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Neighborhood Law Program Update

The City of Vallejo's **Neighborhood Law Program** (NLP) first established just over a year ago as a pilot program in the City Attorney's office, has made great strides in tackling blight and nuisance conditions that some Vallejo residents face on a daily basis. Since its inception in January 2013, issues at approximately 130 properties have been addressed, with more to come.

Receivership Program

The NLP has made effective progress with its Receivership Program. Receivership is a legal process in which the Court can appoint a neutral third party to take control of a property that the City has successfully proved to substantially endanger public health and safety. The Court will appoint a receiver to temporarily take control from the owner and any other party with an interest in the property including banks. The receiver then has the legal authority to remove any illegal occupants with assistance from law enforcement, and is empowered



1914 Florida Street Before



1914 Florida Street After

to repair any health and safety violations existing on the property. The Neighborhood Law Program has placed the following properties into judicial receivership: 150 Farragut Avenue, 907 Falcon Drive, 618 Branciforte Street, and most recently 1914 Florida Street.

Demolition

The NLP has tackled some of the most blighted properties by means of demolition, an act reserved for locations that simply cannot be rehabilitated. In July 2013, the first demolition was successfully completed on the burnt and graffitied residential structure located at 1903 El Dorado Street. NLP Attorneys have completed the legal process to demolish 1039 Georgia Street, a severely fire damaged property. Now that the City has the legal authority to demolish this property, the Public Works department will begin the process of selecting a contractor to complete the demolition.

Hotel Review

The NLP program also focuses on local hotels. The Hotel Review has recently commenced to evaluate nuisance activity, licensing and hotel compliance with requirements detailed in the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOC). Hotel and property owners have been contacted with the request to assess the activity at their hotels and locations. The NLP will compile the information to develop strategies for combating present issues in these areas and is currently working with several hotels in regards to paying delinquent TOC's and installing security safeguards to address nuisance conditions. The NLP's first target was the Vallejo Inn, located at 101 Maritime Academy Drive. After the NLP contacted the owners to set a meeting to discuss a more focused review of the activity at their hotel, the owners made the decision to sell the property to the California Maritime Academy, a request that had been made long before.

For additional information about the Neighborhood Law Program, visit the NLP online. If you are aware of a nuisance or blighted property and would like to submit an intake form, [click here](#). A list of current properties, abated properties, and status reports are also available on the City's NLP website.

GVRD Sports Hall of Fame Dinner

The **Greater Vallejo Recreation District** (GVRD) is back for another year of inductees with its 11th Annual Sports Hall of Fame to recognize and honor Vallejo Athletes from local public schools and colleges.

Every year, the GVRD gathers Vallejo Legends to reminisce about the good ol' days and celebrate new up and coming athletes within the community. More than 100 athletes and coaches have been inducted into the **Vallejo Sports Hall of Fame**, including Stanford Football player Bill Corbus, NASCAR Racer Jeff Gordon, New York Yankee CC Sabathia, Mixed Martial Artist Mark Munoz, and many more. Vallejo has a rich history in athletics, as hometown legends continue to break records, create memories and give back to their old stomping grounds.

The Vallejo Sports Hall of Fame Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 1 at the Dan Foley Cultural Center. The evening will begin at 3:30 p.m. with a social hour and silent auction. Dinner and the induction ceremony will follow at 6:00 p.m. with MC Steve Mortara. Tickets for the event are \$40 for adults and \$25 for guests under the age of 17. All proceeds from the event will directly benefit GVRD's Youth Sports programs. Tickets are available by contacting GVRD at 707-648-4600, in person at 395 Amador Street, or for additional information, [click here](#).

Rising Sun Energy Youth Program

Rising Sun Energy Center out of Berkeley has extended its California Youth Energy Services (CYES) program to Vallejo this year. Students and young adults from Vallejo will be hired to help save energy costs for members of their community.

The CYES program is a seven-week summer job providing high school and college-aged students with the opportunity to receive hands-on job training and paid experience in the field of green energy. In addition to a paycheck, participants develop professional skills, learn how to build their resume and cover letters, enhance communication skills and have the opportunity for financial preparation.

The **CYES Energy Specialists** are trained to assess homes for efficiency and are able to install energy and water-saving equipment, and provide personalized recommendations for additional savings. They have the ability to install energy-efficient lighting, high-efficiency aerators for baths and kitchens, showerheads, clotheslines, powerstrips and more - all at no cost to the resident. At the end of the **Green House Call**, the resident is given an energy and water usage survey and is asked to assess the CYES Energy Specialists who assisted them.



Students who apply and are hired will receive extensive training and are not required to have prior experience with conservation work. Typical work days are Monday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and career development on Fridays. Participant should note that this is a full-time job and will have to commit to the seven weeks. Interested applicants can [click here](#) to access an application, or for additional information, contact Wells Brown at 510-665-1501, ext. 303.

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Touro University's New CEO and Senior Provost

Touro University California welcomed its newest addition to the campus, Shelley Berkley, as the new chief executive and senior provost of both Touro California and Nevada.

The former seven-term Nevada congresswoman was hired in December and began her new position last month. Prior to accepting her new role, Berkley had represented Nevada's first Congressional District in the US House of Representatives from 1999 to 2013.

She also served as a member of the Nevada State System of Higher Education's Board of Regents for eight years and in the Nevada State Legislature. Her distinguished record of achievements and national prominence made her a top candidate for the esteemed role.

"She brings to this position extensive and prolific background in higher education, politics, law and business," said Dr. Alan Kadish, the Touro College and University System's chief executive and president. He added that Berkley "has been a champion for human rights and has a lifelong commitment to Israel and Jewish education - something that is at the core of the mission of the Touro College and University System."

Berkley's goal is to make Touro University a household name by spreading the word about what the school offers, build on Touro's academic successes, and continue to rank among the top-10 in producing primary care providers in the nation.

"Our challenge together will be to educate and train the next generation of health care professionals who will be practicing in a very new and uncharged environment," Berkley said. "Our teachers must be prepared to offer the best possible education and our students must be prepared to offer the best possible medical care."

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