



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

May 24 - 30, 2018

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Monrovia Troop 66 Takes to the Seas

LONG BEACH - Long Beach Sea Base, Long Beach, California, April 20th, 2018 Monrovia Troop 66 boards the SSS Conquest 564. This weekend holds for Troop 66 an intensive Sea Scout training for our "Land Scouts". Skipper Bradford of the SSS Conquest 564 invited Troop 66 to experience life as a Sea Scout. Sea Scouts is the hidden "Gem" of the BSA. Sea Scouts is a specialized program, organized to address a youth members' boating skills and promote knowledge of our maritime heritage.

Sea Scout units, called "ships," focus on sailing and cruising either sailboats, power vessels or paddle sports. During the boating season, Sea Scouts learn to maintain and operate vessels, with a focus on learning the safe and proper methods of handling boats. Sea Scouts also learn the meaning of buoys and lights, how to take advantage of wind and tide, and how to drop anchor or approach a dock.

Troop 66 was immersed into Introduction to Leadership Skills for Ships (ILSS). This course trained our Scouts in safe swim defense, safety afloat, stability in a boat, nautical nomenclature, use of oars and paddles, driving a motorboat, 50-yard swim check



SSS Conquest Safety briefing for Monrovia Troop 66

in the ocean, throw-row-go, nautical knots, water rescue with ringbouy's and monkey's fist.

Our scouts got a first-hand experience with skills and drills with marching and saluting. Emmanuel "E-Man" Palma, Boatswain's Mate gave an excellent course in marching and commands. The scouts went from 0% to 80% the first night in skills. Skipper Johnny Bradford who is not only an Eagle Scout but holds the Sea Scout award of Quarter Master. This is Sea Scouts equivalent to the Eagle Scout award. Skipper Bradford educated out scouts in basic seamanship and motorboating. Each scout was at the helm and learned how to handle a small fishing boat. First mate Dana Carkey, (91

years young) assisted Skipper Bradford in teaching the scouts about motorboating.

Kaitlyn Madland, Boatswain; Emmanuel Palma, Boatswain's Mate and Alec Johnson, Crew Leader educated our Patrol Leader Council several weeks prior to this training with a mini ILSS. The highlight of the training was watching two scouts from Troop 66 complete their BSA Swim test which is needed for rank advancement for 1st Class Scout. Leviathan Patrols own Nathan Juarez, 2nd Class Scout was the first to attempt, swimming 75 yards demonstrating 3 different strokes then 25 yards back stroke and floating. Next up was Adrian Guerro, 2nd Class Scout to attempt this undertaking. Scout Master Peters was on paddle board as Adrian jumped off the dock and

headed out. Slow but steady, never stopping, moving forward. Adrian and Nathan completed their swim test, the reason this is a huge accomplishment as anyone can undertake a swim test in a pool, they completed their test in the ocean. They fought off cold, waves and the knowledge they are doing this in the ocean.

Once training was completed all scouts were able to show off their skills on the sea kayaks and

paddle boards. Dawning their PFD's and paddles they spent 3 hours practicing water skills. The next morning, they were up and doing it all over again. This weekend could not have been possible without our amazing leaders, Sam Kurutz, ASM; Andra Arias, ASM; Redy Sanchez, ASM; Marivel Peters, EO; and the amazing Sea Scout leaders Johnny Bradford, Conquest Skipper, Eagle Scout and Quarter Master; Dana Carkey, First Mate; Emmanuel "E-Man" Palma, Boatswain's Mate; Bill Reed, Poseidon Skipper; Kaitlyn Madland, Boatswain and Alec Johnson, Crew Leader and Robert Williams, Mate.

If you are interested in Sea Scouts, please contact Skipper Johnny Bradford of the SSS Conquest 564. Email: JohnnyB0647@gmail.com. SSS Conquest is berthed near Mother's Beach, under the 2nd St Bridge at 5875 E. Appian Way, Long Beach, CA 90803.



Troop 66 Senior Patrol Leader Austin Arias & Quartermaster Degas Peters (Photo by SM Mark Peters)

Rookie West Covina Police K-9 Finds the Mother Load of Meth During Traffic Stop

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - On Saturday, May 19, at 7:20 PM, West Covina Police Officers conducted a traffic stop on a Silver 2010 Nissan Rogue for a vehicle code violation in the area of Vincent Ave and the Interstate 10 Freeway in West Covina. During the course of the stop, methamphetamine was located under the driver's seat of the vehicle. The driver was detained and a narcotic detection K9 was summoned to the scene. The K9 alerted on the vehicle, leading the officers to believe there was additional methamphetamine in the vehicle.

The vehicle was impounded and brought back to the police station where additional methamphetamine was located in two hidden compartments, one under the driver's seat and one under the front passenger seat. The suspect, identified as Pedro Lopez (28 years old) of Paramount, was arrested and booked for possession of methamphetamine for sale and transporting narcotics in a hidden compartment. Bail was set at \$1,000,000.00. It does not



K9 Rye's Mother Load of Meth

appear that Lopez has a previous arrest record in L.A. County.

The total weight of methamphetamine was approximately 60 lbs. K9 Rye is the departments

newest K9, and was field certified in narcotic detection in April 2018. This is Rye's first narcotic detection since being field certified.

Assemblywoman Rubio Convenes Workforce Development Roundtable at Citrus College



Citrus College Trustee Dr. Barbara R. Dickerson; Henry Custodia, Delafield Corporation; Kevin Morris, principal, Mt. Olive Innovation and Technology High School; Assemblywoman Blanca E. Rubio; Nadia Hillman, assistant superintendent, Duarte Unified School District; Citrus College Trustee Dr. Edward C. Ortel; Sheryl Lefmann, president/CEO, Duarte Chamber of Commerce; and Robert Cruz, public affairs manager, SoCalGas. Photo courtesy Citrus College.

GLENDORA - On May 4, California State Assemblywoman Blanca E. Rubio (AD 48) convened a Workforce Development Roundtable at Citrus College. Co-sponsored by Citrus College and the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), the forum brought industry and education leaders together to share ideas and discuss solutions to address the region's growing demand for a skilled workforce.

According to Assemblywoman Rubio, "Business leaders and educators coming together to discuss workforce needs is one part of the solution to closing the skills gap. Preparing students to compete for high-wage, high-demand careers is how we keep our communities strong."

Participants from the education community included Citrus College; Mt. San Antonio College; Rio Hondo College; Cali-

fornia State Polytechnic University, Pomona; Azusa Pacific University; the University of La Verne; and several K-12 unified school districts. Representatives from SoCalGas, Delafield Corporation, Athens Services, the City of Hope and Kaiser Permanente, as well as the Duarte, Glendora and Monrovia chambers of commerce, provided the perspective of local businesses.

By focusing on industry's current and future demand for skilled workers, participants discussed various types of career/technical training and ways to collaborate in the future to strategically address the growing gap between job openings and the availability of trained workers.

Citrus College is a strong advocate for career technical education (CTE) and the excellent job opportunities that are avail-

able to students enrolled in the college's CTE programs.

