



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

October 14 - 20, 2021

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Three-peat! Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD Named WaterSense Partner of the Year

MONROVIA - For a third consecutive year, the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) was honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a 2021 WaterSense Partner of the Year. Upper District received the distinguished award for its exceptional efforts in assisting residents and businesses save water. Upper District received today's award at the WaterSmart Innovations (WSI) Conference and Exposition in Las Vegas.

The EPA highlighted Upper District's creative outreach efforts to promote water efficiency in 2020 despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Upper District remained committed to educating its residents on the importance of water use efficiency while adapting its outreach strategies to virtual engagement.

"In 2020, our WaterSense partners continued to make saving water possible by educating consumers and businesses about WaterSense and water-efficient behaviors," said Veronica Blette, the WaterSense program manager. "Our award winners' creative and committed approaches to water conservation helped consumers save water, energy, and money on their utility bills at a time when they needed it most."

Upper District pivoted its annual WaterFest in person event



Government and Community Affairs Representative Nichol Delgado accepts the 2021 WaterSense Partner of the Year Award on behalf of Upper District.

into a five-week virtual program called Conserve-a-palooza to celebrate its 60th Anniversary during the pandemic. The program featured weekly conserva-

tion trivia and raffled various water-efficient devices, including WaterSense labeled weather-based irrigation controllers and

high efficiency washer machines. Winners were announced weekly, and water-saving tips were shared during a "Water Smart Minute" video on Upper District's website and social media. Additionally, Upper District modified its landscape workshops to be featured as online classes. Throughout Spring 2020, six landscape and edible gardening webinars hosting over 150 residents were conducted. The speakers discussed WaterSense labeled products and how to find an irrigation professional. Upper District collaborated with a number of WaterSense partners on events and programs and encouraged its water retailers to become WaterSense partners.

"Upper District is extremely honored to receive this recognition from the EPA for the third consecutive year. In spite of the pandemic restrictions, Upper District focused on meeting the conservation needs of our residents through creativity and adaptivity" said Ed Chavez, Board President for Upper District. "Saving water is part of our daily lives, even in a pandemic, and we kept that focus through valuable programming."

WaterSense, a partnership program sponsored by EPA, seeks to protect the future of our nation's

water supply by offering consumers and businesses simple ways to use less water with water-efficient products, homes, and services. For more information about WaterSense, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

Upper District's mission is to provide a reliable, sustainable, diversified, and affordable portfolio of high-quality water supplies to the San Gabriel Valley; including water conservation, recycled water, storm water capture, storage, water transfers and imported water. Upper District services nearly one million people in its 144 square mile service territory. Upper District serves all or parts of the following cities: Arcadia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bradbury, City of Industry, Covina, El Monte, Glendora, Duarte, Irwindale, La Puente, Monrovia, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, and West Covina. Governed by a five-member elected board of directors, Upper District is a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Annually, more than 78 billion gallons of water is used in Upper District's service area. For more information about Upper District, visit their website www.upperdistrict.org or call 626-443-2297.

Glendora Community Coordinating Council Recognized the Clayton Family with October's Humanitarian Award



The Clayton Family in front of their 4th of July tunnel.

GLENDORA - The Clayton family moved to Glendora in 2020 during a most difficult time, the pandemic. Their desire to meet their new neighbors (which was difficult because of the pandemic), help their community and brighten everyone's day was what inspired them to want to do something. A trip to Chick-fil-A's drive-thru tunnel during Christmas gave them the idea to construct something similar in their front yard. Their first tunnel was decorated for Christmas last year. This is a family

affair for Robert, Shauna and their four children with everyone pitching in to help. Everyone that saw their tunnel loved it. With the community's positive reaction, they decorated the tunnel for Valentine's Day. They had couples waiting in line to take their picture with the tunnel as their backdrop. St. Patrick's Day followed next with Easter, Mother's Day, Graduation and 4th of July. The Mother's Day tunnel brought a mother to visit who had just lost her son. She brought with her a stone with her son's name on it that she left in the Clayton's garden. The tunnel gave elderly neighbors a reason to get out and walk to see the Claytons latest creation. What is wonderful is the tunnel can be enjoyed dur-

ing the day and evening as it's completely decorated in lights as well. All of the Clayton's efforts to bring happiness and joy to their Glendora Community, especially during a time of great difficulty for many, is fitting of what describes a humanitarian. The Glendora Community Coordinating Council is very honored to recognize the Clayton Family with October's Humanitarian Award.

The GCCC is always looking for volunteers from the city to be recognized each month. If you have a nominee please visit their website at www.glendoraordinating-council.org for a form and contact information. The GCCC would like to thank Matt Bartlett with Hilltop Realty for being their meeting sponsor.

Former West Covina Mayor Lloyd Johnson Wins at Car Show Again

By George Ogden

GLENDORA - Old Memories Car Club car show in Montebello had over 122 cars at the show. This show was at Christian School Church and when all was done, former West Covina Mayor Lloyd Johnson received the Principal's Choice Trophy which is considered the highest award at the event.

Johnson often attends car shows and shows his car which is dedicated to veterans. He has been involved with raising money at various shows for charitable organizations.



Lloyd Johnson shows off another trophy at the car show.

The Glendora Police Citizens Academy Is Back

GLENDORA - The Citizens Academy is a way for the public to learn about Glendora Police Department. This will be an 8 week long program that meets Wednesday's from 6pm-9pm. It will be held in person and they are following LA County Mandates which means participants will have to wear masks.

First class will be held Wednesday, **October 20th** at the police department. Applicants must live in the City of Glendora, work in the city or currently attend Citrus College. Class size is limited to only 25 students, so hurry don't wait to sign up.

To register visit www.GlendoraPD.org (the application is under Department Programs and Citizen's Academy) Or you may contact CSO Nita Ulloa-Pedroni via email nulloa@glendorapd.org or via phone 626-914-8268.

The Glendora Police Department CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

The Glendora Police Department is proud to sponsor a FREE, educational program designed to inform the residents of Glendora in a variety of Police functions.

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Visit us online or contact Community Services Officer Nita Ulloa-Pedroni for more information:

WEB: www.GlendoraPD.org
EMAIL: nulloa@glendorapd.org
PHONE: (626) 914-8268

All participants must be at least 18 years old.

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WVUSD Senior Scholars Named 2022 National Merit Semifinalists

WALNUT - Seventeen Walnut Valley USD seniors have been named semifinalists in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program. These high achieving students represent the top 1% in the country.

Congratulations to the following students:

Diamond Bar High School: Emma Fu, Akash George, Brian Hsu, Irene Jin, Jaime Jin, Jason Kim, Han Lee, Nathan C. Lin, Ryan Lui, Erin Miyahara, Julienne Nguyen, Serena Shih, Steven Tjandra, Jaden Zhang, and Eileen Zhu.

Walnut High School: Joshua Hsu and Joseph Shen.

The nationwide pool of approximately 16,000 semifinalists are the highest-scoring entrants in each state. All semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarship awards worth more than \$30 million to be awarded next spring.

Students entered the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the PSAT Test as juniors which served as the initial screen of program entrants. To move onto the final round, students are judged based on a detailed scholarship application covering their academic record, leadership abilities, employment, participation in school and community activities, and honors and awards received.

Students must also write an essay and be recommended by a high school official.



