



VOLUME FIVE, NUMBER FORTY-SIX

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

April 2019

MISSION VIEJO[®] REPORTER



FAMILY STYLE
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RUBBISH!
Six-Year Old Resident is City's Expert on Trash Cans

HOME: LESS
Up From the Bottom To Help Others

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REPORTER

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Dave Leckness
Editor



Letters To THE EDITOR

SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS

We'd love to hear from you. Take a moment and send us an email (letter) and let us know how we're doing. This is a chance for you, our reader, to express your opinion on a recent article or about an area of concern. Maybe you want to suggest a new idea or would like more information on a specific topic. Whatever the case, we'd like to hear from you. Below are a few excerpts from last month's mailbag:

IF YOU BUILD IT article

...the pictures from Mission Viejo 1964 were great, thank you Donald Bren. - **Jay P.**
...hard to believe Mission Viejo looked like this. - **Kathy K.**

LEWIS & CLARK DISCOVERED MISSION VIEJO article

...I've seen fresh water clams. - **Ken P.**
...your map was facing south, big mistake. - **Ann M.**
...I know Lewis Sellers at Carl Hankey, he loves camping too. - **Hugh J.**
... your title got me, good job. - **Hank P.**

STREET NAMESAKES article

...love this type of local information. - **Roger F.**
...you left out Alice O'Neill Avery for Avery Parkway. - **Jenny T.**
...so what do I have to do to have you give me a street name? - **Hanan B.**
...ummm, it's "OlympIAD" not OlymPAID. - **Larry T.**

Send your thoughts and comments to: missionviejoreporter@gmail.com

Thanks,

Dave Leckness - Editor/Publisher



UNDERCOVER MAYOR

Hi, I'm Your Driver, My Name Is Gregory



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

When I retired from my second career as an airline pilot with Jet Blue, (my first career was as a Marine Corps fighter pilot), I had a lot of time on my hands. My wife and I did some traveling, I played a few extra rounds of golf, but I missed being around people in my community. You see I have worked my whole life, beginning with a paper route and mowing lawns as a young teen. So when I retired in 2012, I took on a part-time job driving for the ride sharing company called LYFT. This gave me some extra cash each month, plus it gave me the opportunity to meet people in my community.

The best part of driving for LYFT is that I can work when I want to by just turning on the LYFT app, and when I have had enough I turn it off and head home. When I was elected to the Mission Viejo City Council in 2014, I continued driving for LYFT part-time. I enjoy driving my constituents around as their LYFT driver to their daily errands such as doctor's appointments, grocery store, or social events. I have learned so much about my city from my passengers, such as the likes and dislikes of the city. I usually don't mention I am the Mayor until we near the end of the ride and many don't believe me or just put on a big smile. So if you call for a LYFT and your driver is GREGORY say, "Hey I know you, you're our Mayor."

SERVE IS THE WORD

THE GREATNESS OF HELPING OTHERS



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

Sixteen years ago, Mission Viejo established itself as a City of Character. Each month, the City promotes a different character quality. In April, our focus is on **Service**, the performance of selfless acts which benefit others. Service includes taking action for the good of another person, for the good of the community, or for the nation, and is a characteristic of individuals who are interested in helping others.

Though the intentions of service acts are to benefit others, ironically, individuals young and old performing service often gain benefits themselves. Studies suggest that helping others is good for our physical health and also lifts our moods. When we serve, chemicals are released in our bodies which may reduce stress, elevate our moods, increase our life expectancy, improve our immune systems, and benefit our hearts! In addition to these physical benefits, a person who "makes a difference" receives immense satisfaction. It is good for us to help others!

Many organizations depend on volunteers, so I encourage you to get involved in your child's school, Scout troop, sports team, your church, or one of the many service groups which are active in the community. The Mission Viejo website, cityofmissionviejo.org, provides information about many opportunities to serve in our City. As Coach John Wooden expressed, "You can't live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you."

To read our character documents in full, visit cityofmissionviejo.org/character. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Character Committee.

Trish Kelley, City Council Member

Co-Founder, Mission Viejo Community of Character

trishkelley@cox.net

FROM OUR **TRASH TALKING** DEPT.

RUBBISH!

