by emailing details to LaderaTimes@cox.net. For a more extensive list of events, go to www.LaderaTimes.com.

Wednesday, April 15 – LARMAC Executive & Open Session Meeting, Avendale Clubhouse on Daisy, beginning at 5:00 pm.

lots, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Drop off locked document collection bins, batteries, compact florescent lights, gently used clothing, shoes, and household items, but no large furniture pieces. Go to www.LaderaLife.com for more information.

Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3 – It's a busy weekend for Laura's House, the national Domestic Abuse prevention organization headquartered in Ladera Ranch. On Saturday it's holding Ladera Derby Day at Covenant Hills Clubhouse from 1:30 to 4:30 pm, followed on Sunday with its 4th Annual Wine and Dine Benefit at the home of Laura Khouri and Michael Hayde in Turtle Ridge, Irvine, beginning at 2:00 pm. Tickets,

\$100/person and can be purchased at <http://laurashouse-1895.wedid.it>.

Saturday, April 25 – Community wide Garage Sale from 7:00 am to 12:00 noon. Register on www.LaderaLife.com.

Friday, May 1 – 9th Annual Stoneybrooke Golf Classic Friday, May 1, at the Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club. The day of golf and fun will begin at 9:00 am.

Saturday, April 25 – Go Green e-waste collection at Ladera Ranch Elementary and Middle School parking

Saturday, May 2 – Water Awareness Day from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Santa Margarita Water District, 26111 Antonio Parkway, offering exhibits, tours, games, crafts, fire truck rides, music, face painting, and free hot dogs, soda, snow cones, water, and so on. Free to the public.



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SMWD Rebates Save Money & Water

The following is a rundown of rebates offered to residents for purchasing or installing water-savings equipment. Visit the Santa Margarita Water District website – www.smwd.com – for details.

Turf Removal Rebate

Receive up to \$2.00 per square foot of turf removed! Click here for more information.

Applicants who have already removed turf prior to the required site pre-inspection or rebate application submission will not qualify.

Spray-to-Drip Rebate

Receive up to \$175 on

drip kit assemblies to retrofit planter bed areas! Get up to 3 kit assemblies per home. Can be combined with Turf Removal rebate.

A minimum of 250 square feet of irrigated area must be converted to drip irrigation.

Drip Rebate Eligibility

Eligible Rebates Required Area (sq.ft.)

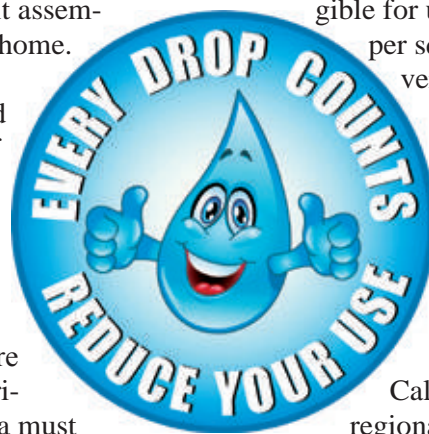
- 1 250-500
- 2 501-750

3 751+ Commercial sites eligible for up to \$0.20 per sq.ft. of converted area.

RainBird drip conversion kit & installation video

The So-Cal WaterSmart regional rebate program is available to SMWD customers, courtesy of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Municipal Water District of Orange County. Receive money back for installing the following devices:

- High-efficiency clothes washers – Total Rebate \$85
- High-efficiency toilets – Total Rebate \$100
- Rotating sprinkler nozzles – Total Rebate \$4 each (minimum of 15)
- Weather-based irrigation controllers, or "smart" controllers – Total Rebate: Up to \$380 for single family homes; or \$35 per station for multi-family homes and commercial systems more than one acre)
- Soil Moisture Sensor Systems – rebate is \$380 per home, or \$35 per station for multi-family homes and commercial systems (more than one acre)




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Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club
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Display Rates (per Issue)	One X	Six X	12 X
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1/8 Page (4.75 col. inches)	\$ 300	\$ 200 (per issue)	\$ 150 (per issue)
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LADERA TIMES

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by K.C. Mitchell, Advertising Director for the Ladera Times

To all pet owners: Beware of sewing threads and strings of any types...

My six-month-old kitten Simba starting throwing up a few months ago and was unable to keep any food down.

Then he would just lay around all day and wouldn't even play.

He wouldn't drink or eat after awhile so we decided to take him to Ladera Ranch Animal Hospital in the Ter-

race Shops where the staff was so friendly and understanding of our feelings and Simba's illness.

After x-rays were taken, Doctor Angele Sumpter found a blockage in his intestines so he had to undergo surgery.

My children and I were so upset because our beloved Simba was only six months old.

It was two hours into the surgery when Doctor Sumpter called to explain

that Simba had swallowed thread that became tightly wrapped around his intestines, a section of which had to be removed because part of the intestine was dead due to a lack of circulation.

The doctor warned me that even after the surgery, Simba would only have a 50/50 chance to make it. I then started to cry along with my five kids and grand kids.

Simba always greeted us

at the door morning, noon, or night, laying beside us watching TV, playing with us and always giving us warm fuzzy snuggle hugs.

After his surgery, we just kept on praying he was going to make it!

Weeks later we took Simba back to get his stitches removed and the doctor said he looks good

Unfortunately, a dog who underwent the same surgery did not make it due to his advanced age of 10 years old.

Our Simba is lucky to be alive, thanks to the excellent and compassionate care provided to him at the Ladera Ranch Animal Hospital.

Animals do get into everything!

Thank you Ladera Ranch Animal Hospital!

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A Full Service, State-of-the-Art Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Angele Sumpter, DVM
Dr. Louis Mauna, DVM

Hours: M-F 8-6
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Do you Really Know if Your Senior Pet is Healthy Inside and Out?

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