

# neighbor to neighbor

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF ORANGE

## History, neighbors and friends come together at OBHS open house

Longtime Orange resident Mary Martinez was delighted at the surprise she discovered as she paged through old yearbooks at the Cypress Street Schoolhouse during a recent open house there.

“That’s me. I was cute,” Martinez said as her daughter and granddaughter Bianca looked on. Then she laughed and added – “I’m still cute!”

That was just some of the fun that was enjoyed on Saturday, Jan. 25, when longtime and former residents of the neighborhood gathered with officials from City of Orange, Orange Barrio Historical Society (OBHS) and Chapman University to celebrate a unique slice of local history. The afternoon open house offered tours of the restored schoolhouse and time to share stories of barrio life and the history of the last-standing Mexican-American segregated school in Southern California.

There was even an opportunity to add to the school’s historical collections by having family photos digitally scanned for the archives.

“There’s a lot of history here. People don’t think there is because it’s such a small area, but there is a lot of history. We need to keep the photographs, we need to keep the oral history interviews going. We need to support all that,” said Ralph Colin, president of OBHS.

Built in 1928, the school originally housed education and health care services offered to children of migrant workers. But in 1931 it became



*Rosella Lopez, Angie Pezina and Melon Macias, from left, share a laugh together as they peruse historic neighborhood and family photos during an open house at Cypress Street School House. The January get-together was hosted by the Orange Barrio Historical Society.*

a segregated campus and remained so until 1944. Numerous photos and mementoes from the era are displayed along the school’s hallways and in a conference room that is also the meeting site for OBHS meetings.

The landmark 1947 Mendez vs. Westminster case found racial segregation in California schools like Cypress Street unconstitutional. Documents, additional photos, meeting minutes and other

records from the court case are housed in the Frank Mt. Pleasant Library of Special Collections and Archives at Leatherby Libraries.

Today, the building is home to Chapman’s Early Human and Lifespan Development Research Facility, where researchers study pregnancy, maternal and fetal health and early childhood development.

## Meet Glenn Pfeiffer, Chapman’s new provost

The trip from Beckman Hall to Memorial Hall hardly requires a moving van, but Glenn Pfeiffer, Ph.D., made a long journey to become Chapman University’s new provost just the same.

Pfeiffer, a member of Chapman’s business faculty since 1995, began his life in academia as a first-generation college student: His mother didn’t finish high school, and his father delivered milk.



*Glenn Pfeiffer, Ph.D.*

His father spent one semester at the University of Michigan, but had to drop out because he couldn’t afford it.

“He was drafted, got married, had me and never went back. But he always felt like that was something he wanted to make sure that everyone in our family did,” Pfeiffer said.

The four Pfeiffer offspring all graduated from college, and Glenn went on to earn a Ph.D. in accounting from Cornell after receiving a bachelor’s degree in economics at Hope College, a small liberal arts school.

Those are experiences that shape Pfeiffer’s appreciation for both the role of a college degree in upward financial mobility and the richness of a liberal arts education as he assumes his job as Chapman’s chief academic officer.

“College was seen as a way to a better life, like a lot of people look at it. Get a college education so you can get a better job. And I think that’s consistent with the culture we’re seeing now,” said Pfeiffer, who served as interim provost before being selected for the permanent position after a national search to replace Daniele Struppa, the University’s provost and chancellor before becoming Chapman’s 13th president in September 2016.

The new provost is focused on initiatives such as building out the Rinker Health Science Campus in Irvine.

“I think the demographic shift that’s going on right now is going to make it important that our graduate programs be successful,” Pfeiffer said. “So building out the Rinker Health Science Campus, and possibly expanding into other graduate programs, are initiatives we want to think about over the next few years.”

### Did You Know?

Orange County residents have the opportunity to take advantage of Chapman University’s Frances Smith Center for Individual and Family Therapy at costs much lower than traditional clinics. Chapman’s center is open to the public and treats a wide range of matters. The center is in Crean Hall, Suite 122, 501 W. Palm Ave. For more information, please call (714) 997-6904.

#### Need to report a concern?

- Please contact Chapman University at (714) 997-6763 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!

Save these dates and join us for music, theatre and more!

There are many terrific Chapman University and community events planned this month. Here are just a few. Find more Chapman events at the University's online events calendar, [www.chapman.edu/events](http://www.chapman.edu/events). Advance tickets for performing arts events may be purchased online at [www.chapman.edu/tickets](http://www.chapman.edu/tickets).

