

Bridge Shelter Success: Deanne's Story

Deanne is a Costa Mesa senior woman who spent nearly eight years living in her car with relatives.

Recently, she became severely ill and was hospitalized. The staff at the hospital reached out to Costa Mesa's community outreach team and through collaborative efforts, Deanne was able to successfully move into the Bridge Shelter.

Initially, Deanne was extremely hesitant and reluctant to stay at the shelter because she was alone and without her relatives, since they did not want to move with her to the shelter. She even experienced panic attacks due to this.

Shelter staff and Mercy House site coordinators spent a great deal of time working with Deanne to make her comfortable and to gain her trust. They reassured her that she was safe at the Shelter and that they worked tirelessly to find housing that would accommodate senior homeless residents.

As this was happening, Deanne unfortunately lost control of her bank account, so the shelter staff helped her get a new ID and a new bank account. She now has enough money to pay for health insurance and she also has the ability to save money as well, which will go towards her housing.

Deanne continues her stay at the shelter, in a safe and supportive surrounding, as shelter staff works to find her a stable place to live.

Congratulations Deanne on your recent commitment and stabilization and for working towards housing!

For more information and/or to donate to the Bridge Shelter, visit our website [here](#) or contact the shelter operators by

calling 714-836-7188 ext. 222, or [click here](#).

County board of supervisors to take up JWA General Aviation plan on Tuesday June 25

The Orange County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to again consider the John Wayne Airport General Aviation Improvement Program (GAIP) on Tuesday, June 25. This item was continued from the Board's May 7 meeting to allow time for a compromise solution proposed by Supervisor Andrew Do to be evaluated by County staff.

On June 19, County staff moved forward with the same recommendation that was presented at the May 7 Board meeting, which asks the Board to approve Alternative 1. The cities of Costa Mesa and Newport Beach opposes Alternative 1 in its original form because it will result in more jets flying over our community.

Both cities remain willing to consider the "modified Alternative 1" as proposed by Supervisor Do, or another reasonable plan that contains the project elements that protect the communities under the airport's arrival and departure corridors from additional noise and pollution impacts. Specifically, Costa Mesa and Newport Beach leaders are looking for the Board to adopt a plan based on, or that contains element similar to, the principles of Alternative 3 (the preferred alternative):

Click here for the staff report and public comments.

- No more than two (2) full-service Fixed Based Operators
- One (1) new and one (1) existing limited-service Fixed Base Operators
- No General Aviation Facility (for processing international general aviation passengers)
- Increased hangar space for small general aviation planes
- Maintain the current “GA mix”, meaning, keep the current ratio of light general aviation aircraft (single and twin engine) and general aviation jets.

What You Can Do

Learn More at our web page Airport Noise and Concerns or at newportbeachca.gov/gaip

Sign the Petition – <http://chnng.it/Z5V87DkmFv>

Email Your Comments to the Board – www.ocgov.com/gov/bos/opinion

Attend the June 25 Board of Supervisors Meeting – Starts at 9:30 a.m. at 333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701.

The City of Newport Beach has received a number of questions about or related to the GAIP.

You can find a list of those questions, with the city’s answers, here.

Council approves \$172 million budget for 2019-2020

The Costa Mesa City Council at the June 18 meeting adopted a \$172 million Operating & Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

The 2019-2020 budget reflected revenues that increased by 2 percent compared to a 5.6 percent increase the previous year as well as costs for the temporary and permanent Bridge Shelters, increases to salaries and benefits for existing positions and recent litigation costs surrounding sober living homes.

City leaders began working on the budget in December of 2018.

“I’m really proud of the work we have done, and the work we continue to do,” Mayor Katrina Foley said. She pointed out that the Police Department for example is now one of the highest paid in the county and is a destination department once again with specialty units and community policing.

Still, she acknowledged that the recent financial burdens placed on the city meant this year’s budget was tighter than in years past.

