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Leaders Read to Children at Azusa Library at the 'Leaders Are Readers' Program

By Jorge V. Rosales

AZUSA - As part of the National Library Week celebration, April 10 through the 15, on Thursday April 13, seven Azusa Leaders read to 10 classrooms or approximately 250 students from several City of Azusa elementary schools starting at 9:00 a.m. in different areas of the Azusa City Library. There were students from three elementary schools Lee, Dalton, Paramount.

Leaders who participated on this event were Azusa Mayor Joseph "Joe" R. Rocha, Azusa Mayor Pro-Tem Uriel Macias, Azusa City Manager Troy Butzlaff, Azusa Police Captain Sam Fleming, AUDS Board Member Yolanda Pena, L.A. County Sheriff Deputy Jenna Underwood Nunez, KFI radio News Anchor, Jo Kwon, and L.A. County Station 32 firefighters Chavez, Furlong, and Sanchez.

The Azusa Library staff is aware of how significant it is to read to children early in their lives at home, in school, and



Azusa Mayor Joe Rocha reads one of his favorite books, "The Flying School Bus," by Seymour Reit & Mary Grace Eubank to elementary school children during the 2017 "Leaders are Readers" program at the Azusa City Library on April 13.

why not at the library. That is why Leila Hassen, Library Services Manager at Azusa's Library coordinated and scheduled with the AUDS and Leaders of various agencies and organizations to participate in the "Leaders are Readers" program in anticipation of National Li-

brary Week.

The leaders read simultaneously to students from sev-

eral elementary schools while emphasizing to them the importance of reading and stressing

the merits of getting an education and being good citizens.

A love for reading and books is one of the most precious gifts parents, teachers, and adults can give children. While knowing how to read is essential for day-to-day survival, loving to read opens new worlds for children as well as adults. Story time plays an important role in introducing children to the magic of books. By reading, children can visit people in different lands, fight fire-breathing dragons to save a royal princess, or learn how to build the perfect building. The possibilities are endless.

The "Leaders are Readers" program ended with the children receiving from the library a plastic bag with school supply treats such as pencils and coloring pages.

West Covina Checkpoint Nets Citations and Impounds

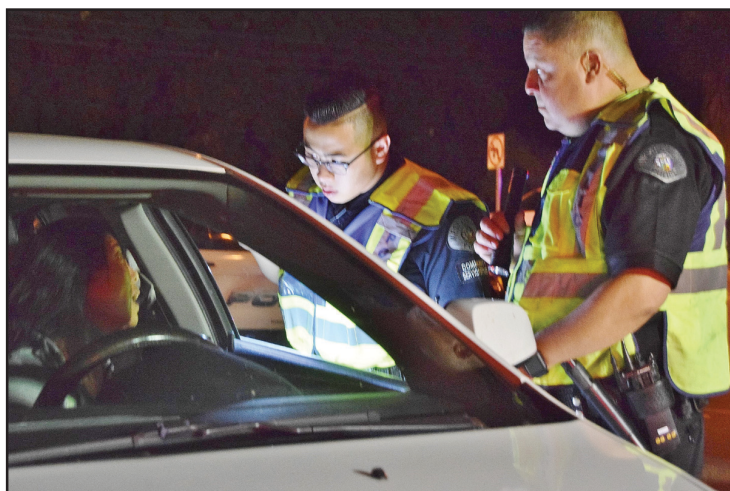
By George Ogden

WEST COVINA — West Covina Police Department conducted a vehicle checkpoint for the first time in a few years. The checkpoint was to check drivers to see if they are compliant with license and registration as well to screen driver that may have been impaired due to alcohol and drugs.

This was held Friday, April 21 in the evening hours in the south-bound lanes of Azusa Ave just before Cameron.

Officers would contact each driver for a quick evaluation. If there was a reason to further continue the interview, they were asked to pull onto a side street at the checkpoint area.

The enforcement checkpoints, vehicle checkpoint and DUI checkpoints are made possible to qualifying departments through grant funding from the California Dept. of Justice's Office Traffic Safety (OTS). The funds are made available to the department to activate the operation with officers that are NOT on a regular shift or on patrol. The natural police operation for the city is not affected. Basically overtime officers that are being paid with grant funding money that can only be used for this type of operation. If these funds are not used, they are lost to the city.



Officer Flores and a Police Cadet interviews a driver.

As the officers worked the checkpoint, they contacted the drivers and evaluated the vehicles and driving status of the driver. This included any signs of possibly being impaired. If something was suspect, they would move the driver to a side location for further evaluation.

West Covina Councilman Lloyd Johnson showed up to see the operation first hand and to lend support to the officers. He had a number of questions that got answered and had a lot of input from a number of officers about the operation as well as other police related topics. Johnson was quite pleased with the operation and the way the public received the officers.

When the traffic backed up, they selected a distant vehicle

that they could see and then they would release all the vehicles to pass, so as to relieve traffic, and then stop the selected vehicle and continue from there. This way there was no discrimination as to what vehicle or who was being stopped next. There was no selective enforcement whatsoever.

There were a number of drivers detained and evaluated. A few vehicles were impounded for having no registration, or the driver was driving on a suspended license. A couple of citations were written up. A few drivers were briefly tested for being impaired and the officers were satisfied that the drivers were okay and sent on their way.

There are other checkpoints scheduled in the near future.

LA County Proclaims Armenian Genocide Day Of Remembrance



LOS ANGELES COUNTY – Supervisor Kathryn Barger and the Board of Supervisors marked the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide by proclaiming a Day of Remembrance for one of the darkest chapters in human history.

"The month of April and the celebration of the Armenian cul-

ture culminates in our Day of Remembrance, a day where we mourn, remember, and rejoice in the rebirth of a resilient people," said Supervisor Barger.

Earlier this month, Supervisors Barger and Hahn introduced a motion proclaiming April as "Armenian History

Month" in Los Angeles County – the home to the largest population of Armenians in the United States. The Armenian community continues to enrich the region through their leadership in the fields of business, agriculture, academia, medicine, government, and the arts.

Postal Annex To Celebrate Grand Opening With Donation To Habitat For Humanity

Day-Long Event With Raffle, Cartoonist, Food and Giveaways for All



Owners of Postal Annex in Azusa Jinesh and Disha Vora

AZUSA - PostalAnnex in Azusa is celebrating its grand opening with a donation to the San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity. From day 1 in operation, franchise Owners Jinesh and Disha Vora believe in their business supporting the community.

"On Thursday, May 11, 2017, instead of the traditional red ribbon to be cut, our ribbon is going to be created out of currency. After the ceremonial cutting, we'll be donating that currency to the SGV Habitat for Humanity," commented Jinesh.

The creativity of turning a ribbon cutting into a donation is just

one of the features of the new business center. "Not only can the public ship their packages here, but we are a full-service, full-color printing and sign shop," said Jinesh. "If they need help designing a postcard, banner, or sign, we have a graphic artist available to help make the experience very easy, very smooth."

In addition to printing, sign & banner service, and shipping through UPS, FedEx, DHL, and USPS, the Voras' PostalAnnex also offers Live Scan fingerprinting, passport photos and renewal service, notary public, key cutting, mailbox rentals, and more.

The grand opening will occur on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 10am – 5pm and will feature giveaways for everyone, a raffle drawing for 40" LED TV, Roku Premium+ Player, and much more, free refreshments, and even a personal caricature artist!

