



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

February 8 - 14, 2018

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Classified Employee of the Year



Kathy Frith / A7

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Citrus College Recognized as a Top Online Community College

GLENDORA - Citrus College is one of the nation's leading online educators of 2018, according to new rankings recently released by two higher education research organizations.

The first ranking was published by BestColleges.com, an online resource that provides higher education data and trend reports. In their annual "Best Online Community Colleges" list, BestColleges.com ranked Citrus College number 15 out of 50 of the nation's top accredited, not-for-profit community colleges.

The ranking was determined using figures from the National Center for Education Statistics. BestColleges.com assessed each institution's quality based on academic outcomes, affordability, and the breadth and depth of online learning opportunities.

"Two-year online learning programs are a great place for students to begin their academic journey because they provide quality academic experiences that most students can afford, while allowing complete control over their education schedule," said Stephanie Snider, the organization's general manager, in a press release. "Our list celebrates these colleges that have developed exceptional online academic programs that focus on student outcomes."



Photo courtesy Citrus College.

Citrus College offers four associate of arts degrees, two associate of arts for transfer degrees and one associate of science degree that can be completed entirely through online coursework.

The second ranking was published by AffordableCollegesOnline.org, a higher education information bank. Using a peer-based value metric, AffordableCollegesOnline.org ranked Citrus College number 14 out of California's top 30 online colleges and universities.

The primary data points used to identify the best online colleges of 2018 in this organization's ranking included regional accreditation, in-state tuition and fees, percent of full-

time undergraduate students receiving institutional financial aid, number of online programs offered, and student-to-teacher ratio.

"We wanted to honor the colleges and universities setting the bar for online learning," Dan Schuessler, CEO and Founder of AffordableCollegesOnline.org, said in a press release. "These schools are going above and beyond the industry standard to help make online education programs an excellent option and more af-

fordable."

Citrus College's Online Education program was originally launched in the late 1990s as a distance education alternative. Since that time, the program's technology has evolved and its course offerings have expanded.

The college currently offers four associate of arts degrees, two associate of arts for transfer degrees and one associate of science degree that can be completed entirely through online coursework. At the same time, five certificates of completion can also be fully completed

online.

"Higher education is a dream for many students, but obstacles can often prevent college completion from becoming a reality," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "At Citrus College, we are committed to removing barriers to student success, and one way we do this is by offering a robust Online Education program. It is an incredible honor to have our efforts in this area recognized."

The program's progress is evident in its enrollment numbers. Last fall, 4,832 students were enrolled in more than 156 online course sections at Citrus College. This number represents roughly 11.5 percent of the college's total offerings.

"Being recognized for excellence in online learning is an honor that affirms the great strides Citrus College has made with its Online Education program," said Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "Whether it is through traditional classes or distance learning, Citrus College is committed to delivering high-quality instruction that empowers students to reach their academic and professional goals. I am confident that the college will continue to advance its Online Education program in the years to come."

First Court of Honor for Monrovia Troop 66

"On my honor, I will do my best. To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight."

Six Boy Scouts of Monrovia Troop 66 recited the Boy Scout Oath and Law together on January 22nd, 2018 where 11 Rank advancements, 16 merit badges and 12 awards gave Monrovia Boy Scout Troop 66 a lot of reasons to celebrate at their first Court of Honor held at Vineyard Church of Monrovia. Monrovia Troop 66 was founded September 13th, 2017 and chartered by the American Legion Monrovia Post 44. Retired Judge Michael Haubner presides over Monrovia's newest troop as the Chartered Organization Representative for Monrovia Post 44.

The evening began with an invocation by Pastor Aaron Schmidt, followed by the opening speech by Scout Master Mark Peters. Advancement Chairwoman & Assistant Scout Master Andrea Arias spoke about how hard the Scouts have worked, the achievements they earned and what the Scouts will be working on in the upcoming months. Assistant Scout Master Ranger Anthony Villalobos presided over the rank advancements and spoke about each Scout and their accomplishments. Many of the Scouts earned multiple ranks for this Court of Honor. First Class Scout Austin Arias



First Class Scout Austin Arias, Tenderfoot Adrian Guerrero, First Class Scout Degas Peters & Tenderfoot Nathan Juarez at their first Court of Honor held at Vineyard Church of Monrovia.

focused on recognizing hard work that led to significant accomplishments as well as awarding hard earned merit badges to members of the Leviathan Patrol where Austin is the Senior Patrol Leader.

Merit badges earned were Archery, First Aid, Landscape Architecture, Game Design, Plumbing, Graphic Arts, Pulp & Paper, and Welding.

Andrew Potter, David Potter, Austin Arias, and Nathan Juarez were awarded the Scout rank. This is the first rank in Boy Scouts. The rank advancement requirements for Scout were significantly increased last year. The boys presented their family members their first parent pin representing the first rank advancement.

Tenderfoot rank was earned by Adrian Guerrero, Nathan Juarez, Degas Peters, and Austin Arias. They mastered numerous skills including preparing and cooking meals on

campouts, first aid techniques, safe hiking rules and intricate knot-tying. Each Scout was also required to service their community in a project of their choosing.

Austin Arias and Degas Peters were promoted to the rank of Second Class. They continue to learn about and develop their Scout spirit, including expanding their efforts to be trustworthy and helpful and to live up to the points in the Scout Law.

Austin Arias was advanced to First Class Scout rank. First Class is the more advanced of the lowest 4 ranks which includes camping, citizenship, cooking, first aid, internet safety, nature, orienteering, pioneering, and swimming & lifesaving.

Leadership training was a major focus since September 2017, as the Scouts were preparing for new Scouts come February 2018. Degas Peters

& Austin Arias completed an intensive 2 day course called Cedar Badge where each scout is exposed to unit operations, how to plan campouts, campfires, Scout's Own services, how to lead songs, and make your boy-run program operate more smoothly. Nathan Juarez, Degas Peters and Austin Arias attended Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops where they focus on learning the leadership positions within their patrol and how to most effectively reach success in that role. Not only did these scouts learn about leadership they also spent an intensive 3 day weekend becoming certified in CPR, AED, First Aid and were able to complete the First Aid merit badge.

For more information about Monrovia Troop 66, readers may contact Scout Master Mark Peters at 626-485-1032 or send an email to MonroviaTroop66@gmail.com.

Toastmasters International, Toast To The Best Club



Winners February 1st: Tim Cheng - Best Table Topics, Xuling Wu-Gerbl, ACS, CL - best Evaluator and Dan Lee - Best Speech.

SAN DIMAS - The San Dimas chapter of Toastmasters International, Toast To The Best Club, Club # 5880 meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7 PM to 8:45 PM. Learn to motivate and lead? Challenge yourself with Toastmaster's proven education programs. Let Toastmasters help you grow your strengths and accomplish your goals. Become a better speaker and learn to communicate with confidence. Learn these skills and more in a supportive, self-paced, fun atmosphere.

Great news! Last Thursday Tim Cheng completed his 10th and final speech from his manual "Stepping into The Unknown" and became a Competent Communicator! Congratulations Tim.

Dan Lee doing his 3rd speech, "Practice Makes Perfect" won best Speaker with his fascinating historical references to great orators who overcame challenges. Tim Cheng won best Table Topics and Ms. Xuling Wu-Gerbl, ACS, CL

won best Evaluator.

Also last Thursday, a new member joined Toast To The Best, Jon C Phillips. Welcome Jon!

On February 15th, Toast To The Best will have their next regular meeting of 2018. That night Elsa Tovar will be presenting her final 10th speeches to qualify her as the Club's next Competent Communicator. And there will be 3 other speakers as well for another full evening.

On March 1st, Toast To The Best will conduct its Club Contest for Inspirational speeches. The winner will compete in Area contests. Come sharpen your communication skills. See what Toastmasters is about.