Six-Year Old Resident is City's Expert on Trash Cans



For 6-year-old **Jens Nelson**, trash collection day is the most exciting morning at his house. Jens can often be seen watching the City's Waste Management vehicles perform their weekly pickups down his street. Jens loves the roaring sound the big trucks make as they meticulously lift each trash can and dump them into the back of the vehicle.



Jens has become an expert in the plastic containers used in the City's collection program. Jens can tell you that Mission Viejo uses three sizes of plastic containers, 35-gallon, 65-gallon and 95-gallon, and that there are three colors of trash can bins. Jens recently had the chance to visit Rehrg Pacific, the plastic container manufacturer who makes the containers locally in Southern California. Jens was able to see firsthand how the plastic



containers are made and came away with expert knowledge.

Thank you Jens, for taking an interest in the City's collection system, and becoming the "city expert" on the plastic containers, and for taking an interest in something that helps keep Mission Viejo a special place to raise a family.

FROM OUR **ANCIENT HISTORY** DEPT.

ARCHIVES

MAY COMPANY, MISSION VIEJO MALL - 1979



MAY COMPANY OPENS — May Company Mission Viejo, the newest addition to the Southern California family of May Company stores, opened its doors in mid-April at the new Mission Viejo Mall. The 150,000-square-foot store is the first of 134 stores to open at the new mall.

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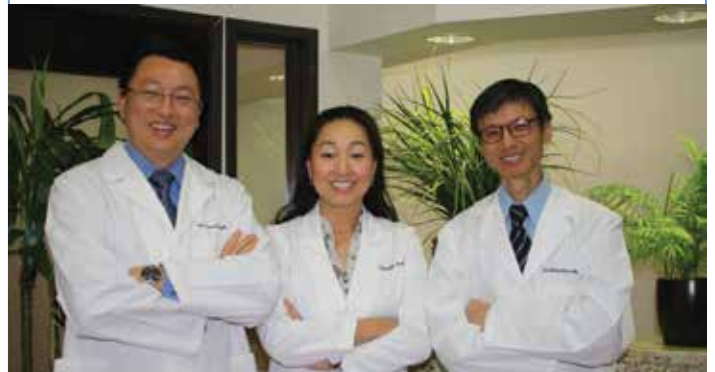
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Three years ago, computer whiz **Hassan Fahimi** left the world of technology to pursue a new dream of owning his own business. After looking around at local establishments, he decided on the one with the most community oriented opportunity. **It's A Grind Coffee House** on Marguerite Parkway was exactly what he had in mind.

Since then, Hassan's vision has become a reality. Growing into far more than your average coffee house, It's a Grind has transformed into a hub of the community. On any given day, you will find the spacious tables filled with studying teens, the conference room occupied by local businesspeople, the comfortable chairs populated with friendly neighbors, and of course regular commuters stopping for their morning fix before work.

Whenever the City of Mission Viejo has an event, you can expect to see It's a Grind handing



out quality coffee and scrumptious pastries. Mission Viejo resident **Victoria** and **Katie** are ready to help.

You'll find Katie at the register and preparing toasted bagels. Just around the counter, you'll find Victoria, steaming milk and making delicious mochas and ice cold frappes.



HOME: LESS

Up From the Bottom To Help Others

Being homeless is never any fun. Nobody knows it better than **Richard Morley**. Richard was homeless not too long ago, and since then he has taken it upon himself to help others in that situation. Here's Richards story:



Richard Morley

Born in Canada in 1942, and raised by his grandparents, Richard's grandfather started the first Rotary Club in Canada, making Rotary International a household word. Richard became a very successful businessman and traveled the world as vice-president of a manufacturing company. Richard says, "I've had a fantastic life; I've seen the world."

In 2007, Richard moved his company to Laguna Niguel. His grandfather taught him to "Pay-it-forward", so Richard joined the Laguna Niguel Rotary Club.

In 2010, Richard had a massive stroke, and was in the hospital for about three months. During his rehab, Medicare came to him and said, "There will be no more payments." Richard needed care and moved into a local Assisted Living facility in Mission Viejo. That cost him \$3600.00 a month. It wasn't long before Richard was out of money. To reduce his monthly expenditures, he rented a room, but that didn't work out.



Richard began living in his car, trying to find work, but that proved to be very difficult because of his age and health. One night while sleeping in his car, he saw a guy on a recliner bicycle, and thought that was a great idea.

