



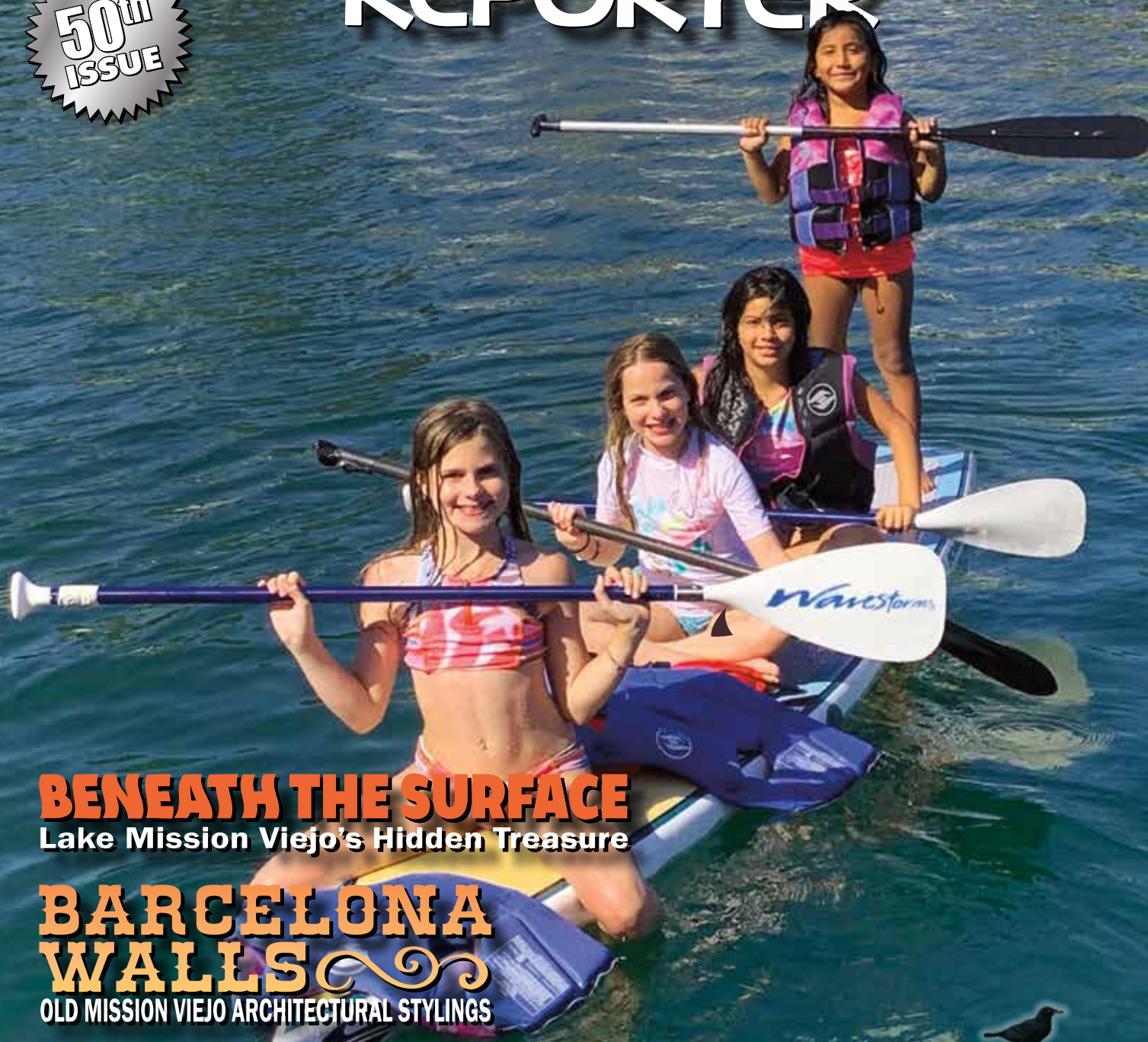
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MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

