

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: JUNE 1, 2016**

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

DIRECTOR: DAVID RIGGLEMAN

SUBJECT:

RECOGNITION OF PARADISE RANCH

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Submitted at Meeting - Photographs of Paradise Ranch, PowerPoint Presentation, Edward W. Clark High School Teacher Education Academy (TEACH) Magnet Day Proclamation, Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) Proclamation and Certificate of Recognition for Captain Julian Flowers

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN BARLOW invited PAUL and STEPHANIE ROGERS to the podium to recognize the amazing job they are doing at Paradise Ranch. The mission of Paradise Ranch, established in 2011, is to aid individuals and families in leading productive and happy lives through engaging activities with previously unwanted animals. The goals of the foundation include providing mental health and respite services in a clean, comfortable and safe setting to the underserved in the Las Vegas valley. The horse-assisted therapy program assists at-risk teens and young adults through a unique type of therapy that combines mental health coping techniques and animal handling through the guidance of psychology specialists led by MR. and MRS. ROGERS. The children can relate to animals and develop deep emotional bonds with the animals because they share similar stories of overcoming obstacles. COUNCILMAN BARLOW relayed the story of how the program at the ranch helped one abused child in the foster care system. Paradise Ranch is a major community resource that has made a positive impact on the lives of at-risk youth, those with developmental challenges and veterans.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW asked MR. ROGERS to provide information on how individuals can get involved and how to donate if they chose to. MR. ROGERS thanked COUNCILMAN BARLOW for the hard work done at Paradise Ranch. A larger facility is being sought so that services can be expanded and more can be done for the hundreds of families served every month. He acknowledged the team of volunteers and workers that help on the ranch and stated more volunteers and financial support are always needed. He directed the public to their website: paradiseranchlv.com and their Facebook page: [paradiseranchlv](https://www.facebook.com/paradiseranchlv). He confirmed for COUNCILMAN BARLOW that Paradise Ranch is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Those wishing to donate, can mail checks to: 1722 Primrose Path, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108 or click on the DONATE NOW button on their website.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS:

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN invited GENA REAGH, Clark High School Assistant Principal; SHIRLEY McLEES, Magnet Coordinator; MICHELLE HERNANDEZ, Counselor; LUANNE WAGNER, Teacher; several students and KEVIN CHILDS, Clark County School



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District, to the podium. When approached in 2000 by then principal RONNIE SMITH, COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN stated that she agreed to chair the Advisory Committee for the Teacher Education Magnet Program. The hope was that those students born and raised in Las Vegas that were trained as teachers would choose to stay in Las Vegas. This year the magnet program received the Magnet Schools of America President's Award and the Magnet School of Merit Award of Excellence.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN acknowledged the work MS. McLEES does with the magnet program. She remarked that the success of the magnet program at Clark High School consisted of several factors that are often times overlooked. These include consistency and strong leadership of teachers and staff, a focus on each student, high morale throughout the entire school and the willingness to do the extra work needed to be a success. She presented the attached proclamation naming June 1st as Edward W. Clark High School Teacher Education Academy Magnet Day. In May 2016, at the 34th National Conference of Magnet Schools in Miami, Florida, Clark High School Teacher Education Academy was selected from the six national finalists for the highest President's Award, recognizing it for its commitment to diversity, academic excellence and curriculum innovation.

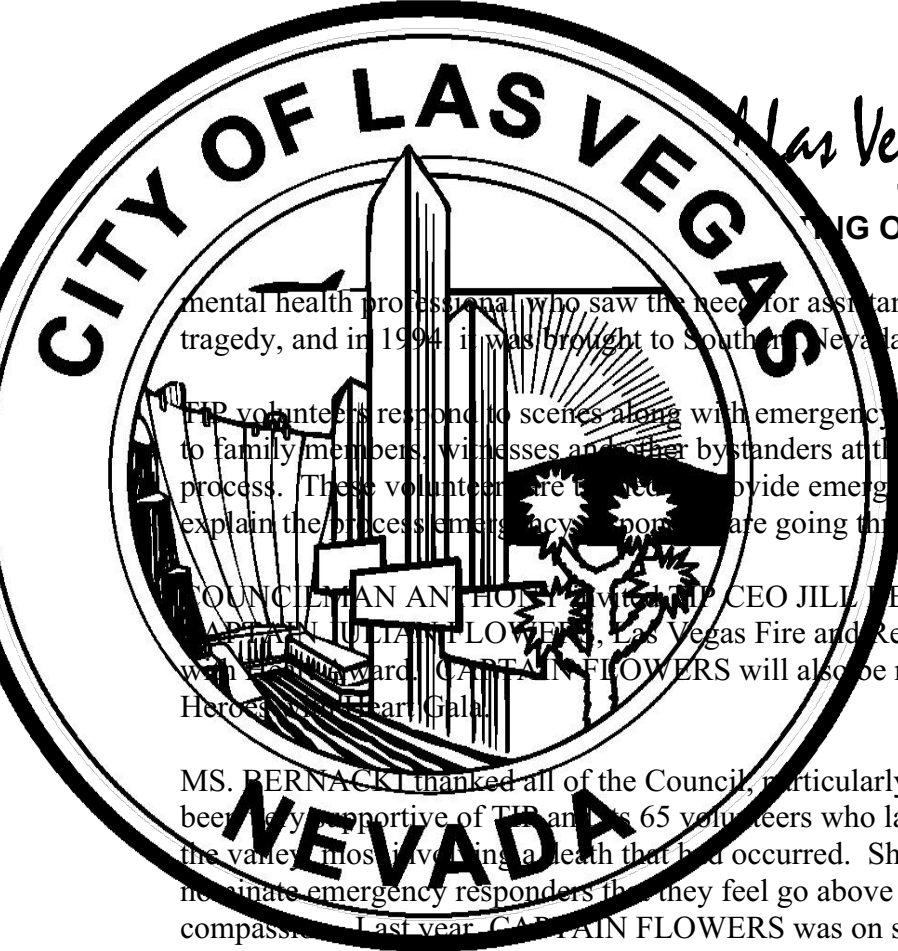
On behalf of Clark High School, MS. McLEES thanked the Mayor and Council stating they were honored to be recognized for something they enjoy doing every day. She acknowledged and thanked the teachers, as there cannot be an excellent program without them, and she gets to work with wonderful students from the program. She also recognized MS. HERNANDEZ who goes to the Middle Schools and recruits students to the magnet program. She expressed how thrilled the school has been to have COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN'S guidance all these years. MS. McLEES noted the program at Clark High School has produced more than 75 teachers in the Clark County School District.