You can stop by to meet with the club at the Faith Lutheran Church, Parish Hall, 505 E Bonita Ave (Between Walnut & San Dimas canyon Rd) San Dimas Contact is Art Douglas, DTM, VP of Membership of Toast To the Best (951) 505-0555.

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Monrovia Unified Students Inspired to Boost Leadership, Interpersonal Skills Through Motivational Speakers



A Monrovia High Senior (left) talks about his ambitions with Mike Smith, a motivational speaker at Josten's Renaissance's "Find Your Grind" tour that made a stop at Monrovia High on Jan. 16.

MONROVIA – Students from Monrovia High, Santa Fe Computer Science Magnet and Clifton Middle School joined more than 1,000 of their peers from across Southern California at Monrovia High to learn how to become leaders in a digital society as part of the Josten's Renaissance's "Find Your Grind" Tour.

The assembly on Jan. 16 was one of 47 stops across the nation

that gathered leadership students from 24 area schools, including Monrovia High senior Mariah Helm. She was a seventh-grader at Santa Fe when she first joined Renaissance, a student-led team boosting recognitions for their peers' academic achievements and personal endeavors.

"I wanted my life to be about other people and I found that Renaissance was the best program

to do that," Helm said. "I just knew from the first day I joined that everything we were going to do was going to be so powerful."

Mike Smith, founder of two nonprofits that empowers youth to contribute to their community, and Dr. Phillip Campbell, an educator focused on strengthening school culture and climate, shared personal stories during the assembly to inspire students to take action and follow their passion – regardless of their background or educational level.

Helm follows Smith's online video series, "The Harbor", in which he interviews celebrities,



More than 100 students from Monrovia High, and Clifton and Santa Fe middle schools were inspired to become leaders at Josten's Renaissance "Find Your Grind" tour stop at Monrovia High.

teachers and students on life topics including healthy relationships, social media, and stress and pressure. She combined the interpersonal skills she learned from Smith with the leadership skills she gained in Renaissance to help her in other school activities.

For example, Helm mentors a group of Monrovia High freshmen to help them transition into high school life, including one autistic student. She connects with him every day to ensure that he has academic support and is also enjoying his new environment.

"I started to think in other people's shoes and consider their situation apart from my own," Helm said. "In the past, I would

get angry and sad, but now I put myself in their position and that would change my perspective."

Smith also met with Monrovia students in small-group discussions about his book, Legacy vs. Likes. The book describes Smith's life and how he created his nonprofit organization with a high school GPA of 2.4, but with a strong drive to serve his community. Each chapter poses questions that challenges the students' way of thinking and provides a space for them to write their responses.

"Thank you to Josten's Renaissance for hosting this leadership event at our District," Monrovia Unified President Terrence Williams said. "Our students were able to connect with influential

community leaders, and in turn, learn how to be stronger leaders at their schools."

Teachers and advisers also broke off into educator workshops with Dr. Campbell on what it means to be a Renaissance school, while also learning how to support student leadership on campus.

"Monrovia Unified offers an abundance of opportunities that bolsters the education of our students and empowers them to become key members of their community," Monrovia Unified Superintendent Dr. Katherine Thorossian said. "Renaissance is embedded throughout our schools, helping guide our students in developing the strength of character necessary to lead."

Friendship Garden Club General Meeting

COVINA - Visit The Friendship Garden Club's February general meeting on Thursday, February 22nd. We are located at 128 S. San Jose, Covina, CA. We meet in the Covna Woman's Club which is located in Old Town Covina, one block south of Badillo. The doors will open at 11:00 am for a bake sale and jewelry sale. Our special program this month

begins at 1230. Lucinda McDade from Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, which is located in Claremont, will be giving us ideas about planting native gardens. Immediately following a committee will be serving a formal tea. There is no charge for visitors to attend. For questions contact Jeanette Gulli, jhgulli@verizon.net, 909-599-1904.

Blessing Ceremony Of A New CPA Office

WEST COVINA - Theresa Pacheco, CPA opened her new office location on January 27, 2018 at 1559 E Amar Rd Suite U, West Covina. Theresa is a California registered Certified Public Accountant with over 25 years of experience. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, major in Accounting and gained her Master's Degree major in Finance in 2004. She is also active with her charity work both here in Los Angeles and abroad.

Theresa Pacheco, CPA is a full service CPA office. The firm provides outstanding service to their clients because of their dedication to the three underlying principles of professionalism, responsiveness and quality. Theresa makes sure that every client is served by the expertise of the whole firm. The CPA Office offer the following services:

- Audit, Review and Compilation
- Income Tax - Business, Trust, Non-profit and Personal



Photo taken during the office blessing of Theresa Pacheco, CPA office with family and friends

- Payroll
- Bookkeeping and QuickBooks
- Business and Management Consulting
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- IRS Help

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Fire Department Offers Free “Vial of Life” Medical Information Kits

MPFD invites residents to participate in this lifesaving program and “Help us help you”

MONTEREY PARK- In Monterey Park, the emergency medical service system is consistently challenged by conditions that may render a patient unable to communicate. These conditions include acute medical incidents, past medical conditions, trauma, language barriers and other unforeseen issues. By pre-planning a medical emergency, a person can use a Vial of Life medical information kit to help Monterey Park Fire Department personnel obtain information regarding patient care, medical history and special considerations

should one need to call 9-1-1. Monterey Park residents can obtain a Vial of Life kit at the Fire Department Headquarters Station 61. Participants should follow the instructions inside, fill out the one page form, and add any pertinent considerations, then, as directed store the moisture resistant container in their refrigerator. Participation in this program can save lives. The Vial of Life kit will signal emergency personnel upon arrival to your home and will help paramedics gather important information about the patient when

the patient is unable to speak for him or herself. This nationally recognized program is currently being implemented by the Monterey Park Fire Department and is free of charge to Monterey Park residents and their loved ones. For more information, please contact Captain Justin Birrell at jubirrell@montereypark.ca.gov or 626-307-1271 or visit www.vialoflife.com. Station 61 is located next door to city hall at 350 W. Newmark Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754.

Azusa Unified Expands California State Preschool Program

Preschool to serve 3- and 4-year-olds at eight schools across the district

AZUSA- Continuing to build on its new designation as a Pre-K-12 school district, Azusa Unified announced that it is expanding the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) to al-

most all its elementary schools beginning this month. Since 2016, the popular program has been offered only at Longfellow Pre-K/Kindergarten School. “Children who have a high-quality preschool experience enter kindergarten with a wealth of social and academic skills that serve them well at school and for life,” said Early Learning Director Leslie Ford. “We teach in ways that keep learning fun and playful, because play is how very young children learn about the world around them.” The state-funded California State Preschool Program provides both part-day and full-day services with curriculum that is developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate for the 3- and 4-year-old children served. The program also provides meals and snacks for children, parent education opportunities, referrals to health and so-

cial services for families, and professional-development opportunities for staff. Registration for all eight CSPP locations started Monday, Feb. 5, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Longfellow School, 245 West 10th St. To avoid having to make more than one trip to register, parents should call 626-815-4724 first. All parents must provide verification of income level to show they meet family income requirements set by the state; photo ID; a utility bill or bank statement to verify residency; birth or baptismal certificates for all children in the family, not just the enrollee; and the child’s up-to-date immunization record. Parents do not have to be Azusa residents to enroll their children, but the district’s priority is to serve families within its boundaries.

Assemblymembers Miguel Santiago and Laura Friedman Introduce Legislation to Provide Lifesaving Medical Care for Homeless Individuals with Mental Illness

SACRAMENTO- Assemblymembers Miguel Santiago and Laura Friedman jointly introduced legislation to change the criteria by which local governments are able to provide critical medical care to homeless individuals who are mentally ill. “It is inhumane to be a bystander when we have the power to do something to save lives in this vulnerable population,” said Assemblymember Santiago (D-Los Angeles). “We need to ensure there is proper medical care for homeless individuals with mental illness who are suffering on the streets with serious physical ailments,” he continued.