"We appreciate Assemblywoman Rubio's leadership in facilitating this Workforce Development Roundtable," said Dr. Rocky Cifone, dean of Career, Technical and Continuing Education. "Strong partnerships with business and industry are what keep Citrus College's curriculum relevant. And our collaboration with area school districts helps the college shape streamlined pathways to high-impact careers for our students."

As the roundtable concluded, there was consensus among participants that the event was extremely valuable. Assemblywoman Rubio expressed her pleasure at the outcome and said she was already planning to follow up on some opportunities for additional collaboration in the near future.

Glendora Teachers Receive Grants



GLENDORA - Six Glendora Unified School District teachers received \$500 Artist in Residence grants from the Glendora Kiwanians. The grants support innovative projects to bring art into the classroom. Teachers used the grants for an assortment of projects including to build a sound studio on campus, to teach

children native American dances and pottery, to purchase photo editing software, and to bring artists into the classroom to teach children how to draw and paint. Those receiving grants are: Mari Helm and Linda Shook from Whitcomb High School; Azvred Edwards from Sandburg Middle School; Christopher Burgan

from Glendora High School; Laura Chaput from Sandburg Middle School; and not pictured James Hauge also from Glendora High. The Glendora Kiwanians are a nonprofit service club which meets twice a month. For more information about the club visit their website at www.glendorakiwanians.org.

A Taste Of Broadway Joins St. Luke's Spring Music Season

June 9 San Gabriel Valley Choral Company concert will complement opera, baroque events



MONROVIA - The San Gabriel Valley Choral Company will present a concert of hits from Broadway musicals on Saturday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 122 S. California Avenue at Foothill Boulevard in Monrovia. Works will include selections from Les Miserables, Porgy and Bess and The Sound of Music; a medley of Andrew Lloyd Webber hits; and more. Tickets at \$20 (\$15 students/seniors, \$5 children under 12) may be ordered at eventbrite.com for a small handling fee. The ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Alexandra Grabarchuk, includes singers from the San Gabriel Valley, Inland Empire and other local communities. Their repertoire in-

cludes music from the Renaissance to the late 20th century.

Other May-June concerts at St. Luke's

Free classical opera concert Saturday, May 26, 5 p.m.

In preparation for a concert tour of Lebanon, mezzo-soprano Trisha Rivera and bass-baritone Raed Saade will perform with guest mezzo-soprano Megan Gillespie. Admission is free; donations in support of the tour are welcome. Rivera, who has sung throughout the US and Europe, is a soloist and alto section leader of the choir at St. Luke's. Saade, a contestant on NBC-TV's The Voice, has been heard in many regional opera productions. He is a soloist and section leader at

First Congregational Church of Los Angeles.

Jouissance Early Music Ensemble Sunday, June 3, 4 p.m.

The singers of Jouissance will join the instrumentalists of Los Angeles Baroque in a concert of works by Henry Purcell and other baroque composers. Tickets are \$25 for the general public, \$20 for seniors and Southern California Early Music Society members, and \$15 for students. They may be purchased at the door or ordered in advance at brownpapertickets.com. The LA-based Jouissance is dedicated to making music of the Medieval, Renaissance and early Baroque periods relevant to contemporary audiences.

Cuisines of the Foothills Enchantment Under The Sea



Director of the Glendora Chamber of Commerce Joe Cina and his wife Laura with some of the models of "Enchantment Under the Sea."

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - The beautiful Glendora Country Club was the venue of the 9th Annual Cuisines of the Foothills on May 15, 2018, with a theme of "Enchantment Under the Sea." There were mermaids with King Neptune who were aptly attired to add to the theme, with a bowl of fish at the cocktail tables.

The event was extremely well attended by Glendorans as well as residents from surrounding cities. Just about all the restaurants in Glendora and some in the other Foothill cities, also participated by serving samples of the food they provide at their restaurants.

Organized by the Glendora Chamber of Commerce, over 400 guests savored the samplings of a variety of foods, desserts, wines, local craft beers with almost 30 vendors in attendance.

While enjoying the food and drinks, the attendees were entertained by a Four Piece Combo.

The sponsors were Glendora Community Hospital, Athens Services, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), Sam's Club, Charter Oak Unified School District, Sport Clips Haircuts of Glendora, Foothill Credit Union, Landview Properties, INC, Night Owl Productions, America's Christian Credit Union, Grocery Outlet (Azusa, CA) SERVPRO of Glendora/San Dimas, Casa Colina, Senior Funding Associates, DLL Technologies, LLC, Glendora Tire & Brake Auto Center, Azusa Technology, Apex Global Solutions and Glendora Tire and Brake Auto Center, TelWorx Inc., Glendora Community Hospital, Top Billing Entertainment.

The participating vendors were Angel Tequila, Lagunitas Azusa

TapRoom & Beer Sanctuary, Clubhouse 66, California Grill Express, Glendora Country Club, DoubleTree by Hilton (Claremont, CA), Glendora Café & Bakery, Grocery Outlet, Luca Bella Fine Foods, Marie Callender's Restaurant & Bakery, Miller Brewing Company, Spaghetti Eddie's Cucina Italiana, Tiffany's Catering, City Cafe Restaurant and Bar, Bold BBQ, Crust and Crumble Bakery, Grecos Pizza Pasta, T. Phillip's Alehouse and Grill, Tardino Brothers, City Cafe, Alosta Brewing Company, Claremont Craft and Ales, Classic Wines, Bun Street, the Corner Butcher Shop, the Mermaid Grotto.

The 10th Annual Cuisines of the Foothills will be organized by the Glendora Chamber of Commerce in May 2019. This is an event that must not be missed.

Traffic Stop of Parole Gang Member Nets a Cache of Weapons

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - Officer Eric Melnyk and Officer Jose Marquez spotted a Jeep Patriot make an illegal right turn from Lark Ellen Avenue to Rowland Avenue just before 10 p.m. Monday, May 7th. Parolee Andrew Jose Solis, 28, of La Puente was behind the wheel. The officers saw a rifle case on the back seat and removed Solis from the vehicle. They found that he was on Parole and it would be illegal for him to own a firearm or to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. Further examination of the rifle case they found it contained a semi-automatic shotgun and an M-4 weapon.

A further search of the vehicle, they found he had a number of pistols and rifles as well. The rifles were semi-automatic assault type weapons. Solis was fully cooperative with police as he was arrested. He was able to post \$65,000 bail the next day and he's back out in the streets.

He is a member of a criminal gang in La Puente that is known to commit crimes on the elder-



Officers Eric Melnyk and Jose Marquez stand with the weapons they recovered during a traffic stop.

ly, and as well as being involved in child sex violations and trafficking among many other things that this gang is known for.

