

SIXTY, STILL YOUTHFUL



THE GARDEN GROVE Unified School District celebrated its 60th Anniversary with an event at Bolsa Grande Stadium on Friday. La Quinta and other cheerleaders welcomed attendees (Tribune photo).

Confronting E-bike crisis

A proposal to create a city council ad hoc committee on juvenile e-bike safety and enforcement is on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting of the Huntington Beach City Council.

The item is submitted by Mayor Butch Twining and Councilmembers Chad

■ HUNT. BEACH CITY COUNCIL

Williams and Andrew Gruel.

Proposed is the committee to research current local and state laws regarding operation of e-bikes

Continued on page 2

'Call to Duty' Honored 'Fallen Six' of GGPD

Steve Sanders spoke on their heroism, honor

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

The 39th Annual "Call to Duty" memorial of the Garden Grove Police Department event on Thursday was a bridge between the heroism and service of one era and looking forward to another one.

Retired GGPD Lieutenant Steve Sanders spoke to a gathering in front of the "old" police facility and eulogized the GGPD officers who gave their lives — "The Fallen Six" — in service to their community.

The new police department building — three stories high with gleaming mirrored walls — is under



RETIRED GGPD Lieutenant Steve Sanders was the guest speaker (Tribune photo).

construction nearby on Acacia Parkway.

"This will be the last memorial held at this facility, a place where many of us spent our entire career here. These walls have seen our triumphs, our challenges, our laughter and our tears," said Sand-

ers. "It is only fitting that we start this ceremony with those who had a dream to serve, to protect, wear the badge with pride.

"They served with honor, dignity and compassion. They served their commu-

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In The Tribune



24-team college football tourney is proposed

SPORTS Page 6



Another chapter in 'Godfather' series of books

PAGES 5 & 7

Mixed use ordinance gets final OK

By a staff writer

■ WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

An ordinance increasing the density of some mixed-use zones, along with raising permitted building heights was approved by the Westminster City Council on Tuesday night.

The vote was 4-0-1 with Councilmember Amy

Phan West abstaining.

Westminster is moving toward more mixed-use zoning across the city including the former Westminster Mall (now being re-created as Bolsa Pacific), establishing a downtown and in the Little Sai-

gon area. Also on Wednesday, the council took up consideration of a request from the VHV Foundation for the use of the Miriam Warne Community Center for a Little Saigon Community Cultural Center.

Mayor Chi Charlie Nguyen introduced the

Continued on page 2

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‘Call to Duty’

Continued from page 1

nity with courage that defined their character and shaped their legacy.

“And today, we say their names because their names deserve to be spoken with pride.”

The “Fallen Six” are:

- Sgt. Myron Trapp, 1959;
- Reserve Officer Andy R. Reese, 1970;
- Officer Donald F. Reed, 1980;
- Officer Micheal L. Rainford, 1980;
- Master Officer Howard E. Dalties, Jr, 1993;
- Lieutenant John Reynolds, 2021.

The ceremonies included comments by Police Chief Amir El-Farra, performances by the Bolsa Grande High School Concert Choir, a recitation of the patriotic poem “My Name is Old Glory” by GGPD Sgt. Jose Herrera and a singing of “The Star Spangled Banner” by Orange Police Department Officer Lavance Reed.

The welcome, introduction and “thank you” were by Captain Luis Payan.

E-bike crisis

Continued from page 1

by minors, consult with the Huntington Beach Police Department on enforcement challenges and resource needs, develop recommended policy direction” and potential amendments to the municipal code.

The group would report back to the full city council within 90 days.

Huntington Beach has experienced an outbreak of accidents, traffic violations and other problems associated with electric bicycles and motorcycles, including one recent incident in which a group of underage e-bikers attacked a man near the beach.

The council will meet at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 2000 Main St.

Westminster council

Continued from page 1

item as a way to use an underutilized building – located at 14491Beach Blvd. — to serve a population that is more than 50

Continued on page 8

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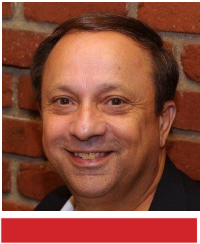
News & Views

Don't sit on the American flag, please!

You won't often find me full of giddy enthusiasm about some of the policies and proposals of the present Huntington Beach Council, but there's an item on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting of the city council that has my support and attention.