The legislation – AB 1971 – will serve as a placeholder for language requested by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors yesterday to change the definition of “grave disability” to consider urgently needed medical treatment as a basic human need when assessing an individual’s need for conservatorship. State law defines “gravely disabled” as a “condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing, or shelter.” This standard is used when considering conservatorship. Supervisors Barger and Ridley-Thomas, and Assemblymembers Santiago and Friedman believe that this definition does not go far enough. AB 1971 will amend the state’s definition to include “or medical treatment where the lack or failure of such treatment may result in substantial physical harm or death.”

“It’s no secret that in Los Angeles, and communities across California, we’re grappling with a homeless crisis,” said Assemblymember Friedman (D-Glendora). “If we can open the door to treatment for those struggling with severe mental illness, we can get our most vulnerable the health care they need and get them off of the streets.” On October 31, 2017, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion jointly authored by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Mark Ridley-Thomas that directed the County’s Department of Mental Health (LADMH) to work with county agencies, mental health advocacy groups, civil rights organizations, and other stakeholders to develop legislative recommendations to tackle the growing number of homeless deaths in Los Angeles County. Numerous mental health professionals and advocates voiced support and participated in the effort, including Dr. Susan Patrovi, Medical Director of Homeless Healthcare LA, Brittney Weissman, Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Los Angeles County Council, and Los Angeles City Councilmember David Ryu. LADMH and its partners engaged stakeholders from various statewide and local organizations and received overwhelmingly positive feedback on modifying the current grave disability standard. “More than 830 homeless people died on the streets of L.A. County last year. Many of these deaths were preventable with proper medical attention,” Supervisor Barger said. “It’s time for California to join 37 other

states who consider medical treatment a basic human need for those suffering from a mental illness. I am pleased that Assemblymembers Santiago and Friedman are moving forward on this vital effort, and I look forward to working with them to add California to the list of 37 other states who consider medical treatment a basic human need for those suffering from a mental illness.” According to local data, there is an increased death rate among the homeless population in Los Angeles County. A significant number of these deaths were due to preventable and/or treatable medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, pneumonia, diabetes, cancer, cirrhosis, severe bacterial infection, and other treatable conditions. Although these numbers do not indicate whether or not the deceased homeless individuals suffered from mental illness that impaired their willingness to seek care, Los Angeles County has seen a 28 percent increase in homeless individuals suffering from a mental illness from 2015-2017. By expanding the “gravely disabled” definition to include consideration of medical need where the lack or failure of such treatment may result in substantial physical harm or death, those involved hope to be able to provide care for more homeless individuals and save lives. AB 1971 will be amended to include substantive language in early March and will be considered in policy committees thereafter.

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INFORMATION GUIDE

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- 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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County Votes To Support Legislation Amending State Law To Provide Medical Care for the Mentally Ill

LOS ANGELES COUNTY- The Board of Supervisors today voted 4-1 with Supervisor Sheila Kuehl opposing, to approve a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Mark Ridley-Thomas sponsoring state legislation amending the state’s definition of gravely disabled to enable the county to provide critical medical care for the mentally ill. Numerous mental health professionals and advocates voiced support for the motion including Dr. Susan Patrovi, Medical Director of Homeless Healthcare LA, Brittney Weissman, Executive Director of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Los Angeles County Council and Los Angeles City Councilmember David Ryu. Supervisor Barger pointed out that more than 830 homeless people died on the streets of L.A.

County last year and that with proper medical attention, the deaths could have been prevented. “Allowing the most vulnerable to languish and even die on the streets without a lifeline to medical care is inhumane,” she said. “With today’s action, we can move forward to employ an effective approach to help deliver lifesaving treatment and care for those desperately in need and add California to 37 other states who consider medical treatment a basic human need for those suffering from a mental illness.” The legislation would amend the state’s definition of “gravely disabled” pursuant to the recommendation by the Department of Mental Health (DMH), to read, “a condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for

food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment where the lack or failure of such treatment may result in substantial physical harm or death.” This proposed addition (in the underlined section above) is similar to the criteria used in 37 states nationwide. On October 31, 2017 the Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Barger that directed DMH to work with mental health advocacy groups, civil rights organizations, and other stakeholders to develop this legislative recommendation. “Acknowledging that signs of physical harm due to self-neglect as a result of serious mental conditions are a rational and objective means for detecting grave disability,” said Dr. Jonathan Sherin, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.

Republican Koffee Klatch Is Back!

GLENDORA - Our first speaker in this new round of Koffee Klatches is Burton Brink, a retired sergeant with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department running against incumbent Democrat Ed Chau for the 49th Assembly District. Burton Brink, Arcadia-based with 40 years of law enforcement experience, stands with the communities in the 49th and the 48th Assembly Districts to Take Back Our Communities and fix our criminal justice system. Please join us on Saturday, February 10th for breakfast, coffee or just meet and greet this Republican candidate. And, please, bring a friend. Koffee Klatch will be at Denny’s Restaurant, 546 W. Baseline Rd. Glendora, (Off the 210 Freeway at Grand Ave.), 8:30 a.m. Registration, 9:00 a.m. Speaker. \$12 Breakfast \$5 Coffee.

La Verne State of the City Address & Luncheon

LA VERNE - The Rotary Club of La Verne & The La Verne Chamber of Commerce are proud to present The Annual State of the City Address & Luncheon with special speaker Mayor Don Kendrick on Thursday, **February 7th** at 11:30 AM at the Meeting House at Hillcrest, 2705 Mountain View Drive, La Verne. Registration/Check-in/Networking is at 11:30 AM, Luncheon Service at 11:45 AM and the program begins at 12:30 PM. Lunch will be a Tuscan Buffet at \$25 per person. Attendance (without lunch) is free after 12:15 PM. RSVP is required for lunch. Call (909) 392-4362.

Republican Women Pizza/Bingo Bash

COVINA - East San Gabriel Valley Republican Women will be hosting their annual Pizza/Bingo Bash at the Red Devil Pizza, 116 Badillo in Covina on Saturday, February 17, 11:30-2:30. Price of \$15.00 includes all the pizza, salad, beverage and dessert you can eat followed by bingo and prizes. Guests are welcome. For reservations please call (626) 919-5032.

Gas Tax Repeal Collecting Signatures

Gubernatorial candidate Travis Allen fought hard to prevent one of the Brown era tax increases from moving forward - the Gas Tax! For all of Allen's efforts, he was sabotaged at every turn despite court orders and having his political pocketbook picked off for legal fees. Gov. Brown and the Democrat challenges made it impossible for that initiative to acquire enough signatures before the deadline to get Repeal the Gas Tax initiative on the ballot.

For the average family the gas tax will add costs:

- \$779.28 a year
- \$405 in fuel costs (2 cars each using 20 gallons per week)
- Vehicle Registration increases \$250 a year
- Shipping costs for food alone - \$124.28 - minimum
- Cost of shipped goods will rise 1 to 2.5% - everything shipped

If you are outraged, you have options. There is another petition being circulated to get the repeal on the ballot. If someone asks, please sign it. Or go to Reform California and download the petition, sign it, have family members sign it, have neighbors sign it and mail it in. Travis Allen is supporting the Reform California proposal, chaired by Carl De Maio, to repeal the gas tax. Reform California is also leading the effort to recall Sen. Josh Newman (SD-29) who voted for SB 1, the tax implementation bill.

April last year when SB 1, peddled as 'fix the potholes' legislation came up for a vote, even with their super majority, Governor Brown came up short a few votes among those legislators. Brown went out "campaigning" in the Senate and Assembly for the bill and when he failed to find the votes - he bought 'em. Yes, bought those votes with your tax dollars and mine.

