

June 25, 1985

BR32

## Brea's boom: City made it happen

But while enjoying the added revenue, officials must deal with added congestion

By Francine McMillian  
The Register

**B**rea. A one-time sleepy rural town, it seemingly stood apart from the rest of fast-growing Orange County.

But the new Brea has more than caught up with the rest of the county. It has had massive commercial and industrial growth during the last 20 years and today is one of the most economically healthy cities in the area.

The new Brea is a result of deliberate planning for growth by city officials — a pattern that continued uninterrupted even during economic recessions and construction industry slowdowns.

The developed city today extends 10 miles and has a population of 32,071. It could grow as large as 24 miles with proposed hillside development. A 1968 study projected residential development in the hills and other areas east and west of the city, which could push Brea's population up to 95,000.

In recent years, a regional shopping mall and major employers such as Sundstrand Aviation, Security Pacific Bank and Beckman Instruments have made Brea their home.

The city has reaped the benefits of development in the form of increased revenues. But the down side is increased traffic and the accompanying air pollution and noise. And those are problems city

officials admit will continue.

How has Brea claimed such success with growth and development? City officials say it has been a matter of the three most important things to any business: location, location and location.

The Orange (57) Freeway through Brea, and the area's proximity to the Riverside (91) and Pomona (60) freeways, were key factors in Brea's growth, officials said.

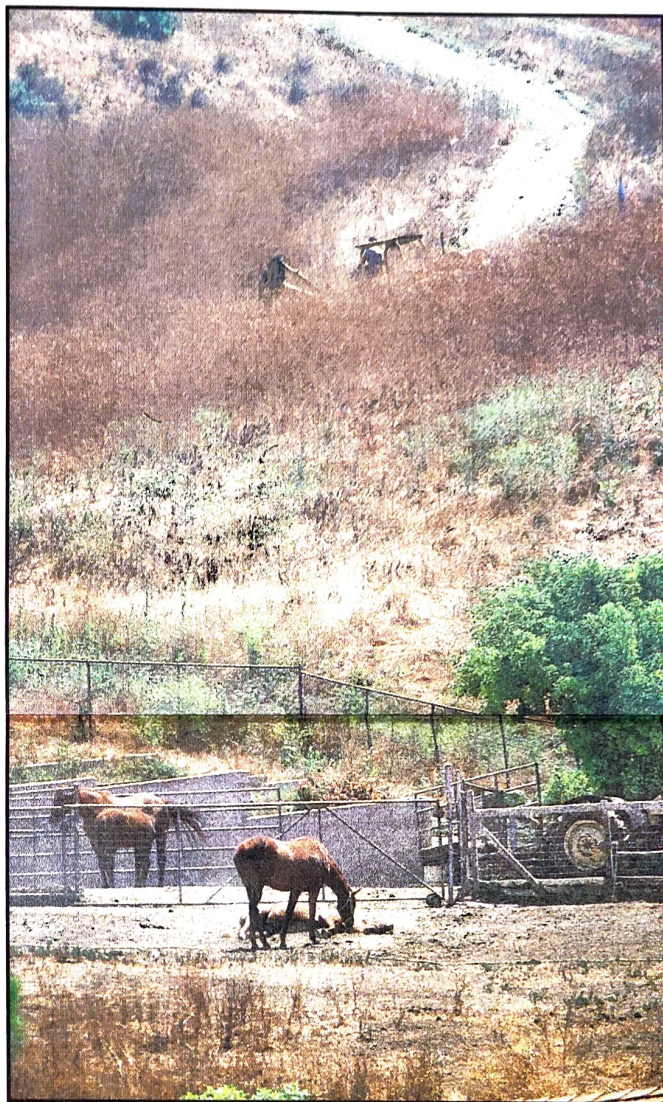
City Manager Edward Wohlenberg said the potential for growth in Brea was anticipated when state highway officials announced plans to extend the Orange Freeway through Brea during the 1960s. The city's closeness to major east-west and north-south systems made it a strategic location for developers, he said.

"The freeways have had a major impact on growth," he said. "Before they were constructed, Brea just sort of sat out here with relatively little growth.

"City officials in Brea chose to capitalize on what they saw as a growing Orange County community. There were people who had vision and recognized that they could build a strong economic base," he said.

"They could have ignored the situation and simply remained a residential community along the freeway, but they chose not to do that."

Don McBride, president of Don  
Please see **BOOM/16**



Mary Anne Gotheridge/The Register

These horses and their corral soon will be surrounded by new houses as the bulldozer in the background paves the way for development.

