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# Glendora Christmas Parade is Back

By Marsha Edwards Mason

**GLENDORA** - Starting off the parade this year, a Los Angeles Fire Department helicopter performed a fly-over along the tree lined Glendora Avenue to the joy of the cheering crowd. It may not have been the Blue Angels, but to this excited crowd it was a great beginning.

Glendora residents, parents, sisters and brothers, civic groups and merchants lined the parade route, waving and cheering the Christmas Parade participants. Glendora spirits were high, and the cheering was joyful as Glendora's Tartan marching band was heard down the street coming closer and marching proudly past the smiling bystanders. The Glendora High School pep squad and flag twirlers in the familiar red plaid kilts were a sight to see. The Glendora High School Banner Line, twirling handheld individual shield letter boards, are seen first. The name in individual letters spelling GLENDORA comes marching in unison down the street. Flag twirlers come next and then the sound of bagpipes. The heart tugging sounds of the bagpipes playing our favorite songs makes everyone stare with proud smiles. Their colorful regalia, kilts and hats are a



Santa Claus at the Glendora Christmas Parade held at the Glendora Village on December 11, 2021.

sight and sound that doesn't get old. Following the bagpipers in perfectly pressed black, red and white uniforms is the Glendora High School marching band. They are brilliant. And that is the beginning!

This year's parade had about 160 applicant entries and participants. Among the many participants was The boy scout Honor Guard, the Glendora PD SWAT vehicle, Daughters of the American revolution, important citizens

and civic leaders, the Celtic Fiddler, Bidwell's Biker Buddies, Guide Dogs of America, donkeys with the BB Ranch Foundation, Blue Rose Performing Arts, Charter Oak Marching Regiment, Dancers, Singers, Girl scouts, Glendora Historical Society, Glendora Rotary Club, Glendora National Little League, Citrus College and many churches and educational institutions and clubs. Jan's Towing always participates by donating their flatbed tow trucks and oversized U. S. Army tow vehicles. And let's not forget, Santa and

Mrs. Claus.

The Glendora Christmas Parade started in the early 1950's. It was more of a battle of the marching bands with paid judges and trophies. It got to be too expensive to continue to support. The Jaycees took on the Parade and kept it going in the 1960's to around 1998. The Jaycees disbanded around 1997 or 98 and the Christmas Parade was going to be part of Glendora history. Glendora Mayor, Sue Bauer, wanted the Christmas parade to continue and become part of Glendora's future. Sue Bauer got

together with Karen Babineau and the Christmas Parade Committee was kept intact and restructured itself to keep the Christmas parade alive. In 1999 the Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club raised the money and provided the city with volunteers. Besides the service clubs, the city has volunteers from the police department, public works, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Glendora library Foundation Board. In 2020, Glendora didn't have its Christmas Parade due to the pandemic.

In the early years of the parade celebrities such as Woody Strode, Dallas Raines (channel 7 newsman), Frazier Smith (radio personality), and Tommy Lasorda rode as Grand Marshals. Glendora used to have a Miss Glendora contest and the winner would ride in the parade. Mike Rubel used to be Santa and he would toss frisbees, candy and little toys along the parade route. He would also have several of his old cars in the parade. Today, the Historical Society has taken over the care of the historic Rubel Castle and all the old cars. Several of the cars are still driven in the parade.

With each year's talents and the good wishes from Santa, Mrs. Claus and the donkeys, the Glendora Christmas Parade will go on into the future adding blessings to Glendora's charm.

## "12 Days of Christmas" Price Index Reflects a Mostly-Reopened Economy

Following a bah-hubbug year for the country's economy, one economic indicator predicts that the 2021 holiday season may resemble 2019 more than 2020 when it comes to price tags on gifts.

A light-hearted take on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index, PNC's annual Christmas Price Index calculates the total cost of items bestowed by a "True Love" who repeats all the verses of the classic holiday song, "The 12 Days of Christmas." This year, purchasing the gifts would cost \$41,205.58, a 5.7% increase compared to 2019.

"With most events cancelled in 2020, we removed 'Ladies Dancing,' 'Drummers Drumming' and other live performances from the Index last year, which resulted in an unprecedented 59% drop from 2019," says Amanda Agati, chief investment officer for PNC Asset Management Group. "We're trying to normalize the comparison by excluding a once-in-a-century pandemic that had an outsized impact on last year's data."

Taking 2020 out of the equation, Agati notes that both inflation and consumer habits are driving the rising costs of goods and services. Indeed, a tech-savvy "True Love" will spend an additional \$4,394 by paying for the



Holiday shoppers take note, with a mostly reopened economy, being a "True Love" this season may cost you.

For more details, visit PNC's interactive website at [pncchristmaspriceindex.com](http://pncchristmaspriceindex.com). (StatePoint)



The Glendora High School Banner Line at the Glendora Christmas Parade held at the Glendora Village on December 11, 2021.

## Super Saturday is Coming: What Shoppers Should Know

With Super Saturday right around the corner on December 18, shoppers can benefit from knowing what to expect as they approach one of the busiest days of the holiday season. Super Saturday -- or Panic Saturday as it is known to some procrastinators -- is the last Saturday before Christmas, when many last-minute shoppers flood the stores to check off items on their gift lists.

However, if shoppers want to ensure they check everyone off their list, they will need to plan their approach to Super Saturday shopping carefully this season. As experts point out, despite continued concerns over COVID-19 variants, consumers are becoming more comfortable with in-store shopping this year than they were last year. According to holiday shopping predictions from Sensormatic Solutions, the leading global retail solutions portfolio of Johnson Controls, browsing may be difficult on December 18 due to busy stores, possible understaffing, and supply chain concerns.

Indeed, the best option for shoppers who know what they

want to purchase this season is likely "buy online, pick up in store," known as BOPIS in the retail industry.

"Consumers have become more comfortable in stores again, and many will be heading out on December 18 to finish up their holiday shopping," says Peter McCall, retail services consultant, Sensormatic Solutions, Global Retail Consulting Practice. "The best advice I could give to consumers, and retailers alike, is to plan -- their Super Saturday success depends on how well they've thought out their approach."

Here are several ways consumers can help ensure a safe and successful shopping experience this holiday season, according to McCall:

- As always, Super Saturday will be a crucial day for last-minute shopping. Shipping delays and early cut-offs will only complicate the matter. Shoppers who want to make sure all their gifts are in hand and arrive on time need to head to stores early, and plan accordingly.

- It's important to consider that store crowds are likely to

be different than last year's holiday season. Black Friday shopper visits in 2021 saw a 47.5% increase compared to 2020, so consumers should also expect Super Saturday to once again be quite busy.

- BOPIS is a good choice because it guarantees items are in stock, simplifies trips and mitigates exposure to COVID-19 and the flu. In fact, 42% of shoppers say they'll use BOPIS for holiday shopping and 44% say they'll use curbside pickup, according to Sensormatic Solutions' Consumer Sentiment Survey -- 9 and 12% increases from 2020, respectively.

- Shoppers who want to casually browse should consider going to the store before Super Saturday. There are plenty of reasons to make a trip to the store this holiday season. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of U.S. consumers who plan to shop in-store this holiday season will do so for product-related reasons, like browsing for gift ideas or to see and touch products before buying, according to Sensormatic research. (StatePoint)

## TIPS TO AVOID A SHIPPING GLITCH

- Include both "to" and "from" information and only on one side.
- Properly address packages
- Select a durable box to protect contents
- Priority Mail® and Priority Mail Express® boxes are free at Post Office™ locations.
- Make sure it weighs 70 pounds or less
- Use an accurate scale to weigh your package.
- Place a card inside with delivery and return addresses
- Do NOT reuse boxes
- Reused boxes may be less sturdy than new boxes.
- Never guess a ZIP Code™
- Print addresses clearly
- Include all address elements such as apartment numbers and directional information (ex: 123 S Main St. Apt. 2B).
- Look up a ZIP Code™ at [usps.com](http://usps.com) under Quick Tools. NO ZIP is better than a WRONG ZIP.