PostalAnnex is located at 1171 E Alosta Avenue in the Stater Bros. Shopping Center, corner of E Alosta and S Baranca Ave. Regular hours are M-F 9am-7pm and from Sat 9am-5pm. More information, including a map, is located on their website at www.PostalAnnex.com/ 15009.

Applications Now Available For Summer Leadership Academy

GLENDORA - Looking for a fun summer camp for your fifth or sixth grade graduate? Consider the Leadership Academy. Applications are now available for the five-day Leadership Academy for students who have completed fifth or sixth grade in the Glendora or Charter Oak School District. The purpose of the Leadership Academy is to train and inspire young children to become leader in their community and to teach them the necessary skills.

The Leadership Academy will

be held Monday through Friday, June 5-9 from 9 a.m. to noon at the United Methodist Church located at 201 E. Bennett Avenue in Glendora. The program is not affiliated with the church. Information was distributed through the Glendora School District and can be found on line at the Kiwanianne website, www.glendorakiwanianne.org. The application is also online at this website.

To enroll students, parents should complete the application form and mail it with a \$25 check by May 19. Only 30 children will

be accepted for the program. For more information, call (626) 963-6179. Previous participants will not be accepted.

The program includes sessions on leadership vision, integrity, courage, conflict resolution, public speaking and how to combat bullying. Students will also engage in craft projects and team building exercises. For the seventh year, the program is sponsored by the Glendora Kiwanianne with funding from the Arsalyn Project which is part of the Ludwick Family Foundation.



Glendora Community Coordinating Council Humanitarian and Youth Recognition Awards

GLENDORA - Jerry Kitchel has been a very active volunteer in Glendora for many years. He loves people and loves to serve others and his community. He was a member of Kiwanis and Glendora Community Coordinating Council. Currently he has been the Vice President of the EYE-DAS Foundation for the last four years and an active member before that. He volunteers with the annual fundraiser sending out appeal letters and accompanies members on the many day trips the foundation provides.

encouraging them to live a life of service and compassion. This has been the focal point of his life. Our city is blessed to have such an outstanding volunteer.

Gabriella Allaf is a senior at Glendora High School who is very involved in school and her community. At Glendora High School she is a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, the California Scholarship Federation and the Debate President. She was class president her freshman and sophomore years and a Platinum Renaissance Scholar all four years. Gabriella has been a tutor at the Glendora Public Library the past three years, offering her time to help children from the ages of 6-12 with homework. She is also very involved in her church serving as founder and president of their Junior Youth Program. Gabriella is an extraordinary student and volunteer. The Glendora Community Coordinating Council is truly honored to recognize her as our April Youth Award recipient.

The GCCC is always looking for volunteers from the city to recognize each month. If you have a nominee, please visit our website at www.glendoraordinatingcouncil.org for a form and contact information.

Some of Jerry's biggest contributions to our city is helping to tell wonderful stories about the accomplishments of great people who are doing great work. He is a storyteller who helps tell Glendora's story. He has volunteered his time and energy to write many cover stories for the *Glendoran*, such as the cover stories on former mayor Judy Nelson, Olympian Brian Clay, Tony and Cathy Batham, APU President Jon Wallace, to name a few.

Through his church Jerry has encouraged many Glendora students and adults to make a difference and work in poor communities of Mexico's villages and Skid Row in Los Angeles. Jerry cherishes the opportunity to mentor students by



Glendora Community Coordinating Council awards Jerry Kitchel the April Humanitarian Award presented by Rose Wenz and Glendora Community Coordinating Council President, Gene Morrill.



Glendora Community Coordinating Council President Gene Morrill awards Gabriella Allaf the Youth Recognition Award at April's meeting with Glendora High School Principal Paul Lopez.

Glendora Woman's Club Presents Singer Leroy Osbourne For May Membership Program

GLENDORA - The Glendora Woman's Club will present singer and musician Leroy Osbourne of Glendora in a program "Something to Sing About" at the club's luncheon-meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.

The club day will begin at 10:30 a.m. with social time, followed by the business meeting at 11 a.m. The catered luncheon by Ritz Catering and the afternoon program by entertainer Osbourne will follow.

For Osbourne's program, his second return engagement to the club, he has included a selection of well-known songs, old favorites, and songs requested by club members, said program vice president Helen Storland. During Osbourne's more than 30 years experience as a professional musician, he has been featured with musical group Sade in music videos, has made numerous TV appearances in Europe and this country, and has been a guest on many popular TV shows. Currently, he is a private music instructor in the Glendora area. Osbourne was the former worship minister and music director at Charter Oak Lighthouse Christian fellowship in Covina from 2009-14.



Professional musician Leroy Osbourne of Glendora is set to perform for the Glendora Woman's Club on May 2.

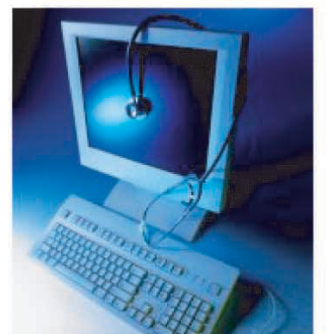
One of the club's monthly displays is the Members' Participation Art Display that features a different theme each month. This month's theme is Southwest Treasures and members are encouraged to share an item from home, said co-chairs Joy Martau and Loretta Salazar.

At each ongoing meeting, members are asked to donate nonperishable food items for Shepherd's Pantry, one of the club's ongoing service projects. The Pantry serves those families in need in 10 area cities, said project chair Gloria Liddle.

Another ongoing service project each year is helping to support the Glendora Coordinating Council's Annual Campership Program. The program's goal this year is to help send 60 Glendora children to one-week of day camp. The cost for a child to go to camp is \$110. Information flyers will be available at the luncheon tables, said philanthropy chair Camille Clarke.

For membership information, call Karen at 626-375-5200; for information about renting the clubhouse at 424 N. Glendora Avenue for special event or meeting, call Ryan at Ritz Catering at 909-592-1130.

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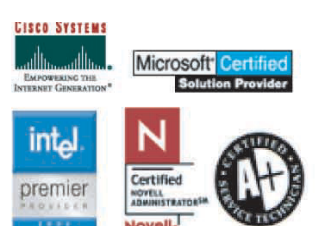
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Los Angeles County Library Offers Fine Forgiveness Month And Permanently Eliminates Processing Fee

Reduced Fees and Fine Reduction Programs Help Remove Barriers to Access

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - LA County Library is proud to announce Fine Forgiveness Month, taking place in May, as well as a permanent elimination of its processing fee. These two new initiatives—approved by the LA County Board of Supervisors on April 18, 2017—will help remove barriers to access for Library customers.

LA County Library continuously evaluates its programs and services to ensure that they align with patron needs. It has become clear that there are some library policies that impede access to the vital resources and services provided, including the accumulation of late fees and processing fees.

From May 1 to 31, 2017, LA County Library's Fine Forgiveness Month will offer a one-month "amnesty" period that will allow library customers to return overdue materials without paying the applicable fees, and will also

waive accumulated overdue fines on already-returned materials. The last fine forgiveness program was implemented in 2008 and yielded over one hundred thousand returned materials. In addition to fostering goodwill in local communities and removing barriers by allowing patrons to access library services once again, the program has the added benefit of allowing the Library to recover valuable materials which may not otherwise be returned for use by other customers. All materials may be returned with the exception of damaged or un-

useable items. Additionally, there will be no reimbursement for previously paid fines/fees.

