



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

August 18 - 24, 2016

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Club Woman of the Year



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Baldwin Park Unified Students Receive School Supplies via Kaiser Permanente Partnership

BALDWIN PARK – Excited Baldwin Park Unified elementary school students chose backpacks filled with supplies from an array of designs ranging from basic black to flying hamburgers, from Princess Elsa to Hello Kitty! during a start-of-the-year backpack distribution on Aug. 10.

Baldwin Park Unified teamed with Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center to hand out scores of backpacks to students who will attend Heath, Tracy and Vineland Elementary School.

In all, some 300 backpacks were donated – and dozens remain available for needy students as the school year begins Aug. 11.

“We are incredibly indebted to the generous medical personnel and staff of Kaiser Permanente for stepping up on behalf of our students,” Baldwin Park Unified Superintendent Froilan N. Mendoza said. “It’s also wonderful to see the excited faces of these children as they receive these much-needed supplies for the



Students at Baldwin Park Unified’s Vineland Elementary School with their backpacks on Aug. 10. The packs, loaded with school supplies and including such designs as flying hamburgers, Star Wars and Disney princesses, are among 300 donated to students through a partnership between the District and Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center.

year.” The giveaway is the seventh since the doctors, nurses and staff at the medical center began teaming with Baldwin Park Unified. About 90 percent of students at Baldwin Park Unified come from low-income households.

Each year, three new schools are chosen for the giveaway, to ensure students across the district benefit. The backpacks

contain a host of grade-specific school supplies, including pens, pencils, paints, crayons, scissors rulers, dictionaries, staplers, index cards, binders and

notebooks.

At Vineland Elementary School, students were greeted with applause, cheers and hugs as helpers from Kaiser

Permanente announced their names and led them to tables overflowing with backpacks.

For many, part of the excitement was the chance to decide which backpack color combination or character designs to choose. Star Wars was popular among some, Disney princesses among others. One student even snagged a pack decked out in tie-dye colors and flying hamburgers.

At Tracy Elementary School, fifth-grader Abby Almandarez chose a light blue backpack with pink straps.

“It has two notebooks, pencils, erasers and scissors,” Abby said. “I like the colors.”

Abby was brought to the event by her brother, Michael.

“It’s really great that they have an event like this for the kids,” Michael Almandarez said.

Assemblyman Gatto Honors Family of Civil Rights Trailblazer Salvador Roldan



SACRAMENTO—Assemblyman Mike Gatto (D—Los Angeles) and the California State Legislature honored the family of Salvador Roldan, the plaintiff in 1930’s ruling of Roldan v. Los Angeles County, who challenged the state’s anti-miscegenation laws at the time.

Salvador Roldan was a Filipino-American man who fell in love with a British-American woman, Marjorie Rogers. However, Salvador was prevented from marrying Marjorie because the county refused to issue a marriage license, stating Filipinos

were not allowed to marry whites. After three years of petitioning the courts recognize their marriage, the California Supreme Court made Roldan’s to marriage to Marjorie legal. Unfortunately, just a week after the county’s appeal was denied, the legislature voted to reconstitute the law, by more broadly banning interracial marriages.

“This is a story of a couple’s courage and standing up for what is right,” said Gatto. “Loving v. Virginia and Obergefell v. Hodges are in many ways indebted to the Roldan plaintiffs.”

Gatto offered a formal apology to the Roldan family and Filipino Americans for the legislature’s actions. Gatto was joined by Roldan’s son Bryan Roldan and daughter Janet Salvati, who is the mother of Gatto’s cousin, Bryan Salvati.

“Honoring the Roldan Family on the very floor that tried to prevent their birth was the right thing to do,” said Gatto. “Salvador and Marjorie Roldan’s sacrifice allowed us to learn from our mistakes and make life better, for those who want to marry the one they love.”

