



VOLUME THREE, NUMBER TWENTY-NINE

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

November 2017

# MISSION VIEJO REPORTER



## HITCHHIKING TIPS TO STAY ALIVE



MISSION VIEJO  
REPORTER

The Mission Viejo Reporter promises fast, fair, and accurate reporting. If for any reason we fail to live up to these promises, please don't tell anyone.

Questions or Comments:  
949.364.2309 • missionviejoreporter@gmail.com

## MISSION VIEJO TRAILBLAZERS

### The Mission Viejo Library

NOW YOU KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY

COVER PHOTO:  
Sydney G. and Shy R.



# IMPORTANT NUMBERS



Mission Viejo Reporter.....364-2309

Kwik Kopy Printing.....364-2309

## City Administration

Mayor and City Council.....470-3050

City Manager.....470-3051

## Community Development

Building Information.....470-3054

Planning and Zoning.....470-3053

## Emergency Numbers

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Police Service (Non Emergency).....770-6011

Suicide Hotline.....877-727-4747

## Public Services

MV Animal Services.....470-3045

Pothole Hotline.....470-8405

Graffiti Hotline.....470-2924

## Helpful Numbers

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SDG&E.....800-411-7343

Cox Cable.....240-1212

Edison Electric.....800-611-1911

Saddleback College.....582-4500

CUSD.....234-9200

Waste Management.....359-6155

Moulton/Niguel Water District.....831-2500

El Toro Water District.....837-7050

Mission Hospital.....364-1400

Mount of Olives Lutheran Church.....837-7467

Santa Claus.....951-262-3062

## Recreation Services

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# MISSION VIEJO IS FULL OF DIFFERENCE MAKERS



Dave Leckness, Editor

The **Mission Viejo Reporter** is designed to bring attention to all the good things this city has to offer. From people, businesses to the great outdoors, our goal is to introduce you to people and places you may not have heard about. Each issue we showcase a few residents and businesses that make up our wonderful city.

We get our ideas and articles from you, the readers. In the next few months we will acquaint you with what we call the **Difference Makers**, ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

The greatest gift to a community is when someone goes the extra mile and it makes a difference. Going the extra mile is doing more than is expected. Going the extra mile is extending ourselves to our full reach. Going the extra mile is getting back up after we've been knocked down, despite whatever has happened.

We want to acknowledge these people. If you know of someone who has gone the extra mile, or been knocked down and got back up or has done something extraordinary, share it with us...we'd like to know.

This issue is jam-packed with cool stuff. We talk about the 20th Anniversary of the Mission Viejo Library, reminisce about a more innocent time when hitchhiking was cool, meet a father and son who unicycle together and a few other stories around town.

Thanks for reading and buy from our advertisers!

-Dave

# MISSION VIEJO HELPS THOSE IN



by Wendy Bucknum  
Mayor, Mission Viejo

Mission Viejo has been widely recognized and applauded throughout South Orange County for leading the way in serving the homeless. I would like to thank Commissioner Robert Breton for compiling this information:

1) Every year for the last 30 years, we have provided more grant money to more human service organizations than any other city in South Orange County — \$60,000 to \$75,000 annually.

2) This year, our City provided \$820,000 and partnered with Families Forward to purchase two additional housing units in Mission Viejo for homeless/transitional housing.

3) Before 2014, the City had 233 affordable units for low and moderate income families.

4) Since 2014, the Director of Community Development, Ms. Elaine Lister has overseen the development of another 41 low income units, and she is currently working on the provision of 264 additional affordable units.

5) Our City Manager, Mr. Dennis Wilberg has shown more genuine interest in serving the needs of the homeless than any other city manager in South Orange County, has actively participated in County-led conferences and task forces on housing and shelters for the homeless, and has hosted South County forums on issues pertaining to the homeless.

6) Mission Viejo is the only city in South Orange County that has a full-time employee whose principal duty is to work full time on issues concerning the homeless, including housing, food, health care, drug addiction, and mental illness.

In sum, our City's strong and robust commitment to addressing the short- and long-term needs of the homeless and those less fortunate in collaboration with non-profit organizations demonstrates our commitment to give those who will take it, a hand up.