The LA County Library will also be permanently eliminating its \$10 processing fee, which was previously charged to patrons for every lost item in addition to the cost of the item. The fee was intended to recoup library costs associated with re-ordering materials. With the removal of this fee, library customers with lost items will now only be held responsible for the cost of the item itself, to ensure that the library collection is replenished.

Water Restoration Projects Help Provide Sustainable Delivery to Downstream Users

ARCADIA — The U.S. Forest Service, the Coca-Cola Company and the National Forest Foundation (NFF), have activated scores of volunteers in the Angeles National Forest to tackle water restoration projects in the San Gabriel Mountains. The project work started Friday, April 21 at 9 a.m. in Big Santa Anita Canyon.

What started over five years ago as a project to remove invasive plant species that were choking watersheds in the forest after fires has become an impactful shared public/private stewardship investment in restoring and sustaining watersheds. Natural systems deliver life-sustaining necessities like habitat for native species and drinking waters for over 17 million people living downstream in the Los Angeles

Metropolitan area: a vital function as the Los Angeles Basin relies on the forest for 33 percent of their drinking water and 72 percent of their open space.

To date this partnership was instrumental in removing 211 acres of invasive plant species, cleaned up 324 bags of trash and removed almost a mile of graffiti. The Angeles National Forest partnered with the Coca-Cola Company, the National Forest Foundation, and local communities to address ecological issues that impact millions. Part of the restoration work is being implemented using the California, Los Angeles, and San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps.

"This project is among the more than 100 community watershed projects that Coca-Cola sup-

YWCA Continues To Thrive With Federal Funding

Despite Constant Threat of Elimination, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Successfully Serves and Supports Our Local Communities

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - In a residential pocket of industrial East Los Angeles, a room in the bright yellow and red YWCA Union Pacific Empowerment Center is a safe haven during afterschool, summer, and school break hours. Fifty youth of low- and moderate-income families come here to learn personal and professional life skills through the Youth Development Program. On a daily basis, this program offers school-aged youth activities that develop self-esteem and confidence along with academic

tools to enable future success. Parents of program participants rely on this valuable community resource while they work to provide for their families. The YWCA offers the support they need to enhance their children's development in a safe and active environment.

In the next room, over 100 seniors learn how to safeguard their personal information and identity after having lunch together in the YWCA Senior Empowerment Program. This program assists seniors in remaining healthy and active through participation in recreational, educational, and leisure activities. Other senior programs offered onsite include fiscal literacy, health and wellness, and empowerment skill development to continue the long-honored, valued tradition of a community taking care of its elders, while addressing an important concern of senior isolation through group activities.

"I come here every day," Felix Perez, a participant of the YWCA's Senior Empowerment Program said. "The YWCA makes me feel happy and helps me stay active. It's an important part of the community."

"We are very pleased to have received such generous contributions from Coca-Cola and the National Forest Foundation," said Forest Supervisor Jeff Vail. "These partnerships leverage taxpayer dollars and amplify our impacts to deliver benefits to the public."

dent Donald Trump's proposed Federal Fiscal Year 2018 budget has slated for elimination.

The YWCA Union Pacific Empowerment Center is one example of many organizations across Los Angeles County and the country that provide vital community needs on a daily basis. It is also one of several projects highlighted during National Community Development Week, celebrated April 17 through April 21, 2017, which offers the opportunity to promote the successes and flexibility of CDBG. For more than 40 years, it has provided cities, counties, and states an important source of funds to address their unique affordable housing and community and economic development needs. Through its long history, the CDBG Program has demonstrated time and again its value to local communities through various uses of funding and the results achieved. Without CDBG, many of these services and the ability to revitalize community facilities, such as the YWCA's community center and programs, would be at risk of elimination as funding from other sources are either not available, competitive, or are not stable.

The Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles (CDC) administers the CDBG Program for the Los Angeles Urban County, which includes the unincorporated areas as well as 47 participating cities. Each Supervisorial District and city decides how to use CDBG funding to best meet the needs of their constituents. The YWCA programs are funded by CDBG dollars allocated to the County's First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and have been awarded a Congressional Recognition of Excellence Award by Congresswomen Judy Chu.

For more information on programs operated by the YWCA of Greater Los Angeles, please call (213) 365-2991. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, Public Information Officer for the CDC, at (626) 586-1762.

"TIME JOCKEY" - Taco Treats

By Joe Castillo

Bell Ringer.... Taco Bell grew from a small taco stand, to a franchise start-up in Downey in 1961 and finally to the world's largest company for serving Mexican fast food. It seems that nearly every town has a Taco Bell somewhere within its city boundaries but here's some facts about the fast food giant. The biggest order placed at a Taco Bell was 349 Beef Burritos Supremes, 201 Chicken Burrito Supremes, 107 Steak Burrito Supremes and 1 Beef Crunchy Taco. The biggest hit for Taco Bell products was the Doritos Locos Tacos which sold over 100 million units in its first 10 weeks. The biggest Taco Bell restaurant is located in Guatemala and has over 6,400 square feet of dining area. Founded by Glen Bell, the popular restaurant has grown far beyond expectations and continues to grow throughout the world...

Mission Bells.... In the his-

torical district of San Gabriel, a collection of historic bells still rings loud even today. At Plaza Park, located adjacent to the Mission San Gabriel, one can view the Mission bell tower with its six bells. Of the six, two were cast by G. Holbrook, who was an apprentice of the famous patriot and silversmith Paul Revere. One was a gift from a Russian sea captain and was cast in Russia. Two are known as 'Ave Maria' bells and were cast in Spain. The largest bell is known as 'La Gorda' and was ordered from Mexico in 1830. When the order was placed, one of its requirements was for the bell's peals to be heard at least nine miles away in the Pueblo de Los Angeles. The story has it that the Mission temporarily lent the auxiliary mission at the placita of Los Angeles one of her bells until the church received its own bell. Even though gentle reminders were sent to the padres at the pueblo church, the original Mis-

sion bell was not returned. But the Mission made it a point to ring their bells on specified days as a reminder to the pueblo church. One hundred years later in 1930, maybe tired of the entire bell ringing by the Mission, the Pueblo finally returned the borrowed bell. A celebration followed and the Mission bell was returned to its place in the Mission bell tower....

Joe Castillo is a freelance historical writer and can be reached at joeacastillo@aol.com

Re-Elected Azusa Officials Sworn In

By Jorge V. Rosales

AZUSA - After nearly four months since the filing period for nomination papers and candidate's statements of three individuals for the two-year term position of Mayor, three contestants for the four-year term of two City Council openings, and a single candidates for each of the four-year term positions of City Clerk and City Treasurer, on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 the residents of Azusa re-elected Mayor Joe Rocha to his sixth term as Mayor, Councilman Robert Gonzales to his third term and Councilman Eddie Alvarez to his second term. City Clerk, Jeffrey Cornejo, Jr. and City Treasurer, Art Vasquez, Jr., were re-elected unopposed to their second four year term.

This year's City of Azusa Municipal Election was consoli-

dated with the County's Consolidated Municipal and Special Elections held on March 7, 2017. According to the County's Official Canvass Certificate the new officials were selected by 3439 or 16.87% of the 20,381 registered voters. Mayor Rocha received 1922 or 57.8% of the votes submitted. Gonzales and Alvarez each received 2075 or 40.65% and 1907 or 37.36% of the 5104 votes cast for the two slots. Cornejo received 2798 or 81.36% of the 3430 ballots cast for this position and Vasquez obtained 2790 or 81.13% of the 3439 ballots cast for this position.

