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# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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To reach us:  
Phone: (626) 852-3374  
Fax: (626) 852-1904  
E-mail: [sgexaminer@aol.com](mailto:sgexaminer@aol.com)  
Web: [www.sgexaminer.com](http://www.sgexaminer.com)

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

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# Azusa's Grocery Outlet Bargain Market Is First In L. A. County

By Jorge V. Rosales

**AZUSA** - There is within the Azusa Citrus Crossings Shopping Center a new Grocery Outlet Bargain Market which opened its doors to the general public on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 7:00 a.m. However a grand opening celebration wasn't held until Saturday, January 23 for the new Grocery Outlet Bargain Market located at 355 N. Citrus Ave., in Azusa.

As a matter of fact, there was a soft opening celebration on Wednesday, January 20 for select VIP guests including members of the Azusa City Council led by Mayor Pro-tem Eddie Alvarez. The evening included food and wine, games, prizes, and the opportunity to meet key executives such as Grocery Outlet CEO, Tom McMahon and local store owners, father and daughter, Henry and Breana Martinez. Present that evening were the Outlet's official spoke persons, Univision Radio Syndication Omar Velasco and Argelia Atilano from El Show de Omar y Argelia on K-LOVE, F.M. 107.5.



Azusa Mayor Rocha and the Azusa City Council welcomes Grocery Outlet store owners, father and daughter, Henry and Breana Martinez to the City of Azusa.

The market opened to the general public on Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 A.M. Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. that day was the official ribbon cutting ceremony. Prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony there were two presentations. A \$1,000 food donation was given to the Azusa

Senior Center which was accepted by Lenora Gonzales accompanied by a few seniors and a \$5000 check presentation was also given to the Neighborhood Homework House which was accepted by Jennifer Hicks, Executive Director. There were numerous certificates presented to the owners of the Azusa Grocery Outlet by City, County, and State Officials and the Azusa and Glendora Chambers of Commerce.

The community celebration on Saturday, January 23 kicked off at 7 a.m. with coffee and treats and free eco-friendly, reusable bags for the first 500 customers with special treats inside the bag. Customers also got a \$1 hotdog and drink from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with proceeds benefitting the Action Food Pantry located at Grace Lutheran Church in Covina, CA. A free Spin and Win on the Wheel of Bargains ran from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and there was free face painting for the kids. The first 500 shoppers also received a \$5 certificate.

Grocery Outlet Bargain Market announced in October 2015 that it plans to open 14 stores in the greater Los Angeles area, a move that will create about 500 jobs. The Emeryville-based company, a self-described "extreme-value" grocery retailer with more than 227 locations throughout California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Pennsylvania

and Washington, said store locations will include Upland, Ontario, La Habra, Azusa, Long Beach, Westminster, Costa Mesa and Compton, among others.

In 1946, Jim Read started selling military surplus for deep discounts and Grocery Outlet has been wowing bargain-minded shoppers ever since. Delivering thrilling deals has become their mission; in fact, it's led them to become the nation's largest extreme value grocery retailer. They offer brand-name, quality products at up to 60% off conventional retail prices.

Their buyers shop the world, traveling thousands of miles each year to find the best deals available. They have developed long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with thousands of producers and manufacturers over the years. Grocery Outlet buyers are experts at buying product opportunistically; that is, product outside the normal retail channel, i.e. packaging changes, product overruns, and surplus inventories, to bring the best bargains back to their stores.

## I-10 Freeway Dedication for CHP Officer Wolff III Who Died in 1977



Family members of Officer William B. Wolff III, Carrie Mangana (daughter) Eric Wolff (son) with Assemblyman Ed Hernandez, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano and Senator Ed Hernandez.

By George Ogden

**WEST COVINA** - On January 22, there was a dedication ceremony that was held at Hurst Ranch in West Covina. CHP Officer William Wolff III would be having a Freeway Dedication to honor him. This honor was spearheaded by Assemblyman Roger Hernandez.

Back on December 30, 1977, California Highway Patrol Officer William B. Wolff III had just made an arrest for a DUI, eastbound I-10, east of Frazier Street. As Officer Wolff was in the process of entering his patrol vehicle, he was struck by a drunk driver. As a result, Officer Wolff died.

On June 11, 2015, California State Assembly Member

Roger Hernandez (D-48th District) introduced legislation which would designate the interchange at State Highway Route 10 and the 605 Freeway in the County of Los Angeles as the Officer William B. Wolff III Memorial Interchange.

Friday, January 22, 2016, would have marked Officer Wolff's 70th birthday. On this date, the California Highway Patrol, Assembly Member Roger Hernandez, and Officer Wolff's family hosted a ceremony to officially dedicate a portion of the I-10 freeway in honor of Officer William B. Wolff's sacrifice.

The event was well attended by nearly 100 CHP Officers and

police chiefs from all over the area. The event was emceed by Captain Steve Urrea from the Baldwin Park CHP Station.

There were a number of political dignitaries attending including Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez and Assemblyman Roger Hernandez.

A number of family and friends spoke about Officer Wolff and the mark that he left on their lives... including his granddaughter Kaylee Mangana.

They had the unveiling of the Freeway Sign and a fly over of CHP helicopters.

This was followed by refreshments and the gathering of family, friends and guests.



The family of Officer William B. Wolff III with Assemblyman Roger Hernandez with the Freeway Sign.

## Special Christmas Gifts For Children At YWCA Wings Shelter



Glendora Woman's Club members and friends from left, Nina Shadlow, Evie Larimore, Ida Fracasse, Rose Myers, Eleanor Shetron, Helen Storland, and Silvia Llerena display the Christmas gift bags they assembled for the children staying with their mothers at the YWCA WINGS Shelter for battered women.