August 2019

50th
ISSUE

MISSION VIEJO REPORTER



BENEATH THE SURFACE

Lake Mission Viejo's Hidden Treasure

BARCELONA WALLS

OLD MISSION VIEJO ARCHITECTURAL STYLINGS

FULL METAL JACKET

The Only Heart You'd Rather Not Receive



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EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR & PUBLISHER
Dave Leckness

DESIGNER
Luke Brown

LAYOUT DESIGN
Travis Brenier

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jason Givin

PROOFREADER
Joanne Suttile

NATIONAL AFFAIRS DESK
Dr. D.L. Avery

REPORTER
Kathy Kuiper

REPORTER
Cris Wilson

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Dave Leckness
Editor



SELF CONTROL IS POWERFUL



by Trish Kelley
City Council Member
Co-founder Mission Viejo
Community of Character

Our character focus for August is the quality of Self-Control. This is a very important quality to develop for children (and adults!) It involves having control over your feelings and actions, and restraining your own impulses, emotions, or desires. Self-control can keep us on course and help us to avoid making bad decisions. It includes self-discipline--the ability to control and motivate yourself, stay on track and do what is right. Self-discipline is required in practicing an instrument or a skill, obeying rules, and setting and achieving goals.

A concept called "S.T.A.R." is helpful in learning and maintaining self-control. S.T.A.R. stands for: **Stop, Think, Act, Review**, and is useful as a decision-making tool which can be used when one is faced with a situation or decision. The four steps are:

STOP! Do not react immediately. Wait for a few moments or force yourself to revisit the situation later.

THINK about your choices and the consequences of each choice.

ACT responsibly and carefully.

REVIEW your action to determine if it was a good choice or not.

Parents and grandparents can teach the S.T.A.R. process to their children to provide them with a tool which may help them to resist peer pressure and to make better choices. But the tool is also helpful for adults too! The philosopher, Seneca, once stated, "Most powerful is he who has himself in his own power."

To read our character documents in full, visit www.cityofmissionviejo.org/character.

LOCAL HEROES MISSION VIEJO MEN NAB BURGLAR



by Colonel Greg Rath
USMC (RET)
Mayor, Mission Viejo

On July 9th our community came together to thwart a crime in our city. Our **Mission Viejo Police Services** came across a burglary in progress at one of our local businesses and went into action. As the suspects were fleeing the scene of the crime, our police officers went into hot pursuit and ran them down and arrested 2 suspects. The third suspect ran off on foot and disappeared into a local neighborhood.

Police searched throughout the night but were unable to find the third suspect. As dawn broke and with neighbors on high alert of a suspect dressed in black, Mission Viejo resident **Justin Lewallen** was having coffee in his backyard when the suspect crawled out of his backyard BBQ grille and ran away. Justin immediately called police and began chasing the suspect. Another neighbor, **Eric Stroupe**, saw the suspect running down the street and sicced his dog **Tex** on him. Tex ran the suspect down and began gnawing on his pant leg. Eric then tackled the suspect as police arrived on the scene to make the arrest.

We saluted all involved at our July 9th City Council Meeting with special attention to Tex, giving him a fillet mignon and large dog bone.



NEW CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP LEVELS Grow Your Business And Your Network In Our Community



Jason Ball
President
MV Chamber of Commerce

After my first official month as the **Mission Viejo Chamber of Commerce** President, I continue to see how our local businesses are committed to providing quality, valuable services to our community. It's important that our Chamber be a resource for businesses just as they are for residents.

With this in mind, we recently introduced eight different membership options to ensure businesses of all sizes could join and access the benefits that fit their needs. Whether you just opened your doors or have been a longstanding business owner, we can help you grow your business and your network.

This includes our local nonprofits too. Our new nonprofit membership level includes the same benefits as our business level at a discounted rate.

Our goal is to see local business thrive, and we hope to see you at a Chamber or community event soon.