The re-elected officials were sworn-in during a Special City Council meeting at a full Civic Auditorium on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 6:00 p. m. The swear-in ceremony com-

menced with the Presentation and Posting of Colors by the VFW Post 180 Color Guard, followed by Pledge of Allegiance led by Alexia and Sophia Flores and the National Anthem sung by Anna M. Aramburo-Aguilar. The Invocation was delivered by Father John Vogel of Saint Frances of Rome Church in Azusa.

Cornejo was sworn-in to the office of City Clerk by community leader Elizabeth Ramirez. City Treasurer Vasquez, was sworn-in by his father; Art Vasquez, Sr. Councilman Alvarez was sworn-in by his son, Eddie Alvarez, Jr. and his wife Martha. Councilman Gonzales was sworn-in by his fiancée, Rochelle. And last but certainly not least, Re-elected Mayor Rocha was sworn-in by his wife of 51 years Linda and his daughter Lisa.



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Voting Rights Act: Parity or Partiality

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law during President Lyndon B. Johnson's term to protect and enforce voting rights guaranteed under the 14th and 15th amendments. It prohibited local and state governments from imposing regulations that created any discrimination or prohibitions and disallowed literacy tests as a mechanism to disenfranchise the would-be voters.

In 1968, an organization titled Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) came into being defining itself as the "leading Latino legal civil rights organization" and the "law firm of the Latino community" designed to bring the Latino community "into the mainstream of American political and socio-economic life".

MALDEF's history, at least in my time in politics, seems to be fully and totally oriented to achieving political success for Latinos who tend to be more liberal and more leaning to the Democrat philosophy and platform. The first time I became aware of them was in the early 90's when Glendora resident and Republican, Sarah Flores, ran for the non-partisan office of Los Angeles County's 1st Supervisorial District seat being vacated by retiring Republican Supervisor, Pete Schabarum.

Sarah Flores had won the June primary taking 29 of 31 cities with 24% registered Latino voters. She and another Latina, Nell Soto, who also ran, took a total of 45% of the primary vote. Flores was ready to go into the run-off in November when then Judge Kenyon ruled the district boundaries had been gerrymandered and cancelled the November election.

Kenyon's ruling was supported by MALDEF and the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) and ultimately the MALDEF redistricting plan was supported over the preferred Department of Justice plan that would have redrawn the lines, and some believe allowed both Flores and Molina a seat on the Board. The new MALDEF plan left Democrat Supervisor Ed Edelman's district whole and him



Lois M. Shade
Former Mayor of Glendora

secure and made it possible for Gloria Molina, a Democrat, and I'm told on the MALDEF Board of Directors, to run for a seat on the Board of Supervisors.

When the decision came down, Republican, Sarah Flores, had a campaign in chaos, money to be raised again and basically back to starting a campaign from the beginning all over again. She ran for the seat she had almost won but as we know, because of the reconfigured boundaries and the interruption eventually lost to Gloria Molina in a newly drawn district by MALDEF.

Why would MALDEF not support a plan that would have possibly allowed two Latinas, for the first time in L. A. County history, to sit on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors? Possibly because one was Republican and the Democrats would not have attained the majority votes on that Board they were seeking?

From the preamble of sections of the California Voting Rights Act, I found the following:

"On July 9, 2002, Governor Gray Davis approved the California Voting Rights Act of 2001. This bill expanded on voting rights granted under the federal Voting Rights Act by, among other things, granting standing to groups who are too geographically dispersed to elect their candidate of choice from a single member district. This eases the path for proportional voting systems to be used as remedies for minority vote dilution."

Recently, we've seen MALDEF hitting the ground running, so to speak, attacking city

after city demanding each of them split their city into voting districts, to create "remedies" for "fairer" elections and with a wider ethnic representation on their governing boards.

In Monrovia's case the MADEF letter said, referring to California Voting Right Act of 2001:

An at-large method of election may not be imposed or applied in a manner that impairs the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice or its ability to influence the outcome of an election, as a result of the dilution or the abridgment of the rights of voters who are members of a protected class... Latino residents of the City of Monrovia are a "protected class" [California Voting Rights Act].

Additionally, MALDEF took the position the 31.7% Latino community's needs were not being served by the at-large voting system and converting to a by-district system would provide all voters with an opportunity to fully participate. And, if a Latina ran in Monrovia, would MALDEF come out and fully support that candidate regardless of party affiliation? Population of Monrovia is 37,000 + and 13.7 square miles.

West Covina was served with basically the same letter by MALDEF and on a 3-2 vote decided to move forward with creating districts because of the financial implications of going into a court battle that most who have been around for a while believe could not be won. West Covina voters had already taken the issue to a vote a while back and decided they did not want to vote by district but at-large. Another petition is being circulated for another citywide vote on the issue.

The Voting Rights Act, federal or state, was never meant to empower and protect a political party only ensure all people had equitable access to our political system. Is MALDEF creating parity or partiality and eventually a backlash that will take years and years to repair?

Sanctuary Cities, Good or Bad For You?

First, we need to understand what being a "Sanctuary City" is. You will find that those cities that elect to declare themselves a "Sanctuary City" appear that they are voting according to their diversity or their race.

Let me try to explain what this is all about.

In 1996, the 104th U.S. Congress passed Pub. L. 104-208, also known as the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA). The IIRIRA requires local governments to cooperate with Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agency. Despite the IIRIRA, hundreds of urban, suburban, and rural communities have ignored the law and adopted so-called "sanctuary policies."

Generally, sanctuary policies instruct local or state government employees not to notify the federal government of the presence of illegal aliens living in or passing through their communities, counties, or states. These policies may also blur the legal distinction between legal resident aliens and illegal aliens, so illegal aliens can have access to the same taxpayer funded programs and benefits available to legal permanent resident immigrants.

The consequences of sanctuary policies.

Just to put this into perspective... Military strategists understand the importance of denying an enemy geographic sanctuary. Sanctuaries allow an enemy time to safely operate and build up defensive and offensive capabilities and hold and take ground. Sanctuaries for illegal aliens likewise provide an important strategic advantage over law enforcement and their ability to perform their law enforcement duties.

Sanctuary policies, official or de facto, result in safe havens (or safer havens) for illegal aliens involved in a variety of criminal enterprises. Sanctuary policies inhibit the ability of law enforcement officers to accurately identify foreign nationals which makes it more difficult to uncover their illegal activities. Illegal aliens face less risk of deportation too if caught by local law enforcement. Sanctuary policies also help shield the operations of Latin American drug cartels, gangs, and terrorist



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

cells—since their activities are less likely to be detected and real identities uncovered by local, state, or federal law enforcement.

Basically, in the United States and Canada, a Sanctuary City is a city that limits its cooperation with the national government in order to help people who are in the country illegally avoid deportation. Such people are frequently described as illegal immigrants or undocumented immigrants. Sanctuary City is a name given to a city in the United States that follows certain procedures that shelters illegal immigrants. ... The term most commonly is used for cities that do not permit municipal funds or resources to be applied in furtherance of enforcement of federal immigration laws.

Not only are there cities that declare themselves a Sanctuary City, but School Districts as well. In the San Gabriel Valley, presently we have La Puente, Baldwin Park, Pasadena, El Monte, Monterey Park and Montebello. The School Districts are, Alhambra Unified School District, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, Montebello Unified School District, Azusa Unified School District, Bassett Unified School District and Pasadena Unified School District.