By Joan Hallidy

**GLENDORA** - One of the Glendora Woman's Club's special projects at Christmas time is the assembling of Christmas stocking gift bags for the children staying with their mothers at the YWCA WINGS (Woman In Need Growing Strong) Shelter for battered women.

This year marks the 27th year the Woman's Club has selected the WINGS Program as one of its major ongoing service projects.

For the project, gift bags of Christmas gifts and toys are packaged and matched to the children staying at the shelter

through their age and gender, said project chair Rose Myers. This year, there were six children staying with their mothers at the WINGS Shelter during the recent holidays, said Mrs. Myers.

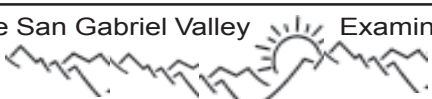
Also during the year, the club sends other items to the WINGS shelter, including Easter Baskets for the Children, Mother's Day gifts, personal supplies, and children's toys and games.

To help accomplish the club's many service projects, club members are encouraged to volunteer their time, to help shop for needed items, and

package the items needed for the projects, said Mrs. Myers.

Club President Carolyn Cunningham thanked the club members for helping to make the club's many ongoing service projects possible through their continuing support and participate.

For information about joining the Woman's Club, the club's service projects, and special events, call (626) 963-7337; for information about renting the ballroom or hall, call Ritz Catering at (909) 592-1130. The clubhouse is located at 434 N. Glendora Avenue, Glendora.



# Spaces Available in Innovative Independent Study Program

Personal approach offers students educational options



The Independent Learning Center staff: Lead Outreach Teacher Bryan Sterling, Counselor Chris Sandoval, Outreach Teacher Jake Barendregt, Registrar Dianna Lopez and Assistant Principal Gayle Morganstern.

**BALDWIN PARK** – Baldwin Park Unified officials have announced 20 openings in an innovative independent study program launched this fall that personalizes instruction for students who seek alternative approaches or who face challenges with a traditional school setting.

The Independent Learning Center (ILC) at Baldwin Park High School provides a rigorous, blended online learning program with flexible hours to ensure students meet all graduation requirements. Students progress at their own pace, with teachers available for support.

“The program has been a hit since we first piloted it in the summer,” Baldwin Park Unified Interim Superintendent Froilan N. Mendoza said. “It offers a great mix of learning options for students who benefit from customized instruction.”

The ILC also provides career exploration and preparation, and social-emotional support. Because the program is based at Baldwin Park High School, students also may participate in traditional school activities.

Those best served by the program are:

- Students at-risk of dropping out or have dropped out of school and are under 18;
- Teen parents;
- Employed students;
- Students with health circumstances who need flexible school hours;
- Students who are credit deficient or are disengaged with a traditional school setting;
- Socially and emotionally at-risk students; and
- 21st century independent learners with academic skills at or near grade level.

Applications for the ILC Spring semester are being accepted at the Baldwin Park High School Office. For information, contact the ILC at (626) 960-5431, x3205.

# Glendora Mayor Karen Davis Delivered State Of City Report at Woman's Club

By Joan Hallidy

**GLENDORA** - Glendora Mayor Karen Davis delivered the State of the City Report for the Glendora Woman's Club on Tuesday, January 5. The program gave club members the opportunity to meet the city official, ask questions, and hear how the city is progressing, said program vice president Helen Storland.

The club day will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a social time, followed by a business meeting at 11 a.m., the catered luncheon around noon, and then Mayor's State of the City Report.

One of the club's monthly service project is the donation of canned nonperishable food



Glendora Mayor Karen Davis

items by club members for Shepherd's Pantry. Located in Glendora, the Pantry serves those families in need in 10 area cities, said project chair Gloria Liddle.

Coming up on March 15 will

be the club's Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon that provides funds for the club's many philanthropies and service projects. Plans include the addition of a new participation category to the Fashion Show program that would list sponsors, in addition to the listing of donors, said Chris Lear, ways and means vice president and show chair.

For more information about membership and special events, call (626) 963-7337; for information about renting the ballroom or hall for an event or meeting, call Ritz Catering at (909) 592-1130. The clubhouse is located at 424 N. Glendora Avenue, Glendora

# 7th Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament to Fight Hunger

**GLENDORA** - Join Sowing Seeds For Life on Monday Leap Year Day **February 29** for the 7th Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament to Fight Hunger. The event will take place at the beautiful Glendora Country Club, registration starts at 9:00 a.m. and shotgun at 10:00.

Previous year's celebrities have been invited back and the evening's festivities include a

wonderful sports panel with invited guests such as KABC 7's Rob Fukuzaki, Super Bowl participants Mike Sherrard and Chris Hale among others.

The evening will also recognize and honor Brian McNeerney of the La Verne Chamber of Commerce with presentation the Hero Award.

This annual fundraiser supports the food programs of Sowing Seeds For Life which include the veteran's and senior pantries. These special pantries along with our general pantries serve over 84,000 people annually.

Community support is vital to the operation of our program. Single slots for the tournament

begin at \$150; foursomes are \$550 with additional sponsorships such as Memorial, Kids Korner and others still available.

The auction will include some great items just in time for Mother's Day gift giving such as passes to Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, Universal Studios, the Los Angeles Dodgers and much more.


All funds raised from this event will help the families who rely on the food pantries of Sowing Seeds For Life.

For more information or to register please call 909-392-5777 or email [Frabortson@SowingSeedsForLife.Org](mailto:Frabortson@SowingSeedsForLife.Org)

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# Nite Owl Quilters Guild

**RANCHO CUCAMONGA** - Author, designer and artist Rami Kim will be the guest speak at Nite Owl Quilters Guild meeting on Thursday, **January 28** at the Brulte Senior Center, 11200 Base Line Road, Rancho Cucamonga. The meeting will begin at 7pm with social time at 6:30.