Richard now lives bare-bones. He has a roommate whom he splits rent with. Richard says he lives on about \$1.74 a day in food. A total of 900 calories a day is all Richard says he needs, and he's going to need them too.



Richard Morley and his Trike

Richard is planning to ride his trike from Monarch Beach to a point in Northern California that is the most geographically west in California, and then from there ride across country to the point most geographically east in the Continental United States to raise funds to help establish a prototype program designed to help homeless people off the street, one at a time. He plans on doing this between 2020-2021. We wish Richard well in his goal!

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FROM OUR **QUESTIONABLE ADVICE** DEPT.

Ask Aunt Sandy

- WITH MISSION VIEJO'S SANDRA FERGUSON



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

Dear Aunt Sandy,

I attend Trabuco Hills High School, and I'm in the 12th grade. I've been going out with the same guy since 10th grade, but now I want to hang with someone else. How do I tell him I want to break up?

Thank you - Mustang Sally

Dear Sally,

There's no perfect way to break up with someone — it's gonna suck for both of you (but especially him) no matter how you do it. There are certain approaches you can use to help make the dumping less brutal, I've made a list of some of my favorites. Sure, these lines may be BS, but it's better than trying to juggle two guys at once. Good Luck - Aunt Sandy

AUNT SANDY'S BEST BREAK-UP LINES:

1. "It's not you, it's me."
2. "I need some space."
3. "You're perfect in every way, just not for me."
4. "I don't deserve you."
5. "Let's just be friends."
6. "I think we should see other people."
7. "I kissed a girl and I liked it."

FROM OUR **REMINISCING** DEPT.

INTERSECTIONS

We Remember

PHOTOS FROM MISSION VIEJO'S EARLIEST DAYS



Oso Parkway & 5 Freeway looking towards Laguna Niguel
Ziggurat building (at top) construction in progress.



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FROM OUR FACIAL HAIR DEPT.

MASSIVE MUSTACHE

FORMER CAPISTRANO VALLEY HIGH TEACHER WINS TITLE

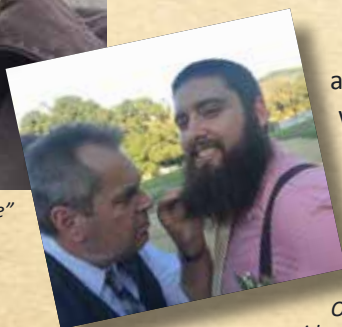


"Mission Viejo's Biggest Mustache"

Last month, **Mission Viejo Reporter** caught up with Former Capistrano Valley High School teacher **Mike DeGeer** (1982-2011) and current Capo Valley High School teacher **Don Cholodenko** while they were having lunch at **New York Deli** on Marguerite Parkway. It was there that we released the results of our poll to Mike and presented him with the title: "Mission Viejo's Biggest Mustache."



Mike DeGeer and Don Cholodenko



Our judge examining a resident's beard for signs of spiders

Mike taught special education and coached baseball during his wonderful time at Capistrano Valley High School. Today, Mike and his wife Paula enjoy reading, cooking, and taking long walks on the beach.



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FROM OUR DOGGIE IN THE WINDOW DEPT.

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Suede



Luna



Hattie



Bonnie Belle

Come meet a few fabulous longtime residents, at the **Mission Viejo Shelter**. **Suede, Bonnie Belle, Luna & Hattie** have been at the shelter for some time, and it's time they found a home. Each of these pets is affectionate and ready for a home of their own.

Thanks to **Dedicated Animal Welfare Group (DAWG)** all adoption fees are covered on these four pets. These four are guaranteed to make you feel warm and fuzzy. The Animal Shelter has quite a few more quality pets that are waiting for you to visit. For more information call **949-470-3045**.

