



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

March 3 - 9, 2016

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West Covina City Fire Fighters, Local 3226 and MDA Kick Off Annual Fill the Boot Campaign

WEST COVINA — Members of the West Covina Professional Fire Fighters Association Local 3226, along with the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), hosted a special event to kick off the fire fighters' annual Fill the Boot fundraising campaign to help kids and adults with muscular dystrophy, ALS and related muscle-debilitating diseases live longer and grow stronger.

The kick-off event held on Thursday, February 25th at West Covina Fire Station 2 continues more than 60 years of IAFF tradition, providing steadfast drive and uncommon care to help free individuals from the harm of muscle diseases that take away everyday freedoms like walking, hugging, playing and even breathing.

The mayor of West Covina, James Toma, City Manager, Chris Freeland and Fire Chief, Larry Whithorn were all present at the event to show their support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the annual West Covina Fire Fill-The-Boot campaign. There were over 30 firefighters present at the event along with an MDA family, whose son went to MDA Summer Camp last year and who



The mayor of West Covina, James Toma, City Manager, Chris Freeland and Fire Chief, Larry Whithorn were all present at the event to show their support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the annual West Covina Fire Fill-The-Boot campaign.

hopes to return again this year with his counselor, West Covina firefighter and paramedic, Guy Hamilton.

"We couldn't be more proud

to kick off this year's Fill the Boot campaign alongside the inspiring, selfless individuals of the West Covina Professional Fire Fighters Association Local 3226 who make a profound impact on our families' health, wellbeing and quality of life," said Area Director, Liz Denny. "Together with their unwavering Fill the Boot support, we will raise critical funds and awareness to empower kids and adults in West Covina with life-enhancing resources and support that they can live a life without limits."

This year's Fill the Boot campaign officially started on Saturday, February 27th at 9am and ended at 6pm on Sunday, February 28th, at the West Covina mall and Eastland Shopping Center. More than 70 members of the West Covina Professional Fire Fighters Association Local 3226 will fan out across the city with boots in hand as they greet motorists on the street/shoppers and others outside the store, asking them to make a donation in support of MDA's mission to find treatments and cures for muscle-debilitating diseases that se-

verely weaken muscle strength and mobility.

Funds raised through the 2016 West Covina Fill the Boot event helps MDA's efforts to fund groundbreaking research and life-enhancing programs, such as state-of-the-art support groups and Care Centers, including the MDA Care Center at the Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center in Downey and the Loma Linda University Medical Center in San Bernardino. They also help send more than 120 local kids to "the best week of the year" at MDA summer camp at no cost to their families at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center in Orange, CA.

MDA and IAFF Partnership

As MDA's largest national partner, the IAFF fuels MDA's mission to find research breakthroughs across diseases; care for kids and adults from day one; and provide families with services and support.

IAFF support for MDA began in 1954 when the organization committed by proclamation to support MDA until a cure is found, and the organization's unwavering commitment to MDA has remained strong to this day. The IAFF raised \$100,000 for MDA in 1955, and \$1 million in 1970, and fire fighters continue to raise the bar in their fundraising efforts. In 2015, more than 100,000 fire fighters participated in Fill the Boot events across the country and raised \$25.5 million. To date the IAFF has raised \$583 million for MDA.

Former Chief of LASD Reserves and Senate Candidate Shot at on Freeway

By George Ogden

PASADENA/SGV - It has been reported that the former chief of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reserves Deputies, Gary Nalbandian, along with Senate candidate Chris Chahinian, were shot at while exiting the 210 freeway on Monday February 8.

According to reports, the two men were traveling on the 210 freeway at approximately 7 PM on that Monday, when two shots rang out as they exited Pennsylvania Avenue in the Montrose area. One bullet struck the driver side rear passenger door window, shattering the glass and leaving a bullet hole in the window. Nalbandian who was driving continued off the freeway where they spotted two California Highway Patrol officers in separate vehicles. They stopped both officers and reported what had happened. The officers interviewed both men and observed the damaged window from the possible shooting. Neither man was injured in the shooting.

Nalbandian has concerns that this was possibly more than just some type of road rage incident or random shooting. He feels that it is possible there is some re-



One bullet struck the driver side rear passenger door window, shattering the glass and leaving a bullet hole in the window.

taliation because of political affiliations and his connections with former Sheriff Lee Baca.

When Sheriff Lee Baca resigned from his department back in January 3, 2014, then Orange County Undersheriff John Scott became Interim Sheriff for Los Angeles County. In March of the same year Nalbandian said he asked Scott why he was removed from his position of Chief of LASD Reserves. His answer was, because of your connection to former Sheriff Baca, we want to remove the politics out of the department. Nalbandian sent a letter to the media stating that he

felt that because he did not support certain candidates to become sheriff he was then politically targeted.

Back in 2004, Nalbandian was in charge of Baca's Homeland Security Support Advisory Board. On November 12, 2011, Nalbandian was appointed to the position of chief of the Sheriff's reserves.

The public is being asked that if they know something or saw something in regards to the shooting, to please contact the California Highway Patrol with this information.

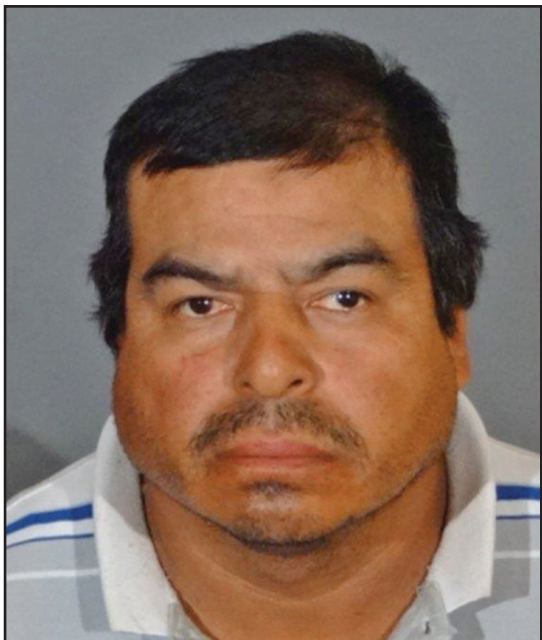
West Covina Police Department Arrest Man for Lewd Acts on a Child

By Rudy Lopez WCPD PIO

WEST COVINA - On Friday, February 19, 2016 at approximately 7:30 pm, an 8 year old female (victim) and her mother were shopping in the CVS Store located at 3670 S. Nogales Street, West Covina. The suspect who was inside the store approached the victim who at the time was separated from her mother. The suspect then touched the victim inappropriately below the waist from behind and then walked away. The victim quickly notified her mother who then called the Police.

The area was immediately checked by responding officers and the suspect was located in the 18000 block of Northam Street in La Puente. After he was positively identified by the victim, he was arrested. Cardenas was booked for one count of Lewd acts upon a child. Bail was set at \$100,000.00.

The suspect is identified as Crescencio Flores Cardenas, 47 of La Puente. He is currently being held at the Los Angeles County Jail.



Crescencio Flores Cardenas, 47 of La Puente

Artists' Boutique Will Make You an Artist



Laurie Ramsden, Patsy Gonzales, Kim Kerwin, Thelma Jacobs, Bret Bignami, Brenda Bignami Front row Andy Cooper, Julie Stokes, Carolyn Parker and Kerry Pindible.

By Jayam Rutnam

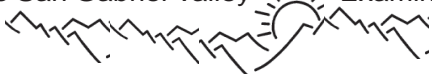
GLENDORA - Artists' Boutique first opened their studio in Glendora in January, 2015. Julie Stokes is a Wilson Bickford Trained Teacher. She developed a love for the arts at an early age creating, painting and drawing. Julie eventually decided to branch out on her own and soon turned her love of art into an adventure teaching her passion...painting. Julie strongly believes that by, "Cultivating your passion, as you journey through life in search of inspiration, you come to realize, there is still much more to bring into your life". By looking within, Julie feels you can capture a feeling that brings nature alive in a painting. Catching as much detail as the human eye can absorb, she says you will never look at something the same way after attending one of her classes.

Her paintings are featured at Artists' Boutique and can be seen on fine Art American and in many homes throughout California. She felt that, a place was much needed where people could come to learn, have fun, and make friends and cultivate their inner artist, your true self comes out.

Classes are held weekly and furnish all the painting supplies and instruction all included for one price. Register, walk in, sit down and enjoy an evening of Painting....that simple. No experience needed. Join her as you do a complete painting using her fast and easy, step by step, follow the leader technique of oil painting, by the end of the evening you will have created a masterpiece. "If you hear a voice within you say, 'You cannot Paint', then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced." ~ VINCENT VAN GOGH.

Bring your friends and enjoy a night of fun, and awaken the Picasso in you, paint and sip for your "Girls Night Out" or "Date Night" with that special someone (Refreshments not included). Private Parties are welcome (minimum 15 painters), showers, fundraisers, cupcakes and canvas, coffee and canvas, gift certificates, you name it and we will do it. A fun social group setting in a whimsical, relaxed atmosphere A MUST SEE.