Brown promised certain legislators transportation money for their favorite projects if they voted for the gas tax to fix our roads ... almost \$1 billion worth of special projects for their districts. One legislator declined to support the gas tax because he told his constituents, "No new taxes". This Democrat lost his standing in committees and, as has been past practice, probably lost his office space and is camped out in a closet.

TV ads I saw at 6 a.m. told me I would have all the potholes fixed. But what will this administration be providing with this new tax?



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

• Repayment of outstanding transportation loans totaling \$706 million to the state general fund.

• \$750 million annually to public transportation capital projects and operating expenses.

• \$250 million annually for congestion relief in high impact areas. Where are those areas? In our East San Gabriel Valley cities?

There is a complex formula allowing all local governments a share of the gas tax but only if they spend the same amount they have been spending over a 3-year period and pass a state audit.

• In 2002, Prop 42 limited sales tax on gasoline to transportation purposes only. But legislators siphoned off the money to the state budget.

• In 2006, Prop 1A, limited Legislature's ability to suspend Prop 42. An accounting gimmick was used to pay off bonds and not for highways.

• 2010, Prop 22 prohibited gasoline tax funds from being used to pay off debt. Legislators turned around and diverted \$1 billion a year from trucking weight fees to the state general fund.

California liberals seem to treat gas tax and vehicle fees as their own little slush fund despite voter approved propositions and what some believe is a voter's right to vote on taxes.

Travis Allen, tired of the insatiable tax appetite of Sacramento liberals, went to bat for the lower and middle-class citizens. He spent \$2,000 to file a "Repeal the Gas Tax" initiative to give the voters the chance to vote on the tax. And, the battle began.

Attorney General Xavier Becerra, appointed by Gov. Brown to fill the vacancy left by Kamala Harris, created an opening sentence for the Allen initiative that said, "eliminates recent enacted road repair and trans-

portation funding." We already know road repair is in question unless we at the local government level can "pass an audit", but the where does Becerra tell the people it is to repeal the gas tax?

Superior Court Judge Timothy Frawley said the initiative deserved an honest and impartial title, and the opening passage should be rewritten to declare - "repeals recently enacted gas and diesel taxes and vehicle registration fees."

That was appealed and back to court. The Third District Court of Appeals judges, appointed by Gov. Brown, said Becerra's description was not misleading and state law gives the Attorney General a little latitude in providing a description of this and other initiatives. I looked up "latitude" in my Thesaurus and am told it means "autonomy". This appointed Appeals Court believes an appointed attorney general should have autonomous authority?

In a November 2017 Sacramento Bee commentary, Travis Allen wrote, "Although the California constitution obligates the attorney general to provide voters with fair and truthful initiative titles and summaries, Becerra refused to mention the words "tax" or "fee" in his ballot title. His intent is clear: Deter voters from signing the initiative petition by fooling them into thinking that it reduces transportation spending rather than repealing an unpopular tax hike."

Has the Jerry Brown administration gnawed off enough of Gubernatorial Candidate Travis Allen? On February 2nd, the L.A. Times reported on Allen that ... "an unidentified staff member [recounted] several instances of contact in early 2013 that made her feel "uncomfortable" ... [and] that Allen made it "a practice of being unnecessarily close to her,"

L.A. Times reported, "Allen released a statement Friday through his spokeswoman denying the allegations, saying he was "shocked" when they were first lodged and arguing that their release was politically motivated. "The release of this unsubstantiated complaint is a political attack by a Democrat-led committee. I'm sure I've shaken many people's hands, tapped many people on the shoulder, and have even tapped people's feet accidentally ... But there has never been anything in any of my actions that has been inappropriate, and nor will there ever be."

played at the Coliseum, pro basketball was played at the adjacent Los Angeles Memorial Sport Arena. The Los Angeles Lakers moved from Minneapolis and made the Sport Arena its home court starting in 1960 until 1967. The Lakers had two of the greatest players to ever play the game, Elgin Baylor and Jerry West. They played seven seasons together at the Sports Arena and three times went to the NBA finals. Each player's career lasted 14 seasons and each made the All-NBA first team 10 times. Each made the NBA Hall of Fame and each was named one of the 50 greatest players in league history. West played 932 games in total and averaged 27 points per game while Baylor played 846 games and averaged 27.4 points per game. Between the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and Los Angeles Memorial Sport Arena, the great sports classics in Los Angeles history were held, including the first two Super Bowls to determine the champion of the National Football League.....

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

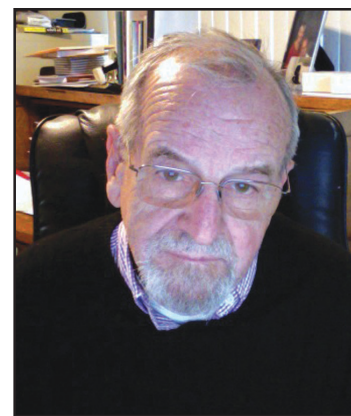
The Hall Of Heroes

Generation after generation history advances, borne on the shoulders of its heroes. We honor them as we listen to what they have done, and how stories about them have called attention to their celebrity. These events, and the great mythic tales that flow from them, describe what may never have happened, but is always true.

Often we honor our military heroes, men—and now women—who have defended the nation in times of conflict. These members of our armed forces have exhibited great courage in the face of peril and violence. We honor them with visible tributes including the Congressional Medal of Honor. Even if some of these stories exaggerate their deeds, we owe them our thanks for whatever they may have done. Their comrades and their nation depended on them, and the stories of their exploits have kept their memories alive. Where would we be without Paul Revere and his cry, "The British are coming!"?

There are also heroes who never carried a gun or engaged in armed conflict, but whose lives stand as beacons of hope. We think of our nation's founders: Washington, Jefferson, Adams, Madison and others, who declared our independence, and crafted the world's most dynamic form of government of, by and for the people.

There are many others whose words and deeds have enriched life for all of us, particularly the downtrodden and left out. Chief



Charles H. Bayer

among them may be Martin Luther King Jr., whom we have honored with a yearly national holiday. With him were countless of others, on buses, on an Alabama bridge, lined up waiting to register at county courthouses. These untold thousands have borne witness to King's passion for freedom as they faced dogs, fire hoses and the vitriol and hatred spewing from public officials and violent mobs.

Even beyond those we properly celebrate, there stand in this nation's Hall of Heroes, men and women whose names have been lost but whose courage will be remembered and honored as long as this society exists. Let me call out just a few names most of our readers will recognize.

Eugene Debs, Jane Addams, Louis Brandeis, Florence Kelley, John Dewey, Margaret Sanger, Charlotte Gilman, Roger Baldwin, Eleanor Roosevelt, Phillip Randolph, Paul Robeson, Woodie Guthrie, Ella Baker, Jackie Robinson, Rachel Carson, Thurgood Marshall, David Brower, Pete Seeger, Betty Freidan, Ce-

sar Chavez, Harvey Milk, Ralph Nader, Gloria Steinem, Bill Moyers

Now I suggest that you put aside these names, and let the magnet of memory pass over your own life. Perhaps it will lure up from all your days and years the names and even the faces of those who have been your heroes, persons no one else might know. Who are your heroes, and how you might you honor them?

The church I served at the University of Chicago worshipped in a great stone gothic structure fashioned by Dr. E. S. Ames during his 40 year pastorate. All around the vaulted ceiling there are niches where the statues of the saints are normally placed. But these niches are empty! Dr. Ames said that when anyone enters that building they are to bring their saints with them and place in those niches these heroes who have guided and enriched their lives; persons no one else might even have known, but whose heroism is recorded in their memories and in God's Hall of Heroes.

