

# HIGHLAND Community News

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	<b>La Praix homes approved</b> Page 4		<b>Remembering Adrian Cruz</b> Page 8	<b>Terriers ground Hawks</b> Page 9

## Police report

### Sheriff's department eradicates 39 illegal cannabis greenhouses

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department's Operation Hammer Strike, an effort to cut illegal cannabis cultivation within the county, resulted in the arrest of 12 suspects and the seizure of 10,105 marijuana plants, 1,334.8 pounds of processed marijuana and more than \$30,000 in cash in four days.

According to a sheriff's department press release, between Monday, Aug. 30, and Thursday, Sept. 2, investigators from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department - Marijuana Enforcement Team (MET), along with San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputies from several different patrol stations, served 13 search warrants at various locations in Hesperia, Pinon Hills, Phelan and the Landers area. MET personnel had received numerous complaints about large outdoor marijuana cultivations in these areas.

San Bernardino Sheriff's personnel located and arrested 12 suspects. Investigators seized 10,105 marijuana plants, 1,334.8 pounds of processed marijuana, three guns and over \$30,000 in cash. Investigators mitigated one electrical bypass and eradicated 39 greenhouses.

The investigations revealed the cannabis cultivations were not in compliance with California's Medical and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) and San Bernardino County's ordinance prohibiting commercial cannabis activity. San Bernardino County has a law prohibiting commercial cannabis activity, which includes growing marijuana plants outdoors.

The Sheriff's Gangs/Narcotics Division will continue to enforce California's cannabis laws and San Bernardino County's ordinance regarding cannabis cultivation and distribution. Suspects found guilty of violating the state law and county ordinance are subject to fines, prosecution, and seizure of property.

Property owners who are growing marijuana or are aware their tenants are growing marijuana on their properties in violation of the state law and local ordinances may also be subject to civil or criminal sanctions. Property owners are encouraged to contact their local law enforcement or code compliance agency to confirm if cultivating cannabis is prohibited or allowed under specific regulations.

The suspects were cited on charges of Cultivation of Cannabis; over six plants.

See Cannabis on page 3

## Innovation attracted President Krista Newkirk to University of Redlands

By DINA COLUNGA

REPORTER

REDLANDS COMMUNITY NEWS

New University of Redlands President Krista L. Newkirk said the school's commitment to innovation inspired her to make the move from South Carolina to Southern California.

"This wasn't a position I was looking at or even considering a move to California, but I was encouraged by a search firm to look at perspectives," said Newkirk. "I was struck by how great the opportunities were from the programs the University of Redlands offered, the train depot, the Forever Yours campaign, the merger with the theology seminary in Marin and a lot was the curriculum for students.

"The Johnson Center provides such an innovative approach to education. I thought there was a foundation here that we could build upon to take the university to new heights. And after meeting the people here, I was sure this was the right decision for me. I saw tremendous talent. It is such a warm and engaging community of people who are not stuck in their ways and are innovative."

Newkirk grew up on a cattle ranch in Missouri before attending the University of Mis-



COURTESY PHOTO

University of Redlands President Krista Newkirk.

souri's Honor College. After two years, she transferred to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she graduated in the top 5 percent of her class with a bachelor of arts in English and a minor in philosophy. She went on to earn her juris doctor degree from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

She worked for several years as an attorney in both private practice and at a Fortune 300 company before joining the Office of Legal Affairs at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 2003. In 2012,

Newkirk became the chief of staff at UNC Charlotte. In 2016, she became president of Converse College in South Carolina.

Under her leadership, Converse enhanced its financial, academic and cultural strength. Her accomplishments at Converse include developing an innovative strategic plan, launching Converse's first doctoral degree program, expanding its master's degree offerings, opening an extension campus, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Converse's enrollment of African American students in a year-long celebration, es-

See Newkirk on page 3

## Chamber of Commerce to host first Discover Highland Run

By JULIE FARREN

REPORTER

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY NEWS

This year's Discover Highland will look a little different.

Instead of people walking around a parking lot talking to vendors and eating a variety of food from local restaurants, they will be burning off that energy during a 5k/10k run on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 9.

This is the first event of its kind for Highland Chamber of Commerce, said run director Gail Shelton.

For at least the past eight years Discover Highland was held in the Lowe's parking lot on Greenspot Road. People

were free to walk around in a huge area, but COVID-19 changed that last year, Shelton said.

So, the chamber pivoted and held a Taste of Highland event this spring, where guests could spend \$15 at seven participating restaurants and then be eligible for a prize drawing.

The chamber was working on a standard type of run for the 5k/10k participants, Shelton said.

Although people can sign up on the morning of the event, there are perks of registering ahead of time.

One is to receive a commemorative medal as a runner. Shelton said they need advance time to make the medals.

Runners also get a swag bag and an event t-shirt.

Bear Springs Hotel will be a sponsor. Shelton said the chamber is planning on 200 runners.

Jan Forrester, chamber vice-president, said she will be walking in the event. Forrester is director of development for the Redlands Community Hospital Foundation.

Forrester is walking to "support the chamber."

Cost for the 5k is \$35 per person; cost for the 10k is \$45. If you sign up the day of the event, there will be an additional \$5 fee.

There will be first, second and third

place for men and women.

Shelton said that holding the event in October will be an advantage for the runners because the L.A. Marathon is set for November.

The event sponsor is the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. There are opportunities for sponsorships, which range from \$250 to \$1000.

A company logo can be featured on the run's website, t-shirts, flyer and poster recognition, and swag bag of promo items.

Shelton said there will be approximately 30 volunteers for the run.

For information, call the chamber at (909) 864-4073.