Another way is MOBILE, Julie will come to you, call for special pricing. Classes or Events are 2 1/2 - 3 hours. Julie is always updating her schedule, please send email address to get the newest information. See www.julesartstudio.com for class scheduling under services or call Artists' Boutique (626) 650-4626.



Covina Hills Sports Medicine



COVINA - Do you wish there was a doctor that would take the time to listen to your story? A medical professional with skills to reduce pain, restore mobility, and enable you to return to your previous activity level without surgery, needles, or medication? Good news, they are called physical therapists. Even better, they are located just around the corner! Covina Hills Sports Medicine (CHSM) is a local physical therapy clinic located on Cypress, adjacent to San Dimas Community Hospital. They have been leaders in providing

physical therapy care in the region for over 15 years. The physical therapists at CHSM are qualified medical professionals who have their doctorate in physical therapy. The staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of service by working with each individual in a collaborative effort to restore full function.

CHSM is committed to evidence based practice while fostering a caring and supportive environment. What separates CHSM from all the other physical therapy clinics in the area

is their state of the art technology used to evaluate gait, running, functional activities, and muscle recruitment patterns. You can contact Covina Hills Sports Medicine by calling the office at (909) 305-1383, Monday- Friday between the hours of 7:30 am- 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm- 6:30 pm. You can also check out their website: www.covinahillssportsmed.com and follow them on Facebook (Covina Hills Sports Medicine) and Instagram (CHSportsMedPT). Michele Rebozzi, Doctor of Physical Therapy

Bonita Service Unit World Thinking Day was held Friday, February 19th at Life Pacific College



Troop 3164 India, Troop 3054 Holland, Troop 564 Japan

SAN DIMAS - Local Girl Scout troop #3164 hosted World Thinking Day at Life Pacific College in San Dimas. World Thinking day is a worldwide recognized event amongst scout girls. Celebrated since 1926, World Thinking Day is a day of international friendship, speaking out on issues that affect girls and young women, and fundraising for 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world.

The young ladies hosted 24 troops which included over 240 Girl Scouts who participated by each troop representing a dif-

ferent country. Girls dressed in outfits representing their country. They made SWAPs representing their country to trade with one another. The SWAPs are traditionally made give always the girls make themselves To trade with fellow Girl Scouts, in this case all SWAPs were symbolic of each represented country. Girls made and sampled food samples from 24 different countries.

Some of the countries represented included USA, Germany, Japan, Ireland, Sweden, India, Mexico, Argentina, El Salvador, France,

and many more. Along with the festivities, the Girl Scouts participated in the World Trefoil Ceremony. Members of different troops were chosen to each play a part in the ceremony.

In addition, part of the entertainment included Troop #3164 reciting the Girl Scout promise in Hindi as part of their theme and another troop singing in Japanese. The event was a success and much enjoyed by all attendees.

The official date for World Thinking Day is February 22nd on an annual basis.

Creating Customer Empathy

by Diane Emo

If you own, run or work for any of the approximately 23 million small- to mid-sized businesses in America, chances are, you want more sales. So, how do you make it happen? By showing customers you care. In this world of impersonal interactions and instant communication, there's enormous value and differentiation in creating empathy for the customer's situation.

Sales training often piles on facts, figures and details that can turn a salesperson's brain into a mish-mash of disconnected information with no context. So, keep it simple. Train salespeople to be empathetic, consultative professionals by building on the things they already know. They know how they expect to be treated as customers—because we are all customers, right? They know how they feel when people treat them unfairly or push them into a decision. They know when someone is really listening to them, not pretending. So, start with a customer context as a way to build your story.

Here is a three-step path toward building customer empathy in your sales teams.

1. Listen for emotion to find customer pain points: An interesting thing happens when salespeople ask questions: customers talk. What's going on here? How long has that been

going on? What have you tried so far to fix it? Here's the secret: listen for emotion in their words—disappointed, frustrated, angry, tried repeatedly, no response. Then, repeat the customer's exact words to confirm their pain point. "It sounds like you're pretty frustrated..." Pain points are the issues or problems that are significant enough for the customer to make a change—and buy from you instead.

2. Teach a simple consulting model for value-based conversations focused on the customer's pain points. I write 3 columns on the whiteboard labeled "What I heard (pain point)," "What we will do (solution)," and "That will help you (value)." Then, I ask the rep to give me one of her customer's pain points. For example, "What I heard is that the odor in your restroom continues to be a problem, even though you've asked your service to fix it. What we will do is use a disinfectant that kills the germs causing the odor. That will help you have a restroom that consistently smells good for your customers and employees."

3. Feel, felt, found is still a good formula for moving people from objections to closed deals. When a customer states an objection, try this:

- Feel. Say something like,

"I understand how you feel." This lets customers know you heard them express their feelings, can relate, and understand why they feel the way they do. The customer feels validated instead of ignored.

- Felt. With a response such as, "Other people I've talked to have felt the same way," you tell the customer the issue is not uncommon. He or she is not alone. It can be resolved. This also sets the rep up to position a way to positively address the issue and move on.

- Found. "They found the situation improved right away after making the decision to ____." Convey the idea that people get positive results and improvement after choosing your product or service.

The last step is to ask for the deal! Help your reps find a simple closing statement that works for them. My favorite: "OK, let's get the paperwork signed so we can get started right away."

If your sales team keeps these tips in mind and your customers in their hearts, then you may find more sales on your books. (NAPSI)

• Diane Emo is Vice President of Marketing for Coverall North America, Inc.

Gunta Liepina, DKG World Fellowship Student, Speaks at the Delta Nu Meeting

Annually, the Institute of International Education reviews successful international candidates for the Fulbright Program and forwards applications of those who meet the criteria for Delta Kappa Gamma Fellowships to DKG. Delta Nu is the local branch of DKG International. At their February meeting Delta Nu had the pleasure of hosting Gunta Liepina, a current DKG World Fellowship Recipient from Latvia. Gunta share her personal and educational perspectives as an international student. Her presentation was followed by a potluck.

Gunta is a dancer, choreographer and dance teacher. Gunta is currently a Dance Masters in Fine Arts candidate at the University of California at Irvine. She received her BFA at the Latvian Academy of Music and has also studied at the Rotterdam Dance Academy in Holland. Her dance students have won competitions in Latvia and internationally. As a student at UCI, Gunta has performed in Beijing, China and Rome, Italy. As part of her thesis the dance she cho-



DKG World Fellowship Recipient Gunta Liepina

reographed has been one of three chosen to be performed at the Dance Escape Concert, in Claire Trevor Hall School of Arts, at UCI.

Since the initial inception of the World Fellowship Recipient program over 900 women in 120 countries have been recipients. \$3,349,100.00 has been raised, to fund these fellowships, by Delta Kappa Gamma International mem-

bers. There were twenty Awards given in the 2015 - 16 year to twenty women in 20 countries.

Delta Nu is proud to participate in this program. Delta Nu is the local branch of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an organization which promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



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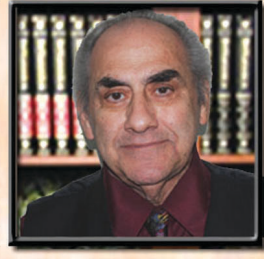
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San Gabriel To Host Twitter Chat On Budget & CIP

SAN GABRIEL – The City of San Gabriel will host an “Ask Me Anything” Twitter chat on Tuesday, March 8 to give residents an opportunity to ask questions about the 2016-2017 Budget & Capital Improvement Program.

The Twitter chat will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on March 8 and residents can submit questions on the social media site at any time during the day using the hashtag #SanGabrielBudget. Once the question has been posted, city staff members will respond promptly with an answer. The city will also host this chat on

its Weibo page so Chinese-speaking residents can have an opportunity to ask questions as well.

Two years ago, the city revamped its budget planning process to make it more transparent and accessible to San Gabriel residents. This new process included elements such as launching the “Budget Central” page on the city website, printing a helpful “Budget in Brief” brochure and creating an online resident survey. This year, the city has added the Twitter chat and several other new components to further in-

volve residents in the process.

The goal of this new Twitter chat is to allow residents who may not be able to attend a meeting in person to get their questions answered and have their voices heard in the budget process, which involves some of the most important decisions city staff members and the City Council make each year.

For more information on the 2016-2017 Budget & Capital Improvement Program, visit the Budget Central page at <http://sangabrielcity.com/budgetcentral>.

MCO Tax Bill Concurrently Passes Through the Legislature

SACRAMENTO – On a Senate Floor vote of 28-11, Senator Ed Hernandez, O.D. (D–West Covina), Chair of the Senate Health Committee, passed measure SBX22, a specialized tax on Managed Care Organizations (MCO) that will help stabilize Medi-Cal funding and provide significant resources for those with developmental disabilities. The bill later passed the Assembly Floor on a vote of 61-16.

The way the MCO tax swap proposal is structured is very complex, but the net effect of the proposal is actually quite simple. The tax will provide stable and ongoing funding for Medi-Cal and allow California to maximize its share of existing federal dol-

lars without negatively impacting premiums. It will deliver a \$106 million net benefit to plans and provides appropriate funding to our developmental services community, who have suffered much too long.

“With more than 12 million people in our state on Medi-Cal, it’s more important than ever that we do all we can to bolster the program,” stated Senator Hernandez, “This bipartisan plan brings in almost \$8 billion in federal support to Medi-Cal over three years and frees up much needed funding for the developmentally disabled community.”

