

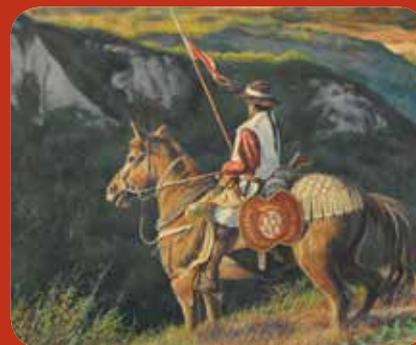
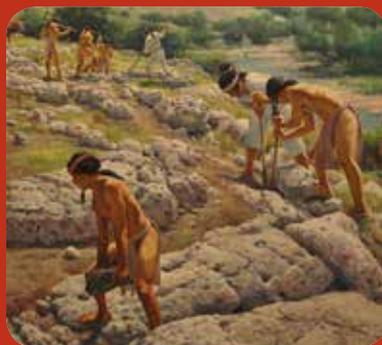
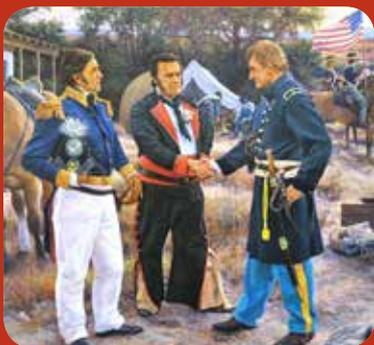
2013 SUMMER | News Magazine & Activity Guide



laguna hills

# CITY VIEWS

## PUBLIC ART STORE IN LAGUNA HILLS



### What's Inside?

Public Art  
Laguna Hills Mall  
National Night Out  
Summer Festivities  
Environment  
Senior Services



### CITY HALL HOURS:

8 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday

### ENGINEERING, PLANNING AND BUILDING COUNTER HOURS:

1 pm – 5:30 pm Monday – Thursday

1 pm – 5 pm Friday

Regular **City Council Meetings** are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

**Traffic Commission Meetings** are held on the third Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September and November.

**Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings** are held on the first Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October and December.

All meetings begin at 7 pm in the City Council Chambers. Closed session at 6 pm (when scheduled).



### LAGUNA HILLS CITY COUNCIL:

**Barbara Kogerman**  
Mayor

**Andrew Blount**  
Mayor Pro Tem

**Randal Bressette**

**Melody Carruth**

**Dr. Dore Gilbert**

## A Message from the **CITY**

### No Summer Doldrums in Laguna Hills!

Spring has reluctantly given way to Summer. "Summer reruns" used to mean boring and the same old thing, but in Laguna Hills, City staff and volunteers are always searching for fresh new approaches to popular spring and summer programs, and this year is no exception.

The Memorial Day Half Marathon continues to evolve into as much a moving tribute to the 3/5 Dark Horse Battalion as a running event. This year, the City Council named Corporal Josue Barron to be the Grand Marshall of the 2013 event. Read more about Corporal Barron and the run on page 6.

For kids, the ever-popular "Build a Fort" program returns this year. Participants will have the opportunity to work with hammers, saws and nails, all in a safe, supervised environment, to build a fort at El Conejo Park. See page 7 for more information on Build a Fort and other Community Services programs.

And in a new program, reproductions of the beautiful murals that grace the City Council Chamber are now available for purchase online. You can find more information about the reproductions on page 2.

For kids or adults, for those who like to be active or just sit back among the beauty, Laguna Hills offers a variety of options to beat the summer doldrums.

### laguna hills **CITY VIEWS**

*City Views* is an award winning quarterly magazine published by the City of Laguna Hills and is distributed as a public service to City residents and businesses. We welcome your suggestions and feedback and value your involvement in the community. Please send or call in any comments or questions to:

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[www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us](http://www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us)



## ON THE COVER

The City's Public Art Program includes 11 pieces of art throughout the Laguna Hills Civic Center. The City commissioned the original works of art under the master theme of early California history to provide a valuable cultural and educational resource at the Civic Center. The artwork includes life-sized busts of early pioneers, painted landscape murals, layered pieces of iron and branding irons and large-scale scenic murals of key points in early Orange County history. Reproductions of the beautiful murals are now being made available for purchase through the newly-established online public art store. For more information, visit the City's website.

