



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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Rubel Castle in Glendora Gets a Little Help with Eric Pohlman's Troop 491 Eagle Scout Project

GLENDORA - Glendora's historic Rubel Castle, a "working museum" of local history known for its eclectic architecture and colorful namesake, was recently the site of an Eagle Scout Project from Glendora's Boy Scout Troop 491. Eric Pohlman, age 16, lead 14 fellow Scouts, 19 adults and 4 schoolmate volunteers in the placement of a concrete emergency exit walkway for the Castle. This service project was part of Eric's requirement to earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

The project began when Eric started looking for an Eagle Scout Project in April, 2018 and was referred by a parent in the troop to Hans Hermann of the Glendora Historical Society, the agency that operates Rubel Castle. Eric learned from Mr. Hermann that the Historical Society needed an exiting pathway at one of the buildings to remain in compliance with safety codes. Mr. Hermann and Eric both agreed that a concrete walkway would make an exciting Eagle Scout Project. "I wanted to do this project because it was unique and complex and that the project will last for a very long time so that I can visit it again and again,"



Left to right, left side: Scoutmaster Michael Moya, Patrick Collins, Pratet Chennamaneni, Andres Vasquez, Tyler Tran, Jose Vasquez, Tyler Tran, Jaden Pirog, Center: Ryan Healy, Left to right, right side: Spencer Moya, Adam Erickson, Jaden Pirog, Josh Bohn, Eagle Scout Project Leader Eric Pohlman (in dark sweatshirt), Juan Martinez, Andrew Healy, Greg Healy, William Johnson, Trevor Fabeck, Kaili Hiramoto, James Bohn, Reid Johnson, Devon Kish, Hayley Block, Phillip Tran, Max Pace-Hicks, Nicholas Hollanders

said Eric. Mr. Hermann was also pleased to work with Troop 491 again as his two sons graduated as Eagle Scouts from the Troop some years ago. Incidentally, the sons of Jim Riley, President of the Glendora Historical Society, and Jerry Heinrich, Rubel Castle

Vice-President, were also Eagle Scouts from Troop 491.

In the months after, Eric wrote up a proposal for the project, measured and mapped the site, calculated materials and supplies needed, made a budget, purchased supplies, researched how to mix and pour concrete, called for volunteers, and scheduled the day of construction.

Finding the money to pay for the project was also part of Eric's work towards Eagle Scout rank. Eric raised funds by selling See's candy bars to his neighbors and at school to purchase stakes, forms, concrete, gravel and also safety equipment for the people helping in the project. In keeping with the value of being thrifty, some of the tools and supplies used on the project were passed on from a previous Eagle Scout Project or provided by the volunteers themselves. The Historical Society at the Castle provided wheelbarrows and the handrail

that was installed along the walkway.

The day of the event saw more than 30 people assemble at the northeast corner of the Rubel Castle property. Eric gathered Scouts and adults to explain the mission of the project and outline of work needed to be done. Work began with a flurry of shovels and picks, as volunteers dug through rocks and roots to clear the way for the wooden forms that would hold the wet concrete. Once the ground was leveled and cleared, the forms for the pathway was placed and leveled. A base of gravel was poured and steel rebar was carefully place to ensure strength. They also installed the metal railing on the side of the walkway, with parts provided by the castle in keeping with its unique "scrap" look and theme. The Scouts then quickly hand-mixed and poured twenty-five bags of concrete into

the walkway form and smoothed it over to complete the project. From start to finish, the walkway was completed in six hours. Lastly, Eric wrote his name and troop number in the concrete to dedicate the project. After the building was done, Eric reflected on the challenges of his project, saying that he "learned that it is not easy to control a large portion of people in doing one or two projects that you have to check and report from."

A long time Scout, Eric joined the Cub Scouts as a Tiger Cub in first grade and moved on to Boy Scouts in 2014, choosing Troop 491 of Glendora as his troop. Eric moved up ranks to Life Scout after years of outdoor adventures and learning Boy Scout skills with his friends, during which he held the positions of Patrol Leader and Troop Guide. Eric is a sophomore at Glendora High.

The Eagle Scout Service Project, or more simply the Eagle Scout Project, provides Boy Scouts in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) the opportunity to demonstrate leadership skills while performing a project for the benefit of his community. This is the culmination of the Eagle Scout candidate's leadership training, and it requires a significant effort on his part.

Rubel Castle was established by Michael Clarke Rubel and is currently owned and operated by the Glendora Historical Society. A local landmark, the Castle was constructed by Mr. Rubel over several decades on a citrus orchard and made partly out of concrete as well as scrap steel, rocks, farm equipment, bottles, and other re-purposed materials that he found. The grounds include a 74-foot clock tower and a train caboose. Rubel Castle is on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

Monrovia Unified Partners with Community Theater to Bring 'Annie' to the Stage



Richard Seymour and Naomi Stone play Daddy Warbucks and Annie in Monrovia's Theater production of "Annie".

MONROVIA - Monrovia Unified students will join a cast of professional actors, singers, and dancers in December for the theatrical production of "Annie," Monrovia Theatre's 12th professional show to be held at the Louise K. Taylor Performing Arts Center.

The Louise K. Taylor Performing Arts Center is a Monrovia Unified School District facility on the campus at Monrovia High School. The community productions are sponsored by Monrovia Unified and provide opportunities for students to participate in a professional production on stage.

The cast of "Annie" - based on the popular Harold Gray comic strip "Little Orphan Annie" - will comprise 22 adults and 25 elementary and middle school girls.

"I am so excited to be playing Kate in the production," fourth-grader Sofia Grace Federico said. "This is my third time doing a professional production, and I am always so grateful for the chance to grow and learn from very experienced directors, cast members, and staff. It's hard work, but I'm having a blast rehearsing with old and new friends."

Showtimes are 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8; and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9 at the Louise K. Taylor Performing Arts Center, 845 W. Colorado Blvd, Monrovia.

"This is the perfect show to get you in the holiday spirit with memorable songs, along with beautiful sets, costumes, and a 16-piece live orchestra," said Patrick Garcia, Monrovia Unified's director of performing arts. "We are so proud that our Monrovia Unified kids are able to participate."

The community productions are cast with Monrovia students, as well as professional actors, singers, and dancers from the San Gabriel Valley and the greater Los Angeles area. Students who are interested in the technical side of theater work with industry professionals on lighting, set design, sounds, and front-of-house operations.

"These productions provide mentoring opportunities for our students and give them the chance to work with professionals in the field," Board President Terrence Williams said. "Our students gain knowledge and skills by participating in a quality theatrical experience."

The production will be directed by Keely Milliken, musically directed by Graham Jackson, and choreographed by Alison Hooper.

"Monrovia Unified is always pursuing new opportunities for students," Superintendent Katherine Thorossian said. "With Monrovia Theatre, our students are able to dive into the arts and participate in professional productions that hone their skills, boost self-confidence, and highlight their talents."

City Of Hope And City Of Duarte Sponsor 2019 "Duarte Day" Volunteer Float Decorating Opportunity



DUARTE - The City of Hope and City of Duarte have designated Saturday, December 29 as "Duarte Day," providing a fun opportunity for local volunteers to work on the City of Hope's 2019 Tournament of Roses Parade float.

City of Hope, recognized worldwide for its compassionate care, innovative science, translational research, and laboratory breakthroughs is excited to unveil its 2019 entry "TheMelody of Life" showcas-

ing patient lives made possible through the City of Hope's groundbreaking research and uniquely focused care. The physicians, nurses and patients riding the float symbolize City of Hope's commitment to better futures for their patients everywhere.

The float decoration site is the official Phoenix Decorating Pavillion located at 5400 S. Irwindale Ave, Irwindale. Volunteers must be at least 13 years of age or over to partici-

pate. Opportunities are available for up to 120 volunteers who may choose from two shifts of 60 persons each. The first shift will run from 8am-4pm and the second shift from 4pm - 11pm. Volunteers will be provided with a T-shirt and food.

Slots are available on a first come, first serve basis. Sign up online. To find out more about the float at www.cityofhope.org/roseparadefloat.

Rotary Club of West Covina Announces Winner of West Covina Unified School District Competition



Rotary Club of West Covina President Vicky Abbott presented a check for \$500 to Vine Elementary School principle Valarie Jaramillo for winning the West Covina Unified School District competition for the 2018 Heart of the Valley Run/Walk by signing up the most runners.

WEST COVINA - Rotary Club of West Covina Heart of the Valley Health Fair & 5K Run/Walk Awards the \$500 prize to Vine Elementary School for winning the West Covina Unified School District Schools Competition.

Vine Elementary School won the \$500 prize for K-6 grade level schools for signing up the most runners in the 8th Heart of the Valley Health Fair & 5K Run/Walk.

