

Sandi Caskey walks in the Newport Peninsula Bike Parade celebrating the Fourth of July on Monday morning.

DREW A. KELLEY, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

O.C. FUN ON THE FOURTH

"Where else would you be?" as one beach resident asked.

LOCAL 1

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“With all the TV shows like ‘CSI’ or whatever, people think it’s all technology and computers. ... People would be shocked. This could be Amazon.” GARDEN GROVE OFFICER ERIC QUINTERO



Officer Eric Quintero walks through shelves of evidence at an off-site storage building in a secret location in Garden Grove.

WATCHDOG

Spike in Brea water investments scrutinized



TERI SFORZA
STAFF COLUMNIST

Ex-city manager was a paid agency member at time of stock buys.

The city of Brea's investments in a private water company - transactions that now appear to figure in a state ethics investigation - ballooned from less than \$400,000 in 2003 to more than \$39 million as of January, a Register review of public records shows.

The increased investment in stock and water rights largely coincided with a period when former City Manager Tim O'Donnell served as a paid board member with both the non-profit water company, California Domestic Water Co., and its for-profit subsidiary. O'Donnell was paid more

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INSIDE

SUICIDE BOMBING AT ISLAM HOLY SITE KILLS FOUR

Similar attacks in two other Saudi cities raise fears of effort to destabilize the Western-allied kingdom. NEWS 4



JUNO ZIPS INTO JUPITER'S ORBIT

Scientists aim to glean trove of data from spacecraft passing within 2,700 miles of planet's cloud. NEWS 7

KEVIN DURANT LANDS WITH WARRIORS

Addition of coveted free agent forward boosts already talented Golden State team. SPORTS 1

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CHAIN OF EVIDENCE

Long life cycle creates space problems for the Garden Grove Police Department.

By CHRIS HAIRE | STAFF WRITER

A lamp shaped like a woman's leg. A drone. Laughing gas and gambling machines.

And a dead pastor's ashes.

Those are just some of the items that, over the years, have resided inside one of Garden Grove's most nondescript buildings, one locals drive past oblivious to the creepy, funny and illicit stuff within.

That warehouse, in a secret location, stores 420,000 pieces of evidence and seized property that police officers have collected while investigating crimes.

A broadsword, luggage, documents.

"With all the TV shows like 'CSI' or whatever, people think it's all technology and computers," said Officer Eric Quintero, who works in Garden Grove's Evidence and Seized Property Division. "But it's a warehouse. People would be shocked. This could be Amazon. ... There is never a dull day."

Ideally, the division would clear out enough evi-

SEE EVIDENCE • PAGE 10



A gambling machine is among 420,000 pieces of evidence and seized property housed at an off-site storage facility used by the Garden Grove Police Department.

PHOTOS: JEFF GRITCHEN, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Effort grows to help Anaheim kids

Adults also benefiting from ACT Anaheim programs targeted at city's neediest neighborhoods.

By THERESA WALKER
STAFF WRITER

The third year appears to be even more of a charm for ACT Anaheim, the successful multimillion-dollar philanthropy aimed at the city's neediest children.

Accelerate Change Together for Anaheim, the effort's formal name, is humming along with almost twice the \$3 million in seed money that was pledged by initial donors Disneyland Resort, the Angels and the Ducks.

More encouraging to those overseeing the outreach is the broad-based support and interaction among nonprofits and businesses in Anaheim necessary to sustain the outreach into the future.

"The results have been so promising and so far exceeding what anyone thought could be accomplished," said Shelley Hoss, president of Orange County Community Foundation, managing partner for ACT

SEE ANAHEIM • PAGE 6



PAUL RODRIGUEZ, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Van driver Marco Plascencia, right, arm wrestles with one of the kids at the new Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim location at Manzanita Park.

ANAHEIM: Job training in medicine, construction also supported

FROM PAGE 1

Anaheim. "This is not the swan song for ACT."

The collective effort has served at least 8,000 young people through enhanced social and educational programs and intervention efforts, according to the foundation's analysis.

An additional 3,000 adults have also benefited from parent education, domestic violence counseling and other programs.

Going into its third year, ACT Anaheim has awarded \$5 million in grants to address the alarming findings in a 2012 city-financed study on its young people. Orange County's largest city was found to be seriously lacking in programs available to at-risk youth as crime and gang activity in their neighborhoods grew.

That report galvanized the owners of Disneyland, the Angels and the Ducks to join together for the first time on a single project targeting "priority" neighborhoods.

More donors and participants have since joined, including these third-year funders: \$200,000 from St. Joseph Health, St. Jude Medical Center; \$15,000 from Anaheim Mayor Tom Tait; \$10,000 from Working To Give LLC.

This year, 10 nonprofits will share \$1.5 million in grants.