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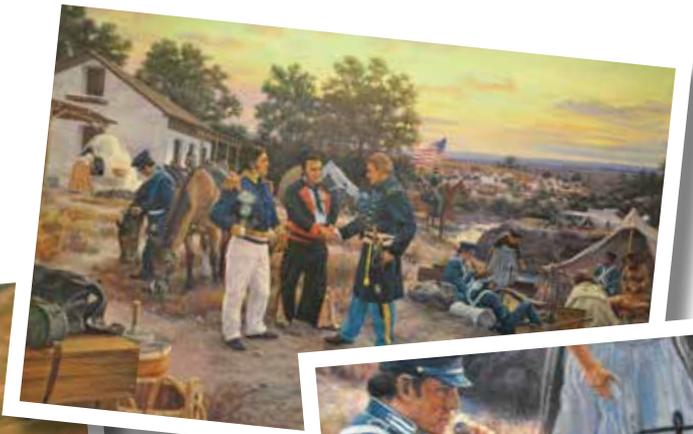


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# PUBLICART



## Laguna Hills Public Art Reproductions Now on Sale

Long before Laguna Hills officially became a City in 1991, the area was home to Native Americans, Mexican ranchos and many events that shaped the future of California. After the property was purchased for the Civic Center in 2002, the building was completely renovated with an early California architectural theme. During the design phase, key public areas were designated for public art.

In 2006, City Council approved a master plan of public art for the Civic Center to depict early California history focused on Laguna Hills and the Saddleback Valley. In January 2008, the City Council unveiled three original murals in the Council Chamber, with the goals of encouraging creativity, promoting education, creating an appreciation of the arts and paying tribute to our cultural heritage. The murals are on display in the Civic Center and are available for viewing.

As part of the public art program, the City is offering reproductions of the murals for sale through a newly established online store. The online public art store features the three murals created by muralist Robert Evans found in the City Council Chambers: "Discovering Orange County," "Mining Pecten Reef" and "War Brings Change."

Robert Evans is a famous artist from Sherbon, Mass. who has created more than 50 murals depicting everything from Eocene and Pleistocene habitats to the life of George Washington for aquariums, museums, restaurants, schools, visitor centers and zoos. The majority of his work portrays the historical life of America.

The online public art store features 11 purchasable items that range from \$8 to \$429, depending on size. The reproductions are available as postcards, a Civic Center public art collage poster and giclees (unframed reproductions on canvas and mounted on a masonite board) of various sizes. The store can be accessed through the City's website and transactions can be completed via Paypal. The proceeds from these sales will help fund future public art projects.



*City of Laguna Hills*  
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

WAR BRINGS CHANGE • DISCOVERING ORANGE COUNTY • MINING PECTEN REEF  
 HISTORICAL MURALS BY ARTIST ROBERT EVANS  
 LAGUNA HILLS CIVIC CENTER 24035 EL TORO ROAD LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
 WWW.CL.LAGUNA-HILLS.CA.US MURAL INFORMATION AND ART ON-LINE STORE

# LAGUNA HILLS MALL



## Laguna Hills Mall has New Owner

A San Francisco-based company has purchased the Laguna Hills Mall and announced intentions to renovate the 40-year-old shopping plaza with a luxury theater, high-end grocery market and more signature restaurants.

City officials are excited about the purchase by Merlone Geier Partners, which has offices in San Diego and San Francisco.

Merlone Geier Partners, is a privately held real estate investment company focused on community and neighborhood shopping centers. It manages more than 120 properties on the West Coast totaling more than 19 million square feet. The firm's other Orange County properties are the Fullerton Crossings, Country Club Village in Yorba Linda and a neighborhood center in La Palma. The Laguna Hills Mall will be one of Merlone Geiers signature properties. The company takes a long-term view with its investments, meaning the Laguna Hills Mall will be a long-term asset.

City leaders met with the new owners two months ago and are confident the owners' visions matches that of the City, not just for the mall but for the entire Urban Village area. The

planned improvements will further cement the retail area off El Toro Road and the San Diego Freeway as South Orange County's downtown.

The Laguna Hills Mall was built in 1973 and has 846,885 leasable square feet, including the restaurants and buildings around it, such as King's Fish House and BJ's Restaurant and Brewery. The mall is anchored by JCPenny, Macy's, Nordstrom Rack and Sears. Merlone Geier Partners purchased the mall from Simon Property Group, which has owned the property since 1999, for an undisclosed price.

Simon had been intentionally reducing the number of stores in the mall and closed the food court in preparation for a major renovation. That move ensured expansion and renovation plans would not be slowed by existing leases and tenants.

The timing of the new ownership and plans for renovations go hand-in-hand with the already-approved redevelopment of Oakbrook Village just south of the Mall. Plans there include a mix of housing, retail and commercial space.



# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



## Laguna Hills Celebrates National Night Out

All residents are invited to join the 30th Annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event on Tuesday, August 6.

Laguna Hills Police Services has teamed up with Aliso Viejo Police Services to host an interactive community safety fair from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Laguna Hills Community Center at 25555 Alicia Parkway. A variety of booths will offer residents important information on home, child, teen, senior, personal and animal safety.

Come partner with local law enforcement and celebrate safety and crime prevention!

## About National Night Out

National Night Out, "America's Night Out Against Crime," was launched in 1984 by the non-profit National Association of Town Watch (NATW). The goal of the program is to promote crime-prevention activities, police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

The first National Night Out took place on Tuesday, August 7, 1984. That first year, 2.5 million Americans took part across 400 communities in 23 states. National Night Out now involves over 37 million people and 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide.

The traditional "lights on" campaign and symbolic front porch vigils turned into a celebration across America with various events and activities including, but not limited to, block parties, cookouts, parades, visits from emergency personnel, rallies and marches, exhibits, youth events, safety demonstrations and seminars.



# SUMMERTIME **ACTIVITIES**



## **Dark Horse Veteran Selected as Half-Marathon Grand Marshal**

This May, Corporal Josue Barron, a member of the City's adopted 3/5 Dark Horse Battalion, will serve as the Grand Marshal for the Laguna Hills Memorial Day Half Marathon.

Corporal Barron grew up on the hard streets of South Central Los Angeles, joining a gang so neighborhood toughs would quit stealing his shoes. He ultimately joined the U.S. Marine Corps to escape the gang.

In 2010, he was serving in Afghanistan as a corporal when he lost a leg and an eye. Like the other challenges Corporal Barron has faced in life, he has not given up. Corporal Barron

formed a basketball wheelchair team and recently finished third in an international competition for hand cycling – similar to a bicycle, but powered by the arms instead of the legs. He is currently working on his goal to obtain a degree in Sociology and keep young people out of gangs.

During the May 27th Laguna Hills event, Barron and his family will receive a mortgage-free home through the non-profit Homes for Troops program.

In other military tributes, the Stroller Warriors (Marine spouses with children in strollers) will be racing this year, as will member's of Team Kelly – relatives of fallen Dark Horse Battalion member 1st Lt. Robert Kelly who now run marathons across the country in his honor.

Registration is underway for the City of Laguna Hills Memorial Day Half Marathon, 5k, and 10K, honoring the United States Marine Corps Dark Horse Battalion at [www.lagunahillshalfmarathon.com](http://www.lagunahillshalfmarathon.com)





## SUMMERTIME **ACTIVITIES**



### Other Exciting Summer Activities on Tap

In addition to the Memorial Day Half-Marathon, Laguna Hills is offering other exciting summer camps and summer events this year.

Among the most popular of all of the Community Services summer offerings is the "Build-A-Fort" camp, in which kids ages 6 to 12 use carpentry tools to build a fort in the City's El Conejo Park, all under professional supervision, of course. Laguna Hills residents get a chance to register first, in person between Tuesday, June 5 and Friday, June 8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Laguna Hills Community Center. Registration for non-residents begins Tuesday, June 11 if spots are still available. For more information please call (949) 707-2680.

Laguna Hills aims for a mix of fun and learning in its summer camp and class offerings – for all ages, from children to adults. Find the complete list in this month's Community Services Activity Guide.

On July 4, carnival rides and food booths featuring Laguna Hills organizations will fill the open space around the Community Center for the City's annual Fourth of July celebration. The event begins at 4:30 p.m., and will end with a grand finale of

fireworks filling the skies. Residents are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs, and well behaved pets are welcome, too. But arrive early – the event regularly attracts more than 11,000 people.

And also for families, the City is again offering its Community Camp Out on August 17. This fun-filled overnight activity gives families the chance to camp on the Town Green at the Community Center. Campers will get a hot dog dinner and be treated to Saturday-night entertainment. The adventure also features an outdoor movie and s'mores, of course! Call (949) 707-2680 for more details.

August will also bring "Shakespeare in the Hills" to the City! Community Services is bringing "Much Ado About Nothing," one of the most romantic comedies ever written by William Shakespeare. This imaginative and exuberant comedy is filled with suspense, clever turns of plot and vivacious displays of wit. Tickets for the outdoor production are \$10 for residents and children under 12 are free. The production runs at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings, August 23, 24, 30, and 31 at the Laguna Hills Community Center. See the Community Services Activity Guide for more details.

Forget any worry of the summer doldrums – with so much going on this summer, Laguna Hills families might need a vacation from vacation!