"I know that this will be an exciting assembly for our students" says Valarie Jaramillo, Principal Vine Elementary.

The award presentation was made Monday, December 3 at Vine School's "Monday Morning Assembly" at the 8:35 a.m. bell. Vicky Abbott, President Rotary Club of West Covina and Yulanda Davis-Quarrie, Race Director Heart of the Valley Health Fair & 5K Run/Walk presented a check to Valarie Jaramillo, Principal Vine Elementary, the running club sponsors Catherine Cameron, Jennifer Buhac and Carrie Nichols as well as all the run-

ning club students. Charles D. Hinman Ed.D.,

Superintendent of West Covina Unified School District was a key supporter of the competition, also attended.

The Vine Elementary Running Club participation has exploded over the last year, growing from 35 runners last year to 80 runners this year. We hope to see many more runners at the 9th Heart of the Valley Health Fair & 5K Run/Walk in 2019. The prize will be used to continue to promote exercise for all the students.

The Rotary Club of West Covina's 8th Heart of the Valley Health Fair & 5K Run/Walk held a competition between WCUSD schools for the school with the most runners; Over 25 runners needed to register to qualify, students, family, staff & teachers of a school could compete and be counted in the total.

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Pita Corner Bakery Grand Re-Opening

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - If you want good, wholesome Arabic food, this is the place to go to. Pita Corner Bakery had their Grand Re-Opening celebration on Saturday, November 24th. A steady stream of relatives, friends and wellwishers, came by to this quaint restaurant at the Albertson's Shopping Center in Glendora.

At Pita Cornerstone Restaurant, they serve all the favorite Mediterranean and Middle Eastern food, that is baked, daily at their restaurant. From Fatteh, Labneh, Lahmeajeen, Chicken Shawarma, Kafta, Falafel, Baba Ganouj to Kibbeh and a wide variety of desserts including their Tiramisu and home made Bak-

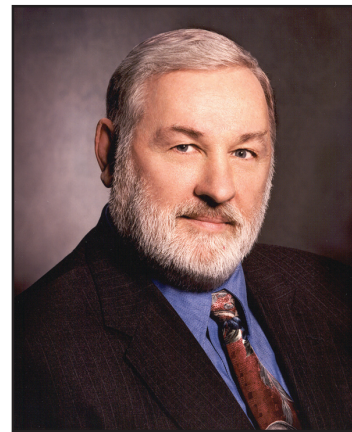


Fatima and Rabih Khawja, owners of Pita Cornerstone Bakery stand next to the large Pizza and Bakery oven in their restaurant. Pita Cornerstone Bakery is located at 523 S. Glendora Avenue, Glendora, Ca. 91740. Their telephone number is 626-335-5517.

Enjoy Broadway-Caliber Holiday Productions At Your Local Community College

The majestic and joyful sound of music is an important part of the holiday season for many families. One of the best places to find excellent, affordable entertainment that will please audiences of all ages is at a performing arts venue at your local community college.

Long known for a standard of excellence in performing arts, Citrus College's vocal music ensembles are renowned throughout the world. Each year, the Haugh Performing Arts Center (HPAC), which seats in excess of 1,400 people, is host to more than 140 performances. The annual production of "Christmas Is..." has become a holiday tradition for many who reside in the communities of the San Gabriel and Inland Valleys and beyond.



By Dr. Edward C. Ortell Citrus College Governing Board Member

In addition to beautiful vocal and instrumental music, shows feature sets, costumes, lightening and choreography that have often been compared to The Music Center and Broadway. In addition, student performances at

the HPAC receive rave reviews. Typical comments include, "Beautiful theater with friendly staff; it was such a wonderful performance!" Also, "Great show and a great value at this venue. There is a whole season of wonderful shows happening here."

One reason that community colleges can deliver such high-caliber entertainment is that they are preparing students for professional careers on stage and behind the scenes. Students are given a practical education by industry professionals that offer both traditional music education and hands-on performance training. By utilizing equipment and facilities that meet or exceed industry standards, students are able to consistently deliver exceptional, and often award winning, perfor-

mances. If you are looking for quality entertainment and a way to beat the crowds this holiday season, check out the programs offered at a nearby community college. You will save the time and hassle of freeway traffic and expensive, hard-to-find parking, and you will enjoy a truly memorable experience.

About the Author: Dr. Edward C. Ortell is the senior governing board member at Citrus College and a Professor Emeritus at Pasadena City College. He has served on the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) state board of directors and eight terms as president of the Citrus College Board of Trustees.

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The San Gabriel Valley Examiner

West Covina Accepting Applications To Fill At-Large City Council Vacancy

WEST COVINA - The City will be accepting applications to fill the At-Large City Council vacancy created by the election of Councilman Tony Wu to City Council District No. 5. If the City Council decides to fill the vacancy by appointment, the appointee would fill Councilman Wu's At-Large unexpired term through November 2020.

Any West Covina resident may submit an application. The ap-

pointee must reside in West Covina, and at the time of appointment must be at least 18 years of age, an elector of the city, and a registered voter.

Because the appointee would fill an at-large unexpired term, the appointee is not legally required to live within a specific district in the City. All applications should include a cover letter, resume, and address/contact information of the person. Appli-

cations are to be submitted through the City's website at www.westcovina.org/atlarge-council. Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2018.

If the City Council decides to fill the vacancy via appointment, the City Council would consider all applications and select an appointee at a City Council Meeting in early 2019.

Winter Solstice Craft Fair & Vintage Market At Duarte Statue Plaza

DUARTE - Celebrate the holidays at the 4th Annual Winter Solstice Craft Fair and Vintage Market on December 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Andres Duarte Statue and the adjacent Grace Fellowship Church, 1551 Huntington Drive. The event is sponsored by the Duarte Historical Society & Museum. Admission is free.

Unique handcrafted items and vintage wares will be for sale while food and entertainment will

add to the festivities," says Nick Montalvo, DHS&M event coordinator. "And it will give an opportunity to our local artists to showcase their talents." In perfect timing for holiday shopping the fair will offer unique gifts handcrafted by local artists.

Boosting the spirit, the Senior Choir from the Duarte Senior Center will entertain with holiday songs on the Plaza at 11 a.m.

and the Sounds of Harmony, a Sweet Adeline's Chorus, will perform at 1 p.m. Monrovia Jim Constantian will play music by Glenn Miller on his vintage photographs throughout the day.

Vendors interested in participating may apply the museum website: www.RanchoDeDuarte.org or call Karen Levein at (626) 201-1449.

L.A. County Enhances Interim Housing Standards for the Homeless

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Bolstering the countywide movement to combat and prevent homelessness, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors today approved an ordinance to establish a new public health permit and licensing requirement to ensure uniform Countywide standards for interim housing facilities that serve people experiencing homelessness.

The ordinance is the first element in a three-pronged approach to strengthen the coordinated system of interim housing, which includes: establishing uniform facility standards; implementing service standards across all publicly-funded interim housing; and instituting a uniform grievance and complaint process. These recommendations stem from a six-month collaborative process convened by the County Chief Executive Office/Homeless Initiative, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and the County Departments of Health Services, Mental Health and Public Health, in conjunction with people who have experienced homelessness and nonprofit operators of interim housing.

The enactment of this ordinance will allow the Department of Public Health - Environmen-

tal Health to implement a new inspection program to ensure that interim housing facilities comply with applicable health and safety requirements, as well as requirements that are specifically tailored to this type of temporary housing. The public health permit ordinance covers 7,700 beds in 327 interim housing facilities, of which 234 are publicly funded and 93 are privately funded.

"My commitment to protecting the health and safety of L.A. County residents extends to individuals who seek temporary shelter in our interim housing facilities," said Supervisor Hilda L. Solis. "As we work to expand interim housing options for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, we must also ensure that new and existing facilities meet health and safety requirements. This ordinance will enable the Department of Public Health to ensure the quality of our interim housing facilities, especially recuperative care housing."

"With this ordinance, we will ensure that Los Angeles County remains a standard bearer for accountability and performance, especially when it comes to serving the homeless," said Supervi-

sor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who championed the development of uniform shelter standards. "Our goal with Measure H has always been to create communities where everyone can live with dignity and purpose, and this includes shelters and other interim housing facilities."

"As we expand our interim housing we want to make sure that the buildings reflect the standards we've set for achieving our goal of stabilizing the lives of those experiencing homelessness and assisting them in their journey toward permanent homes," said Supervisor Sheila Kuehl. "We are expanding interim beds quickly, and we need to ensure quality as well as quantity."

"Many families who we are working to lift out of homelessness will spend time in interim housing before moving into a permanent home, and we have to ensure that these are clean, safe places to live," said Supervisor Janice Hahn.