Mended Hearts

COVINA - Mended Hearts is a self-help organization that offers on-going peer to peer support to all types of heart patients and their families. In January 1951 four post-surgery patients started the Mended Hearts support group, becoming the second oldest self-help organization. There are over 300 local chapters and satellites nationwide. Mended Hearts partners with 460 hospitals and rehabilitation clinics. Citrus Valley Medical Center Inter-Community campus in Covina is the heart hospital in this area. Locally there are seven Accredited Visitors; they are accredited by both the hospital and by Mended Hearts, Inc. Mended Hearts volunteers at Inter-Community visit surgery patients with stints, pacemakers, bypass and valve replacements as well as other heart related problems. The patients are not the only ones who get support. A well informed care giver at home is paramount to the well-being of a heart sur-



Fred Sparling, heart surgery survivor and Tiffany Ramirez, Director of Volunteer Services at Citrus Valley Inter-Community Campus in Covina.

gery patient.

A success story is that of Fred Sparling. After his heart attack in 2004, Fred had a conversation with his cardiologist who told Fred what he needed to do. The advice is three fold: Fred needed to get as much GOOD information as possible. He needed to ask the right questions and lastly he needed to do the correct type of exercise for his heart. There-

fore, Fred has become a regular at Cardiac Rehab at Intercommunity Hospital for the last 13 years! Fred will tell you that "Cardiac Rehab and Mended Hearts give a heart patient a measure of control that may make a difference between life and death." It worked for Fred. For information about Mended Hearts or Cardiac Rehab email Fred at fgsparring@gmail.com.

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County Makes \$402 Million Investment In Fight Against Homelessness

Year 2 Measure H spending plan funds expansion of housing and outreach

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Building on an array of promising successes, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a \$402 million spending plan for 2018-2019 to widen and intensify its fight against homelessness.

The five-member board unanimously adopted dozens of recommendations for the second-year budget of Measure H, the voter-approved quarter-cent sales tax dedicated exclusively to providing services and programs to combat the homelessness crisis.

The newly-adopted budget targets a number of critical strategies in the County's comprehensive Homeless Action Plan. It includes \$120 million for shelter and interim housing, \$73 million for rapid re-housing, \$49 million for permanent supportive housing and \$30 million for outreach.

The plan expands on spending priorities adopted by the supervisors for Measure H's first year but provides greater flexibility to

meet emerging challenges and trends, such as the growing number of encampments throughout the county.

"Today's vote was an important milestone in continuing the difficult and essential work of bringing help and hope to our homeless neighbors," said Board Chair Sheila Kuehl. "The Measure H spending plan approved today by the Board builds on proven strategies and puts resources where they're needed most."

"As we enter the second year of this unprecedented effort," she added, "it's encouraging to see this collaborative process going forward in ways that are literally saving lives."

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis said the new Measure H spending plan offers hope for the "tens of thousands of Angelenos who live on the streets, in their cars, or in the homes of friends or family."

"Today's passage of Measure H funding expands our effort to make a positive impact in the lives of many of our homeless friends and neighbors," Solis said. "We will continue to do everything in our power to address the homelessness crisis through collaboration and innovative solutions that help lift up our most vulnerable residents."

Added Supervisor Kathryn Barger: "We are seeing despair transition to hope. From housing to mental health care, I look forward to continuing our efforts to address every facet of the homelessness crisis."

Measure H was passed by voters in March 2017, with services beginning the following July. In the nine months between then and March 2018, thousands of individuals and families have been helped.

The County is on track to meet

the initial five-year goal of Measure H—to provide permanent housing for 45,000 families and individuals, while preventing an additional 30,000 from falling into homelessness.

Among the most important successes so far:

- 10,330 people entered crisis, bridge and interim housing funded in whole or in part by Measure H.

- 5,239 homeless families and individuals secured permanent housing due specifically to funding from Measure H.

- 2,195 clients were linked to new Intensive Case Management Services slots for permanent supportive housing, 1,108 clients received federal rental subsidies and 808 clients received local rental subsidies.

- The L.A. County Housing Authority provided \$880,686 in incentives to landlords to help secure 403 housing units for disabled homeless adults/families with a federal rental subsidy.

- In growing numbers, multidisciplinary outreach teams have worked across the County to address the immediate needs of homeless residents and link them to programs and services.

- Countywide Benefits Entitlement Services Teams helped 5,703 disabled individuals with applications for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Veterans Disability Benefits.

- Homeless service providers added more than 1,000 new jobs across the region to bolster the delivery system. The County is supporting this rapid expansion through an online hub linking job seekers to non-profits at JobsCombatingHomelessness.org.

For more information on the county's Homeless Initiative and Measure H, please visit

Click It Or Ticket Campaign Starts

Glendora Police Department will show zero tolerance

GLENDORA - As the unofficial start of summer, the Memorial Day holiday weekend is a busy time for Californians. Each year, the highways fill with families in vehicles, on their way to start their summer vacations. To help keep drivers and passengers safe, the Glendora Police Department is reminding motorists to Click It or Ticket. The national seat belt campaign will take place May 21 through June 3, concurrent with the busy travel season.

The Glendora Police Department will deploy additional officers during the two-week campaign on special traffic patrols specifically to stop and ticket both drivers and passengers for failing to use the vehicle's safety belt restraints. This will also include drivers who fail to secure children in the proper child restraint seats.

"Buckling up is such a simple task that can keep you and your family safe in the car," said Chief Lisa G. Rosales, Glendora Police Department. "But it's more than that. Buckling up is the law. Our law enforcement personnel see the consequences of not buckling

up. We see the loss of life and injuries at the scene of a crash. Often, deaths could have been prevented and injuries reduced with the simple click of a seat belt. This should be automatic."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half (48%) of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in 2016 were unrestrained. At night from 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m., that number soared to 56 percent of those killed. That's why one focus of the Click It or Ticket campaign is nighttime enforcement. Police, Sheriff and the CHP will be taking a no-excuses approach to seat belt law enforcement, writing citations day and night. In California, the minimum penalty for a seat belt violation is \$162.

"This Memorial Day period and, in fact, every day, we want everyone in every vehicle to remember that buckling up could be their greatest defense in a crash," said Rhonda Craft, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "Putting on a seat belt is one of the quickest, simplest and most effective ways to ensure

you and your loved ones remain safe and sound on the road."

In 2016, 1 Glendora community member was killed while not wearing their seat belt. Across Los Angeles County, 61 people died unrestrained as either a driver or passenger. Statewide, 426 individuals were found to be unrestrained at the time of the collision. It is estimated that 74 people would have survived had they simply buckled up.

"Drivers, please ensure that you and those traveling with you in your car wear their seatbelts. Expect the unexpected, even if you are a good driver! Seatbelts should be tight and across the hips or thighs, and they should never be tucked under the arm or behind the back," said Lisa G. Rosales. "Help us spread this life-saving message before one more person is killed as a result of not wearing their seatbelt."

This enforcement effort is funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Please remember - Report Drunk Drivers - call 911.

Arcadia Plans For The Future

Summary of Arcadia's FY 18-19 Budget Goals & Challenges

ARCADIA - On Tuesday, May 15, 2018, Arcadia City Manager Dominic Lazzaretto presented the City's FY 18-19 budget, launching a robust public discussion regarding vital City services. As always, the City is committed to continuing its work towards maintaining public safety and the quality of services Arcadia residents expect and deserve.