# Follow Home Robbery Gang Members Arrested

By George Ogden

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY** - The police are wanting to hear from you. These violent and dangerous criminals named below have been on a crime spree for over a year robbing people. They have been doing follow-home robberies. They have committed crimes all over L.A. County including the San Gabriel Valley. Authorities believe a number of crimes by this gang may have occurred in the East San Gabriel Valley cities. Some may have gone unreported while others may have been reported but no further action was taken. However, they are now looking for these same victims to come forward again and identify these individual so they can be "included" in the reports to be submitted in hopes of keeping these violent criminals off the streets. They are extremely dangerous and they are armed.



Police are looking for other victims of these follow home robbery suspects

Marquise Hulse, 27, was arrested in connection with the most recent robbery on Nov. 2 in the 1100 block of Sweetbriar Drive. He has a number of

other previous arrests recently (4 all high-grade felonies) and was release on \$0.00 bond each time since 2020. One originally had bail set at \$175,000.00 and

with the "zero bail and release", he got out on the same day on \$0.00 bond per the District Attorney's new policy of zero bail and no holds. On felony was in Beverly Hills, so this gang is all over the L.A. area.

Police also arrested a minor on Oct. 27 in connection with a Rimcrest Drive robbery that happened on Sept. 8 which was a violent felony. He has been released with pending juvenile court dates.

21-year-old Garfield Graham of Hawthorne was arrested on a violent felony with and 21-year-old Stephon Johnson of Sunland for the same violent felony on Aug. 28 for an alleged Norton Avenue robbery on Aug. 24. Both have previous arrests records with both being released on \$0.00 bail and no time served outside of Johnson with an earlier arrest where he was sentenced

to 6 months only to serve less than two months and got out to commit more crimes.

21-year-old Xavier Glaspie of Los Angeles was arrested on Oct. 8 for a robbery on California Avenue on April 5. It was discovered that he had committed crimes in the State of Tennessee and he was turned over to that State in which they have NO "release or zero time" policy. He will get jail time in that state.

20-year-old Donnell Fletcher of Los Angeles was arrested on March 29 for a Fairview Avenue robbery on Feb. 15, only to be release on the D.A.'s policy of no bail and release when the bail was actually for \$50,000. Back on the streets again.

If you feel you are a victim of one or all of these suspects, contact your local police department.

# The Ho-Ho History of the Christmas Card



While you may love your holiday traditions, you may not have given much thought to the origins of these customs. When it comes to sending Christmas cards, this long-standing tradition has a fascinating history.

Did you know that these seasonal greetings date back to the 1840s? The annual custom was started by trendsetter Queen Victoria herself, whose published engraving featuring the winter wonderland at Windsor inspired her subjects to follow suit. Stateside, Annie Oakley was another Christmas card pioneer, sending the first known personalized Christmas card in 1891.

While the 20th century saw

the rise of the folded card sent by mail, today, digital greetings are yet another way to show friends and family you care, thanks to a wide variety of options available. For example, SmashUps personalized video greetings allow users to send customized holiday wishes featuring favorite celebrities, including Santa himself. To learn more, visit [smashups.com](http://smashups.com) or download the SmashUps app, available for iPhone and Android.

As you send and receive seasons' greetings this year, take time to appreciate the long and storied history of this fun and festive tradition. (StatePoint)

## 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 sent to [SGExaminer@aol.com](mailto:SGExaminer@aol.com). We request that articles be in Word format while photos be in jpeg. Articles should be in good taste.

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## City And Chamber Partner To Award More Than \$1,750,000 In Grants To Local Businesses And Non-Profit Organizations Impacted By The Coronavirus Pandemic

**GLENDORA** - On October 18, 2021 the City of Glendora, in partnership with the Glendora Chamber of Commerce, launched the Small Business and Non-Profit Rescue Grant Programs to help local businesses and organizations mitigate the financial hardships resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received by the City, the Small Business and Non-Profit Rescue Grant Programs provided grants from \$5,000-\$25,000 to be used as working capital to cover the day-to-day business operating expenses such as rent/lease payments, mortgage payments, payroll and benefit costs, utility expenses, or expenses incurred to adopt safer operating procedures. Non-profits could also utilize the grant for direct service provision to the community.

"Glendora's small businesses and non-profits are an important and vital part of our community," Mayor Davis said. "That is why the City Council unanimously voted to launch and fund these programs, to get the funds out as quickly as possible, and to provide much needed financial support to those impacted by the pandemic."

The City Council initially seeded the Small Business Rescue Grant Program with \$1,000,000, but given the need seen in our community increased its allocation up to \$1,620,000 to fully fund all eligible and complete applications submitted at the time of consideration. To date, 69 local businesses have been awarded a grant resulting in the City and Chamber awarding nearly \$1,600,000 in financial assistance to small businesses and nearly \$150,000 to six non-profit organizations.

"The local small business community has been impacted time and again, navigating closures and restrictions on operations, as our community has endured the pandemic. This partnership with the City gives us the opportunity to lend a hand and is critical to help sus-

tain small businesses. I want to thank the City for its support and investment in our community," said Joe Cina, President and CEO of the Glendora Chamber of Commerce.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act to further promote recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF), which provides a combined \$350 billion in assistance to eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to assist in the economic and health recovery by providing resources to address impacts resulting from the crisis.

On October 12, 2021, the City Council approved a two-year Expenditure Plan for all its American Rescue Plan Act funding, focusing on community-facing programs first, such as the Small Business and Non-Profit Rescue Grant Programs to help support our community. The City of Glendora will receive the funds in two installments.

## Baldwin Park Police Department Holding DUI Checkpoint December 17th

**BALDWIN PARK** - Baldwin Park Police Department will hold a DUI Checkpoint December 17th from 7:00pm to 1:00am at an undisclosed location within Baldwin Park city limits.

Checkpoint locations are chosen based on a history of DUI crashes and arrests. The primary purpose of checkpoints is not to make arrests, but to promote public safety by deterring drivers from driving impaired. During the checkpoint, officers will look for signs that drivers are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The Baldwin Park Police De-

partment is committed to keeping the traveling public safe. "The safety of our community is and always will be our mission," Sergeant Andy Velebil said. "We are looking for impaired drivers because driving under the influence is dangerous and puts others on the road at risk."

Baldwin Park Police Department reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol. Some prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving. Always follow directions for use and read warning labels about driving or "operating heavy ma-

chinery," which includes driving a car. While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

If you plan on drinking or taking medications that may impact your ability to drive safely, plan on staying at home. Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

## Los Angeles County Reports Seventh Case of the Omicron Variant

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has received confirmation of one additional case of COVID-19 with mutations consistent with the new Omicron variant (B.1.1.529). The individual recently traveled domestically, is fully vaccinated, had mild symptoms, and is self-isolating.

Public Health has identified close contacts in Los Angeles County, some of whom have tested negative, and others are awaiting test results. Additionally, close contacts have been identified outside of the County that are being tested.

"This latest case of the Omi-

cron variant in Los Angeles County underscores how critical safety measures are while traveling," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "All indications are that among those fully vaccinated, illness severity if infected with Omicron is mild, reminding us that all eligible residents need to urgently get vaccinated or boosted. The vaccines are likely to provide much needed protection against serious illness caused by Omicron and are already known to provide protection against infection and disease associated with the Delta variant that continues to dominate across the County."

Additionally, all residents across LA County should continue:

- Getting tested to help reduce the spread, especially if you traveled for the holidays, have had a possible exposure or have symptoms
- Adhering to masking requirements when indoors or at large outdoor mega events, regardless of vaccination status

Residents are also reminded that they are legally required to be isolated if they have a positive COVID test result and that vaccinated close contacts with symptoms and unvaccinated close contacts need to be quarantined.

## With Booster Eligibility Expanding to 16-17 Year Olds, Los Angeles County Highlights Low Infection Rate of Booster Recipients

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - COVID-19 vaccine providers in Los Angeles County are now administering Pfizer booster doses to children 16 and 17 years old after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Rochelle P. Walensky affirmed the recommendation by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration to expand the booster eligibility.

Public Health continues to track the emergence of the Omicron variant and is taking steps to address the potential threats that may be posed by the variant, with a focus on protecting those who live in areas where there are higher numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and death rates.