"Ensuring that health and safety standards are met in interim housing facilities improves the wellbeing and long-term outcomes for those attempting to rise out of homelessness," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger.

San Gabriel Valley Examiner
INFORMATION GUIDE

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• We also believe in accuracy in fact and context. Journalists should be accountable for any news or subjects they write about.

• We believe in growth. Therefore, complaints or mistakes erroneously committed will be entertained and investigated diligently and corrected accordingly.

• We believe in performing our journalistic work to the best of our ability and will continue to present the facts clearly and fairly.

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Police Warn of Curb Address Painting Scams

MONTEREY PARK - The Monterey Park Police Department would like residents to be aware of curb address painting scammers. The curb-painting scam involves people who didn't hire showing up, painting your house number on the curb and then demanding payment. Sometimes, the painters say they were hired by the city, pressuring the homeowner to pay up. Do not provide any payment or donations to these individuals. The City of Monterey Park Muni-

pal Code (13.17.010 MPMC) requires a permit to conduct these services in the city.

How do you know who is legitimate and who's not? Here are a few tips:

- Ask to see a permit. If they're not legitimate, chances are they're going to go away.
- Check them out. Call the police department to see if they are permitted through the city.
- Ask where the money is going. If it's for charity, they're required to have information about

the organization, and in most cases, their non-profit information.

The City of Monterey Park has contracted a reputable curb painting company for curb painting services at no cost to residents. So remember, if someone approaches you and asks for money because they already painted your house numbers on the curb, politely close the door and report solicitors immediately to the Monterey Park Police Department by calling 626-573-1311.

Holiday Snow Village Brings Winter Fun and Festivities to Barnes Park

Kickoff the holiday season with 20 tons of snow, music, lights and visits with Santa

MONTEREY PARK - Monterey Park's 6th Annual Holiday Snow Village event will feature snow play and sled runs, holiday music, and pictures with Santa - all at the Barnes Park Amphitheater.

On Friday, December 7 at 6 p.m., the city will welcome Santa with carols and help him light the amphitheater and city displays. Following the tree lighting, attendees will be entertained by holiday music, snow play with two sled runs and a 900 square

foot play area. The event will also have refreshments, a chance to take your picture with Santa and a Christmas tree raffle. Remember to dress warm for this outdoor event and wear closed toe shoes to play in the snow. In addition to Santa, look for special appearances by The Grinch.

Special thanks go to the Holiday Snow Village major sponsors for helping to make the event possible: Monterey Park Market Place Shopping Center, Southern California Gas Company, Court-

yard Marriott and West Coast Arborist.

The city invites residents and families to join in on this perfect start to the holiday season. Barnes Park is located at 350 S. McPherrin Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754. Barnes Park Amphitheater is located in the southeast section of the park at the corner of Ramona and Harding Avenues. For more information, please call the Recreation and Community Services Department at 626-307-1388.

A Living Nativity

GLENDORA - The Church of the Open Door invites you to an evening of Christmas music and drama where you will journey across a field with the rejoicing angels to experience a live reenactment of Mary and Joseph with the Christ child in a stable.

Come and see, and relive the reason for the season as you experience a live, musical Christmas Nativity Event set on the hillsides of Glendora at the Church of the Open Door.

"Our Living Nativity is a great way to start celebrating the season and get into the spirit of Christmas." Steve Sandy, Worship Pastor.

It's never too late to start a new holiday tradition. Hundreds of people, young and old alike, have celebrated this unique event and have come away with a new appreciation for the humble, yet marvelous birth of Christ. Bring the entire family.

The Living Nativity is De-

ember 14, 15 and 16 from 6:30-8:30PM (show times are 6:30, 7:00, 7:30 and 8:00pm). Bring your family, friends and cameras (there will also be photographers ready to take complimentary photos of families and friend groups!). Come ready for hot chocolate, cookies and a few moments of reflection on the Christmas season.

Church of the Open Door is located at 701 W. Sierra Madre

Blvd. in Glendora. For more information, please call the church office at (626) 914-4646 or visit www.churchoftheopendoor.com

(Church of the Open Door, the historic non-denominational church established in 1915 was originally located in downtown Los Angeles and once Pastored by J. Vernon McGee of Thru the Bible Radio Ministries; current Senior Pastor is David Anderson.)

Christmas Parade Road Closures

GLENDORA - The Annual Glendora Christmas Parade is this Saturday, December 8th at 9:00 am. Please note the following road closures:

Glendora Ave will be closed between Foothill and Sierra Madre starting at 5:00 am until 11:00 am. The remainder of

the parade route will be closed between 7:30 am and 8:00 am. This includes Foothill between Vista Bonita and Grand Ave and Grand Ave between Ada and Bennett. The parade starts at 9:00 am and is anticipated to end by 11:00 am.

Trump, Feinstein, McCarthy Water Deal

Democrat Senator Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) House Majority Leader have come together to support an extension of the 2016 Water Infrastructure for Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act that would provide millions of federal dollars for California water projects. Outgoing Democrat Gov. Jerry Brown has signed off on the proposal.

Gov. Brown's press release confirmed his support. "I support the 7-year extension of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, including important provisions that House Majority Leader McCarthy and Senator Feinstein have proposed that enable California water users to participate in voluntary agreements and help improve river flows to restore fish populations."

Voluntary agreements refers to water contractors moving forward to initiate agreements to pay for habitat restoration and other improvements rather than wait for the State Water Resources Control Board to confirm its plan providing more water for salmon and steelhead on the San Joaquin River. Brown has suggested water costs could be reduced if agreements are confirmed.

San Joaquin River was dried up when the Friant Dam was built in the 1940's. Now several biologists, under a settlement agreement in 2009 are working to establish water flow to the river to restore the salmon habitat. The settlement requires \$17 million a year from the Central Valley Project to support the project and state bond money to supplement those payments. There is money in WIIN for environment and science projects and this might well qualify for some of that money.

Sacramento Bee reports -- Doug Obegi, a lawyer with the Natural Resources Defense Council, said the outgoing Democratic governor is cooperating with the Republicans in an effort to keep the Trump administration from backing away from his con-



Shade's Perspective
Lois M. Shade
Former Mayor of Glendora

troversial Delta tunnels proposal. "This appears to be a quid pro quo where the governor trades away our salmon and thousands of fishing jobs for his stupid Delta tunnels," Obegi said.

Natural Resources Defense Council brought the lawsuit that required the federal and state governments restore the San Joaquin River with water and water flows after 60 years dry so the salmon habitat would be restored.

But NRDC is not the only group opposing WIIN. Restore the Delta with the stated mission of saving the San Francisco Bay-Delta, came out charging Brown with "... once again betray[ing] the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary and its people. The WIIN Act was supposed to be a two-year emergency measure during extreme drought. That was what we were promised by Senator Feinstein. Governor Brown supports a renewal of the WIIN ACT that includes backroom deals for how water will be managed in California and continuing to make Delta communities and fisheries the losers."

In August, when the State Water Resources Control Board scheduled meetings to discuss leaving more water in the San Joaquin River and tributaries, a hue and cry went out from San Francisco residents and they decided to join up with the farmers to ensure their water supply would not be diverted leaving 3 million people in the Bay Area to Modesto with a water shortage and ensuring the San Joaquin Val-

ley vineyards, orchards and dairy farms would not be left short.

The five members of the State Water Resources Control Board are appointed by Governor Brown.

The WIIN Act -- Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation - was enacted in December of 2016 to address the needs of the nation's harbors, dams, flood protection, and infrastructure. The Act specifically authorized \$100 million for communities facing drinking water emergencies. Included in that funding package is \$134 million for water storage, \$20 million for water recycling, \$12 million for desalination and \$30 million for environment and science projects. Bureau of Reclamation, under WIIN, has provided opportunities for desalination projects and now allows funding for water recycling projects. The 2016 WIIN Act expires in 2021 and the Feinstein/McCarthy proposal would extend the Act to 2028. The extension of this bill would have to be voted on by Congress by the end of December.

While this opens the door for funding opportunities for the to-do list in all the recently approved state bond requests on the ballot, there is still the open, ongoing fight between water for fish and water for farmers and Southern Californians.

Attempting to bring all sides together - environmentalists and Central Valley farmers and water users - Trump issued the directive to the Bureau of Reclamation and Department of Interior to appoint one person to begin to identify the issues, how to mitigate out the concerns, and how to bring both sides to resolution with a fair share water plan. Even with money from the federal government to supplement "their favorite project" it seems neither side will be willing to move to the center.

I've not seen any comment from incoming Governor Gavin Newsom indicating his views or which direction he will move on WIIN.