The fact that these cities and school districts have identified themselves in this manner has compromised their opportunity to receive Federal Grant Funding. This will most likely be withheld from city, district, county and state.

Being a Sanctuary City compromises the law enforcement to perform their duties of protection to the public. Many feel this is something that is targeting only the Hispanic community and this is not true at all. This include those from the Far East to the Middle East and everything on BOTH sides of the equator. The California jail and prison

system is filled with criminals with an illegal alien status attached to their name. We have heard over and over again that crimes are being committed by those here illegally. Crimes from petty theft, robberies, burglaries, rapes, murders, bombings, terrorist attack and more. Let's not forget that our own citizens populate about half of the jail population as well.

I wanted to touch base on the pros of being a sanctuary but I am unable to find anything realistic that would make sense. However, this makes some politicians look good to their constituents depending on their diversity.

There has been some information that lawsuits, by victims of crimes, may be pending against some city leaders who voted to allow their city to become a sanctuary city and the criminals were illegal aliens allowed to run free in their city. In fact, this could open the door to a city council member to sue the other council members who voted for being a sanctuary city and they fell liable in such litigation. Some feel that those council members that voted to compromise or interfere with law enforcement officials in the performance of their duties should be criminally prosecuted for conspiracy and other crimes. We will see what happens.

Recently, Glendora actually voted NOT to be a Sanctuary City. Hats off to the city officials who vote to "support our laws", like they stated that they would do when they took their oath of office. I don't think cities should have to vote and announce that they will be compliant with the laws that are in place, but thanks for sending that message.

I agree that local police should not be actively looking for illegal immigrants, but when they trip across them, then let the Feds know and move on. If an illegal immigrant is arrested for crime, then again, let the Feds know.

As it is, I really can't identify any real pluses for having a "hands off" policy and restricting police enforcement from doing their jobs.

It seems to me that "We the People", good citizens and the tax payers will suffer in the end as the result of those cities that declare themselves a, "Sanctuary City". Remember, these cities are your neighbors.

"That's Just the Way it Is!"

The New Challenge To Science

Some of the most destructive policies currently being advanced by the Trump Administration affect only limited groups of people. Native American tribes have felt the calamitous result of the decision to ignore their rights, with the reinstated building of the Dakota Access pipeline traversing their sacred sites. The promise to gut the Affordable Care Act would hit less than 10 percent of America's citizens. The obscene proposed border wall would be an affront to our Mexican neighbors. And the announced ban on immigrants targets only a modest group from a handful of Muslim nations.

But there is a policy being pushed by the Trump Party that will seriously affect the lives, not only of all Americans but also of every person now alive, and everyone born from now on. If this sounds like an overblown statement, read on. I'm talking about our nation's proposed rejection of the Paris climate accord on global warming, and Trump's further promise to end all projects aimed at curtailing atmospheric carbon emissions. The rise in ocean levels, a direct result of climate change, has already obliterated five small island nations in the south Pacific. If climate change is left uncontrolled, it will just be a matter of time before the waters of the North Atlantic lap at the hooves of the bronze Wall Street bull.

Scientists from almost every nation on the planet tell us that global warming exists, that human activity is the substantial cause, and that if left unchanged it will produce an ecological calamity. Without a shred of scientific evidence, Trump calls it all a hoax. Why? Because following where science leads will interfere with corporate interests, specifically those of the fossil fuel energy giants.



Charles H. Bayer

Four hundred years ago an Italian cosmic tinkerer and mathematician came to the conclusion that the astronomer Copernicus was correct and that the earth orbited the sun, as did all the other planets. As a result, the richest, most powerful corporation of that era, the Roman Catholic Church, had Galileo seized, tried, convicted, and placed under house arrest for the rest of his life. Science was bad for business! Besides, if the Bible held that the earth was at the center and the sun revolved around it, that ended the argument. In any controversy between science and religion, religion usually won. Three hundred and fifty years later, Pope John Paul II admitted that Galileo was right, and reversed the sentence. Even today there are a handful of religionists who hold that if the Bible says the universe was created in seven 24-hour days about four thousand years ago. And for them that's the absolute unmitigated truth, no matter what

science says. But the odds have changed, and in the controversy between science and religion, your safe bet now may be with science. However, if science now may win when the opposition comes from religion, it has a new adversary that is not so easily defeated. It is conservative politics, backed by corporate money. Any scientific body no matter how wide-ranging or otherwise convincing, that posits the danger of climate change now faces a new opponent composed of political forces backed by corporate power and wealth. If Trump says climate change is a hoax and has the support of Congress and the nation's richest most influential corporate interests, how can the world's scientists prevail or even make their case? If the Secretary of State, who was former the head of the world's largest fossil fuel energy company, and much of the Cabinet who are power brokers from Wall Street, declare that the world's scientists are promoting a hoax, the argument may just be starting.

Trump regularly plays so loose with the truth that a new phrase for lies, "alternative facts," had to be invented to cover the deceit. And yet I believe that the American people know better, and that the insanity now emanating from the White House shall not continue to define our nation. Until then, all of us and the generations that follow will remain at risk. But unlike the supporters of Galileo, we can't wait 350 years for scientific truth to triumph.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

Over \$4.3 Million Are Spent By Azusa Unified School District In Administrative Salaries And Benefits

By Jorge V. Rosales

The current Azusa Unified School District (AUSD) budget, July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, is in the amount of \$106.61 million, of which \$90.73 million in unrestricted funds and \$15.88 million are restricted funds.

Public school districts receive funding from a variety of local, state, and federal sources. Some of the funds are for general purposes and are called unrestricted funds. Other funds are earmarked for specific purposes and are called restricted or categorical funds.

Total unrestricted certificated (i.e. teachers) and classified (i.e. non-teachers) salaries equal \$51.4 million, \$38.99 million and \$12.41 million, respectively. Restricted certificated and classified salaries are equivalent to \$16.73 million, \$10.77 million and \$5.96 million, respectively. The combined unrestricted and restricted salaries equal \$68.13 million. Additionally, employee benefits for both types of funds equal \$17.12 million or 25.13% of salaries.

Included within unrestricted salaries is the sum of \$5.36 million for Supervisors' and Administrators' salaries and within the restricted salaries \$1.3 million. The combined total for Supervisors' and Administrators' salaries

is \$6.76 million or nearly 10% of the total \$68.13 million in salaries.

Supervisors' salaries in the amount of \$3.0 million include principal and vice-principals at all 18 district schools. Administrators' salaries are estimated at \$3.66 million or 5.4% of salaries. Additionally, employee benefits for supervisors and administrators are estimated at \$754K and \$920K, respectively.

According to AUSD's official website there are three administrative divisions under direct supervision of three assistant superintendents: Business Services, Educational Services, and Human Resources. In addition to an assistant superintendent for each division there are there are 14 positions listed under Business Services, 11 positions under Educational Services, and 7 positions under Human Resources. Then there is the office of the

Superintendent and her Administrative Secretary.

In conclusion, taking into account the average of the low and high salary ranges and the 25.13% employee benefits, the total salary and benefit per division are estimated as follows:

- Superintendent: \$298,434 + \$75,000 = \$373,430
- Business: \$1,117,584 + \$280,849 = \$1,398,433
- Educational: \$1,430,370 + \$359,452 = \$1,789,822
- Human Resources: \$615,790 + \$154,748 = \$770,538

Total salaries are estimated at \$3,462,178. Total benefits are estimated at \$870,049.