Rosedale’s Los Angeles County Fire Department Blunder



The New, Empty Station 97 completed about five months ago.

by Doug Boyd

GLENDORA - Here in the Pride of the Foothills, we have extra reasons to love our County Fire Department. Miles and miles of beautiful and very flammable foothills. We want our firefighters to have the best equipment and support possible, so they can do the best possible job of protecting all of us residents.

Fire Station 97 serves the western portion of Glendora and much of Azusa. It sits on the north side of Sierra Madre Avenue right at the city boundary between Glendora and Azusa. As part of the deal to build Rosedale, the developers agreed to build a new Station 97 at the roundabout just down the street on Sierra Madre at their expense and then deed it over to the County Fire Department.

The current Station 97 is 60 years old and quite obsolete. This requirement for a new fire station was a very reasonable mitigation for building 1,250 new homes for the Fire Department to protect in the Azusa foothills. Of course, there were a lot of delays as Rosedale went under financially in 2008 and reemerged in 2010. Rosedale is close to build out now with construction and

sales going on in the three final segments, including the Aster Heights mansions at the very top in the highest foothills at about a million and a half a copy.

The new, beautiful, much larger, and technologically up-to-date Station 97 was completed about five months ago. It has sat empty ever since while firefighters at the dilapidated, old, mostly un-airconditioned Station 97 look longingly each day at the beautiful mirage just out of their reach.

Why haven’t they moved in? Excellent question! Representatives of the SOS Glendora Homeowners Association looked into it and discovered that the developer had not cleared and extinguished all the old easements on the land underneath the new Station. So for the last five months a very quiet legal skirmish has been waged trying to clear up the easements so the firefighters could move into their new Station.

Until now, this has been done with no public knowledge of the problem.

As we begin the fire season in the fall of 2016, it’s time for Rosedale Land Partners (RLP) to do whatever it takes, and

spend whatever they have to, to fulfill their promise to local residents and the County. They need to clear the title to the new Station 97 and turn it over to the County Fire Department right away. Our brave firefighters deserve nothing less.....

Fawn Imboden Installed as Chair of Glendora Chamber

GLENDORA — America’s Christian Credit Union’s (ACCU) Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Fawn Imboden, was installed as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Glendora Chamber of Commerce at its 2016-2017 Installation and Awards Dinner on June 29.

The event took place at the Glendora Country Club, where local and state dignitaries recognized this year’s Board Members and award winners for their outstanding service. The 2016 award winners included: KenSalzman (SanZman Productions), Ambassador of the Year; Elizabeth Granillo (Forest Lawn), New Member of the Year; Rotary Club of Glendora, Non-profit of the Year; and Fiorina, Glendora Business of the Year. Also recognized, for her leadership and dedication, was Outgoing Board Chair Sheila McClure, who expressed excitement and strong support for her successor. In handing over the gavel, McClure said, “Fawn is an incredible woman of integrity, strength and faith. I am confident that she is going to do amazing things for our Chamber and our great city.”

While Imboden has been an integral part of ACCU’s leadership team since 2002, her reach and influence extend far beyond the confines of the credit union. She is well known and respected throughout her numerous constituencies, including the Glendora Chamber of Commerce, Wesleyan Holiness Connection, Azusa Pacific University and Life Pacific College to name a few.

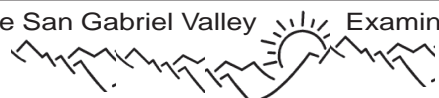
Fawn is both enthusiastic and filled with optimism about the future of the Glendora Chamber. She shared her high aspirations during her Incoming Chair remarks, outlining her visionary



Fawn Imboden New Chair of the Board of Directors of the Glendora Chamber of Commerce

plan which includes working to strengthen community relationships; growing Chamber membership by 20% in the year ahead; starting a ground-breaking Young Entrepreneurial Professionals Advisory Board to empower the future leaders of the community;

and assisting businesses with modern market tools to be competitive and leading-edge for success in the 21st century. Fawn exclaimed, “I look forward to working together with every key stakeholder in our community to ‘Promote, Connect, and Grow.’”