The Twelve Films of Christmas Have Special Meaning

I like lists. They are fun and they invoke discussion, which can be refreshing when the debate is over culture and recreation. "The Five Best..." or "the Top Ten..." No wrong answers.

I came up with my most favorite Christmas movies, calling my list, "The 12 Films of Christmas."

The films, in no special order, are: "Miracle on 34th Street," (1947), "It's a Wonderful Life," (1946), "Irving Berlin's White Christmas," (1954), "It Happened on 5th Avenue," (1947), "Christmas in Connecticut," (1945), "Holiday Affair," (1949), "Holiday Inn," (1942), "A Christmas Carol," (1951), "Scrooge (The Musical)," (1970), "Meet Me in St. Louis," (1944), "The Bishop's Wife," (1947), and "The Three Godfathers," (1949).

You will notice that all but one film are from the 1940's or early 50's. There is a reason. I think the films of that era, Christmas or otherwise, carried much human emotion and deep sentiment. Maybe it was because these were the stories produced by, and for, the "Greatest Generation." Folks that made their way through a depression and then confronted a cataclysmic war that threatened the end of everything, including Christmas. If that wasn't enough then, they had to face a new cold war and the threats it brought. Maybe it was why these movies didn't ridicule the holiday, or cheapen it. And the war was evident in a lot of these films.

The little girl waiting to see Santa in "Miracle on 34th Street" shows the disappointment in her face from a childhood stolen. The



Charles Lopresto

girl's guardian tells "Kris" that "she was in the war." And when Kris Kringle begins speaking to her in her own language, her face lights up. This film was also the best depiction of Santa because no outwardly acts of magic take place. The best films have always been the ones that created reality with dialogue and imagination, never showing the actual magic, creating ambiguity. We never know if Kris is really Santa until Natalie Wood finds his cane sitting in her realtor's dream house, at the end of the film.

Small things like that meant a lot in these films. The wonderful closing scene in "White Christmas" where ex-GI's turned song and dance men Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye help their old General (Dean Jaeger) make a success of his bed and breakfast with a rousing surprise reunion of their Army unit, just as another miracle happens finally...snow!

Turner Classic Movies published a book naming 30 Christmas films ("Christmas in the Movies") and in it was a big omission. Left out was "It happened on 5th Avenue" an often overlooked

and under appreciated film about a hobo, Victor Moore, who spends each winter, uninvited in a rich man's unoccupied mansion. This year he helps a GI (Don DeFore) and his buddies and their families find a place to stay during the holidays. The film depicted the housing shortages that returning veterans experienced at war's end.

A western, "The Three Godfathers," is a metaphor for the three wise men who come in the form of outlaws on the run lead by John Wayne, who find a woman dying in a covered wagon, far from civilization, and promise her they will take her new born baby to safety in the closest town, which happens to be called New Jerusalem.

All these films have wonderful stories relating to the holidays. Guardian angel Cary Grant helping the Bishop David Niven and his wife Loretta Young reconnect. A would be Martha Stewart played by Barbara Stanwyck entertaining a GI, home from the war. And of course, Judy Garland singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" to Margaret O'Brien.

What the people experienced in those days made Christmas a lot more important than it seems to be now. Depression, war and nuclear standoffs had a way of revealing the fragility of things we often take for granted. We may be doing that now and maybe as a result, I don't get excited about the new Holiday films.

In the days of the greatest generation, a lot of things were more fragile...like Christmas.

Did Stereotyping Play a Part in Mall Shooting Death?

The shooting of a black man with a gun by a Hoover Police Officer at the Riverchase Galleria, Hoover, Alabama has once again put police on the "hot plate" of controversy.

Here is what took place at that mall around 10 p.m. on Thanksgiving evening. The shooting happened on the second floor of the Galleria. Hoover police said an argument between several young men led to gunfire. Brian Wilson, 18, was wounded, as was bystander 12-year-old Molly Davis, who took a bullet to the back. Bradford was shot by a Hoover police officer, who was in uniform and on-duty as part of a beefed-up holiday shopping detail. Bradford was pronounced dead on the scene. Eight other people were treated by paramedics for injuries sustained while fleeing the gunfire.

Authorities said the incident began with an altercation between Bradford and his friend Wilson and at least two other young men. Police initially said Bradford was the person who shot Wilson and Molly, but a day after that shooting, retracted that statement to say he was involved in the initial altercation and brandishing a handgun but did not fire the shots that wounded the other two victims.

Arriving uniformed officers at the shooting scene saw a black man with a gun and the final result was, he was shot and killed. Statements have been made that he had a permit to carry a gun. The family is also saying that he was there trying to save people and keep the peace, but it seems that he may have been part of the original issue.

Six days after Bradford's death,



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office issued an attempted murder warrant against 20-year-old Erron Martez Dequan Brown. He is charged with attempted murder in the shooting of Wilson. The U.S. Marshals Service captured Brown in Georgia on Thursday. He has waived extradition to Alabama and is expected to return to the state sometime this week.

Derrick Murphy, Hoover's lone black city council member, called for state authorities to release information and footage regarding the deadly shooting of Bradford inside the Riverchase Galleria. Authorities have stated that the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency requested that they not release anything "at this time" that is evidence or it may or will compromise the investigation. Hoover officials are respecting the requests of ALEA to not release any information at the risk of compromising the justice process for everyone involved," according to lead investigators. Details, including any video, of the deadly shooting of 21-year-old Emantic Fitzgerald "EJ" Bradford will not be released by police at this time, Hoover Police Chief Nick Derzis announced Monday morning.

Although there has been no

indication of the police officer's race, it is assumed the officer was white. Naturally that will run up the "protest flags" once again. White cop shoots black man.

When you look at the picture, what do you see? A shooting where all the players are black and one has a gun. The arriving officers see a black man with a gun at the shooting scene within seconds after the shooting. What happens from here on is really anyone's guess until the recordings are released and the investigation as to what happened is released.

If the young man was a good guy with a gun trying to protect people and keep the peace, then what happened, why is he dead? Was it stereotyping? Why is there this type of stereotyping? It has been said it is because of the history over the many years that involves those that are black and have a gun. Who do you blame? I guess it is those who created this history and still act in the same manner. How sad is that?

Let's change this a little bit. The one who was killed, Bradford, let's just say he was an "off-duty" police officer unknown to the other police officers arriving at the shooting scene. Would we have gotten the same results? Depends... Most off-duty armed officers would ID themselves and quickly put down the gun. If not, you end up with the same shooting results. Now if Bradford was in uniform... again, a black man with a gun, you guessed it. So, did the responding officer overreact via stereotyping? Maybe.

"That's just the way it is!"

When Business Defines Morality

Each year during the holiday season my heart drifts back over the decades and I recall poems, songs and stories that have become part of my Christmas repertoire of precious memories. I do not know how many times I have seen acted on the stage and in films, or have heard or read Charles Dickens' story of Ebenezer Scrooge's encounter with the spirits of Christmases past, present and yet to come. As I review the story again this year, etched in my consciousness are two conversations, one between Scrooge and the ghost of Jacob Marley, Scrooge's departed business partner, and a second between Scrooge and a fundraiser seeking help for the poor.

Scrooge, following too rich a meal, is visited by Marley, who appears wrapped in chains.

"You are fettered," said Scrooge, trembling. "Tell me why?"

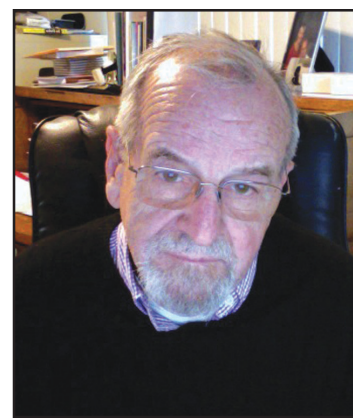
"I wear the chain I forged in life," replied the Ghost. "I made it link by link, and yard by yard; I girded it on of my own free will, and of my own free will I wore it. Is its pattern strange to you?"

"But you were always a good man of business, Jacob," faltered Scrooge, who now began to apply this to himself.

"Business!" cried the Ghost, wringing its hands again. "Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence, were, all, my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!"

While Marley and Scrooge were both far wealthier than most others in London, it was at the cost of ignoring the misery around them, as evidenced by Scrooge's refusal, in the following conversation, to make any contribution for the relief of the very poor.

"At this festive season of the year, Mr. Scrooge," said the gentleman, taking up a pen, "it is more than usually desirable that we should make some slight provision for the Poor and Destitute, who suffer greatly at the present time.



Charles H. Bayer

Many thousands are in want of common necessities; hundreds of thousands are in want of common comforts, sir."

"Are there no prisons?" asked Scrooge.