## Remembering another time, another Brea

**E**dna Critchlow, 82, sat comfortably in a beige-colored armchair in the living room of her Brea home. As she talked, she patted her short, white curly hair.

Outside, a car would occasionally pass by.

Her gray eyes peered through bifocal glasses at her visitor. Then, they took on a faraway look as a smile lit up her face. She talked about the good old days of Good Old Brea.

In 1922, Critchlow — as a newlywed — moved into her small, five-room wood frame home on Madrona Avenue, in a section of the city known as Old Brea. She has lived in that same home for more than 63 years.

She has witnessed change, like the transformation of Brea from a tiny rural town into an economically thriving city. The bulk of the growth has been in the last two decades

"I thought it would always be a small town," Critchlow said. "I moved here from a small town in Santa Barbara. When I came here, there were about 2,000 people here, and now there's more than 30,000.

"When I first came here, I knew almost everybody that I'd meet when I'd go shopping. That doesn't happen now.

Please see **REMEMBERING/3**

### BOOMING BREA/INSIDE

**Good Old Brea:** This three-block business area has maintained its quaint appearance and survived modern-day competition/**10**

**Looking back:** Longtime residents of Brea remember a small town which bears little resemblance to the bustling community of today/**3**

**And now. . . :** Growth has come to Brea and with it has come an increase in traffic — and projections for a whole lot more congestion/**25**

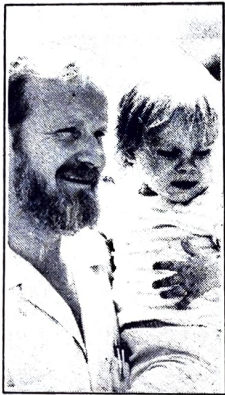
Almanac/**14**  
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Police Report/**6**  
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Street Talk/**2**

# STREET TALK

Question asked at the Brea Plaza, Associated Road and Imperial Highway, Brea.

## What do you think is missing in the city of Brea?



“ I can't really think of anything. Everything's here. ”

**Dallas Rose**  
Brea bus driver



“ I'm new to this area, but I think they need some more life, some more places to go, more entertainment and amusement for children. That's what they need. ”

**Piny Santos**  
Brea clerical worker



“ Let me think; we've got the mall, and we're getting a hotel. I guess what we really need is a new high school. ”

**Karen Wymore**  
Brea clerk



“ I don't think there's a thing missing. I have lived here for 40 years, and I really love it. I think it's a great town. The people are friendly. You don't have to go out of town to get anything you want, because it's here. ”

**Betty Millen**  
Brea homemaker



“ I think we need more green belts. I think we're getting a lot of cement. ”

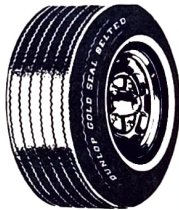
**Marcia Bashore**  
Brea exercise technician



“ I like this town. It's got just about everything I can think of that we need. ”

**Carol Flanders**  
Brea science teacher

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## BREA

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# City legacy discussed at Brea town meetings

By Sheldon Craig  
DOP Staff Writer

**BREA** — A small and opinionated group of approximately 50 residents voiced praise and blame for the condition of the city at a series of town meetings Monday.

The meetings were sponsored by the Brea Project, the city's new citizen involvement program. A bilingual meeting is set for tonight at Laurel School.

In at least two of the four meetings, similar issues surfaced as the residents spoke to members of the project's Steering Committee and representatives from Sentient Systems Inc., consultants to the city on the project.

At a noon meeting, held in the Community Room of the Civic and Cultural Center, a group of 10 residents said what they liked best about living in the city is the small-town atmosphere. They said their chief concern is that development is taking away that atmosphere.

Concerns over the city's historical legacy were also mentioned at the noon meeting, as well as at an evening meeting at Pioneer Hall. In both cases, the residents who spoke on historical issues were members of the Brea Historical Society.

They said redevelopment of the city is destroying its historical landmarks, and that immediate action has to be taken to

preserve those that remain. A consensus with the speakers' concerns came quickly at both meetings from other residents.

One of the men attending the meeting said he believed the idea of seeking citizen input should have come several years ago, when redevelopment of the downtown area was beginning. Instead, he objected to current activity, saying, "We waited until we saw old houses being torn down and miles of chain-link fences being strung throughout the city."

Groups at both meetings called for the formation of a committee to preserve the city's history.