For more information, visit missionviejochamber.com or text **MVProposal** to 21777 for an instant membership proposal.

FROM OUR OTHER SIDE OF THE TRACKS DEPT.

GO AHEAD, MAKE MY DAY

CLINT EASTWOOD COMES TO TOWN



Swallow's Inn has been called a dive bar, a cowboy bar, and many other names. It's an eye-opener for non-locals. Bras hang from the ceiling, pictures of naked men and women are posted in the restrooms, and eye-catching signs greet visitors who come to drink, karaoke, dance, play shuffleboard and listen to live bands. This bar exudes personality, so much so that Clint Eastwood selected it for a locale in his 1986 movie *Heartbreak Ridge*.



Not every bar allows patrons to buy \$1 bags of peanuts and throw the shells on the floor. Not every bar has stories about horses entering the premise. Clint Eastwood was looking for a

rough-and-tumble tavern where the superstar actor/director could shoot a bar scene for *Heartbreak Ridge*, he went straight to the Swallows Inn in San Juan Capistrano.

Despite the tavern's location (in sight of the 18th-Century mission that gave the town its name) and its serenely evocative moniker, the Swallows Inn is just what no-nonsense Clint was seeking. The free-wheeling saloon, a local landmark for about 100 years, sports a lively crowd comprising local cowboys, Marines from nearby Camp Pendleton, a sprinkling of bikers, and curious tourists drawn by the bar's rowdy reputation.



FROM OUR DROPPING STUFF IN THE LAKE DEPT.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Lake Mission Viejo's Hidden Treasure

Lake Mission Viejo opened its doors in April of 1978. In October 1978, **Dave Kerr** started working as a Life Guard at the lake. Dave has seen it all over the last 39 years. One of his most memorable Lake moments was in 1980 when he personally placed 700 stoves in 45 different piles under the lake.

Here's the story: In the late 1970's, the **Mission Viejo Company**, while building homes all over Mission Viejo, discovered that the new avocado green



Amana Dual Oven Ranges that were being installed were faulty and could catch fire. In the interest of safety, they removed these 700 stoves from the homes, and then had to destroy them.

Someone heard that Lake Mission Viejo bass love the nooks-and-crannies that these Amana Range's provided. The stoves were loaded onto trucks, driven to the launch area, placed upon electric boats, taken out to specific locations throughout the lake, and dumped overboard.

Enter **Dave Kerr**. Dave, wearing his tight-fitting scuba-diving suit, went down and strategically placed 45 piles of these 700 stoves on top of each other, three high, in the shape of an "L".

Today, at certain times of the year, when the water is clear, you can see Dave's handiwork from the surface. Thanks to Dave, bass and catfish call these Amana Dual Oven Ranges their home. The **Mission Viejo Reporter** asked Dave if he ever gets overcome with the sentimental urge to dive-down and check out his masterpiece arrangement he created almost 40 years ago. Dave said, "No, not at all."



Lake Photo by Lauren Stopnitzky



Photo Courtesy of Lake Mission Viejo



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FROM OUR **ACROSS THE BORDER** DEPT.

LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

Don't Forget To Duck!



Rumored to be the lowest railroad crossing over a street in California, the tunnel on Ridge Route and Jeronimo is pretty scary. Amtrak and Metrolink whiz by at 90 MPH only fifteen feet above the street.

The tunnel is only 91 inches high. These twin, single lane,

brick lined tunnels under the trackage are located just over the Mission Viejo border in Lake Forest. Technically, it isn't a "public road" according to one of the yellow signs near the southbound approach, but anyone can still drive through it if you dare.

Every so often, motorists get stuck, forgetting about just how tall their vehicle stands. Last time, it was a rental truck that



became stuck, and just before Lake Forest city workers were to begin cutting the vehicle out with a blowtorch, a six-year-old suggested they just let the air out of the tires. The truck just slid right out.