"Plenty of prisons," said the gentleman, laying down the pen again.

"And the Union workhouses?" demanded Scrooge. "Are they still in operation?"

"They are. Still" returned the gentleman, "I wish I could say they were not."

"The Treadmill and the Poor Law are in full vigour, then?" said Scrooge.

"Both very busy, sir."

"Oh! I was afraid, from what you said at first, that something had occurred to stop them in their useful course," said Scrooge. "I'm very glad to hear it."

"Under the impression that they scarcely furnish Christian cheer of mind or body to the multitude," returned the gentleman, "a few of us are endeavouring to raise a fund to buy the Poor some meat and drink, and means of warmth. We choose this time, because it is a time, of all others, when Want is keenly felt, and Abundance rejoices. What shall I put you down for?"

"Nothing!" Scrooge replied. "You wish to be anonymous?"

"I wish to be left alone," said Scrooge. "Since you ask me what I wish, gentlemen, that is my answer. I don't make merry myself at Christmas and I can't afford to make idle people merry. I help to support the establishments I have mentioned — they cost enough; and those who are badly off must go

there."

"Many can't go there; and many would rather die."

"If they would rather die," said Scrooge, "they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population."

When ethical sensitivity is smothered by a thirst for and the glorification of business, we must ask what ethical pattern is really being followed.

This recently came front and center when the President of this already great nation submerged all sense of what is right in the name of business. When a prominent writer for an American newspaper—or any person—is lured into a place where he was to be murdered and his body chopped up, and Trump says that both his personal and the nation's commercial interests prohibit any sense of outrage, America's role as a moral leader has been abdicated.

The economy represents an important aspect of who we are, and is to be honored. But when our President defies business interests and puts them above common decency, we must ask, "Mr. Trump, have you no shame?" This failure of moral consciousness is compounded because he represents all of us who now are shamed. What must happen requires the political party he represents to finally say, "Enough is enough," and realize that the recovery of America's soul requires it to repudiate him. If we the people are now represented by someone who judges a vicious immoral act only by how it affects business, the shame that lies on him now covers all of us. The rest of the world, except for a few dictators, knows that the American emperor has no clothes, and that means we are all morally naked.

Contact Charles Bayer at chandwbayer@verizon.net



The Reactionary And Emotional Markets

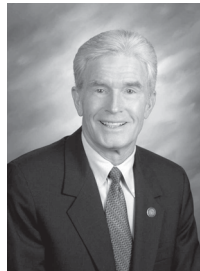
For the past few weeks my Wall Street colleagues have been carefully dissecting if and when the market will have effectively priced in the many negative scenarios that prompted what is now a two-month correction. The S&P has shed over 10% and the Nasdaq has fallen 14.6%. If it weren't for the healthcare, utilities, consumer staples, and specialty REIT sectors, the declines would be considerably worse. For growth stock investors, the losses have been particularly painful.

Taking into account the market's full-blown retest of October lows, some of the headwinds that investors cited in late September have certainly abated. Rising inflation has tapered with the softening of home prices, the softening of many commodities, and the crushing sell-off in global crude prices. WTI crude recently closed at near \$50 per barrel, a 13-month low despite the bullish trend in natural gas that has emerged in the past six weeks.

It seems logical that investors and the Fed can put the threat of meaningful inflation risk aside for now. But that is not quite how the bond market sees it. As of November 24, rate hike expectations have declined a bit, but are not nearly at a level that would suggest the Fed won't go ahead and raise the fed funds rate a quarter point to 2.25%-2.50% on December 19, their next FOMC meeting.

The fed funds futures market still sees a strong chance that the FOMC will increase the fed funds target range in December, but the implied probability of

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

another hike in March has decreased significantly. So, unless economic data deteriorates further in the next two weeks, it appears as if the Fed likely could raise rates and offer a wait-and-see dovish statement in their policy statement. That's what the bond market is telegraphing. However, if the Fed elects not to raise rates, stocks will react in a bullish manner that could help repair a lot of damage. Traders I talk with say a significant rally could easily occur.

We just don't know if Fed Chairman Jerome Powell and the rest of the voting members of the Fed are as concerned with the market's recent drop as the majority of those invested in it. Recent statements from Powell and other Fed officials haven't given any clear indication that they are considering a pass on a rate hike in December. Regardless, hopes are rising that the Fed will eye the recent rally in bond prices and the steep fall in stock prices and take the "wait and see" path next month instead of next year.

It seems logical that since crude oil prices have plunged, and inflation is cooling off fast, it is

possible that the Fed may reconsider its anticipated December key interest hike. However, it may take plunging Treasury yields to cause the Fed to postpone its planned December key interest rate hike. Never the less, if the Fed, via its Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) statement in December, says that it will pause raising key interest rates, I expect that the stock market could easily explode to the upside!

Looking forward, many of my colleagues expect dividend growth stocks to lead the stock market recovery. Additionally, they expect that the stocks that can sustain strong sales and earnings momentum will also emerge as market leaders in the upcoming weeks. Virtually all industry sectors have broken down, so quality stock picking will prevail in the upcoming weeks and months.

The ensuing correction has taken a significant toll across most sectors, but it hasn't necessarily broken the primary long-term uptrend (at least for now). And if the Fed is correct in their 2019 GDP forecast, calling for 2.5% growth, then we should see a resumption of upside momentum before Christmas. That should eventually bring the kind of relief that few gifts under the tree could surpass.

LIVE LOCAL, SHOP LOCAL - THIS IS THE TIME OUR MERCHANTS NEED US

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

Your Money - Ask Julia

I like to legally increase my taxable deductions for 2018. Any suggestions?

If you are a homeowner, make your January mortgage payment in December so that you get that extra amount of interest deduction. If you are close to reaching the limit for the medical expenses deduction, and were putting off a medical procedure until 2019, reschedule for 2018. Or, purchase a long-term care insurance policy, as this also counts under the medical deduction. Making a contribution to an individual IRA might help, too. If you are a business owner or independent contractor, you could buy items in 2018 (see IRS Schedule C) for use in 2019. It would be best talk with a CPA.

Is it possible to take some money from my retirement account at work and move it into an IRA?

This type of move is called an "in-service distribution." Check with H.R., or see if your retirement plan document indicates whether or not your employer-sponsored retirement plan permits you to roll over some of these funds into an Individual Retirement Arrangement while you are still working for that employer. If allowable, and if done correctly, it should not cause a taxable event, and there should be no early (pre-age 59 ½) withdrawal IRS penalty of 10%. Some may be wondering why you want your own IRA. Reasons for moving some of your retirement money are: freedom to participate in a wider range of allocation choices, better guarantees (like a guarantee that you cannot lose your principal), better protection in case the company goes bankrupt, and



Julia Yoder

more control over distribution to beneficiaries.

My uncle recently died. He named me as the beneficiary on his annuity. Is this like life insurance? How do I make the claim?

I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Trying to make the claim incorrectly can result in a considerable loss of funds. How you file the claim and receive that payout depends on that specific annuity policy's rules, whether or not it's within a trust, or if your uncle set up any other payout guidelines. For right now, do nothing until you thoroughly review the annuity policy. A life insurance agent, or a call to the annuity company, would be helpful.

Which is best: an annuity, or life insurance with a cash account?

It depends on your specific situation and needs, and what you want that investment to do for you. Each product has its own advantages. Life insurance offers you a higher payout for your beneficiaries if you were to pass sooner than later, and some of the money you pay is used to cover the premium. Life insurance with a cash account offers you the death benefit, plus the tax-advan-

tagged potential pot of money to access while you are alive. Annuities can be a way to save for retirement, with company-backed guarantees that you cannot lose your money. There are long-term annuities, and there are immediate annuities with scheduled monthly or annual payouts. If you don't qualify for life insurance, it's a simple choice to go with an annuity.

Other than the obvious, what are the advantages and disadvantages of annuities with a bonus compared to those without a bonus?

Annuities with a bonus often offer to pay lower interest rates, whereas annuities without a bonus sometimes offer a higher interest rate. It's all a matter of figuring out what's best for each individual. Although I can inform you through this column, it's in a very general way, for your education. Each person has their own current situation along with different goals on what they want their money to do for them. An individual analysis of these details is necessary to determine what is most suitable for you.

Ask Julia by email: juliayoder@yahoo.com

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THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Alternative Cars – What's the Latest?

I was going through my past articles and I wrote this one in November of 2010. It is interesting to read and realize we have come a long way...and then again...not so much. Below I have italicized the "latest" for your perusal.

Almost 100 years ago we were weighing the pros and cons of electric cars versus gasoline powered cars. We were beginning to get better roads and wanted to go further and faster than the electric cars of the time would allow. The peak of the electric car was reached in 1912. At that time an electric roadster sold for \$1,750, while a gasoline car sold for \$650. Seems we have come full circle.