Making The Grade: Getting High School Seniors Ready For College

Nearly 17 million high school seniors graduate each year, the U.S. Department of Education estimates, and many plan to attend college. But are they all really college-ready?

Data suggests the answer is a resounding "no." According to the 2015 "Condition of College & Career Readiness" report from American College Testing (ACT), 31 percent of the ACT-tested graduating class is not meeting any of the four subject benchmarks: reading, English, science and mathematics.

These low-readiness test scores coincide with college dropout figures that top 29 million, making the number of Americans who have dropped out of college greater than the number of American adults who have not obtained their high school degrees.

"While test scores provide a benchmark for high school seniors, college readiness is an important issue for everyone headed to college, whether they are a new high school graduate or an adult learner returning to the classroom," said Jennifer Fletcher, Ph.D., program dean for general education at University of Phoenix. "Being prepared for the challenge can help ensure students aren't forced to take remedial course work and are able to stay motivated and on top of their workloads, ultimately resulting in a successful collegiate experience."

The pressure to earn a college degree is higher than ever. The White House has set an ambitious goal of producing a higher share of college graduates than any other nation by 2020. The plan is to return the United States to the top-ranked nation after dropping into twelfth place.

"More and more, employers are seeking college graduates for jobs that previously required a high school diploma or other subbaccalaureate training," Dr. Fletcher said. "For the nearly two-thirds of U.S. adults who do not have a bachelor's degree or higher, this can create barriers to



A few simple steps before you go to college can help make sure you do well when you get there.

career growth, unless they are able to pursue higher education."

She offers the following advice to high school seniors and adult learners heading off to college:

- Use summer months to take courses in English and mathematics to refresh high school level skills. Courses can be taken at community colleges or via online professional development resources such as University of Phoenix's continuing education programs, Udemy, StraighterLine and Lynda.com.

- Don't overburden your first semester course load. There are always opportunities to add courses deeper into your college career or over summer and winter intersessions.

- Team up with your college adviser your first semester. College advisers are available to discuss your goals and a graduation timeline and can offer guidance

on the best ways to manage coursework.

- Attend skills center sessions for assistance in coursework and free proofreading.

- Organize study groups with peers to work together on complex materials and to gain different perspectives to approaching assignments.

- Take advantage of college tools and resources. Computers, Internet access, office hours and a study location free of distractions are all things students can access that affect student success. When you couple this with healthy organizational and study habits, students can improve their chances of having a positive academic journey.

To learn more about University of Phoenix College of Humanities and Sciences, visit www.phoenix.edu/colleges_divisions/humanities-sciences.html. (NAPSI)

Fun Ways to Help Ease Kids Back into the Classroom

After a summer of fun, getting back into the swing of the classroom can be difficult for students of all ages and family backgrounds. But parents can help, say experts.

"It's easy for parents to feel like there isn't enough time to add more activities to an already packed schedule. But, there are many easy ways you can set the tone of making learning fun, ease the back-to-school transition, and foster literacy skills at home," says Jon Reigelman, creative director of the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL).

Reigelman suggests seeking out free resources, such as Camp Wonderopolis, a virtual camp and online learning tool available to all families, libraries, schools, and community organizations. It can be a great weekend or after-school activity for busy families that can be completed at any pace. The site features "Maker" projects that can be created with items found around the house, and virtual, collectible Wonder Cards that can be earned by interacting with the site.

Getting kids into an out-of-classroom learning habit now will set them up for future success. (Looking ahead to winter break or next summer, the program is also a great tool for combatting the learning loss common during vacations!) To register, visit camp.wonderopolis.org.

For younger kids, NCFL of-



fers these great back-to-school tips for families.