FROM OUR **ON THE STREET** DEPT.

BARCELONA WALLS

OLD MISSION VIEJO ARCHITECTURAL STYLINGS

This subtle architectural feature has been around since the early days of Mission Viejo, but you might not have noticed it.

The "Barcelona Walls" were placed as entrances as part of the Mission Viejo Company's Master Plan at key intersections throughout the community.

They all feature curving brick walls with a ball on their top and were based on a Southern Spain aesthetic. The architectural style in this part of Spain is a blend of architectural styles: Spanish, Moorish and Rustic, similar to Tuscany in Italy.

These walls will remain as they are, as they are part of the heritage of the community.



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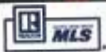


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FROM OUR GOLDILOCKS DEPT.

NO MAN BUN HERE

LOCAL REAL ESTATE AGENT WINS COVETED BEST HAIR TITLE



After exhaustive research by one of the country's top research firms, Mission Viejo resident **Jim Flynn** was named **Best Head of Hair** in Mission Viejo. Jim is a real estate agent in Mission Viejo. Jim and his wife **Charlene** have lived here in Mission Viejo for over 35 years.

The **Mission Viejo Reporter** wanted to know the secrets about Jim's magnificent head of hair, which looks like spun silver to the naked eye. It hasn't always been silver. It was jet black until Jim turned 57 years old, and then the silver took over its relentless pursuit of Mr. Flynn's head.

Looking at Jim's perfectly groomed head, we wondered how exactly does his hair stand up in the front like the hood ornament from a Rolls

Royce. Jim said his routine is quite simple. First, he washes the hair with whatever shampoo is in the shower. He then carefully blow dries the hair, one hand holding the blow dryer, the other holding a specially designed brush, all while a towel is tightly wrapped around his still manageable waist. Slowly and deliberately, Jim applies a leave-in conditioner and finishes the masterpiece with a quick shot of hair spray.

Besides having amazing hair, Jim Flynn has been a Real Estate Agent serving the Mission Viejo area for 30 plus years, give him a call today!

Jim Flynn (949) 463-0739



Current Mission Viejo Mayor Greg Rath and former Mission Viejo Mayor Rhonda Reardon examining the prize-winning head of hair.



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**MISSION VIEJO
REPORTER**

OUT ON THE LAKE

Photos by Mission Viejo Residents



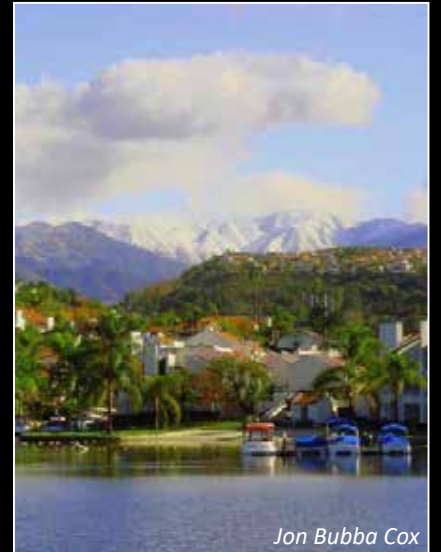
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FROM OUR LIVING THE DREAM DEPT.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

Mission Viejo Man Is Not Afraid To Rock The Boat

Scott Arnott is a real estate broker and the only guy in Mission Viejo, or maybe even Orange County, who takes a boat to work each day. Scott pushes the real estate market to extremes. He makes deals and sells at prices that leave others scratching their heads.

Scott lives in one of the "Fabulous Five" condos on Lake Mission Viejo in the Finisterra on the Lake community. The "Fab Five" are five specially built waterfront condos that

were originally designed for the forward thinking, top five executives of the Mission Viejo Company, Paul Stevens, Donald Schulz, James Gilleran, John Biggs and James Huesman, that built Lake Mission Viejo and many of the communities across the city. These condos are the largest condos on the lake at around 2500 sq ft, each with all kinds of special and luxurious features. Scott sold one of these condos in June for a historic price of over one million dollars.