## Ask Me...

## I can help you



Lieutenant Ken Binning  
Chief of Police Services  
City of Mission Viejo

### Q: QUESTION FOR THE CHIEF :

*I attend Saddleback College and have no car. I use Uber and Lyft, but I was thinking of going old-school and hitch-hiking. Are there any laws that forbid hitch-hiking?*

### A: ANSWER:

*California Vehicle Code 21957 states: No person shall stand in a roadway for the purpose of soliciting a ride from the driver of any vehicle.*

*This rule is designed to keep pedestrians and motorists safe. It is legal to hitchhike through Mission Viejo, but you must obtain rides from places other than roadways. You could solicit a ride from the sidewalk -- so long as the driver of the car does not stop in the moving lanes of the street to pick you up.*

*Because of pedestrian safety efforts, anyone who violates this section of the California Vehicle Code could receive a ticket that could cost as much as \$200 after court costs. Why risk it? Only hitchhike in places where there is no chance you could be in a roadway or someplace where it is safe for you and motorists.*



# HITCHHIKING TIPS TO STAY ALIVE

**Hitchhiking across Mission Viejo** is one of the cheapest ways of traveling. By tradition, hitchhiking is defined as soliciting a ride by standing at the edge of a road, facing traffic, with one's thumb extended/upwards. You can meet a lot of people and make lots of friends. You can also become very frustrated, or encounter danger on the way; today's drivers are more fearful of picking up hitchhikers than in the past. People who do pick up hitchhikers tend to be very friendly. However, hitchhikers also risk being picked up by someone who is dangerous and will kill you.

## Getting A Ride

The three most important factors for getting a ride are: location, location, and location. You need to find a place where you can be seen early (to give the driver time to decide to pick you up), and where the driver can safely pull over.

## Attracting A Ride

Walk in the direction you want to go, especially if nobody is stopping to pick you up..

Let them see your face (avoid sunglasses, hat over eyes), make easy eye contact (but don't glare), look happy and pleasant.

Finally, Ask yourself...would I pick me up? Think like a driver who might enjoy giving you a ride.

## Choosing A Ride

Take care who you get a ride with. Some criminals prey on hitchhikers. If in doubt, turn down the ride. If you're in doubt, ask the driver where they're going and tell them you're heading elsewhere.

# Intersections WE REMEMBER



1972 - Above Allen Cadillac looking towards Mission Viejo



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# BLUE REFLECTORS

## Means Water Source Nearby

The blue reflectors you see around town are very important



tools for emergency responders; they mark the location of fire hydrants and are especially helpful at night and in smoky or foggy conditions. Next time you notice a blue reflector in the pavement, take a quick look at the curbing to the

right or left, and chances are that you'll spot a fire hydrant. In addition to functioning as invaluable help to firefighters, the reflectors can provide kids with a fun distraction. The hunt for the blue markers and corresponding hydrants can occupy the crankiest of passengers of any age.

Visit our Mission Viejo Reporter Facebook page & check out our video on Mission Viejo's Blue Reflectors.



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**Ask  
Aunt Sandy**

- WITH MISSION VIEJO'S SANDRA FERGUSON



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

## ALL WET IN THE LOCKER ROOM

Dear Aunt Sandy,

My grandson who attends La Paz Jr High, says they don't allow the kids to shower together after P.E. or any other physical activity.

Why is this? Could you get to the bottom of this delima? When I grew up, we were forced to take showers with the other boys. In fact, we weren't allowed to exit the locker room unless we had a dirty towel, and you could only get a towel by going in the shower room.

- All Wet in Palmia

Dear All Wet,

We had to shower in middle school PE, and it was horrifying. The gym teacher (female, of course) would come in and make sure we all showered. With the exception of one or two show-offs, we'd all undress under a towel, wrap the towel around us, go to the shower, take the towel off just long enough to get wet, then go back and try to dress under the towel. Nevertheless, it was the rule, and we had to do it. Pretty lame, when you take into account that I doubt I ever once broke a sweat in gym class.

Anyways, times are changing. As far as I can tell, there is no code governing school showers, according to the California Department of Education, but the prevailing view among public educators is that it's no longer appropriate to require students to take showers. Teachers are more sensitive to charges of harassment.

And then there's the matter of towels. With as many as a 1,000 kids, they would need thousands of towels laundered each week, and schools just don't have that kind of money.

- Aunt Sandy

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## A DRINK OF WATER IN A THIRSTY WORLD

### LOCAL GROUP BUILDS WELLS IN AFRICA

An estimated 4000 African children and adults die each day - one in every 22 seconds - as a direct result of unclean water.