In many cultures families place their ancestors in temples even if these sacred places are only small living room shrines. Thus they are reminded that there are no self-made persons, but that all of us are only part of history's ongoing procession. It may be that even what we may call "ancestor worship" is really the awareness that in the great sweep of life we are not alone.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

El Monte Women's Club "WWII Victory Party" Scholarship Dinner Fundraiser

EL MONTE - El Monte Women's Club, a local philanthropic service organization, will hold its 43rd annual scholarship dinner fundraiser on **February 16**, at 5:30pm at the El Monte Community Center. Proceeds will provide academic scholarships to deserving students of El Monte Union High School District (EMUHSD). The EMUHSD includes Arroyo High, El Monte High, El Monte-Rosemead Adult, Ledesma Continuation, Mountain View High, Rosemead High, and South El Monte High Schools.

This year's Scholarship Dinner Fundraiser theme is a World War II Victory Party, and 1940's

era dress is encouraged! It will feature live music by The Darden Sisters and dinner will be catered by Executive Catering. There will be a special patriotic presentation by Greater El Monte VFW Post 10218, and there will be door prizes, raffles, and a silent auction.

Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door, and proceeds go towards the Club's scholarship fund, and monies in that fund will be awarded to students in May, 2018. To purchase tickets, go to squareup.com/store/emwc-scholarship or call 626-780-7963.

The El Monte Women's Club scholarship program began in the

1970's. In 1978, the Club awarded four scholarships of \$400 each. In 2017, the Club awarded 22 scholarships of \$900 each. Each of the five high schools received four scholarships, the continuation school received one scholarship and the adult school also received one.

El Monte Women's Club is a proud member of the California Federation of Women's Clubs and General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). With almost 80,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state, the District of Columbia, and more than a dozen countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by supporting the arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging civic involvement, and working toward world peace and understanding. To learn more about El Monte Women's Club, contact them via email at elmontewomensclub@gmail.com or visit them online at Facebook.com/emwomensclub.

"TIME JOCKEY" - Memorial Sports

By Joe Castillo

L.A. Classics Yes, its Super Bowl week and I can't help to think about the history of what may be the biggest sports event of the year. Now 52 years old, the game has grown beyond anyone's expectations. It all started here in Los Angeles at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum where Super Bowls I and II were held. The games were lightly attended but those two games marked the first new championship game, one that would follow Baseball's World Series and Basketball's NBA Championship Finals. The Memorial Coliseum had been the home to a number of classic events, two Olympiads, the 1959 World Series, USC, UCLA and LA Rams football games, and even General George Patton gave a speech in the Coliseum trying to raise money by selling bonds to support the U.S. war effort.

The Los Angeles Rams moved from Cleveland in 1946

and became the first profession team to play in the city. The Coliseum became their home for 33 years until they moved to Anaheim and subsequently on the St. Louis. On July 14, 2007, Merlin Olsen and Robert Klein organized a 70 year reunion of the great Ram teams and players who played in the Coliseum. Of the players which returned for the reunion, 17 were NFL Hall of Fame members including Tex Schramm who was born in San Gabriel and went to Alhambra High School. The first Ram game played in the Coliseum was on September 6, 1946 in a game against the Washington Redskins and 67,420 fans were in attendance. The last Ram game played was on December 16, 1979 vs the New Orleans Saints. The largest crowd was 102,368 against rival San Francisco while total attendance was over 19 million fans for the 33 year run in Los Angeles.

In addition to football being

Lapel Pin To Be Issued To Vietnam Veterans

SAN DIMAS- The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration has provided a special lapel pin for living U.S. military veterans who served during the Vietnam War period as a lasting memento of the nation's thanks. Living United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin.

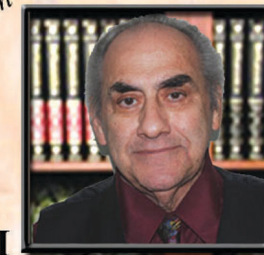
San Dimas H.E.R.O.E.S. (Helping Establish a Remembrance Of Every Serviceperson) is proud to announce that they will be issuing these pins during their hosting of the Vietnam Wall, "The Wall That Heals." The "Wall" will be located at Lone Hill Middle School, 700 S. Lone Hill Ave. in San Dimas, March 22 - 25, 2018.

To receive your lapel pin, you must provide a DD214 (no pin will be awarded without this form) and one other form of identification. You can mail this information to San Dimas HEROES/Vietnam Lapel Pin Project at PO Box 4216, San Dimas, CA 91773. You can also provide this information during the four days the "Wall"

is in San Dimas by visiting the San Dimas HEROES booth between the hours of 9AM to 5PM. The HEROES Organization is looking forward to thanking you for your service and welcome you home.

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626-224-3212

BART The BLOCKHOUND



Given time and chance anything and everything can happen...
Bartology #221

Market Volatility

The Capital Markets continue their focus, concern and sensitivity regarding the trend of interest rates. This past Friday (Feb. 2) the markets got a keen awakening after the release of the monthly Employment Data. We all knew the markets could not continue their unrelenting climb; a correction was due.

Nonfarm payrolls rose 200k in January, with December revised up 12k to 160k and November revised down 36k from 252k to 216k. Friday's report included annual revisions to the establishment figures, meaning revisions stretched back well beyond November. A solid 200k rise in January payrolls was not enough to lift the 12-month average employment gain, suggesting tight labor markets are forcing companies to find ways to increase production in addition to what can be achieved by adding workers. Average hourly earnings rose the most since a 2.9% rise in June 2009, but have been so volatile in the past 12 months it's not yet possible to determine a pattern of wage pressures. The unemployment rate has stabilized at 4.1% for now, but Wall Street expects it will drop again in the months ahead.

Bond yields are up in reaction to the report, likely as much for the outsized average hourly earnings gain as for the bigger-than-expected increase in payrolls.

MAIN REASONS FOR THE SELL-OFF ON FRIDAY

We ended Friday with a record sell-off for the DOW, it closed down 665 points. There are several reasons the markets reacted so violently:

1/ Wall Street was very concerned that bonds sold-off with the market. Usually when stocks drop as they did, there is a flight to quality. In other words, Treasury yields go down. This did not occur.

2/ Markets that turn this ugly on a Friday usually over react.

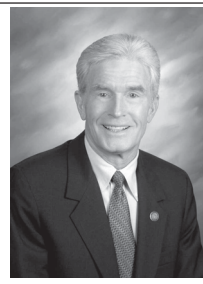
3/ There was a clear sign of wage inflation in the Payroll/Employment report.

4/ Wall Street is very aware the Fed does not fight market rates. Rather, the Fed adjusts policy accordingly which could indicate a rate increase in March.

Bottom line – there is no reason to panic as we are in the middle of earnings season. The new Fed Chairman will most likely address these issues in a speech to calm the Capital Markets.

Since President Trump took

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

office the stock market (DOW) increased from 19784 to 26150, up over 6300 points (Jan. 2017 to Jan. 2018). The market was particularly buoyed by positive earnings revisions, running at the fastest pace in 10 years!

Overall, despite the economic chaos in Iran, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe, we remain in the midst of a global economic boom on every continent. It will certainly be interesting just how long this boom will persist. From a market perspective, it certainly looks good through at least May, since Wall Street expects wave after wave of positive corporate earnings, more dividend increases, and stock buy-backs due to corporate tax reform.

Overall, we remain in a positive environment of relatively low interest rates, low inflation, and robust economic growth. However, if Treasury bond yields continue to rise the Fed will likely raise key interest rates in March. Let's see what new Fed Chairman Powell says when he takes over this month.

There is no evidence that Treasury bond yields are rising due to inflationary pressures yet, so there is no need to panic that interest rates will continue to steadily rise. However, logic would have it that robust domestic economic growth, rising Treasury yields, and a reduction in the size of the Fed's balance sheet would be bullish for the dollar as has been the pattern of past like scenarios.