- Choose a letter of the day. Look for the chosen letter in any printed materials you see -- the newspaper, street signs, billboards, or advertisements. Make up a silly sentence using only words beginning with the letter of the day. (For example: Cats can cuddle. Dogs don't drive. Amy always acts awake.)

- Singing songs can be a literacy activity. Try this twist: Sing short songs like "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" several times, leaving off the last word each time until there are no words left. This activity always produces giggles from children and parents alike.

- Play "Guess Who." Describe a cartoon character, celebrity or historical figure. Allow a guess after each detail is disclosed. Expand your child's vocabulary by using unusual words, and then explain their meanings. Take turns. Listen carefully to your

child's descriptions, especially his or her choice of vocabulary. Encourage your child to paint a picture of the character with his or her words. At the end of the game, compliment your child on any unusual or new words used.

- Talk to your child about his or her day. Pretend to be a television reporter. Try questions like "what was the most surprising (curious, funny, eventful) thing that happened today?" You are giving your child opportunities to increase vocabulary, recall and reflect, and you are receiving a more detailed version of the time you spent apart. Be prepared to answer the same questions. You and your child will begin looking for events to report to each other.

The beginning of the school year can be hectic for everyone. Help kids get a leg up on their lessons by boosting literacy skills at home. (StatePoint)

Package Thief in Glendora



The thief walks towards the front porch of the home.

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - There have been a rash of thefts in Glendora recently. It seems that UPS and Fedex packages have not arrived at their destination.

A Glendora resident who has a security camera installed in her porch light caught the thief in action. He arrives in a black pickup truck and casually walks to the porch and picks up the package that was delivered by UPS.

He then walks to his truck, puts the package at the back of the truck and drives away.

The contents of the package were children's clothing!

The latest theft was in north Glendora on Sierra Madre Avenue between Live Oak Avenue and Huerta Verde.

Anybody seeing suspicious activity of this type is requested to call the Glendora Police

Monterey Park to Hold Senior Social in Honor of National Senior Citizens Day

MONTEREY PARK - On Saturday, August 20 Monterey Park's Langley Senior Center, in association with the Greater Monterey Park Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, will host the first in a series of quarterly senior social receptions at the historic Jardin El Encanto.

The August 20 social event is the first of four events designed to reach out to and inform senior citizens from throughout the city about the activities and services provided at Langley Senior Center.

The summer social is scheduled in association with National Senior Citizens Day as well as to pay tribute to the city's 100th birthday celebra-

tion by honoring Monterey Park centenarians (soon to be centenarians seniors 90 years and up included) during a ceremony at the beginning of the program. Also included in the event will be a running slide show with current activities; display tables with information about Langley Center services, programs and activities; trips and tours; Dial-a-Ride transportation; social clubs and social media network.

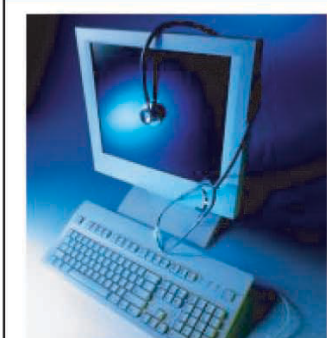
The August summer social at El Encanto will begin at 11 a.m. with senior citizens invited for baked goods and refreshments; the recognition of centenarians at approximately

11:15 a.m.; concluding with an opportunity to browse through display tables and meet with Langley center staff and commissioners at one's leisure until 1 p.m.

Jardin El Encanto is located at 700 El Mercado Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754, at the corner of El Mercado Avenue and El Portal Place. For more information, contact the Greater Monterey Park Chamber of Commerce at 626-570-9429.

For more information about Langley Senior Center programs and services, please contact the center at 626-307-1395 or www.MontereyPark.ca.gov.