SBX22 replaces California’s current MCO tax which sunsets

on July 1, 2016.

“Passing this measure today proves that Government still works, and that Democrats and Republicans in California can come together, across party lines, to solve real problems” said Hernandez. “It’s nice to see members putting politics aside to do what’s right for California.”

This proposal has earned broad support from the California Association of Health Plans, CalChamber, California Medical Association, California Dental Association, California Hospital Association, Planned Parenthood, and others.

The bill will now go to the Governor for his signature.

Judge Agrees To 30 Day Extension Of Relocation Costs For Porter Ranch Victims

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – Hailing today’s ruling as a victory for the victims of Porter Ranch who have been displaced by the Aliso Canyon gas leak, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich announced that Superior Court Judge Elihu Berle has granted a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) to require the Gas Company to extend the period it will pay for relocation expenses to March 18 -- at which point all parties are ordered to appear back in court for a status review and resolution of the matter. The Gas Company and the City of Los Angeles had reached an agreement allowing only eight

days; ignoring input from LA County and the Department of Public Health, which sought 30 days to conduct proper testing.

“This is the first time that justice has been rendered in helping these victims,” said Supervisor Antonovich. “The Gas Company created this crisis after years of poor oversight by state regulatory agencies, the Governor, and the Gas Company.”

Based on an agreement reached between the Gas Company and the City Attorney’s Office earlier this month, today was the last day Porter Ranch residents displaced in hotels could be reimbursed, forcing

them to return to their homes before all appropriate testing had been completed by the Department of Public Health and the Air Quality Management District. The initial agreement reached between the Gas Company and the City of Los Angeles only provided residents with 48 hours to return to their homes once the well was capped.

“Judge Berle’s ruling now extends the reimbursement period to March 18 which allows residents with the opportunity to reestablish their lives and have the peace of mind that the proper testing has been completed.”

Community Meeting On Historic Preservation

SAN GABRIEL – On Tuesday, March 8, the City of San Gabriel will host its first community meeting to get resident input on the update of the city’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

The process to update the 50-year-old ordinance began late last year. This public meeting will be an important chance for members of the community to voice their opinions on what the revised ordinance should include. Public participation is

an extremely important part of the process, so city officials encourage residents to attend. There will be a second community meeting held later this year.

The city’s Historic Preservation Ordinance was originally approved in 1965. It was minimally updated in 1999, however, this year’s overhaul of the ordinance will be more complete. The goal of the new ordinance is to put in place more

protections for historic structures and lay out a better process reviewing new projects. The final ordinance will go before the City Council for approval this fall.

The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 425 S Mission Drive. For questions, residents should contact Senior Planner Larissa De La Cruz at 626.308.2800, ext. 4625.

The Azusa City Library Is Proud To Offer A Free Self-defense Class For Women And Girls

AZUSA - They say that knowledge is power. Come learn valuable self-defense techniques in this free class by Nelson Nio. Mr. Nio designed his nationally renowned SHIELD Women’s Self-Defense System to empower

women and girls against sexual assault. SHIELD is a mixture of martial arts, self-defense, and street fighting skills. Knowing what to do in a scary situation is the best way to get out of harms’ way.

This free event is for women

and girls 12 and older only. The workshop will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 19th, at the Memorial Park North Recreation Center at 320 N. Orange Avenue in Azusa.

Please call (626) 812-5268 for more information.

Assemblyman Roger Hernández to Host Senior Scam Stopper Seminar

WEST COVINA - Assemblyman Roger Hernández (AD-48) joined by the City of West Covina, West Covina Police Department, California Department of Insurance, Consumer Affairs, and Real Estate, invite members of the community to

attend a Senior Scam Stopper Seminar to learn about fraud prevention and helping residents identify scam situations.

Senior Scam Stopper at the West Covina Senior Center, 2501E Cortez Street, West

Covina on Friday, March 18th from 10:00am-12:00pm.

If you have any questions or to RSVP, please contact Ashley Rozatti at Ashley.Rozatti@asm.ca.gov or (626) 960-4457

Arcadia Youth Advisory Council

ARCADIA - The Arcadia City Clerk’s Office is currently accepting applications from individuals who would like to serve on the Youth Advisory Council. The Youth Advisory Council consists of seven (7) members appointed by the City Council. Of the seven (7) members, four (4) must be current high school students and three (3) middle school students at the time of appointment. All members must be under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of appointment and reside

in the City of Arcadia. The Youth Advisory Council will act in an advisory capacity to the City Council on matters pertaining to the youth population of the community. All Arcadia Boards and Commissions serve without compensation.

Anyone with an interest in serving may pick up an application from the City Clerk’s Office, City Hall, 240 W. Huntington Drive or print one off the City’s website at www.ArcadiaCA.gov. Applications must be submitted

to the City Clerk’s office on or before the close of business on Monday, May 23, 2016. Appointments are expected to be made at the Tuesday, June 21, 2016, City Council Meeting.

Please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (626) 574.5455 if you would like further information about the Youth Advisory Council.

Need Volunteer Service Credits? The Glendora Public Library Can Help!

GLENDORA - The Glendora Public Library is pleased to announce our first ever Volunteer Fair! Saturday, **March 5** at 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Library’s Bidwell Forum. Drop by and speak with representatives from local community organizations to find out

what opportunities are available for students. For more information, please check the Library’s website at www.glendoralibrary.org or call us at (626) 852-4891. The Library is located at 140 S. Glendora Ave, Glendora, CA 91741.

66th Annual LA County Science Fair Explores New Frontiers

PASADENA - The Los Angeles County Science & Engineering Fair provides a yearly setting for middle and high school students to show off their investigative skills and creativity to compete for medals, special awards and scholarships. Students not only receive recognition for their projects but the Science Fair nurtures student interest in various sci-

entific and engineering fields.

The fair, the oldest and largest event of its kind in the western U.S., will bring together over 1,100 student participants from private and public schools throughout the county during its **March 17-19** run at the Pasadena Convention Center.

Student exhibits are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat. March 19.

Glendora Library Events at a Glance

GLENDORA - Glendora Public Library has something for everyone! Attend one of these events, proudly presented by the Glendora Public Library and GPL Friends Foundation.

Super 8-Day Sale
March 3 - 12 / Main Floor

Come to the library and browse the sale tables on the main floor for bargains on Gardening, Business and Foreign Language.

Volunteer Fair
March 5, 1 - 3 pm / Bidwell Forum

Stop by and speak with representatives from local community organizations to find out what opportunities are available for students.

Opera Talks
March 12, 11 am / Friends Room

An interactive presentation led by members of LA Opera’s Speakers Bureau; this is the second in a series about the history of opera and will feature Madame Butterfly by Giacomo Puccini.

Special CD & DVD Sale
March 17-26 / Main Floor

Come to the library and browse the sale tables on the main floor for bargains on CDs and DVDs, all items will be \$2 each.

Financial Literacy Series: Retirement, here I come! Making Social Security work for you
March 23, 6 pm / Friends Room

Presented by Glendora Li-

brary and Searchlight Financial Advisors.

Homework Buddies on spring break

March 28 - April 1

Glendora Historical Society Meeting & Program

March 28, 6:30 - 9 pm / Bidwell Forum

Dr. Gary Stickel - Tribal Archaeologist for The Kitz Tribe of Gabrieleno Indians, will present a program on the history and culture of the local Native American Tribe, including information about Toyupurina, a Native American woman who led a revolt against the Spanish Missionaries.

Homework Buddies, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm / Friends Room

Every Monday through Thursday

Students can get assistance with their homework; assistance provided by high school students

Youth Advisory Meetings / Friends Room

Teen Advisory Board: Library Advisory group for students in grade 5-7; meets every 2nd Wednesday of every month, 4 pm - 5 pm in the Friends Room

Young Adult Council: Library Advisory group for students in grade 8-12; meets every 2nd Wednesday of every month, 6 pm - 7 pm in the Friends Room

Weekly Children’s Storytimes / Friends Room

Mondays at 10:30 am: Infant & Toddler Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 am: 2-3 year old Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:30 am: 3-5 year old Storytime

Friends Book Loft / Plaza Level

Visit the Bookstore for great bargains on gently used books, magazines, DVDs, CDs and new greeting cards.

Monday - Friday 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Unless otherwise noted, events are free to the public and will take place at the Glendora Public Library, 140 South Glendora Avenue. For more information, call the Library at (626) 852-4891 or check out our website at www.glendoralibrary.org.

Joslyn Blakely Recognized for Her Service



Mayor James Toma (right) and Student Mayor Francisco Gutierrez recognize Former Human Resources Commissioner Joslyn Blakely.

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - West Covina Council recognized former Human Resources Commissioner Joslyn Blakely at their last city council meet-

ing. “Blakely served the city well over the years she was with the city” said Mayor James Toma as he presented her with a Resolution of Commendation.

How One Veteran And His Family Found Support After An Injury

Service-related injuries have an effect that is felt by the entire family. Here's a look at one couple and how they coped.