Scott Arnott works at Coldwell Banker on Lake Mission Viejo. Each day, Scott walks out his back door to his boat (named Live Beautifully) and drives it across the lake to the dock at his Coldwell Banker office. Scott is the Lake's biggest fan. He says the current LMV management who run the lake are the best in the business and really care about the lake. Scott explained to the Mission Viejo Reporter that there are only 7 planned lake communities in all of Orange County (Lake Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, Lake Forest 1 & 2, Woodbridge Irvine 1 & 2 and Eastlake in Yorba Linda), but he emphasizes that Lake Mission Viejo is the only one of the seven with an unparalleled level of utility including body contact with the water such as swimming & with various water related activities. Scott has lived in the City for over 20 years and grew up from early teenage years working in the Arnott Real Estate family business, a well respected 50 year real estate family here in south Orange County. Scott is a very experienced real estate broker with over 30 years in the business, in addition to being a State Certified Appraiser for 24 years.

Here are some fun facts from Scott Arnott's list of Mission Viejo accomplishments:

- Sold home on San Lucas for the highest sale in this city's history at \$3,650,000.

- Sold condo on Trocadero for \$1,100,000. First condo to sell for over 1M in history of the city.

- Sold two of the three highest tract homes (non-custom) sales ever in the city on Shadow Ridge and Stillwater.

- Highest lease of a single family home in Mission Viejo at \$10,600 per month

- Highest lease of a condo in Mission Viejo at \$4,000 per month



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FULL FRONTAL

MISSION VIEJO RESIDENT GETS IT ONE PIECE AT A TIME



The distinctive front end of this custom beauty catches your attention from a mile away. She fairly shouts, "LOOK AT ME!"

Glen Zerby, a Mission Viejo resident since 1975, purchased this 1970 Mercedes 280SL 'Pagoda' in 1988. Glen knew from the start that he wanted to freshen up the car's appearance and give her the kind of power he remembered from the 1966 Corvette he

owned as a (much) younger man.

Now she's prettied up inside and out, with a candy root beer gloss that accentuates her classic body. She has taken a lot of Glen's attention; his wife nicknamed her "The Other Woman", but Glen has no plans to get rid of her (the car or the wife!).



photos by Jay Boivin



Glen started the transformation of the Mercedes in 1988, but put his project on hold while taking care of the usual family and career responsibilities and getting kids through college. He restarted the project once again twenty-one years later in 2009. Those intervening years gave him the opportunity to plan the modifications and customizing touches that would make her look and act the way he wanted.

The final result includes the 'built' Chevy 350 engine and 700-R4 trans, Mustang II front suspension, 1967 Camaro taillights, Jaguar power side mirrors, Maserati patterned leather on Honda seat shells, and Harley Davidson turn signal indicators on the custom wood dash. Built for comfort as well as speed, she also has power windows, power steering, power brakes, air conditioning and heated seats.

She's pretty, and she's hot, and she makes Glen smile every time he looks at that front end, but she's not a show car, and Glen drives her almost every day. It's very likely you'll see him wiz by on Marguerite, and Glen says, "She's definitely not for sale!"

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FROM OUR ON THE ROAD DEPT.

A TRAIL RUNS THROUGH IT

Mission Viejo Park's Rich History

These sycamore trees and monument (Located in Sycamore Park) mark the area of an adobe house built in the 1840's by Jose Serrano, whose Rancho de los Alisos greeted stage riders. The stage road followed the old Spanish "El Camino Real". This peaceful glen was a welcome stop for travelers.