High-density, or multifamily, housing was singled out at both meetings for elimination or restriction. Residents said they believed apartment complexes tend to create parking problems and also attract an undesirable class of people. A few disagreed, saying they believed affordable housing was an important issue.

Discussion of high-density housing centered on a new development at the corner of Central Avenue and Tamarack Avenue, the Tamarack Gardens Apartments. At the evening meeting, one resident said the complex is "jammed right up to the sidewalks with people jammed in there up to the legal limit. There's no concern for architecture, the community or

infrastructure."

Another resident said, "The condos that are going in on these horse-and-buggy streets are creating a (serious) problem of density."

Others said they favored an architectural theme for the city. Others agreed only in part. They said they didn't want a "homogenized" look, such as the look they believe exists in places like Irvine and Mission Viejo.

Governmental issues were briefly touched on. Most of those at the meetings said they were worried about redevelopment going too far. They also said the balance between residential and commercial/industrial properties was being lost.

Other concerns voiced by the groups included the condition of city streets and the need to communicate better with residents on plans for both starting and completing road projects; complaints of a somewhat impersonal attitude on the part of members of the city staff; and high praise for the school district.

Steering Committee members said they were pleased with the turnout, and especially with the enthusiastic response they got from those attending.

One resident expressed a concern about the potential success of the project. He said a committee similar to the one formed for

(Continued from Page 1)  
the Brea Project had been formed in 1967 regarding a transportation corridor that was set to run along Imperial High-

way. He said the effort was called the Eisner Report, and said the same issues discussed 21 years ago were still being talked about Monday night.

(Continued on Page 2)

March 26, 1992

### IT'S A FACT

In 1928, S.A. Erwin and John Vertson were stockholders in the fledgling Duro Engineering Company of Brea who used their ingenuity to invent an oil-well reamer. The innovative product later became known as the Sievers oil-well reamer and was in use until the 1950s.

### IT'S A FACT

In 1913, W.E. Hurst and family built the first business in Brea, a boiler shop making hot water tanks. After Hurst died, his wife and son continued to operate the business. The shop was later merged with Russell's Jewelry Store, which was another early Brea business.

### HISTORY

#### Jubilee memories

Remembering the way Brea celebrated its Golden Jubilee.

### IT'S A FACT

In 1937, the Barney Barnes Orchestra proved to be very popular Brea band. The troupe was led by Ralph Barnes. The band members were Bucky Blair, Frank Holly, Leland Auer, Dick Freeman, Red Sundrup, Harry Thompson, Roy Thompson, Duane VeDel and Kathy Slack.

February 13, 1992

### IT'S A FACT

In the 1930s, the Union Oil Company owned 2,350 acres locally, on which they grew avocados, lemons and oranges. It was one of the great citrus producing areas in the state. The care and harvesting of the crops provided employment for area residents.

April 11, 1991

### HISTORY

#### Preserving our past

Appreciating area history today helps assure preservation tomorrow.

### IT'S A FACT

Until 1915, Brea had no curbs or sidewalks with the exception of the Pomona Avenue, now Brea Boulevard. Instead, the streets were coated with oil to keep down the dust. The only pavement in the city was a 16-foot-wide strip of concrete in the center of Pomona Avenue.

### IT'S A FACT

In 1914, barber Vern Russell came to town and opened the first barber shop in Brea. His business was in the Wahl building on the northeast corner of N. Pomona Avenue and Ash Street. He was among the early business pioneers who contributed to the city's growth.

# Exclusively

## Brea

Early 1974



By GAIL OESTREICH

**Star-Progress Correspondent**

It's official! Sunday, May 5, from 3 to 4 p.m. the Youth Symphony will perform at the Brea-Olinda High School. This is the newest addition to the Bonanza Days fete. It's free so be sure to add this to your list of cultural activities.

Mike Bell, Brea's youngest member of the Downey Symphony, will be the main attraction on the drums. There is need of a set of timpani for the concert. Anyone having a set that can be borrowed, would be appreciated. Please call 529-2983 (Gail) about this.

### Satellite Friends

Executive Board of Friends of the Brea Library met for the first time last Wednesday in the home of Cliff Churn, president. Missing was Gary McPhee who was in New York on business for I.B.M.

Many plans to celebrate National Library Week, April 21 through 27, were outlined. A reception for new members of Friends will be held on Friday, April 26, 8 p.m., at the Brea Library. The reception is an excellent time to join. Mary Alice Blaydes and Caroline Warner will be in charge. A special pre-view of used books will be available for members.

Starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, the book sale will be open to the public in two locations. The Brea Library will be the main location with Mary Alice Blaydes manning the sale. A satellite

location at Brea West Pharmacy will be available for book hunters delight. The satellite will be manned by Emily Mahler and Peg Muller.

If there are additional volunteers to man other locations, please call Cliff Churn.

Interesting thing about the book sale is that all proceeds go to Friends. They will then be able to fill the needs over and above budget costs allowed by the Orange County Public Library System.

The big thing now is to collect used books. The time has come to clean out your closets and libraries and donate them to Friends. An attractive green wicker basket awaits your donations at the library.

Another new idea of Friends is honorary awards to youth. Several young people have volunteered many hours at the library. Honorary memberships into Friends will be awarded to our deserving youth.

One parting remark: "Charter membership has been extended for one year." Friends' gracious president, Cliff Churn added. You may join now through April 30, 1975 to become a Charter Member. BUT, if you'd like to get a sneak preview of the books before the big sale, join now and go to the reception on the 26th.

### German Wagner's

Elly and Randy Clements heard from their International Friends recently. Gerd and Trisha Wagner stayed with the Clements for two weeks last summer.

The two young couples exchange correspondences and the Wagner's sent the Clements a gift at Christmas time.

Elly and Randy look forward to having another teaching couple stay with them again this summer.

### Brea Rates

Laurel School's Early Childhood Education program scored a 7.8 rating from the State Monitors Team who visited recently. This is excellent, based on a 1 to 9 point system. Lynn Bender, ECE psychologist, and Don Stone, Laurel principal, give credit to the many parent volunteers.

Now Laurel will be re-funded and able to continue the program next year. And, Brea may be able to compete for funds to expand the program through the third grade. Teachers are busy preparing the application. Suggestions are welcome. Contact Lynn Bender (529 - 4325); Brenda Twist (529-6013); or Pablo Villa (529-4481) with your comments.

Parent Education classes on Parent-Child Relationships are underway. Classes will continue for six weeks. Cost per person is \$4. The series began March 20 and will continue April 24, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Laurel School Library. Classes are in English, although a Spanish-speaking class is being organized.

Mary Collier of Family Service Agency is the speaker.

Additional programs are available on Wednesday mornings. Classes thus far have included a bi-lingual speaker lecturing on "Medi-Cal and Food Stamps" and "Mothers are Important," a cancer self-check-up discussion.

This Wednesday's class features a bi-lingual speaker on Family Planning and Health Department Services.

These classes are held in the cafeteria from 9-10:30 a.m. Children are welcome. These morning classes are free.

Additional volunteers are needed for ECE. If you have an hour or two to volunteer every week, Laurel encourages you to take part in this exciting program. Notify Lynn Bender, 529-4325.

For those enthusiastic parents whose family and other responsibilities prevent volunteering on a regular basis, please contact Diane Horspool at 529-9301, at-home coordinator.

Laurel School is to be commended for achieving such a high rating on the ECE program. Many schools do not want to be bothered with parent and volunteer assistance. Not so in Brea!

It is felt by many educators that by using parent volunteers, the children achieve at greater rates. They aren't interested in just getting a good grade, but rather, they remember what they have learned. Belief is that someone cares: that someone is a very special someone to the children: their parents.

### Show Biz

Elementary summer school plans are underway for 1974. Classes begin June 24 through July 28, 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Mariposa School. Howard Bryden will be summer principal.

Total concept of S.S. has changed. Now, it's fun. Fun classes are offered in gymnastics, Jungle Fever, special art projects as well as review or extra work in areas of math and reading.

Children came home last summer thrilled over the fun they were having. Chuckie Jacobo and his friends are still talking about flying to Sacramento and visiting California legislature with their social science class.

Some people may say that the reason Mariposa won the bid to have S.S. again is because of the terrific job Howard Bryden did with the summer theater. Whether Howard is really "stage-struck" or the fact that Mariposa has a glamorous out-door amphitheater, we'll never know for sure.

We're sure musical Mayor MacKain (Fanning principal) won't be able to keep away from rehearsals for The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. With the talents of each Brea school, the show is sure to be a "hit."

### "Those Were"

We've all heard Bonanza Day's theme by now, but some have pondered over "which days" "Those Days" were.

Steve Macon set us straight the other night: "The turn of the century." "Gay Nineties" to "Roaring Twenties," that's 1890's to early 1900's, are the days to think about when planning your float to march in the big parade.