The FY 18-19 budget maintains existing levels of public services, but the City can no longer guarantee that services will remain at current levels over the long-term. Due to recent changes in state law and other fiscal constraints, the City's proposed budget has a structural deficit of nearly \$3.1 million with expenditures in excess of revenues. According to the City's long-term financial forecast, the structural deficit will remain for the foreseeable future.

"Historical state takeaways, unfunded mandates, and cost increases have put the City at a crossroads," said City Manager Lazzaretto. "While Arcadia has the financial resources to maintain existing service levels in the short-term, in order to avoid catastrophe, we will either need to modify service levels or identify additional locally-controlled

funding resources."

In a recently-commissioned Community Priorities Survey, Arcadia residents stated strongly that they want existing levels of police and fire public safety services maintained. Among other priorities, residents cited preventing and investigating property crimes, like thefts and burglaries, maintaining local paramedic services, and protecting 911 emergency response times as primary areas of concern.

The City of Arcadia will continue to work hard to preserve the vital City services that our residents expect and deserve. This budget holds the line on key services through the prudent use of City reserves, but the City will need to do more to protect service levels in the coming years, which is why the City will continue to engage residents on community service priorities. We want to continue hearing the priorities that are important to Arcadia residents and take action to ensure that we work with the community to protect our excellent services and high quality of life.

If you are interested in taking a leadership role on this important topic, the City of Arcadia is

accepting applications for the newly formed Citizen Financial Advisory Committee. This ad hoc committee will be responsible for reviewing the City's long-term financial forecast and providing recommendations to the City Council for potential revenue enhancement and/or cost containment strategies. The commitment is expected to be for a period of no more than six months, but will require intense review and discussion about the City's financial future.

Due to specialized nature of this Committee, prospective candidates with a background in finance are preferred. To serve on the Committee, candidates must be at least 18 years of age, a registered voter, and a resident of the City of Arcadia.

Qualified candidates with an interest in serving may pick up an application from the City Clerk's Office, located at 240 W. Huntington Drive, or print one off of the City's website at ArcadiaCA.gov/CitizenService. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office on or before the close of business on Thursday, May 24, 2018. Appointments are expected to be made in June.

L.A. County Appeals Ruling Upholding State Law That Undercuts Citizen Self-Governance

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The County of Los Angeles filed an appeal seeking to stop a new state law from taking effect that would undercut the right of county residents to govern themselves.

The appeal follows a unanimous vote by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to take legal action to prevent implementation of SB 958. Under the new law, Los Angeles County would be one of only two counties in the state required to create a 14-person commission charged with re-drawing the five Supervisorial district boundaries after the U.S. Census, which is conducted every 10 years.

Voters in all other California counties enjoy a broad range of options regarding how to conduct supervisorial redistricting. The legislation was approved by the State Senate and Assembly in 2016 and signed into law by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr.

The County filed suit in 2017 to protect the right of L.A. County voters to maintain local con-

trol over redistricting. Under the law, the commission must be in place by Dec. 31, 2020.

"There is no justification for the State to create a broad range of options for how to accomplish redistricting in other counties, but to single out Los Angeles County and take away the power of its electorate to decide for themselves the best method for redistricting," said Laura Brill, a partner in Kendall Brill & Kelly LLP, which is representing the County. "Like the other counties in the state, the people of L.A. County must have the ability to decide how to govern themselves. Most State Legislators do not live in - or represent - Los Angeles County."


The commission's membership would be based on political party registration, which creates a partisan office. The California Constitution provides that all county offices must be nonpartisan.

Anyone who had registered to vote outside of L.A. County within the last five years or who had

changed party affiliation within that same time frame could not serve on the commission. As a result, important constituencies automatically would be excluded from the commission.

The County contends that the new law unfairly imposes an experimental system to select a citizen redistricting commission based on luck and chance, instead of proper public deliberation, on the citizens of Los Angeles County. By comparison, the last countywide apportionment, which was based on the 2010 Census, included extensive input from County voters and was never challenged in court.

Supporters of SB 958 pushed the measure through the state Legislature in Sacramento without holding any meetings in Los Angeles County and over the objections of the County. Also opposed to the measure at the time were the California State Association of Counties, the Urban Counties of California, the County of Riverside and the Los Angeles Times editorial board.



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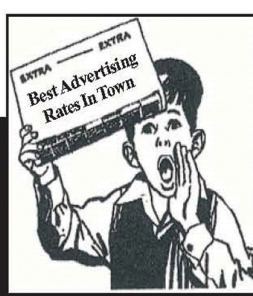
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Ban on WaterFix Lawsuits Sneaks Through

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Final Environmental Impact Report/Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California Water Fix (81 Fed. Reg. 96485 (Dec. 30, 2016)) and any resulting agency decision, record of decision, or similar determination shall hereafter not be subject to judicial review under any Federal or State law."



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

We knew, and it was common knowledge, the Delta supporters had meetings to develop strategies to stall off the Twin Tunnels / WaterFix project long enough to make it go away. Their strategy: lawsuits after lawsuit and it would just go away like the Peripheral Canal many years ago before I had gray hair.

Congressman Ken Calvert, Riverside County, just released a 142 page draft spending bill for next fiscal year for the Interior Department and agencies within that department. Quietly, on page 141, was the provision above disallowing the myriad of lawsuits proposed by the anti-WaterFix people up in and around the Delta.

When the joint powers agreement was announced, Calvert and others supporting the twin tunnels were obviously quite aware and expected the onslaught of lawsuits and decided to be prepared to ward off the attempt to stop the project for years, if not kill it.

The agreement with Department of Water Resources (DWR) includes as the founding members, Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Santa Clara Valley Water District, Alameda Water Agency, and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.

The Delta Counties Coalition, made up of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano and Yolo Counties, immediately responded with a charge from Contra Costa County Supervisor Diane Burgis saying, "... WaterFix [is] a diabolical plan, bold and presumptuous ... and those of us directly impacted are being locked out."

Sacramento County Supervisor Don Nottoli, laying the groundwork for what would have amounted to lawsuit after lawsuit, said this project would have a huge impact "... farming areas will be transformed into gigantic construction zones, more akin to an industrial complex, [rather] than tranquil country settings. ... intensive activities ... 7 days a week, 24 hours a day for years, ... [and] will affect the quality of life and daily activities ... displace people from their homes, creating economic uncertainty for small businesses, farmers and agritourism and negatively affecting the recreational, fishing, boating, [and] eco-tourism ..."

The Delta Counties Coalition seemed united in the idea the

Calvert (CD-42) who has a long history of working to achieve a reliable source of water to Californians throughout the state, supported the GROW Act (Gaining Responsibility on Water) saying, "Specifically, it expedites the consideration of feasibility studies for water storage projects that have languished for periods of time that are longer than it took to actually build the Hoover Dam. The GROW Act also includes other provisions:

- **Water Reliability:** Updates the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) to ensure water resources are reliable, predictable, and available to fulfill supply promises.
- **Expanding Infrastructure:** Enacts "one-stop-shop" permitting reforms aimed at building infrastructure to capture more water.
- **Expanding Storage:** Requires the federal government to expedite and complete consideration of feasibility studies for water storage projects that have been languishing in bureaucratic purgatory for over ten years.
- **Water Rights Protection:** Prevents federal agencies from requiring certain entities to relinquish their water rights to the United States in order to use public lands.

