



Marc Trocchio  
Chair

Michael Zozaya  
Vice Chair

Chris Bieber  
Commissioner

Harry Huggins  
Commissioner

Patricia Thee  
Commissioner

## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday, April 1, 2026 - 6:00 PM

City Council Chamber  
24035 El Toro Road  
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

Any person wishing to address the Parks and Recreation Commission on any matter, whether or not it appears on this Agenda, is asked to complete a "Request to Speak" form available on the table at the back of the Chamber. The completed form is to be submitted to the Recording Secretary prior to an individual being heard by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Members of the public wishing to address the Parks and Recreation Commission can do so during the Public Comments portion of the Agenda with a time limitation of three minutes per person, as determined by the Chair, for Public Comments. If you are commenting on an Agenda item, your comments will be heard at the time that item is scheduled on the Agenda. If you are addressing the Commission on an item not listed on the Agenda, the Parks and Recreation Commission is prohibited by law from discussing or taking any action on that item.

### **Call to Order**

Resolution No. 96-04-09-1 established rules of decorum for public meetings held by the City of Laguna Hills. Resolution No. 96-04-09-1 is available on the table at the back of the City Council Chamber.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Roll Call of Commissioner Members**

#### **1. Public Comments**

This is the time to address the Parks and Recreation Commission on any

matter not listed on this Agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Public Comments are limited to three minutes per person as determined by the Chair.

## **2. Minutes Approval**

### **2.1 Approval of Minutes for February 4, 2026, Regular Meeting**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the minutes for the February 4, 2026, Regular Meeting.

## **3. Presentations**

### **3.1 Employee of the Quarter - Winter 2026**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a presentation recognizing the part-time Employee of the Quarter, Robert Ryan.

## **4. Administrative Reports**

### **4.1 General Parks Update**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a verbal report concerning general park updates around the City.

### **4.2 Facility Reservation Report**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a verbal report for 2026 facility reservations.

### **4.3 2026 Adult Sports Leagues Winter End of Seasons Report**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

## **5. Informational Items**

### **5.1 2026 Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance Post-Event Report**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

### **5.2 2026 Hoppin' Hills Post-Event Report**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive an oral presentation regarding the 2026 Hoppin' Hills Event.

### **5.3 2026 South Orange County Senior Games Update**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

### **5.4 2026 Memorial Day Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K Honoring USMC Team Darkhorse Pre-Event Report**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

### **5.5 America250 in Laguna Hills Program Update**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.


## **6. Commissioner Comments**

### **Adjournment**

The next Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission will be June 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, located at 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills, California.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Holland Gannon, Community Services Director of the City of Laguna Hills, do hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Agenda was posted at Laguna Hills City Hall, Laguna Hills Community Center, and Knotty Pine Park by March 27, at 5:00 p.m.



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***Holland Gannon, Community Services Director***

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the office of the Community Services Director at (949) 707-2680. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure access.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission after

distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Community Center at 25555 Alicia Parkway, Laguna Hills, California, during normal business hours.

**City of Laguna Hills  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
Wednesday, February 4, 2026**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Trocchio.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call of Commissioner Members**

**Present:**

Chair Marc Trocchio  
Vice Chair Michael Zozaya  
Commissioner Patricia Thee  
Commissioner Chris Bieber  
Commissioner Harry Huggins

**Absent:**

**1. Election of Chair**

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission elect a new Chair.

Commissioner Thee nominated Vice Chair Zozaya to be Chair. It was moved by Commissioner Thee and seconded by Chair Trocchio.

**Result:**

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Trocchio, Vice Chair Zozaya, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Huggins  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None

## 2. Election of Vice Chair

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission elect a new Vice Chair.

Chair Zozaya nominated Commissioner Huggins to be Vice Chair. It was moved by Chair Zozaya and seconded by Commissioner Trocchio.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Commissioner Thee, Commissioner Bieber,  
Commissioner Huggins, Commissioner Trocchio

Nays: None

Abstain: None

## 3. Public Comments

This is the time to address the Parks and Recreation Commission on any matter not listed on this Agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Public Comments are limited to three minutes per person as determined by the Chair.

City Manager Wingenroth introduced himself to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

## 4. Minutes Approval

### 4.1 Approval of Minutes for the October 1, 2025, Regular Meeting

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the minutes for the October 1, 2025, Regular Meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes for the October 1, 2025, Regular Meeting was moved by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Bieber.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio

Nays: None

Abstain: None

## 5. Presentations

### 5.1 Employee of the Quarter - Fall 2025

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a presentation recognizing the part-time Employee of the Quarter, Jeff Wesson.

