

# neighbor to neighbor

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF ORANGE

## Chapman purchases apartments for new student housing

Chapman University has closed escrow on an expansive apartment building near Anaheim’s GardenWalk with plans to convert it to student housing. Called Chapman Grand, the residence hall will serve up to 900 students when it opens next fall.

The former Katella Grand apartment complex in Anaheim’s Platinum Triangle district includes apartments in various studio, one, two and three-bedroom configurations and a variety of recreational amenities. The purchase accelerates Chapman’s goal of housing more students in residence halls and reducing the number of undergraduates living in surrounding neighborhoods.

“This newest residence hall signals substantial progress on one of our highest institutional priorities – addressing demand for additional, excellent student housing,” said Harold Hewitt, executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Moreover, acquiring the complex bolsters the university’s housing inventory more quickly than new construction, said Jack Raubolt, vice president for Community Relations.

“Chapman Grand provides an opportunity for Chapman to offer additional housing for students two years earlier than originally expected,” Raubolt said. “With the purchase of the property, we also gain a net increase of 200 beds above what a Panther Village expansion would have provided.”

Among the amenities at Chapman Grand are a state-of-art fitness center, a rock-climbing wall, study rooms and a large outdoor pool area. Each apartment is equipped with a full kitchen and laundry facilities.

Chapman is financing the project by issuing \$150 million in taxable and tax-exempt municipal revenue bonds. Moody’s Investor Services recently evaluated Chapman’s financial strength and determined that its credit rating



Chapman Grand is the second major student-housing purchase by the university in less than five years, joining Panther Village.

will remain A2 with a stable outlook following the new bond issue.

Prompted by community concerns about the effects of student rentals in the City of Orange, Chapman has stepped up efforts to expand university-owned housing in recent years. In 2013, it purchased and remodeled a hotel-suites complex located on West Chapman Avenue to create Panther Village. Construction of an expanded parking lot is planned there in 2018.

Construction on the Villa Park Orchards Residential Village is set to begin early in 2018. An architecturally sensitive design reflects the historic character of the site, which repurposes the original Villa Park Orchards Association Packing House. When it opens in fall 2019, the village will accommodate 402 students.

## Community, campus donations add up to ‘Socktober’ success

Heaps and heaps of pancakes were served up at Socktober Saturday, a community pancake breakfast that kicked off the Chapman Family Homecoming Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 7. But the truly special bounty came in the form of socks – thousands of socks.

Admission to the free breakfast co-sponsored by Ayres Hotels was a package of socks or underwear to benefit the families at HomeAid Family Care Center, operated by Mercy Housing

Living Centers, in the City of Orange. Thanks to campus and community response, the challenge netted 10,000 items, including personal toiletries and blankets. Also donated were 1,500 Power Crunch Bars and 1,500 packets of Ecos Laundry Detergent, whose CEO and president is alumna Kelly Vlahakis-Hanks.

“We are truly grateful for everyone who participated and donated to Socktober. Something so simple as a new pair of socks will go a very long

way to the homeless families that we are serving right here in Orange,” said Irene Drissen, Mercy House’s development manager.



Student volunteers helped with the collection of more than 10,000 items, including socks, underwear, blankets and toiletries.

### Did You Know?

Beginning in January, the Saturday Orange Home Grown Farmers & Artisans Market will relocate from its home in the Villa Park Orchards Packing House. But it will be just steps away! The Orange City Council approved the move to Chapman’s Becket Building at 303 W. Palm Ave., directly across the street from the current location. In addition, the council approved Saturday closure of Palm Avenue between Cypress and Lemon streets from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. to accommodate the market. The new configuration was necessary so construction can begin on new student housing at the original site.

#### Need to report a concern?

- Contact Chapman University’s Office of Community Relations at (714) 289-2097 or email [neighbors@chapman.edu](mailto:neighbors@chapman.edu).
- To report a disturbance that needs urgent attention, please call City of Orange PD dispatch at (714) 744-7444.

## YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for these engaging events at Chapman

There are many terrific Chapman University lectures, plays, art shows and performances happening year round. Find them all on the University's online events calendar, [chapman.edu/events](http://chapman.edu/events). Advance tickets for performing arts events are available online at [chapman.edu/tickets](http://chapman.edu/tickets).

### Tennis anyone? New Chapman courts available to the public

The seven courts at the new Lastinger Tennis Center at the corner of Cypress Street and Palm Avenue are open for community use on limited weekday morning hours, with expanded availability anticipated. The stylish facility features restrooms, drinking fountains and expansive shade structures. Check online for updated hours at [neighborsofchapman.com](http://neighborsofchapman.com).



### If you're home for the holidays, stop by for a visit

During the winter holidays, Chapman decks out Attallah Piazza with illuminated trees, thousands of twinkling lights and its striking light sculpture of Dee the Panther, who looks down on it all from atop Beckman Hall. See the lights any time after dark from now through Dec. 26.



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Find more news at  
[NeighborsofChapman.com](http://NeighborsofChapman.com)

## Professor Victoria Carty honored for work with Higher Ground

That smiling face on the Angel Stadium scoreboard Sept. 20 was Chapman University's Victoria Carty, Ph.D., an associate professor of sociology in the Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Carty was honored before the Los Angeles Angels game as a Wells Fargo Home Run Hero for her work with Higher Ground, an Anaheim nonprofit that provides mentoring for youth and their families in at-risk communities.

Carty's work is just one of many Chapman efforts supporting Higher Ground, among them a Dodge College of Film and Media Arts course in which Chapman students help youngsters create their own TV shows.

In addition to overseeing Higher Ground internships and independent-study opportunities by Chapman students, Carty also organizes workshops for Higher Ground families that provide college information such as how to apply for and seek financial aid.



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More inside!