Fifteen Diamond Bar High School seniors have been named 2022 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.



Walnut High School seniors Joshua Hsu and Joseph Shen have been named 2022 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.

PCC Foster Youth Program Highlighted

DUARTE - The Duarte Kiwanis Club had the privilege recently of hearing from Theresa Reed from Pasadena City College. Theresa serves as Program Director, Foster/Kinship Care Education & RFA STARS Advisor & FYSI Liaison - quite a job! There are many foster children who attend our Community Colleges - and they have the opportunity to continue to receive support until they are 21.

Theresa shared many challenging numbers. For example:
 - 437,000 kids in Foster Care in the U.S.
 - 60,000 in California
 - 35,000 in LA County.

Children placed in foster care for more than 24 months or longer -

- 15% experienced 5 moves or more
 - 44% had 3 or more moves.
 Homelessness ranges from 11% - 38%

Challenging for anyone. Theresa shared a number of opportunities for the community to help including potential foster parents and educational rights holders and Bags of Hope



Theresa Reed from Pasadena City College

Program which collects "gently loved" luggage which is donated to foster youth.

If you are interested in joining the Duarte Kiwanis or presenting at a future meeting, please contact Tina Carey at tinac51@aol.com. The club is currently meeting virtually through Zoom.



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ENTER THE PARADE!

The Covina Christmas Parade Committee is looking for a few good entries! If you have a business that wants to get the word out to 20,000 spectators, a church that wants to illustrate "the reason for the season," or a Scout troop or group of friends that want to impress the crowd with Christmas magic and creativity, then join us on **Saturday, December 4** for a ride down the parade route!



It can be as simple as a decorated convertible or as elaborate as a semi-truck with dioramas and live animals. We are celebrating **70 Years of Memories** with this year's theme, **"Miracle on Badillo Street."**

With a little "Christmas Magic" and some creativity, this will be an experience you will never forget!

Online Registration:
<https://covina.ca.gov/parksrec/page/covina-christmas-parade>

Registration Begins: **Monday, August 23**
 Deadline to Register: **Thursday, October 14.**

Late registrations may be accepted depending upon space availability.

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Vaccination Verification Requirements to Begin at Outdoor Mega Events and Indoor Portions of Bars, Lounges, Nightclubs, Breweries, Wineries, and Distilleries

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - On October 7, new vaccine requirements went into effect at select establishments across L.A. County. The vaccination requirements applying to indoor portions of bars, lounges, nightclubs, breweries, wineries, and distilleries affect all patrons 12 or older and all employees.

Prior to entering indoor portions of these establishments, customers and employees will need to show proof of vaccination along with a photo ID. Proof of at least one dose will be adequate for admission, and on November 4, patrons and employees will need to show proof of full vaccination prior to entering.

There are also new requirements in effect for outdoor mega events, including large sport arenas and theme parks, where all attendees age 12 or older will need to show proof of vaccination or a negative test result to enter. Beginning November 1, a

photo ID will also need to be shown for attendees 18 and older along with proof of full vaccination or a negative test result.

If you are going to a Halloween event at a large theme park, or you're cheering on any LA sports teams by attending a game at an indoor or outdoor arena, be prepared to show your proof of vaccination or negative test result if you are 12 or older.

Beginning November 6, a recently passed LA City ordinance requires proof of vaccination from individuals eligible to receive a COVID vaccine to enter the indoor portions of many establishments in the City of LA, including restaurants, personal care establishments, fitness venues, entertainment and recreation venues, along with large outdoor events.

County schools continue to prove that vaccines and other preventive measures, especially masking, are extremely effective. Last week, there were 705 student cases and more than

3,100 student close contacts, decreases of nearly 50% in both groups. Among staff, there were only 97 cases and 51 close contacts. The mitigation strategies school partners have worked so hard to put in place are the driving force behind these downward trends, and we are grateful for all the effort to keep staff, students and their families safe.

As the fall holidays are close, residents of all ages are looking forward to safely celebrating Halloween. The safest activities will be those that are outside, including outdoor costume parties, pumpkin patch visits, outdoor ghost tours, hayrides, and trick-or-treating - when done safely. It is best to set up trick-or-treat events outdoors, limit treats to commercially packaged, non-perishable items, set up stations with individually packaged bags so trick-or-treaters can grab and go at each stop, and keep a distance from other trick-or-treaters.

State of the City & Employee Recognition Dinner

WEST COVINA - The City of West Covina invites the community to join them for the 2021 State of the City & Employee Recognition Dinner on Thursday, October 14, 2021. The event will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the West Covina Sportsplex located at 2100 S. Azusa Avenue, West Covina. It will be an evening of celebration with Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado, City dignitaries, City Staff, community stakeholders and residents.

The City is thrilled to be able to host their inaugural State of the City as they had to postpone last year's event due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They are excited to be able to come together as a community and reflect on the past year and celebrate our achievements. This year's event will also feature the Employee Recognition ceremony, honoring

staff that stepped up to support the City through the pandemic.

Tickets are now available for purchase; \$45 for Advance Tickets (if purchased before Oct. 6th) and \$60 for standard tickets (starting Oct. 7th and at the door). To purchase ticket(s) please go online to the Eventbrite page at <http://www.bit.ly/wesotc2021>, or you can pay in person at City Hall Room 205 (1444 W. Garvey Avenue S., West Covina, CA 91790). For sponsorship opportunities please contact Gerardo Rojas at (626) 939-8417.

The City would like to invite their community members to join them on this evening and celebrate their wonderful City of West Covina. For additional information on the City of West Covina State of the City & Employee Recognition Dinner please visit the City's website at www.westcovina.org/SOTC.

District Attorney Seeks to Reduce Catalytic Converter Thefts

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - District Attorney George Gascón announced that he is asking automobile manufacturers to work with him to explore creative solutions to address the rise in catalytic converter thefts across Los Angeles County and the nation.

"Catalytic converters are quick and easy to steal, and thieves can quickly turn them into cash," District Attorney Gascón said. "In addition, the lack of unique identifiers makes it virtually impossible to prove in court that a particular catalytic converter was stolen."

"These thefts are costly to vehicle owners and result in higher insurance claims for us all," Gascón said, urging automobile manufacturers to join him in seeking

"to develop creative and inexpensive solutions to substantially prevent these crimes from occurring and reduce the likelihood of victimization in Los Angeles County and the rest of the nation."

District Attorney Gascón has reached out to the four major automobile manufacturers to request their help in finding a solution to this nationwide problem. To date, only Torrance-based Honda Motor Company, Ltd., has expressed interest in exploring possible solutions to reduce these thefts that target all vehicle owners.

There has been a sharp rise in catalytic converter thefts nationwide since the COVID-19 pandemic began, according to the

National Insurance Crime Bureau. California is among the top five states for catalytic converter thefts, according to the agency.

Catalytic converters are used to turn hazardous exhaust from an automobile into less harmful gases. Thieves steal the converters because the devices are made of highly valuable metals such as platinum, rhodium and palladium. They can fetch up to \$1,200 each.

District Attorney Gascón led a similar effort to reduce cell phone theft when he was the top prosecutor in San Francisco. He sponsored legislation making California the first state requiring kill switches on cell phones that make the device inoperable if it is stolen.