A motion to receive and file the item was moved by Commissioner Bieber, seconded by Chair Trocchio.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio

Nays: None

Abstain: None

## 6. Administrative Reports

### 6.1 Sports Membership Update

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

A motion to receive and file the item was moved by Commissioner Thee, seconded by Commissioner Huggins.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio

Nays: None

Abstain: None

## 7. Informational Items

### 7.1 2025 Holiday Event Series Post-Event Report

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

A motion to receive and file the item was moved by Commissioner Bieber, seconded by Chair Trocchio.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio

Nays: None

Abstain: None

### 7.2 2026 Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance Pre-Event Report

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

A motion to receive and file the item was moved by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Thee.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio

Nays: None  
Abstain: None

### 7.3 2026 Hoppin' Hills Pre-Event Report

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

A motion to receive and file the item was moved by Commissioner Bieber, seconded by Chair Trocchio.

Result:  
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None

### 7.4 2026 South Orange County Senior Games

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

A motion to receive and file the item was moved by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Bieber.

Result:  
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Chair Zozaya, Vice Chair Huggins, Commissioner Thee,  
Commissioner Bieber, Commissioner Trocchio  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None

## 8. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Thee expressed appreciation for the lineup of events and City staff.

Commissioner Trocchio inquired about the launch date for the Cityside Fiber project. Staff will communicate with the vendor and provide an update to Commissioners with the requested information.

Vice Chair Huggins provided a handout and information regarding the Laguna Terrace Beautification Team's Arts Murals Project of 2026. Vice Chair Huggins also answered questions from the Commission.

## Adjournment

The next Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission will be April 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, located at 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills, California.

There being no further business before the Parks and Recreation Commission at this session, Chair Zozaya declared the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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Holland Gannon, Community Services Director  
ATTEST:

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Michael Zozaya, Chair

Approved at meeting of April 1, 2026.



## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

### Staff Report

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Holland Gannon, Community Services Director  
**Issue:** Employee of the Quarter - Winter 2026

---

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a presentation recognizing the part-time Employee of the Quarter, Robert Ryan.

---

#### **Background:**

The Employee of the Quarter program was developed to celebrate and highlight the outstanding contributions of part-time Community Services staff members who demonstrate exceptional commitment, teamwork, and service. The program provides employees with the opportunity to nominate their peers for recognition, ensuring that awardees are selected through a process that reflects the respect and appreciation of their colleagues.

By spotlighting individual achievements, the Employee of the Quarter program supports a positive workplace culture, boosts morale, and reinforces the values of dedication and excellence that guide Community Services operations.

We are pleased to announce that Robert Ryan has been selected as the Employee of the Quarter, as chosen by his peers.

Rob is a staple to our team that not only oversees the unique hiking and excursion programs but is always willing to take on more. He steps up for our team, and examples include adding the Holiday Light Tour to his excursion list, researching excursion plans that fit into our America250 celebration, and even proposing a summer teen program! Rob runs some of our most popular programs and we couldn't do it without him. He is a valuable resource for the community and our Center.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Employees that win Employee of the Quarter receive special Community Services uniform items valued at approximately \$50, amounting to approximately \$200 per year.

**Attachments:**

None



**City of Laguna Hills  
Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Staff Report**

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Holland Gannon, Community Services Director  
**Issue:** General Parks Update

---

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a verbal report concerning general park updates around the City.

---

**Background:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Attachments:**

None



**City of Laguna Hills  
Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Staff Report**

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**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Brooke Grimes  
**Issue:** Facility Reservation Report

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**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive a verbal report for 2026 facility reservations.

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**Background:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Attachments:**

None



## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

### Staff Report

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Brandon Aguera  
**Issue:** 2026 Adult Sports Leagues Winter End of Seasons Report

---

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

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#### Background:

The Community Services Department is hosting Adult Softball and Basketball Leagues during the Winter 2026 Season. The Adult Softball league is held on Monday nights located at the Community Center Sports Park on the Softball field, and the Adult Basketball League is held on Thursday nights inside the Community Center Gymnasium. Adult Basketball consists of eight (8) teams and Adult Softball consists of five (5) teams. Both leagues have ten (10) regular season games and one (1) playoff night. Each player of the 1st place teams received a championship shirt at the end of the season. Attachment 1 shows samples of the shirts.

#### Fiscal Impact:

The 2025/2026 fiscal year Adult Sports budget totaled \$16,000. The fiscal year end estimate is approximately \$11,000. The current fiscal revenue is 10,000 with an estimated fiscal year end revenue of approximately \$14,800.