Since vaccine effectiveness wanes over time, Public Health is encouraging residents to get boosted as soon as they are eligible, especially as we prepare

for the winter and the potential circulation of Omicron.

According to early data from around the world, people who have received booster doses have better protection from Omicron infection than those who have received only a primary vaccine series. Additionally, we have seen strong evidence from L.A. County showing boosters are an effective way to protect yourself: Between November 23rd and 29th, people who had received both a primary vaccine series and a booster had six-fold more protection from infection than did people who had received the primary vaccine series alone (seven-day cumulative rates: 7 cases/100,000 vs. 43 cases/100,000). Unsurprisingly, unvaccinated people were at the highest risk over the same period of time, with a seven-day cumula-

tive infection rate of 165 cases/100,000.

During times of high Covid transmission, differences in outcomes between more and less vulnerable groups have historically widened, with vulnerable populations experiencing more severe outcomes as transmission rises. In response, the Community Health Workers Initiative aims to narrow these gaps by reaching out to residents and business in high-need communities to provide them with critical information about COVID-19 vaccinations. Community health workers also provide residents with culturally relevant education on steps they can take to slow the spread of the virus, which include getting vaccinated or boosted, getting tested, and adhering to masking requirements.

## Burglary Suspect Shot by Homeowner

By George Ogden

**AZUSA** - Detectives from both the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office and the Azusa police department are investigating a shooting that occurred at a home in the 200 block of North Barbara Avenue December 8th around 4:45 p.m.

Apparently, the unidentified person who was shot was attempting to burglarize the home when things went all wrong. The unidentified homeowner,

who was in fear of their life, took matters into their own hands and defended himself from the burglary suspect and shot him. The suspect was shot in the neck and was critically injured.

Police responded to a call of the shooting and found the injured suspect and had the paramedics respond. The homeowner who shot the suspect was not identified or arrested

and is cooperating with investigators.

The street was blocked off just in case there were other suspects in the area and once the area was cleared the paramedics were allowed in to treat and transport the suspect to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. The present condition of the suspect is not known at this time. He was charged with the crimes.

**San Gabriel Valley Examiner**  
INFORMATION GUIDE

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## Juvenile Justice System Shifted To Locals

I got emails asking about the new jail being proposed for the hills above La Verne and Marshal Canyon Golf Course. It is not a new jail. It is existing juvenile offender camps being reassessed after Gov. Newsom signed SB 823 last year transferring the responsibility for juvenile justice to county governments. Camp Afflerbaugh-Paige is above La Verne, Camp Glen Rock above San Dimas. These camps are not jails but "lockdown" facilities for juvenile offenders, some with alcohol and drug problems, and schools overseen by Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE).

U.S. News offers the following: At Afflerbaugh-Paige Camp, the total minority enrollment is 98%, and 94% of students are economically disadvantaged. Afflerbaugh-Paige Camp is 1 of 15 high schools under Los Angeles County Office of Education. COVID mandates may restrict enrollment.

SB 823 was a 2020 budget trailer bill closing the Department of Youth and Community Restoration and Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) on July 1, 2021, and establishing the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) in the Health and Human Services Agency. The directive in SB 823 for this new department: "Promote trauma responsive, culturally informed services for youth involved in the juvenile justice system that support the youths' successful transition into adulthood and help them become responsible, thriving, and engaged members of their communities."

To accomplish SB 823's mission, all 58 counties established a Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, with a Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) Subcommittee charged to develop plans to house youth lawbreakers. The Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) subcommittee, is chaired by County Probation Department, with representatives from the



**Shade's Perspective**  
Lois M. Shade

**Former Mayor of Glendora**  
District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Department of Social Services, Department of Mental Health, LA County Office of Education (LACOE), the Court, and a minimum of three community members. That plan they were to develop should include, but was not limited to, a description of the facilities, programs, services and supervision appropriate to both rehabilitate and supervise the DJJ youth.

In July this year, L.A. County 5th District Supervisor, Kathryn Barger, discovered this committee was ready to designate locations without any meaningful analysis and community input after San Clarita City Attorney "... issued a letter to the County raising concerns and questions around the County's due diligence in selecting these sites, specifically, alleging the County's failure to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)." L.A. County findings were no CEQA violations but no adequate plan allowing for community discussions and input.

Supervisor Barger, backed by 1st District Supervisor Hilda Solis, submitted a motion outlining their concerns including the ability of the County to reach out to communities for their input, noting May 2021, SB 92 was enacted which declared June 30, 2023, as the actual closure date of DJJ and the need for LA County designated facilities to be

functional before that time. Barger's press release said the JJRBG subcommittee will make a final recommendation to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors by mid-January 2022 and Supervisors will vote no later than February 2022.

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council / Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Subcommittee was scheduled to meet virtually on Wednesday, December 15th.

Supervisors' Barger and Solis motion, dated July 27, 2021, with a directive to report back to them in 60 days included:

- Campus Kilpatrick, Malibu, as a primary L.A. County Probation designated temporary Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) for up to 45 male youth until they can find a permanent site.

- Probation Department, with the Youth Justice Advisory Committee and, JJRBG Subcommittee, are to work with CEO, Internal Services, and Public Works to initiate assessments of all sites and rank their feasibility use at each site. My understanding is that would be sites for high-risk offenders, for low-risk offenders, violent offenders or alcohol / drug treatment needs.

- The report should have included a Community Outreach Plan.

I can't tell you if there is a plan because until I got emails from those concerned in the area, I had not heard this was happening.

Larry Elder said something on Epoch Times that struck me as he quoted former President Barak Obama: A child raised in a house without a father, is five times more likely to be poor and commit crimes; nine times more likely to drop out of school; and, twenty times more likely to end up in prison. They were referring to the black community, but I don't believe color is an issue any more. A child needs a stable two-parent household to be supported and to be successful in life.

## Is Critical Race Theory Being Taught In California?

**My Opinion:** By D. B. Shimel

Yes, Critical Race Theory (CRT) is being taught in California and in a school near you.

In previous articles I addressed "what CRT is" and related dogmas so I will not dwell on those subjects here. To simplify the massive number of CRT related ideologies I will just use the acronym of CRT to include all these related racist tactics of division. I will discuss how these noble sounding ideologies are adversely affecting the happening across this Nation and how concerned patriots are coming together to combat this pernicious and self-destructive Marxist indoctrination.

In the recently published US Department of education (ED COVID-19 HANDBOOK Roadmap to Reopening Safely and Meeting All Students' Needs) the government emphasizes a perceived disparity in teaching of minorities not the impacts on all students' education due to the school lockdowns. There is little mention of how to reopen schools, - stressed was ethnic equality.

I digress for a moment to emphasize how pernicious this ideology has become. According to CRT advocates mathematics is racist. Recently a group of concerned scientists and teachers wrote an open letter to warn about the decline in the teaching of the 'hard' sciences. ...we are deeply concerned about the unintended consequences of recent well-intentioned approaches to reform mathematics education, particularly the California Mathematics Framework (CMF). Such frameworks aim to reduce achievement gaps by limiting the availability of advanced mathematical courses to middle schoolers and beginning high schoolers.

For this nation to return to an

equal opportunity society the fight will be long and arduous. The CRT camp has had several years to develop their strategies for infiltrating all levels of American life - funded and promoted by wealthy socialist advocates, school teachers unions and government programs.

The COVID pandemic has caused a problem for the left. When schools went to on-line classes, parents were able to see, for themselves, what their children were being taught and they were shocked. These enraged parents went to school board meetings to protest the teaching of CRT, mask mandates and other such tyrannical edicts. Consequently, at the direction of Attorney General Merrick Garland, parents became the targets of police harassment, DOJ and FBI investigations and criticism by leftwing MSM and other media outlets. Interesting fact: Merrick Garland's son-in-law (Alexander Tanner) is the president of a company called Panorama Education, a company that publishes books and other materials on the subject of teaching CRT ideologies.

Closer to home: California has an educational program devoted to "Diversity training and Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum". With the passage and signing of SB -101, California has created a law requiring all graduating students must take at least one semester of this class by the 2029 - 2030 school year. One will find the "Diversity" directive at the California Department of Education website.