Wells of Life was founded by local resident **Nick Jordan** based on the belief that clean drinking water is a basic human right for all people. The Mission Viejo nonprofit developed a water well system to sustain communities and saves lives.



people in Uganda's poorest villages.

All overhead is raised through fundraising and private donations, so contributors fund 100% of the well production costs. Wells of Life collaborates with schools, churches, families and businesses to fund the wells, and a unique aspect is their connection to the villages through photos and ongoing updates.

Wells of Life's long-range objective is to replicate their successful model in surrounding districts of Uganda and other parts of the world where clean, safe water is lacking.

To learn more, visit [www.wellsoflife.org](http://www.wellsoflife.org).



Local Resident Nick Jordan

FROM OUR IN THE WORKS DEPT.

## CROWN VALLEY & CONSTRUCTION



The former Coco's Restaurant location at Crown Valley and the 5 freeway, is under construction. Progress continues on a second building and nice patio seating areas. Tenants will include Chipotle, The Habit, and CAVA Grill.

Coco's has relocated to 28520 Marguerite Parkway, next door to Mission Viejo Reporter Headquarters at 28570 Marguerite Parkway.



Current state of construction.



Artist's rendering of the new buildings on location



# The ART OF HITCHHIKING

## MISSION VIEJO RESIDENTS SHARE THEIR MEMORIES OF THE ROAD

One guy I picked up was sitting on the fender of a car, I assumed it had broke down. I offered him a ride on my way to work. In the course of our conversation, it turns out it wasn't his car. He said he knew he could get a ride that way. - Monty M.

I hitch hiked across northern Spain for 5 days, traveling with truckers (couples only). Fantastic experience. -Lisa J.

When my car was down, used to hitch hike back and forth to base when I was in the USAF in CA. -Skip L.

"I read true crime and most people that pick up hitchhikers end up getting murdered by them...you know, just common sense."- Phoenix H.

Yes in Indiana, I used to hitch hike down to the interstate where they had a gas station/diner. Loved those french fries. -Jerry H.

"I once picked a hitchhiker up on Tioga pass in Yosemite. We got talking and I found out that he was a doctor hiking the John Muir trail. Somehow he got separated from the rest of his group, which is why he needed a lift to meet back up with them." - Will K.

"My parents picked people up all the time in the 70's. I was a little kid then and it was never scary or anything, just smelled bad sometimes. My dad was very clear that I was never to pick anyone up myself. - Robin M.

I have tried once and gave up. That was 50 years ago. I would do it if without transportation, but I would have to be pretty desperate. -Bill C.

"No, I have never. It's a sort of conundrum: people picking you up from side of the road will kill you, and people you pick up will kill you. Generally we're told our whole lives not to."- Nicole W

I was 14 years old on a group bicycle ride and my bicycle broke down. I had to hitchhike to our destination point. -Mark M.

I never hitchhiked, but I picked up hitchhikers. I had a standard for who I would pick up - *she* had to be cute. Once I stopped for a cute girl, next thing know she and her boyfriend were in the car - that was a bummer to say the least. - Dwight B.

When I was 12 years old my brother's car broke down along the road, about 20 miles away from our house in New York at night in the middle of a sub-zero freezing blizzard, so we had to hitchhike. Luckily the first car that passed, picked us up and got us to safety. - Patrick S.

Coming back from the gun range when I was in the military. Picked up a guy and a girl (mid 20's) and drove them about ten miles to a random liquor store. - Mike R.

When I was in the Marine Corps based in Yuma, Arizona, I picked up a hitchhiker when I was driving to Phoenix. It ended up he wanted me to take him to take him to the Phoenix jail since there was a warrant out for his arrest. Although the trip was uneventful, I was a bit nervous for the two-hour drive.

Used to thumb home from high school all the time. Wouldn't be caught dead riding the bus. Would never do it now. - Paul B.

On the way home from college, I picked up a hitchhiker. During the drive there were awkward silences and uncomfortable conversations. It made me question my decision of picking him up. as a good deed was really a bad idea. After finally letting him go and giving him a few dollars - that he was weirdly persistent to have, I vowed never to pick up a hitch hiker again. - Trung N.

Yes I have picked up a hitch hiker, only once in my life. I spent two hours making out with her in a park, but she ended up being weird. -Paul V.