Supplies	\$500
Awards	\$815
Umpire/Referee Fees	\$745

Miscellaneous- (Volleyball/Badminton Net)	\$6,700
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,760</b>

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1: League Champion Awards

# Attachment 1: League Champion Awards

City of Laguna Hills Basketball Champions\_Reversible Mesh Tank 2025\_Print.

SCREEN PRINT PROOF LAYOUT  
Date: 8/5/25

ST5000  
Black/White  
Sport-Tek®  
PosiCharge®  
Reversible  
Mesh Tank.

ST5000  
White/Black  
Sport-Tek®  
PosiCharge®  
Reversible  
Mesh Tank.

**Center Chest**  
9.5" x 9"

**Large Back**  
8" x 9"

**Ink Colors:**  
1.Base  
2.White  
3.Pantone 715 C

**Ink Colors:**  
1.Base  
2.White  
3.Pantone 715 C

**Center Chest**  
9.5" x 9"

**Large Back**  
8" x 9"

**Ink Colors:**  
1.Black

**Ink Colors:**  
1.Pantone 715 C  
2.Black

Artwork is sized to the smallest garment size.  
Mockup proportions are only approximations. Colors may appear differently from monitor to monitor and/or printer to printer. Designs are created in PMS colors, with the exception of Pantone colors. If you have any questions, please contact us at (949) 305-7217. By approval of this mockup, you assume responsibility for any design, color, quantity, construction or printing errors that may occur.

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17781 Sky Park Circle Suite E, Irvine, CA 92614  
Phone Number: 949-305-7214  
Fax Number: 949-305-7217  
screenprinting - embroidery - promotional items

City of Laguna Hills\_Softball Champions 2024\_Print.

Option# 2

SCREEN PRINT PROOF LAYOUT  
Date: 10/16/24

6200 Black Next Level Unisex Festival T-Shirt.

**Center Chest**  
9.3" x 9"

**Ink Colors:**  
1.Base  
2.White  
3.Pantone 395 C

**Center Chest**  
9.3" x 9"

**Ink Colors:**  
1.Base  
2.White  
3.Pantone 395 C

17781 Sky Park Circle Suite E, Irvine, CA 92614  
Phone Number: 949-305-7214  
Fax Number: 949-305-7217

JCtees.com  
screenprinting - embroidery - promotional items

**AFTER APPROVAL** the client assumes all responsibility for any discrepancies displayed on this Art Proof. If the printed product contains any errors that are shown here, the client is responsible for the initial cost, as well as the reproduction cost if requested.



## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

### Staff Report

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Jessica Cardenas, Administrative Assistant  
**Issue:** 2026 Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance Post-Event Report

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**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

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#### **Background:**

The annual Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance was held on Friday, February 20th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Laguna Hills Community Center. The event featured music by DJ Erok, dinner catered by Taylor Made Cuisine, cookies donated by Heidelberg Pastry Shop, a candy bar, a photobooth, a fairy crown craft, and water, pink lemonade, and coffee. This year's "fairy garden" themed event sold out with over 230 participants.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

The budget for the event was \$5,000. Total costs for the event amounted to \$6,940. Total revenue from ticket sales was \$4,325 and \$800 from sponsorships, resulting in a net expense of \$1,815.

#### **Attachments:**

1. Dinner Dance Photos 2026



City of Laguna Hills

# Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance

2026





**City of Laguna Hills  
Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Staff Report**

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Jessica Cardenas, Administrative Assistant  
**Issue:** 2026 Hoppin' Hills Post-Event Report

---

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive an oral presentation regarding the 2026 Hoppin' Hills Event.

---

**Background:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Attachments:**

1. Hoppin' Hills 2026 (1)



# Hoppin' Hills



Join the Laguna Hills Community Services Team for a morning of FREE spring-themed fun! We will have donuts, photo opportunities, crafts, face painting, and an entertaining juggling show!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28**

**9 am - 11 am**

**Town Green at the Laguna Hills  
Community Center and Sports Park**

lagunahillsca.gov  
949.707.2680





## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

### Staff Report

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Brandon Aguera  
**Issue:** 2026 South Orange County Senior Games Update

---

**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

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#### **Background:**

The South Orange County Senior Games will take place June 5–7, offering a variety of athletic events hosted by participating cities, including Mission Viejo, Laguna Hills, and Laguna Niguel for ages 50 and older. Registered participants will be invited to a kickoff event on June 5 at the Sea Country Senior Center, which will feature a concert, light refreshments, dinner available for purchase, and a chance to meet neighboring participants.