### Gina's Appalachian

Kiwanis Club is sponsoring Gina Sandy's beautiful Appalachian horse in the Brea Bonanza Days parade.

She is so proud to ride in the parade. Be sure to take special note in the equestrian division and watch for Gina.

### Number One

Bob Whitham and Lloyd Reese, long-time friends and neighbors, have formed a new partnership: Brea Realty.

Bob was given the very first number in the new telephone service: 990-0111. Note the number "990" in the new system.

Also, of interest is the coincidence of their new address: 111 Alder. You'll find them near the Pot Belly Pizza on Alder, the side street from Ray's Market on Brea Boulevard.

Good Luck, Bob and Lloyd.

### President-Elect

Congratulations to president-elect of Rotary's Ray Madsen! Brea has such an outstanding selection of men in our men's clubs so willing to serve their community.

# IGNORANCE

## BREA BANTER

The City Council was told by city staff that they had exhausted every effort to get funding to renovate the old Brea Hotel. They are now looking into other uses for the site. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons: Do you think the city should still try to save the Brea Hotel, even though it would be difficult and costly to restore it?



**Tony Murcia**  
35  
trust operations

"I don't know. Even if they restore it I don't think it will fit in with the rest of the buildings. I would think if it's a historic building they should restore it and if it blends in with the rest of the redevelopment, it's worth it. If it won't, it's not worth it.



**Derek Duronst**  
31  
restaurant manager

"Yes, it is a big part of history. I would like to see it renovated and saved. Too many times we tear things down without really looking into it first."



**Said Hatami**  
45  
business owner

"Yes, they should. Brea is an old town and we should save something from the old times to remind people what Brea was like."



**Patti Knoester**  
39  
self-employed

"No. To me it's not important. I've been here 12 years and I think it would be nice if

## LETTERS POLICY

The Brea Progress welcomes opinions from our readers. Letters should be typewritten and double spaced (or legibly print-

## BREA BANTER

Breaans for a Better Library wants to float a measure that would increase the city's hotel/motel bed tax from 10 percent to 12 percent to improve Brea Library's services and hours. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons the following question: If a member of Breaans for a Better Library approached you today, would you sign a petition to support placing a hotel/motel bed tax increase on the November ballot and why?



**Linda Hudec**  
48  
researcher

"I would sign the petition just to put (the measure) on the ballot, but I don't necessarily agree with making other people pay for my library. I think it's our responsibility to pay for what we use in our city."



**Debe Blake**  
38  
mother

"I would sign the petition to put it on the ballot so everyone has the right to vote on it, but I also think Brea residents should pay for their own library. I don't think visitors should have to pay for our library."



**Tari Ronn**  
44  
student

"I don't know. Since I live in Brea, I wouldn't need a hotel or motel. But since I would be the one who would use the facility, I probably should be the one to pay the tax."



**August Smith**  
55  
retired

"I would sign the petition because I think it would help the community. I would hope the money would be used for books and to keep the library open."



**Ben Thacker**  
28  
warehouseman

"Yes, I'd sign the petition to help youth have more available to them in the library. I don't think just Brea residents should be responsible for paying for the library — everyone should want to help."

## MILESTONES

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

► **Pluma**, Anthony Rene, 32, supervisor, Brea, to **Viera**, Amor Maria, 29, human resources, Brea.  
► **Coz**, Jason Owen, 23, machine operator, to **Upston**, Cynthia Marie, 24, clinical coordinator, Brea.

### BIRTHS

► **Jacob Curtis Stafford** was born Feb. 18 at 1:40 a.m. at St. Jude Hospital, Fullerton. He weighed 7.9 pounds and was 18 1/2" long. His parents are **Daniel Stafford** of Orange and **Misty Wright** of Brea.

## BREA BANTER

Brea's city manager recently received a 4.3-percent pay raise and now earns about \$139,000 a year. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons how much they think the city manager should earn per year and why.



**Charlotte Kenin**  
62  
business owner

"I think he should make \$100,000. For a small city, \$139,000 is too much. I think it took them too long to do all the redevelopment in downtown Brea. That was a mess for a while."



**Elizabeth Quigley**  
36  
attorney

"I really don't know what the city manager's responsibilities are. If it's a difficult job, I don't think \$139,000 is too much. Chief executive officers of companies make a lot more than that — they're making millions. Even in a small company they make a couple hundred thousand."