County Allocates \$5 Million to Combat Illegal Cannabis Grows and Dispensaries

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - In an effort to stop the illegal cannabis grow operations springing up in the Antelope Valley and the illegal dispensaries opening countywide, the Board of Supervisors approved nearly \$5 million to address these crises.

"Illegal cannabis operations continue to threaten the well-being of our residents, water supply, and environment," Supervisor Barger said. "By empowering and equipping our law enforcement partners with the resources they need, we can better protect our communities."

The Board allocated \$2.4 million to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to bolster their efforts to stop illegal cannabis growing and water theft in

the Antelope Valley, citing both environmental damage and quality of life nuisances. Of this funding, \$1.2 million is for the Department's Marijuana Eradication Team to eliminate the grows, \$503,000 will go toward overtime for patrol at the Lancaster Sheriff's Station, and \$707,000 will purchase 10 trucks needed to conduct investigations on rough terrain.

Additionally, the Sheriff's Department Cannabis Consumer Health and Safety Task Force received \$2.5 million to combat illegal dispensaries in unincorporated areas across Los Angeles County as well as illegal growers in the Antelope Valley.

During a 10-day operation this summer in partnership with local,

state, and federal partners, the Sheriff's Department seized 16 tons, or \$1.19 billion worth, of illegal cannabis plants in the Antelope Valley. Additionally, they arrested 131 people in connection with the grows, served 205 search warrants, and rescued 180 animals living onsite.

Since 2020, the grows in the Antelope Valley have increased from 150 to more than 500.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's 2021-22 budget includes an additional \$500,000 in grant funding for cannabis eradication efforts.

The total supplemental budget approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday was \$39.3 billion.

Unvaccinated Black and Latinx Residents Have the Highest COVID Case Rates; Unvaccinated White Residents Have the Highest Death Rates

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Between August 29 and September 25, unvaccinated Black and Latinx people had the highest case rates with 587 to 594 new cases per 100,000 people. Across all racial and ethnic groups, infection rates among unvaccinated people remained two to three times higher than among vaccinated people. Black residents also had the highest

hospitalization rates among both vaccinated and unvaccinated residents, with a rate of 62 hospitalizations for every 100,000 unvaccinated people, which is 27% higher than the rate in the next highest group, Latinx residents.

Among unvaccinated people, White residents had the highest death rates of all groups, followed closely by Latinx and

Black residents.

These numbers highlight the need to continue efforts that make it as easy as possible to get the COVID-19 vaccine in our hardest-hit communities, especially in those communities with high numbers of residents with chronic illnesses and other risk factors that increase their chances of severe illness from infection.

Grant Provides Vital Funding For The CHP To Enforce Safety For Bicyclists And Pedestrians

SACRAMENTO - To help fund the California Highway Patrol's (CHP) yearlong effort to promote safety for bicyclists and pedestrians, the Department has been awarded the California Pedestrian and Bicyclist Enforcement and Education Project IX grant. Beginning October 1, 2021, this grant enables officers to conduct enhanced enforcement patrols and public awareness campaigns throughout the state.

"It is important for motorists to scan each intersection for foot and bicycle traffic before entering, and it is especially important during hours of dark-

ness," CHP Commissioner Amanda Ray said. "Pedestrian and bicycle fatalities account for nearly one-third of all traffic-related deaths annually in California with the vast majority occurring at night."

In 2019 and 2020 combined, 7,594 people were killed in crashes throughout California, with pedestrians and bicyclists accounting for 2,354 of those deaths.

October is National Pedestrian Safety Month, and on National Walk to School Day, October 6, 2021, the CHP will focus its education and enforcement efforts in locations with high num-

bers of pedestrian and bicyclist crashes. Officers in plain clothes will work with uniformed officers to monitor crosswalks and areas surrounding schools for motorists who fail to yield the right-of-way or who drive unsafe and illegally.

The educational component of the grant funds traffic safety skills and training courses and informative presentations related to safe traffic behavior for high-risk populations, including older community members and youth. The grant also supports the distribution of safety equipment such as bicycle helmets and reflective gear.



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Been Through Fire and Not So Much Water

An old English expression "go through fire and water" translates out 'to undergo great difficulties or dangers and endure any trial' and that seems to be an apt definition of what our Central Valley farming communities have been living with for years. The first seven-year drought brought about some needed water policy amendments to provide relief for farmers with a push towards more permanent long-term solutions. New reports say we're headed into another more severe and dire drought with voter-approved water infrastructure not moving ahead as fast as needed.



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

site to the main channel of the river so they can continue their upstream migration to their spawning sites."

Gov. Newsom, State Water Project and environmentalists immediately initiated a lawsuit and then updated environmental mandates to halt any increase in water deliveries to those south of the Delta. Now the Biden Administration is working with Newsom to overturn Trump's federal water policy changes.

Salmon Quick Notes: More than 9,500 adult winter-run Chinook salmon returned to the Sacramento River to spawn this year, the largest number of returning adults in the last 15 years; and, more than 200,000 juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon have already begun their journey downstream with more than 500,000 expected to successfully migrate downstream.

Congress passed the short-term funding bill and Sen. Dianne Feinstein said, "The \$29 billion disaster portion of the bill will provide relief for the recent victims of wildfires and other natural disasters as well as farmers who lost crops due to wildfire and smoke damage."

- Removes federal overtime pay caps limiting the number of overtime hours paid to firefighters to fight wildfires for calendar year 2021.
- \$1.36 billion to Forest Service - \$175 million to rehabilitate burned areas and \$175 million for hazardous fuels management. (clearing debris from for-

est floors)

- \$10 billion to Department of Agriculture for crop losses from droughts, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, excessive heat, smoke exposure and other natural disasters.

- \$200 million to Bureau of Reclamation to address drought in the West.

California got an extra bump with:

- \$238 million for water infrastructure projects

- \$205 million for storage projects with \$80 million for BF Sisk Dam Raise, \$50 million for Los Vaqueros Reservoir expansion and \$15 million for Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir.

- \$21 million for nine water recycling projects in California.

- \$12 million for four desalination projects in California.

Status of Feinstein targeted projects:

- Sites Reservoir - cost is \$5 billion, Prop 1 funded at 50%.

- Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion - cost \$459 million Prop 1 funded at \$2.9 million.

- B.F. Sisk Dam, a 382-foot-high compacted earth-filled embankment with total capacity of 2 million acre-feet, but not on Prop 1 list.

- Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir, south of the Delta, a jointly funded project by farmers and Exchange Water Contractors to maximize supply, flexibility and local control and looking for supplemental funding.

December 2018, former President Trump, Rep. Kevin McCarthy and Sen. Dianne Feinstein agreed to support a 7-year extension of the 2016 Water Infrastructure for Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act to provide millions of federal dollars for California water projects. WINN never passed even with Republican Representatives Calvert and Valadao attempting twice to modify the Act giving Democrats more oversight. It appears, however, Feinstein and McCarthy have found their way through fire and water for the Central Valley.

Our Asylum System is Broken

Last month, appalling images emerged of U.S. Border Patrol agents on horseback chasing and appearing to whip desperate Haitian asylum seekers who had camped under a bridge along the Texas-Mexico border, attempting to cross into the U.S. from Mexico. The photos and subsequent deportation of thousands of Haitians provoked public shock and condemnation. But for many long-time immigration and human rights advocates, this latest mistreatment of Haitian asylum seekers was nothing new. It only confirmed that the U.S. immigration and asylum system is broken and desperately in need of meaningful reform.