Yes, Stagecoach makes me do crazy things. -Chuck M.



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# The Mission Viejo Library

## NOW YOU KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY

In October, the Mission Viejo Library celebrated its twentieth anniversary, but the dream of a Mission Viejo Library really began to take shape some thirty years ago.

In 1987, a committee appointed by the Mission Viejo Municipal Advisory Council concluded that the existing 9,155-square-foot county branch library across Chrisanta Drive from the Mount of Olives Lutheran Church was "inadequate both in size and with respect to materials and parking" to serve a community of 60,000 people, and that a new library was needed.



In 1989, respondents to a questionnaire mailed in preparation for writing the city's first General Plan ranked library service "essential," placing it in the same category as

health and safety. As a result, the *Mission Viejo General Plan* called for both relocation and expansion of the library. The questions were where to build the new library, how to fund its construction, and how to pay for its ongoing operating expenses.

Members of the Mission Viejo City Council appointed Planning Commissioner Sherri Butterfield to chair a Library Site Selection Committee. After evaluating several sites, the committee recommended a parcel at the southwest corner of Marguerite Parkway and La Paz Road because it was vacant, highly visible, and in the heart of the city. In August 1992, the city purchased this land from the Mission Viejo Company.



Meanwhile, a small group of critics said that public libraries were an example of "liberalism in its purest form." If youngsters needed books, their

parents could buy them in bookstores. Research could be done on the Internet and any municipal money invested in library buildings or services would be a waste of taxpayer dollars.

But Sherri held onto the dream. First, she chaired the Mission Viejo Library Committee, which was tasked with making the case for the new library. Next, she chaired the Mission Viejo Library Foundation, which began raising money for its construction. Finally, she ran successfully for a seat on the Mission Viejo City Council so that she could cast a deciding vote.



On September 19, 1995, Sherri, who by then was Mission Viejo's mayor pro tem, went with former Mayors Sharon Cody and Susan Withrow to ask the Board of Supervisors to allow Mission Viejo to withdraw from the county library system and take with it the property tax dollars that were being collected from city residents for the provision of library service. The supervisors unanimously agreed.

Ground for the new Mission Viejo Library was broken on September 7, 1996. When the 27,400-square-foot library opened to the public on October 25, 1997, a dream that had been ten years in the making finally came true. Expanded to 42,000 square feet between October 2000 and March 2002, the Mission Viejo Library now has 161,647 cardholders and, from its home in the heart of the city, serves all who can read or be read to.



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# MISSION VIEJO REPORTER



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*Danielle Campbell*



# GETTING 'MOTTIVATED'

## FOCUSING ON PERSONAL ENERGY

**ABOUT**  
with Kathy Kuiper

A few years ago, I came across a motivational coach on Facebook and decided to give him a call. I'd been writing a book tentatively titled *Getting To Savannah* for quite some time and I like to check in with a Coach regularly to stay on track with all my personal goals, including writing. I also focused on strengthening my personal relationships. In the past, I



Chris Mott speaking at a motivational seminar.

have attended seminars such as Tony Robbins' "Unleash The Power Within" and in doing so, found that I far surpassed any personal goals that I had committed to at the Seminar. Needless to say, I am a huge fan of personal coaching. **Chris Mott**, a "Mottivational" Coach, as he calls himself, proved to be the perfect fit for me. Since "meeting" Chris Mott, my husband and I bought a motorhome, and I decided to home school our kids so we can travel the world. I'm also well on my way to meeting the goals I have set for myself and our family.

Since my husband and I worked with Chris for an entire year, we learned invaluable tools to communicate more effectively, and we like to share those with our kids too. I'm so glad I did personal coaching with Chris because now I feel great about redefining and now chasing my "new" goals.

Chris Mott is the author of *Find Your Sprinkles*, a book he wrote that is available on Amazon. When he's not "mottivating" clients, Chris and his wife spend most of their time at their Riverside coaching retreat

called "Stream Dreams", where they "reboot and empower the existence of others", as Chris likes to say. Chris defines his primary role as that of a "Christian Energy Repositioning Coach." What does your personal energy have to do with success? Chris claims it's the key ingredient because, he says, everything is governed by the law of quantum attraction. To quote Chris, "Life doesn't happen to you, but rather, because of you." He says that you are the magnet, and everything moves toward or away from you based on your internal magnetism.