Mayor Casey McKeon is proposing to direct the staff

to develop a city-sponsored "flag program policy that establishes simple, uniform guideline that honor the U.S. Flag Code," etc. etc.



Retorts

Jim Tortolano

If you look around, you will find many people – including those who claim to be patriotic – treating our nation's banner with disrespect and/or for cynical or commercial purposes. For example:

- "the flag should never be used as wearing apparel." Well, you can buy swimming trunks, underwear and all kinds of "Old Glory" hats.

- "the flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever." Drive past most car dealerships and you'll find forests of the Star Spangled Banners.

- "the flag should never be carried flat or horizontally."

At the Black April event in Westminster a parade consisted of women dressed in flag outfits who carried the flag horizontally.

The list goes on. Now, while the Flag Code is a federal law, you can't be punished for not following it, any more than you can for not being nice to your mother.

But if you don't, what does that say about you as a patriot, or son or daughter?



THE HBPD WILL BE holding a CDL/DUI Checkpoint on Thursday, May 28 (Shutterstock photo).

HBPD plans checkpoint in city on May 28 for DUI

It's never a good idea to drive your car without a valid driver's license or while intoxicated by liquor or drugs.

But it's especially not smart to do those things when the police are making a special effort to apprehend those who are doing those things.

The Huntington Beach Police will hold a CDL/DUI Checkpoint on Thursday, May 28 from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. the next day at an undisclosed location within city limits.

Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of

\$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

The HBPD reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol. Some prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving.

Always follow directions for use and read warning labels about driving or "operating heavy machinery," which includes driving a car. While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

Branding idea for city may be canned

A controversial proposal to issue a request for proposals for a company to provide "creative strategy, branding, merchandizing, media and film industry development services" for the city will likely be discarded.

At Tuesday's meeting, the Huntington Beach City Council will consider a recommendation from a council ad hoc committee to end the request for an RFP.

The council will meet in closed session at 4 p.m. and regular meeting/study session at 6 p.m.

Overall, crime in Westminster is down; violent crime has risen

The good news is crime in Westminster for the first quarter of 2026 is down by over 13 percent, compared to the first quarter of 2025.

The not-quite-as good news is that while property crime has declined by 19.35 percent, violent crime has risen by 35.53 percent. According to the Westminster Police Department, property crime has fallen in three categories (burglary, larceny and vehicle theft) and arson has risen by 50 percent (four incidents to six).

Violent crime has risen in some categories and fallen in others. Homicide declined from one incident in first quarter 2025 to none in 2026. Rape declined from nine reported incidents to seven.

However, robbery has risen by 80 percent (15 to 27) and aggravated assault by 35.29 percent (51 to 69).

According to Police Chief Darin Lenyi, there's been an increase in bikes and jewelry being stolen by force. "The popularity of electric bikes has made them a target of crime."

The rise in aggravated assault is connected to an increase in retail stores and assaults among the "homeless/unhoused population."

History Minute

Truly a city of (many) festivals

Garden Grove's Strawberry Festival isn't the first or only festival in the community's long history.

In 1937, the Chamber of Commerce organized "Grover's Day" complete with a parade down Euclid Street (now Main Street).

The Chamber also pioneered the first "Strawberry Festival" in 1958. Intended to be a one-shot, it was so successful it became an annual event in 1959, celebrating the city's dominant crop of the area.

Other festivals that have come and gone: the Korean Festival (Garden Grove Boulevard between Magnolia and Brookhurst, "Koreatown"), Tet Festival (Vietnamese, in Garden Grove Park), Atab-American Festival (Village Green). There was even a one-time International Festival (Gaden Grove Park advocated by Mayor Bill Dalton).

NewsUpdate

U.S. Military Action Against Cuba?

Justice Dept. considers indictment of Raul Castro, ex-president, defense head

Former Cuban President Raul Castro could be the subject of an indictment which could lead to a military attack by the United States against Cuba.

The Associated Press is reporting that the indictment is tied to the 1996 shootdown of four planes operated by the Miami-based exile group Brothers to the Rescue while Castro was defense minister.

Three persons "familiar with the matter" told the AP about the alleged plan. To proceed, the federal government would have to get an indictment against Castro by the Justice Department.

Tensions between the U.S. and Cuba are high in the wake of an economic blockade of fuel shipments to the island, which has cut fuel and increased electrical blackouts.