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Marla Ovitsky Jacobs



**MISSION VIEJO
REPORTER**

Cloud Play

Photos by Mission Viejo Residents



Christy Welch



Kathie Rennie Sauro



Shelby Garrison



Amanda Godines



Liz Steinworth



Dian Hunt Garbarini



Anita Bath



Cindy Nelson Rupp



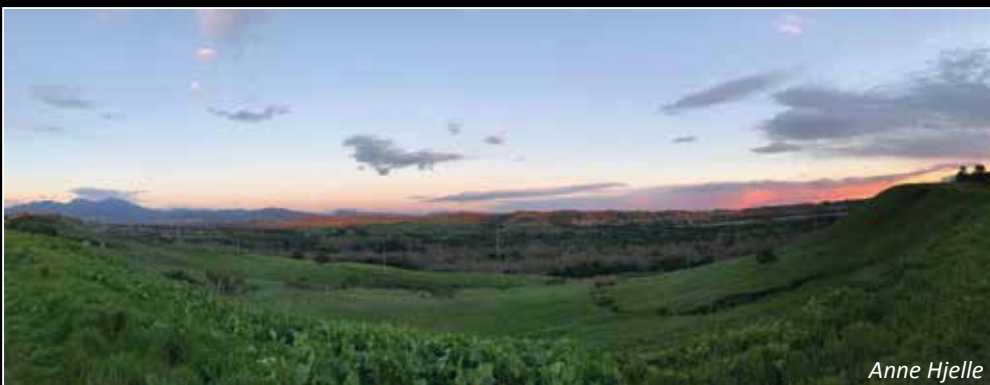
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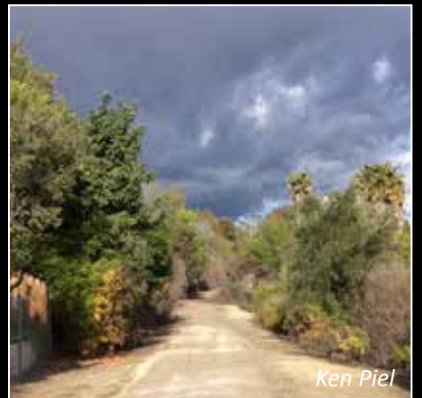
Dott Custis Schroeder



Joanne Foritano Suttile



Anne Hjelle



Ken Piel

FROM OUR THIS ONE TIME IN BAND CAMP DEPT.

CONVERSATION *With* FAMILY STYLE

RAYMOND 'TONY' RODRIGUEZ OF THE
BAND FAMILY STYLE

The Mission Viejo Reporter visited with **Tony Rodriguez**, who along with his brother **Victor** formed one of Orange County's most popular bands "**Family Style**". Family Style will be playing at the **Mission Viejo Concert In the Park** on August 9th.

Favorite music?

“Blues, Soul and Rock & Roll”



Q&A

Where did you and your brother grow up?

Hacienda Heights.

How long have you been a band?

This is our 30th year as "Family Style. We started at a place called Captain Nash's on La Paz in 1989. It's a McDonald's now.

What was your first band's name?

Our 1st band was called The Premiers when we were 10 years old. After that we were Sandfire and Apollo in jr high and high school.

Who is in the band?

Marvin McDaniel on guitar, **Richard Tyznk** on sax, **Mevin Scudder** on bass, my brother **Victor** on guitar and myself on drums and vocals.

How long have all of you been playing?

12 Years with this lineup.

How many nights a month do you play?

We usually average 160 shows a year so 3.8 Nights a week.

Have you every had stuff thrown at you?

I had a lady throw a fork at me at a club in Ladera Ranch because I didn't know a song she requested. I love drunk people.



What was your worst gig?

In high school, we played at Chino Prison for the inmates. We were told it was a fund raiser for the Mayor of Chino. That was scary as hell.

What was your best gig?

The Mission Viejo Concerts In The Park of course !

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PLUMBER

YOUR HOME PLUMBER

PHONE NUMBER 949-388-6169

Mark has worked for my family for years and is Johnny on The Spot when it comes to diagnosing a problem and getting it taken care of quickly and efficiently.

TILE

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FLOOR CARE

TILE BRITE SERVICES

PHONE NUMBER 949-413-7716

Edgar, of Tile Brite Services, refinishes floors to look like new and maintains them on an annual basis or as needed. He has refinished my travertine and marble floors for years now.

FLOORING

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Moe, the owner, is a resident of Canyon Crest. He has over 20 years experience in providing and installing all types of flooring, countertops and showers. He sells carpet, wood, porcelain, and natural stone, among other types of flooring.

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GARDENING

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Jose keeps my yard looking beautiful and also does quite a few of my neighbor's yards. He changes out my annual flowers and keeps my lawn looking healthy and lush.