Kim's lecture will focus on her first book, "Folded Fabric Elegance" which details the use of various 3-dimensional textures. Kim will share examples of quilts, wearables and home décor items along with stories behind her creative process. For more information visit [www.niteowls.org](http://www.niteowls.org) or Lavella Fitzgerald at [Sewgro@aol.com](mailto:Sewgro@aol.com).

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## Monterey Park Welcomes the Year of the Monkey at the Lunar New Year Festival

**MONTEREY PARK** - The City of Monterey Park is pleased to announce the 2016 Lunar New Year Festival to celebrate the Year of the Monkey Saturday and Sunday, January 30-31, 2016 in Downtown Monterey Park.

One of the largest free street events in Southern California, an estimated 200,000 people visited Monterey Park's two-day event in 2015. The festival will run Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. along seven blocks on Garvey Avenue from Alhambra to Ramona Avenues.

In celebrating the Lunar New Year, the festival will

showcase and honor a wide variety of SoCal cultural elements. More than 270 booths will be occupied by merchants, organizations and food vendors in addition to two stages for performing arts presented by scores of groups.

Foodies will not want to miss the 65+ Asian cuisine focused food booths. On-site games and activities include "spin the lucky windmill" and "red envelopes giveaway," cute pet contest, car show, carnival rides and a flower market. One of the most exciting events will be the continuous lucky draw of hundreds of prizes, including TV sets, small appliances, airline tickets

and more.

Finalists of the 4th L.A. Voice singing competition will show their talents and compete for the top places and prizes before an audience of visitors from all over the region.

The 2016 Lunar New Year Festival is a co-production of The City of Monterey Park, World Journal Los Angeles and the Business Improvement District Advisory Committee of Monterey Park. For more information, vendor applications or sponsorship information, please visit the city website at [www.MontereyPark.ca.gov](http://www.MontereyPark.ca.gov) or visit [www.LunarNewYears.com](http://www.LunarNewYears.com).

## Hernández Bill Provides Economic Stability to Solid Waste Workers

**SACRAMENTO** - Assemblyman Roger Hernández (D - West Covina) Chair of the Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment, introduced legislation to reduce unemployment by keeping workers from being displaced when a city's solid waste contract changes companies. AB 1669 is sponsored by the California Teamsters Public Affairs Council.

"This bill rewards those companies who agree to retain the current employees for a modest 90 day period after a contract changes hands," explained Hernández.

Hernández further explained that when cities and counties contract for services like waste hauling, they are

often focused on the costs of the bids and the level of services provided. In many cases, the workers fall through the cracks when contracts change hands. The existing workforce, trained and experienced, is summarily laid off and replaced.

"These mass layoffs hurt individual families, but also impact the local economy. Promoting a stable workforce allows workers to invest in and contribute to their community. It means people can stay in their homes, kids can stay in their schools, and families can retain health insurance. It also means fewer workers are relying on unemployment insurance or other taxpayer-funded programs," concluded

Hernández.

AB 1669 rewards companies who retain existing solid waste collection and transportation workers for 90 days after a new contract takes effect with a 10 percent bid preference. This allows the company an opportunity to decide whether to retain the employee, while giving the employee additional time to prepare for a possible layoff.

The new bill is modeled after current California law which provides a similar bid preference for public transit service contractors who agree to retain employees for 90 days. AB 1669 merely extends that protection to employees of solid waste contractors.

## Wrestling Extravaganza To Return To Morgan Park For Showdown

**BALDWIN PARK** - Following their debut at the Esther Snyder Community Center last January, performers with Empire Wrestling Federation (EWF) will return to Baldwin Park and face off in the ring this Saturday, January 30 for a showdown.

The Wrestling Extravaganza is slated for 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 4100 Baldwin Park Blvd. Admission will cost \$7 for those age 14 and up, and \$4 for those ages 6-13, at the door. Children ages 5 and under are free.

"My son's a big wrestling fan and I've been looking for local shows [to follow] for a while," said Joshua Duke of Glendora.

Duke and his son, 12-year-old Derek, were among the more than 700 people who filled Morgan Park's gymnasium last year for the entertainment wrestling debut in the city. The outpouring of spectators left a standing-room-only crowd and prompted Mike Salas, a program supervisor

with the city's Department of Recreation and Community Services, to invite EWF back to Baldwin Park again this year.

"We thought to just have a small show and felt it would be a good cultured event," said Salas. "It evolved into a much bigger than we anticipated."

This weekend's event will showcase a slew of wrestlers - both female and male - across a series of six matches, according to organizers. Jesse Hernandez of EWF said spectators can expect a "Battle Royal," a multi-competitor elimination match, in addition to a six-man tag-team match for the main event. A women's showdown featuring female wrestlers Mega Queen and Holidread is lined up as the special event.

Hernandez oversees EWF's promotions and added that entertainment wrestling has gained popularity throughout the last several years.

"People want to see the old

style and the old professional wrestling. These kinds of shows bring the grassroots of wrestling to the community so that this generation could enjoy it as our grandparents and parents watched it on the black-and-white tube," he said. "This is a lost art of wrestling that is slowly coming back and putting on shows."

Hernandez said his group has specialized in professional-style wrestling entertainment for the last 20 years. Empire Wrestling Federation was dubbed the "School of Hard Knocks" in a feature segment by CNN and has been a training ground for many wrestlers. Many veterans of the organization have gone on into the professional and international circuits throughout the years, according to Hernandez.