MS. WAGNER expressed what an honor it is to work at Clark High School with such an amazing administration. Because of that support, they are able to produce fantastic teachers. It speaks volumes that many request to attend Clark and then go on to work there.

Several students spoke but did not identify themselves. They stated how it is a privilege to be part of an internship during the last semester where they go to different schools and are able to put into action the skills they were taught through the program. During their Junior and Senior years, they are also given the opportunity to mentor students with learning disabilities and students with English as their second language.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN also acknowledged MR. CHILDS for his support.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY recognized the Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) of Southern Nevada which is dedicated to ensuring that those who are emotionally traumatized during an emergency situation receive the assistance that they need. This organization works closely with local emergency response agencies who request well-trained citizen volunteers be dispatched to emergency scenes. COUNCILMAN ANTHONY stated that TIP was established in 1985 by a



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mental health professional who saw the need for assistance in the immediate aftermath of a tragedy, and in 1994 it was brought to Southern Nevada.

TIP volunteers respond to scenes along with emergency responders and provide practical support to family members, witnesses and other bystanders at the scene and during the investigative process. These volunteers are trained to provide emergency care to grieving individuals and to explain the process emergency responders are going through.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY invited TIP CEO JILL BERNACKI to the podium and recognized CAPTAIN WILLIAM FLOWERS, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, as the 2016 recipient of the Heroes with Heart award. CAPTAIN FLOWERS will also be recognized by TIP on June 10, 2016 at the Heroes with Heart Gala.

MS. BERNACKI thanked all of the Council, particularly COUNCILMAN ANTHONY, who has been very supportive of TIP and its 65 volunteers who last year responded to over 1,400 scenes in the valley, most involving a death that had occurred. She explained that every year volunteers nominate emergency responders that they feel go above and beyond in their level of care and compassion. Last year, CAPTAIN FLOWERS was on scene where a young boy was killed after being hit by a bus. When the TIP volunteers arrived on the scene, the work normally done by TIP, had already been started by CAPTAIN FLOWERS. He had already secured a location for the family, and the level of care and compassion he showed the family warranted him to be nominated and given this award. She stated that CAPTAIN FLOWERS is one of four individuals to be honored at the Heroes with Heart Gala at The Orleans Hotel and Casino on June 10th. She directed individuals to www.tipoflasvegas.org for more information.

CAPTAIN FLOWERS thanked TIP and the Council. He gave credit to his team that was on site for doing the majority of the work, and thanked everyone involved, including the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD). The main concern at any incident is to ensure that the scene is safe and that everyone is taken care of.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY acknowledged CHRISTIAN RAYMER, the volunteer that nominated CAPTAIN FLOWERS. MS. BERNACKI also recognized JOANN OHLMEIER, Director of Volunteer Management, JOHN FUDENBERG, Coroner and Board Chairperson, and FIRE CHIEF WILLIAM McDONALD, who were in the audience. As a former LVMPD Police Officer, COUNCILMAN ANTHONY commented that these scenes are chaotic and emergency personnel have a function to perform. The TIP volunteers role is to talk to the people at the scene to let them know that they care about what they are going through, to let them know the process and to comfort them. He presented MS. BERNACKI with the attached proclamation naming June 1st as Trauma Intervention Program of Southern Nevada Day and CAPTAIN FLOWERS with the attached Certificate of Recognition.