The AP has reported that the U.S. Attorney in Florida is seeking to build legal cases against leading Cuban officials.



CUBA is the subject of an economic blockade (Wikipedia).

Mistrial in NYC rape trial of Hollywood producer Weinstein

A mistrial of Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein in the alleged rape of an aspiring actress in a hotel room in 2013 has been declared by the trial judge.

According to The New York Times, Justice Curtis Farber of the State Supreme Court in Manhattan (New York) declared the mistrial after the jury in the case in which

Weinstein is accused of raping Jessica Mann deadlocked.

The prosecutor now is faced with a decision of seeking to try Weinstein for a fourth time in connection with alleged sexual assaults.

He was convicted in another trial for another alleged sexual assault against Miriam Haley.

Great Thoughts

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. A man who never reads lives only one."

— George R. R. Martin

"You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me."

— C.S. Lewis

"Books are mirrors; you can only see in them what you already have inside you."

— Virginia Woolf

Weather: Warming up a bit

If you like a warmer May, the weatherperson is cooperating. The forecast for our West Orange County cities is for a gradual trend up the thermometer. Saturday should have morning clouds and afternoon sun. The high is expected to reach 70 with a low of 58. Sunday should be partly cloudy with temps of 72 (60). Monday is most sunny with temperatures of 78 (58) and peaking on Tuesday at 81 (59) but partly cloudy.

Starbucks planning layoffs of 300 across the United States, following 61 corporate workers

Three hundred Starbucks employees will be laid off across the nation, the company revealed on Friday.

United Press International reports that this action follows the dismissal of 61 corporate employees less than a week previous. "Leaders have taken a hard look at their respective functions to further sharpen focus, prioritize work, reduce complexity, and lower costs," a Starbucks spokesperson said in a statement.

In a wave of layoffs in 2025, the company held a "reduction in force" of over 1,000 employees including over 600 in the company's headquarters in Seattle, according to UPI. A later cutback in October 2025 slashed 975 from the payroll.

Overall, Starbucks has roughly 19,000 retail workers in the U.S.

Arts & Living

'Godfather' Might Be Godmother

Book puts the spotlight on the role of women

By Hillel Italie
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Decades after the last "Godfather" movie and more than 10 years since the last "Godfather" novel, the story of the Corleone crime family has a new chapter, presented for the first time from a woman's point of view.

Random House told The Associated Press that it had acquired a "Godfather" novel authorized by the estate of Mario Puzo and written by bestselling author Adriana Trigiani. "Connie" is scheduled for a fall 2027 release and will center on the Corleone family member played by Talia Shire, sister of director Francis Ford Coppola, in the three "Godfather" films.

"Connie" is the third "Godfather" book approved by the estate and the first written by a woman.

"'Connie' is a novel about how a woman works to forge her own way in a world that's already decided who she is, what she's about, and how she should be treated," Trigiani said in a statement Wednesday. "People underestimated Don Vito Corleone and Michael Corleone at their peril. The same will be true for Connie Corleone."

Paramount Pictures, which produced the "Godfather" movies, holds the film rights. Additional details were not immediately available.

Puzo, whose blockbuster 1969 novel "The Godfather," provided the basis and title for the first film, died in 1999 and his estate has since battled with Paramount over who controls rights to the Corleone characters.

In 2012, the movie studio sued to block publication of Ed Falco's "The Family Corleone."



MARLON BRANDO in the first "Godfather" film (Brittanica).

After the estate countersued, the two sides agreed to a settlement that allowed the estate to continue initiating book projects and awarded film rights to Paramount.

The final release of the original "Godfather" trilogy, "The Godfather Part III," came out in 1990. The films all starred Al Pacino as Michael Corleone, Connie's brother, with other actors appearing in at least one movie including Marlon Brando, Robert De Niro, Robert Duvall and Diane Keaton. The "Godfather" saga has earned more than \$400 million worldwide and won nine Academy Awards, two of them to Puzo in the 1970s for best adapted screenplay.

Trigiani, a million-selling author who wrote of her own Italian roots in the novel "The Shoemaker's Wife," is also known for such favorites as "Lucia, Lucia" and "The Queen of the Big Time." According to Random House, the Puzo estate "sought out" Trigiani after she published

Books

a Substack essay lamenting how little was known about the Corleone women.