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- Wi-Fi availability throughout the facility
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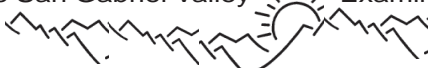
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Assembly Committee Hurts Thousands of California Children

SACRAMENTO - The Assembly Appropriations Committee took action this week that will throw the educational futures of thousands of children into doubt, and will lead to teacher and school support staff layoffs and school district bankruptcies across California. The decision by committee leadership to hold SB 1432 and not allow it to move forward will put an end to the successful 22-year old District of Choice program that is used by thousands of students.

The District of Choice program fosters public school choice by allowing parents to transfer their children to participating school districts without a transfer agreement. Thousands of children and parents take advantage of choosing the district that fits them best, and numerous school districts across California identify themselves as District of Choice schools.

"The action (or lack thereof) of legislators in Sacramento over the past couple of days stands to be catastrophic for more than

3,500 of our students," said Bob Taylor, Superintendent of Walnut Valley Unified School District. "These kids are part of our family and part of our culture...ripping them out of their school will be detrimental to their education, their social well-being, and their futures."

Senator Bob Huff (R-San Dimas) is the author of SB 1432 and a champion of school reform and student choice in schools. He has carried legislation to reauthorize the District of Choice program twice, and introduced SB 1432 earlier this year following a fact-finding report issued by California's independent Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO). The report found that District of Choice has been overwhelmingly positive for schools and students, as well as districts that lose or gain students through the transfer process. The LAO report recommended that the program not only be extended, but expanded to include more students.

"The future of nearly 50 school districts have been thrown into doubt and thousands of Cali-

fornia children have just been denied the best education we can give to them, and the reason is purely a political one," said Senator Huff. "District of Choice has been extraordinarily successful, and I cannot understand why the Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee took specific action to hurt our schools and our children."

Thousands of frustrated California parents who jumped at the opportunity to take advantage of choosing the school that best fits the educational needs of their children are flooding the State Capitol with phone calls, emails and letters.

"The decision to hold this bill is going to hurt my children," said Cecil Hernandez, a District of Choice father of four at Big Creek Elementary School in Fresno County. "Why is someone playing politics with the education my children receive? As an immigrant to this country, I am saddened that my kids can't go to a school that suits them best. I thought this was the land of opportunity, not zip codes."

West Nile Found in San Gabriel Valley, Take Precautions Against Bites

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY - Last month, officials from the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District announced that mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus (WNV) have appeared in the San Gabriel Valley, warning residents to take precautions to avoid bites.

Virus-carrying mosquito samples, the first WNV positive mosquitoes collected in the SGV this year, were found in traps in West Covina and at Cal Poly Pomona. The disease had previously been detected in birds in Altadena and Monrovia.

"With the current heat wave in full swing, we anticipate more WNV activity in the district and caution all residents to be vigilant as this will be a very busy season," SGV Mosquito and Vector Control District Scientific

Programs Manager Dr. Wakoli Wekesa said in a press release.

To prevent mosquito bites and avoid the risk of WNV, locals should wear repellent, long sleeve shirts and long pants when outdoors between dusk and dawn, as well as ensure that windows are secured at night to keep mosquitoes out of their home. In addition, residents should remove standing water from their property to prevent mosquito reproduction.

In addition, the agency encourages residents to report increased mosquito activity, sources of standing water and green pools by calling 626.814.9466 or online at www.SGVmosquito.org. Locals should also report dead birds to the WNV hotline at 877.WNV.BIRD.

AUSD Opens Enrollment for Free Preschool Program

AZUSA - Azusa Unified School District is inviting parents to enroll 4-year-olds in its free California State Preschool Program, which starts Thursday, August 18 at Longfellow Elementary. There are 96 spaces available for children who turn 4 by September 1. Families may

register their children for one of two morning sessions held weekdays from 8 to 11 a.m. or one of two afternoon sessions from 11:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Families do not need to live in Azusa, but District residents will receive priority.

