

COASTAL VIEW NEWS

February 26, 2015

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COASTAL VIEW NEWS

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Flood-control concerns could delay interchanges project

BY DALE DEWIS

The City of Carpinteria last month sent out a request for proposals to build a \$100-million interchange project on the Pacific Coast Highway. The project is a key component of the city's flood control program, which is being funded by a state bond issue. The city is currently in the process of reviewing the proposals and expects to award the contract by late spring.

"Sisters" act



Carpinteria's annual Talent Showcase had performers, from left, Carlin Martin and Tonya. They are singing to a sold-out crowd. The duo, who developed several institutions as church organists, performed "Sisters" at the Feb. 20 Music Showcase Theatre event. For more photos and a review of the Carpinteria Rotary Club production, see pages 14 and 15.

Girl Inc. National awards \$20K scholarship to local girl

Arianna Lopez, a Carpinteria High School senior and a long-time Girls Inc. of Carpinteria participant, has been selected as a 2015 scholarship winner in the competitive Girls Inc. National Scholar Program. She was among 31 young women around the nation to be awarded the \$20,000 college scholarship, and she is the most recent of 19 National Scholars to come out of Girls Inc. of Carpinteria.



Arianna Lopez is among 31 high school girls around the country chosen to receive a National Scholarship from Girls Inc.

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"We are beyond thrilled to see (Lopez) receive this prestigious, well-deserved award and be named a Girls Inc. National Scholar," said Victoria Juarez, executive director of Girls Inc. of Carpinteria. "(Lopez) is an incredible young leader who proves that with the right support, all girls can achieve success and change their communities for the better."

As a young girl, Lopez battled illness, including a head injury at the age of 5. She has been with Girls Inc. of Carpinteria for 14 years and has participated in nearly every program



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selected as a Girls Inc. National Scholarship recipient," she said.

the organization offers. She has completed over 2,600 community service hours and spent six years successfully campaigning to ban smoking in the City of Carpinteria. In 2014, Lopez was recognized for her community service by Radio Disney with a "Hero for Change" award for highlighting the risks smoking holds and helping make Carpinteria a smoke-free city.

"(Lopez's) journey has always been positive by her own doing and she has had an undisputed impact on her peers and younger girls through her empathy, strength and leadership skills," said Asa Olsson, former cultural arts director at Girls Inc.

Lopez plans to attend Santa Barbara City College in the fall and ultimately transfer to U.C. Santa Barbara. She plans to study graphic design, photography and journalism. "I am ecstatic and feel so fortunate to have been selected as a Girls Inc. National Scholarship recipient," she said.

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