“We can’t have everything,” she said. “We worked hard to prioritize necessities and set up things now so that we can be ready to build and develop projects later when revenue is better. We are prioritizing recreation, we are prioritizing learning, we are prioritizing public safety and sustainability, and we are prioritizing economic development. It’s important to be a destination city and thriving business community, so we can achieve our priorities.

The council used about \$454,599 in reserves to balance the budget that includes the addition of eight full-time equivalent (FTE) positions to address operational needs in the City, which includes five new positions and three positions that were the result of reclassification or elimination of certain part-time positions to create full-time positions.

There were also a number of accounting corrections that ultimately reclassified accounts from salaries and benefits to maintenance and operations as well accurately recording revenues and expenditures individually, rather than netting

them together. This was the result of an extensive review of the accounting records to ensure the City is following proper accounting principles.

In addition to approving the budget, the City Council directed the City Manager and Finance Department to report back to City Council by November 15, 2019 on the status of the first quarter operating budget for the General Fund, provide additional recommendations on the staffing changes recommended for deferral and how to address the Police Department's operating and capital requests.

Two Costa Mesa residents included in arrests of nine for Firearms and Drug Trafficking in Orange County

Costa Mesa Police Special Investigations Detectives recently assisted in a six-month investigation that resulted in the arrest of nine defendants now charged with numerous firearms and narcotics charges for trafficking firearms, heroin and methamphetamine.

Two of those arrested were from Costa Mesa.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) began the investigation in September 2018, which included Costa Mesa Police, Huntington Beach Police and Homeland Security Investigations.

Throughout the investigation, law enforcement obtained 20

firearms, ammunition, more than five pounds of methamphetamine, and 131 grams of heroin in controlled purchases. In addition, various firearm parts and ammunition were seized. Several of the guns bought were self-manufactured and un-serialized, numerous firearms were unregistered National Firearms Act (NFA) weapons, and at least one firearm was proven to be stolen from a residential burglary.

The two federal criminal cases are being prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office, Santa Ana Branch Office.

"This type of law enforcement partnership amplifies our efforts to combat these crimes and allows us to cast a wider net," said Costa Mesa Police Chief Rob Sharpnack. "The apprehension of these criminals is a step toward making our communities safer. We will continue to work with our partners in our pursuit of those who threaten public safety."

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One of the indictments returned by a federal grand jury alleges Timothy A. Murphy, a.k.a. "Papa Smurf," 67, of Costa Mesa; Brad J. Nelson, 50, of Newport Beach; John W. Breneman, 46, of Irvine; and Danny Ramos, a.k.a. "Bull," 49, of Santa Ana, conspired to distribute methamphetamine and heroin.

The indictment also states Murphy, Nelson and Breneman sold pistols, shotguns, and ammunition to a prohibited person on various dates and in varying amounts. Nelson, a prohibited person, is also charged with possessing firearms illegally.

The second indictment returned by a federal grand jury alleges Joseph T. Doody, 30, of Huntington Beach; Brian P. Ros, a.k.a. "Rosco," 32, of Santa Ana; and Steve M. Bonales, a.k.a. "Ghost," "G," and "S-Man," 40, of Santa Ana, conspired to distribute methamphetamine.

The indictment alleges Caleb T. Sagiao, 36, of Harbor City, engaged in the business of selling firearms without a federal license on numerous occasions selling semi-automatic shotguns with no serial numbers, homemade AR-15 type pistols and rifles, and seven homemade AR-15 type short-barreled rifles.

Short-barreled rifles fall under the National Firearms Act and must be registered with ATF. They were not. Therefore, federal charges of possession of unregistered firearms were levied against Sagiao. According to the indictment, Ros was also engaged in the business of selling firearms without a federal license. Doody, Ros and Sagiao allegedly sold various firearms to a prohibited person throughout the investigation. Bonales, a prohibited person, is charged with a felon in possession of a firearm. According to the indictment Shelia L. Cundall, 48, of Costa Mesa, is charged with selling a firearm to a prohibited person.