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All of the Pool Werx technicians are Certified Pool Operators and Steve, the owner also teaches the CPO cert. class to hundreds of pool operators in So. Cal. They hold a Contractor's License, too.

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Peter, the owner, really cares about his customers and won't sell them something they don't need. He has over 15 years experience providing heating, ventilation and air conditioning services.



- My dog, Chase, enjoyed his grooming in Pet Spaws' Mobile truck.

MOBILE LOCKSMITH

PAUL THE LOCKSMITH

PHONE NUMBER 949-943-1990

Paul got my locks changed quickly and easily and best of all, suggested something less expensive than what I was expecting. He's my "go to" guy when I need a new lock or a door rekeyed.

PET GROOMING

MJ'S PET SPAW

PHONE NUMBER 949-328-9365

Mj's Pet Spaw makes my dog Chase look so handsome and spiffy! Their mobile truck can come to you or you can take your pet to their salon to get beautified.

PEST CONTROL

LITTLE BUGGER PEST CONTROL

PHONE NUMBER 949-586-0700

Darrell is knowledgeable and extremely helpful. I hear many MV Residents rave about this company, myself included. I love that Darrell even takes a call when out in the field, too.

BOAT CLEANING

WILLIS SIMMONS

PHONE NUMBER 714-661-3499

By far the best boat detailing on Lake Mission Viejo and surrounding areas. He keeps our boat in tip top shape every month for a very reasonable price.

HANDYMAN

FELIX THE HANDYMAN

PHONE NUMBER 323-997-1647

This handyman is the best I have ever encountered. He does everything from hanging a chandelier, installing a doorbell to painting and so much more.

HOUSECLEANING

MOLLY MAID OF SADDLEBACK VALLEY

PHONE NUMBER 949-367-8000

I have to disclose that I own Molly Maid franchises in other cities but no matter, my friends, Janet and Scott run a tight ship and Molly Maid is one of the few home cleaning services out there that is bonded, licensed and insured.



- Boat Detailer Willis Simmons makes my boat look like new.

AT THE *Drive-In* It's Not Only For Movies

Sometimes moving forward isn't always better than what we leave behind. Netflix, Imax and home theatres are great, but are they greater than the "drive-in"? Last year was the 85th Anniversary of this American institution. At it's peak in the 1950's, there were over 4,000 across the country. They were centers for the whole family with playgrounds for the kids, visiting your friends in their cars or seeing them in the snack bar line with musical jingles playing in the background.

In 1966, the **Mission Drive-in Theater**, located in San Juan Capistrano opened for business. It was a large 710-car venue with a large outdoor movie screen, a projection booth, and a concession stand. Customers could view movies from the privacy and comfort of their cars. The movie's sound was provided by individual speakers hung from the window of each car, which were attached by wire.

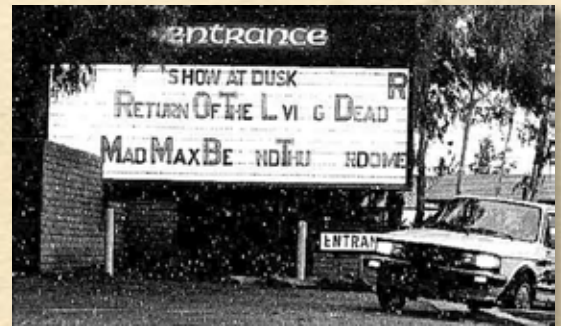


The Mission Drive-In mural stood out while driving down the 5 freeway going south.



It was a wholesome family environment, with some shenanigans going on as well. Some Mission Viejo residents crammed friends in the trunks of their cars to avoid the per-person charge at the entrance of the drive-in, while some teenagers enjoyed making out so much in the back seat of the vehicle, that they completely missed the evening's movie. Ask anyone who went, and they will probably tell you their memories with a chuckle and a smile on their face.

Sadly, the drive-in closed in September of 1985 to make way for a shopping center, but many a fond memory was made there till then.



One of the last movie nights at the drive-in - July 1985

FROM OUR GENTLY USED DEPT.