Laguna Hills will host Badminton on June 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with doubles play only; both participants are required to pay the entry fee. Mission Viejo will host Pickleball and Tennis, while Laguna Niguel will offer Bocce Ball, Swimming, Billiards, and Table Tennis. Participants must register with the city hosting their selected sport. All participants will receive a t-shirt and light refreshments during their game.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

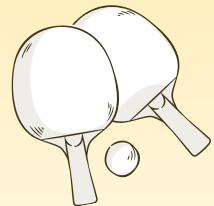
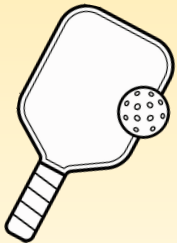
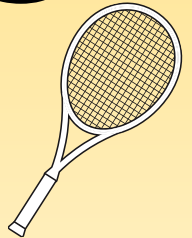
The registration fee is \$10 for residents of the host cities and \$15 for non-residents. The City of Laguna Hills will also support a portion of funding for medals, t-shirts, and the kickoff event.

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1: 2026 Senior Games Flyer
2. Attachment 2: 2026 Senior Games Medal Design



# 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY SENIOR GAMES



## PRESENTED BY



### CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS

BADMINTON (SATURDAY) 9AM-12PM

### CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL

OPENING CEREMONY (FRIDAY) 5PM-7PM

BOCCE (SATURDAY) 9AM-12PM

BILLIARDS (SUNDAY) 9AM-4PM

TABLE TENNIS (SUNDAY) 8AM-4PM

SWIMMING (SUNDAY) 7AM-9AM

### CITY OF MISSION VIEJO

PICKLEBALL (SATURDAY) 2PM-5PM

TENNIS (SUNDAY) 9AM-12:30PM

## JUNE 5-7, 2026

OPEN TO ADULTS 50+

\$10 FOR RESIDENTS OF HOST CITIES, \$15 FOR NON-RESIDENTS

### REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

### TO REGISTER, CONTACT THE HOST CITY

LAGUNA HILLS: 949-707-2680

LAGUNA NIGUEL: 949-425-5151





















MISSION VIEJO: 949-470-3062

**SOUTH OC**  
**PROJECT: SENIOR GAMES**  
**DATE: JANUARY 20, 2026**

**MEDAL SIZE: 3 inches**  
**MEDAL THICKNESS: 3.5 mm**  
**MEDAL PLATING: G/S/B**  
**MEDAL FINISH: BRIGHT**

**ARTIST: KB**

**PANTONE COLORS**

			
White	1505 C	3584 C	2035 C
			
3501 C	Black	XXX	XXX
			
XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
			
XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
			
XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX

PANTONE COLORS ARE CHOSEN BASED ON THE CLOSEST MATCH POSSIBLE. NOT ALL COLORS WILL BE AN EXACT MATCH. ONCE THE ART FORM IS APPROVED, STRIDE AWARDS IS NO LONGER RESPONSIBLE FOR COLOR MATCH ERRORS.



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**1.5" X 34"**





## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

### Staff Report

---

**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Holland Gannon, Community Services Director  
**Issue:** 2026 Memorial Day Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K Honoring USMC Team Darkhorse Pre-Event Report

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**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

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#### **Background:**

The City of Laguna Hills' annual Memorial Day Half Marathon, 5K, and 10K Honoring the USMC Dark Horse Battalion ("race") will take place on Monday, May 25, 2026, with a race start time of 7:00 a.m. Event registration began on November 11th, 2025, and there are approximately 800 participants registered at this time.

The 3/5 Marines Support Committee ("Team Darkhorse") has selected Redmond Ramos as Grand Marshal. His biography is included in this report as Attachment 1. The City Council, at its October 24, 2023, meeting, directed staff to prepare an authorizing resolution for community assistance funding in the amount of \$10,000 per year to Team Darkhorse. Participants can also choose to donate \$3 or \$5 to Team Darkhorse at the time of race registration checkout.

The 2026 race will also see the return of the medal series. Attachment 2 shows the designs for the Spirit of America Medal Series.

The course will remain the same as the previous two years. The course was altered slightly in 2024 so that runners spend less time on street surfaces, helping with participant safety and minimizing impact on surrounding cities. Additionally, there will be street closures again. All major roadways in the direction of the race will be closed.

Those changes were well-received and there are no anticipated changes to the routes this year.