# ENVIRONMENT



Proper disposal of these hazardous materials is easy. Hazardous materials should be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Center. Centers are located in Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Irvine and San Juan Capistrano and offer free disposal.

Many of the Orange County HHW centers have "Stop & Swap" programs that allow you to drop off and pick up partially used home, garden and automotive care products at no cost.

When spring-cleaning is completed, make sure that all cleaning materials are closed, labeled and stored indoors or under cover.

For more information, or to get directions to the HHW collection center nearest you, please call 714-834-6752 or log on to [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com).

By following these simple steps, we can keep both our home and our environment clean!

To learn more about pollution prevention, contact the City of Laguna Hills Public Services Department at 949-707-2650, or the Orange County Stormwater Program at 714-567-6363.

## Spring Into Cleaning

Along with the colorful flowers and verdant hillsides, this season brings forth brooms and dustpans for spring-cleaning. While everyone loves a clean home, it is important to remember that some household materials are hazardous to our environment and must be handled properly.

Leftover household materials such as paint, antifreeze and cleaning supplies that contain corrosive, toxic, flammable, or reactive ingredients are hazardous to the environment. Never dispose of these materials in the gutter, street, storm drain, sewer, or trash.

Water from rain or urban runoff will carry these materials down the storm drain where they will flow untreated directly to our creeks, rivers, bays, beaches and ocean.

While not always immediately obvious, the dangers of improperly disposing of household hazardous waste can cause physical injury to sanitation workers and could contaminate wastewater treatment systems if poured down the drain or flushed down the toilet. Placing these materials in the trash can also be dangerous for the environment because the materials are sent to a landfill, where they could contaminate our groundwater.

## Household Hazardous Materials Include:

- Paint
- Batteries
- Paint thinners
- Adhesives
- Drain openers
- Oven cleaners
- Wood and metal cleaners and polishes
- Pesticides and insecticides
- Automotive fluids and materials
- Grease and rust solvents
- Thermometers and other materials contain mercury
- Fluorescent lamps
- Cathode ray tubes (CRTs), e.g., televisions, computer monitors
- Pool and spa chemicals



## SENIOR SERVICES

### Senior Taxi Service Adds Destinations

The City of Laguna Hills has expanded its Dial-A-Taxi program for seniors, adding the City of Laguna Woods, two area hospitals, a shopping and entertainment venue and even Southern California airports to the available destinations.

Laguna Hills seniors can participate in the Dial-A-Taxi Senior Transportation Program, which provides door-to-door taxi service to Laguna Hills residents 60 years and older, by registering and paying a co-pay of as little as \$5.

The service area for the program currently includes any destination within the city limits of Laguna Hills, Mission Viejo, and, recently added, Laguna Woods.

Travel to and from the following select satellite locations outside the service area is also available:

- Lake Forest Nursing Center, 25652 Old Trabuco Road, Lake Forest
- Freedom Village, 23442 El Toro Road, Lake Forest
- Laguna Niguel/Mission Viejo Metrolink Station, 28200 Forbes Road, Laguna Niguel
- Irvine Metrolink Station, 15215 Barranca Parkway, Irvine

And beginning May 1, new destinations outside of the service area will also include:

- Irvine Spectrum
- Hoag Hospital – Irvine
- Kaiser Hospital – Irvine
- John Wayne Airport
- Long Beach Airport
- Los Angeles International Airport

The co-pay for destinations within the service area and to the satellite sites listed above (except for airport travel) is \$5. The co-pay to John Wayne Airport is \$16, while a ride to Long Beach Airport is \$27.50 and to LAX is \$52.50.



To register for the Dial-A-Taxi program, fill out an application form and return it in person to the Laguna Hills Community Center at 25555 Alicia Parkway, Laguna Hills, CA, 92653. The Community Center is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and on Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. You can get a copy of the registration form online at [www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us](http://www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us) under "Departments" then "Community Services."

To register, you will need to show:

- Proof of Laguna Hills residency
- Proof of age and/or disability (with disability verification form)
- Proof of loss of driver's license and/or inability to drive

The 'round-the-clock' service is available seven days a week, 24-hours a day. Taxi services can be scheduled by calling toll free (866) 484-1706. Residents with fixed appointment times are encouraged to call 24 hours ahead of their desired pick up time. Residents that require a vehicle with a lift are encouraged to call 48 hours in advance of fixed appointments to ensure a properly equipped vehicle arrives.

For more information, visit the City's website at [www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us](http://www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us) or call (949) 707-2681.