Passed the House on a vote of 230 to 190.

Rep. Calvert currently serves as the Chairman of the Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee and comments in various press releases tells us exactly where we with our leadership and water in California.

July 2015 - In 2004, I (Calvert) helped craft the CALFED legislation that authorized feasibility studies for large water storage projects in our state like raising Shasta Dam. A decade later, our state's population has grown by 3 million residents, and those projects are still being studied. It's well past time to stop talking about these projects and start building them. California taxpayers have even already paid the down payment by approving last year's water bond, which included \$2.7 billion for water storage projects.

That's Prop 1, The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, was approved in November of 2014, authorizing \$7.12 billion in general obligation bonds. As the Senate Floor Analysis documents, it was / is "... for state water supply infrastructure projects, such as public water system improvements, surface and groundwater storage, drinking water protection, water recycling and advanced water treatment technology, water supply management and conveyance, wastewater treatment, drought relief, emergency water supplies, and ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration." That is a lot of "stuff" to fix but a lot of money to do it with. What has been done with that money?

UPDATE: Starting to approve projects but there are still challenges and debates ongoing.

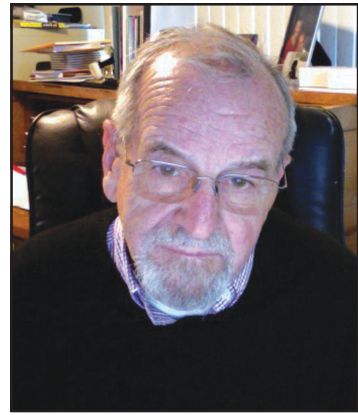
Upcoming Event?
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SGExaminer@aol.com

Who Was He?

Much of my adult life has been spent focused on the larger world. Significant attention has been given to matters of justice, and how individuals have been injured by systems over which they had no control. Recently, however, much of my attention has been turned inward. I have been wandering around in the thicket of memories stored in some crevice of this warm grey computer between my ears. In this search I have gotten in touch with long-forgotten individuals who have unknowingly shaped who I am. If you have followed these weekly ramblings, you might have noticed a change in direction. One early discovery has been the realization that the division between what is above the surface and what is below it is artificial, and that everything I am is interwoven. Here is an example.

I came out of seminary, age twenty-two, unprepared to be pastor of the Washington, DC congregation to which I had been called. I had been something of a star surviving partly on moxie and partly on skill. This DC congregation had sold its inner-city building to an African American church, and secured an acre on the boundary line between DC and Silver Spring, Maryland. The project was to build a beautiful new facility with the money from the sale of the old property. The new structure was to have been completed by the time I arrived. But alas, I was greeted with a basement over which had been placed an ugly temporary roof—and the money was gone.

Having no idea about what to do, I spent lots of time wandering around the community hoping that a good idea would jump out of the bushes, but none did. Late one evening as I was walking home through a parking lot



Charles H. Bayer

behind a series of shops, I came across a young man sitting on a bench, sobbing. I took him to a nearby quiet coffee shop where he could pour out his story. And what a story! He had been raised as a devout Christian, and had planned to quit his job and enter a Bible college on the way to becoming a missionary.

Earlier that evening he had met with the governing body of his church to ask for its blessing on his plans. Disaster struck! It had been discovered that he was a homosexual, and what he thought was to be a meeting in which he was to share his dreams was in reality a trial in which he was found guilty, thrown out of the church and told that unless he repented and entered Christian treatment to heal his sinful life, he stood condemned, and would spend eternity in hell! I had encountered him an hour after he had left that devastating meeting.

I do not want to run this encounter through my typical rational analysis, but instead I want to explore what might have been going on underneath the rational surface. Who knows what these chance encounters are really about. It might have been about an angel that confronted me unaware---or it may have some far deeper meaning I could discover only if I was open to the possi-

bility. While years before I had been faced with the poison of racism (to be discussed in another column) the homosexual issue was completely outside my experience, but that reality dawned on me gradually. At any rate, after this encounter I could no longer dismiss those with a different sexual agenda, including a daughter, whose long-time marriage I not only accept, but also celebrate. This encounter introduced the next important civil rights issue that required the mobilization of the justice-oriented community. We could not rest until justice meant marriage equality.

My anger focused on the failure of the religious community to take leadership on the issue and to be clear about welcoming its gay and lesbian brothers and sisters to ordination. To the particular "Christian" community that was unbelievably cruel to this man, I had nothing but disdain.

I had one more encounter with this once ostracized young man. When my congregation was finally able to complete the building, we needed a carved wooden header which could be placed atop a long velvet cloth hanging behind our communion table. By chance---if anything happens by chance--- he called me to describe his newly opened interior design studio, and I referred him to the proper church committee that asked him to create and install what was needed.

I never knew his name. I have always wanted to remember him only as the Weeping Angel I came upon when I was in great need of having someone introduce me to I what became an important part of my life and ministry.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

"TIME JOCKEY" - Joaquin Gold

By Joe Castillo

Lost Treasure... I came across a 1929 newspaper column named 'Tale of the Tiger' which described the 'Gold Rush of 1929'. In the early 1850's, the Santa Lucia mountain range of central California was a hideout for many adventurers who were on the wrong side of the law. The article told of a band of riders who rode down from the mountains and arrived at a shady area surrounded by Sycamore trees and bordered by a small stream named El Arroyo San Luis. The leader of the group was described as a tall handsome Spaniard dressed in Valencia's best who gave orders in his native tongue of Spanish. One of his men, reacted instantly to the orders and went back to his mount, unhooked a dusty leather sack, brought it to the leader and awaited the next order. The leader did not immediately reply but instead he gazed upon the California landscape and thought deeply about his next move.

Sensing that he was soon to expect unwelcomed visitors, the leader gave his second order. He directed his men to mount up, move on a slow pace, and head for the wine and security of old Renaldo Dias, keeper of an inn on what was known as Monterey Street. An old lady smoking a morning cigarro smiled in excitement when the band of men came into the adobe. She exclaimed to no one in particular 'My husband was knifed by a Murrieta'. Her husband was the swaggering ranchero Don Arturo

Bonilla of San Miguel and his cache of gold had been stolen. The gold was presumed buried somewhere in the area, somewhere nearby. Within twenty-four hours, the notorious bandit Joaquin Murrieta would be caught, killed, his head cut-off and his band of outlaws also slaughtered. The murder of a wealthy ranchero, an opulent cache of stolen goods and the coincidental killing of one of California's most famous bandits, all within 48 hours, led to an unsolved murder, unsolved theft case and one of the early mysteries of California crime.