Just under the freeway from Sycamore Park is the site of the Juan Avila Adobe marker. During the years after gold was discovered Avila would sell cattle for beef to the miners headed north. Don Juan was noted for his kindness and would always offer his adobe to travelers on the El Camino Real. Juan Avila died in San Juan Capistrano in

1889. He will always be remembered as one of the largest landowners of the area, the Don of Rancho Niguel.

Today, the Aliso Creek Bikeway runs through the heart of Mission Viejo from South Laguna to Rancho Santa Margarita along an 18.5-mile corridor. The trail features plenty of rest areas and kiosks providing information and recounting the area's history. Beginning from the ocean, the trail goes gradually uphill finishing at Cooks Corner.



Ask Aunt Sandy



- WITH MISSION VIEJO'S SANDRA FERGUSON

Mission Viejo's very own advice columnist is a straight shooter and slightly humorous.

DAZED AND CONFUSED

Dear Aunt Sandy,

What ever happened to "the girl next door"? I am 30 years old and behind on my marrying schedule. I decided a long time ago that I would be married at 28, I'm now two years past my goal and starting to worry. I belong to two dating clubs and have attended more than 200 church socials. I have proposed to at least 50 girls, but they all have said no. I realize some of my views are old-fashioned, but there must be at least one girl in Mission Viejo who is old-fashioned. My requirements are as follows - I call them the Ten Commandments of Marriage.

1. **Virgin (certified by a physician)**
2. **Non-drinker**
3. **Non-smoker**
4. **No dancing where liquor is sold**
5. **All food prepared from scratch (no frozen foods, either)**
6. **No excessive allowance**
7. **No second car (This only tends to make a woman independent)**
8. **Eat out once every two weeks**
9. **I choose our friends**
10. **"The man of the house" should be the final boss in all situations**

I know the girl next door is out there somewhere. Will you help me find her Aunt Sandy?

- Lonely in Mission Viejo

Dear Lonely in Mission Viejo,

The girl you're looking for moved from Mission Viejo 40 years ago, and left no forwarding address. Your No. 1 "Commandment" is an insult. No. 4 is just plain stupid. Nos. 9 and 10 are the demands of a total jackass.

I predict that the next 50 women will say no also, unless you happen to hit on one who is feeble-minded or so desperate she'll take anybody. But, you'll likely not find anyone like that in Mission Viejo.

If you have a question for Aunt Sandy email her at: missionviejoreporter@gmail.com

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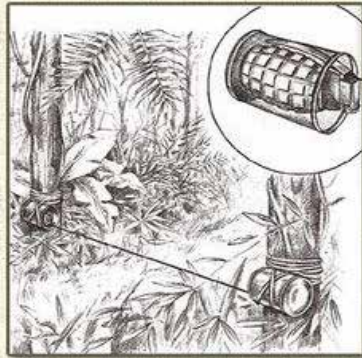
Being wounded or killed in any action against an enemy of the United States...

The Purple Heart is a United States military decoration awarded in the name of the President to those wounded or killed while serving, with the U.S. military.

The Purple Heart differs from most other decorations in that an individual is not "recommended" for the decoration; rather he or she is entitled to it upon meeting specific criteria. A Purple Heart is awarded for enemy-related injuries.



Vietnam-era Water Booby Trap



Vietnam-era Land Booby Trap



Dennis Lumley and his Purple Heart

Many Mission Viejo residents have received the Purple Heart while serving our country **Dennis Lumley** is one of them.

In 1969, while on a reconnaissance mission, in the jungles of Vietnam, walking single-file, **Dale Gronski** tripped a hidden bobby-trap, killing himself and injuring Dennis.

The **Mission Viejo Reporter** wants to thank all our Mission Viejo Purple Heart recipients and thank them for their service.

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FROM OUR **DON'T TRUST A SKINNY ICE CREAM MAN** DEPT.

THE ICE CREAM MAN COMETH

You can probably hear it in your head: a jingling, old-time ditty echoing down the street of your neighborhood. It was your cue as a kid to start sprinting down the sidewalks, coins clutched in your fist, ready to buy that frozen treat.