To combat the CRT, mask mandates and other government overreach edicts, grass roots organizations and legal challenges are forming across the nation.

In the state of Virginia several parent advocacy groups have been formed for the purpose of

confronting the Lowden County School Board about these mandates. One such group is Moms for Freedom which started as a Loudon County group but now has chapters across the nation.

Locally, a group of parents that have joined the fray. At a recent Glendora Unified School District (GUSD) Board meeting over 230 concerned parents attempted to gain entry into the meeting. The GUSD Chair Person limited the number of people who were allowed in to 32. Then, when the board decided that they were being challenged they suspended the meeting.

Even more recently, the new GUSD school year education guidelines were issued without meaningful reference as to how the teaching of basic academic skills would be addressed. When one board member was asked why basic academic classes were not stressed in the guidelines the response was - 'These skills are adequately being taught and therefore it was not necessary to include them'. If you would like more information about CRT specific to the Glendora Unified School District, go to [www.SaveGlendoraSchools.com](http://www.SaveGlendoraSchools.com).

The nationally recognized Los Angeles law firm of Early Sullivan Wright Gizer and McRae has brought suit against the CRT curriculum being taught in the Santa Barbara School System. You might recognize the name of Eric Early as he ran against Adam Schiff in the 2020 election and is currently running for Attorney General of the State of California. Eric has promised that as California Attorney General he would use every possible legal avenue to combat CRT and reign in the radical District Attorneys across this state.

The time to fight back is now!

## The Assange Case Threatens Fundamental Rights

Former President Trump rightfully received criticism when he pardoned war criminals for their atrocities in Afghanistan and Iraq. Nevertheless, the media has remained largely silent as the U.S. continues to pursue its prosecution of WikiLeaks founder and journalist Julian Assange for exposing war crimes. The media ignores his case at their own peril, however, as it may have alarming implications for press freedoms worldwide. It also raises deeper concerns about the credibility of the U.S. as a proponent of human rights.

As the world marked International Human Rights Day on December 10, a ruling by the UK High Court in London paved the way for Assange's extradition to the U.S., where he faces trial for allegations of espionage and publishing secret documents that carry a combined sentence of up to 175 years in prison. This ruling overturned a previous lower court decision that had blocked his extradition on the grounds that he would be a suicide risk due to his physical and mental health issues as well as the inhumane conditions in U.S. prisons. The High Court stated that it was "satisfied" with the U.S. government's diplomatic assurances regarding Assange's potential treatment in prison. In reality, these assurances remain dubious given that the U.S. has reserved the right to change its mind at any time.

Assange intends to appeal the court's decision. In the meantime, he remains imprisoned and under prolonged isolation at the high-security Belmarsh prison in London, where he has been since 2019 following his expulsion from the Ecuador Embassy. Although not convicted of any crimes, he has already endured severe restrictions on his life and ability to prepare his legal defense. By contrast, the late-Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet was merely placed under house arrest in his London mansion and ultimately released while he awaited potential extradition to Spain in 1998 for his appalling human rights abuses and geno-



Farrah Hassen

cide charges. Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher even paid him a visit.

A citizen of Australia, Assange faces charges under the U.S. Espionage Act for allegedly assisting a whistleblower in the release of documents that uncovered illegal state conduct and corruption. Although this law dates back to 1917, the Justice Department has in more recent times increasingly weaponized its use against media sources, including WikiLeaks, who share "classified" documents or relay sensitive information to journalists.

Between 2010 to 2011, WikiLeaks published thousands of classified State Department documents leaked by U.S. Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning, who was prosecuted, imprisoned, and later pardoned by President Obama. Among the noteworthy revelations included evidence of war crimes in Iraq. In "Collateral Murder" published in April 2010, shocking video footage showed indiscriminate attacks in 2007 by two U.S. helicopter gunships killing civilians and two Reuters journalists in Baghdad.

The Assange case matters because it implicates the fundamental freedom of information and press, enshrined under binding international human rights treaties and the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. As the so-called "fourth estate," journalism is supposed to educate and inform the public and serve as a necessary check on the abuse of power by governments, corporations, and individuals alike.

Criminalizing journalists and media sources like Assange over the journalistic practice of publishing classified documents obtained from a source (remember Watergate?) will have a chilling effect on future investigative reporting.

The U.S. and U.K. collusion in Assange's pending extradition also raises larger concerns about the West's credibility when it comes to human rights and the democratic rule of law. Autocratic states are undoubtedly watching. A culture of impunity arises when human rights abusers, particularly in the highest positions of power, are not punished for their crimes. This weakens the greater observance and advancement of human rights and the rule of law by states across the globe, rather than solidify their integral place in society.

Nils Melzer, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, concluded that the WikiLeaks releases, like the video of the U.S. attack on Iraqi civilians, "contained clear evidence for corruption and war crimes and other criminal conduct." Yet while Assange is criminalized over their publication, Iraqis over a decade later still await accountability from both the U.S. and U.K. governments over their respective conduct during the course of the illegal war.

Ironically, the High Court rendered its verdict against Assange as President Biden's Summit on Democracy commenced. Before the summit, U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken touted the "indispensable role" of the press, yet the government's continued persecution of Assange clearly contradicts this message.

Rather than jeopardize fundamental rights, President Biden should listen to Reporters Without Borders' call to release Assange and "lead by example" by closing this case now "before it does any more damage."

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

## Be Careful Out There with the Weather, Your Health and Criminals.

With the streets getting wet with rain and some places, snow... Driving can be a nightmare for some. Take some extra measures to be safe. One thing you may want to do when you come to a stop light and you are behind another stopped vehicle, allow extra space between your car and the one in front of you. This is just in case the idiot coming up behind you doesn't know how to drive in the rain and plows into you. That extra space may prevent you from hitting the vehicle in front of you causing more damage and possibly additional injuries. If you don't need to drive, then try not to. Be safe.

Strangely enough, and contrary to belief to the question... Can you catch a cold from being cold and wet? The answer is actually no. While being cold and wet won't get you sick, certain cold viruses do thrive in a colder climate. The virus that is most responsible for causing colds, the rhinovirus, prefers a colder climate and studies have shown there is a correlation between colder temperatures and increased rhinovirus infections. Now, I am not saying to go out and play in the rain, but if you want to, go for it. I happen to like the rain and have no big issues with being in the rain outside of getting my clothes wet. If it's cold, then you could get the shivers and that can be a little uncomfortable.

Also another reminder. You can consider this my "Public Service Announcement" for the day. If you are out in the cold and you



George Ogden  
*That's just the way it is!*

can see your breath, then if you try to sneak "one" out from the other end... others will know... even if it is silent, others will know.

This one is most important. Don't be a victim of crime(s). Gangs of people are coming from other areas into our neighborhoods and committing all kinds of crime. South L.A. gangs have seen our areas as easy targets. Mob store burglaries and robberies, vehicle break-ins, in person robberies, follow home robberies, home invasion robberies and much more. Many of these crimes have racial motivations behind it with the type of comments stated to many of their victims. The elderly are targeted

because of their age and less resistance. If you resist, they just assume hurt you, or shoot you to get what they want. Many times, they shoot you anyway. These criminals know that many police department don't issue weapon permits for citizens so we really have no way to protect ourselves and they know we are unarmed. Myself, I believe that every person who qualifies should be allowed to protect themselves and carry a weapon as they do in large number of other states across the country. Also, with the fact that the District Attorney won't be prosecuting many of these crimes and with the NO BAIL and RELEASE (no hold) with nothing more than a ticket for their felonies and out in the street within hours, why not come to our areas and commit these crimes since they can get away with it?

Do what you can to keep yourself safe since the police can't help, not that they don't want to, it is just that the government prevents them from do so.

*"That's Just the Way It Is!"*

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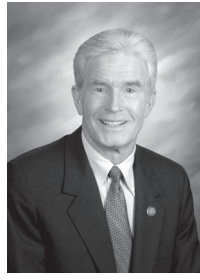
# Biden's Worst Recommended Appointment

President Joe Biden recently raised the hair on the back of many necks on Wall Street and Main Street when he announced his intention to nominate Professor Saule Omarova of Cornell Law School to become the next Comptroller of the Currency. This was another "check the extremely progressive identity box" for Biden and his handlers as part of their efforts to steer America beyond just socialism, but toward economic communism.