Finally, we will be holding a Community Expo with a beer garden, business booths, the Kid's Run and Diaper Dash. In prior years, a local nonprofit organization was picked for the beer garden to obtain the ABC license, provide volunteers, and in return, they received a \$500 donation. This year, the nonprofit group will be fully responsible for the beer garden, including selling tickets at the event. The benefit is that they will also keep the proceeds from alcohol sales. At the direction of the Events, Communication, and Beautification Committee (ECBC), staff created an application process that would allow Laguna Hills nonprofit organizations to apply, and there would be a random drawing for the nonprofit partner. There was only one applicant this year, and the nonprofit partner is the Laguna Hills High School Athletic Booster Club.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The budget for the annual Memorial Day Race is \$220,000.

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1: Redmond Ramos Biography
2. Attachment 2: Medal Series

## Attachment 1: Redmond Ramos Biography

Redmond Ramos is one of four brothers who all served as Navy Corpsmen with the Fleet Marine Force supporting Marine Infantrymen in combat.

On March 26, 2011, near the end of a combat deployment to Sangin, Afghanistan with the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, a fellow Marine stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED). Red was maneuvering to assist the injured Marine when he triggered another IED. He lost his left leg below the knee and sustained other injuries in the blast.

A California native, Red credits his love for the ocean with helping him recover, calling the hours he spent surfing and scuba diving his “greatest therapy”.

Red enjoys spending time with his wife Krista, a former LA City firefighter, and their two children, Aspen and Redmond.

We are honored to have Redmond Ramos with us today, representing 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, and Corpsmen who serve by their side, and encourage you to come meet Redmond at the EXPO after the race!







## City of Laguna Hills Parks and Recreation Commission

### Staff Report

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**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**From:** Holland Gannon, Community Services Director  
**Issue:** America250 in Laguna Hills Program Update

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**Recommendation:** That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report.

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#### **Background:**

The following plans for America250 in Laguna Hills were approved by the City Council at the March 24th, 2026 meeting.

On July 4, 2026, the United States will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This historic initiative, referred to as America250, is expected to be celebrated nationwide through community events, educational initiatives, and service opportunities that recognize the nation's history and ideals.

The City of Laguna Hills has a strong tradition of celebrating patriotic holidays and fostering community engagement through events such as the annual Memorial Day Race and 4th of July Celebration. The nation's semiquincentennial milestone presents a unique opportunity to expand on these traditions and bring the community together in a meaningful and celebratory way.

Staff proposes that Laguna Hills recognize America250 through a series of programs and activities taking place between Memorial Day and the 4th of July, emphasizing community, service, education, and celebration. The events throughout the timeframe will be part of a series called "America250 in Laguna Hills."

Staff has developed a conceptual framework for the America250 in Laguna Hills celebration centered around four key themes:

- Community – Encouraging neighborhood participation and bringing residents together through community-driven events.
- Service – Promoting volunteerism and civic pride through service-oriented activities.
- Education – Providing opportunities for residents, families, and youth to learn more about American history and the founding of the nation.
- Celebration – Hosting fun, family-friendly events that celebrate patriotism and community spirit.

Proposed initiatives include the following:

Service Activities:

- Community trash cleanup day
- Rooted event

Community Events:

- Community Baseball Day (TBD)
- Patriotic and educational movie nights at the Community Center
- Independence Hall video playing throughout the day on the Community Center and Civic Center televisions

Neighborhood Events:

- Call for “neighborhood captains” to help organize parties in neighborhood parks
- City will allocate “Block Party Bucks” funding to help reimburse neighborhood captains

Arts and Décor

- Patriotic tile painting program
  - Sell tiles to Laguna Hills students and residents via schools, nonprofit organizations, and at the Community Center

- Creation of a “Freedom Wall” showcasing community artwork and messages celebrating America250. The Parks and Recreation Commission will hold an unveiling ceremony
- Flags at entry monuments
- Red, white, and blue uplighting for trees along Paseo de Valencia and Alicia Parkway
- Flag photo op in the Community Center Courtyard
- Installation of StoryWalk at Knotty Pine Park. First “story” will be the Declaration of Independence
- America250 Street Pole Banners

#### Giveaways using logo (Attachment 1)

- Shirts
- Frisbees
- Hats
- Pinwheels

#### Additional 4th of July Celebration Enhancements

- Declaration of Independence signing photo op
- Fife and Drummer Band
- Additional Stage Lighting
- Larger fireworks display (approved at the January 24, 2026 City Council meeting)
- "250" photo op

These programs are intended to create multiple opportunities for residents to participate throughout the celebration period while highlighting community in Laguna Hills.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

Staff estimates that the cost of America250 in Laguna Hills will be approximately \$100,000. It is anticipated that the recent donation from CR&R will cover the cost of the event series.

#### **Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1: America250 LH Logo