Here is a list of concerns that consumers currently have about purchasing an alternative vehicle:

- Batteries are toxic and concerns have been raised about landfills overflowing with corrosive and carcinogenic materials found in used batteries.
- Drivers are having "range anxiety" as they aren't used to considering how many miles they can drive before they have to recharge.
- Electric cars are expensive compared to their gasoline fueled counterparts.
- Consumers are concerned that if they purchase an electric or hybrid car now before they are "proven" they may be stuck with an obsolete vehicle.
- Currently it takes hours to recharge when consumers are used to minutes to refuel at the pump.

What are the "gurus" saying?

The gurus are saying that the sales of alternative vehicles will be slow. Hybrids/electrics may reach 3.2 million in sales by 2015. China is predicted to have 27% of the sales followed by the United States at 26%. By 2020 one in ten new cars in Europe will be electric and one in ten new cars will be hybrid. Only time will tell.

Times are changing quickly and those in technology are working hard. Many feel positive that we can overcome the challenges by recycling the batteries and have charging systems that take minutes instead of hours. It is difficult at best to forecast the future and a down economy doesn't help.

Just remember, the car did eventually replace the horse as our chief form of transportation.

Last year, with 1,223,600 EVs sold globally, a 58 percent sales increase was reached over 2016. China led the way for battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle sales with a 73 percent growth surge last year. However, that still only represented 1.3 percent of total global new passenger vehicle sales last year. April 30, 2018

Wikipedia: The fleet of hybrid

electric vehicles in the United States, with over 4 million units sold through April 2016, is the second largest in the world after Japan (over 5 million). American sales of hybrid electric vehicles represent about 36% of the more than 11 million hybrids sold worldwide through April 2016. Since their inception in 1999, a total of 4,058,258 hybrid electric automobiles and sport utility vehicles have been sold in the country through May 2016. Sales of hybrid vehicles in the U.S. began to decline following the financial crisis of 2007-08, and after a short recovery, began to decline again in 2014 due to low gasoline prices. Hybrid sales in the American market achieved its highest market share ever in 2013, capturing 3.19% of new car sales that year, and dropped below 2% by April 2016.

As always, I'll keep you posted!

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Hometown Service You Can Count On!

Police Department Issues Holiday Safety Tips to Avoid Theft and Crime

MONTEREYPARK - 'Tis the season to be jolly! Holiday safety shines brightest from late November to mid January when families gather, parties are scheduled and travel spikes. Holiday season is a special time of the year. It is also a time when people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. The Monterey Park Police Department wants to remind you to stay safe during this holiday season by taking these basic precautions:

- Be aware of suspicious activity around you.
- Lock the doors and windows of your home and vehicle.
- Be aware of your surroundings as you leave or approach your vehicle.

Managing Holiday Stress

ARCADIA – Do you love the holiday season, but sometimes it leaves you feeling stressed? Arcadia Public Library is hosting a hands-on workshop with instructor Jingjing Zhu, who will teach the basic techniques of meditation and mindfulness practice to help you more effectively handle holiday stress.

Free, no registration required. For more information, please call 626.821.5569 or visit the Arcadia Public Library's website at www.ArcadiaCA.gov/library.

• Do not leave valuables in sight.

• If carrying a purse or wallet, be extra careful as they are prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping malls.

• Do not overload yourself with shopping bags. It is important to be mobile in a dangerous situation.

• Locate your keys prior to going to your car.

• Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers de-

livering gifts.

• Leave your television, lights or radio on so the house appears occupied.

• After Christmas, don't put empty boxes advertising your new products in your trash can. Break them down instead.

For additional information, contact the Monterey Park Police Department's Community Services Bureau at 626-307-1215 or to report a crime call 626-573-1311.

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Around the Valley & Senior News

AZUSA

Volunteer Drivers Needed

Do you have some extra time to spare? Are you a good driver? The Azusa Senior Center has a great volunteer opportunity for you! The Azusa Senior Center is currently recruiting volunteer drivers to deliver lunches to our homebound seniors in the city of Azusa between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Lynda Prewitt for more information at (626) 812-5204, ext. 5303.

TOPS Meeting

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) #950 Azusa has been serving the San Gabriel Valley since 1967 and has successfully supported and assisted men and women in their pursuit to lose weight. Through group support to start living the good life by eating healthy and doing exercise.

TOPS is a non-profit weight loss group which meets weekly every Thursday at 9:00AM to 11:00AM at Soldano Senior Village in their meeting room in Azusa. There is no obligation, all visitors are welcome.

For more information, call Norm Klemz, 626-967-8829

ARCADIA

Scrapbooking Studio After School Film Fun

Arcadia Public Library hosts a monthly movie program for middle-school students. All middle schoolers are invited to attend a showing of a new fun movie on Friday, **December 7**, at 3:30 p.m. at the Arcadia Public Library. Meet up with friends, and enjoy a great, new movie and tasty snacks. For more information, please call 626.821.5566 or visit the Arcadia Public Library's website at www.ArcadiaCA.gov/library. The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia.

Instructors Needed

Do you have a talent you want to share or have a love for teaching? The City of Arcadia is always looking for quality, dedicated instructors to offer a variety of programs to residents and surrounding communities. The best contract instructor candidates are individuals who combine a sincere interest in community service with a desire to supplement their existing income. Go to www.ArcadiaCA.gov/recreation for the Prospective Instructor Application or call the Recreation Office for more information.

Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

The Arcadia Senior Card Club is accepting new members. Arcadia residency is not required. Play contract bridge or pinochle. The group meets at the Assistance League Community House, 100 So. Santa Anita Avenue every Monday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch is provided for a nominal fee or bring your own lunch.

The group is open to men and women 50 or older. The annual dues are \$5.00. For more information call 626-281-6771.

BALDWIN PARK

Holiday Lights Cruise

Spend a relaxing evening under the stars cruising Newport Bay aboard a fully decorated parade ship on Thursday, **December 6th** from 2:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Experience all of the holiday activities and décor centering around the boat parade in this 75

minute tour. With all of the holiday décor, music, activities and amazing light displays, you don't want to miss out on this! Walking distance from the Balboa Pier with many restaurants and quick food stops in the area. Meals not included. Tickets are \$30 for Baldwin Park Residents and \$35 for Non-Residents. Limited tickets! For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

Annual Christmas Dance

Come celebrate and dance during the holiday at the Julia McNeill Senior Center on Saturday, **December 8th** from 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm. There will be live music performance, raffles, and much more! Hot meals will also be available for a nominal fee of \$6.00. \$15 for pre-sale tickets and \$20 at the door. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

A Christmas Carol at Pasadena Playhouse:

Join us on Saturday, **December 15th** from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm for everybody's favorite holiday humbug, Ebenezer Scrooge, on a fantastical journey that celebrates the spirit of the season as A Noise Within presents Charles Dickens' beloved story A Christmas Carol, as adapted by the company's own Geoff Elliott. This holiday show tells the story of surly miser Scrooge, whose cold heart has isolated him from his community and the spirit of Christmas. Watch as visits from Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future send Scrooge on his transformational journey to rejoin the world, find redemption and discover what it means to open your heart and be fully human. We will be stopping by Souplantation for brunch before heading to the playhouse (meals at your own expense). Tickets are \$50 for Baldwin Park Residents and \$55 for Non-Residents. Limited Tickets! For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

Birthday Celebration

Join the Julia McNeill Senior Center monthly Birthday Celebration on the third Wednesday (**Dec 19**) of the month from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm. Dance to the music of DJ Sonic Boom as active adults celebrate their birthday. Have some cake and lots of music, as well as door prizes for your celebration! \$1 door admission. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

McNeill Fitness Program

A challenging but accessible workout regimen, which includes basic calisthenics, arm workouts, legs and torso, and a steady run/walk around Morgan Park. Nutritional guidance is also offered. Eating well and exercising will not only improve your overall health, but also improves your mood and energy levels. Group meets in senior center dining hall Monday through Thursday from 8:00am – 9:00am. This class is free to participate. For more information on the class or registering, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

COVINA

BUNCO!

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department is hosting BUNCO at the Covina Senior Center (temporarily located at Lark Ellen Elementary School, 4555 N. Lark Ellen Ave., Covina) on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 1-3 p.m. The cost is \$2. For more information, call (626) 384-5380.

Indoor Chair Beach

Volleyball

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department hosts "Indoor Chair Beach Volleyball" at the Covina Senior Center (temporarily located at Lark Ellen Elementary School, 4555 N. Lark Ellen Ave., Covina) on Thursdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m. For more information, call (626) 384-5380.