Admittance for the Wrestling Extravaganza in Baldwin Park will begin at 5 p.m. For more information, call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 317.

## Citizens Academy Returns to the West Covina Police Department

**WEST COVINA** - The West Covina Police Department is pleased to announce the return of the popular Citizens Academy. The Citizen Academy offers members of the community an up close and personal look at how the West Covina Police Department op-

erates. The program brings the community's civic, business, and religious leaders together to experience firsthand how the West Covina Police Department responds to and investigates crimes in our community. Class members will learn about the various person-

nel, their tools and techniques which are employed to carry out our mission. Class members will observe all aspects of police operations including patrol, investigations, Forensics, S.W.A.T. and K9 operations to name a few.

Classes are free and will be held every Thursday evening from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm for ten consecutive weeks beginning February 4, 2016.

If you would like more information about the Citizens Academy or would like to sign up, call 626 939-8530 or email [CitizensAcademy@wcpd.org](mailto:CitizensAcademy@wcpd.org).

## Asian-American Rapper MC Jin To Headline Lunar New Year Festival

**SAN GABRIEL** - Asian-American rapper MC Jin will headline the 2nd Annual San Gabriel Lunar New Year Festival on Feb. 6, organizers for the free event announced this week.

Jin has been touted as the first mainstream Asian-American rap artist and is well known for signing with major record label Ruff Ryders in 2002 after winning seven weeks in a row in the "Freestyle Friday" competition on BET television show "106 & Park." He has also appeared in several films, including "2 Fast 2 Furious."

Before Jin takes the stage, the festival promises a wide range of amazing entertainment for every interest, all day long. The first part of the day will contain several traditional acts, including the UCLA Wushu Team, American Chinese Cultural Association and Lee Shin Tae Kwon Do. Later,

attendees can enjoy more modern acts such as Jane Lui, Peter Chung, Track IX, Justin Klunk, Ashley Yoon and Verseatile. In between the two entertainment sections will be the first-ever Genesis Dance Competition, in which dance crews from across the region will battle it out and be judged by celebrity dancers. Inside the Mission Playhouse will be performances by storyteller Barbara Wong and Kathak dancer Seibi Lee, along with short films.

The San Gabriel Lunar New Year Festival is free to attend, making it a full day of free live entertainment from talented, well-known artists that is hard to beat. Plus, there will be dozens of food trucks and food booths with offerings including dumplings, grilled meat skewers, Korean BBQ, grilled squid, Japanese pancakes, rice

balls and Asian-inspired poutine. There will also be vendor booths, a craft beer garden, a kids' zone and a chalk art contest.

The festival is presented by the City of San Gabriel, along with Jade Sponsors: Hilton Los Angeles/San Gabriel and LA 18 KSCI-TV; Silver Sponsors: Athens Services, 99 Ranch Market, Pasadena Star-News and Wells Fargo; and Bronze Sponsors: San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, Charter Communications, Citizens Business Bank, First General Bank, Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary and San Gabriel Valley Medical Center.

For more information, visit [www.sglunarnewyear.org](http://www.sglunarnewyear.org) and view the latest details on vendors and performers on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1517909651861505/>.

## Huff Measure Elevates Status of Asian Lunar New Year

**SB 616 Sails off Senate Floor with Unanimous Support**

**SACRAMENTO** - Legislation authored by Senate Minority Leader Emeritus Bob Huff (R-San Dimas) received a hefty legislative push from the State Senate today, moving off the Senate Floor with unanimous support. SB 616 seeks to create a new and special day of significance for the celebration of the Asian Lunar New Year in California.

"This is the biggest holiday in the Eastern Hemisphere," said Senator Huff. "It is fitting in our diverse state to encourage schools to participate in some way. The Lunar New Year is celebrated in many Asian communities around the world, including the United States, and especially California - where it is predominantly celebrated by 2.5 million Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese residents as a significant part of their deeply held cultural family traditions focusing on renewal and family ties."

Existing state law designates particular days each year as having "special significance," and encourages all public schools and educational institutions to observe those days and to conduct suitable commemorative exercises on those days. An example of this is Ronald Reagan Day, which falls on February 6th of every year, in honor of the only California Governor to serve as President of the United States.

"The Lunar New Year is such a big event in China that children take off an entire month from school," said Senator Huff. "I represent the largest group of Asian Pacific Islander residents of any Senate District, and I understand that proclaiming the Lunar New Year as a Special Day of Significance shows respect and will go a long way in building a sense of inclusion and community in California."

New York Mayor Bill de

Blasio took action last year to add the Lunar New Year to the New York public school calendar, allowing the city's Asian families to celebrate an important holiday with their children without tarnishing attendance records. When the Lunar New Year falls on a school day, some city schools with large Asian populations have more than half their students absent that day.

SB 616 is proudly sponsored by the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), Asian American Equalization Association, Joint Chinese University Alumni Association of Southern California (JCUAA), The Orange Club, Chinese American Citizens Alliance Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge, Silicon Valley Chinese Association and Asians for Lunar New Year. The measure now moves to the State Assembly.

## Assembly Majority Floor Leader Holden Introduces Tobacco Cessation Legislation

**SACRAMENTO** - With renewed talks to reinvest in Medi-Cal, Assembly Majority Floor Leader Chris Holden reintroduced tobacco cessation legislation, AB 1696, to help California's neediest residents quit smoking and avoid a lifetime of health problems. The bill requires tobacco cessation medications, counseling, and assessments to be covered for a Medi-Cal patient.

"Smoking continues to be the leading preventable cause of the death in the United States" said Assembly Majority Floor Leader Chris Holden. "We have an opportunity to save lives and money with this bill."