"When ATF partners with its local PDs to reduce violent crime by targeting these individuals who pose the greatest threat to public safety, the enforcement strategies produce results," said ATF Special Agent in Charge of Los Angeles Field Division Carlos A. Canino. "These partnerships are true force multipliers. They enable law enforcement to identify, investigate and seek prosecution against these illicit gun possessors, and drug and firearm traffickers."

"This case is just one of the great examples of our partnerships in law enforcement," Huntington Beach Police Chief Rob Handy. "The investigation and prosecution of these dangerous individuals would not have been possible without the excellent partnerships we enjoy with both local and federal

law enforcement agencies. It is because our teams worked together, these dangerous people and weapons have been removed from our communities.”

“This investigation is a perfect example of the positive impact achieved in the community when local and federal law enforcement join forces to dismantle the dangerous criminal networks operating in our neighborhoods,” said Joseph Macias, Special Agent in Charge for Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Los Angeles. “I commend the investigators for their coordination and tireless work. This joint investigation is a victory for law enforcement and the communities we serve.”

For more information about ATF visit and follow ATF on Twitter @LosAngelesATF.

From hard knocks to helping those experiencing homelessness, Gabriel Silva found his passion

Gabriel Silva is a Senior Site Lead for Mercy House working in the city Bridge Shelter.

He grew up in a single parent home and at the age of 5, his father passed away and left his mother to raise eight children.

“Mama did her best but I decided to take the road of hard knocks which lasted into my 30s,” Silva said. “Once I came to my senses I knew I wanted to share my experiences and help

others find their way back home if you will.”

In 2015, he began to volunteer with the Salvation Army and eventually was offered a position as an Outreach Coordinator working with the homeless community. He found his passion.

After two years with the Salvation Army, he was hired by City Net to help with the project of relocating people from the Santa Ana River Trail as well as the Santa Ana Civic Center.

Silva has assisted with relocating people from homeless encampments into emergency shelters, transitional living, permanent housing, and connecting them to mental health services, and drug rehabilitation programs.

He later learned about Mercy House and was hired by the nonprofit in November of 2018. He started as a site lead at a new shelter in Santa Ana and then moved to work on the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter in March

“All of my past experiences have brought me to this point and have prepared me for the service here at the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter in helping the homeless find their way home,” he said. “I am very grateful for this opportunity and I look forward to continuing this service with Mercy House and the City of Costa Mesa.”

Bridge Shelter Success: Derek's Story

Derek was homeless for three years on the streets of Costa Mesa until he recently made a choice to move into the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter to find daily stability, including food, shower and form a plan to end his homelessness.

City outreach and Bridge Shelter staff worked together and helped Derek realize he needed to live in a place with a lower cost of living. Derek left the Bridge Shelter but continued to work with the outreach team to explore housing options.

With help, Derek made a list of people and places that he felt were good options. He began calling those places and friends to see if anyone had a room to rent that he could move into.

A secure home was found and the paperwork was completed for him to be reconnected to a friend in Wisconsin. Recently Derek called while he was on his way to his new home to say thank you for helping him realize he could not keep living check to check in California.

He is happy to be able to live in a state that he can afford, while having his daily needs met.

The city thanks Trellis for funding Derek's bus ride to his new home and also taking him to the bus depot and seeing him off with a lunch and support.

Through collaborative efforts like these, the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter has successfully facilitated a new lease on life for several clients in a short period of time.

Bridge Shelter Partner Profile: Russ Carter

Russ Carter first began his involvement with individuals experiencing homelessness in Costa Mesa 14 years ago as part of a small group from Saddleback Church that served breakfast and provided fellowship at the Sandpiper Motel.

Carter became an advocate for one of the men he served

breakfast to. That led him to learn more about those experiencing homelessness and their issues, problems, needs and the services available to them. His role quickly evolved from serving meals to advocating for the unsheltered, both individually and as a group.