The **Mission Viejo Reporter** first heard the music, the ding- ding, then saw the ice cream truck coming down the street. We flagged down **Franky Ice Cream**, and the first thing Franky did was show us his valid selling permit issued by the city. We told him that's not why we flagged him down "We want ice cream!"

Meet **Francisco "Franky" Buitron**. Francisco has been delivering ice cream to the residents of Mission Viejo for over thirty years. He drives his modified 1975 Chevy Step Van from his home in Santa Ana to Mission Viejo six days a week. Franky has over 500,000 miles on his ice cream truck. He says he doesn't mind the drive; it's worth it.

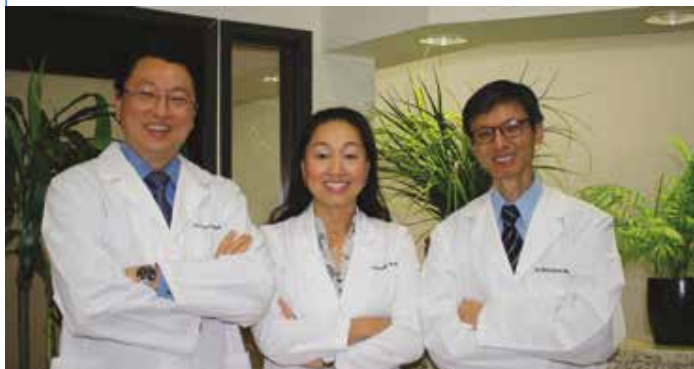
Franky's has all the latest and greatest ice cream choices, most of them we've never heard of. Franky also has all the classics: Bomb Pops, Frozen Bananas, Snow Cones and even Push-Ups. We asked Franky if he sells anything other than ice cream and candy. He said, "Just a few things like chips, pig skin and, a Mission Viejo kid favorite..., Fart Bombs".

Even though Franky doesn't live here in the city, Mission Viejo is home to Franky. Next time you hear that nostalgic sound whiffing through the air, run out to the sidewalk. Franky Ice Cream is coming.



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Perhaps that's because the baristas and the owner genuinely care about their customers and greet many regulars by their first names when they walk in the door. **It's A Grind** also constantly gives back to the community — whether donating coffee and food to Mission

Viejo schools, PTAs, veterans organizations, and other groups, or hosting events like singing recitals, or treating customers to live music giving local talent a chance to shine.

If you enjoy hot, iced or blended fresh-roasted gourmet coffee or tea drinks, **It's A Grind** has all that, too, of course — as well as, bistro items

other bigger coffee chains don't have, like their very popular, signature avocado toast. **It's A Grind** demonstrates that when community and coffee blend, good things happen.



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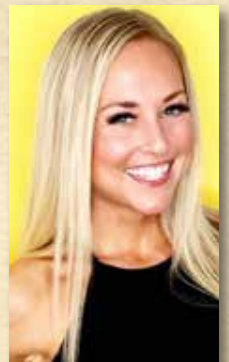


SOUTH COUNTY LEXUS PRESENTING ATHLETE OF THE MONTH Jordan McClanahan, Tennis - Fitness

Our Athlete of the Month is a little different from the usual ones we typically feature. Consider her an alumna and a budding role model. In her hometown of Mission Viejo, **Jordan McClanahan** began dancing and performing at the age of three. A natural competitor, she transitioned from Ballet to the sport of Tennis. As the team Captain and top singles and doubles player of California Lutheran University Women's Tennis team, inspiring and motivating her teammates is what she enjoyed most.

Jordan graduated from college with a degree in international business and an Asian studies minor. Jordan speaks Mandarin Chinese, and moved to Shanghai, China for her career - she spent over 4 years living and working in the international city of Shanghai.

Today Jordan is a business owner and a fitness instructor certified in Pilates, Barre, Indoor Cycling, & Yoga. As a fitness instructor, Jordan channels her enthusiasm into each and every fitness class. She is passionate to see students become the best they can be through the personal development journey of fitness.



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