"The American Heart Association is proud to co-sponsor AB 1696 to ensure that

California's most vulnerable will be able to access tobacco cessation programs, which have been shown to greatly increase the success rate for those trying to quit using tobacco," said Dr. Diane Sobkowicz, Board President for the Sacramento division of the American Heart Association and Director of the Women's Heart Program at Sutter Heart & Vascular Institute. "Our state spends \$3.5 billion each year treating tobacco-related diseases through Medi-Cal. Studies have shown that every \$1 spent on cessation program costs results in \$3 in medical savings, a return on investment that would substantially reduce our state's tobacco-related medical expenditures."

California is traditionally viewed as a leader when it comes to regulating smoking and tobacco, but in 2015, the American Lung Association gave California an "F" score in the category of tobacco prevention control and spending, and a "D" in the category of access to cessation services. They specifically recommend expanding access to tobacco cessation treatments and services for Medi-Cal recipients.

"California used to be a leader in tobacco control with programming that supported a healthier lifestyle, but with tobacco companies outspending the California Tobacco Control Program 15 to 1, more work needs to be done," said Holden.

## San Gabriel Launches 'Budget Central'

**SAN GABRIEL** - The City of San Gabriel officially began the 2016-2017 Budget & Capital Improvement Program planning process with the launch of the "Budget Central" page on the city website.

The annual budget and capital improvement program represent the City Council's priorities for the community and are two of the most important documents generated by the city each year. The budget process is an opportunity for resi-

dents to get involved and share their input on how city funds should be allocated.

In an effort to improve transparency and community involvement in the budget decisions, the city's Budget Central page on the website includes all important meeting dates and as well as essential budget documents for residents to read. The online portal is just one of many ways the city works to include and

engage residents in the budget process.

The City Council will hold its first budget planning meeting on Feb. 2 at City Hall in Conference Room A beginning at 5:30 p.m. Residents can find other upcoming meetings and community outreach events on the Budget Central page. For more information on the City of San Gabriel, visit our website at [www.sangabrielcity.com](http://www.sangabrielcity.com)

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# Citrus College Named to Record Number of National Publication's Top Producer Lists

By Stacy Armstrong

**GLENDORA** - Citrus College has once again been named one of the nation's top degree and certificate producing two-year institutions by Community College Week.

Every year, the bi-weekly magazine releases a special report featuring the top 100 degree and certificate producing two-year institutions in the nation. The report consists of 44 different categories, including associate degrees awarded to minorities, associate degrees awarded by discipline, and the total number of two-year certificates awarded.

This year, Citrus College was included on seven of the 44 lists, the most since the magazine began publishing the report in 2003.

"As always, it is truly an honor to be recognized by Community College Week,"

said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "Our consistent inclusion on their Top 100 lists serves as a tremendous source of pride for Citrus College."

Using data gathered from the 2014-2015 academic year, Community College Week ranked Citrus College fifth out of the top 100 institutions in awarding associate degrees in multi/interdisciplinary studies. In the previous year, it was ranked number 14 in the same category.

Citrus College also moved from number 30 to number 17 in awarding associate degrees to Hispanic students; from number 41 to 26 in awarding associate degrees in parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies; and from 52 to 32 in awarding associate degrees to minority students.

Citrus College retained its position as number 76 out of the top 100 institutions in terms of awarding associate degrees to Asian-American students. It was also ranked 47 in awarding associate degrees in practical nursing and 71 in awarding associate degrees in all disciplines.

"The faculty, staff and students of Citrus College have

worked together to remove barriers that impede student success," Dr. Perri said. "Our impressive progress validates the college community's commitment to student completion. It is rewarding to know that our students are receiving the resources they need to accomplish their goals."

According to Community College Week, their annual top 100 lists are compiled using statistics provided by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics. Citrus College's placement on the list was based off of the 2,533 associate degrees it awarded during the 2014-2015 academic year.

"Citrus College is incredibly proud to be recognized as one of the top community colleges in the country," said Mrs. Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "This is an outstanding accomplishment that was made possible through collaboration, innovation, and the pursuit of excellence. We will continue to enhance our programs and services to ensure that the needs of our students are always met."

# Glendora High School Silhouettes Presented Glendora Woman's Club Christmas Program



The Glendora High School Silhouettes, directed by Dr. Brian Trevor (at right), are pictured at the Glendora Woman's Club after presenting the Christmas Program of Holiday Music for the club members. The popular high school group presented an entertaining selection of songs and special arrangements, with Karen Wingard the piano accompanist. Photo by Rose Myers

By Joan Hallidy

**GLENDORA** - The Glendora Woman's Club's recent Christmas Program was presented by the Glendora High School Silhouettes, the advanced girls' choir, the popular high school group, under the direction of Dr. Brian Trevor, presented a selection of Holiday Music that helped ring in the holiday season, said program vice president Helen Storland. It was also noted that this year Director Trevor is celebrating his 14th year with the Glendora School District.

During the Holiday season, the club's focus is on service

projects, projects that involve the member's support through donations of food items and cash contributions. Those service projects include, among others, the Glendora Coordinating Council's Holiday Basket Program, the monthly food drive for Shepherd's Pantry, and the collection of used eyeglasses for EYE-DAS (Eye Diseases are Serious) organization. Also in December, members assemble Christmas gifts for the children staying with their mothers at the YWCA WINGS (Women In Need Growing Strong) shelter.

The Glendora Woman's Club, organized in 1908, has a long history of involvement and service in Glendora. It is presently one of the oldest, active service organizations in Glendora and one that maintains its own clubhouse.

For information about membership, the club's service projects, and special events, call (626) 963-7337; for information about renting the clubhouse ballroom or hall for a special event, call Ritz Catering at (909) 592-1130. The clubhouse is located at 424 N. Glendora avenue, Glendora.