A total of \$4,332,223 or 5.1% of the total \$85.25 million spent in certificated and classified salaries and employee benefits in unrestricted and restricted funds is spent in Administrative salaries at AUSD.

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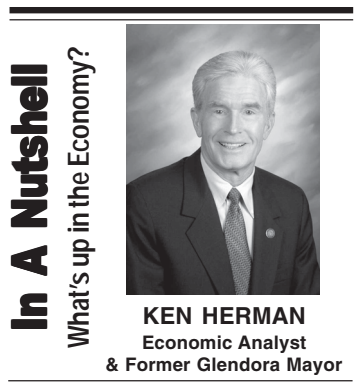
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The Equity Market's Strong Performance

According to the March FOMC minutes, the discussion surrounding the recent rise in equity prices featured prominently in the meeting. The rise in global equity prices was the first thing mentioned in the minutes and was followed later by a discussion of its implications. "Some participants viewed equity prices as quite high relative to standard valuation measures. It was observed that prices of other risk assets, such as emerging market stocks, high yield corporate bonds, and commercial real estate, had also risen significantly in recent months." The rise in valuations appears to be one reason the Fed may accelerate from an annual tightening pace to a quarterly tightening pace.

In May 2015, Chair Yellen highlighted "equity-market valuations at this point generally are quite high. Now, they're not so high when you compare the returns on equities to the returns on safe assets like bonds, which are also very low, but there are potential dangers there." There are two important takeaways from this quote. As mentioned in the March FOMC minutes, too, a reference to "valuation" is based on standard price-to-earnings ratios. There may be cause for concern in that both the traditional P/E and the cyclically adjusted P/E ratios are both near and above their pre-recession tops. When taken relative to other financial assets, however, they do not seem to be too far out of line.

There are two primary reasons low interest rates boost stocks. First, when risk free rates of return are low, investors "reach for yield" and invest in riskier assets. The Fed has mentioned this as one of the justifications for past quantitative easing. Second, asset valuation is determined by discounting future cash flows at the risk free rate. Future cash flows of an asset, whether stock, bond, or real estate, are projected into the future and divided by the assumed future interest rate to de-



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

termine the present value. Therefore, with a smaller number in the denominator, the present value of an asset rises. All of this to say: lower interest rates beget higher stock prices. What also begets higher stocks, apparently, is quantitative easing.

Stocks have been on a significant run since 2010. That run has directly coincided with the expansion of the Fed's balance sheet, until now. In late August 2010, the Fed announced they were going to begin reinvesting principle payments into long-term Treasuries, presaging the beginning of QE2, which they made official in November. From August 2010 to the end of QE2 in June 2011, the S&P 500 saw a 26% return. From June 2011 until the start of QE3 in the third quarter of 2012, stocks drifted only 6% higher. Over the next two years as the Fed embarked on the longest expansion of their balance sheet to date, stocks gained 44%. From the end of QE3 in October 2014 to the day before the 2016 Presidential election, stocks only rose by 3%. Surely, Chair Yellen was satisfied that stocks were relatively flat for a year and half following her statement above.

That all changed after the election of Donald Trump in November. The S&P 500 is up an additional 13%; and much to the chagrin of the Fed, it is rising while the Fed is attempting to reign in monetary accommodation, not spur it with QE. The Fed worries less about stock valuation than the wealth effect of stock prices. As stock prices rise, consum-

ers gain confidence in their financial situation and spend more money in the economy. Seventy percent of the economy is consumer spending and it is responsible for the vast majority of current growth. If stocks were to see a 20% correction (which one could argue should not be overly disruptive following a 110% appreciation since 2010), we probably would see a pullback in consumer confidence and spending.

The Fed prefers a stable stock market, not one prone to fits and starts based on narratives and political promises. Robert Shiller, Nobel laureate famous for creating the cyclically adjusted P/E ratio and writing the book Irrational Exuberance right before the dot-com bubble burst in 2000, said last month (comparing today's markets with those he observed in 1999), "They're both revolutionary eras. This time a 'Great Leader' has appeared. The idea is: Everything is different."

Bottom Line: When the Fed feels in control of financial markets they are comfortable removing accommodation very slowly, making sure markets are not too disturbed and the economic expansion remains on track. The stock market is now out of the Fed's direct control. Just as the Fed was beginning to feel comfortable adding more juice to the punchbowl, President Trump showed up to the party with a bottle of grain alcohol. Whether or not investors wake from this party with a mean hangover is now more dependent on fiscal policy than monetary policy, a position the Fed has only had to consider for a few months now. Their attempts to water down the punch will likely continue until they are confident the party is not out of control.

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

As I get older, what ages are really important for retirement planning?

At age 59 1/2, as long as certain conditions are met, you can start taking withdrawals from qualified retirement plans and IRAs without incurring a 10% penalty. Since these have been growing tax-deferred, you'll now have to pay ordinary income taxes. At age 62, you could start collecting reduced Social Security benefits. Depending on what year you were born, you could take full Social Security benefits when you reach "full retirement age" (65 for some, 67 for others). At age 65, you're eligible to enroll in Medicare. (If you want coverage at the earliest possible date, the Social Security Manual suggests enrolling about 2 - 3 months before turning 65.) For those eligible for Social Security, Medicare Part A Hospital Insurance benefits are automatic. There's a monthly premium if you decide you want Medical Part B Insurance benefits. At age 70 1/2, you are required to take minimum distributions from most tax-deferred retirement plans if you want to avoid a 50% penalty on the amount that you should have been withdrawing. The federal government determines your life expectancy, which is what the annual required minimum distribution is based upon.

How can you use life insurance to reduce taxes and as part of a retirement plan?

Some life insurance policies can potentially build up a cash account. You can arrange with the



Julia Yoder

insurance company to get a monthly loan (usually at a quite low interest rate) based on the collateral in that investment policy. Loans are not taxed. Since this investment incorporates life insurance, if you choose to not repay the loan in your lifetime, the loan can be paid off with the proceeds from the death benefit. Death benefit proceeds from a life insurance policy, in almost all cases, are not taxed.

Are annuities taxed?

With qualified annuities (funded with money you have not paid taxes on yet), withdrawals are fully taxed as ordinary income. With non-qualified annuities (funded with money that you already paid taxes on), only the earnings are taxed upon withdrawal. To avoid the possibility of a 10% federal income tax penalty, you're better off to wait until you're at least 59 1/2 years old before making withdrawals. Another condition to watch for is surrender fees. If you have several sources of income that fulfill your current cash-flow needs, you might want to put off

taking withdrawals that will increase your income and possibly result in your having to pay more taxes.

Our financial advisor talked to us about doing a reverse mortgage so we could fund a deferred annuity. We really don't want to use the equity from our home at this time, and we're concerned about tying the money up in an annuity. What would you advise?

I'm going to be really blunt here: It's time for you to change financial advisors! Any ethical financial advisor knows that, for the protection of seniors, the industry insists on a six-month or longer waiting period after a reverse Mortgage before discussing investing those funds. The purpose of a reverse mortgage is to increase cash flow, or to fund long-term care. There are annuities, and life insurance policies, however, that give you the security of lifetime income.