"We had been looking for someone to retell the story from a new perspective," Anthony Puzo, the author's son and executor, said in a statement. "Adriana was

knocked out when I told her that the character of Vito Corleone (played in the films by Brando and De Niro) was actually based on my grandmother. We talked about how the women ran both of our families, but behind the scenes. Adriana's vision for Connie's life blew us all away. I'm very pleased and excited to have her on board."

A Festival of music, too

The Strawberry Festival, next weekend at the Village Green (Main and Euclid streets in downtown Garden Grove) isn't just about fruit, carnival rides and hot dogs. The Garden Amp will host popular music acts. On Friday, May 22, there will be a free concert with the "Taylor Swift Experience" and the "Justin Bieber Experience" with tribute artists New Romantics and Heartbreaker.



TheSportsPages

Our 'golden age: a lot of gold and change

The world of sports, these days, is constantly in flux. Old traditions are being trampled and new forces are emergent with a speed and ferocity that were once unthinkable. For example:

- The National Basketball Association is just about to expand with two more teams, one of them – almost certainly – a revival of the Seattle Sonics. That would bring the total to 32. Not so long ago, the league had eight teams.

- The National Hockey League has 32 teams and may consider adding franchises among Atlanta, Austin, Houston, Indianapolis and New Orleans. Some of us can remember when the league had six teams, total.

- Major League Baseball has rewritten the rule book with

restrictions on defensive shifts, the arrival of “robo-umpires” and time limits on pitchers and batters.

It seems that the pace of change in sports is without limit. Billions of dollars are being waged on sports betting. TV money guarantees that it's virtually impossible to lose money on a major professional sports team.

“New” sports are gaining popularity including pickleball and flag football. There's already a professional pickleball circuit! How long before pro “flag football” (for women, men, or even coed) teams pop up, meaning that Tom Brady may never have to give up football (at least until he's 80 or so).

We are in a “golden age” of sports. There's a lot of gold to be made, and lots of change, too.



Sports Retorts
Jim Tortolano

24 in College Football Playoff?

College lineup could expand by 2028 season

By Mark Long
AP Sports Writer

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. (AP) — The Atlantic Coast Conference is backing the Big Ten's push for a 24-team playoff, commissioner Jim Phillips said Wednesday.

Speaking at the end of three days of spring meetings in a posh resort in northeast Florida, Phillips said ACC coaches and athletic directors reached consensus on wanting to double the current College Football Playoff model.

“When you're leaving national championship-contending teams and schools out of the playoff, you don't have the right number,” Phillips said. “We lived through it.”

Phillips pointed to unbeaten Florida State getting snubbed from a four-team CFP field in 2023 and Notre Dame getting left out of last year's 12-team model. “Notre Dame was a CFP-worthy team this year; they just were,” he



FERNANDO MENDOZA and the 2026 champs (Wikipedia)

said. “The other rationale is there is so much investment going on in the sport of football and in college athletics. ... If you're going to ask presidents and chancellors and boards to continue to invest in their football programs, it's really important that they have hope, that they have an opportunity at the beginning of the season to get into the playoff.”

Coaches and administrators have clamored for more access to the lucrative and potentially job-saving playoff. They point to having just 12 playoff spots for 138 teams in the Football Bowl Subdivision, a miniscule percentage compared to many other collegiate sports or major professional leagues.

No contest in Freeway Series

Dodgers launch 3 homers vs Angels in a 6-0 hammering

By Pete Zarustica
Orange County Tribune

There's nothing like a good walloping to give a body of men a nice dose of humility.

The Los Angeles Angels added to their treasury of humility in losing 6-0 to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Friday night in Anaheim in the first game of a Freeway Series.

The Halos were out-hit eight hits to two and outslugged three homers to none.

With the win, the Blue Crew

MLBaseball

is 27-18. However, it didn't help them much in the National League West, The San Diego Padres' 2-0 win over the Seattle Mariners kept the two teams within a half-game for the division lead.

For the Angels, it was more misery. They've now lost three games in a row and fallen unmatched into last place in the American League West, a full game behind the fourth place Houston Astros.