Carter and the volunteers from Saddleback Church continue to provide meals and support to those in need. However, with the opening of the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter new rules and regulations have been implemented related to volunteers, food service and more.

Despite these new restrictions, Carter and Saddleback Church have adapted their routine and continue to serve a nutritious breakfast that Bridge Shelter clients enjoy and they hope to continue as meal partners with the shelter.

It is partnerships like these that contribute to the overall success at the Bridge Shelter and ensure the shelter successfully changes lives for the better and continues to make a positive and meaningful impact on the Costa Mesa community.

Bridge Shelter Success: Marty's Story

Marty, a senior-aged veteran, recently came to the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter following a tumultuous break up with his girlfriend of 10 years. With nowhere else to go and no family in the area, he felt the shelter was his only option for housing.

After moving into the shelter, outreach staff helped Marty

contact his family currently residing in a different state. His family urged him to consider moving so he could be nearby and start a new life.

A lack of housing options was not the only thing negatively impacting Marty's life. He was also embroiled in a bitter struggle over possession of his personal belongings. Outreach staff helped Marty establish a court case so he can retrieve his belongings peacefully and without incident prior to moving out of state.

As an added bonus, Marty was also connected to the Veterans Administration and informed he may be eligible for rental assistance.

Once his court issues are resolved, he will be able to reunite with his family and start his new life. In the meantime, he has a comfortable and stable place to reside while he gets his affairs in order.

To learn more about the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter and the city's efforts to assist those in need, please visit www.costamesaca.gov/homelessness.

STARs Shine Bright for Costa Mesa Television

CMTV 3- Costa Mesa Television was recently honored with three SCAN NATOA, Inc. Star Awards for excellence in local programming.

This annual video competition features hundreds of entries from cities and regional authority member agencies located

within the Southern California and Nevada chapter of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors.

CMTV placed in the top three of seven program categories, bringing home first place honors for the documentary on the Sepulveda Adobe, sports coverage of the Vanguard University of Southern California Women's Basketball program, and a Mayor's Award profile on resident Scott Williams and his work with The Freedom Committee of Orange County.



Costa Mesa Television has now been recognized by SCAN NATOA with 21 first place STAR Awards since 1997, including 18 in the past 13 years. Additionally, CMTV 24 has earned numerous second and third place honors in a variety of categories over the years

**Fire & Rescue crews to
conduct wildland fire**

training in and around Canyon Park

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue will conduct training exercises May 29 to May 30, 2019 and June 10 through June 14, 2019 in and around Canyon Park in preparation for the upcoming wildland fire season. Exercises will occur between 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Fire & Rescue staff wants to ensure the community is aware of the upcoming training and asks residents and park visitors to be mindful of equipment and the day of preparations occurring by fire personnel.

These annual mandatory training exercises take place in Costa Mesa and countywide to help prepare the firefighters for vegetation fires within and outside city limits.

“This annual training is more important than ever, coming off one of the most catastrophic wildfire years in California history,” Costa Mesa Fire Chief Dan Stefano said. “The new wildland fire season is year round and our professional firefighters continue to be well prepared.”

There will be approximately 10 to 12 fire personnel present for the training and two to three pieces of apparatus (Fire engine, truck, ambulance, or command vehicle) daily. Firefighters will train on a couple of trails in Canyon Park where there is dense vegetation and moderate terrain features.

The training is conducted to promote safety, mitigation, terrain recognition, and area familiarization while focusing on the fundamentals of wildland firefighting.

Moreover, the department is conducting the training with full awareness and sensitivity of all environmental impacts and ensures this training will exclude any live burn training

modules.

For questions please contact Captain Joe Noceti, Public Information Officer of Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue at (714) 754-5091.

City Manager Leadership Award for May goes to Senior Planner Mel Lee

Assistant City Manager Tammy Letourneau presented Senior Planner Mel Lee with the City Manager Leadership Award at the monthly Meet and Greet on Thursday May 23.

