



Swimming action heats up

Local teams record some outstanding times in their second league meet.
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Fireworks explode above Irvine Stadium during the 31st annual Concert On the Green and Fireworks Extravaganza on Saturday.

FOURTH OF JULY

For the 31st consecutive year, the Irvine Police Association hosted a July 4 community celebration featuring live music and fireworks.

The Concert On the Green and Fireworks Extravaganza began at 3 p.m. on Saturday at Irvine Stadium.

Attendees enjoyed food and entertainment.

The evening wrapped up after a 9 p.m. pyrotechnics display.

— Sarah de Crescenzo



COURTESY OF RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
A resident of the Ranch community performs at the celebration.



COURTESY OF RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
A children's parade kicks off the annual July 4 neighborhood celebration Saturday at the Ranch community in Irvine.



DREW A. KELLEY, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Baron Briscoe and his 1-year-old son, Isaiah, spend time together listening to live music.



DREW A. KELLEY, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
At right, Gary Williams and Kathy Oliver dance during the extravaganza.

Irvine Ranch Water District will declare Level 2 water shortage

BY SARAH DE CRESCENZO
STAFF WRITER

Irvine Ranch Water District customers soon may be ordered to cut outdoor watering in half and stop refilling their swimming pools.

For the first time in the district's history, the board on Monday is slated to declare a Level 2 water shortage.

Customers would be required to cut their use of potable water for landscape watering by 50 percent.

The declaration would also forbid customers from refilling swimming pools following discretionary maintenance. Filling new pools and pools that have undergone required maintenance would not be affected.

All swimming pools would be required to be filled to a lower level. That's meant to minimize water loss from splashing.

In April, Gov. Jerry Brown ordered officials to implement measures to cut state usage of drinkable water by 25 percent compared with 2013 levels.

Conservation mandates vary by agency. In Orange County, state-mandated cuts range from 8 percent to 36 percent.

Irvine Ranch Water District was ordered to cut use by 16 percent. That's about 2.6 billion gallons of water, or nearly the amount of water that would fill 3,950 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Declaring a Level 2 shortage will bolster progress toward that goal, according to the district.

"This declaration is a direct response to the severity of the drought in our state," said Steve LaMar, president

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Musick jail plan finally advancing

Construction could start in 2016 on first phase of project, adding 512 inmate beds.

BY SARAH DE CRESCENZO
STAFF WRITER

Nearly 20 years after proposing to add more inmates to the James A. Musick Facility, the county is moving closer to reality with its plan to expand the minimum-security jail between Irvine and Lake Forest.

Planners are wrapping up the final design phase for the first phase of the project, adding 512 beds. Robert Beaver, who oversees the project for the Orange County Sheriff's Department, said the search for



H. LORREN AU JR., FILE PHOTO

The South Compound's barracks, which houses female inmates at the James A. Musick Honor Farm, in 2012.

Design is underway on the subsequent 384-bed

phase, which would be joined to the other new part of the jail.

By the numbers

3,100: Total inmates permitted under 2012 agreement with Lake Forest

1,322: Current beds

756: Current inmates

512: Beds to be added to the James A. Musick Facility jail under Phase 1 expansion plan

384: Beds to be added under Phase 2 expansion plan

Legal opposition is weak-

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Music, movies stuff slates for summer at Irvine parks

BY SARAH DE CRESCENZO
STAFF WRITER

Residents may get good use from their picnic blankets and coolers this summer.

A slew of free concerts, movie screenings and other activities are just around the corner.

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Elvis tribute artist King Kruk is set to perform at Mike Ward Community Park on Aug. 2.

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