Pokémon is No Go for Sex Offenders in California

Assemblywoman Chang Announces Legislation to Prohibit Sex Offenders from "Luring" Kids

SACRAMENTO - Assemblywoman Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) today announced she is pushing legislation to prohibit sex offenders from using games like Pokemon GO to lure minors to their location. Recent reports have demonstrated how easy it can be for sex offenders to use new geolocation games like Pokemon GO to abuse children.

"I am Pokemon GO's biggest fan - that's no secret," said Assemblywoman Chang. "But as someone who uses the game, you can see how easy it is for criminals and predators to attract

people to certain locations -- and many of those players are minors."

Pokemon players have fallen victim to criminals in a number of ways in the one month the game has been released in the US. For example, armed robbers have been known bait to victims using the game's features that allow players to lure others hoping to "catch" more Pokemon characters. Meanwhile law enforcement has expressed concerns that sexual predators could use the game in a similar way. Reporters in California have found that the

game can bring players within feet of the residences of sex offenders.

"Before new games are released and they grow even more popular, it's critical we establish protections for kids," said Chang.

AB 2682 - once amended - will clarify that using interactive video games like Pokemon GO in an effort to prey on children is prohibited by law. The Legislature has until August 31 to send the bill to the governor for consideration.

Assemblyman Mike Gatto Releases Bill Language for CPUC Reform Measure

SACRAMENTO - Assemblyman Mike Gatto (D-Los Angeles) released the language for his reform measure, Assembly Bill 2903, after he and Governor Jerry Brown announced an agreement to extensively reform the California Public Utilities Commission to vastly improve the way California's utility regulators serve the public. Combined with Senate Bill 215 (Leno) and Senate Bill 512 (Hill), these bills represent the reform package negotiated between Gatto and the administration.

Gatto's reforms aim to increase safety, accountability, and oversight by:

- Creating a centralized, independent "Ethics Ombudsperson" - to whom any CPUC employee or member of the public can contact. This point of contact will also be responsible for enhanced ethics training for all CPUC staff and commissioners, on everything from gift and travel ethics

to ex parte communication compliance.

- Creating the role of Deputy Executive Director for Safety with absolute authority to "red flag" any unsafe facility, process, or activity.

- Establishing cross-agency training procedures with other agencies (e.g., with the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources, California Air Resources Board, etc.) to foster coordinated efforts, exchange information, and facilitate cultural change.

The measure will also transfer several transportation and enforcement responsibilities of the CPUC to departments within the California State Transportation Agency. For example, oversight of airport shuttles, moving truck companies, transportation network companies, and charter buses will be moved to the State Transportation Agency. Rail crossing inspections and rail

transit will be done in coordination with the agency.

Under Gatto's legislation, the California Research Bureau will be required to conduct a comprehensive study by January 1, 2018 to assess whether the CPUC's telecommunications functions should be transferred to another agency. The study will focus on consumer services as a top priority to ensure continued quality service from telecommunication companies.

"The reforms in this package overhaul the CPUC and subject it to more transparent good-government principles," said Gatto. "It will now be able to focus on the things that are most important to Californians and our communities - safety, the environment, and keeping utility rates low. These three pieces of legislation are just the beginning to restoring the public's trust in our commission."

Baldwin Park Unified Expands Classroom Tech, STEM and Creates Parent App

BALDWIN PARK - More than 14,000 students started classes at Baldwin Park Unified School District, greeted by expanded science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) courses, college prep programs, dual-language classes and classroom digital tools.

District leaders say the changes represent an aggressive investment in programs that will strengthen student opportunities for success in college and careers under Baldwin Park Unified's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

"Each year, we look for new ways to deepen our academic

program, including rigorous instruction in core subjects and new opportunities in significant electives, including STEM and college prep programs," Superintendent Froilan N. Mendoza said.

The District is expanding its primary engineering program at Holland Middle School and Baldwin Park High School, as well as launching a smaller robotics program at Sierra Vista High School. Holland, for example, added an additional period to ensure students could take STEM electives along with electives for its college preparatory program, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).