Over seventy years later, in March 1929, two San Luis Obispo high school students, Harry Lock and Francis Thompson, were removing poison oak from the banks of San Luis Creek. Recent rains had left the ground soft and when Locke stepped on the ledge of an old adobe building, the ground gave way. The rupture in the ground

caused the earth to slide and out rolled a number of gold coins. Locke called his friends and together they dug out the remaining coins removing \$1,020 of the finely-minted United States gold coins. Was the gold part of Murrieta's loot? Was it the hidden collection of the wealthy miner who once lived in the adobe? No one will ever know but one thing is for sure. The gold coins were found by two San Luis Obispo high school students, \$1,020 in gold coins was recovered and no other gold was discovered in the area. The 'Gold Rush of 1929' just may have been connected to the more famous Gold Rush of 1848 and one of the more infamous legends of that era, Joaquin Murrieta...

Joe Castillo is a freelance historical writer who has been covering Southern California history for 10 years and has written 3 books on the topic. He can be reached at joecastillo@aol.com.

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Hints of Inflation Put the Fed in a Tricky Position

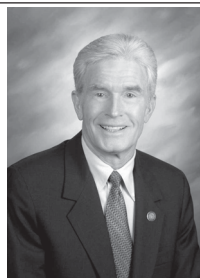
First-quarter earnings announcements are coming in even better than anticipated, up over 20%. That is the good news. The bad news may be that first-quarter results represent what many call "peak earnings momentum" for many stocks. Anticipated difficult year-over-year comparisons in upcoming quarters for some good companies (that beat analyst estimates and were guided higher) apparently caused significant profit-taking recently.

Bespoke Investment Group said that with more than half of the S&P 500 reporting results so far, 77% of reporting companies had beaten the consensus earnings estimates, which is the highest positive earnings surprise rate since 1999. Furthermore, the stock of companies that are beating analyst consensus earnings estimates have risen by an average of 1.26%, while the stocks that missed have declined by an average of 2.79%, for a whopping 4.05% performance differential. Clearly positive earnings reports still matter!

However, while earnings and guidance are the best they've been, we are seeing profit taking and mixed trading days and more volatility. The S&P 500 finished nearly flat (-0.01%) last week. The underlying buying pressure that has buoyed the markets since Trump's election has not been so obvious for the past three months.

While the Capital Markets featured some stunning earnings and guidance announcements, it also marked a historic summit between the two Koreas. Whether the summit will be mere optics or in earnest, it marks significant progress. The tailwinds for a bull market "lined up" beneficially, but the market is worried

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

about the party ending.

The recent Federal Open Market Committee meeting (FOMC) is taking on more significance than many prior meetings for a number of reasons. First of all, some inflation data points are creeping higher, namely oil prices, home prices, and raw material prices that will be passed on in the form of higher prices for finished goods. Secondly, the latest GDP report showed the economy growing at a 2.3% annual pace, well above the 2.0% forecast. Thirdly, business investment is running at its highest pace since 2011. Fourthly, consumer confidence of 128.7 for April is just 1% below its all-time high of 130, set back in February.

Bear in mind that this upbeat data comes at the end of a long winter for the Northeast, after which we might expect the current quarter to show similar or stronger numbers, which are already being registered in the bond market. The yield on the 10-year Treasury made a decisive move from 2.8% to 3.0% in one week. The seeds of this move were planted earlier in April, with the release of the March CPI report, and influenced by the spike in oil prices that coincided with the U.S. led attack on Syria.

As mentioned, the 10-year Treasury breached the psychological 3.0% level last week,

largely on what I view as a response to the first-quarter employment cost index, which increased 0.8% versus 0.6% in the fourth quarter. Wages and salaries, which comprise about 70% of compensation costs, increased 0.9%, while benefit costs jumped 0.7%. The key takeaway from the report is that wages, salaries, and benefits are trending higher. This inflationary trend will incline the Federal Reserve to stay on its rate-hiking path.

So, while much of the focus of recent market volatility has been centered on a potential trade war with China and other geopolitical outliers involving the upcoming summit with North Korea, further military action in Syria, and the undoing of the Iranian nuclear deal, the dominant headwind that I see for stocks is that of Treasury yields bumping higher if the Fed comes out with hawkish comments.

The market is in a fairly well-defined trading range with technical support for the S&P 500 at 2,600 and overhead resistance at 2,700. Given that most of the high-profile companies will have reported their Q1 numbers as of last Friday, the market will be hard pressed to find a series of catalysts sufficient to break the S&P out of its recent trading range. As such, it is prudent to see how the market reacts to upcoming Fed speak. The current market landscape is highly fickle, leaving little room for disappointment.

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kenherman46@hotmail.com

Your Money - Ask Julia

Memorial Day vs. Veteran's Day - What's the difference?

Memorial Day is to remember those who gave their lives. Veterans Day is to honor all those who have served in the armed forces of the United States. On Memorial Day, honor those who loved our freedoms so much that they were willing to die to protect those freedoms from enemies, foreign and domestic. Remember the families, too.

Are there benefits for Veterans to help with long-term care expenses?

Yes. Qualifications include service, plus income limitations. If you served in a war (WW, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, etc.), after a review of your income, you can apply for benefits. In some cases these are available not only for the Veteran, but also for the Veteran's spouse. This benefit is substantial - around \$2000 per month.

We have life insurance policies and retirement accounts that we haven't looked at for years. We really don't know what we have, let alone if or when they expire or mature, or even if we have the beneficiaries right. Would you be able to take a look, tell us what we've got, and advise us if we need to make any changes?

Throughout our lifetimes there are many changes, so it is wise to take a good look at what we have in terms of insurance, investments, and goals. Besides getting older, marriage, children, college, empty nest, sickness, divorce, and death all have a huge impact on our financial planning. It can be overwhelming to go through the various policies and



Julia Yoder

accounts, but it is very important to make the time to sort paperwork and get organized. Consider getting a trusted family member or long-time friend to help you with this task. Another method is to call each company for the most recent statement. They are usually quite helpful in answering your questions, too. Then we can talk about possible changes that could be in your best interest.

You talk about it, but are there really "safe investments"?

Yes, there are safe investments, and as with most things in life, there are conditions. First of all, the safety of the investments I recommend to my clients depend on the financial strength of the company offering those investment products. Second, although you cannot lose your investment dollars, you also cannot gain all the "ups" of the stock market that these investments mirror. Picture two elevators. One can go all the way up to the penthouse and all the way down to the basement. That elevator is like the stock market; it can capture all the gains and suffers all the losses. Elevator num-

ber two can only go up to the 7th floor, and it cannot go lower than ground level. This elevator is like the safe investments I talk about; it can capture some of the gains, but suffers none of the losses. Ask yourself which elevator you want a good portion of your investment dollars in.

Our son just graduated from college, cannot afford to live on his own, so he's moving back in with us. Do you have any suggestions on how to handle this situation?

Issues to consider and communicate are: length of stay, rent and/or contribution to household expenses, duties (chores), and mutual respect, freedoms, and communication. Be careful - don't sacrifice your own financial future. Make an effort to keep your sense of humor, express your love, and try to enjoy the extra time together. There are first-time homebuyer loans with very low down payment and interest rates which allow 'gift' funds to help with that initial outlay necessary to purchase.