Omarova graduated from Moscow State University in 1989 on a Lenin Personal Academic Scholarship. Over 30 years after the fall of the Soviet Union she still holds the view that the Soviet system is superior to the U.S. banking system, which she says should be nationalized and controlled by the Federal Reserve. Speaking at the "Law & Political Economy: Democracy Beyond Neoliberalism" conference last March, Omarova called for the elimination of all private bank accounts and deposits. Her writings also promote transferring all bank deposits to "Fed Accounts" at the Federal Reserve. She also floated the idea of how the Federal Reserve might take money from Americans during an inflationary environment.

Imagine that! With the Democrat's inflation now running at its highest level in 31 years (per last week's PPI and CPI data), the President's nominee suggests the possibility of the Fed seizing funds from your personal bank accounts to pay for the inept policy decisions that caused runaway inflation. Apparently when government screws up, they could have the right to exercise a "mar-

**In A Nutshell**  
What's up in the Economy?



**KEN HERMAN**  
Economic Analyst  
& Former Glendora Mayor

gin call" on taxpayer bank accounts and retirement accounts to help fix their mistakes. Even the suggestion that there is a path for the Federal Government to tap individual retirement savings as a source of revenue should have investors strongly opposed to the nomination of Omarova.

Total U.S. retirement assets approximate \$37.2 trillion as of June 30, 2021. Retirement assets accounted for 33% of all household financial assets in the United States at the end of June 2021. Of this amount, roughly \$7.5 trillion was held in federal, state, and local government retirement plans - the rest (about \$30 trillion) is held in private accounts. Coincidentally \$30 trillion is about what it would take to pay off the current federal debt.

Comrade Omarova also thinks that asset prices, pay scales, access to capital, and credit should be overseen by federal agencies - by an unaccountable bureaucracy run by an academic intelligentsia. Her idea of establishing a National Investment Authority to be overseen by an advisory board of academics fortunately was rejected by the Senate in the current infrastructure bill that Biden signed recently.

Adding more fuel to her anti-

capitalist resume Ms. Omarova would pursue the establishment of an independent Public Interest Council of richly paid academics with broad subpoena power to supervise financial regulatory agencies, including the Federal Reserve. This would resemble a chamber of untouchable czars or overlords, take your pick. The council, she notes, "Would not be subject to the constraints and requirements of the administrative process." Unaccountable to voters, or even laws?

Citizens of all means and net worth should be very concerned that Omarova got even this far in the nominating process! This is radicalism on steroids. As comptroller Omarova would have supervisory power over roughly 1,200 financial institutions, able to crack down on banks that don't goosestep to her dictates. Even Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, to whom the comptroller reports, opposes her nomination.

While Omarova recently declined to be considered further for this important government position the question remains, why did Biden nominate her? If this can happen once, it can certainly happen again. The incompetence and extremism of this Administration is getting worse, not better. If someone like Omarova would have become Comptroller of the Currency it would have been very bad for the financial sector and terrible for the market, for private citizens, and for the future of our USA!

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

# Your Money - Ask Julia

*Life is so chaotic right now. How can I have a more peaceful Christmas and Holidays?*

Unfortunately, the holiday season is known to be a time of increased depression for many, due to a lack of money, pressure to give gifts, and loneliness. Add to those factors, Covid and its variations, the job market, growing inflation, weather, and more, and it is no wonder people are feeling a general sense of chaos and uncertainty. My advice is to slow down, review your budget, and think about what you can do to help others have a more peaceful holiday season. You do not need to give gifts to everybody! Be courteous to other drivers and shoppers. Be pleasant and patient to all those who are working while you are shopping or traveling. None of us like to wear a mask, but it helps others feel safer, so just wear your mask. (Maybe it'll help reduce the spread of seasonal colds and flu like it did last year.) Christians, be the Good Samaritan. A tragic and expensive way to really ruin things is by getting in an accident or getting a DUI (Driving Under the Influence of alcohol, drugs, or medications). Be a designated driver for your friend or co-worker. When you are feeling low, or overwhelmed, take the time to count your blessings. Even if they are few, others have it worse. Take a few moments to think about those who, in one night of tornadoes, lost lives, homes, jobs, and possessions.

*Is there an investment that will pay me like a pension, starting now, so I have income for life?*

Depending on your specific situation, you might have several



**Julia Yoder**

options. If it turns out to be the best and right thing for you, you might consider an Immediate Annuity. You can get the same security as a monthly pension check, it is simple, and it is tax efficient.

*We decided to buy a newly constructed home. The builder's salesperson emphatically said that we have to get our financing from his lending company, or they won't sell to us. She also said that it's the only way to get the discounts and perks that we can apply to the closing costs or to upgrades. Is this true?*

The bottom line is that builders can entice, wheedle, and woo buyers with great deals, but it is illegal for them to threaten you. If a buyer does feel threatened, they should first stand their ground, then complain to the builder and to the state and federal consumer affairs officials. Most builders will say they are just giving you the choice of using their lender. Read the fine print in your contract. (It could be worthwhile to have a real estate attorney look at the contract, too.) You might discover that you could use that builder's lender,

get all the discounts and perks, and then refinance.

*Is it too late to get a lower rate without a lot of origination, etc., fees? I'm currently paying almost 6-percent interest rate on my old 30-year mortgage, which seems high. The loan started at \$350,000, I currently owe \$110,000, and my monthly payment (not counting property taxes and insurance) is \$2,000. I'm on a fixed income.*

Providing you qualify (income, credit scores, other debt), and based on your current rate and payment amount, you could considerably lower your monthly mortgage payment. Don't procrastinate, as interest rates are not expected to stay this low for much longer. Keep in mind that an independent mortgage broker (Findamortgagebroker.com) has access to a much larger selection of loans and rates than any bank or credit union. There are refinancing loans available now that match the number of years you have left in your current loan. However, a 30-year mortgage could dramatically lower your current payment. Refinancing does cost and it takes time to recover those costs.

**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/Real Estate Broker 01238153/ Member of Nat'l. Ethics Assoc. Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans: CalStarBenefits.com/28485

**Car Talk by THE CAR DOC**  
What You "AUTO" Know  
By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialist

## Signs Your Brakes Need Attention

**Noises** - A scraping sound means metal is rubbing metal and that tells you that your brake pads are worn out and need to be replaced. A squealing noise doesn't always indicate a problem depending on the materials used in the pads but shouldn't be ignored as it could also mean the pads are worn or your system is missing a gasket.

**Swerving** - If your vehicle swerves to one side when you apply the brakes the front brakes need to be checked to make sure the "power" of the brakes are evenly distributed.

This could indicate a leak or a mechanical problem or a mismatch of brake pad brands on either side. It is best to have it checked out if you notice this issue.

**Signs you need to have your vehicle towed** - Pedal to the floor is a sign that the car has a leak or a bad master cylinder. This is a situation where you need to get your car towed in for repair immediately. Do not drive your vehicle if this occurs. Another issue is when your brakes "lock" as this is caused by a damaged pad.

Keep in mind that your brak-

ing system endures a lot! The components are constantly bombarded by water, road grit, heat and contamination of its fluid. We suggest you have your brake system inspected once a year so it can do what you need it to do...bring you to a stop!

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## Nominations for 2021 Senior Citizen of the Year

**ARCADIA** - Nomination forms are available at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive and the Recreation Department office, 375 Campus Drive for the 2021 Senior Citizen of the Year! Do you know someone who is:  
- 55+ years of age or older

- A current resident of Arcadia for a minimum of one year  
- Contributed to better the Arcadia Community

- Not previously a recipient of the award

If so, please stop by to pick up a nomination form or log onto the City's website at

www.arcadiaca.gov and download the nomination criteria and form. Recipient of the award will be honored at the Arcadia Rotary Club Salute to Seniors Luncheon on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at the Arcadia Community Center. Nomination forms must be submitted to Gina Hernandez, Recreation Supervisor, by Friday, February 18, 2022 by 5:30pm. For more information, please contact Gina Hernandez at 626.821.4328.