Chris is a master when it comes to re-energizing his clients. He's been successfully motivating and coaching individuals nationwide for over three decades. Chris himself is no stranger to moving in daring new directions. At the heat of the recession, Chris left his career of two decades as a C-Suite Executive in Silicon Valley. He sold all of his belongings, rented his house out, and took off in an Airstream trailer to build his new company and promote his book. While traveling the country on his nationwide "Sprinkle" Tour, Chris found his true passion, coaching individuals and couples to be their very best selves.

Over the last decade, Chris has developed a revolutionary coaching system unlike anything other. Is it love that's been eluding you? If so, Chris can help build you into the ultimate soulmate in order to attract the same. Are you looking for a job, a promotion, or just chomping at the bit to start your own company? If so, Chris can help you write the plan to make it happen. Are you struggling to rekindle the flame in your relationship or marriage? If so, Chris holds the flame to reignite the fire.

What do attracting your soulmate, manifesting your dream career, and living in a strong and fulfilling relationship all have in common? The secret is two words... Chris Mott.

Chris's client testimonials speak for themselves. His website, [www.mottivation.com](http://www.mottivation.com), features many testimonials from clients who have become a better version of themselves.

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# Go Fish!

## MISSION VIEJO ROTARY CLUB TAKES SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS FISHING

Last month, **Mission Viejo Rotary Club** sponsored a Fish for Life trip. **Fish for Life** is a local organization that takes 30 special



needs kids out for a day of deep sea fishing. It is a real magical experience for the children. The day begins with the red carpet opening ceremony. Each child gets introduced as

they walk down the red carpet to board the boat.

The smiles on their faces tell you this is going to be a special day. Mission Viejo Rotarians not only covered the cost of this special trip but were onboard to provide instructions on how to fish and spend a day with the kids, with a lot of help from the crew as well. During the day many fish were caught (Every kid catches a fish and on every outing, a mermaid is spotted available for photographs).



Check out website for details.

[www.missionviejorotary.org](http://www.missionviejorotary.org)

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## Knock, Knock, "COLLECTING!" BEING A MISSION VIEJO PAPERBOY IN THE 1970'S

Back in the 1970's, the early morning streets of Mission Viejo would be full of young boys making the rounds of their paper route, on bicycles. Or maybe on a rainy morning, they would be driven around by a sympathetic mother in curlers and bathrobe, in the family station wagon.

Many successful people started out delivering newspapers as boys. It was a great entry level job for an enterprising 12 or 13 year old who was too young to do anything else, but wanted to put a few dollars in his pocket.



It was not easy to get a paper route in those days. Newspaper distributors maintained a long waiting list of kids wanting a route. If you were lucky enough to get a route, the papers would be delivered to your house by 5am each morning and needed to be delivered by 7am - no exceptions. Any complaints about the paper being late

and the route was taken away. You'd have to fold the paper in a specific tri-fold manner, rubber band it, place the papers in a canvas bag, and finally, you'd strap the bags onto the handle-bars of your bike, and away you'd go.

Once a month, you'd go to each house and collect the monthly subscription money. Whatever money you did not collect would come out of your earnings.

A paper route taught boys much about life and how to make it in the working world. They encountered irate customers who were upset that their paper wasn't in the perfect spot; they dealt with deadbeat customers who avoided them on collection day, and they also learned how to take care of good customers and do special things for them, such as "porching" the paper.

Almost every kid who was a paperboy has fond memories of working hard, becoming responsible, and building a good work ethic. Cheers! To the paperboys of the world.



# CADILLAC STYLE

## MISSION VIEJO RESIDENT DRIVES LEGACY

Long time resident Diana McCullough owns a piece of her family's history. Her mom and dad, Donna and Maynard Hadley were married in 1952, and Cadillac's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary model was the big hit of that year. As newlyweds, they could not afford such an extravagant automobile. About 10 years later, Maynard brought this 1952, Baby Blue Cadillac Series 62, Golden Anniversary convertible, home to Donna for their anniversary. It was Donna's favorite color.

Donna and Maynard lived happily together for over 60 years, and when Maynard passed away, Donna gave the car to their daughter Diana.



Next time you see the big, baby blue, convertible rolling down Marguerite Parkway, be sure and wave to Diana and ask if she's taking good care of that big Caddy.