**Nicole Devon**  
20  
teacher

"I'd go for the \$80,000 to \$100,000 range — \$139,000 sounds pretty high. I honestly don't know what he does, but for some reason, that just sounds really high to me."



**Gerrie Goss**  
38  
welder

"I think it's too much. It should probably be in the \$60,000 to \$80,000 range. I know it's a pretty difficult job sometimes, but it seems like if you keep paying managers and public officials too much money, it starts to take away from the public."



**Gerrie Goss, Jr.**  
17  
student

"He should make like \$80,000. That's not that hard of a job. There are a lot of people out there who do a lot more important things and don't make that much. There are doctors who don't make that much and he's just a manager of a city."

# MONSTOP

## BREA BANTER

The City Council, acting as the Redevelopment Agency, recently approved an agreement with a developer to build 30 one-bedroom apartments atop retail shops on Birch Street Promenade. Twenty-five will be set aside as affordable-housing apartments, which will be available to low- to moderate-income renters. The apartments are expected to cost about \$775 a month. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons their opinion on why or why not affordable housing should be built in the new downtown.



**Ronnie Fewel**  
73  
retired

"If \$775 is the best they can do then I guess it's OK. It seems like a convenient location. It's close to bus transportation and shopping."



**Beatrice Montijo**  
38  
child care provider

"People who need affordable housing probably don't have a means of transportation so I think it's good. It's close to the Community Center and it's in a good area."



**Susan Elias**  
38  
mom

"I hardly think that it's affordable housing. For the square footage and the price, I hardly think it's reasonable."



**Jyoti Amin**  
40  
mom

"Affordable housing is a good thing but I don't think they should go above shops. It would be awkward for both the businesses and residents. The constant humming of people and traffic wouldn't be good for families. It'd be good for single people who are not home as much, but then can they afford it?"



**Martha Hollis**  
65  
volunteer

"I think it's a good thing for certain segments of the population. I don't think it'd be a good place for families because there wouldn't be any yards. I think it'd be good for seniors who wouldn't have to rely on public transportation which is a big problem in this city."

## BREA BANTER

July marks the second anniversary of the Brea Community Center opening. The Brea Progress asked patrons of the center what activities they enjoy participating in.



**Yoko Ohigashi**  
42  
The Capital Group

"The kids' Day Camp excursion for the summer."



**Kyle Gross**  
13  
student

"Basketball. It's what I live for."



**Frank Vasquez**  
45  
Computer assistant technician

"Basketball. I come five days a week. I've been coming for five months and I wish I would have known about it sooner."



**William Hock**  
70  
retired

"Basically I come for the fitness center. I've gotten really into it."



**Kevin Eyles**  
12  
student

"The Teen Zone. It's really fun for kids because there is so much to do. There are activities for everyone like pool and computers."

**BREA BANTER**

The City Council has decided to continue the VanGo shuttle program in the city, despite low ridership numbers and depletion of federal, state and regional funds. The **Brea Progress** asked Community Center patrons if they think the program should be continued and if they would ride the shuttle.



**Brian Herrera**  
26  
law enforcement

"I wouldn't ride it, but I think they should continue it for elderly people who don't have cars. It's a good service to have available. I drive, so I can't think of a time when I would ever use it."



**Sharon Gall**  
31  
wedding consultant

"I wouldn't take the shuttle because I have a car and I have a baby and a three-year-old so I need two car seats. It's a matter of trust — I wouldn't trust anyone to drive my kids around. I think they should continue it, but they should target seniors — they're the ones who would benefit from it."



**Sally Davis**  
70  
retired

"I think it's a good service, but I don't know that seniors would ride it for \$1 each way because they could ride a bus for 15 cents. I guess this is more convenient. I would say they should keep it. If my vision or hearing gets worse or something would restrict my driving I would use it."



**Kari Lindemeyer**  
35  
mom

"I think they should continue it and I would ride it. We have a lot of friends who don't drive, but who like to go out and do things. I think it's a good service."



**Lannie Russell**  
36  
homemaker

"I think they should continue the service. When I rode it, the bus driver said a lot of senior citizens and kids ride it. It's a great service for people who don't drive and who need a ride. I wouldn't even mind if they raised the price."

**BREA BANTER**

The **Brea Progress** asked Gateway Center patrons to reveal their favorite places to visit in Brea, and why.



**Jean Smith**  
49  
customer service representative

"I'd have to say the new theater. It's nice and I love the seating. I work on Birch Street and State College Boulevard so we just go over there at night."