Ask Julia by email:
juliyoder@yahoo.com

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Friday Night Twilight in the Glendora Village

By Sherri Fernandez

GLENDORA - There's something exciting going on in the Glendora Village this summer! Friday Night Twilight will feature family fun for all ages with activities, music, characters, and tons of fun in the Plaza!

Participating businesses will be open EVERY FRIDAY Night until 8:00 pm. Enjoy store pro-

motions on those evenings and special events during the Twilight Hours. Join us in the Village on Friday June 1st at 5 pm for the kickoff event featuring Princess and Superheroes in the Bus Plaza with the biggest bubble party the Village has ever seen!

Dress up for activities, photo opp, bubble party and games in the Plaza, plus bubble giveaways

at participating businesses. Also, fun for the family with Princess and Superhero meet 'n greet.

Follow #FridayNightTwilight on Instagram and Facebook for updated promotions, store coupons and the special event schedule. See you there! Visit www.GlendoraVillage.com for the complete calendar of events.

Cannabis Tax Revenues Total \$60.9 Million in First Quarter

SACRAMENTO - The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) today released revenue numbers for cannabis sales in the first quarter of 2018. Tax revenue from the cannabis industry totaled \$60.9 million since January 1, 2018, which includes state cultivation, excise and sales taxes. It does not include local tax revenue collected by cities or counties.

In November 2016, California voters approved Proposition 64, the Control, Regulate and Tax

Adult Use of Marijuana Act. Beginning on January 1, 2018, two new cannabis taxes went into effect: a cultivation tax on all harvested cannabis that enters the commercial market and a 15 percent excise tax on the purchase of cannabis and cannabis products. In addition, cannabis and cannabis products are subject to state and local sales tax at the time of retail sale.

California's excise tax on cannabis generated \$32 million in revenue for the first quarter of

calendar year 2018. The cultivation tax generated \$1.6 million, and the sales tax generated \$27.3 million in revenue. Medicinal cannabis is exempt from sales tax if the purchaser holds a valid Medical Marijuana Identification card.

To learn more, visit the Tax Guide for Cannabis Businesses on the CDTFA website.

Volunteers Needed

COVINA - The Citrus Valley Medical Center Inter-Community Auxiliary needs volunteers. If you are a senior citizen, retired, or simply looking for something to do, join the auxiliary and be a volunteer! Volunteers are needed in the following areas: The Front Desk; the Gift Store; The Sur-



THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Is Your Vehicle Ready For Summer?

Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial start of summer... and that means summer vacations are just around the corner! Is your vehicle ready to hit the road?

We know we can feel our energy ooze out of us in the summer heat and your car feels it too! Just imagine sitting there day after day on the hot pavement while the relentless summer sun shines down on you. Car's components such as rubber are very sensitive to heat and tend to become brittle and crack. Here are just a few things we look for when we service your vehicle for summer:

- Batteries take a beating. Between the car's vibrations and heat, they usually only last

three years. It is always a good idea to have them tested to determine how much life they have left in them.

- Cooling systems are very susceptible to summer heat. You will notice more cars sitting on the side of the road with steam pouring out from under the hood during the summer months. We always check your cooling system thoroughly to make sure the coolant isn't contaminated. We also check the rubber components for cracks and frays. If they are past their prime, we will recommend replacing them so you don't end up on the side of the road.
- Tires need the proper inflation to function well. They don't operate well if they are over-inflated or under-inflated. They need to be just right!
- Fluids and filters need to

be checked and replaced if needed. They do a lot of work to protect our vehicles.

- Air-conditioning systems need to be looked at so you and your passengers stay comfortable no matter how high the outside temperatures climb. We make sure to check the refrigerant and other components.

A quick inspection will let you know if your vehicle is good to go or if it needs a little service & repair before you head out. Call today to schedule an appointment!

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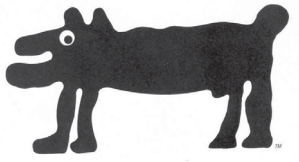
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Ten \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded By The Inter-Community Hospital Auxiliary



Kyrstel Alcantara, Cal Poly, Post Grad Dietetic Intern; Vasthi Yanes, Mt. Sac, Associate Degree Nursing; Vanessa Gail Bondoc, RN, Azusa Pacific, Nurse Practitioner - Adult Gerontology; Alyssa Cervantes, Mt. Sac, Associate Degree Nursing; Thu Le, RN, Azusa Pacific, Family Nurse Practitioner; Karen Shiell, Mt. Sac, Associate Degree Nursing; Wendy Carrillo-Espinoza, Citrus, Associate Degree Nursing; Arsho Salazar, RN, Azusa Pacific, Nurse Practitioner - Psych-Mental Health; Juliana Marquez, Mt. Sac, Associate Degree Nursing; Denise Perez, Mt. Sac, Associate Degree Nursing.

COVINA - On May 9th, the Inter-Community Hospital Auxiliary held their annual Scholarship Luncheon. Ten very goal driven, deserving and inspiring young women, who are beginning or expanding their medical careers, were awarded \$1,000.00 to use towards their educational expenses.

Five of the recipients will graduate with their Associate Degrees in Nursing, in June. They will be attending Azusa Pacific or CSU Fullerton in the fall to begin working toward their Bachelor of Science Nursing. One of the Nurse Practitioner-Adult Gerontology will work

with Alzheimer and Dementia Patients and hopes to eventually open a Memory Care Community. One of the other Nurse Practitioners will work and as an RN has been working with the mentally ill. The third Nurse Practitioner hopes to eventually open a Family Clinic with her fiancée, who is becoming an MD, to improve the health of the underserved.

Hearing these young ladies speak was very rewarding and inspiring. Their commitment to the medical profession, their chosen careers, patient service and to the community is totally amazing. They are definitely on a path to-

wards a life of personal and professional success. Congratulations Ladies!

The Inter-Community Auxiliary raises the funds to award its scholarships through proceeds from their Bargain Box Thrift Store, at 216 E. Rowland St., Covina, located on the SW corner of Rowland and 2nd Street. The Auxiliary also has a Gift Shop, in the hospital, and raises money through vendor sales, at Inter Community Hospital. We would also like to thank the Citrus Valley Health Foundation for their generous support of our scholarship program.

Twenty-Year-Old Erika Sanchez Wins National Golden Gloves Championship In Omaha, Nebraska

DUARTE - This weekend was no ordinary weekend in the Duarte Community. On Saturday, May 19th twenty-year-old Erika Sanchez, a boxer out of the Duarte Boxing Club gym, won first place in her category at the National Golden Gloves Championship in Omaha, Nebraska. In the most demanding boxing tournament in the nation, Sanchez, the only Californian left at 132 lbs. earned her way to the National Championship Finals on Saturday where she won the gold. Erika Sanchez is now classified as #1 in the USA. Prior to this point, on Tuesday Erika defeated Nerissa Turner from Washington D.C., Thursday defeated Alexis Martin from the Midwest and Friday, in the Semifinals, she had a TKO in the 1st round against Charisse Brown from Florida. The entire Duarte Community is ex-



tremely proud of her accomplishments. Her hard work and dedication has inspired the entire Duarte Boxing family to push and strive to be the best. Congratulations, Erika Sanchez!