The root causes behind why people are forced to flee their homes are often lost amid contentious immigration debates. According to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the 82.4 million people around the world who were displaced at the end of 2020 fled their homes because of persecution, conflict, human rights violations, and other breakdowns of social order.

In the case of Haiti, recent instability and lawlessness, exacerbated by a legacy of failed U.S. policies, have driven many Haitians to leave their country. Haitian President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated in July. One month later, a devastating 7.2-magnitude earthquake shook the country (reminiscent of the magnitude 7.0 earthquake in 2010), killed thousands, reduced buildings to rubble, and further damaged the economy. Yet these latest misfortunes do not even fully capture the extent of Haiti's struggles since it became the world's first Black-led republic in the early 19th Century after a successful slave revolt against French colonialists.

From 1915 until 1934, the U.S. violently occupied Haiti. In a New York Times column on October 4, lawyer Michael Posner also pointed to "decades of misrule, corruption and brutality



Farrah Hassen

ty by a series of Haitian governments that received steady U.S. financial and political support" despite glaring human rights abuses. For example, the notorious dictator François "Papa Doc" Duvalier sparked an initial wave of Haitian refugees during the 1960s. His oppressive regime relied on death squads to eliminate political opponents, which resulted in 30,000 deaths.

Our nation's discriminatory treatment of Haitians has also persisted in our immigration and asylum system. During the Reagan administration, U.S. authorities routinely targeted and detained Haitians arriving in Florida and intercepted Haitian boats in the Caribbean to prevent them from reaching America. Several federal court cases later determined that this policy violated constitutional guarantees of equal protection and due process of law. In the 1990s, under both the George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations, Haitians seeking asylum in the U.S. often faced immediate expulsion, yet Cubans fleeing Castro's Communist Cuba were treated with far more compassion.

Given this historical context, Haitians and Black Americans have argued that U.S. immigration policies have long been discriminatory. Haitians in particular had the lowest rate of asylum approvals from October 2018 through June 2021 out of 83 nationalities where asylum data is

available, according to a September 24 analysis by the Associated Press.

However, regardless of nationality, seeking asylum is enshrined under both international and U.S. law. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol define the rights of refugees and the displaced as well as states' legal obligations to protect them. The U.S. adopted these provisions under the 1980 Refugee Act, which guarantees that any person who arrives at our border or has already entered the country is entitled to seek asylum if they can demonstrate a "well-founded fear of persecution."

The U.S. has nevertheless pursued policies in contravention of both federal and international asylum laws. In 2020, President Trump signed an order based on a rarely used provision of U.S. health law, Title 42, to prevent asylum seekers from applying for legal protection under the pretext of preventing COVID-19. Last month, President Biden again invoked this same order to justify the rapid expulsion of thousands of Haitians without due process.

Fundamentally, the shameful response to Haitian asylum seekers reaffirms that Congress needs to finally act and pass comprehensive immigration reform. This includes fixing a broken asylum system that presently prioritizes border enforcement, detention, and deportation, over the thorough and fair processing of asylum applications in compliance with international and U.S. laws. Rescinding Title 42 would be an important step towards building a more humane asylum system that timely and equitably adjudicates claims, including for Haitians arriving at our borders who fear persecution at home.

Farrah Hassen, J.D., is a writer, policy analyst, and adjunct professor in the Department of Political Science at Cal Poly Pomona.

Who Are You??? Simple Invite Gets Ugly, Respect Lost.

Do you know people like this? I bet you do and some of you don't know it yet.



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

in the directory. Sorry for the inconvenience." Going to the directory is no big deal and is not a problem.

His reply was rather shocking... "You don't have to go through all that. Please don't try to do SIGN language thing: Shame, Insults, Guilt, Need to be right..." and then followed up with a closing line with a term that African Americans use towards white people that I consider a racial comment.

Well I became unglued because my reply didn't warrant that kind of low-life reply in my opinion. He replied with more name calling... I thought what the hell is wrong with him?

My next reply was the following: "What the hell is wrong with you? Go back and read my reply. I had you down as one of the most respected individuals in the District and also in the State of California as a member of the organization. Your knowledge, your willingness to help other people, and also it appeared to me that you wanted to reach out. I guess that last one is a bunch of bulls**t. You took the respect that I had for you and dumped it straight into

the fucking toilet. You were the go-to man in my opinion. With your attitude, I don't think I could do that anymore or send anyone to you for fear that your attitude like this would get in the way. Your name calling and your racist attitude towards me is unacceptable. I can't even believe it's you. Those group texts are selected people by me. You, not a member of this club and at the time I didn't care and I still wanted to invite you in case you wanted to kick back and watch the game with a few of us. Obviously that was a wrong fucking move. I told you that I would take you off the phone list so I wouldn't make that mistake again. There isn't a problem of going to the roster and finding your number to call you if I needed something or asking you to help another veteran, or whatever it might be. You go fucking ballistic and reading something into whatever the hell you thought you read and resort to name-calling. You went from a Class Act to a real piece of crap in my book partner. Can't believe you took that direction. Can't believe a friendly invite had you fucking freak out like that and do all that name-calling and whatever other crap you're trying to imply. Trust me, it will not happen again."

So the bottom line of all this (venting) is often times the people you think you know, you really don't know them at all. The "real person" came out on this one.

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

My Opinion: By D. B. Shimel

The DOJ and FBI are an agencies that are charged with protecting the citizens of this nation. Now under the Socialist Democrat regime in Washington D. C. these agencies are being used to spy on, intimidate and arrest law abiding Americans.

In the face of rising concerns being expressed by parents about what the public schools are teaching their children, parents are attending School Board Meetings in high numbers. These parents are questioning the curriculum, like CRT and gender identity, being taught and other school mandates such as masks. Admittedly, at times these meetings have become a bit raucous. However, I have not heard of any actual violence against School Board Members occurring as an outcome these meetings.

Threatening to do physical harm to an elected official is a felony and needs to be investigated. Saying that a board member will be challenged and voted out of office does not represent a physical threat.

In retaliation against these concerned parents, a group representing school boards, The National School Board Association, has petitioned the Department of Justice to have the FBI investigate parents who dare protest what school boards are doing. Apparently, a parent showing up at a School Board Meeting and expressing dismay at what is being taught is threatening. These protests are to be viewed as threatening the members of these boards and therefore are to be considered acts of 'domestic terrorism'.

In response to the School

Boards petition, on October 4th of 2021 the DOJ, under the signature of the Attorney General, issued a directive to the Directors for the FBI, the US Assistant Attorney General, the Civil Rights division of the DOJ and the United States Attorney. Working in association with the FBI, the state and local police, are to be employed to bring the resources of law enforcement to bare against concerned parents.

The First Amendment to the Constitution clearly states that citizens have a right to hold all elected officials, including School Boards Members, accountable for their actions.

For completeness I have provided the First Amendment's words here. They are: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Clause two states: ... or abridging the freedom of speech. Going to a school board meeting and expressing one's dismay at the school curriculum is certainly covered by this clause.

Clause three states: the right of the people peaceably to assemble... is protected as long as they remain peaceful. Raising one's voice and demanding answers is actually a peaceful form of protest.

Clause five states: to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. Going to a board meeting and confronting the Members as well as gathering sig-

natures or campaigning to remove board members clearly falls under this clause.