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INFORMATION GUIDE

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Phone (626) 852-3374  
Fax (626) 852-1904  
E-mail: sgexaminer@aol.com

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Publisher/Editor
- Edward M. Moses, Esq.**  
Legal Counsel
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- We believe that journalism should be free from any motives other than relaying information to its readers. It should not be used to win a favor by flattery, to enhance a particular political interest, or for the purpose of financial gain.
- We also believe in accuracy in fact and context. Journalists should be accountable for any news or subjects they write about.
- We believe in growth. Therefore, complaints or mistakes erroneously committed will be entertained and investigated diligently and corrected accordingly.
- We believe in performing our journalistic work to the best of our ability and will continue to present the facts clearly and fairly.

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Views and opinions of writers, contributors and columnists are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher or the newspaper.

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All submissions for publication become the property of San Gabriel Valley Examiner and will not be returned. San Gabriel Valley Examiner does not guarantee submissions to be published. All submissions are subject to editing, including to conform to space limitations.

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# Newcomers and Friends of San Gabriel Valley Invites Local Residents to "Meet-and-Greet" Coffee

**ARCADIA** - Are you interested in meeting new people, making new friends, exploring well-known landmarks, and enjoying new activities? Newcomers and Friends of San Gabriel Valley invites local residents to join in their upcoming January events.

On **February 3**, at 10:00 am, Newcomers and Friends of SGV's "meet-and-greet" coffee will be held in Arcadia. This coffee is a great way to meet the members of Newcomers and Friends and learn about the club's wide variety of fun, daytime, weekday activities. Anyone interested in

joining is welcome to attend.

Other Newcomers and Friends' mostly-daytime week-end activities include a Book Club, Bridge, Crafters, Games (Bunco, Rummikub, etc.), Garden Gals, Hump Day Happy Hour, Day Trips, Lunch Bunch, Mah Jongg, Movies, Pinochle, Scrabble, Golf, and Wine Tasting.

In January, Newcomers and Friends had a breakfast and tour at Santa Anita Park race-

track and also visited the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. In February there will be a luncheon at a local restaurant that will include a speaker who is a Monarch Butterfly expert.

To learn more about Newcomers and Friends of San Gabriel Valley, contact them via email at sgvnewcomers@yahoo.com or visit them online at http://www.sgvnewcomers.com

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# Citrus College Student Newspaper Wins 14 Journalism Awards

GLENDORA - The Citrus College Clarion student newspaper recently won 14 journalism awards from the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) Southern Region Conference held at Fullerton College. Seven reporters and graphic designers received awards in 11 categories, including JACC's highest honor, General Excellence.

Evan Solano, the Clarion's managing editor and JACC Southern Region student president for 2015-2016, received eight of the Clarion's awards, establishing a Citrus College record. He was also one of the conference's student speakers.

"The Citrus College community is immensely proud of the Clarion's impressive accomplishments at the JACC conference," said Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D. "As a College of Completion, Citrus College's

outstanding language arts and communications programs provide student journalists with high caliber academic experiences, both inside and outside the classroom, that ensure opportunities for transfer to a four-year institution and preparation for their chosen careers."

The Clarion won first-place awards for front-page layout, inside page layout, and photo illustration. The inside page layout, informational graphic, student designed advertisement, and webcast/broadcast news categories received second place awards, while Illustration, photo illustration and student designed advertisement earned third place awards. The column writing and enterprise news story/series categories garnered fourth and fifth place respectively. An honorable mention for opinion writing rounded out the

Clarion's sweep.

In addition to Solano, winners of the abovementioned awards included Editor-in-Chief Megan Bender, Dillon Cooper, Pat Cordova-Goff, Emily Cristler-Hermosillo, Mickey Romero and Mara Sullivan. In addition to picking up their awards during the conference, the students attended workshops where they interacted with local editors, photographers, and writers.

"The Clarion staff consistently demonstrates their extraordinary talents as individual writers and designers and as a team that invariably produces an award-winning publication," said Mrs. Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "Many of them go on to achieve successful careers that enrich their communities and make Citrus College proud."

# A Monterey Park School Prepares For A Week Full Of Student-Centered Activities

Promotes A Community Of Faith And Service

MONTEREY PARK - St. Thomas Aquinas School, Monterey Park is ready to begin their annual activities during a nationwide week dedicated to everyone involved in Catholic education. The theme for this year is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service". The kickoff day is January 31st with a pancake breakfast hosted by STA's Student Council. All are invited to support the students of this school by purchasing a breakfast from

9:00am - 1:00pm.

The celebration will continue throughout the week with a variety of activities, including: An Opening Rally; 8th grade vs. Faculty Volleyball game; School wide movie theatre field trip; Bring a special person to school craft day; preparing breakfast burritos for the St. Vincent de Paul Center in downtown LA; Karaoke Lunch; Egg Drop Contest; Field Day; "Blast From the Past" day, and much, much

more.

Prospective and interested parents are invited to visit St. Thomas Aquinas School on February 6. The Annual Open House will take place from 11am - 1pm. Meet the faculty and staff of the school along with the members of various school organizations: Parent-Teacher Organization, Student Council, Academic Decathlon Team, Speech and Debate Team, the STA Times writers, and our Sports' Department.

# Parent Group Works to Promote Drinking Water over Sugary Drinks for Children

"Choose Water" campaign helps parents in the fight against obesity and type 2 diabetes

COVINA - California leads the country in childhood obesity and persistent risk factors for serious health problems in young children. Since one of the leading causes of weight-related health risks is sugary drinks, the YWCA San Gabriel Valley's Choose Health LA Kids parent collaborative is committed to improving health by drinking more water at home and at restaurants.