**Debbie Fernandez**  
29  
counselor

"The Brea Mall, because it has better stores, but not for the parking. I like their Santa Claus during Christmas — he's the only one I go to."



**Lucy Moyer**  
49  
Realtor

"I'd have to say the Brea Mall and, next to that, the Edwards cinema. The mall's convenient — it's not too big and it has everything I want there."



**Teena Megerdichian**  
31  
operations manager

"I like going to Brea because there's a variety of restaurants. The ones we mainly go to are Claim Jumper and Red Robin."



**Suzzette Bonaventura**  
28  
sales representative

"Brea's Best because they have the best ostrich burgers. It's not common — it has a little different taste than a chicken burger. They give you a lot of fries."

**BREA BANTER**

The City Council has decided to continue the VanGo shuttle program in the city, despite low ridership numbers and depletion of federal, state and regional funds. The **Brea Progress** asked Community Center patrons if they think the program should be continued and if they would ride the shuttle.



**Brian Herrera**  
26  
law enforcement

"I wouldn't ride it, but I think they should continue it for elderly people who don't have cars. It's a good service to have available. I drive, so I can't think of a time when I would ever use it."



**Sharon Gall**  
31  
wedding consultant

"I wouldn't take the shuttle because I have a car and I have a baby and a three-year-old so I need two car seats. It's a matter of trust — I wouldn't trust anyone to drive my kids around. I think they should continue it, but they should target seniors — they're the ones who would benefit from it."



**Sally Davis**  
70  
retired

"I think it's a good service, but I don't know that seniors would ride it for \$1 each way because they could ride a bus for 15 cents. I guess this is more convenient. I would say they should keep it. If my vision or hearing gets worse or something would restrict my driving I would use it."



**Kari Lindemeyer**  
35  
mom

"I think they should continue it and I would ride it. We have a lot of friends who don't drive, but who like to go out and do things. I think it's a good service."



**Lannie Russell**  
36  
homemaker

"I think they should continue the service. When I rode it, the bus driver said a lot of senior citizens and kids ride it. It's a great service for people who don't drive and who need a ride. I wouldn't even mind if they raised the price."



**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Who earned a yellow spot of inhumanity?**

**Tribute to the one that:**

Drives a late-model car too fast on Driftwood Avenue. Passes Cars, on the left, or on the right.

It doesn't matter, too busy to be polite,

Not waiting for those backing out of their driveways.

Talks on their cell phone, when they are driving only a few blocks from home.

Steals, from their children, the tradition of walking to and from their neighborhood

school, by driving them just several blocks away.

Cares not whose pets they encounter, or

What they mean to whom. By accident, I trust, hit and killed one of

Those pets, our family's cat, Soo Soo.

Took away that life and cared,

but not enough.

To remove the dead and lifeless body of that

Beautiful, golden creature to the curb.

Cared naught for the Law, themselves, or

Those who fed, cared for, and loved

that beautiful, amber creature of God.

Yes, in tribute to the one that had not enough

respect for themselves or us, I paint a

bright, yellow spot in the middle of the

street from where I washed the blood and

fur in the night.

Needs to be reminded by that yellow spot,

Not so much of the terrible deed itself.

But of their speed and their lack of

Self-respect on that early evening, Friday,

March 13, 1998, on Driftwood Avenue.

**Paul Skaggs  
Brea**

**PEOPLE**

Former Brea resident Matt Luke, who plays outfield and first base for the Dodgers, won the "Hero of the Heart" award for 1999 from Children's Hospital of Orange



**LUKE**

County's fund-raising group, CHOC Padrinos. He will be honored at a banquet on June 3.

Luke, who had several surgeries due to a multi-layered birthmark, "not only had an outstanding rookie year with the Dodgers, but has motivated many children at our hospital by sharing his own story of overcoming obstacles as a child," said CHOC Padrinos benefit committee chair Art Kidman.

**BREA BANTER**

The City Council, acting as the Redevelopment Agency, recently approved an agreement with a developer to build 30 one-bedroom apartments atop retail shops on Birch Street Promenade. Twenty-five will be set aside as affordable-housing apartments, which will be available to low- to moderate-income renters. The apartments are expected to cost about \$775 a month. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons their opinion on why or why not affordable housing should be built in the new downtown.



**Ronnie Fewel  
73  
retired**

"If \$775 is the best they can do then I guess it's OK. It seems like a convenient location. It's close to bus transportation and shopping."