Ask Julia by email: juliayoder@yahoo.com

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

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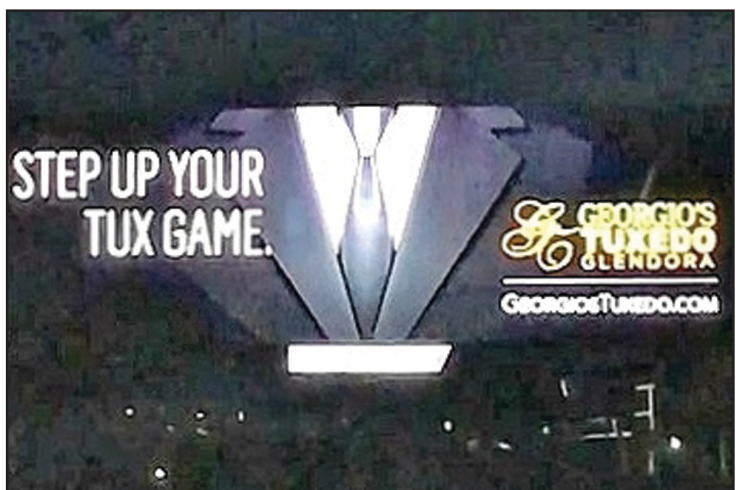
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Georgios Tuxedo Billboard Puts Glendora on the Map

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - Everybody knows Georgios Tuxedo. They have been in business in Glendora for over 30 years, serving students from Glendora, San Dimas and surrounding cities, who are in need of tuxedos and dresses for Prom Night or Homecoming. Many of you remember them for providing outfits for their Weddings, Bar Mitzvahs and Christenings. They have almost anything you can think of that you need to dress up for. "We are not a chain store, we are just your local community business, where we give you individual attention," said Milissa Vicent, owner of Georgios Tuxedo.

Now, Georgios Tuxedo can



Georgios Tuxedo billboard seen at night off the 605 Freeway.

be seen on four national billboards from the 210, 10 and the 605 freeways. It would be well worth it to keep an eye out for these smart elegant looking, digitally lit advertisements highlighting Georgios

Tuxedo in GLENDORA, saying "Step Up Your Tux Game."

Georgios Tuxedo is located on the famous "ROUTE 66" at 1000 E. Route 66 in Glendora, their telephone number is 626-963-3417.

College Degrees, Certificates Pay Dividends

WALNUT - Earning a community college degree or certificate continues to deliver a remarkable return on investment, according to a report from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Based on information gleaned from the Chancellor's Office Salary Surfer, students who earn an associate's degree more than double their annual pre-degree wages after two years and nearly triple pre-degree wages after five years.

The data show that 48 per-

cent of students who receive an associate degree earned \$56,000 or more annually within five years of graduation. Meanwhile, 44 percent of students who receive a certificate from a community college earned \$56,000 or more after five years.

"This proves once again that earning a degree or certificate from a California community college can lead students to a well-paying career," California Community College Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley said in the report.

Degree programs with the highest median incomes five years after graduation include

radiation therapy technician \$98,185 annually, electrical systems and power transmission \$110,829 per year, and physician assistant \$112,127 annually.

The Chancellor's Office Salary Surfer estimates potential wages based on the aggregated earnings of community college graduates from a variety of programs and provides information on which colleges offer specific disciplines.

The California Community College system is the largest system of higher education in the nation with 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students.

Brake System Components

These are the brake system components that work together to make sure you can stop your car! This is just a brief overview of what each component's job is.

Brake pads and shoes - Friction works to slow your vehicle down and this takes place in the pads and shoes when they are forced against a rotor or drum. Due to this friction, they wear out and need to be replaced before you get to "metal on metal".

Brake rotors and drums - These are attached to the wheels of your car and again, help create the necessary friction needed to stop a vehicle.

Brake calipers (disc) - These are clamps, and using hydraulics, they move their pistons out, increasing the fluid pressure. This makes the pad contact the rotor's surface and this in turn causes your vehicle to stop or slow down as needed.

Brake fluid - Fluid is a very important ingredient in your ve-

hicle and without it, your vehicle is not going to stop. The fluid runs through hoses and steel lines to keep the elements working properly.

Certified Auto Specialists wants to be your GO-TO place! 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!

Jimmy John's Sandwich Shop Opens In Azusa

New restaurant will immediately begin serving freaky fast, freaky fresh sandwiches

AZUSA - A new Jimmy John's sandwich shop located at 1250 W. Foothill Blvd. is now open and ready to serve fresh, gourmet sandwiches to the people of Azusa.

"This will be our first store in Azusa and our team is excited to serve fresh, fast and tasty sandwiches to a new set of customers in the area," said store owner Christopher Petty.

Petty says he plans to hire 15 employees. Anyone interested in applying can do so by sending an email to george.bautista@atlaswe.com, or by coming into the store, open 11 am - 10 pm, and speaking with a manager.

Founded in 1983 by Jimmy John Liautaud in Charleston, Ill., Jimmy John's has built its reputation on serving up fast and fresh sandwiches in communities across the country and is one of

the fastest growing franchises in the U.S. with over 2600 Jimmy John's locations across 43 states.

The new Jimmy John's in Azusa will deliver sandwiches right to your door if you are in-

side the delivery area, and offers convenient catering for any occasion. Customers can stop by the new location, call the store at 626-334-0019, or order online at online.jimmyjohns.com.

Citrus Valley Medical Center Hospital Auxiliary Is Looking For Volunteers

COVINA - The mission of Citrus Valley Health Partners is to help people keep well in body, mind and spirit by providing quality health care in a safe compassionate environment; Volunteers provide the helping hands to fulfill this mission.

Volunteers assist in many areas at the hospital such as the front desk where information

is provided to visitors, the gift shop, surgery waiting room, newspaper/magazine delivery and in other areas. The Auxiliary of Inter-Community Hospital welcomes new volunteers.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer contact Corporate Director of Volunteer Services Tiffany Ramirez at (626) 915-6237 or e-mail her at: tramirez@mail.cvh.org.

Got News?
Let us know at
SGExaminer@aol.com

Around the Valley & Senior News

AZUSA

Volunteer Drivers Needed

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

TOPS Meeting

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

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

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

ARCADIA

Senior Dances for Adults 50 years +!

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department - Senior Services Division offers a live band dance on the first, third, and fifth Monday of each month. May dances are scheduled on the **1st** (Rhythm Kings), and the **15th** (Elkjon Combo) from 1:30-3:30pm. Tickets are sold at the door for \$3 per person and include light refreshments. Dances are located at the Community Center, 365 Campus Drive.

For specifics on future dance dates, please contact Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130 or log onto the City of Arcadia Website at www.arcadiaCa.gov.

Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

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

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

COVINA

Volunteer Your Gift Of Music

Volunteer Services of Citrus Valley Health Partners is looking for volunteers to share the gift of music with the patients, families and staff. If you sing or play an instrument and have a passion for bringing peace, comfort and joy to others please call Tiffany Ramirez, Director of Volunteer Services at (626) 925-6237 or email at tramirez@mail.cvhp.org to start the application process.

Blood Pressure Checks

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

DUARTE

Meals on Wheels

Eligible seniors can receive a

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

Hot Lunches at Senior Center

The Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over 60 years, or the spouse of someone over age 60, and must check in by 11:45 a.m. for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling 357-3513, 24 hours in advance, and 48 hours, in advance, for a choice day. The suggested donation is \$2. The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive.

Alzheimer's Safe Return Registration

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

GLENDORA

Regional Food Bank Distribution Program

The La Fetra Center and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank invites SENIORS (Ages 60+) to participate in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. Current Food Bank participants can receive a FREE food kit once per month which contains items such as canned meats, canned fruits and vegetables, dry milk, cereals, and related products.