One Family's Story
When Melissa Johnson and her husband, Sean, got married in 1995, Sean had already served in Operation Desert Storm and had been trained as a paramedic. He first enlisted in the U.S. Army at 17 and later would go on to do two more tours of duty.

It was during his third tour, Operation Iraqi Freedom, when he was hit by mortar fire. It left him with a traumatic brain injury (TBI), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression.

"The combination of ever-changing symptoms really made Sean's situation difficult," Melissa said. "We weren't getting answers from the doctors. Army medics weren't looking for the signs of traumatic brain injury back



Staff Sgt. Sean Johnson and his wife Melissa are helping create a veteran's community center.

then and his condition went undiagnosed for two years. We were having a tough time getting benefits. It was an uphill battle—a continuing series of uphill battles."

It was also hard for friends and family to understand what was going on or how to help.

After experiencing increasing problems with his vision, Sean was declared legally blind in 2008. While he has a bit of usable remaining vision—enough to read text up close for a short time—he has lost the peripheral vision needed to travel safely. The damage to his brain hampers interpretation of information coming through his eyes.

Answers At Last
When Sean finally got connected with the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA) Field Service Officers at Hines Blind Rehabilitation Center, things began to turn around. "All of a sudden, people were providing us with information—we didn't have to go searching for it. We got connected with people and programs we'd never have been aware of at home in rural South Dakota," Melissa said. "It was really that first BVA

convention—meeting people, hearing success stories—it was so empowering. That was where Sean found out about tandem cycling; it gave him so much hope. It started us in a new direction."

For Melissa, meeting other families that were dealing with similar issues was most rewarding. Spouses and family members are the support teams for recovering veterans. "Caregiver burnout is a serious problem," Melissa said.

"Young spouses may also be juggling with caring for young children and jobs. There's a lot we can learn from each other, and from older veterans and their families that have already successfully navigated the changes."

Melissa now serves as Secretary for the National BVA Auxiliary Board. "The BVA Auxiliary offers a lot of support to veterans and their families," Melissa said. "It is there to make sure the spouses, partners and children of blinded veterans have a place they can turn to with their questions and concerns.

"I believe BVA programs and outreach are absolutely critical to the recovery and healing of our blind veterans," she said. "It is essential for a veteran who is adjusting to blindness to connect with peers who understand what they're going through. The information, resources and guidance provided by BVA are invaluable."

Learn More
For further facts on the BVA, how it can help veterans and how you can help it, go to www.bva.org. (NAPSI)

Celebrate Red Cross Month by Giving Blood in March

During Red Cross Month in March, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to join in its lifesaving mission by giving blood.

Since 1943, every U.S. president has designated March as Red Cross Month to recognize how the Red Cross helps people down the street, across the country and around the world.

Red Cross Month is a celebration of the everyday heroes, like Karla Essmiller, who are the face of the Red Cross in their communities. Essmiller began donating blood and even coordinated a few blood drives when she was in college. "Donating blood is a simple gift that I can make that may help up to three people live another day," she said. "That makes me feel like a hero!"

The Red Cross depends on blood donor heroes across the nation to collect enough blood to meet the needs of patients at approximately 2,600 hospitals nationwide. Donors of all blood types are needed to help accident and burn victims, patients undergoing organ transplants, those receiving cancer treatments and others who rely on blood products.

Make an appointment to become a hero to patients in need by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-

800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Arcadia
3/7/2016: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Arcadia Chapter, 376 W Huntington Dr

Baldwin Park
3/1/2016: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Baldwin Park High School, 3900 Puente Ave

Claremont
3/10/2016: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Claremont High School, 1601 N Indian Hill Blvd

Duarte
3/3/2016: 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Woodward Duarte, 1725 Business Center

Montebello
3/8/2016: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Cantwell Sacred Heart High School, 329 N Garfield Ave.

Monterey Park
3/15/2016: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Equity Office, 900 Corporate Center Dr

Pasadena
3/2/2016: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, 521 E Green Street

3/7/2016: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., California Institute of Technology, 1200 E. California Blvd.

3/8/2016: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., California Institute of Technology, 1200 E. California Blvd.

Walnut
3/9/2016: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Student Life Center, 1100 N. Grand Ave

3/10/2016: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Student Life Center, 1100 N. Grand Ave

West Covina
3/15/2016: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., West Covina High School, 1609 E. Cameron Ave

How to donate blood
Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood donors can now save time at their next donation by using RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, prior to arriving at the blood drive. To get started and learn more, visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass and follow the instructions on the site.



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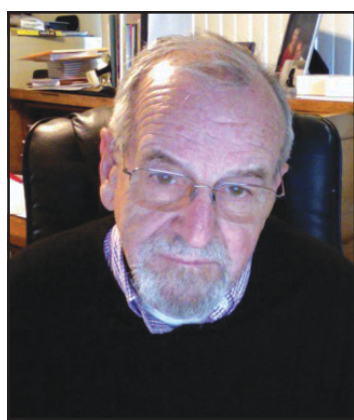
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How Dare The Pope!

Having danced around the issue last week, the time has come for me to say clearly what I feel about the role of religion in the current political campaign. My fundamental orientation is as a Christian pastor and teacher. My political understanding, which is detailed in many of these weekly columns, is an effort to talk about the ethic which flows from what I hold to be Christian substance. I attempt in these columns to describe my religious convictions in a language I call "secularese," a translation addressed to those for whom my "religionese" may be problematic.



Charles H. Bayer

Dressed as he is, with all the ceremony and institutional structure surrounding him, the Pope finds it difficult to be bilingual. So everything he says is seen as only religious. When he says that anyone who builds

walls instead of bridges is not a Christian, it comes off as doctrine being recited by the head of the world's largest Christian community. Yet he may only be applying the Christian ethic to the secular world. In doing so he is just being honest about how he sees society, through the eyes of his religion.

He understands that to build walls, not bridges, is the oppo-

sition of an authentic understanding of what Jesus believed and taught. The same holds for those who would solve the most difficult human problems by war, killing, carpet-bombing, torture, capital punishment, the raping of the natural world, bigotry and economic inequity.

Perhaps it is stepping over the line to call anyone committed to those positions as not a Christian. However, to say that certain political positions are not Christian is entirely appropriate.

So let me be clear. Much of what we have heard from Trump, Cruz and Rubio I believe is contrary to the Christian ethic. Both they, and those who support them, need to stop pretending that they are the only ones who are righteous.

Nevertheless, these three continue to lust after so-called

Christian votes, particularly in states where there is a significant number of evangelicals. As the campaign is moving into the South, which is dominated by these religious constituencies, the scramble for their support becomes all the more noticeable.

But this is not a new political tactic. One of Trump's first major speeches was given at Liberty University where he was praised by its President, Jerry Falwell, Jr. Other Christian fundamentalists including James Dobson and Tony Perkins have been lavish in their support of Cruz. Rubio has tried, but has a harder time wooing the evangelical elite.

How is it that evangelicals swarm in support of these candidates? Does what they really stand for make any difference, even if their announced poli-

cies are contrary to what many of us see to be the essence of Jesus' affirmations? A recent survey suggests that evangelicals understand Christian ethics as limited to abortion and gay marriage-two issues about which Jesus had nothing to say. Do these evangelicals really support capital punishment, the torture of suspected enemies, dismissal of refugees, walls instead of bridges, carpet bombing, super-nationalism, military might as the answer to the world's troubles, economic inequality, prosperity for the few, etc, etc. Are these positions espoused by these political figures really what evangelicals hold to be the substance of what Jesus taught, how he imaged what God's reign would look like if it came to earth?

It is no wonder that young

adults by the millions when asked what is their religious tradition answer, "none," and millions of older former members of Christian institutions are now numbered among the "no longer." Much of the Christian institution has been hijacked by evangelicals who have substituted a right-wing political agenda for what Jesus had to say and how he called his followers to live. In turn these evangelicals have been hijacked by politicians whose policies may be the very opposite of what Jesus held to be true.

The Pope sees the heart of the Christian message much differently, and is increasingly clear about it wherever he goes and whatever he has to say. And I can only agree with him.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

Congresswoman Napolitano Suffers Stroke; Opponent Heightens Campaign Efforts

By Lois M. Shade
Former Mayor of Glendora

As all of you are probably aware at this point, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano has suffered a stroke. Tess Seger from her office said the stroke was very minor. The response to her situation was immediate and the emergency treatment she received has ensured no permanent damage and she is resting and recuperating. As representative in the 32nd Congressional District she serves the communities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina Duarte, El Monte, Charter Oak area of Glendora, Industry, Irwindale La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, San Dimas, West Covina, and county areas of

Avocado Heights, Bassett, and Valinda.

I talked with her staff in El Monte and they assured me Grace is still running to retain her congressional seat. Her committee assignments are Natural Resources, Transportation & Infrastructure, subcommittees on Water Resources & Environment, Highways & Transit, Railroads, Pipelines, & Hazardous Materials, and Chairs the Congressional Hispanic Caucus along with a long list of others. Seger said her focus is rebuilding the infrastructure, the water issue in California and mental health to name a few.