DUARTE

Santa's Holiday Party

Santa's Holiday Party is scheduled for Wednesday, **December 19th** and will take place from 4:00-5:30 pm at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive. This event is free and for children ages 5-12. Space is limited to the first 90 participants; therefore, an RSVP is required and can be made by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931. Guests will enjoy holiday games, special crafts, music, prizes, refreshments and quality time with Santa Claus!

Duarte Museum Needs Docents

It's fun and educational! Volunteer to serve as a docent at the Duarte Historical Museum in Encanto Park. You will serve about every other month on a Wednesday (1-3 p.m.) or Saturday (1-4 p.m.) with a seasoned docent who will train you. Greet visitors, show them around the museum and learn about local history. Training sessions are available. Call Claudia at (626) 358-0329 for more information.

Blood Pressure Checks

Health Care Partners will provide a medical assistant to do free blood pressure checks. No appointment needed. **Every 2nd Tuesday** of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For more information call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

Meals on Wheels

Eligible seniors can receive a hot lunch and cold dinner plate delivered each weekday, or seven frozen meals delivered once a week by YWCA Intervale Senior Services. For more information, please contact the Duarte Senior Center at 357-3513 or Intervale at (626) 214-9465.

Senior Lunch

The Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over 60 years, or the spouse of someone over age 60, and must check in by 11:45 a.m. for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling 357-3513, 24 hours in advance, and 48 hours, in advance, for a choice day. The suggested donation is \$3. The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive.

Alzheimer's Safe Return Registration

Safe return is a service of the Alzheimer's Association to help identify, locate and return Alzheimer's victims who wander and become lost. The one time registration includes identification items, preventative information, membership in the Alzheimer's Association, and participation in a nationwide search system. Call the Duarte Senior Center at 357-3513 for an appointment.

Volunteering Does Your Heart Good!

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a Senior Center volunteer. For more information call 357-3513.

GLENDORA

Glendora After Stroke Center

A non-fee program for stroke survivors and their families. This supportive program offers re-

learning (reading, writing, speech), caregiver support, current events, card games, snacks, resocialization, exercise, music, speakers, day field trips, and stroke support. Lunch is available (\$3 senior lunch or \$2.75 deli sandwich). For more information, please call Sonia Schupbach at (626) 963-6186. The program is **Wednesdays** 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Co-sponsored by The After Stroke Center and the Glendora Community Services Department.

Cars 4 the Community

Glendora Rotary has a new and exciting vehicle donation program, called Cars 4 the Community. We are asking for your old car, boat, motorcycle or RV, running or not, be donated and receive a 100% tax deduction for the proceeds. This program helps our schools, community, country and the world. Call 626-963-0814 for more information.

Instructors Needed At The La Fetra Center

The City of Glendora's La Fetra Center is looking for new class instructors! We are seeking out instructors to teach the following: Cooking classes, Spanish lessons, and American Sign Language (ASL) classes. Share your talents with your peers! If you would like more information on teaching a class at the La Fetra Center contact Jennelle Markel at (626)9148-8235, or email at jmarkel@ci.glendora.ca.us.

LA VERNE

Senior Holiday Luncheon

The City of La Verne and the La Verne Rotary Club invite you to their Annual Senior Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, **December 6**, at 11:30am! Take pictures with Santa (provided by Inter Valley Health Plan), enjoy a free delicious meal, entertainment by the Bonita High School Chamber Singers, and a raffle! You must be 60 years or older and registered with nutrition program to attend. To R.S.V.P. or for more information, please call (909) 596-8776. Seating is limited.

Get About Transportation

Get About provides transportation for seniors aged 60+ and disabled residents of Claremont, La Verne, Pomona, and San Dimas. The door-to-door service can be used for shopping, doctor's appointments, church, senior nutrition sites and many other locations within the four cities. The service operates seven days a week and membership is free.

To Register: (909) 621-9900. To Schedule a ride: (909) 596-5964. For more information, contact Abby Nuyda at 909.621.9900, Extension 228.

MONROVIA

Senior Blood Pressure Screenings

The Department of Community Services invites active adults and seniors, 50 years and older, to attend a monthly blood pressure screening. The free program is hosted by Methodist Hospital. The program is designed to detect high blood pressure. For additional information, please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256-8246.

Blood Pressure Screenings is at the Community Center, 119 West Palm Avenue on the **Second Tuesday of the month** from 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. and on the **Fourth Wednesday of the month** from 9:00am - 10:00am

Caring Crafters

If you have an interest in knitting, crocheting and hand work or would like to learn, join us at the Monrovia Community Center **every Wednesday**. The Friendly Crafters is a social group that meets every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is designed to foster friendships

and provide social opportunities while crocheting and knitting. The group always welcomes new participants to teach and share new ideas! This free program is offered to all Seniors and Active Adults! Crafters meet every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Monrovia Community Center.

Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

Stretching is essential for our bodies. The Department of Community Services invites seniors to join our weekly senior stretching and exercise class. The class includes stretching techniques geared toward seniors over 50, though the class is great for anyone in need of a good routine. Movement increases range of motion, relaxation, and decreases risk of injury. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Bring a towel and bottled water. For additional information, please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256-8246.

Classes are at the Community Center, 119 West Palm Avenue on Mondays from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Fee: \$2 per class.

SAN DIMAS

San Dimas

Toastmasters Club

The San Dimas chapter of Toastmasters International, Toast To The Best Club, Club # 5880 meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7PM to 8:45 PM. Learn to motivate and lead. Challenge yourself with Toastmaster's proven education programs. Let us help you grow your strengths and accomplish your goals. Become a better speaker and learn to communicate with confidence. Learn these skills and more in a supportive, self-paced, fun atmosphere. Meets at the Faith Lutheran Church, Parish Hall, 505 E Bonita Ave. Contact Art Douglas at (951) 505-0555.

WEST COVINA

TOPS Meeting

19th Annual Winter Wonderland

LA VERNE - Children can enjoy two snow runs, two snow play lands (with real snow!), arts and crafts, a cup of hot cocoa and a doughnut at "Mrs. Claus' Cozy Kitchen", and of course visit Santa at the gazebo! Winter Wonderland is on Saturday, **December 8**, from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Parents be sure to bring your cameras for this wonderful photo oppor-

tunity. Kids should dress for snow: mittens, gloves, boots and jackets. Sliding saucers will be provided. There will also be food and refreshments for purchase and craft vendors for early Christmas shopping.

Anyone wishing to have a booth or sponsoring a snow play area should contact the La Verne Community Center at (909) 596-8776.

Friendship Garden Club Boutique and Bake Sale

COVINA - The Friendship Garden will hold its Christmas Boutique and Bake Sale at its regular meeting on Thursday, **December 13** at 11:00 am. The Club meets at the Covina Woman's Club, 128 S. San Jose Avenue in Covina. Following a brief business meet-

ing, a program on natural planting will be presented by Ashlee Armstrong from the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens. A tea will be held following the speaker's presentation. All interested parties are welcome to attend. For more information, call 626-422-7904.

Day of the Lady Guadalupe Cultural Celebration

BALDWIN PARK - On Wednesday, **December 12th** from 9:00 am – 11:30 am, we will be hosting a cultural event celebrated by certain religious groups in Latin America. It is the Day of the Lady of Guadalupe, the day that the Virgin appeared before a peasant named Juan Diego in 1531. A cultural presentation will be provided followed by perfor-

mances by Coyolxauhqui Telpochcalli Aztec Dance Group, and Mariachi Juevenil Grullense. An altar dedicated to the Virgin of Guadalupe, will be present. Coffee and sweetbread will be provided. Tickets are \$5. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

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Citrus College Trustee Joanne Montgomery Honored by Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association

MONROVIA - Joanne Montgomery, vice president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, was awarded the Outstanding Educator Award at the 26th annual Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association (MDBAA) Gala held at the Doubletree Hotel in Monrovia on Nov. 3.

For the past two and a half decades, MDBAA has provided peer support and scholarships to students from Monrovia and Duarte high schools. MDBAA names scholarship and award winners during each year's gala. The theme of this year's event was "Celebrating Educators."

According to MDBAA President Larry Spicer, organization members conducted interviews within the Monrovia and Duarte communities to identify the educators who had the greatest impact on their students' lives. The top 12 chosen would be presented with the Outstanding Educator Award. Not only was Mrs. Montgomery among the top 12, she also was the individual who garnered the most nominations.

"Educators such as Joanne Montgomery influenced thousands of people throughout Monrovia and Duarte," said Mr. Spicer. "Recognizing Mrs. Montgomery at our gala touched many of those in attendance. She instilled in her students not only a desire to learn, but the inspiration to become better and more empathetic people."

