

# Lawndale Tribune

AND LAWNDALE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of Lawndale

Herald Publications - Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lawndale, El Segundo, Torrance & Manhattan Beach Community Newspapers Since 1911 - Circulation 30,000 - Readership 60,000 (310) 322-1830 - March 23, 2017

## Inside This Issue

Certified & Licensed Professionals .....	2
Calendar.....	3
Classifieds .....	2
Community Briefs .....	3
Food .....	5
Hawthorne Happenings ...	3
Legals .....	6-7
Police Reports .....	2
Sports .....	4

## Assemblymember Burke, Google Visit Smith Elementary School



Assemblymember Autumn Burke and Smith Elementary School Principal Dr. Isiah join students participating in Google's CS First Roadshow, a computer science education presentation developed by Google for fourth to eighth grade school students. (Photo Provided by Google)

## City Celebrates Officer Who Took Pride in Community Policing

By Halemon Anderson

During Monday night's City Council meeting, Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles announced that Lieutenant John Hocking will leave Lawndale after four years of service. "It's exciting," said Pullen-Miles, noting that Hocking's promotion to Captain at a rather exotic locale will leave the City of Lawndale a bit sad at his departure.

"He has served us with distinction," continued the Mayor. "He really has been a part of this community. We're gonna miss him."

A representative from the Los Angeles County Fire Department presented Hocking with a certificate of appreciation. The Battalion Chief lauded Hocking's character, saying, "[He] is one of the most conscientious, caring and genuine individuals you could know."

The Council presented Hocking with a plaque, and paused for pictures and a cake honoring the officer. Hocking accepted the tributes with his parents in attendance. "I've had a personal connection with so many of you in this community," he said. "This is one of the most enjoyable positions I have worked." He announced he will take over at Avalon Station on Catalina Island.

Captain April Tardy introduced Lieutenant John Burcher, who will take over the Lawndale service area in Hocking's absence. Burcher gave the public safety report, and recounted two incidents. On March 17, a sexual assault on 166th Street was investigated. The victim reported being assaulted by "a friend of the family." Officers spotted the alleged assailant and made an arrest, which is being handled by the special victims bureau.

The second incident, a homicide, occurred Sunday on Firmona. The victim, a 40-year-old male, died at the hospital of a gunshot wound to the chest. Hocking confirmed homicide and gang units are involved in the ongoing

investigation.

The Council opened a public hearing on proposed Ordinance 1136-17, regarding outdoor storage of materials in commercial zones. This item came before the Planning Commission a long time ago. "Businesses have to follow the guidelines," resident Pam London said, noting if the impact is to make it stricter on businesses, there is a need to address residents also. The ordinance would require an amendment to the City's zoning code.

Resident Gary White also pointed out the need to keep residences free of materials and equipment. "You can't be a hypocrite," he said. City Manager Steve Mandoki added that no materials should be stored on the premises of residences or businesses without an active building permit.

The Council authorized the purchase of a new, fully equipped video production van, and four complete camera systems. The total cost of \$568,889 will be appropriated from the general fund, to be replenished over three years from future Public Education and Government Programming (PEG) funds. The upgrade will replace the previous van, which was outfitted to tape community events for telecast on the Lawndale cable channel. London expressed her hope to have the Council meetings broadcast. "Let's get the City Council online and come into the future," she said.

The Council heard a first reading of ordinance 1135-17, a proposal to consolidate Lawndale elections with county elections, effectively eliminating the general vote that falls in April every other year. The move would have the onetime effect of extending for an additional seven months any Council seat in office at the time. Deputy City Clerk Pam Giamaria noted the recommendation to

implement the ordinance in 2018, allowing time for the change to be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors for approval.

Councilman Jim Osborne asked about cost factors, noting the last stand-alone election cost the City \$53,000. Giamaria said there would be no additional cost to enact the ordinance, and it would constitute a savings of the funds used to mount the April election.

Student Council members from Mark Twain Elementary met with the Lawndale Council in chambers and received a tour of City operations prior to the meeting. The students, all fifth graders, included Ivey Casas, Diego de Leon, Daniel Madrigal, Georgia Ruta and Emilia Socher.

In other business, the Council unanimously passed the consent calendar, including the reauthorization of franchise fees from the cable carrier to support PEG fees, and accounts payable in the amount of \$300,444.

In public comments, Library Manager Lida Truitt announced the library's annual book sale will take place Saturday, April 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Randall Abrams inquired about the City's fireworks sale and distribution of proceeds. London lauded Lt. Hocking, saying he was a great asset to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Pat Kearney reminded the community that Clean-Up Week concludes this weekend. Small trash will be removed from curbside, and yard sales are permitted without permits and at no charge. The City Public Works Yard will accept large trash items on Saturday, March 25. Mandoki invited the community to the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 15 at 10 a.m., at William Green Park on Firmona and 168th Street.

The Council will forgo its April 3 meeting and will resume the regularly scheduled meeting April 17 at 6:30 in the Lawndale City Hall Council Chambers. •

## Weekend Forecast

**Friday**  
Sunny  
63°/54°



**Saturday**  
Rainy  
74°/59°



**Sunday**  
Sunny  
64°/52°



## THE STORY STARTS IN LAWNSDALE

You can feel it  
in neighborhoods off Hawthorne Boulevard.  
In homes where good grades  
decorate refrigerators.

You can see it  
in hardworking parents  
who change the world every day,  
with every dollar saved  
and every dinner served.

You can hear it  
in the voices of high school seniors when  
they tell the families that believe in them  
those three magic words . . .

“I got in.”

Yes, you got in.  
Congratulations. We know it wasn't easy.

We recognized you, the exceptional  
young men and women from Lawndale,  
out of more than 100,000 applicants  
from around the world.

And now, we ask that  
you join us, a community of scholars,  
at a place right up the 405.  
A place where people just like you  
are waiting for you  
to write your next chapter.



**UCLA**