"Parents want to see a change in San Gabriel Valley by making simple changes such as encouraging their friends and families to drink more water," said Eillean McCullough. "With the support of the community we are confident we can prevent obesity and other health conditions in our children and we invite community members to join our efforts."

"Water: The Healthiest Choice" is a campaign launched by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. It is aimed at parents and focuses on providing simple, straightforward information about soda, sports and juice drinks and their link to obesity and type 2 diabetes. The multilingual media campaign encourages parents to give their children water and remove sugary drinks from their diet.

Parents can pick up a brochure with tips on how to make water more appealing for their family. For the children, there is a coloring sheet that encourages them to choose water and make water more delicious by adding fresh fruit. Materials can be obtained at the YWCA office: 943 N. Grand Ave Covina, CA 91724.

A recent national study found that while California's obesity rate among adults is the fifth lowest in the country and there has been an overall decline in childhood obesity rates, the Golden State still has the highest obesity rate among children between the ages of 2 and 4. Sugary drinks, which can represent up to 40% of a child's total calorie intake, are a leading cause of obesity among children.

"We want to encourage parents to choose the sugar free, calorie free, and obesity free drink for their children - water," said Dr. Paul Simon, MD, MPH, Director, Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. "There are many simple ways to make water more appealing to kids. Parents can go to ChooseHealthLA.com for tips and easy recipes."

The parent group, imple-

mented by The YWCA San Gabriel Valley, is one of numerous Choose Health LA Kids Parent Collaboratives in Los Angeles County. Choose Health LA Kids is a countywide early childhood obesity prevention initiative of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health which is funded by First 5 LA.

To learn more about the parent collaborative and other efforts, visit the YWCA San Gabriel Valley Program website at [www.ywcasgv.org](http://www.ywcasgv.org)

# Blood Donations Needed By The American Red Cross

The American Red Cross encourages blood donors to make an appointment to give this winter. Eligible blood donors of all types are needed, especially those with O, AB, B negative and A negative.

Blood is needed to respond to emergencies large and small, across the country every day. For Heather Von Glahn, it was a personal emergency - her 8-year-old daughter's leukemia diagnosis - that inspired her to make the commitment to give blood regularly. "I've seen blood save her life at least 10 times," said Von Glahn. "When friends and family ask what they can do for my daughter, I tell them to donate blood. It matters so much!"

Blood donations are needed now and throughout the winter to maintain a sufficient blood supply for patients in need. Make an appointment to donate blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

**American Red Cross Pasadena Blood Donation Center**  
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**American Red Cross Pomona Blood Donation Center**

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Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Additional blood donation opportunities:

**Alhambra**

2/3/2016: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., Alhambra Police Department, 211 S First Street

2/13/2016: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Alhambra Masonic Lodge, 9 W Woodward

**Arcadia**

2/1/2016: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Arcadia Chapter, 376 W Huntington Dr

**La Verne**

2/14/2016: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Rock of the Foothills Lutheran Church, 4630 N Wheeler Ave

**Pasadena**

2/11/2016: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Community Bank, 460 Sierra Madre Villa Pasadena

**Pomona**

2/2/2016: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Cal Poly Bronco Student Center, 3801 W. Temple Ave

2/3/2016: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Cal Poly Bronco Student Center, 3801 W. Temple Ave

2/4/2016: 7:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m., Palomares Academy of Health Sciences, 2211 N. Orange Grove Ave.

2/4/2016: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Cal Poly Bronco Student Center,

3801 W. Temple Ave

2/14/2016: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., St Madeleine Catholic Church, 931 E. Kingsley Ave

**San Dimas**

2/9/2016: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., San Dimas Community Hospital, 1350 W Covina Blvd

How to donate blood

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

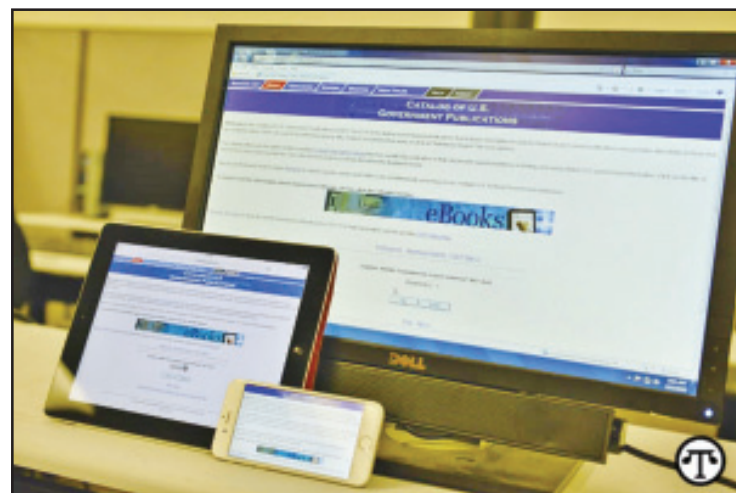
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# Get Government Documents

Students, researchers, community leaders and anyone who needs to find information published by the U.S. government can get help from a great online resource. You can access library catalog records on a wide range of topics including defense, citizenship, U.S. laws, health, science and more from the Government Publishing Office's Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP).

That's the major finding guide for locating publications produced by the federal government, both current and historic. There are also direct links to the documents—unless the publication exists only in print. People who need or prefer a print document can learn where to find the nearest federal depository library from the CGP.