Further, this School Board group has requesting that the FBI use the Patriot Act to silence and if deemed appropriate, imprison parents as domestic terrorists if they dare protest.

What is the Patriot Act one might ask? The Patriot act is probably the most un-patriotic law ever passed by Congress and signed by a President.

In 2001, after the attack on America by Muslim radicals, Congress passed a law that suspended the Constitutional prohibitions against unlawful arrest and imprisonment of terrorists, foreign and domestic. These arrests are essentially 'writs of attainder'. These writs allow for a person to be arrested and never charged with a crime or brought to trial. These writs are expressly prohibited in the Constitution.

So, according to the DOJ, going to a School board meeting and expressing dismay at their edicts represents a threat to our "republic" and should be considered acts of domestic terrorism.

School Board Members are elected officials that can be recalled by a referendum or at least replaced at next School Board election.

Using a country's law enforcement agencies to control the citizens by scare and intimidation tactics are those employed in a Third-world Socialist country.

When did the United States of America become a third-world socialist country?

Vote as if your freedom depends on it - it does.

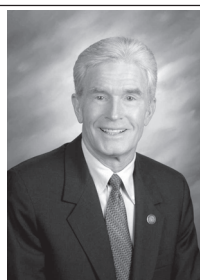
A Confusing Mess

Tensions over the debt ceiling apparently have been punted to December after Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell offered to temporarily raise the limit to avoid an immediate risk of default. While Democrats and the GOP are still working on this agreement, any deal would set up another bruising political fight near the end of the year. The heat was turned up on Wednesday (the 6th) as Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin warned that a default would "threaten national security" and America's ability to defend itself.

Schumer previously ruled out using reconciliation to raise the debt ceiling, saying it is too convoluted and dangerous, though that seems disingenuous given Senate Democrats spent most of their time recently debating the details of an extremely partisan \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill. Asked by a reporter recently President Biden explained reconciliation would open debate on any number of questions on any number of issues, not just once but twice, first during the vote to allow the legislation to the floor and then again before the vote on the legislation itself. The process would not likely allow Republicans to achieve anything - they don't have enough votes - but it would allow Republicans to force Democrats to reveal positions on issues they would rather not reveal.

It could also use a lot of time, perhaps further endangering the Democratic majority's ability to reach internal compromise on the very leftist \$3.5 Trillion welfare/medical/climate bill. As far as that bill goes, Bloomberg News notes the White House team has pivoted from pressuring moderates to bow to progressives to encouraging progressives to bow to moderates. In

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

other words, they are encouraging a smaller bill which might be supported by all Senate Democrats. However, even a smaller bill would likely move America very far left, toward socialism. It also would create significant tax increase which would "soak main street business" more so than large corporations. One commentary (by Brian Reardon) stated that this "house tax package would hit privately held companies twice as hard as publicly traded C corporations". It could impose "marginal rates of 46.4% on private corporations while taxing publicly traded companies as little as 26.5%".

Both Schumer and Biden told reporters the next step toward permanently raising the debt ceiling might be a vote to suspend the filibuster for debt ceiling votes. The Senate can suspend the filibuster for anything with 51 votes including the Vice President as tie breaker. Senators Sinema and Manchin have said they oppose weakening the filibuster, but the WSJ reports they might make an exception for the debt ceiling. Neither has indicated a position on this specific issue. Fortunately, Senators Sinema and Manchin also are not supportive of the misnamed "Build Back Better Act" which could become a disaster for most private businesses in America.

This is a clear sign that there remains tremendous infighting

within a Democratic Party that is very concerned about losing its majority in the 2022 mid-term elections. Essentially, any significant tax increase, even for infrastructure spending, would be viewed by many voters as a negative development heading into the mid-term elections. Furthermore, Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) made it crystal clear that no matter what spending package the House passes, if he had not been consulted, he would likely not support the proposed bill. This is a positive development, since much higher taxes would likely curtail U.S. GDP growth and hurt America's small business who generate so many of American jobs. Senator Manchin is now obviously one of the most powerful elected officials in Washington D.C., as any spending and tax increase will have to pass the Senate through him.

While the blame game related to the debt ceiling may now be postponed, the bigger fight over the Democrat's socialize America bill is a much bigger deal for most of us. As with the debt ceiling, both parties continue working hard to portray the other party as irresponsible and reckless, while the public grows increasingly angry (somewhat with both parties). Senators from both parties have insisted that the Senate will not allow the US to default. But the big issue today is whether the only two somewhat conservative Democrat Senators can prevent a socialist takeover of America. May God Bless and help protect all small businesses and their millions of workers!

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

There's talk that we're on the brink of shortages of food, clothing, and more. But, when I go to the stores, the shelves and racks are full. Just in case, I've been buying what I consider a few essentials (not amounts that would be hoarding!); water, beans, rice, etc. My relatives, friends, and co-workers think I'm being paranoid. Am I being paranoid?

Probably not. If you were paranoid, you'd be unnecessarily and overly anxious about something. Being prepared, within reason, is being ready for something. Being prepared can result in the same kind of peace of mind we have when we have insurance. It minimizes worry. For our own peace of mind, it helps to be prepared for the "what if's." Each person has their own concept of what that means. Some believe that our government will provide any and all necessities. Others believe that our government will be overwhelmed, and it will be each man for himself, at least for awhile. IF things go really bad, you will be more prepared to survive. (Those who know you've got food could come knocking on your door.) IF things do not go really bad, you will have some extra water, beans, rice, etc. The pandemic made some people more aware of what happens if there's a shutdown, or you have to quarantine. It also made us aware of how quickly shelves can empty of toilet paper! That "hoarding" made some people leery of stocking up on anything, and angry at those who did. Hopefully you, your relatives, friends, and co-workers have prepared for



Julia Yoder

natural disasters, like earthquakes or fires.

Do I have to contribute to my 401k?

Contributing to a 401(k) is optional. If your employer is "matching" your contributions, it might be best to continue. When you take money out of your 401(k) during your retirement years, you will be required to pay taxes. You will be required to start taking money out when you reach 72 years of age. You do have choices. Instead of contributing to your 401(k), you could pay your taxes as you earn the money. Then, take some of that money and invest it into an IRA (Individual Retirement Account). (Check with your CPA about the tax deduction in your specific case.) Although you will still be required to take income payments when you reach 72 years of age, you will only have to pay taxes on the earnings your investment dollars have accumulated over the years. Or you could invest into a Roth IRA, never be required to take income payments, and pay no further taxes on earnings. Another choice would be to invest in a fixed-indexed univer-

sal life insurance policy which could provide not only life insurance benefits, but also living benefits like retirement income. And last, but not least, you could put your money into a fixed or fixed-indexed annuity. Some annuities offer accelerated income for terminal illness and/or long-term care benefits.

My wife and I are hoping to buy a house soon. The mortgage loan application process seems confusing! Can you recommend a good place to get some non-biased information?

Start by downloading and studying "Your Home Loan Toolkit" at: http://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201503_cfpb_your-home-loan-toolkit-web.pdf

Then, go to FindAMortgageBroker.com to find an independent, licensed, mortgage professional. This person should be able to answer all your questions, and guide you through the entire mortgage loan application process to homeownership. This will involve completing a loan application, pulling your credit reports, and providing all supporting documents as requested in a timely manner. Once you have a loan approval letter in hand, you should be ready to utilize the services of a Realtor who can show you homes in your price range, and complete all the necessary paperwork for the purchase transaction.