As Napolitano works to recuperate, her opponent in the

upcoming election, not a Republican, but Democrat Assemblyman Roger Hernandez who is termed out this year, is working furiously to gain support to take over the 32nd CD seat. As of this date, no Republican has signed up to run so it will probably be two Democrats fighting it out for this seat. The Hispanic women in this county have been strongly united in supporting each other for elective offices for the last 25 years so it will be interesting to see which way these power brokers roll on this election.

Lately, Hernandez has been focusing on the California trauma care system and in Los Angeles County more oversight

over Measure B passed by the voters in 2002. AB 430, authored by Hernandez, creates a new state standard for the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) requiring Local Emergency Medical Service Agencies (LEMSA) to provide a comprehensive assessment of their regional trauma system at least once every five years. There is no estimated cost attached to this proposal.

Additionally, after Hernandez requested a State Auditor report, the report recommended Los Angeles County undertake a comprehensive study of the trauma care network, their response to countywide needs and re-estab-

lishment of the Measure B Oversight Committee.

Measure B, approved by 73% of the voters on November 5, 2002, provides funding for the Countywide System of Trauma Centers, Emergency Medical Services and Bioterrorism Response. The argument in support of the measure pointed out almost a 50% decrease in the number of trauma centers at that time and reduced ability to serve those who needed critical specialized care within 30 minutes or less.

The opposition to Measure B argued it was the state's responsibility to fund the County Trauma Care System and 88% of our tax dollars for health care and trauma centers was mis-

used by the state. Property is assessed at 3 cents per square foot of structural improvements and remains static unless changed by the Board of Supervisors.

On June 7 and 8, 2016, California Emergency Medical Services Authority, Trauma System Team, will be holding a Trauma Summit in San Francisco. The California Health and Human Services Agency oversees departments, boards, and offices that provide a wide range of health care services, social services, mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment services, and oversight of the trauma care system.

The Republican Debate, Hilarious!

Not too sure how many of you watched that last debate with Trump and the rest of his comedy crew. I have to say, in my opinion; this is one of the best comedy shows around. I don't usually watch these debates; however, I was the bartender for the VFW that night. So we turned it on and watched it and those that were there had some great laughs at what was being said. In fact, this caused many of these people to stick around longer and the VFW made more money at the bar.



George Ogden

That's just the way it is! scares me, and if he gets elected, then he's going to scare the hell out of the ISIS terrorist. Trump is the last person they want to see get elected as president. You never know what he's going to do or say. What I like about Trump is he tells it like it is, or at least tells it as.

He and his candidate buddies put on a pretty good show

the other night. I'm going to miss this when it's all over. I think it would be fun however, even if Trump does get elected to the White House that he continues with having debates instead of the State of the Union speeches. But we know that's not going to happen.

I can just imagine Trump as our president going to some Middle Eastern country where they expect him to kiss their ring or their hand and him popping off, "yeah, I'll do that only after you kiss my butt first." This would end up being a hilarious media day. I can see the headlines now, "Olive Branch Burns as US President Offers Exchange of Kisses."

"That's Just the Way It Is?"

Christian Bishop Calling Blacks To Come Out of "Anti-Christian" Democrat Party

Bishop E.W. Jackson says that black Christians should not remain in a Democrat Party that is increasingly hostile to Christianity. He has produced a new video which urges black voters to abandon the Democrat Party.

Part of what he says is, "Four years ago I released a video called EXODUS NOW, calling black Christians to come out of the Democrat Party. When I did that video there was no gay marriage. Now we have it, and the Democrat Party is mainly responsible. I am back to say once again, come out!"

In the video, Jackson urges black voters to oppose Democrats on marriage and abortion. "Why has the Democrat Party embraced gay marriage when black voters believe in the biblical definition of marriage? Why does the Democrat Party avidly support Planned Parenthood when they know it's founder, Margaret Sanger, was a racist eugenicist who wanted to stop the growth of the black population?"

But the Bishop also dismisses purported claims that Democrats have helped minorities and the poor. "If the Democrat Party has done so much for the black community, why is poverty increasing? Why are there no jobs? Why is the unemployment rate among black citizens twice the national average? Why is there a 50% unemployment rate among black youth?"

He answers, "They don't care about black people. They care about those who will bow to them." Jackson says that Democrats have offered racial demagoguery, and nothing else. He says they manipulate black voters with fear of what they

will lose if they don't vote Democrat. According to the Bishop, the government policies of Democrats have hurt rather than helped.

Says Mr. Jackson, "The two parent black family has been all but destroyed. Too many young black people are on drugs, in gangs, prison or the morgue. In fact, government programs supported by the Democrat Party always make poverty worse."

The video ends with an admonition about Election Day. "When you get to the polls this year, they will hand you a ballot expecting you to vote a straight Democrat ticket. It's time to say, 'No thank you.' It is time to stop blindly following the Democrat Party and start faithfully following God."

E.W. Jackson was born in Chester, PA, near Philadelphia. After graduating from high school, he joined the Maine Corps, and was honorably discharged after three years of service. He went on to graduate Summa Cum Laude with a B.A. from the University of Massachusetts

and from Harvard Law School.

While in law school, he studied at Harvard Divinity School, was ordained in 1979 and consecrated a Bishop in 1998. He practiced small business, criminal and civil law for fifteen years in Boston. In 1997 Bishop Jackson retired from the practice of law to devote full time to ministry.

He is the founder and Senior Pastor of THE CALLED Church, founder of the Chesapeake Martin Luther King Leadership Breakfast and Founder and President of Stand Foundation - Staying True to America's National Destiny. He is the National President of MINISTERS TAKING A STAND. He also founded YOUTH WITH A DESTINY.

He is the author of the book, Ten Commandments to an Extraordinary Life. His articles have been published in the Washington Times, American Thinker and many other publications. He has appeared on FOX, ABC, PBS, CNN and MSNBC.

Assembly Majority Floor Leader Chris Holden To Honor 41st District Unsung Hero and Women of Distinction

PASADENA - In celebration of Black History Month and Women's History Month in March, Assembly Majority Floor Leader, Chris Holden will recognize the 41st Assembly District's Unsung Hero and Women of Distinction on Thursday, March 3rd at his District Office Open House, 600 N. Rosemead Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91107.

With over fifty nominations throughout the district, centenarian Marilee Scaff, Ph.D. from Claremont has been named the 2016 Woman of Distinction for the 41st District. Scaff celebrated her 100th birthday last November. She has been active in the local League of Women Voters where she was President and received their Ordway Award

for "performing outstanding service to the community."

Honorees from throughout the district include Ruth Hopkins (Altadena), Valerie Bires (Alta Loma), Deborah Lieberman, Ph.D. (La Verne), Janie Duncan (Monrovia), Cynthia Olivo, Ph.D. (Pasadena), Theresa Bruns (San Dimas), Kristine Lowe (Sierra Madre), Dr. Marina Khubesian (South Pasadena), and Wendy Dean (Upland).

"Congratulations to Marilee Scaff of Claremont and all the Women of Distinction," said Assembly Majority Floor Leader Chris Holden. "Their contributions to our community have truly made a positive impact."

On February 12th in Sacra-

mento, Danny Bakewell, Jr. accepted the 41st Assembly District Unsung Hero Award on behalf his father Danny Bakewell, Sr. Bakewell, Sr. is an American civil rights activists and entrepreneur. He is the co-founder of the National Black United Fund and served as president of The Brotherhood Crusade for over thirty years.

"It is my honor to present the Unsung Hero Award to a man who, at a time when very few minorities were involved in community projects, had the courage to step up when duty called," said Holden.

The District Office Open House is open to all constituents. More information can be found at <http://asmdc.org/members/a41/>.

Variety Show Looking For Talent

AZUSA - Azusa Woman's Club will host their 50th Annual Auditions Show on **March 23** at the Azusa Woman's Clubhouse at 1003 N. Azusa Blvd. in Azusa. The event will be from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

The club is looking for new talent to perform at the Auditions. The performers come from as far as Los Angeles to take part in this event. They are looking for singers, dancers, comedians and any other talent. All the local

non-profit groups are invited to attend. This event is a service to the local groups who are looking for entertainment for their special events. Also all 35 local Woman's Clubs are invited. The due date to apply to attend is **March 7th**. The cost for performers is \$20.00 for a 10 minute spot and luncheon is \$12.00.

For more information, please call Pat Klemz, President at 626-967-8829

Yellen Wants To Have Cake And Eat It Too

In her testimony to Congress recently, Chair Yellen suggested the Fed might take a break from tightening if market volatility causes enough stress in international economies to reduce demand for US made goods or otherwise damage the US economy.

>On the first day of testimony, the takeaway was the Fed is aware of market turmoil and might pause if things get really bad. Stocks and commodities rallied, while Treasury yields gave back a little of the safety premium which has built for weeks.

>On day two, the takeaway was: Wait, did she say "if?" At which point cries of "sell, Mortimer, sell" rang across trading floors and it was back to full on freak-out.

Despite calm and a stock and commodities rally Friday, selling dominated the week. And we've seen these Friday rebounds before. Ten-year Treasury yields of 1.75% remain in downright edgy territory.

What Yellen should have done, indeed what the FOMC should have done at the January meeting, is take the tightening off the table in March so that traders can stop and breathe, financial markets can recover and the Fed can potentially resume tightening in June. By leaving the option of a March hike on the table, Yellen implied the only way to stop a hike in March is to keep the market rout going. Traders got the nudge and obliged.

