



June 25, 2015

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Edward C. Starr, City Manager 

**SUBJECT:** WEEKLY REPORT: June 19-25, 2015

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## **CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**

- The *City Manager's Weekly Report* for next week will not be published since it is a short workweek with City offices being closed on July 2 in observance of Independence Day. I wish everyone a happy long weekend, and please be safe as you celebrate the 4th of July holiday!
- Yesterday's Annual Montclair Chamber of Commerce Installation of Officers and Directors Awards & Recognition Luncheon drew over 60 attendees, including Mayor Paul Eaton and Council Member Bill Ruh represented the City as certificates were presented to new and outgoing Chamber directors and officers, as well as outstanding ambassadors.

Also present were Veronica Zendejas of Congress Member Norma Torres' Office, Manuel Saucedo of State Senator Connie Leyva's Office, Chris Craig of Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez's Office, and Suzette Dang of 4th District County Supervisor Curt Hagman's Office.

Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Darleen Curley served as Master of Ceremonies as the Chamber installed the following returning/new officers and directors: Pat Rees, President Kiwanis Club; Rucsana Ahmed, Laptop Xchange; Larry Martin, Montclair Place; Amy Norman, Red Lobster Restaurant, Tim Walborn, Director, West End YMCA; Ron Ikejiri, Global Link Distribution, Inc.; Dan Neale, American National, Inc.; and Bobby Hyde, Ben Bridge Jeweler.

A highlight of the awards ceremony was Diana Fakhoury of There is Hope Foster Family Agency receiving the "Ambassador of the Year" title.

The City of Montclair greatly appreciates all the diligent work provided by the Montclair Chamber of Commerce and its dynamic group of officers and directors,

and is thankful to have such diligent ambassadors that volunteer their time all year in support of the Montclair business community.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

- The Montclair family extends its sincerest congratulations to Nicholas Flores, grandson of Planning Commissioner/Chairman Louis Flores, who graduated this month from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a Bachelor's Degree in Biological/Biosystems Engineering. MIT is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

During his undergraduate work, Nicholas served as a research assistant on two important subjects:

1. The kinetics (the branch of chemistry or biochemistry concerned with measuring and studying the rates of reactions) of thioredoxin nitrosation. Thioredoxin are proteins found in all organisms and play a vital role in important biological processes. In periods of environmental stress, the protein increases dramatically through an oxidation process. This oxidation process, or nitrosation, results in a conversion of organic compounds into nitrosamine—a potential carcinogenic derivative. This process can potentially result in significant damage to cellular structures.
2. Development of an assay (or assessment process) that would detect inflammation intensity based on the amount of carbonylated protein (native amino acids in proteins modified, often by oxidation, into derivatives known as protein carbonylation) found in tissue samples, with the objective of producing a faster, more cost efficient method of determining inflammatory intensities for a refined course of treatment.

Chairman Flores, you have every reason to be proud of your grandson's accomplishments. We wish him well in his graduate course work and his future career.

## **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

- Last Saturday, 75 people attended as the City of Montclair celebrated the opening and dedication of the Montclair Community Garden. City representatives included Mayor Paul Eaton, Council Member John Dutrey, Deputy City Manager Marilyn Staats, Executive Director of Public Safety Mike deMoet, Director of Community Development Steve Lustro, Director of Public Works Michael Hudson, Director of Human Services Marcia Richter, and me.

For the past few months, Incredible Edible Community Garden has been working with the community to recruit volunteers, hold planning and work meetings, and design the garden. Final work is now being completed in the garden, and garden plots can soon be rented by the community members.

Special thanks go to all the departments that helped make the dedication a success, including the Human Services Department, Public Works Department, and the Information Technology Division.

Also, our sincere appreciation goes out to all our partners, including Incredible Edible Community Garden, previous 4th District Supervisor Gary Ovitt, Ontario Foundation, Bracero Landscaping and Maintenance, Inc., First 5 San Bernardino, Integrated Infrastructures, Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc., Monte Vista Water District, and Montclair-Ontario Junior Women's Club.