Ask Julia by email:
juliyoder@yahoo.com

This is your opportunity to simplify your life by having one professional working personally with you to coordinate your fi-

To Delegate

We can't do it all in business or life in general so we must delegate tasks and or action to move the business agenda forward. Wikipedia defines delegation as: "The assignment of authority to another person to carry out specific activities. It is the process of distributing and entrusting work to another person. Delegation is one of the core concepts of management leadership."

Delegating is probably one of the most mishandled forms of communication in business. Delegation has two parts to it, to delegate and to follow-up. A majority of the time the second part is generally not done or in a timely manner.

Typically, an order is barked out verbally and not written down then forgotten or an email was sent and then lost in the minutiae of the day with the thousands of other emails received.

There are simple tools that can be incorporated into your daily life to improve efficiencies and reduce your stress in a simple way:

- Old school "Avoid Verbal Orders" (AVO's) a two-part written form given to the person you are tasking that states what is to be done and when it is to be done by then keeping a copy for your recorders to follow-up with.
- Using a built-in task manager such as Outlook where a task can be assigned with a due date.
- The incorporation of an excel spreadsheet that may list sev-



Michael Allawos
Principal Consultant
Global Management Consulting Services

eral tasks to one person or to a group, listing the tasks, issue date, and a required completion date.

- Specialized task management software (there are many) with the following attributes:
 - Project Management.
 - Team Collaboration.
 - Individual workload Management.
 - Time Tracking.
 - Client Permission Management.
 - Third Party Integration.
 - Team Chat.
 - Gantt Charts.

An effective method for moving agenda's forward and to manage tasks on a professional manner is to have frequent staff and or team meetings that review the goals and tasks to verify their progression as well as their current validity. This helps the communication process and guards against "gotchas" that nobody

wants if they are truly authentic in their agendas.

We delegate on a daily basis, whether we know it or not. By professionalizing the process there is a high likelihood that this skill may spill over into your personal life and help to reduce miscommunication that may lead to senseless arguments and animosity that does no one any good.

As I have countless said "we are all in the communication business". If we can't communicate effectively, business can't be successful and grow.

About Allawos & Company, LLC

Allawos & Company is a comprehensive global management business-consulting firm, tuned to enable organizations to identify and exploit opportunities through creative engagement built on a foundation of decades of senior management experience.

We are a global management consulting firm specializing in business plans, business development, corporate development, contract negotiations, employee surveys, strategic planning, and turnarounds.

We service the aerospace industry to healthcare, semiconductor to farming and most industries in between. Our comprehensive consulting services improve the client's condition and leaves behind the tools for growth.



Car Talk by THE CAR DOC

What You "AUTO" Know

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Drips and Puddles

Those annoying under the car drips can leave your driveway and garage floor a mess...in fact everywhere you park becomes a victim to this mess. They are also a sign that something is wrong and needs to be taken care of. The only drip you don't need to be concerned with is the condensation from your air conditioner. Everything else is a signal that there is a problem. The small drips are giving you fair warning that if ignored, serious problems are in your future. Here are a few examples:

- A reddish brown drip may mean one of three things; leaking transmission, over tightened pan gasket or a leaking front seal.
- A green or orange-red drip suggests a cooling system problem such as leaking hose or radiator.

- A brown to brownish-black drip that is thick in consistency is more than likely engine oil. This is not a huge problem if it is slight but when it grows to puddle size it is a sign of something serious and if not kept under control could mean severe engine trouble.

- A leak that looks like tea and feels oily is brake fluid. This type of drip or leak is always serious!

If you notice a puddle three inches or larger under your car don't ignore it. Get it to the professionals as soon as possible. A puddle between one and two inches isn't as serious...yet...unless it is brake fluid. Don't put off having it looked at too long though...it could become a much more serious problem.

It is a good practice not to ignore drips because if left un-

checked those drips will turn into puddles that get bigger and bigger until you no longer have a small problem, you have a major problem. Make an appointment with us today, and your car's health care professional at Certified Automotive Specialists will stop the drips. Remember, minor problems come with minor price tags...major problems come with major price tags...maybe even the cost of a new engine!

Prevention is always the best medicine for your vehicle.

Certified Auto Specialists: the friendlier and more helpful auto shop! Feel free to call 626-963-0814 with any questions and we will be glad to help, or visit our website at CertifiedAutoCa.com.

Hometown Service You Can Count On!

Driver Drives Away From Gas Station With Nozzle Still Attached To Vehicle

IRWINDALE - The driver of a white Mercury Mountaineer pulled away from the gas pump of a local gas station, forgetting to remove the nozzle from the tank. The ensuing carnage resulted in the hose and nozzle being ripped from the

pump.

To make matters worse for this driver, the entire incident played out in front of a couple of Irwindale Police Officers who were conducting an unrelated traffic stop in the parking lot. The officers contacted the

Mercury's driver and, to the driver's dismay, found that she did not have a valid driver's license.

She was issued a citation for driving while unlicensed and now has to deal with repairing the damaged fuel pump.

Congratulations to Athens Services, the October Business of the Month

IRWINDALE - Irwindale Chamber of Commerce selects Athens Services as their October Business of the Month. Athens Services is a local, family-owned waste collection and recycling company that has been a fixture in the greater Los Angeles community for the past 60 years. We provide innovative, consistent and quality environmental services to our more than 250,000 customers in 50+ communities. Through reuse, recycling and composting, Athens diverts valu-



able resources from landfills.

This year marks Athens Services 26th year as a member of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce. Throughout that time, Athens has remained one of the Chamber's most valued partners and strongest supporters. Currently, Athens' Vice President, Government Affairs, Elizabeth Ramirez serves on the Chamber's

Board of Directors as the Immediate Past Chair, while Dora Castro, Franchise Contract Liaison Specialist at Athens Services, serves as the Chair of the Chamber's Business Ambassadors Committee and is currently chairing the 40th Annual Golf Tournament Planning Committee.

Around the Valley & Senior News

"TIME JOCKEY" - Discovery Nugget

The Start of Something Big... On the morning of January 24, 1848, James Marshall was working on the building of a sawmill for Colonel John Sutter. Marshall was a carpenter and was overseeing his crew in completing construction of the sawmill when something caught his eye. A shining rock was glittering in the millrace of the sawmill just off the shores of the American River. Marshall picked up the rock and shared it with Sutter, both were confident that the rock was pure gold. But it wasn't until the summer of 1848 that Sutter and Marshall presented the nugget to Captain Joseph L. Folsom who was there to verify the discovery and report back to Washington D.C. Folsom entrusted the nugget to U.S. Army Lieutenant Lucien Loeser who sailed to Panama, where he crossed the isthmus on horseback to the Atlantic Ocean and then proceeded north to Washington D.C. The nugget was examined and tested and then presented to President James Polk.



Joe Castillo
"California Gold Rush".