Pennyroyal Players to Entertain Retired Teachers at June Meeting



Diane Brownson, Gay Durward, Joan Perkins, Anne Destabelle, Ann Ehrenclou, Faye Schwartz

ARCADIA - The California Retired Teachers' Association #71 (CalRTA) will get a brief but vivid history lesson through song and story when the Pennyroyal Players of Palos Verdes present a "Romp Through the Revolutionary War." Clad in period costumes and playing period instruments, the Players will entertain with "Yankee Doodle" and other songs that were morale-builders for the colonist armies. The performance takes its audience through the opening firing shot of the war to the signing of the Declaration of Independence over the British and finally the treaty of peace.

Together since 2003, the

award-winning Pennyroyal Players have given over 1,000 performances of this musical and several others, including "Piecin' It Together," a story of the Western settlers told through the background of quilts. CalRTA #71 had the pleasure of seeing the quilt performance several years ago.

The CalRTA #71 meeting will take place on Friday, June 8 at 11:30 am at the Senior Center Building in Arcadia Park (county park), 405 W. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia, next to the Lawn Bowling Greens. The cost of the luncheon for mem-

bers is \$12. As an alternative to the hot meal of barbecued chicken, a tuna salad is available. For luncheon reservations, please call John Gera at (626) 286-0714 by June 1. The cost of the luncheon for those who pay at the door without reservations is \$13.

Membership in the California Retired Teachers' Association is open to all retired educators, as well as to current educators and to any others interested in joining this active group. CalRTA's motto is "Your Partner in Pension Protection."

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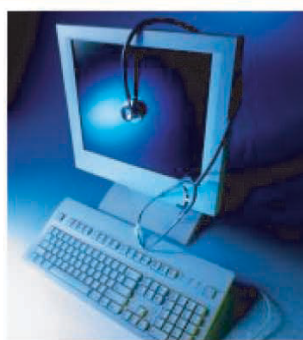
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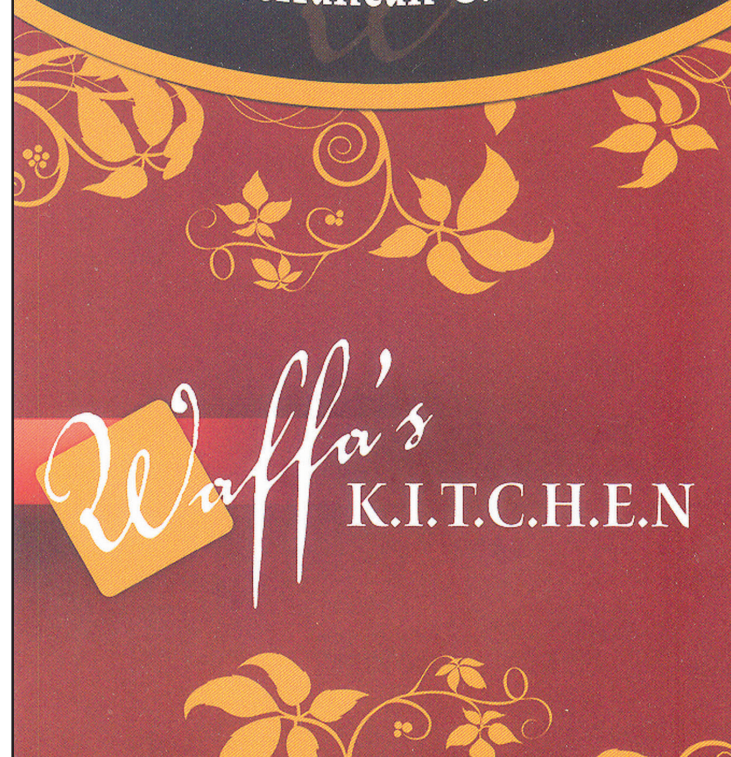
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Denzil Ratnasoma, Clinical Respiratory Education Specialist/President, Michelle Wong- intake coordinator/customer Service, Manny Perez - Delivery technician, Lourdes Gonzalez, Office Manager, Patrick Lam, Purchasing Manager/Customer Service, Marian Girgis- Medicare Intake coordinator, Aloma Ratnasoma, Administrator, Sally Tran, Medicare & intake supervisor, Daniel Lopez-Medical Biller and customer Service, Not in the photo Mike Hapu, IT specialist, Samadhi Randeniya - HMO billing Specialist, Giang Autumn- Intake Customer service.

By Jayam Rutnam

ALHAMBRA - Celebrating 25 years in the healthcare business Denzil Ratnasoma, President of Metro Home Healthcare said that his business is proud that he has a well established company with caring employees. Well equipped, inviting, great helpful staff, one stop shop is the only way one can describe it. If you are looking for healthcare equipment from wheelchairs, breathing equipment, hospital beds, bath safety equipment, lift chairs,

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West Covina Mayor Mike Spence Resigns from His Mayoral Post

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - At a special City Council meeting held Thursday, May 17th, there was only one item on the Agenda, the removal of Mayor Mike Spence as the Mayor of West Covina.

This issue was spearheaded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lloyd Johnson when information surfaced that Spence had possibly had a reaction to a drug over dose and was hospitalized for a brief time.

The Costa Mesa Police chief contacted West Covina Chief Marc Taylor of the incident.

There were concerns that the negative reaction to the medication could possibly be illegal drugs used.

Spence was found unconscious with labored breathing with some body convulsions. A 9-1-1 call was made and paramedics arrived, treated Spence and transported him to the hospital and released.

As the "Special Meeting" opened, Spence announced that he was going to resign as mayor but not the council. This would be effective June 1st so that the transfer of mayor could take place at the regular meeting. He also commented on why the meeting was happening and had questions about the process. All other councilmembers were part of this; however, he was never notified or briefed on what was going on until the day before. He questioned why his personal issues were echoed to the City Manager and then by him to all the other councilmembers in relation to his health issues and personal issues which had nothing to do with council or



West Covina Mayor Mike Spence

city business. He also stated that the Costa Mesa police had contacted him and questioned him about what happened. No charges have been filed for anything. Spence with emotional comments he apologized to his family and the city. At the end of his comments, he said the council could do whatever they wanted to do. He thanked Councilmembers Corey Warshaw and James Toma for their support.

Spence then announced that he is going to excuse himself from the rest of the meeting.

As Spence left, he shook hands with Warshaw and Toma.

Johnson moved on with the meeting with the rest of the councilmembers. A motion was made to remove Spence from the Mayor's position that night. Each had something to say

about the situation and hoped for the best for Spence with his issue. Before voting, Warshaw wanted to amend the motion not to vote for mayor until the next meeting in June. A normal rotation would have Johnson to move into the Mayor's position. That amendment passed and then the original motion to remove Spence immediately was passed 4-0 by the majority. The council does not have the power to remove Spence from the council. As it is, the elections are coming up and to have a recall by the people would not be prudent.

The next day, councilmember James Toma shared the 9-1-1 call on Facebook.

Spence plans to continue on the council to complete work that is already in progress.

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