## Showing Friendship Through Body Language

As we approach our holiday season we gather, celebrate, and commune enjoying family and friends and work to escape the noise of everyday life and pressures. Making friends and remembering family is the key to the season. This might at first seem to be out of place for a business newsletter; however, business is a relationship business.

With the above being said finding a friend is often a mysterious process that seems to happen almost as if by magic. You meet them, see them in different situations, and somehow you end up being lifelong friends. Sometimes you can foster friendships and help to sustain it by using trust, commonality, and good body language.

When you are open to a friendship, you might indicate that by showing an open palm and not crossing any of your appendages. It is always important to maintain good eye contact with someone you are being friendly with. Just don't stare at them, that would be a bit creepy!

In fact, you can be attentive to a person by focusing on that person with your ears, your eyes, and your body. You can also show them your feelings through your body language. You can project interest in them by tilting your head when they speak. Look at them in an alert and interested way.

Sometimes, just by spending time with a person, you are automatically giving them body language cues that you are willing to be friends. By showing signs that you are listening to them you will have a better chance at friendship.

Once you have established something of a friendship through body language and conversation, you can allow yourself to get even closer to your new friend.

Empathy is an important aspect of friendship. If your friend can't identify with your feelings, you might not feel that they're



**Michael Allowos**  
Principal Consultant  
Global Management Consulting Services

very valuable as a friend. To have this value, you need to show empathy in your body language.

You can do this by leaning in when the person is speaking of matters of importance to them. Show your emotions through your body language. Laugh, smile, cry, or touch when it seems right. Hug them if it seems comfortable (and acceptable) but follow their body language cues to determine if it makes them feel anxious.

If you have made a friend, there will be two people that will grow their life experience and find comfort that most humans look for. Yet, you can never neglect your friendship and assume it will always be the same. It's up to you to send your friend the right body language signals to let them know they are still appreciated and cared for.

In studies, it has been shown that kids with learning disabilities have a hard time maintaining friendships. They can make friends easily. Yet, when the friend interacts with them on a daily basis, they have trouble understanding the friend's body language. This leads to hurt feelings

and ultimately to a loss of the friendship. If you are to avoid this pitfall, you must pay attention to your friend's body language and read it correctly.

Body language can help you make a friend and help you to understand your friend better. By knowing about body language, you can use it to help you maintain a good relationship.

Knowing body language and using it can be the difference between having an acquaintance and truly having a friend.

"A friend is someone who helps you up when you're down, and if they can't, they lay down beside you and listen." - Winnie the Pooh

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Around the Valley & Senior News

Seen Or Heard Around Town And All Around

By Ed Torres

1. During "the Holiday Season", there are countless notable charities requesting donations.

2. A White couple in "SoCal" (self-described "bleeding heart progressives"), who a few years ago lived in Seattle, Washington, recently returned to visit friends - they found the area to have deteriorated, and declared they would never again live in such a city.

3. A few days ago, Pasadena police reportedly arrived at "Lake Avenue and the 210 Freeway", because apparently a mentally ill or drug crazed street person had been confronting people there, who were waiting at a bus stop... When the bus arrived and the waiting people climbed aboard, the fellow ran away, jumped on board and the bus took off - the police apparently are hampered in dealing with such cases, because of the lax Los Angeles County District Attorney...

4. The "N.I.L." money nowadays legally being dangled in front of some high school foot-

ball players, to induce them to attend a particular university, is mind boggling - currently, there are no apparent national regulations concerning the subject.

5. A Black American lady was killed in Beverly Hills by a Black American man -- bad enough. Some wealthy Black and White Americans, expressed extreme concerns about this killing... American society surely would benefit, if these same folks would be as concerned about the numerous killings that occur almost every day, in inner-city communities throughout America.

6. It seems San Francisco politicians, in the name of progress and compassion, plan to create a "Safe Zone" in a city park, where drug addicts will be permitted to use illegal drugs - progress and compassion. Seriously?

7. In San Francisco, too, a restaurant owner recently refused to serve police officers, because the owner said his place was a BIPOC Zone (a what?) - a Black, Indigenous, People of Color Zone (!), and that those groups did not want police around... Living a "national insanity"...

8. Some in the current national administration, suggest that their policy is, that they want the price of gasoline to rise to around \$7.50 - \$8.00 per gallon - if that

happens, they think Americans, on-their-own (!), will decide to buy electric cars and go "all in" on the Green New Deal ... Uhhh, maybe long before the price gets anywhere near that high, there will be a Voters' Revolt in America!

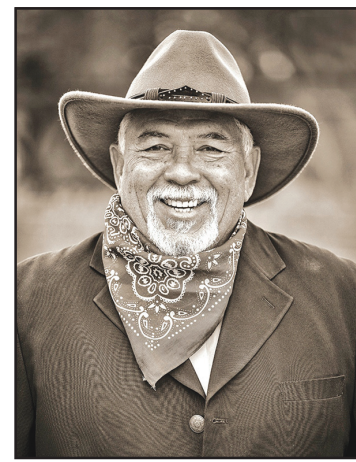
9. In California and New York, some "educators" are pushing to eliminate "gifted" programs and other advanced classes in Science and Math, for example, because studies show that White students are performing a lot higher in those fields, than minority students - these educators' assessment is that White students should NOT be allowed to take such classes, so that non-White students can catch-up... Please raise your hand if you think this makes good sense.

10. Jussie Smollet, Black American actor, was found overall guilty of creating a harmful "hate crime" hoax, when he filed a police report -- that White supporters of President Trump had savagely attacked him... Apparently, for his fame and fortunate, Smollet deceitfully created the fake story, acted in the masquerade, and, in doing that, he added more heat to the "Black versus White" conflicts in America... Hey, Jussie, "Why can't we all just get along"?

Comments/suggestions: honnod1@yahoo.com

"TIME JOCKEY" - Eyewitness Account

Battle of the Rio San Gabriel... Many historical events are recorded based on the descriptions and recollections of an observer, an impartial and independent person who based on his or her own interpretations record their understanding of an event or action. Battles during a war conflict usually have multiple persons who saw a similar set of actions and tend to recall what happened according to their own view of how, when, what, why and where events and an action happened.



Joe Castillo

On January 8, 1847, in one of the last battles of the Mexican-American War, the Battle of the Rio San Gabriel, three U.S. servicemen were killed. The battle was a short-lived skirmish between the California forces and the combined U.S Army and U.S. Navy forces, and even though a minimal number of deaths and casualties occurred as a result of the battle, the fact is that lives were lost which is usually what happens during any type of conflict.

In the case of the Battle of the Rio San Gabriel, the three servicemen killed were Ordinary Seaman Frederic Strauss, Ordinary Seaman Thomas Smith, and Jacob Hait, a volunteer artillery driver. Overall, on the U.S. side there was one death on the day of the battle and 9 casualties of which 2 would eventually die from their wounds. Ordinary Seaman Frederic Strauss was the only fatality killed on January 8th, the day of the battle. Seaman Strauss was assigned to the U.S.S. Portsmouth which had arrived at San Diego Bay in December 1846 and was still in the bay on December 29, 1846 as Commodore Stockton and General Kearny started their march on the Pueblo de Los Angeles.

In the meantime, Seaman Strauss had been transferred to the U.S.S. Cyane, a 790-ton sloop of war with 20 guns under the command of Commodore Stockton. The U.S.S Cyane was docked at San Pedro but when General Kearny arrived in South-

ern California, Commodore Stockton enlarged his command with members from the crew of the U.S.S Cyane, one of which was Seaman Strauss. Assigned to one of Commodore Stockton's company's, Seaman Strauss was assigned to load one of the cannons included with the arms of the US forces. When the Battle of Rio San Gabriel started, the Californios initiated fire and drove the American forces to the opposite side of the river. From there, the American forces set-up their line of cannons and started firing to keep the Californio forces at bay. According to an eyewitness account, Seaman Strauss was the first person hit by enemy fire. Strauss was the

Fire and Match Man to the Gun which had just been sighted by Commodore Stockton and was just about ready to light the fuse when an enemy cannon ball ripped through Strauss' shoulder and neck area killing his instantly. The account recorded that Strauss' body was moved to one of the wagons and then buried that night at the foot of the hill where he had died. Straus was eulogized as a kind-hearted "chap" and a good shipmate and was positively eulogized by those who wished to speak about him.