President Polk spoke of the great discovery in California and proclaimed that the newly founded wealth would cause the economy to grow beyond expectations and move the United States into the same power status as many of the other European countries. Prices jumped as more money was being made and spent. By the early 1850's, over 300,000 migrants had traveled to California from other parts of the United States as well as from Europe, China, Mexico, Latin America and even Australia, but the increase of so many people from around the world led to decline of the Native American population in California. Prior to the Gold Rush, the Native American population was 350,000 but within a dozen years only 30,000 remained after most had died from disease, or killed or forced to leave the state after being displaced from their homes. The original discovery nugget weighed .0855 grams, was as big

as a fingernail and had been hammered flat by Marshall as a means of identifying it. The nugget was deposited with the National Institute for the Promotion of Science and then transferred to the Smithsonian Institute in 1862. It remained with the Smithsonian but requests kept coming in to return the nugget to California. The Smithsonian denied the many requests citing the importance to the country and as a compromise chose to replicate the nugget complete with the hammer marks left by Marshall himself and then sent the copies to those who requested it.

In 1998, on the 150th anniversary of the discovery of gold in California, the Smithsonian rented and loaned to the State of California to be displayed at the California Gold Discovery Museum. After its return to the Smithsonian, it was placed on display at the "On the Water" exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute where it is currently housed, and even though its precious metal value is only worth approximately \$5, its historical value is priceless....

Joe Castillo is a freelance historical writer who has been covering Southern California history for 11 years and has written 5 books on the topic. He can be reached at joeacastillo@aol.com.

Historical Society Tribute to Claudia & Alan Heller

DUARTE - The Duarte Historical Society & Museum invites you to a Tribute to honor Claudia & Alan Heller on Friday, October 22, 2021. Claudia Heller is retiring as President of the Duarte Historical Museum Board. Both Claudia and Alan have been enthusiastic volunteers for Du-

arte. Please join us for an evening full of memories and a stroll down memory lane. Tickets are available through the Duarte Museum website ranchodeduarte.org/heller-tribute. Questions? Call or text Holiday Heller at 909.262.7668.

16th Annual Men's Evensong Invitational

MONROVIA — St. Luke the Physician Episcopal Church in Monrovia will present its 17th annual Men's Evensong Invitational on Sunday, October 17, at 4 p.m. The church is located at 122 South California Avenue at Foothill Boulevard in Monrovia. The public performance will spotlight the men of the choir, along with invited guest singers. Much of the service is sung by the choir. In addition to the Phos Hilaron and Preces and Responses by Kent Bennett Jones, Director of Music, the choir is adding Mendelssohn's Beati Mortui to its repertoire. The officiant will be the Rev. Judith Heffron, Assisting Clergy of St. Luke's. In keeping with the requirements of the Diocese of Los Angeles, both congregation and choir will be masked. A freewill offering will be tak-

en, and a wine and cheese reception in and outside Guild Hall will follow the program. This will be the first opportunity of the choir year to shop for member Lyn Walsh's legendary chutney, jam, and marmalade. *About St. Luke's* Formally admitted to the Episcopal Diocese of California in 1891, St. Luke's has been a part of the Monrovia community for 125 years. The inclusive church welcomes all to its community. The superb acoustics of its landmark 1924 Romanesque house of worship make it a popular site for a variety of music performances. Eucharist services are held on Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. The Reverend Neil Tadken is Rector. For more information, visit saintlukesmonrovia.org.

Orchid Hobbyists Meeting

ARCADIA - San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists invite you to our **October 21**, Monthly Meeting at the L.A. County Arboretum 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, Ca. Palm Room. Masks mandatory. Judging 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. We will be presenting an American Orchid Society Webinar by Eric Sauer, topic: The Genus of Maxillaria. Refreshments. All welcome!

Seen Or Heard Around Town And All Around

By Ed Torres

1. Martin Luther king extolled the content of a person's character, rather than the color of someone's skin – nowadays, though, what's often emphasized by some ... IS, the color-of-a-person's skin... Surprisingly, whereas by and large Whites have swallowed whole MLK's idealism — and envisioned a society based on ability and character, not on color — contrarily, significant numbers of influential Black Americans, reject M.L. King's suggestion of de-emphasizing a person's color; instead, these people appear to preach a society overwhelmed with color, where Whites overall are seemingly the unavoidable enemy, simply because of their "Whiteness".

2. City street bicyclists, do not often obey the rules-of-the-road (yes, look around); some people thought that one day, these bicyclists would begin to be influenced by car drivers — into obeying traffic lights and other street signs... But the reverse has occurred, it seems — car drivers now in larger numbers, seem to coast through stop signs and run through red traffic lights, just as bicyclists do...

3. Hallmark T.V. Movies are silly, predictable, romanticized, pabulum — and, Hallmark, please give America more of them...

4. The original 19th century American political "Progressives", fought to improve sanitation in the slaughterhouses in America, in order to protect the public's health... The modern Progressives, fight to put dresses on naked chickens (PETA), and to stick "plugs" in cows, to control how much gas cattle will pass... The original "Progressives", fought to improve law-and-order in the slums in order to improve the lives of the people living in such neighborhoods... The modern Progressives, fight to abolish the police there...

5. The original "Progressives", fought to improve the health of poor children in the slums... The modern Progressives, fight to expand abortions among the poor... The original "Progressives", fought to break up the monopolistic power of companies, such as THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY — the modern Progressives, fight to protect monopolistic companies such as FACEBOOK, GOOGLE and TWITTER...

6. Recently, Secretary of Defense Austin suggested before a committee of Congress, that all military personnel would be "monitored", to find out which ones are engaged in dangerous "extremist behavior" — when asked to define the term (so that military personnel would be aware of what extremist behavior is), he stated that extremist behavior was behavior that was extreme... Thank you Mr. Secretary, for making everything perfectly clear... NOT... Sounds like how average middle level elementary school students might define a term, when they do-not-have-a-clue.

7. Voodoo math — President Biden and his spokesperson say, that the pending costly 3.5 - 5.5 trillion dollar Congressional Human Infrastructure Bill, will truly cost Americans NOTHING... Yes, "nothing"... It's an enigma, a conundrum, a mystification... Or?...

8. Rip Van Winkle, of American folklore from the early 1800s, fell asleep and did not awaken for a couple of decades

or so, and when he did, he was shocked to find out what had happened to his slice of American life... If someone, "nowadays", had fallen asleep for the past couple of decades, and then woke up in current American society — where the police are said to be bad, and criminals good — where so many inside America apparently hate America — where so many want to burn down America, and hate the many others for trying to extinguish the fires: the modern Rip Van Winkle would believe that, in the course of a couple of decades, hundreds of millions of American had gone stark, raving "cra-zyyy".

9. Some students attending college and taking all classes online, reportedly are being threatened by their universities with expulsion or with fines because they have not provided proof that they are vaccinated — so that they will not contaminate their fellow students!

10. The Foothill Gold Line extension project, currently in progress through Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne and Pomona, speeding toward Montclair, relatively speaking is moving along at break-neck speed, with manageable inconveniences — kudos to the voters who funded the extension, to all the elected officials and staff who have been instrumental in furthering the project, and to Kiewit Construction Company and its sub-contractors... The extension is projected to be completed by 2026.

Comments/suggestions: honnod1@yahoo.com

BART The BLOCKHOUND

Engagement should not turn into an entanglement unless it is under your control....