Seeing the dollar break key technical support at 94.0 raises a yellow flag. Even Rick Santelli (CNBC) is mystified as to why the dollar valuation has been declining. When Rick is confused, we should all take notice and keep a close eye on this potential fly in the bullish ointment.

The phrase "market melt up" has shown up everywhere and has gotten more press than it deserves. It's important to articulate just what comprises a market melt up. By definition, it is a dramatic and unexpected im-

provement in the investment performance of an asset class or broader market rally driven partly by a stampede of investors who don't want to miss out on a rise - as opposed to a more orderly bull market driven by fundamental improvements in the economy. Gains created by a melt up are considered an unreliable indication of the direction of the market, and melt ups often precede melt downs.

Based on all the recent economic data and early fourth-quarter earnings reports from several blue-chip companies, the notion of a melt up simply doesn't hold water. For Q4 2017 (with 5% of the companies in the S&P 500 already reporting actual results for the quarter), 69% of reporting companies have delivered positive EPS surprises and 85% have reported positive sales surprises. The blended earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 is 10.2%. All 11 sectors are expected to report earnings growth, led by the Energy sector.

On December 20, Congress passed the tax reform legislation, and President Trump signed the bill into law a few days later. Since then, a number of S&P 500 companies made positive comments about the potential benefits of tax reform. Analysts have also increased their earnings expectations. The 2018 bottom-up EPS estimate (an aggregation of median 2018 EPS estimates for all companies in the index) increased by 2.2% (from \$146.83 to \$150.12) between December 20 and January 11, the largest increase in the annual EPS estimate for any three-week period since FactSet began tracking this data in 1996. At the sector level, nine of the 11 sectors have recorded an increase in their bottom-up EPS estimates during this window, led by Financials (+8.3%) (FactSet Earnings Insight - January 12, 2018).

The market surge prior to recent softness was fueled by prosperity (defined as a successful, flourishing condition). Until the numbers suggest otherwise, it should be no wonder if the market again begins repricing itself higher. The investment community should expect more volatility within the Capital Markets.

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

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

Dodge and RAM dedicated toll-free customer care center at (866) 220-6765. They can help you with finding a nearby dealer, assist in obtaining alternate transportation while your car is being fixed, and update ownership information if you no longer own the vehicle. That way, you could save the life of whoever does have it now.

Frequently Asked Questions
Q. What if I don't have a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or RAM vehicle; how do I check if I am affected?

A. Visit NHTSA.gov to find out if your car or truck is under recall. Search using your 17-character Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

Q. How can I find out if my vehicle is affected by a future recall?

A. Sign up at NHTSA.gov/Alerts to be notified if your vehicle is affected by a future recall. It's a good idea to check the site for recalls at least twice a year, in any case.

Q. How can I learn more about the Takata Airbag Safety Recall?

A. Get answers to frequently asked questions at NHTSA.gov/recall-spotlight/takata-air-bags. (NAPSI)

Your Money - Ask Julia

I'm making good progress at paying down my credit card debt. Any suggestion on how to not look like a cheapskate and yet treat my Valentine well?

It's the thought that counts, not the price of the gift(s). It should mean more to your Valentine that you took the time to think about, and plan a fun, memorable, yet inexpensive way to show your love. Look for a community concert, take a hike, enjoy a romantic picnic, write a love letter and read it out loud in a romantic location. Start saving a little each month for the next event.

Is there a way for us to avoid paying taxes on our Social Security income because we earned too much interest and dividends on our investments?

You could minimize your reportable earned-income, (thereby distancing yourself from the Social Security income threshold), by moving your investment dollars to a tax-deferred product. Using a tax-deferred product, the compound interest helps your investment balance grow faster, too. There are even tax-deferred products that offer a bonus on all money you move there. Perhaps this would be a way for you to recoup some of the taxes you have to pay this year.

I'm 53 years old, and am the only employee in my own business. I pay myself \$150,000 per year. Is there a retirement plan for me?

What you might want to look at is a one-person defined bene-



Julia Yoder

fit plan. There are pro's and con's to this type of plan. It allows the individual to build a retirement account fast, and can be a tax deduction for the business. However, it is expensive to make any changes in the plan. This is a problem if there is a lack of funds due to a down year in business. Instead, you might consider buying a life insurance policy with living benefits. The cash account of this type of life insurance can be used by you for anything, and does not have the government RMD (required minimum distribution) rule that hits at age 70-1/2.

Twenty years ago, we each bought a 30-year term life insurance policy. We're still in good health. Could we save money by buying a new life insurance policy now, or should we just wait until the 30-year policy runs out?

Do not let your current life insurance policy run out. It's usually not a good idea to wait. Once you have life insurance in place,

you'll have it for the full term of that insurance policy, regardless of changes in your health. When you get a good quote, apply to see if you qualify. If you decide to buy a new policy, cancel your old policy only after the new policy is fully active.

My wife has told me that she will take care of me when I get old rather than sending me to a nursing home. But, what happens if she dies before me?

And, what if she needs care first, and is alive and unable to care for you? Talk to her about these concerns. It's a good idea to do some planning, just in case. Call around and find out the costs for Assisted Living and Nursing Homes. Learn the rules for Medicare, specifically with regard to assets. (Look for the 5-year look-back rule.) And, get quotes on long-term-care insurance.

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/Nat'l. Ethics Assoc. Home loan application: <https://blink.mortgage/app/signup/p/allsourcemortgage/juliayoder>. Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans: CalStarBenefits.com/28485



THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Whaaaaatttt???

I was finally sitting down after a long day, hoping to relax a little. I turned on the news and heard that Nissan was researching technology where your car could read your mind! Whaaaaatttt? I thought of road-rage drivers, under-the-influence drivers, and those who just aren't the best drivers! Scary. I then started researching to learn more as I couldn't believe this could ever be a good thing! Here is what I discovered:

- The driver would wear a skullcap that measures brain-waves and activity.

- The autonomous car would analyze this activity in real time.

- The system would then alter steering, acceleration and braking based on the driver's brain analysis...basically knowing what you want before you do.

- This supposedly improves reaction time and increases driving enjoyment.

- This also enables the car to respond to the driver's needs to improve the comfort of the drive such as heating/air conditioning. This keeps the driver relaxed.

Why is this important if a car can drive itself without human interference? According to Nissan, we humans enjoy the driving experience and do not wish to give up that pleasure to "a machine."

We will see...

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.

Home Town Service You Can Count On!

Heed The Recall: Get Your FREE Airbag Repair

If it hasn't happened already, your car dealer may call asking you to bring your vehicle to the dealership for a FREE urgent recall repair. For your own good and that of your passengers, you should do so.

The Problem

Some vehicles have airbags that do not function properly. Dealers have replacement airbags available and are urging affected vehicle owners to get their vehicles fixed for FREE.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the airbags installed in tens of millions of U.S. vehicles are subject to recall due to a safety defect that may cause the airbag to explode and cause serious injury or death.

Because so many cars and trucks need to be fixed across many different vehicle manufacturers, a nationwide repair schedule has been developed to get the most dangerous airbags replaced first. Exposure to high heat and humidity over time can cause metal parts inside the airbag to explode and shoot out of the airbag at the driver or passengers.

What Car Companies Are Doing

FCA US LLC ("FCA US"), vehicle manufacturer of Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and RAM vehicles, has been leveraging many different means of communication to get the message to owners about the dangerous airbag safety recall, including:

- postcards
- e-mails
- phone calls
- SMS/text messages
- Twitter
- Facebook.

In addition, all Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and RAM dealers have been reaching out to car and truck owners, urging them to schedule their airbag recall FREE repair.

What You Can Do

Consider the following steps on the road to safety:

1. Visit recalls.mopar.com to find out if your car or truck is under recall. Search using your 17-character Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). You can find it on the lower left (driver's side) of your vehicle's windshield, on your car's registration card or your insurance card.