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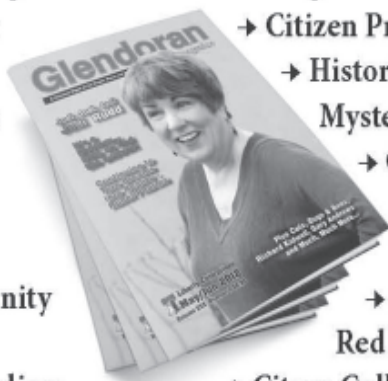
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# Assemblywoman Chang Honored By The Computing Technology Industry Association

*CompTIA Recognizes Chang as one of two "Tech Champions" in the State Legislature*

SACRAMENTO – Assemblywoman Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) was honored by the Computing Technology Industry Association, the voice of the information technology industry, as a “Tech Champion.”

“I’m thrilled to be honored as a California Tech Champion,” Chang said. She added, “Innovation is at the heart of California’s spirit and technology and creativity are significantly driving our economy forward.”

Chang and Assemblymember Evan Low were recognized for their efforts in “support of the technology industry here in California,” a CompTIA spokesperson stated. “Our

Tech Champions are strong voices for the technology community and are helping to ensure that our industry continues to succeed.”

Assemblywoman Ling Ling Chang represents California’s 55th Assembly District which includes portions of Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino counties. She serves as Vice Chair of the Assembly Rules Committee, a member of the Appropriations Committee, Business & Professions Committee, and as an inaugural member of the Privacy & Consumer Protection Committee. Chang also serves as co-Chair of the Future Caucus and as a member of the Tech Caucus.



Assemblywoman Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) was honored by the Computing Technology Industry Association

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# Woodcraft Rangers & Play Rugby USA Provide A New Sport for Kids

A collaboration of programs invest in youth providing new experiences



Photo credit: PLAY Rugby USA

**ROSEMEAD** - After school athletes participating in the Woodcraft Rangers programs in the Garvey School District took part in a Rugby tournament at Temple Intermediate Middle School last week. The event was organized by Play Rugby USA and Woodcraft Rangers as they collaborated to provide over 80 youth competitors a new experience, rugby.

The competition was the final event of 6 week preparation course. During the weeks leading up to the tournament, students learned the rules, practiced and trained as they developed new skills for the sport. The cost for the students was free for the students attending the after school program. Students used flags as an alterna-

tive to uphold safety concerns yet still maintain the competitiveness of the sport. Woodcraft Rangers and Play Rugby USA provided the tools needed for these young athletes to succeed as they experienced a new sport.

The partnership between both organizations opened up a new enrichment alternative to the normal fitness exercise routine. Within each of the 6 schools competing, the students crafted new skills building on leadership and teamwork that Woodcraft Rangers already reinforces with healthy competition. The athletes had a great time running and using competitive tactics to become victorious.

Chris Johnson, Woodcraft Rangers CEO says, "As we

grow and evolve, we find new ways to attract our students as they cultivate into strong young adults."

With partners like the LA84 Foundation, young athletes can improve their social skills like sportsmanship and teamwork. Along with strengthening their physical fitness attributes, they learn to respect their opponents as they deal with healthy conflict on the playing field.

Woodcraft Rangers is a provider of expanded learning with enrichment programs in after school and summer learning. Designed by and for youth, their NVISION programs are tailored to the community offering a variety of clubs at over 65 schools throughout the Los Angeles area. Rigorous and engaging programming that follows strict State quality standards and a commitment to their school community, provide youth with vital skills and opportunities that encourage their academic and social emotional growth.

## Be Prepared, Stay Informed 10 Ways to Weather El Niño

- 1. Create an emergency kit,** today! If you've already got an emergency kit prepared, check it regularly.
- 2. Check your car.** Make sure your car's tires have good tread and that your windshield wipers work well. Your headlights should always be on in the rain!
- 3. Check your house.** Clear your outdoor drains and gutters of any leaves, dirt or debris. Secure trash, recycling bins and any other items that have the potential of blowing or floating away. Have weakened trees inspected by an arborist.
- 4. Got flood insurance?** Consider purchasing flood insurance. Keep in mind, most flood policies have a 30-day waiting period.
- 5. Use sandbags.** Sandbags can be utilized to help protect your home and property before a storm.
- 6. Don't risk your life.** During significant storm events, avoid waterways, flood control channels and the ocean, which can all rapidly swell and become extremely dangerous. NO PLACE outside is safe when lightning is in the area!
- 7. Have Emergency Alerts sent to your mobile phone and email.** Register at [lacounty.gov/emergency](http://lacounty.gov/emergency), or simply search "Alert LA County" on the web.
- 8. Download "The Works,"** LA County's FREE app for iPhone and Android, to report storm-related problems.
- 9. Prevent stormwater pollution.** Rain washes everything into storm drains that lead to our rivers and ocean. Secure household hazardous waste with tight-fitting lids and store these items in covered areas.
- 10. Capture rainwater.** Prepare your landscaped areas to capture and retain more water by using compost. Collect rain that falls on your roof by installing rain barrels.



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Despite recent rains...

# THE DROUGHT IS NOT OVER!

Thank you to Azusa Light & Water's valued customers for continuing to conserve water.

## The Facts

- AL&W must reduce 20% water use from 2013 levels or subject to state fines
- Mountain reservoirs are at minimum levels
- Underground water storage basin is at the lowest level in history
- Projected rainfall is not enough to eliminate water shortages
- Only 13% water usage reduction projected for December

## How YOU can help

- Limit landscape watering to the mandatory ONE DAY per week schedule (November-March)
- No watering from 9 AM to 6 PM on any day
- No watering during or within 48 hours of rain
- Conserve more water indoors!

**Please continue to use water sparingly!**



Rebate and Drought Resources  
[www.azusalw.com](http://www.azusalw.com)  
Drought Hotline: (626) 812-5119