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: HALLOWEEN

ACROSS

- *Hitchcock's 1963 movie, with The
- Bad-mouth
- H or O in H2O, e.g.
- France's longest river
- Bauxite, e.g.
- Opposite of adore
- Proprietor
- Quaker Man's cereal
- Oozes
- *Corpse
- *Bobbing for what?, pl.
- One time around
- Bébé's mother
- General Post Office
- Actuary's concern

DOWN

- Named, in bygone era
- Not easy
- Accepted behavior
- Kitchen floor layer?
- Northern European capital
- *Overly consumed on Halloween?
- Actress Spelling
- Nature's rage
- Bangladeshi currency
- Colossal
- Bowling prop
- Famous Himalayan
- Bugling ungulate
- Valedictorian's spot
- Possessive of "it"
- *Pennywise and Joker, e.g.
- Be nosy
- South American wild cats
- *Bedsheet with holes?
- Command that follows "cut"
- Acrylic fiber
- Show off
- Low-cal
- Skip the wedding hoopla
- State of danger
- *As opposed to treat
- Small town or hamlet
- Manufacture
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- 2.3, e.g.
- Carnie's domain
- Grandmother, for short
- Reflexive of "it"
- Question in dispute
- Parallel grooves
- *Raven's grabber
- Take it easy
- Electrical resistance units
- Blood-related problem
- Tangerine grapefruit hybrid
- Castle protector
- Carve, as in stone
- Lawyers' league
- "___ with their head!"

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"Lady Lark Ellen", The Famous West Covina Opera Singer

WEST COVINA - A world-famous opera singer named Ellen Beach Yaw came to West Covina in 1905 to be near her sister, Mrs. Ben Thorpe. She initially established her home on County land at the corner of today's San Bernardino Road and Lark Ellen Avenue. This land later became part of West Covina and is the grounds for Lark Ellen Hospital.

She was born in Boston, New York State in 1868 and gave her first concert in New York City at the age of 14. After years of study and training Madam Yaw made her formal concert debut in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1894.

She became a world-renowned singer with fame and celebrity status in both the United States and Europe. She sang before all the notables of Europe in 1905-09, and was under contract to the Royal Opera House in Vienna for three years. She was said to sing effortlessly in an enormous range reaching C above high C. This ease and spontaneity inspired Gen. Harrison Gray Otis, founder of the Los Angeles Times, to give her the name "Lark Ellen" since her voice had the pitch and sound of a lark. The name had instant appeal and she became known as "Lady Lark Ellen" or just "Lark Ellen." Out of admiration and recognition, Gray Otis, in 1893 founded the "Lark Ellen Home for Boys."

Today's Lark Ellen Avenue that passed right in front of her first home, is named after her. In 1910 she married Vere Goldwaite. At his death in 1919 his ashes were placed in a crypt buried on the grounds of their home. When Lark Ellen Avenue was widened, the crypt was moved to the grounds of Lark Ellen Hospital.

1934—First Season

Lark Ellen Echo Bowl Symphony Concerts

VERNON ROBINSON, Conductor



—Steckel

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Covina

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The photo of the cover promoting Lady Lark Ellen's first concert in the Lark Ellen Echo Bowl in 1934.

Lady Lark Ellen moved from her original home to the north-east corner of Barranca and Cameron where she built her famous "Lark Ellen Echo Bowl." She would perform concerts at the bowl.

The Historical Society of West Covina has collected a

number of writings and photographs of Lady Lark Ellen and will welcome any materials related to WC's early and most famous citizen.

Article and photo courtesy of West Covina Historical Society through Historian Forest Tennant.

Searching with Social Media



Photo courtesy of SMSR

SMSR members waiting to be airlifted to their assignment area

By Carolyn Grumm

In the 70 years since the founding of Sierra Madre Search and Rescue (SMSR) many new technologies have been developed and incorporated by the team. Today's team members carry light weight aluminum alloy carabiners, GPS units, and GORE-TEX jackets that didn't exist in 1951. One of the newer tools that the Team uses is social media.

SMSR has active accounts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. As these tools first became available they obviously helped the Team stay in touch with the community that we serve, share safety tips, advertise team events, and post recruiting information. As SMSR has continued to hone the power of social media, we have found it can also be a powerful tool during a search.

The summer of 2021 the team had two searches where social media played an important role in the operations.

In February SMSR partnered with San Dimas Mountain Rescue Team in their search for a missing hiker that was last seen hiking alone just below the summit of Iron Mountain but never made it home.

As ground teams hit the trails to search for her, back in town other team members hit social media. A post was made asking for information from anyone who had been on the mountain that same day. After being shared out 334 times and reaching 105,751 people on Facebook alone, the Team was able to identify and contact members of all but 1 of the hiking groups believed to be on the mountain the same day as the missing hiker.

These hikers shared valuable information about their interactions with the missing. They reported when and where they saw her, how she appeared to be doing and even pictures of the weather and terrain on the day she went missing. All of this information helped searchers focus their search area and attempt to predict the missing's behavior.

Sadly this hiker has still not been located. SMSR is dedicated to learning from every operation we deploy on, even those with-

out happy endings. Great things were learned about the power of social media on this search.

A couple of months later, SMSR assisted Montrose Search and Rescue Team in their search for a lost hiker who texted a message out to friends letting them know that he was lost. He also sent a picture of his legs sitting above a canyon. This and the fact that the missing person's car was found at the Buckhorn Campground/Trailhead was all of the information searchers had to work from as they began to search.

Once again as team members searched the mountain, others searched for help on social media. The picture the hiker took was shared on social media asking if anyone could identify his location, and @ai6yrham answered on Twitter. The location Benjamin Kuo (aka @ai6yrham) shared was searched by Air Rescue 5 and the hiker was located alive and well after an unexpected night out in rugged and remote off trail terrain.

SMSR is constantly working to hone their skills as searchers. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to see what we are up to.

National Certificate of Merit Awarded to Duarte Boy Scouts



Gianni Carrano and Brandon Huang from Duarte Scouts Troop 188 receiving their National Certificate of Merit.

DUARTE - On September 10, 2021 the City of Duarte and Duarte Mayor Bryan Urias recognized scouts Gianni Carrano and Brandon Huang from Duarte Scouts Troop 188 during a Court of Honor as they received the Boy Scouts National Certificate of Merit for their heroic acts in

saving a life after a motorcycle accident on Angeles Crest Highway.

The National Certificate of Merit is awarded to fewer than 100 Boy Scouts annually out of the 1.2 million Boy Scouts in the United States.

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West Covina K-9 Visits Women's Club of WC



West Covina Police Officer, Matt Bowman (right) and his partner Rev, visits women's Club meeting.

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - West Covina police officers Matt Bowman and Rev visit the Woman's Club of West Covina during their recent meeting at the West Covina Country Club.

Officer Matt Bowman and his partner Rev gave a demonstration during the meeting where he found shot-rounds that were hidden. The Woman's Club supports the West Covina's K-9 program.

Rev is a Dutch Sheppard and was raised from a puppy by Officer Bowman. Rev went through some extensive training and passed all the tests to be a K-9 for the West Covina

Police Department. His specialty is "explosives" and has a special talent of finding explosives, ammunition, guns and people who have been around any explosive material. He is often used at the Coliseum when they have their events looking for those that have firearms or explosives and trying to bring them into the Coliseum.

The Club members enjoyed the educational visit. Danika Mendoza from the Senator Rubio's office also attended as well and represented Senator Susan Rubio's office. She was also impressed with the demonstration.

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