Participants must meet the following income guidelines to be eligible: one person household income must not exceed \$1,211 per month and a two person household income must not exceed \$1,640 per month. You must provide income verification and a photo ID with birthdate at your first visit. The La Fetra Center distribution takes place on the **Fourth Tuesday of Every Month** from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. For additional information, please call the Center at (626) 914-8235.

Alzheimer's Peer Support Group

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's can be frustrating, challenging, and sometimes distressful. This peer support group is designed to share experiences, coping strategies, information, and ideas with each other, and to offer understanding and encouragement to one another. We meet the **2nd Thursday of each month** from 6:30-9:30 pm at Glenkirk Church, 1700 Palopinto Ave., Glendora, in Room #11. We caregivers look forward to lifting each other up as we journey through this season of life. For more info, visit glenkirkchurch.org or call Glenkirk's church office at (626) 914-4833.

Glendora After Stroke Center

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

MONROVIA

Tenth Annual Senior Blood Pressure Screenings

The Department of Community Services invites active adults and seniors, 50 years and older, to attend a monthly blood pressure screening. The free program is hosted by Methodist Hospital. The program is designed to detect high blood pressure. For additional information, please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256-8246. Blood Pressure Screenings is at the Community Center, 119 West Palm Avenue on the **Second Tuesday of the month** from 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. and on the **Fourth Wednesday of the month** from 9:00am - 10:00am

Caring Crafters

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

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

Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

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

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

SAN DIMAS

San Dimas HS PTSA Car Show May 6

Drive into the 4th annual San Dimas High School PTSA Car Show, Saturday, May 6 from 9 AM to 2 PM. Food, vendors, community booths, live entertainment, DJ, K-5th grade bicycle decorating contest and parade, and e-waste event. For more information and sponsorship opportunities go to SanDimasHigh.com. Proceeds benefit: scholarships, teacher

and department grants, positive behavior intervention program and school gift.

WEST COVINA

Go West Shuttle Service

The Go West Shuttle service consists of three alignments (Red, Blue, and Green) that serve destinations throughout the city including Plaza West Covina, Eastland Shopping Center, Heights Shopping Center, West Covina Civic Center, West Covina Senior Center, Cameron Community Center, and many more.

- For questions on the location of shuttle stops, assistance in locating the stop closest to you, and route schedules please call (800) 425-5777.
- The fixed-route service operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- The fare is only \$1.00 each way.
- No Service on Thanksgiving, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, President's Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day.

Senior Lunch

The West Covina Senior Center is an award-winning lunch program that provides a **daily lunch service** for seniors, Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. The lunch program is funded in part by the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging.

There is a suggested lunch donation of \$2.00 for those 60 years and older. Persons younger than 60 years old pay \$4.00, and persons with disabilities younger than 60 years pay \$3.00. West Covina Senior Citizens Center is at 2501 East Cortez Street.

Raising Funds For Area Kids

DIAMOND BAR - Support the Walnut Valley Rotary Club and the Diamond Bar Community Foundation's Golfing 'Fore' the Kids, 7th annual joint tournament, on Monday, **May 8** at the spectacular Western Hills Country Club in Chino Hills. Enjoy a fun filled day of golf to raise money to support our local youth programs. These include a Christmas party for children who otherwise don't get a Christmas, leadership training and challeng-

es, speech contests, youth sports, DB4Youth, educational grants and scholarships, the performing arts, teen nights-out and many more excellent programs.

The day starts with registration at 7:30 a.m. and golfers warming up and enjoying a Subway breakfast sandwich. Followed by a Putting contest prior to the Shotgun start at 9 a.m. "Best Ball" is the format and golfers can win a car in the "Hole-in One" contest. Additional contests include Clos-

est-to-the-Pin, longest women's and men's drives, best and worst scores and several other fun challenges. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided during the tournament and a sit-down luncheon with silent auctions, raffles and a visit by the Laker Girls will conclude the day.

Sponsors, golfers and donors can sign up at www.golfingforethekids.org or call 909 437-6366.

Star Trek Spurs Duarte Resident to Pursue A Career in Biochemistry: Her Secret Revealed

DUARTE - In an inspiring story, Dr. Beth Singer, a Duarte resident, confesses the secret to her stunning career in science which emerged in an unusual way.

"Star Trek inspired me to become a scientist, convincing me at an early age that science and the advancement of human knowledge could make the world a better place. I was influenced by the unshakable moral commitment to the optimism where, in

the Star Trek universe, all problems are solvable, not by some barbaric fashion, but by the ingenuity of the crew. I wanted to be part of that world where scientific knowledge was more important than military power and where the color of your skin, your gender, even whether you were human or an alien did not matter as much what you were capable of," she says.

An avid collector of all things Star Trek, Dr. Singer will set forth her compelling story on Friday, **April 28** at 6:30 p.m. at the Duarte Historical Museum, 777 Encanto Parkway. The presentation is free. Adults, youngsters and especially students may discover a path to their own personal goals through her journey which inspired her to earn a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and help develop research in nanotechnology with applications in drug development. "Even after years of working in science and following science fiction, I still feel that Star Trek shows us a future worth dreaming about and a future worth working hard to make real."

For more information call (626) 358-0329.

Community Bike Ride

ARCADIA - The Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department is sponsoring the Annual Community Bike Ride on Saturday, **May 6** at 7:00am. Please join us for a leisurely ride through some of Arcadia's most beautiful neighborhoods. This slow paced, seven and one half mile excursion, is geared toward families and organized in an effort to create a positive tradition and promote healthy living.

Meet in the Community Center parking lot, 365 Campus Drive at 7:00am for check in, bike ride begins at 8am. Helmets

are required and there will be NO bicycles with training wheels permitted. Children under thirteen must be accompanied by an adult. Bike ride takes place rain or shine.

The Arcadia Firefighters Association Pancake Breakfast is also being held on that same day at Station 106. Tickets for the breakfast can be purchased at the station for \$5. You can registration on-line or in person. For more information please call 626.574.5113 or go on-line to the City of Arcadia's website: www.arcadiaca.gov.

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The Gooden Center - a Best Kept Secret

DUARTE - The Gooden Center has quite an amazing story to tell. They were initially created in 1962 to help professional men with addiction issues. As Vice President of Development, Susan Johnson shared that addiction is a chronic disease. If we have a family member who is diagnosed with cancer, the first step is to get into the appropriate treatment. The same goes for addiction. As we all know, addiction rates have continued to climb and surprisingly are now seen in children as young as 10. Throughout the years, the Gooden Center has expanded

their services to include residential treatment, outpatient treatment, sober living for their drug and alcohol treatment program, as well as mental health treatment and alumni and family support services. Phil Wilkens, Vice President of Information Management shared his personal story of addiction and support through the Gooden Center.

Duarte Kiwanis was honored to have them both speak at a recent meeting. For further information on speaking or joining the club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandezoptometry.com



Phil Wilkens, Vice President of Information Management Gooden Center, Cheryl Reynolds, Duarte Kiwanis President and Susan Johnson, Vice President of Development, Gooden Center.

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Community Articles Are Welcome

We are seeking articles, photos, and news event items for future issues of the San Gabriel Valley Examiner.

Information can be emailed to SGExaminer@aol.com. We request that articles be in Word format while photos be in jpeg.

Upcoming Event?

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