The Battle of the Rio San Gabriel is documented in the history books as one of the last battles between Mexican and American forces but for those who fought in the battle, it is the recording and memory of the what, where, who, why and how an event or action took place and it is that reason how we know the way Ordinary Seaman Frederic Strauss became a fatality in the Battle of the Rio San Gabriel....

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

Arcadia Unified Holds its Spot in the Top 1% of Best School Districts in America

ARCADIA - Out of more than 10,700 school districts in the United States, Arcadia Unified continues to be a leader in the nation for public education, recently and once again earning a spot in the top 1% of Niche's 2022 Best School Districts in America.

Sharing its rankings for the 2022 Best School Districts just ahead of the new year, Niche, an influential school and neighborhood review website, has put Arcadia Unified on the "nice list," giving Arcadia Unified an overall "A+" grade and an "A" report card for each school in the district.

Arcadia Unified School District's National Niche Distinctions:

- Arcadia Unified ranks in the Top 1% Best School Districts in America
Arcadia Unified ranks in the Top 1% Districts with the Best Teachers in America
Arcadia Unified ranks in the Top 1% Best Places to Teach in America

"Though the world turned upside down nearly two years ago, the unwavering level of instruction, dedication, and care Arcadia Unified's world-class staff has shown to our students and families well before and throughout the most difficult times we all have faced during this pandemic is the number one reason why we earn prominent recognition like this," said Arcadia Unified Superintendent Dr. David Vannas-dall, when asked what it means to be named one of the best school districts in the country.

In addition to a national breakdown, Niche segments its rankings into state and local levels. Arcadia Unified is at the top in each. Other notable Niche nods find Arcadia Unified in the top 10 Best Places to Teach in California and the top 2 Best Places to Teach in the Los Angeles area. Correspondingly, of the more than 140 school districts in Los Angeles, Arcadia Unified made the top 10 list for Districts with the Best Teachers.

How does Niche arrive at its rankings? According to its website, Niche undergoes a rigorous

analysis of key statistics and data from thousands of schools, which includes information from the U.S. Department of Education and millions of reviews from students and parents.

"We like the school because of the excellent teachers and opportunities for students to grow," wrote a parent in a review for Arcadia Unified. "Teachers like my son's history teacher, Ms. Nakatsuka, are there and always helping the students. Overall, I think the staff and teachers are excellent."

Ms. [Karalee] Nakatsuka, mentioned in the review above, was recently named as one of Time's "Educators Who Saved a Pandemic School Year" and has also been celebrated as a California History Teacher of the Year in 2019. Nakatsuka is just one of several award-winning Arcadia Unified teachers, some of whom include GRAMMY Museum 2019 Jane Ortner Education Award recipient, Heather Moore and EdTech Magazine's Top 30 K-12 IT Influencers for 2021, Christine Pinto.

In addition to making the Niche grade, Arcadia Unified has kept its commitment to developing the "whole child" by supporting more than academics. It's placed a focus on social and emotional development, as well as helping students establish life-long leadership skills from an early age. Since the 2018-19 school year, and though not a mandated requirement for local public school districts, Arcadia Unified has had at least one full-time school counselor at each of its schools in its dedication to student mental health and wellness. Likewise, the district also offers character education programs, such as "The Leader in Me" for students in TK-8 grade,

and has adopted "restorative practices," which are techniques geared towards building strong, trusting relationships and community in classrooms and schools. In the 2020-21 school year, Arcadia High established a Wellness Center, which has a full-time counselor, a physical space for students to go to, and is solely dedicated to fostering mental health and wellness needs.

ACROSS

- 1. Rope fiber
5. Mai
8. Russia's Terrible one, e.g.
12. "What \_\_\_ Happened to Baby Jane?"
13. Tattled
14. Actress Reed
15. Internet share-able
16. Inwardly
17. Black tropical hardwood
18. \*Winged impression in winter
20. Home of the Hawkeyes
21. Investigative report
22. Chicken or this?
23. Not dense

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: WINTER FUN

- 26. Early-day supercontinent
30. Afternoon shut-eye
31. Even though
34. Picture on a coat
35. Anti-seniors sentiment
37. Jean of Dadaism
38. Crewneck alternative
39. Half-man, half-goat
40. Arm cover
42. Victoria Beckham \_\_\_ Adams
43. Lacking sense of moral standards
45. Flying high
47. Often part of disguise
48. Queen-like
50. Wood file

- 52. \* \_\_\_ Plunge
56. Secret stash
57. Damien's prediction
58. Not at work
59. Opposite of cation
60. Abbreviated seconds
61. Precedes stated rank
62. Moon pull
63. \*Like toddy or cocoa
64. Trans-Siberian Railroad city
DOWN
1. Shortens pants
2. Like fair share
3. Short for memorandum
4. Antebellum
5. Polynesian kingdom
6. Ten-pin establishment
7. Bucolic poem
8. \*Ride on runners
9. \*Winter building material
10. Tolstoy's Karenina
11. R&B Charles
13. \*Glittery decor
14. Condescend
19. Indian black tea
22. Nibble
23. Big mess

- 24. Like a Druid, e.g.
25. Celery, technically
26. \*Snowman's corn cob accessory
27. Are not
28. Wedding singer, e.g.
29. Questioned
32. \*Snow \_\_\_, ammunition
33. \*"But I heard him exclaim, \_\_\_ he drove out of sight..."
36. \*Winter walking aid
38. Type of consonant
40. Actors' grp.
41. a.k.a. strict vegetarians
44. Mature, as in fruit
46. Like Silas of "The Da Vinci Code"
48. Young Montague
49. Decide at the polls
50. Jasmine of "Aladdin"
51. Turns blue litmus red
52. #42 Across, once
53. Cheese from Netherlands
54. Contributions to the poor
55. Stink to high heaven
56. \*Arctic \_\_\_, snowmobile brand

CROSSWORD grid with numbers 1-64.

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December 9, 2021 Puzzle Solution grid with words: BLOC, ACE, ANI, BOLL, SLAG, APRON, COLA, PING, WAGON, TAMP, BAY, ANON, PERIL, BID, BASES, AUTOPSY, GIG, LEMONY, RITE, ADITS, ACT, PATEN, MESA, PRAISE, TAT, ANTLERS, KAMALA, IVY, JUICE, GOBI, PANDEMIC, SUMAC, ICAO, ODOR, PAINT, SAGO, ILIA, ART, ALI, RELY







**Foothill Gold Line**

-Glendora to Pomona-

**KIEWIT-PARSONS, A JV**

**NOTICE: 4-Day Full Intersection Closure**

**FOOTHILL BLVD & GRAND AVE INTERSECTION (CITY OF GLENDORA)**

**DECEMBER 20 - 24, 2021**

**CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY**

As a part of the 9.1-mile Foothill Gold Line light rail project, KPJV crews will be working at the intersection of Foothill Blvd. and Grand Ave. to remove and relocate the existing freight track to its new position and repave the road. This work is required to make room for the new Gold Line bridge that will be under construction soon. This work requires a **full closure of the intersection at Foothill Blvd. and Grand Ave. for 4 days. Hospital access will be maintained from the intersection of Route 66 and Grand Ave., south of the closure.** NOTE: Crews will be returning to the Foothill Blvd. & Grand Ave. intersection to finalize the crossing in 2022.

**WHEN**

Beginning at 5:00 AM on Monday, December 20 and continuing thru 5:00 AM on Friday, December 24, 2021 (4 days total), the intersection at Foothill Blvd. and Grand Ave. will be fully closed to all traffic 24 hours a day.

- Work hours: In order to limit the closure to 4 days, work will be performed 24 hours a day.