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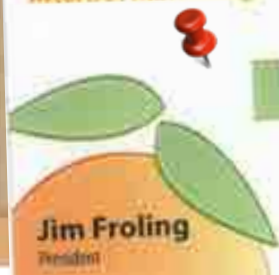
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## ROLLING DOWN THE HILL ... ON ONE WHEEL

If you happen to like walking or hiking the local trails, chances are that you might have run into this unique duo. Mission Viejo residents, David Koeblitz and his 16 year old son, Austin, love the outdoors. Hiking and biking are some of the activities that they enjoy doing together, but unicycling has become their favorite hobby.



David Koeblitz and his 16 year old son Austin

David learned how to unicycle ten years ago by practicing daily for three weeks - holding onto a chain link fence, before feeling confident enough to hit the trails. Austin followed in his dad's footsteps three years ago.

### Looking for a "midlife crisis" fix like David?

Unicycling not only provides a great core workout, but it's much cheaper than any fancy sports car. :) According to him, "It's not hard to pick up this balancing act", but you have to know that falling down is part of the learning process. Wear knee and shin pads, plus wrist guards, and in no time, you too will be rolling down the hill...on one wheel.



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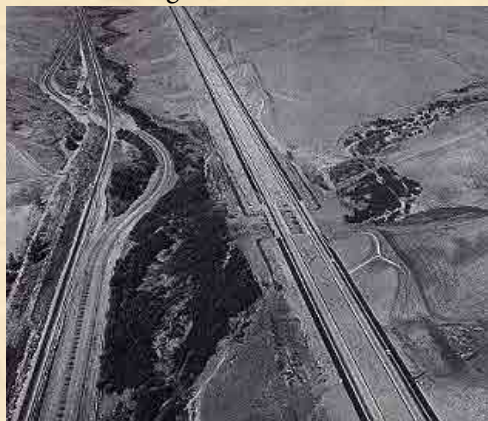
\*Expires 10/31/17. In absence of periodontal disease.  
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# AGUAJE DEL CUATE

## Mission Viejo's First Stagecoach Stop

This section of Cabot Road in 1776 was called El Camino Real and it ultimately connected all the California missions. Then in the early 1800's, it was used as a stage line that connected San Diego and Los Angeles, and in 1887 the railroad was built along the route. In the 1930's, it became Highway 101 and finally in 1960 it became known as Interstate 5.



Oso Exit - Train Tracks, El Camino Real, & 5 Fwy

marked the boundaries where 3 local ranchos all came together - Rancho Trabuco, Rancho Mission Vieja, and Rancho Niguel (later known as the Moulton Ranch). The water source for the spring was obliterated by construction work by the Sante Fe Railroad during 1887-1888.

El Aguaje Del Cuate, an ancient natural spring that was nearby, became a Stagecoach stop and a horse exchange for the Seeley and Wright Stage Line. It also

marked the boundaries where 3 local ranchos all came together

- Rancho Trabuco, Rancho Mission Vieja, and Rancho Niguel (later known as the Moulton Ranch). The water source for the spring was obliterated by construction work by the Sante Fe Railroad during 1887-1888.

The plaque reads:  
"Historical Site Aguaje del Cuate  
- Historic Highway 101"

An ancient spring near the railroad tracks played an important role in California's transportation history.

A portion of California's Highway 101 and El Camino Real passed by the Aguaje del Cuate. In the late 1860's the Seeley and Wright Stage Line established a horse exchange facility by the spring.  
- City of Mission Viejo Heritage Committee"



A photograph (above) and flyer (right) advertising the Seeley and Wright Stage Line.



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## **SOUTH COUNTY LEXUS PRESENTING ATHLETE OF THE MONTH Alan Hoang - Swimming**

Athlete of the month **Alan Hoang** is a sophomore swimming for Mission Viejo High School and Set Swim Team. He has been swimming competitively for five years and is currently on the Varsity team. His main stroke is butterfly and most often swims mid-sprints.

When he's not in the pool, you can find Alan playing clarinet in the school band and studying for AP's and Honors classes. He likes to spend his weekends playing golf and reading.

*If you know a local athlete you know who has done something newsworthy on-the-field/pool/gym/floor etc. or off, let us know. E-mail us at [missionviejoreporter@gmail.com](mailto:missionviejoreporter@gmail.com). Include a nice photo and you could see your story in the next issue!*



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