All along, Hoss said, the intention has been to build an integrated network of organizations, businesses and individuals to throw their collective weight behind ACT Anaheim.

Even two local breweries, Backstreet Brewery and Golden Road Brewery, played a part by donating a portion of proceeds from sales of a new Baltic beer introduced at a 2016 Opening Day pre-game baseball party.

"The huge win has been



Kids play air hockey at the new Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim location at Manzanita Park. Grants from ACT have helped the clubs expand their van pick-up service.



Cesar Ramales, left, plays a game of pingpong at the new Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim location at Manzanita Park, one of three club locations in the city.

PHOTOS: PAUL RODRIGUEZ, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

the reach that we have been able to achieve," she said. "One of the biggest glaring findings from the assessment survey was the dearth of programs in particular geographic areas where they are most needed."

Not only were programs lacking for children growing up in crowded conditions in the city's poorest neighborhoods - and in motels and temporary shelters

- but also the means to get more of them to havens like the Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim.

The ACT money has helped the clubs expand van pick-up service to bring children to and from the clubs and continue underwriting programs in conjunction with other nonprofits, said John Machiaverna, executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim.

Since its first year of funding in 2014, ACT Anaheim has steered \$425,000 in grants to the Boys & Girls Clubs, which operates two full-scale locations and a third satellite just for teens.

This year's \$125,000 award will help double to 200 the number of children the clubs' staff can transport, said Machiaverna, speaking from the clubs' newly relocated main site at Manzanita Park, an area notorious for gang activity but in the heart of a long-underserved community.

"Because it's a very tough neighborhood, a lot of nonprofits didn't want to come here," Machiaverna said. "They were fearful of what happens at night in this park."

With 110 kids signed up already, the new club is nearly at its 140-member capacity. Most of the chil-

dren served by the Anaheim clubs can't afford the \$20 annual membership fee, Machiaverna added, illustrating the need that the ACT Anaheim grants and collaboration with other groups has helped meet.

"If we don't collaborate with other organizations," he said, "that money is not going to be used to its most effectiveness."

Where the Boys & Girls Clubs have been a long-serving presence in Anaheim, the ACT Anaheim philanthropy has played a big role in assisting a Santa Ana-based organization for young adults establish a presence in Anaheim.

Taller San Jose Hope Builders began bringing its construction and medical career programs to Anaheim last fall, fully opening a location at Harbor Boulevard and Lincoln Avenue in March.

Taller (pronounced "tie-YAIR," Spanish for workshop) offers short-term intensive education and work training programs - along with a \$100 weekly stipend - to impoverished young people 18 to 28, whose lives typically have been circumscribed by violence, substance abuse and parenting at a young age.

Taller had been looking to expand to Anaheim after the 2012 unrest in the city over a number of police shootings in largely working-class, Latino neighborhoods as law enforcement focused a crime crackdown on gang activity.

The investment by ACT Anaheim - totaling \$500,000 in three grant awards - added to Taller's fundraising for the new location, but also lent credibility to a newcomer in the city, said Shawna Smith, executive director.

"To step forward and say 'We believe in this organization' went a long way into building confidence that we would bring something the community really needed."

Young people from Anaheim have trained at the Santa Ana location in the past, but often that involved a 90-minute bus ride, Smith said.

"That could be a big obstacle. We knew that in order to reach those young people, we needed to be where they were," she added, observing that the Anaheim site can serve up

2016 ACT ANAHEIM GRANTS

- \$75,000**
Children's Bureau of Southern California
- \$75,000**
Muckenthaler Cultural Center Foundation
- \$125,000**
Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim
- \$125,000**
Network Anaheim
- \$175,000**
Community Service Programs
- \$175,000**
GOALS for Anaheim
- \$200,000**
Girls Inc. of Orange County
- \$200,000**
Taller San Jose Hope Builders
- \$200,000**
Western Youth Services

Source: Orange County Community Foundation

to 300 trainees, as its Santa Ana counterpart does, and is closer for young people in other north Orange County communities and elsewhere.

Griselle Acosta, a native of a violence-prone neighborhood in Puerto Rico, was living with her sister in Corona when she began taking clinical medical assisting classes at Taller's Anaheim location in April.

Acosta, 23, now lives in Anaheim with husband Ralph Acosta, 20, recently discharged from the Marine Corps and enrolled in Taller's construction classes in Santa Ana.

"It's like I'm almost a new person," said Acosta, who held low-paying temporary jobs in retail before attending Taller full time. "I started thinking about new goals." She expects to finish her training in September, land a job as a medical assistant and keep studying to become a registered nurse.

Acosta, who was willing to travel to Santa Ana when she looked into Taller's programs, expressed gratitude for ACT Anaheim's support for a closer location.

"I really thank them so much."

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