PURSE *palooza* HANDBAGS TO HELP THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Mission Viejo Library **PURSE PALOOZA** will be coming soon-back by popular demand. We are planning the **2019 Purse Palooza Sale for Saturday, May 4th, from 10am to 4pm** in the Saddleback Room at City Hall.

We need your help to donate your "gently used" or NEW purses to the sale. Please look through your closets, your sisters' closets and daughters' closets, and consider donating any new or "gently used" purses now in support of our Mission Viejo Library.

The donation bin is at the Friends of the Library Bookstore located in the Mission Viejo Library. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 4th to update your purse wardrobe and also support our Mission Viejo Library.

Remember- Mother's Day is right around the corner, and a purse or two will make a great gift and support the Library!

The Saddleback Room is located at 100 Civic Center Dr. Mission Viejo, CA 92692. If you have any questions or need a donation pick up please call:

Friends of the Library Secretary,
Kathleen Cunningham at
562-505-0381.



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Making Readers LAUGH

"DRABBLE" CELEBRATES IT'S 40th ANNIVERSARY

By Sarah Van Boerum

Mission Viejo resident and cartoonist **Kevin Fagan**, creator of the comic strip *Drabble*, has been making people laugh with his drawings and witty comic strips since he was a young man. His career began when he attended **Saddleback College**, where he began drawing cartoons for the school paper about the adventures of a nerdy college student, drawing inspiration mostly from himself. He later moved to Sacramento State where he continued to hone his skills as a cartoonist, again for the school paper, and then began to submit his work to see if he could get published. "I sent in my work to many of the syndicated newspapers, and they all said no, except for one. At 21, I was the youngest cartoonist to sign on with them."



Kevin Fagan



Drabble was first published in 1979, and is now published in over 200 papers. The hilarious comic follows the life of parents Ralph and June (better known to readers as Honeybunch), along with their three kids Norman, Patrick and Penny, as well as their spunky mini dachshund Wally. All of the

characters mirror Fagan's real life, as he and his wife Cristi have raised three children together and now have two grandchildren, all of whom have provided most of the inspiration for his work. "Norman was me for many of my college years and then as my life changed and I had my own family, Ralph's role as the father took on more meaning." His work is published seven days a week, and he hand draws every strip, noting that he does not do repeat printings. That means Fagan has been churning out original content every day of every year since 1979! His wife Cristi does most of the editing, taking a look over each strip and then scanning them into the computer before final publication. Fagan always carries around a spiral notebook to jot down ideas and drawings, as they can come anywhere at anytime. He is happy knowing that his work brings laughter and joy to others and looks forwards to sharing the *Drabble* family with your family for many more years to come.



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MISSION VIEJO - A LOOK BACK

THIS PHOTO FROM 1968 LOOKS LIKE IT'S FROM A DIFFERENT PLACE

After 50 years, it's hard to recognize some of our City's landmarks. In this picture from 1968, follow the first segment of Marguerite Parkway's development.

- 1 KALEIDOSCOPE
- 2 THE SHOPS AT MISSION VIEJO
- 3 AVERY & MARGUERITE PARKWAYS
- 4 MISSION HOSPITAL
- 5 SADDLEBACK COLLEGE
- 6 CROWN VALLEY & MARGUERITE PARKWAY
- 7 ALLEN CADILLAC





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Sunday, April 21st

Three Seatings: 11am, 12:30pm & 2pm
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SOUTH COUNTY LEXUS PRESENTING ATHLETE OF THE MONTH Aaron Basye - Tennis

Aaron Basye, a Junior at Tesoro High School, has been perfecting his well timed serves, powerful forehand and precise volley shots for the last seven years. His athletic success is mainly due to relentless self-discipline and willingness to learn from his mistakes. Aaron attributes his tennis techniques and ongoing endurance to hundreds of practice hours.

Currently he is playing with the OC Beasts Team, but he's also had the opportunity to be on the Zonals Team - representing SoCal three times. Undeterred by the highly competitive tournaments that he has participated in locally and nationally, Aaron stays motivated and energized by his victories. At the same time, he maintains a humble and positive attitude, regardless of the outcome of his matches.

Like all sports, tennis requires a significant time commitment, yet Aaron manages to make academics a priority too (4.4 GPA). Then, in his limited spare time, he tries to decompress by playing video games, biking and helping others. He volunteers through Lion's Heart (current VP) and National Honor Society.



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