A photo collage is included on Page 9.

- The Summer Concerts Series begins Tuesday, June 30! Concerts are held at Alma Hofman Park (Shark Park), beginning at 7 p.m., and they are presented free to the public. Bring your friends and family, blankets, lawn chairs, and a picnic dinner for an evening of "under the stars" entertainment. Free children's activities will also be offered.

The concert schedule is as follows.

June 30	Suave (Latin favorites)
July 7	The Silverados (country)
July 1	The Shameless Dawgs (dance variety)
July 21	The Ravelers (classic rock)
July 28	Mariachi El Aventurero (mariachi)

A flyer is included on Page 8.

- Yesterday, the Senior Center hosted its monthly birthday party in the Community Center. The sports-themed event was attended by 260 seniors and included lunch, birthday cake, and ice cream.

Senior Center volunteer Dee Copeland organized a photo display of the seniors' fathers or a special father in their lives. All the men in attendance were invited to have their pictures taken.

Live country music was provided by Jim Exon and his band.

A photo collage is Page 10.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Last weekend, the Inland Empire Region of Special Olympics Southern Games was held at Cal State University Long Beach. More than 1,100 athletes from all over Southern California competed in 6 sports. Approximately 500 law enforcement officers attended to support Special Olympics by participating in the Opening Ceremonies and medal presentations throughout the weekend.

During the Opening Ceremonies, it was announced that Southern California Law Enforcement has raised **\$1,561,168.00** in support of Special Olympics!



## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- This week, leaders of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee unveiled a new 6-year surface transportation bill that would provide over a quarter-trillion dollars. One important feature missing from the bill is how to pay for it.

For over 30 years, Congress has been authorizing federal funds for local, regional, state, and federal highway related projects. The programs were generally 6-year terms with various names like FAU, FAR, ISTEPA, TEA-21, SAFETY-LU, MAP-21, and now the DRIVE Act—Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy Act.

The bill would place a new priority on funding streams for bridges, as well as a new grant program for projects of strategic and national significance. The bill would provide for increased focus on backlogs related to the Interstate Highway System and National Highway System.

Also, the measure would set up a formula-based program for funding for freight corridors in an effort to fund projects that improve the movement of goods. The bipartisan bill contains the hallmark accomplishment of a new freight program to prioritize federal spending on the facilities that will most directly benefit the nation's economy, in addition to prioritizing federal dollars towards bridge safety and the interstate system, according to Committee Chair James M. Inhofe from Oklahoma.

Overall, the DRIVE Act would provide a 3 percent annual growth over the current MAP-21 bill. This equates to a bill valued at \$260-\$270 billion over the 6-year life of the DRIVE Act. But as is usually the case with transportation bills, it does not address funding issues. Getting the funding has always been the sticking point. It's always easier to dole out the money than decide who you are going to squeeze to get it.

## **SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/ MONTCLAIR HOUSING CORPORATION**

- On June 19, 2015, Hilco Merchant Resources and Gordon Brothers Group began a going-out-of-business sale at all Anna's Linens retail locations; therefore the location at Montclair East will be closing.

The joint venture partners were awarded the store-closing process by a U.S. bankruptcy court on June 18. Sales offer discounts of up to 30 percent on all merchandise including sheets, bed pillows, comforter sets, bath and beach towels, bed and bath accessories, window treatments, housewares, decorative home accents, storage, gifts, and more.

Anna's Linens currently operates 252 retail locations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. The company filed for Chapter 11 protection on June 14, 2015. The sale will entail the total liquidation of all merchandise, much of which has been re-stocked within the past week. Store furniture, fixtures, and equipment is also available for sale.