The Fed's Real Motive

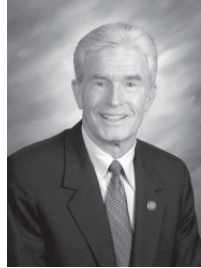
Meanwhile, political leaders showed their lack of understanding by spending little time discussing monetary policy and instead scoring cheap political points against the Fed and Big Banks. The most-asked question by Republicans and Democrats on the first day was: Why are you paying too-big-to-fail banks billions of dollars not to lend to the public? It was a rare display of bipartisan unity.

House Banking Chairman Jeb Hensarling started this line of inquiry by asking if IOER (Interest on Excess Reserves) payments are a subsidy to the big banks.

Yellen explained most central banks use the IOER and it has become a key policy tool since the financial crisis. Removing it would do real damage to the economy as short-term interest rates would fall. Besides, she said the Fed has remitted over \$600bn to the Treasury, so the real subsidy is going to taxpay-

In A Nutshell

What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

ers. Ranking Democrat Maxine Waters was not satisfied. "While the Fed paid close to \$7 billion on reserves in 2015, as the economy strengthens and rates are further increased, the amounts paid could increase dramatically into the tens of billions of dollars. Can you expand on why you believe that paying interest on excess reserves is particularly important for raising rates in the current environment, and discuss possible alternative approaches that may exist?"

Yellen argued paying interest on reserves is the only effective way to raise interest rates. What she did not explain is why it is the only effective rate-setting tool. What it boils down to is financing the asset side of the Fed's balance sheet. In order to purchase trillions of dollars of Treasury and mortgage-backed securities, the Fed needed to borrow \$2.5 trillion from banks. (Now about \$2.25 trillion.) As a result, banks have so many excess reserves at the Fed they rarely if ever have to resort to borrowing fed funds to meet reserve requirements. As a result, the fed funds market is dormant and its influence on short-term rates is negligible.

As for alternatives, Yellen explained that one alternative would be to shrink the Fed's balance sheet before raising short-term rates. By effectively unwinding QE, the Fed would increase the supply of Treasuries and MBS, which in turn would cause interest rates to rise along the whole Treasury curve. The Fed chose not to go this route, she explained, because it is not as well understood as conventional tightening in the form of higher short-term rates.

In the meantime, let's remember the whole point of raising rates is to limit credit creation in the economy. When the Fed complains about tight labor markets and growth rates that, while slow, are overwhelming even slower productivity growth, it is

all another way of saying there is too much credit in the economy. The Fed is raising rates because it wants bank and nonbank lenders alike to lend less, and wants credit growth to slow.

Having its Cake

The Fed would like to raise interest rates four times this year and four times in each of the next two years because it anticipates a surge in demand for credit that will lift neutral rates from slightly negative last year to about 3.5% in late 2018. Fed officials worry deviating from this path early could force them to abandon gradualism later, so they really don't want to stop tightening just as they were getting started.

Hence, even the most dovish FOMC members are reluctant to take a March rate hike entirely off the table. But by keeping a tightening in play, they have not removed the shadow hanging over markets. They may not be able to have it both ways. The constant threat of a rate hike as soon as markets calm down could be enough to prevent calm from taking hold. Put another way, the Fed will be much more likely to be able to raise rates in June if it promises not to raise rates in March (or April, but one meeting at a time will do for now).

Bottom Line

The Fed makes policy based on expectations for growth and inflation 2-3 years in the future (the medium term). Its forecast of 2% inflation in three years is predicated on 300bp of rate increases in the interim. If the rate hikes are removed from their models, their inflation forecast would be higher.

Trillions of dollars in financial wealth sidelined in the past couple of months is deflationary, but Bill Dudley made the argument Friday it is deflationary predominantly outside the United States. The Fed struggles with the concept of global connectedness, especially when it comes to inflation. As a result, the Fed refuses to dismiss the possibility of a rate hike in March.

Will they raise rates? No. Is there any harm in keeping the option? Absolutely. And that is the rub.

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I welcome your questions and comments :
kenherman46@hotmail.com

Financial - Ask Julia

How does life insurance fit into financial planning?

Some life insurance policies carry benefits that you can take advantage of while you are alive. For example, a Fixed Indexed Universal Life insurance policy gives you the reassurance of having life insurance, potential cash accumulation, plus the option to access that cash account down the road for any reason. One of my clients is a teacher and single mom. After reviewing several different investment avenues, she chose to get a fixed-indexed universal life insurance policy. Conservatively, this fixed indexed universal life insurance policy's illustrations shows that she'll be able to fulfill all her goals - insurance, optional college fund, and retirement income. She even pays a little extra for 10 months, enabling her to skip paying premiums for the two months she doesn't get paid each year.

Can you tell me about Roth IRAs?

Although a Roth IRA is not tax deductible, it has many benefits. As long as you follow the rules, you won't have to pay taxes on any of the money you take out, including the growth. Not subject to federal income tax, "qualified distributions" are distributions which are made after a five-year waiting period, and which are made: 1. after the taxpayer reaches age 59 1/2 or 2. In the event of a taxpayer's death, 3. Because the taxpayer becomes



Julia Yoder

disabled, or 4. To pay for "qualified first-time home-buyer" expenses (there are limits). Distributions which are not "qualified," are subject to tax and possible penalties. A real plus is that Roth IRAs are not subject to the mandatory distribution requirements triggered on traditional IRAs at age 70 1/2. All this said, it depends on how much household income you have whether or not you are even allowed to have a Roth IRA, and regardless, you are limited to how much money you can put into a Roth IRA annually - probably not enough to retire on.

Am I going to have to pay taxes on all the profit I make from selling my house?

As a single homeowner, you can exclude up to \$250,000 of capital gains. If you are married, filing separately, each of you can exclude up to \$250,000. If you are married, filing jointly, together you can exclude up to \$500,000 of capital gains. This

exclusion is allowed each time you sell or exchange your principal residence, as often as every two years. You are not required to reinvest your proceeds into a new residence to claim the exclusion. To be eligible for the exclusion, you must have owned and lived in your home as your primary residence for a combined period of at least two of the last five years prior to selling or exchanging your principle residence.

We bought a home in 2016. What are our tax breaks?

Information is available at State and Federal tax websites, or ask your CPA if you qualify to take deductions for mortgage interest, points paid at settlement, property taxes, exclusive use of home office space for a small business, mortgage insurance premiums, home improvement loan interest, and construction loan interest.

Got a question? Ask Julia by email:

Email questions and comments to: julia.yoder@yahoo.com

This is your opportunity to simplify your life by having one professional working personally with you to coordinate your finances, investments, real estate, mortgage, insurance, retirement, and estate plans. CA Insurance 0C83859/Realtor 01238153/NMLS 248681/ Member: Nat'l. Ethics Assoc.

THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morill - Certified Automotive Specialists

We've All Heard The Jokes... But Could It Happen?

If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

1. For no reason at all, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines on the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left-turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, and you would have to reinstall the engine.
4. When your car died on the freeway for no reason, you would just accept this, restart and drive on.
5. Apple would make a car powered by the sun, reliable, five times as fast, and twice as easy to drive, but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. Oil, water temperature and alternator warning lights would be replaced by a single 'general car default' warning light.

7. The airbag would say 'Are you sure?' before going off.

8. Occasionally, for no reason, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key, and grabbed the radio antenna.

9. Every time GM introduced a new model, car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.

10. You would press the 'start' button to shut off the engine.

With our cars becoming "computer on wheels" we can expect software updates to become a reality. Currently, Tesla Motors is wanting over-the-air Wi-Fi and 4G wireless downloads so cars can self-park and also have other functions. The more we push for autonomous cars, the more we will rely on software and software updates and downloads to keep them going. Tesla has a new

software now that allows certain sedans to park themselves without a driver assist. To download this software takes 45 minutes and it also boosts engine performance and battery usage.

Cars have 200 million lines of code...that only a software expert can appreciate. To the lay person it means regular "updates" and software bugs. In 2014, Toyota had to recall over half of the Prius' sold due to a software glitch. The more "connected" cars become, the more updates and bugs we can expect.

Software companies are all vying to be a part of the new automotive technology and of course, hackers are standing by as well. We are in for a ride...one way or the other!

Please call us with any questions at 626-963-0814 or visit our website at www.CertifiedAutoCA.com

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Housing Rights Center To Host Free Workshop On Rent Increases, Evictions, Discrimination, Foreclosure And More!

LOS ANGELES – The Housing Rights Center (HRC), and the City of El Monte, will be hosting a FREE 'Fair Housing Workshop' for El Monte housing providers, residents and community members on Thursday, **March 10, 2016** from 5:00pm – 7:00pm at the Norwood Library, located at 4550 Peck Rd., El Monte, CA 91732. HRC will present information and resources regarding housing discrimination and landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities.

Topics will include: discrimination against families with children, disability rights, sexual

harassment, evictions, repairs, security deposits, rent increases, substandard conditions, and much more!