The Dodgers essentially had the game won by the fourth inning, thanks to home runs by Andy Pages and Max Muncy that gave them a 4-0 lead. A two-run insurance home run by

AL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
Athletics	23-21	.513	—	5-5
Seattle	22-24	.478	2	5-5
Texas	21-23	.477	2	5-5
Houston	18-28	.391	6	4-6
ANGELS	16-29	.356	7.5	3-7

NL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
DODGERS	27-18	.600	—	5-5
San Diego	26-18	.591	0.5	6-4
Arizona	21-22	.488	5	5-5
San Fran	18-27	.400	9	4-6
Colorado	17-28	.378	9.5	3-7

Teoscar Hernandez in the sixth inning ended the scoring.

The two teams will meet again on Saturday and the series will finish on Sunday.

■ Prep Sports Spotlight

12 teams alive after first round of diamond playoffs

BASEBALL (Friday)
Division 1 (pool play)
 Harvard 6, Huntington Beach 5

Division 2
 Edison 5, Damien 1
 Pacifica 7, Chino Hills 0

Division 7
 Garden Grove 1, Nogales 0

Division 9
 Santiago 17, Gorman Charter 1

SOFTBALL (Friday)
Division 1
 Norco 2, Marina 1

Division 3
 Edison 8, El Segundo 5
Division 5
 Covina 11, Santiago 1
Division 7
 Orange 9, Bellflower 3

BASEBALL
 Thursday

Division 4
 Marina 8, Santa Monica 6
 La Quinta 4, Nogales 3

Division 6
 R. Alamitos 7, Los Amigos 5
 Magnolia 7, Indian Springs 4

SOFTBALL
 Thursday

Division 1
 Pacifica 15, Glendora 4
 Huntington Beach 5, Santa Fe 4

Division 4
 La Quinta 5, Hemet 4

Division 6
 Hesperia Ch. 8, Los Amigos 7

Division 8
 Bolsa Grande 16, Loma Linda 2
 Bell Gardens 11, Magnolia 4

■ NHL and NBA

Ducks defeated 5-1 by Vegas, out of playoffs

It was a good season for the Anaheim Ducks and a good Stanley Cup playoff series against the Vegas Golden Knights, but that's all in the record books now.

The Ducks concluded the 2025-6 NHL season on Thursday night with a 5-1 loss to the Knights in the sixth and final game of the West Second Round in Anaheim.

Vegas jumped out to a 3-0 first period lead and were never caught. The Ducks' sole goal came in the second period from Mikael Granlund on an assist from Leo Carlsson.

The Ducks finished a strong 43-33-6 on the season, good for third in the Pacific Division and just three points behind the Golden Knights and one point behind the Edmonton Oilers, whom they defeated in the first round of the playoffs.

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Westminster city council

Continued from page 6

percent of the city.

Councilmember Carlos Manzo raised some concerns, including the building's location outside the Little Saigon area on Bolsa Avenue.

Manzo and West found themselves unlikely allies, as they both supported a motion to take no action on the proposal, but it was voted down 3-2.

Finally, the city council approved a motion ask the city staff to negotiate with the VHV about a possible agreement on a 3-2 vote with Manzo and West opposed.

Gas tax suspension will help ... a bit

By **Wyatte Grantham-Philips**
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — As steep fuel prices strain household budgets during the war with Iran, U.S. President Donald Trump wants to suspend his government's tax on gasoline.

It's a move Trump can't do on his own — and the president has yet to specify how long he'd like such pause to last. But lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have already been pushing for a

federal gas tax suspension, with some legislation in Congress now proposing a halt through Oct. 1.

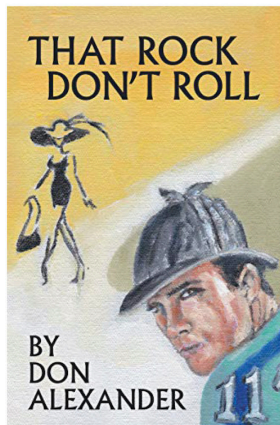
Proponents of suspending the gas tax argue that it will provide much-needed relief for families and businesses now struggling to make ends meet, worsening economic disparities as low income households are hit the hardest. Much of that is because the world's flow of oil and other core necessities has been upended since the U.S. and Israel

launched the war nearly three months ago — sending energy costs, including gas prices, soaring.

Still, a suspension isn't likely to make a sizeable (or instant) dent at the pump. And critics warn of potential longer-term consequences. The federal gas tax accounts for a small fraction of what Americans pay to fill up their tanks — but it's also the source of billions of dollars in revenue that government highway and public transit programs rely on.

Some serious fun

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— The Orange County Tribune

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