“Mel’s quiet professionalism is much appreciated in the Planning Division,” Letourneau said. “As the division recently dealt with staff turnover, he took on difficult projects and helped us with his excellent problem-solving skills and strong work ethic. I am thankful for his leadership and dedication.”

As a Senior Planner, Lee has been responsible for a variety of projects, which included the various master plan approvals at Vanguard University; The Plant in SoBECA; The Triangle; the new Ganahl Lumber, as well as the redevelopment of the old Ganahl site with a new Audi dealership.

He was also responsible for the redevelopment of the Hub on Newport Boulevard, and overseeing the various applications for Medical Marijuana as permitted by Measure X.

While Lee began his tenure in Costa Mesa as an associate planner in 1999, he had previously interned with the city from October of 1985 to January of 1987. He was promoted to senior

planner in June of 2015.

Prior to working in Costa Mesa, he worked for the Cities of Commerce and Garden Grove. He holds a bachelor's degree in urban planning from Cal Poly Pomona and he has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners – a branch of the American Planning Association – since 1998.

Letourneau also paid tribute to newly hired employees as well as those recently promoted.

Stacy Bennet is the new Administrative Secretary working in the City Clerk's Office. In Parks & Community Services, Sativa Chang and Steven Fajardo have been hired as new Recreation Leader III and Enyelber Franco is new full-time Recreation Coordinator at the Senior Center.

Laura Gomez is the department's new Office Specialist II and Katrine Guernick is a new Recreation Leader II assigned to the ROCKs program.

In the City Manager's Office, Paul Mahoney is a new Community Outreach worker currently working at our Bridge Shelter. In the Police Department, Son Duong is a new Police Records Technician

Those recently promoted include Ann Le, who has been promoted Assistant Planner in the Development Services Department, and Marianna Pena who has been promoted to Assistant Recreation Supervisor working at our Senior Center. In the Police Department, Mariela Soto has been promoted to Community Services Specialist.

Costa Mesa officially opens new Donald Dungan Library at Lions Park

On a bright, sunny morning on Friday May 24, Costa Mesa city leaders officially opened the new Donald Dungan Library at Lions Park, culminating Phase 1 of a \$36.5 million public works project that broke ground in June of 2017.

“Libraries provide for more than just free books,” Mayor Katrina Foley said during the opening ceremonies. “Libraries serve as valuable public institutions that protect the foundation of a civil society. A library is also an investment in the social infrastructure of our community. Investing in the Lions Park Projects and Donald Dungan library is an investment in the physical space that impacts the way people interact.”



The new 23,615-square-foot library was designed by the Southern California-based architectural firm Johnson Favaro and the construction was managed by Costa Mesa’s Public Services Department and the Tovey/Shultz construction firm.

Assistant City Manager Tammy Letourneau has served as the

project manager for the library for the past five years. She pointed out the library was built on time and on budget.

“To be able to open the doors to the public here for the first time is an honor I will hold dear for the rest of my life,” she said.

The LEED Gold constructed building features a main collection with numerous seating and reading areas, a children’s collection with interactive play area, a teen space with exclusive amenities, two rooms with advanced audio visual presentation capabilities that can be used for conferences or assemblies, two dedicated study rooms with presentation monitors and a Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries work room and showcase.



Phase 1 of the project also includes a one-acre park with 25,000 square feet of programmable grass area. The library is named after Donald Dungan, who was Costa Mesa’s first city attorney, serving from 1953 to 1966. He was also a Harbor Court judge for 16 years and served on the Newport Harbor High School Board of Trustees.

The original Donald Dungan Library was built in 1986. The facility is owned by the city and library services are provided by Orange County Public Libraries.

Phase 2 will include a revamped Neighborhood Community Center and significant improvements to the Lions Park playground area.

Upon completion of Phase 2, a total of 225 new trees will have been planted in Lions Park.