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, known as the "Fair Housing Act," provides protection from discrimination in all housing related transactions based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status and disability. Furthermore, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act provides additional protections against housing discrimination based on marital status, ancestry, sexual orientation, and source of income. The Califor-

nia Unruh Civil Rights Act also provides protection from housing discrimination based on age and protects the right to freedom from violence and intimidation in housing.

For more information, or to RSVP for this FREE workshop, please call Oscar at (800) 477-5977 extension #1103. TTY users please call (213) 201-0867. This location is handicap accessible.

HRC is California's largest nonprofit, civil-rights agency dedicated to promoting and securing fair housing. HRC investigates over 1,600 housing discrimination complaints annually and assists over 17,000 individuals with their housing-related concerns. Individuals who believe they are victims of housing discrimination or who have questions about the fair housing laws or their landlord-tenant rights are encouraged to contact HRC for additional information at 1-800-477-5977 (voice) or 213-201-0867 (TTY). Additional information is also available at www.housingrightscenter.org.

San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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Board of Equalization Sets Gasoline Excise Tax Rate, Sponsors Pawn Shop Tax Exemption

LOS ANGELES – The California State Board of Equalization (BOE) elected to set the excise tax rate at 27.8 cents per gallon on gasoline for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 and voted unanimously to sponsor a legislative proposal to exempt some pawn shop purchases from sales tax during its meeting on Tuesday, February 23.

The Board voted 3-2 to lower the excise tax rate on gasoline by 2.2 cents per gallon for FY 2016-17. The new rate will be 27.8 cents per gal-

lon, effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. The Board has been tasked with setting the excise tax rate on gasoline since 2010, when two pieces of legislation (AB x8 6 and SB 70, collectively known as the fuel tax swap) took effect.

In a unanimous vote, the Board decided to sponsor a legislative proposal exempting

from tax some pawn shop sales to customers. This tax exemption may help customers reclaim items they sold to pawn shops by lowering the cost to buy back those items. It will exempt customers from paying sales tax upon reacquiring an item they once owned for up to six months after the pawn shop obtains the title for the item.



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Baldwin Park Unified School Earns Seal of Excellence for Dual-Language Immersion Program



Dual-language immersion students at Baldwin Park Unified's Walnut Elementary School hold up flowers for their parents during a spring cultural enrichment activity celebrating families. Walnut won a 2016 Seal of Excellence from the California Association for Bilingual Education.

BALDWIN PARK – Baldwin Park Unified's Walnut Elementary School will receive a 2016 Seal of Excellence Award from the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE), a recognition of the school's exceptional dual-language program, Soaring to Success.

Spanish dual-language immersion programs teach a combination of English and Spanish speakers to be bilingual and bi-literate by instructing them in each of the two languages, often starting almost entirely in Spanish and ending with an equal division.

Walnut Elementary launched

its program in 1997, and is cited frequently as a model by other districts. The school will receive its award March 25 during CABE 2016, the bilingual education association's annual conference held in San Francisco.

"We are tremendously proud of this achievement by Walnut Elementary School's team of educators. It is a well-deserved accolade for their dedication to giving our students the tools they need to excel in all their future endeavors," Baldwin Park Unified Superintendent Froilan N. Mendoza said.

The CABE award highlights Walnut's rigorous instructional practices, high student achieve-

ment in English and Spanish, multicultural development and strong sense of community.

"I am so proud of the Walnut School community. It is such an honor to be one of three schools in the State of California to be acknowledged by CABE," Walnut Principal Dr. Christine Heinrichs said.

Research shows dual-language immersion students not only learn the targeted language, but also gain significant understanding of cultures associated with the language, show overall cognitive advances and earn stronger grades in school.

Students at Walnut achieved a three-year average Academic Performance Index of 833. The overall score at the roughly 600-student campus mirrors those achieved by its English learners, who make up about 40 percent of the population, and socio-economically disadvantaged students, who constitute about 85 percent of the enrollment.

Baldwin Park offers the popular immersion program at several other elementary schools, middle schools and Baldwin Park High School. In 2016-17, it will expand to include Sierra Vista High School.



Kindergarteners at Baldwin Park Unified's Walnut Elementary School perform a dance as part of the school's award-winning Spanish-English dual-language immersion program. Walnut won a 2016 Seal of Excellence from the California Association for Bilingual Education.

Santa Fe Sixth-Grader to Represent Baldwin Park Unified at Los Angeles County Spelling Bee

Jonathan Han wins District contest in 10th round

BALDWIN PARK – Santa Fe School sixth-grader Jonathan Han will represent Baldwin Park Unified at the 11th annual Los Angeles County Elementary Spelling Bee on March 30 after besting 29 competitors in the District spelling contest.

Jonathan, a previous contender in the District Spelling Bee, was among the top two spellers from 13 elementary schools and two middle schools chosen to participate.

"All of us here at Baldwin Park Unified are immensely proud of Jonathan's success in the District Spelling Bee and wish him the best as he represents the District at the county level," said Superintendent Froilan N. Mendoza.

The spellers competed fiercely for seven rounds Feb. 18 at the Performing Arts Center of Baldwin Park, with students eliminated after missing a single word. School staff, family members and friends cheered on the students as they competed.

In the end, it came down to Jonathan and Holland Middle School sixth-grader Julian Estrella. The two went head to head for three rounds before Jonathan emerged victorious. The hardest words of the day: apparatus and the winning word, orthodox.

To prepare for the contest, Jonathan said he worked hard, practiced with classmates and accessed online spelling bee re-



Baldwin Park Unified 2016 Spelling Bee champion Jonathan Han holds his trophy. He will compete March 30 in the Los Angeles County Elementary Spelling Bee.

sources. He plans to study daily until the county contest.

Jonathan and Julian each received trophies and gift baskets containing school supplies and a gift card. All participants received T-shirts and certificates of

participation from the District and from local officials. Master of Ceremonies was Assistant Superintendent Angela Salazar and the Spell Master was retired Sierra Vista High School Principal Jackie White.

Students Participate in Student Government Day in West Covina



City Council's Recognition of Students Participating in Student Government Day

By **George Ogden**
WEST COVINA - West Covina City Council had a little

help from the students in the area as they took positions with council members and staff in the

city. Students from various schools participated in Student Government Day.

Students were matched up with councilmembers and staff members from the city of West Covina for the day to see how the city operates. This included the mayor, the city manager, the police and fire chiefs along with everyone else involved with managing and operating the city.

The final phase of this program was to have the students join in with a city Council meeting.

This was a great program and very educational for these young people which gives them an insight on how local government runs a city.

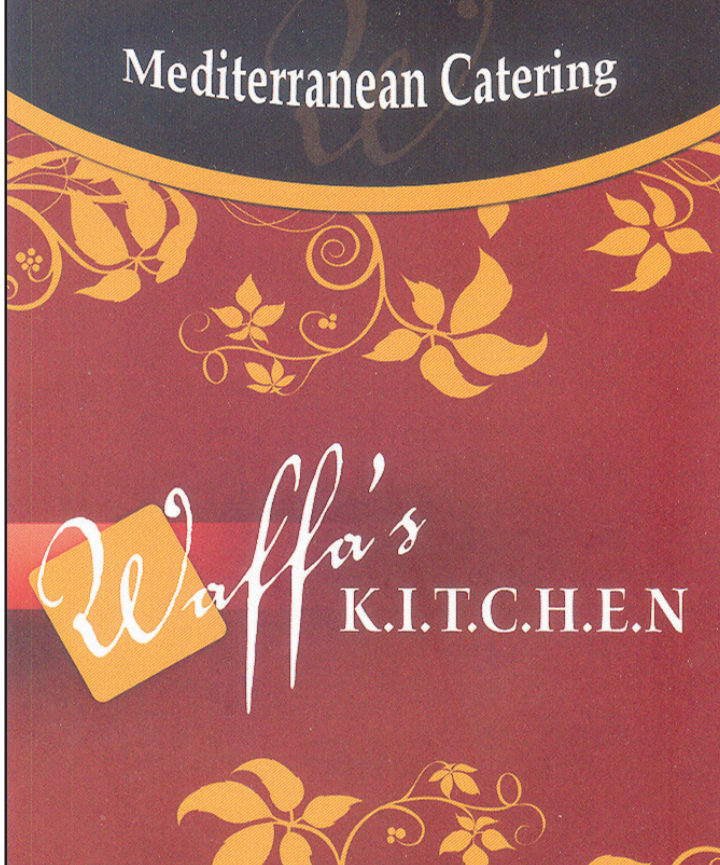
During the city Council meeting, Mayor James Toma presented the students with a certificates of appreciation.

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Azusa High Wins 14 Medals at L.A. County Academic Decathlon

AZUSA - Months of resolute studying paid off for eight Azusa High School students as they earned 14 individual medals at the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Academic Decathlon.

After two days of rigorous competition against 45 L.A. County schools, Azusa High Academic Decathlon team members Daniel Ayala, Jasmine De Los Santos, Victor Duong, MacKaela Esslin, Ronnie Gomez, Andy Gonzalez, Julia Lydick and Keoni Montoya celebrated their wins with their coach Cami Bushem and Principal Ramiro Rubalcaba at the LACOE Awards Banquet held Feb. 11 at the Quiet Cannon in Montebello.