2. Call your dealer to schedule the FREE repair.

3. Call the Chrysler, Jeep,

Asian Industry B2B Chinese Cultural Celebration

Remarks by the Honorable Betty Chu, Co-Founder of East West Bank.

The Asian Industry B2B cordially invites business leaders to attend our upcoming monthly mixer, a special Chinese Cultural celebration on Wednesday, **March 14**, from 6:00pm-8:30pm at the Wells Fargo Puente Hills Branch 17799 E Colima Rd, City of Industry. Honorable Betty Chu, co-founder of East West Bank and former Mayor of Monterey Park, will speak on the state of Chinese businesses and the importance of community and partnerships between Asian groups and the greater society. We will also feature Eugene Moy of the Chinese Historical Society, who will speak on his museum downtown as well as a history on Chinese railroad workers.

With a consistent attendance

of over 50 firms and professionals during our monthly mixers, including our New Year's kickoff featuring H Saga International, a multi million logistics company, as well as celebrities and local political figures, AIB2B continues to grow fueled mostly by its quality speakers and charitable initiatives, ranging from military, to autism to cures for terminal diseases.

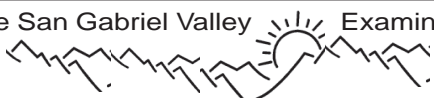
Networking at AIB2B's event gives you a great opportunity to participate in the local community and advance your business. Our events are free of charge with an RSVP required for attendance. Dinner and beverages will be provided.

AIB was founded for businesses and professionals in the east San Gabriel Valley to gath-

er once a month, every second Wednesday. Our mission is to build an intimate network of quality professionals engaged in charity, cultural and political activities, to foster meaningful collaborations, enrich business owners' lives and support a platform to elevate the Asian American community through local business leaders.

For more information, to RSVP, or to learn about our organization and/or sponsorship opportunities, please contact our director, Marc Ang at marc@mangusfinance.com.

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Around the Valley & Senior News

AZUSA

Volunteer Drivers Needed

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

TOPS Meeting

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

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

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

ARCADIA

Orchid Hobbyists

San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists invite you to our **February 15** Monthly Meeting at the L.A. County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, Ca., Palm Room. Judging at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Fred Clarke is our speaker, his program will be, Today's many and compact Cattleyas. See our web site www.sgvoh.org Refreshments. I Welcome all!

Instructors Needed

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

Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

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

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

BALDWIN PARK

Income Tax Appointments

Starting in February, AARP will be providing free tax assistance to the senior community 55 years of age or older. This service is available only on Thursday and appointment is necessary. To schedule an appoint-

ment, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

Valentines Dance

Come enjoy a romantic evening at the Julia McNeill Senior Center on Saturday, **February 10th** from 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm. There will be live music performance, raffles, and much more! So bring your sweetheart for a night of fun and dancing. Hot meals will also be available for a nominal fee of \$6.00. \$15 for pre-sale tickets and \$20 at the door. Call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323 for more info.

Trip to The Grove & Farmer's Market

Come join on Thursday, **February 8** from 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm as we drive out to The Grove and Farmer's Market in Fairfax. The Grove is a world-renowned shopping, dining and entertainment destination where guest can experience old-fashioned trolley rides and magnificent dancing fountains. If you're looking for fresh produce and a fun atmosphere, visit the Original Farmer's Market. Located right next to The Grove, the Farmer's Market offers over 100 gourmet grocers, restaurants from across the globe, and world class shopping in an open-air setting. Try the "La Chezy Moi" Nutella crepe at The French Crepe Co. or a Shrimp Po'Boy from The Gumbo Pot. Meals not included. Tickets are \$10. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323.

Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

The City of Baldwin Park in partnership with Baldwin Park Unified School District Older Adult Program, will be hosting our Annual Lunar New Year Celebration. Please join us as we celebrate the Year of the Dog on Friday, **February 16th** from 9:00 am – 11:00 am. Celebration will take place at the Performing Arts Center located at 4640 N. Maine Avenue, Baldwin Park, CA 91706.

Location to register for all events and workshops is at Julia McNeill Senior Center, 4100 Baldwin Park Blvd., Baldwin Park. Call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323 for more info.

McNeill Fitness Program

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

February Birthday Celebration

Join the Julia McNeill Senior Center monthly Birthday Celebration on the third Wednesday of the month (Feb 21) from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm. Dance to the music of DJ Sonic Boom as active adults celebrate their birthday. Have some cake and lots of music, as well as door prizes for

your celebration! \$1 door admission.

Call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323 for more info.

COVINA

Community Garden Parcels

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department has a Community Garden located at Cougar Park. Parcels are now available. Grow your own vegetables alongside other gardeners who are passionate about gardening and growing healthy organic produce! Annual fee of \$50 for large or handicap accessible parcel, and \$44 for small parcel. Applications are available at covina.gov. For more information, call (626) 384-5340.

Covina's T.E.A.M.

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department is looking for Covina teens who would like to help out and volunteer in their community. Join Covina's T.E.A.M. (Teens Endeavor to Accomplish More) and participate in service projects and community events each month. Attend a meeting for more information. Meetings held on Tuesdays (February 13, March 6, and April 10) 6-7 p.m. at Cougar Park, 150 W. Puente Street. No preregistration required.

For more information, call (626) 384-5340.

Basketball And T-Ball

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department is offering Winter Basketball for ages 18 months-11 years and T-ball for ages 3-6. These programs provide instruction and fun in a non-competitive atmosphere. For more information or to register, please call (626) 384-5340 or visit covina.gov.

DUARTE

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 \$3. The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive.

Alzheimer's Safe Return Registration

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

GLENDORA

Not Exactly! The Price Is Right Game Show

Guests will enjoy a Mexican style dinner with fun games and entertainment even before the show begins! The Travelin' Game Show will be hosting "Not Exactly! The Price Is Right" at the La Fetra Center. You'll have a chance to come on down and play games similar to those on the classic game show we all know and love.

Huntington Drive, Arcadia 91007, from 6-11pm. The cost is \$22.00 per child and includes snacks and beverages. Pre-registration is mandatory and can be done on-line at ArcadiaCA.gov by fax, 626.821.4370 or by coming into the Recreation Office, 375 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007. For more information please call 626.574.5113.

Don't miss out on this opportunity for a fun night! To register, please sign up in person at the La Fetra Center. \$12 per person Saturday, **February 10** 5:00pm to 7:30pm. For more information please call (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 6:30-8:30 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.

Cars 4 the Community

Glendora Rotary has a new and exciting vehicle donation program, called Cars 4 the Community. We are asking for your old car, boat, motorcycle or RV, running or not, be donated and receive a 100% tax deduction for the proceeds.

This program helps our schools, community, country and the world. Call 626-963-0814 for more information.

Instructors Needed At The La Fetra Center

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

LA VERNE

Get About Transportation

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

To Register: (909) 621-9900
To Schedule a ride: (909) 596-5964

For more information, contact Abby Nuyda at 909.621.9900, Extension 228.

MONROVIA

Senior Blood Pressure Screenings

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

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

Caring Crafters

If you have an interest in knitting, crocheting and hand work or would like to learn, join us at the Monrovia Community Center **every Wednesday**. The Friendly Crafters is a social group that meets every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is designed to foster friendships and provide social opportunities while crocheting and knitting. The group always welcomes new participants to teach and share new ideas! This free program is offered to all Seniors and Active Adults! Crafters meet every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Monrovia Community Center.

Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

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

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

SAN DIMAS

San Dimas

Toastmasters Club

The San Dimas chapter of Toastmasters International, Toast

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

WEST COVINA

TOPS Meeting

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) meets **every Thursday** at 6 pm at the West Covina Senior Center, 2501 E. Cortez St in the classroom building. The weight loss group seeks members who wish to lose weight and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Meetings last until about 7:30 and the first meeting is free. Visitors are always welcome. Come for support with your weight loss journey. You can do it! For more information, contact Erika Hernandez 626-384-0502 or email: ehernandez57@aol.com

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 has 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.