### The Chapman Orchestra in Concert: The French Connection

Friday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Musco Center for the Arts

Enjoy Gabriel Fauré's Suite from *Pelléas et Mélisande* Op. 80; Ophelia's Mad Scene from *Hamlet* by Ambroise Thomas; Aaron Copland's *Quiet City*; and Mozart's Symphony No. 31 *Paris*. Led by Daniel Alfred Wachs, music director and conductor. Tickets \$10 to \$15. Available in advance at [www.chapman.edu/tickets](http://www.chapman.edu/tickets) and at the door as available.

### Rita Moreno: Arts and Lecture Series

Saturday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Musco Center for the Arts

Hear the famed Oscar, Emmy, Grammy and Tony winning performer, who first won acclaim for her role as Anita in *West Side Story*, reminisce about her life on stage and screen and her ongoing television career. Tickets \$25 to \$50; available by phone Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m., (844) 626-8726, or anytime online at [muscocenter.org/events/](http://muscocenter.org/events/).

### Fowles Literary Lecture: Giuseppe Conte

Monday, Mar. 13, 5 p.m.  
Beckman Hall, Room 404

Chapman's John Fowles Center welcomes the award-winning Italian writer, Giuseppe Conte, for a reading and question and answer session. Conte has written numerous works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and theater. Free and open to the public. For more information, email Professor Mark Axelrod at [axelrod@chapman.edu](mailto:axelrod@chapman.edu).



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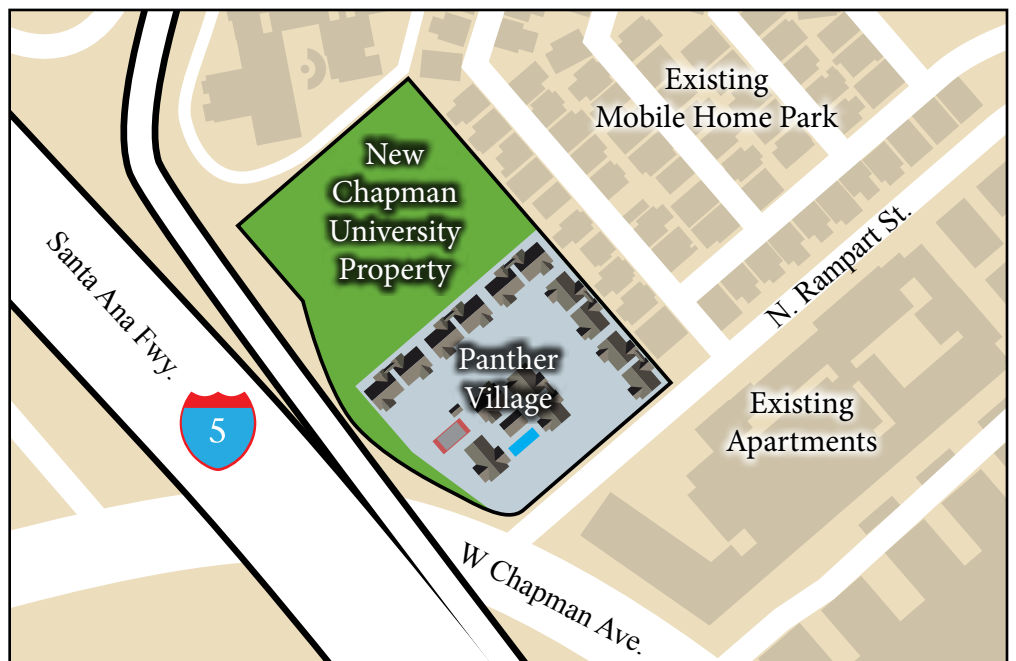


Find more news at  
[NeighborsofChapman.com](http://NeighborsofChapman.com)

## Chapman buys land for development of student housing

Chapman University has purchased a large parcel of vacant land near the Santa Ana Freeway for the development of student housing. Chapman was the top bidder for the surplus property formerly owned by the City of Orange. Purchase price was \$6.5 million.

The University looks forward to building a major residence hall at the site, which is adjacent to the Panther Village student residences on East Chapman Avenue. Such a development will help advance the University's goal of providing significantly more University-owned student housing, reducing the number of students living in residential neighborhoods in and near Old Towne Orange.



The property designated for new student housing is located near the existing Panther Village residences.

More inside!