"The tremendous effort displayed by the Azusa High academic decathlon team is a testament to their work ethic, as well as the brilliant leadership of their teachers and coach Bushem," Azusa Unified Superintendent Dr. Linda Kaminski said. "Our mission at Azusa Unified is to provide every educational resource to ensure our students are college- and career-ready."

Lydick was the Azusa's biggest winner, garnering six medals; a gold for math, a silver for interview and a bronze each for essay and music. Additionally, Lydick earned a gold medal for top scorer and a silver medal for top in division.

- Other medal winners were:
- Gonzalez, bronze medal for interview
 - Esslin, three bronze medals for economics, interview and speech
 - Santos, two silver medals for language & literature and music, and
 - Gomez, two silver medals for language & literature and interview

Bushem, who has taught world languages at Azusa High for four years, was proud of the achievements the Academic Decathlon team earned.

"I have been coaching the Aca-



Azusa High School's Academic Decathlon team wins 14 individual medals competing against 45 L.A. County schools. The Academic Decathlon was held on Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 at El Rancho High School in Pico Rivera.

ademic Decathlon team for three years and have loved getting to know the fine young adults who have been a part of it," Bushem said. "We are like family!"

The Academic Decathlon was held on Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 at El Rancho High School in Pico Rivera. Academic Decathlon teams consist of up to nine members divided into three groups for

three separate categories – honors, scholastic and varsity – of three students apiece.

The students then compete against their peers in ten subject events: art, economics, essay, interview, language and literature, math, music, science, social science and speech, with scores tabulated by a panel of judges.

"The medals are a result of the hard work and long hours the students spent in preparation for the main competition," Board of Education President Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña said. "The skills and knowledge they gained while in Academic Decathlon will help them to achieve their future educational goals."

Top Artist, Martin Grelle, Receives 'Spirit Of The West' Award

SAN DIMAS - On Saturday, April 23, 2016, Martin Grelle, one of the top western artists in the country, and will be honored by the Festival of Arts 2016 with their 'Spirit of the West' award. His relationship with the Festival began in 1977 when he exhibited his work in the first seven years of their western themed shows. Therefore, it is a fitting tribute that after 33 years, the Festival celebrates their 40th Anniversary with Martin Grelle from a fledgling artist to his brilliant rise in the art world. The 'Spirit of the West' award will be presented by Congressman David Dreier during the Awards Diner at 6 pm. Earlier in the day, Grelle will act as a judge for the show and later entertain us with a lecture on his work.

Martin Grelle is a listed artist with work selling in some of the top auction houses and galleries

rial Award in 2008. He was part of the Prix de West Invitational Art Exhibition and Sale at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, the Masters of the American West Fine Art Exhibition & Sale at the Autry National Center, and the inaugural Quest for the West Exhibition & Sale at the Eiteljorg Museum. Awards of merit include the Prix de West Purchase Award, which he won in 2002 for his painting Teller of Tales, and again in 2005, for his painting Two Coups, making him one of only 6 artists to have won the top award twice. Grelle has also won twice the Nona Jean Hulsey Ramsey Buyer's Choice Award at Prix de West, first in 2004 with Signs Along the Snake, and again in 2006, for Dust in the Distance. The artist is represented by Overland Gallery of Fine Art, in Scottsdale, Arizona, where a one-



REVERENCE by Martin Grelle

around the country. His work captures the spirit, beauty, and vastness of the West in his historically accurate, compelling images. His art portrays the diverse cultures of the American West with sensitivity. But, it is his thorough research and experience as a horseman that sets his work above the rest. Much of Grelle's research includes visiting with experts on American Indian culture, visiting re-enactors, and by his own personal experiences on ranches that help him achieve his vision of the old west.

Grelle lives in Clifton, Texas, which has become a mecca for artists because of its beauty and history. He works hard and carefully considers critiques of his work from fellow artists. This includes the early direction from acclaimed western artists, James Boren and Melvin Warren. As it happens, both these important artists moved close to where Grelle had been living and he was able to study with these two luminaries of Western themed art.

Grelle is one of the youngest members of the Cowboy Artist's of America. Through the years, he has won numerous national and regional awards including: the CAA People's Choice Award in 2002, the Ray Swanson Memo-

man show is held for Grelle each March. The 2008 show marked Grelle's 20th anniversary one-man show with the gallery.

Publications in which Martin Grelle has been featured are: Art of the West, Western Art Collector, Southwest Art, Western Art & Architecture, Persimmon Hill, American Cowboy, Western Horseman, Wild West, and InformArt. His work has also been showcased on the covers of many of these publications.

The 'California Images & History' event will begin on Friday evening, April 22 with a Premier Opening Reception at 6:00. Viewing of all the unique and original fine artwork is free of charge and open to the public from 9 am - 9 pm on Saturday, and 9 am - 4 pm on Sunday. The Friday Premier Opening Reception and the Saturday Awards Dinner requires a reservation. To learn more about the Festival of Arts and the 40th Art Exhibition or to purchase tickets to the Premier Opening Reception and/or the Saturday Awards Dinner, please call (909) 599-5374 or go to www.sandimasarts.org. The 'California Images & History' show will be held in the Civic Center Plaza, 245 E. Bonita Avenue, San Dimas, CA 91773.

Rotary Club Of Azusa Four-Way Test Speech Contest

By Jorge V. Rosales

AZUSA - For 89 years, the Rotary Club of Azusa has served the Canyon City and its surrounding communities. Proud women and men have joined its ranks and left their mark on the San Gabriel Valley. They are a group representing a wide diversity of peoples and professions from the East San Gabriel area who is dedicated to the well-being of citizens of the people of the City of Azusa.

Although serious about their mission, focus, projects, and events, they are fun-loving, relational and social group that enjoys 'Rotary' time. Globally, Rotary International is comprised of over 30,000 Rotary Clubs and over 1.2 million-member organization which started with the vision of one man-Paul P. Harris, a Chicago attorney, who formed the first service organization on February 23, 1905, where professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships. Rotary's name came from the group's practice of rotating meetings among the offices of each member.

There are within the organization sponsored youth clubs. Specifically within Azusa they encompass all three high schools: Azusa, Gladstone, and Sierra High School Interact Clubs, each with its own Advisor. During the



Kirk Rinella, President, Rotary Club of Azusa with the five high school Four-Way Test Speech Contestants at the Azusa Greens Country Club on February 25, 2016. From left to right: Leandro Mendoza, Junior, Azusa High; Marina Al Waser, Senior, Azusa High; Kiabeth Baltazar, Senior, Gladstone High; Violet Elena Vargas, Junior, Sierra High, and Veronica Tan, Senior, Azusa High.

February 25, 2016 Rotary Club of Azusa's meeting at the Azusa Greens Country Club, they held their annual "4-Way Speech Contest," wherein high school students compete for cash awards at the local level and up to the Rotary District 5300 level.

Utilizing the Rotary's Four-Way Test of the things We Think, Say or Do, two students from each of the three high schools and members of the youth clubs are to prepare speeches of not

less than 6 and no more than 8 minutes. The theme for this year's contest was "Engage Rotary, Change Lives," which must articulate how ethical behaviors contribute to a productive civil life. The Four-Way Test consists of the following: 1). Is it the TRUTH?; 2). Is it FAIR to all concern?; 3). Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?; and 4). Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concern?

It was obvious that each student who competed in this contest spent much effort in preparing and rehearsing their speeches. The speeches ranged from they felt the 4-way test has influenced their lives or how it changed their behavior or how it made them a better and more caring person.

Students were allowed to their speech presentation utilizing notes. The winner of the Azusa competition will be invited to participate at the Regional level with only the use of a single 3x5 card and if successful to the District level with the use of no notes whatsoever. The district winner will win a \$5,000 scholarship check.

There were only 5 contestants present: #1 Leandro Mendoza, 16, 11th grade at Azusa High; #2 Violet Elena Vargas, 16, 11th grade at Sierra High (3rd place); #3 Veronica Tan, 18, 12th grade at Gladstone High; #4 Marina Al Waser, 18, 12th grade at Azusa High (1st Place); and #6 Kiabeth Baltazar, 17, 12th grade, Gladstone High (2nd place).

The Lions Club of Montebello Is On The Move

by Chris Ohrmund

The Lions Club of Montebello helps wherever there is a need in Montebello and surrounding communities. This includes: Back to School Shopping Spree for Children; Thanksgiving Food Baskets; Scholarships for high school seniors who live or go to school in Montebello; Adopts a Family at Christmas; sponsors a Student Speakers Contest; and hosts an Eye Screening Clinic where the attendees received eyeglasses.

In order to continue these service projects, the Lions Club of Montebello has two fundraisers in the month of March which are open to the

public:
March 12th - Pancake/Menudo Breakfast from 8:30a.m. - 11:30a.m. Location is the Montebello Senior Center - 115 South Taylor Avenue. Cost is \$5.00.
March 19th - Get Luck Casino Night with music by the "Wise Guys", Montebello's Big Band Machine. Cost is only \$20.00 and includes dinner and \$100 in gaming chips.

Location is the Cathy Hensel Youth Center-236 South George Hensel Drive-Montebello. All funds raised stays in the community.

For more information contact Bill at 323-724-3104 or Chris at 909-598-0554.



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