Hilco Merchant Resources provides analytic, advisory, asset monetization, and capital investment services to retailers. The firm's activities fall into several principal categories including acquisitions; disposition of underperforming stores; retail company wind downs; event sales to convert unwanted assets into working capital; facilitation of mergers and acquisitions; and the monetization of furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

Gordon Brothers Group is a restructuring and investment firm specializing in the retail, consumer products, industrial, and real estate sectors. Gordon Brothers Group's mission is to maximize value for both healthy and distressed companies by purchasing or selling all categories of assets, mitigating leases, appraising assets, and operating businesses for extended periods.

ECS:spa

"Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed – else like a flower cut from its live-giving roots, it will wither and die."

~ Dwight D. Eisenhower

## JUNE 2015

A stylized graphic with the words "Summer Time!" in a bubbly, yellow font with a red outline and a drop shadow. The text is set against a white background with a yellow sunburst effect behind the word "Time!".

29	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m..
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# JULY 2015



02	City Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day	
04	Independence Day	
06	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
08	Montclair Farmer's Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
13	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
14	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
16	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
16	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	4:00 p.m.
20	Code Enforcement/Public Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
20	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
22	Montclair Farmer's Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
27	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
28	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
29	Montclair Farmer's Market Montclair Town Center	4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

# SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

54<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
SUMMER  
SEASON

FREE  
CONCERTS!

## CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Outdoor concerts at Alma Hofman Park (Shark Park),  
located at 5201 Benito Street. Bring the family, lawn  
chairs and a picnic dinner and enjoy music in the park.

June 30 **SUAVE**  
(Latin)

July 7 **SILVERADOS**  
(Country)

July 14 **SHAMELESS DAWGS**  
(Dance Variety)

July 21 **RAVELERS**  
(Classic Rock)

July 28 **MARIACHI  
EL AVENTURERO**  
(Mariachi)

FREE  
KIDS ACTIVITIES!

BRING THE  
FAMILY!

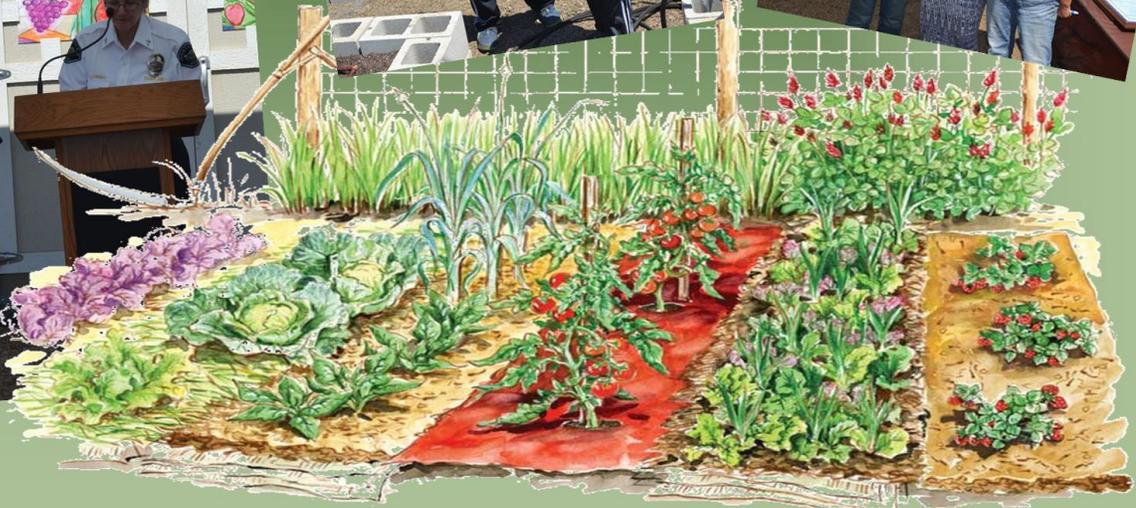
REFRESHMENTS  
FOR SALE

Admission is **FREE** • All Programs Begin at 7:00 pm

CITY OF MONTCLAIR • HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT • 625-9479

# Montclair Community Garden Grand Opening

June 20, 2015





June 24, 2015