"On behalf of the entire Citrus College community, I commend Mrs. Montgomery on this noteworthy honor," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "As a trustee, her passion for education has never waned. She is a constant source of inspiration and offers invaluable



Photo courtesy Citrus College.

Citrus College Trustee Joanne Montgomery (center) was awarded the Outstanding Educator Award at the 26th annual Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association Gala.

able wisdom from her long and distinguished career."

Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, president of the board of trustees, added: "I am privileged to serve alongside Joanne Montgomery. Her many contributions to education are profound. It is a testament to her legacy that she was selected among the greatest educators in the Monrovia and Duarte communities 20 years after her retirement."

Mrs. Montgomery taught in the Monrovia Unified School

District and the Duarte Unified School District for 32 years. She instructed various grade levels, but enjoyed teaching fourth and fifth grades the most.

"I really cared about my students," said Mrs. Montgomery. "I saw each one as a success and enjoyed providing extra tutoring time or whatever else they needed to achieve their goals. I am truly honored to have received this award from some of my former students, so many years later."

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Monterey Park Fire Department "Spark of Love Toy Drive" Now Underway Through December 24

MONTEREY PARK - The Monterey Park Fire Department wishes each and everyone a joyous and safe holiday season. Each year, the Monterey Park Fire Department participates in the Spark of Love toy drive. This is a great opportunity for those that are capable to give to those that are less fortunate. The holiday season is a time of giving and this year is no different. Each year, we end up collecting more gifts than the prior years, and that is a testament to the willingness to give that makes Monterey Park such a great place to live.

The Monterey Park Fire Department will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for deserving families within our community. The Spark of Love Toy Drive runs from November 23 to December 24, 2018. Collection sites will include all three Monterey Park Fire Stations: Station 1 at 350 W. Newmark; Station 2 at 2001 S.



Garfield; and Station 3 at 704 Monterey Pass Road. If you have a large donation of toys, please deliver those to Fire Station 1.



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Encino 17609 Ventura Blvd., #106	West Hills 7345 Medical Center Dr., #400		

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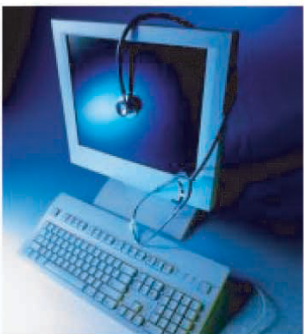
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International Cultural Club of San Dimas Holds Board Meeting



Those attending the Board Meeting were Roger Poole, Pearl Poole, Gladys Dyo, Victoria Lopez (President), David Aston, Hemant Shah, Vara King, Gustavo Hernandez, Gisela Pickens, and Marianne Goodman.

By Jayam Rutnam

SAN DIMAS - The International Cultural Club held their Board Meeting at the Senior Center in San Dimas. Attended by the President Victoria Lopez and her Committee of very active members, it was a spirited and enthusiastic meeting filled with ideas for the future and also upcoming functions. They

discussed the Annual Christmas Party which will be held on December 8th at 2 p.m. at Lupe Karady in Azusa, Ca. and also the 7th Anniversary Party Gala to be held on Saturday January 19th at the La Verne Mobile Country Club in La Verne, Ca.

They also discussed the possibility of planning a two night bus trip to Yosemite, Ca. and also the screening of a movie

which is entered in the Best Picture category for the Academy Awards. The screening of "According to Matthew" will be at the Laemmle Theater in Glendale from December 14th to December 20th.

The International Country Club of San Dimas was founded in the year 2012 by President Victoria Lopez.

Ardent Group Raises Funds And Awareness For Shepherd's Pantry

GLENDORA - The ARDENT Group hosted the 5th Annual "Gathering" event-an annual fundraising event benefiting Shepherd's Pantry. Shepherd's Pantry provides emergency food, clothing, resource assistance and educational programs to families in need during times of crisis. They provide the necessary tools and resources to help families become self-sufficient.

On Thursday, November 8th, community enthusiasts

gathered together at the beautiful Glendora Gardens Nursery to enjoy music, giveaways from all ARDENT businesses, delicious food and guest speakers from Shepherd's Pantry.

The event was a huge success. Awareness and compassion was raised for the families that Shepherd's Pantry services and over \$7,000 was raised and truckloads of food and clothing was donated.

The ARDENT Group's mission is to empower women by providing them with unique

products, services, experiences and by supporting local community efforts benefiting women and their families. The ARDENT businesses include: Fiorina, Visiting Angels, Spin 360 Core Fitness, Glendora Gardens Nursery, Luxe Salon, Glendora Gardens Nursery, Simpson Portraits and Glendora Employment Agency.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/theardentgroup, and Shepherd's Pantry website at www.shepherds-pantry.com

Five Tips For Safety

For many of us, this season is a time to celebrate the holidays with family and friends. Unfortunately, thieves take advantage of the holidays to steal packages containing gifts for loved ones or supplies needed for holiday celebrations.

The Postal Service™ looks forward to delivering a great deal of holiday cheer along with more than 15 billion mail pieces. The United States Postal Inspection Service®, the federal law enforcement arm of the Postal Service, is working around-the-clock to keep your important shipments safe and prevent mail and parcel theft.

What can you do to ensure your gifts and cards are safe? Postal Inspectors are offering FIVE tips to help ensure your important packages reach their destination, and brighten the lives of friends and loved ones this

holiday season.

1. Don't leave delivered mail and packages unattended. Just as you would not leave your wallets and purses on the front seat of an unlocked car overnight, mail and packages should not be left sitting in mailboxes or on front porches for any length of time.

2. Going out of town? Hold Mail at the local Post Office®. If you plan on going out of town or know you won't be able to check your mail for a few days, consider using the Request Hold Mail service on USPS.com®. Letters and packages will be held securely at the local Post Office until you pick them up or request delivery.

3. Plan ahead. Ship using Hold for Pickup. When shipping packages, you can choose the Hold for Pickup option and the recipients can collect the packages at their local Post Office. If you are ex-

pecting a package, you can redirect it to your local Post Office by selecting Hold for Pickup using USPS Package Intercept®.

4. Customize the delivery. If you know the package will not fit in your mailbox and you won't be home to receive it, you can authorize the carrier to leave it in a specified location. Visit usps.com, enter the tracking number and select Delivery Instructions.

5. Secure the shipment using USPS Special Services. Signature Confirmation helps ensure the package ends up in the right hands by requiring a signature at the time of delivery. For your most valuable packages, you can opt for Registered Mail® service. Registered Mail receives special handling from the time it's mailed until the time it's delivered, with documentation every step of the way. (NAPSI)

Notice of Public Scoping Meeting

You are invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting hosted by the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority (also known as the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority) for the proposed modification to the possible phasing of construction and operation for the 12.3-mile, six-station Foothill Gold Line light rail extension from Glendora to Montclair (as shown in the map below), and for a proposed modification to the location of the future parking facility at the Pomona North Station from the north side of the station to the south side.

The Construction Authority is initiating the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) to the Glendora to Montclair Project. The purpose of the public scoping meeting is to solicit input on potential issues to be considered and addressed, as applicable, in the SEIR.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:
Monday, December 10, 2018
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
La Verne Community Center
3680 D Street, La Verne CA 91750

If you are unable to attend the scoping meeting in person, written comments will be accepted if received on or before January 4, 2019. Please address written comments to: Lisa Levy Buch, CCO, Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority, 406 East Huntington Drive, Suite 202, Monrovia, CA 91016-3633. Email: LLevyBuch@foothillgoldline.org

Learn More: www.foothillgoldline.org

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- 1) APY=Annual Percentage Yield and is accurate as of 11/01/2018. APY assumes that dividends will remain in the account until maturity. Minimum deposit is \$5,000 and \$250,000 maximum balance per member. Early withdrawal penalties do apply which may reduce the principal.
- 2) Saver TSC is 2.45% APY for 16 months up to \$250,000. Additional rate bump of 0.40% will be given to members who open a Saver TSC and have a checking account with minimum monthly direct deposit of \$1,000. Direct deposit must be a recurring electronic deposit from you or your joint owner's paycheck, pension, or government benefit (such as Social Security). The member has 30 days to set up and receive direct deposit to qualify for rate bump. Higher rate effective as of date recurring direct deposit is first credited to the checking account. At maturity, the promotional TSC will renew as a traditional TSC for another 12-month term at the prevailing rate unless we are notified in writing prior to the maturity date. This offer is for new funds or funds deposited less than 30 days prior to opening. Offer valid through 12/31/2018. All program rates, offers, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions apply. Existing members are eligible.
- 3) No statement fee with online statements. Paper statement fee may apply. Must qualify for membership.

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