**Jyoti Amin  
40  
mom**

"Affordable housing is a good thing but I don't think they should go above shops. It would be awkward for both the businesses and residents. The constant humming of people and traffic wouldn't be good for families. It'd be good for single people who are not home as much, but then can they afford it?"



**Beatrice Montijo  
38  
child care  
provider**

"People who need affordable housing probably don't have a means of transportation so I think it's good. It's close to the Community Center and it's in a good area."



**Martha Hollis  
65  
volunteer**

"I think it's a good thing for certain segments of the population. I don't think it'd be a good place for families because there wouldn't be any yards. I think it'd be good for seniors who wouldn't have to rely on public transportation which is a big problem in this city."



**Susan Elias  
38  
mom**

"I hardly think that it's affordable housing. For the square footage and the price, I hardly think it's reasonable."

**BREA BANTER**

On June 2, the controversial Proposition 227 — the initiative which virtually eliminates bilingual education statewide — passed. The initiative requires the state's 1.4 million limited English-speaking students to be taught in English after a one-year English immersion program. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons how they voted on the initiative.



**Irene Garcia**  
33  
registered nurse

"I think they need to keep it because it's very important that we keep the students learning in English."



**Denise Ronzello**  
20  
student

"I'm not in favor of it. I think they non-English speaking students need to be dealt with separately. It's going to slow down kids that already speak English."



**Angelina Sandoval**  
32  
health education coordinator

"I voted yes because I think it's better if they put kids with English-speaking children and they'll pick it up on their own."



**Brie Johnson**  
21  
student

"I didn't get to vote but I was pretty much for it because I talked with teachers and from other information I gathered."



**Nancy Ayers**  
33  
mother

"I agree with it. I hope that the initiative stays."

**BREA BANTER**

The Brea Olinda Unified School District is considering floating a general-obligation bond that, if passed by Brea voters, would result in a property-tax increase for residents. The Brea Progress asked Community Center patrons how much they would be willing to pay per year in new taxes for building and updating Brea schools.



**Steve Ledesma**  
42  
inspector

"I would say as low as they could get away with, but I think it would be necessary to try to pass that new tax. I would pay \$30 to \$50 a year in order for our schools to be updated and improved."



**Bill Scott**  
45  
teacher

"I'm not in favor of raising property taxes. The newer buyers are already paying more than the people who've owned their property for a number of years. Let's just do away with the exemptions for the property owners who've owned their property for a long time."



**Steve Phillips**  
41  
chemist

"I'm sure we would support a tax increase of at least \$100 or \$200 per year. I've seen a huge benefit in having 20 kids per class and, if we could continue with that, then I'm sure that's going to be a huge advantage. I wish my daughter in fifth grade could have 20 kids in her class."



**Jennifer Zaharis**  
26  
assistant director

"It would depend on how much the state government would be willing to contribute after the Brea residents did their part by paying that particular tax. I haven't had a problem with the Brea school district, but I think there's always a need for more improvement."



**Rosa Valdez**  
44  
customer service

"I would pay \$15 a year because I want to make sure the schools are well taken care of. I have a child and I want to make sure he gets the best education and has enrichment classes and programs and I know that takes money. I'm also aware that the schools usually work off a strict budget."

**BREA BANTER**

Mayor Lynn Daucher recently announced her theme for 1998, "People Count." The Brea Progress asked Gateway Center patrons what their theme for the year would be if they were Brea's mayor.



**Tatiana Simonian**  
20  
student

"My theme would be about having less commercialism and more environmentalism because I think there's too much commercialism and consumption. We need to add more simplicity in our lives in America and we can start by doing that in our cities."



**Ann Chase**  
66  
retired

"My theme would be something about the arts. I think art is very important — all art, and that means theater, dancing, music and art activities for children. They don't get it at school that much, which is sad. They need community activities for children on weekends so all the kids don't take to computers."



**Wilbur Richardson**  
75  
retired

"I like the mayor's theme — that's where it is. If it weren't for the people, what would there be? The people are the center of activity for anything that happens in the city. The more that people participate, the better it is."



**Erin Wood**  
18  
student

"My theme would be, 'Education Matters.' The Brea school system is really good. I would raise my family here because of the schools. It would help people who don't have children in school to realize how important education is and it would better the community."



**Nichole Finley**  
20  
student

"If I was mayor, I'd put an importance on the youth because they're the future. There's a lot of negativity toward Generation X. I don't think there's enough emphasis on creativity and the importance of education."