Kiwaniannes To Hear Two History Speakers

GLENDORA - The Glendora Kiwaniannes will hear two historical presentations at their February meetings. Wednesday, **February 7**, Steven Flowter, a past president of the Glendora Historical Society, will speak about the History of Glendora. On **February 21**, Robert Broski, will give a pro-

gram on "A Look at President Abraham Lincoln." Broski has portrayed Lincoln in films, television, plays and commercials.

The Kiwaniannes meet at 5:30 at the Glendora Continental Restaurant. Dinner is \$15. For more information about the club, go to their website at www.glendorakiwaniannes.org.

Kid's Night Out - My Funny Valentine!

ARCADIA - Valentine's Day is a sweet one! Giving out cards and receiving them is so fun! Flowers and hearts are the decorations, a day to show you care is reason for celebration! Chocolate and candy are sweet presents too, we love Valentine's Day, how about you? Come join us for some sweet fun! Kid's Night Out, on Friday, **February 9** - 6-11pm,

provides kids a night of fun and play so parents can enjoy an evening out or a quiet one at home. The Arcadia Recreation Staff and Volunteers offer dinner, themed games, supervision and a movie for children ages 4 and above. (Accommodations cannot be made for special dietary needs.) The fun takes place at the Arcadia Community Center, 365

Huntington Drive, Arcadia 91007, from 6-11pm. The cost is \$22.00 per child and includes snacks and beverages. Pre-registration is mandatory and can be done on-line at ArcadiaCA.gov by fax, 626.821.4370 or by coming into the Recreation Office, 375 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007. For more information please call 626.574.5113.

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Walnut Valley USD Honors Top Classified Employees

Kathy Frith named 2017 Classified Employee of the Year



The 2017 Cornerstone Award winners were honored for going "above and beyond" on Feb. 1. Front Row: Yadira Gostel, Kathy Frith Tracey Carr, flanked by Angel Chiu's daughters, Evelyn and Valerie. Back Row: Shawn Tampio, Daniel C. Chau, Robert Herrera, Joanna Flores, Linda Cuesta, and Martha Arellano with Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor, Board Members Larry Redinger, Dr. Tony Tornig, Cindy Ruiz, Layla Abou-Taleb, and Helen Hall

WALNUT - The Walnut Valley Unified School District (WVUSD) paid tribute to a dozen outstanding employees during the 19th Annual Cornerstone Awards on February 1 at the Royal Vista Golf Club.

Congratulations to the following 2017 honorees: Kathy Frith, Receptionist - District Office; Tracey Carr, Nutrition Services Worker II-Quail Summit Elementary; Shawn Tampio, Office Assistant - Diamond Bar High; Fan Chau Wong, Instructional Aide-Bilingual/Bicultural - C.J. Morris Elementary; Yadira Gostel, School Administrative Assistant - Vejar Elementary; Daniel C. Chau, Custodian I-Suzanne Middle School; Martha Arellano, Child Welfare and Attendance Clerk- Vejar Elementary; Angel Chiu, Instructional Aide - Bilingual/Bicultural - Quail Summit Elementary; Mike Jara, Library Media Technician - Chaparral Middle School; Robert Herrera, Custodian II -South Pointe Middle School; Joanna Flores, Instructional Aide II -Special Education - Chaparral Middle School; and Linda Cuesta, Instructional Aide II -Special Education - Collegewood Elementary.

"I'm extremely proud of the educational experience our students receive in Walnut Valley. And that would not be possible without classified employees," said Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor.

"Tonight's honorees represent the best of the best and we can't thank you enough for what you do!" he added. The winners were



Personnel Commissioners Ron Everett and Cecilia Yeh and Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor celebrate the District's newest Classified Employee of the Year, Kathy Frith.

lauded with personalized tributes and gifts.

Classified (non-teaching) employees work with dedication and commitment to help students succeed every step of the way. They feed and transport students, nurture their minds, support teachers and administrators, and create a positive learning environment.

The monthly Cornerstone Award recognizes exemplary classified staff members who have gone "above and beyond the call of duty" in providing outstanding customer service to the District and community.

Kathy Frith was named the 2017 Classified Employee of the Year at the culmination of the event.

"This is a wonderful surprise! I'm am so grateful to work with and be nominated with all of tonight's honorees," she said.

Kathy has been a valued team

member for the past 25 years. Her knowledge about the District, schools, and community events makes her an outstanding resource for everyone.

"Kathy is a shining example of what a Walnut Valley employee represents!" said nominator Jackie Brown, director of educational programs.

The Walnut Valley Educational Foundation and WVUSD Personnel Commission co-sponsored the annual recognition event hosted by Dr. Matthew Witmer, deputy superintendent of human resources and Dr. Sergio Canal, administrative director of human resources.

A special thanks to the following sponsors who provided support for the Cornerstone Awards: Massage Envy, Benihana Restaurant, Schools First Federal Credit Union, BB&T Insurance Services, and LifeTouch Photography.

Arcadia Unified Fights for Fair Funding in Sacramento

Board of Education Adopts Fair Funding Resolution Urging State Legislators to Act



ARCADIA - Arcadia Unified School District's collective of students, teachers, parents, staff, and Board of Education recently made its annual journey to Sacramento to advocate for fair and adequate funding for Arcadia Unified schools as well as weigh in on other important education issues at the 2018 California State Parent Teacher Association (California PTA) Legislation Conference.

This annual conference offers a forum for California PTA leaders, volunteers, parents, and school representatives to discuss issues in education policy, strategize lobbying efforts, and rally together in an effort to create a unified voice for students, families, and teachers across the state. California is one of the lowest funded states in the country, ranking at 46 out of the 50 states on a highest to lowest funded scale. This year, California PTA's top conference discussion items and priorities to present to legislators included ensuring equity and adequacy in public education and ensuring families are involved and engaged in the local decision-making

process through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs).

"The California PTA Legislation Conference is one of the most important events we can attend as PTA parents, teachers and administrators," said First Avenue Middle School teacher Catherine Keyston who has attended this annual conference seven times and counting.

"In many ways, school funding determines the amount of experiences schools are able to offer students and the quality of education we can give them. We need to have a deeper understanding of how school funding works, and we need our state government to understand why funding schools is one of the most important places they can allocate state funds."

For the past several years, Arcadia Unified has taken at least one Arcadia High School student to this conference, offering students the opportunity to advocate for themselves, their peers, and their teachers and letting policymakers hear directly from those most impacted by education legislation.

"This conference was eye-opening and exposed me to the inner workings of education and policy-making," shared Arcadia High School junior Aaron Wu. "I originally thought our school district was doing just fine, but after attending this conference, I've learned that the entire California

education system needs major reform. I was honored to represent Arcadia in its fight for needed change."

"For change to occur, constructive conversations between politicians and those they represent must take place. I've always enjoyed the political process and advocating for our outstanding students and teachers not only at Foothills Middle School and in Arcadia Unified but throughout all of California," said Principal of Foothills Middle School Ben Acker.

The Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education continued the fight for fair funding the evening the 14-member Arcadia delegation returned from Sacramento. With a unanimous 5-0 vote, the Arcadia Unified Board of Education signed Resolution 1361 "calling for full and fair funding of California's public schools."

The resolution states that while California has the sixth largest economy in the world, the state falls in the nation's bottom quintile on nearly every measure of public K-12 school funding and staffing. Resolution 1361 "urges the State Legislature to fund California public schools at the national average or higher by the year 2020, and at a level that is equal to or above the average of the top 10 states nationally by 2025 and to maintain, at a minimum, this level of funding until otherwise decreed."

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