

Record Gazette

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Beaumont approves contracts for construction.
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Banning mulls support for its Sportsman's Club.
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Banning approves development for former San Gorgonio Inn property.
See story on Page 6.

Parents, students protest Beaumont's school closures

BY DAVID JAMES HEISS
Record Gazette

Teachers already have had to adjust to teaching classes without students physically present, and parents have had to juggle finding ways to make sure their kids are supervised, while trying to balance their jobs.

For teachers, working with students is their job, and teachers with children have the extra responsibility of trying to pay attention to their own kids as they focus on teaching their students.

Michelle Anderson, a fifth-grade teacher who works for the Beaumont school district, is a parent teacher.

"After instruction, there's hours of prepping," she explains. "When I do get home, I'm checking on my kids and their statuses" of where they are in their studies and classwork.

(See PROTESTS, page 4)



Photo by David James Heiss

Congratulations to the Velaya family at 943 Linda Vista Ave. in Banning was deemed the "Scariest" of homes submitted by the city's Parks and Recreation Department for its 2020 Halloween Decorating Contest. Visitors driving by can also find the two other winners from this year's contest at 600 N. Woodlands Ave. (Judges Choice) and at 961 N. 1st Street (Most Family-Friendly).

Shhh. Banning's secret regarding the airport is out

BY DAVID JAMES HEISS
Record Gazette

A vague, but potentially exciting announcement from Banning's city manager Doug Schulze at the end of the Oct. 27 Banning city council meeting suggests that a developer with sizeable assets has an interest in the Banning Municipal Airport property.

Schulze explained that details have to remain confidential, but needed authority to enter into an exclusive negotiated agreement with San Diego-based Grandave Capital, LLC for a potential master lease for the property.

According to the city, representatives from the firm approached the city regarding proposed development for the location at 200 S. Hathaway Street.

Schulze promised that a "public announcement is planned soon," and that the developer is confident that it has access to financing for

(See AIRPORT, page 7)

San Gorgonio Water Agency and Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to participate in state's reservoir project

BY RACHAEL GARCIA
Editor of the Record Gazette

It is no surprise that southern Californians are in need of water. Even during wet seasons, it seems like water is always in short supply.

With the need for additional water reserve, Beaumont

Cherry Valley Water District and San Gorgonio Water Agency have committed to participate in the Sites Reservoir Project Agreement.

Since California had droughts in 2006-2010 and 2011-2017, there have been serious concerns about water insecurity. The project is

intended to improve reliability of supply during drought conditions.

The Sites Reservoir Project is a proposed \$5.2 billion offstream reservoir.

The project would pump 470,000 to 640,000 acre feet per year of the winter flood flow from the Sacramento River through existing canals

to an artificial lake 14 miles away.

Specifically, The 14,000-acre reservoir would be formed by several dams located in the foothills of the California Coast Ranges, flooding Antelope Valley.

Construction is scheduled to begin in 2023 and be completed in 2030.

The total agreement equates to a cost of \$1 million to SGPWA.

For its part, BCVWD has committed to \$400,000 for 4,000-acre foot share of SGPWA's 14,000 AF.

If the SGPWA wants to reduce or discontinue at any point before the project is

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Banning approves incremental development for former San Geronio Inn property

BY DAVID JAMES HEISS
Record Gazette

Banning has approved an amendment to an exclusive negotiated agreement for the historic San Geronio Inn property along Ramsey Street.

Last spring the city council welcomed plans by Temecula-based Sudweeks Development and Investment Company, LLC for a facility that would transform the currently forlorn 5.18 acres that was to include a 45,000 square-foot medical office building and three other retail buildings that would encompass 10,000 square feet of

restaurant and retail space.

Sacramento-based Best Development approached the city and Sudweeks to propose acquisition of 1.48 acres of two easterly portions of the property that sit across the street from 4 Bros Liquor store.

Sudweeks's medical facility is moving along slower than the anticipated commercial retail project that Best Development is interested in building.

According to the city, Sudweeks and Best Development have entered into a joint venture, which necessitated an amendment to Sudweeks's agreement.

"Sale of the two parcels to Best Development and the initiation of the commercial retail phase will allow Sudweeks Development to offer more incentives to the Medical Office Building tenant, which could accelerate that phase" the city's staff report claims.

unveiled the concept of his vision for a medical facility in downtown Banning that mirrors projects his firm has completed in Corona and Jurupa Valley, during the March 10 city council meeting.

Tapping into the design expertise of Fresno-based, board-certified medical

architect Pings & Associates, the 45,000 square-foot medical office building planned at 150 E. Ramsey St. would boast 35 foot-high glass ceiling entryway to "provide the open and warm entry," with the inside being "full of vibrancy, to bring that happy feeling" and providing that insouciant environment patients could use when they come to a medical facility, Sudweeks told the council during the March 10 council meeting.

Sudweeks anticipates that the facility "will provide just about every outpatient service" within its 50 exam and procedure rooms, and will

offer mental health services, have onsite lab imaging and a pharmacy, and pediatrics and dental services.

Sudweeks said that the facility will have a 75-person capacity community room that will be available free of charge to community civic and service groups.

The vote to approve the amendment passed 5-0.

Staff Writer David James Heiss may be reached at dheiss@recordgazette.net, or by calling (951) 849-4586 x114.

GROCERY

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outs.

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Editor Rachael Garcia may be reached at rgarcia@recordgazette.net, or by calling (951) 849-4586 x120.

RESERVOIR

(continued from page 1)

actually producing water, BCVWD has the choice to still be able to go forward, as long as the district pays the costs.

The reservoir is proposed for construction in remote lands in Colusa County, about 70 miles north of Sacramento.

The plan is to divert water from the Sacramento River in wet years and release it in dry years for farms and cities.

The reservoir received money from a water bond passed by state voters during California's historic drought, but supporters still haven't

found enough money to pay for all of the construction costs.

So new plans were drafted, where the price tag has been cut by 40 percent from \$5.1 billion to \$3 billion.

It is expected to be expected to be California's seventh largest reservoir. Along with SGPWA and BCVWD, 21 agencies have committed \$27 million for planning and studies; and another \$19 million was due on Oct. 1.

Editor Rachael Garcia may be reached at rgarcia@recordgazette.net, or by calling (951) 849-4586 x120.

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