**TRAFFIC ADVISORIES**

- Full closure of the intersection at Foothill Blvd. and Grand Ave. to all traffic 24-hours a day for 4 consecutive days (Dec. 20 - 24). Use detour routes.
- Access to businesses, residential areas and Emanate Health Foothill Presbyterian Hospital will be maintained at all times, including: Orangepath St., Leaside St., Ada Ave., Carroll Ave., Lochleven St., Herber St., and Meda Ave.

**PLAN YOUR ROUTE AND BE PREPARED**

- A detour route (see map below) will be in place during the 4-day full closure and signage will be posted to direct motorists, trucks and pedestrians. Please follow detour signs.
  - ✓ Route 66 and Bennett Ave. (eastbound and westbound) will remain open and serve as detour routes, see details below.
  - ✓ Barranca Ave., Glendora Ave., and Vermont Ave. (northbound and southbound) will remain open and serve as detour routes.

**NOTE TO RESIDENTS /**

**BUSINESS OWNERS**

- Noise from construction equipment will be produced near the active work zones. Work hours will be 24-hours a day.

- Foothill Transit Bus Line 284, 488 and 690 stops on Foothill Blvd. and Grand Ave. at the intersection will be temporarily relocated to:
  - Route 66 & Barranca Ave.
  - Route 66 & Vecino Dr.

For more information:

- Foothill Transit Bus: (800) RIDE-INFO/(800) 743-3463 or foothilltransit.org
- Metro Bus: (323) GO-METRO/(323) 466-3876 or www.metro.net

**STAY SAFE**

Please obey all posted construction signs and do not enter the construction work zone.

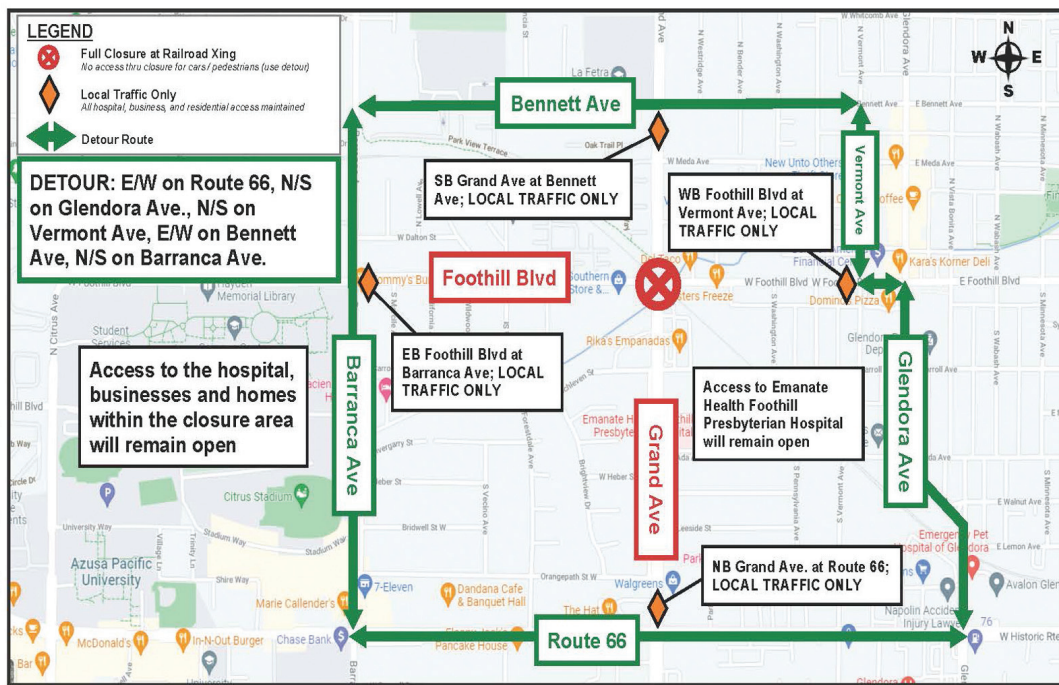
Para información en español por favor llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a (626) 513-5788.

**QUESTIONS?**

Project Construction Questions Hotline: (626) 513-5788 Email: CommunityRelations@Kiewit-Parsons.com  
 General Project Questions: (626) 471-9050 Email: PublicAffairs@Foothillgoldline.org

Stay ahead of construction, sign up for alerts: [www.foothillgoldline.org](http://www.foothillgoldline.org)

\*Construction schedules are subject to change for various reasons, including, but not limited to, weather conditions and unforeseen delays.



**Marines "Toys for Tots" Event at West Covina's VFW Post a Success!**



The team of Marines and their supporters "Thank You!"

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - Special thanks to our Marine's Teufel Hunden Detachment #1360 of the Marine Corps League of West Covina, for doing the best that they could at the West Covina VFW with their toy drive and breakfast. With West Covina's city restrictions regarding the permits and the cost thereof of the permits made it difficult for this program to work as they had hoped. Often event planners for this type of event would have a few vendors to help raise money for the Marines so they can work

their various community programs through the coming year, but the city permits and their costs make this prohibitive. However, as you know, the Marines came through. They wanted to thank everybody that participated to make this the success that it was. It is believed that over 250 breakfasts were served. You can also see the amount of toys that were also brought in and again they thank you for all of that as well. They're wishing everybody the best of the holidays and the Marines salute all of you.

- #toys4tots
- #carflobqlender
- #Marineveterans
- Century 21 Realty Masters
- Teufel Hunden Det. #1360, Marine Corps League of West Covina, CA
- Julian Sanchez
- Dan Nevarez

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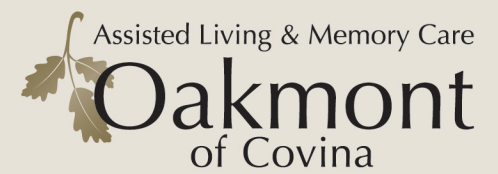
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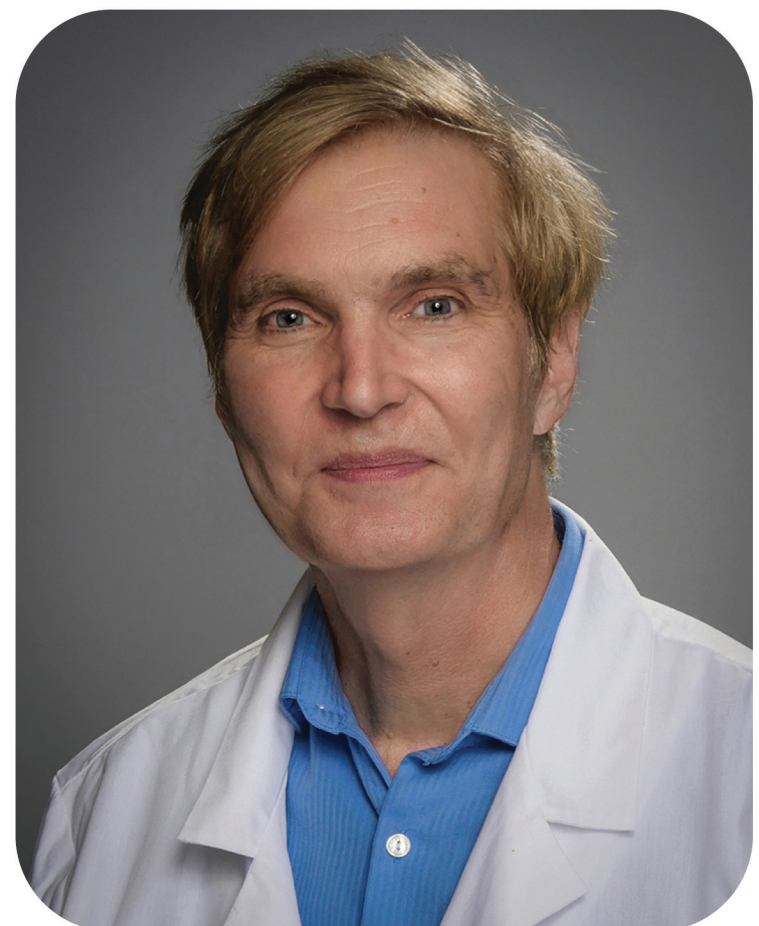


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