Additional STEM programs are being considered for future years at elementary schools that feed into the Holland-Baldwin Park High sequence and at Sierra Vista Junior High to feed into the Sierra Vista High robotics program.

AVID programs also received a boost this year, with teachers from five district middle, junior high and high schools taking an intensive summer training program. AVID helps students develop academic and life skills needed to succeed in college.

Students will also get a boost from a new 12th-grade expository writing and reading class.

Other changes include the addition of the District's award-winning dual-language program to Sierra Vista High School and investment in career technical education (CTE) pathways funded by a \$1.8 million, three-year state grant. Pathways typi-

cally feature three years of instruction with introductory, intermediate and advanced courses in a career field.

Digital tools will also take on a more prominent role in the coming year.

This month, two teachers from each campus, two dual-language immersion teachers, assistant principals and principals from each school are learning how to use classroom digital tools. The District's leadership staff will also participate in the two-day training sessions.

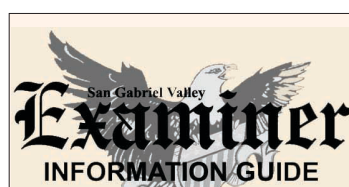
To support the teachers, the District is upgrading its capacity for wireless internet connectivity, adding new carts of Chromebooks at each school and installing interactive whiteboard/projection systems in classrooms.

In all of the model classrooms, the focus will be on creating a student-centered environment in which teachers act as learning facilitators for a project-driven instructional system. In two prototype multi-lingual classrooms, extra emphasis will be on effective communication and collaboration in English and Spanish.

The District will also introduce a smartphone app to create a new channel for communications with families. The tool, which can be downloaded for free from Apple's App Store and Google Play, provides District news, check school calendars, bus routes, lunch menus and a host of student and parent resources.

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. Articles should be in Word format while photos should be in jpeg.



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Letters to the Editor

Opinions Are The Writer's



Glendora Teacher Supporting Cory Ellenson for State Assembly

As a teacher in Glendora Unified for over twenty-five years, I have had the opportunity to observe and lament the State's inconsistent funding in the area of education. Although Governor Brown has made an earnest attempt to make education spending a priority in the last few years, along with more local control, California continues to rank near the bottom of the country in per-pupil funding, and I am concerned to see some erosion of local control with more funds being restricted by Sacramento.

I have spent many years serving on the Executive Board and Negotiating Team of the Glendora Teachers Association, and have noted the struggle to fund specific programs that are meaningful to our students and their parents. Prior to becoming a teacher in Glendora, I served as PTA President, and I continue to serve on Council PTA. Our local PTAs are very involved with efforts to improve funding for our schools. Our parents recognize that our outstanding teachers cannot do the job without ap-

propriate funding from the State. We will be unable to attract and retain the best and brightest new teachers unless a competitive salary schedule and benefits package is offered.

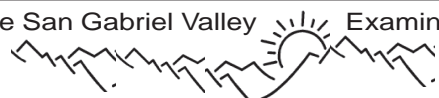
Electing legislators who are dedicated to improving education for our students is one of the most important acts we can undertake as citizens. I am very proud to endorse Cory Ellenson for State Assembly - 48th District. I have known Cory for well over twenty years; he was a student in my second grade class. He was inquisitive and hard working as a child, and I have enjoyed staying in touch with him over the years and watching him grow into a successful and caring adult. Cory earned his law degree, and after working in the public sector, decided to open his own law office. Simultaneously, he won a seat on the Glendora School Board. I attend all School Board meetings and was immediately impressed by how quickly Cory learned the nuances of school policy and finance. His questions and comments confirm

that he clearly understands the issues facing California schools.

Cory has proven his dedication to students. He brought a new program, YES CityGov, to all fifth graders in Glendora. Working with a local non-profit, Cory personally teaches our fifth graders about local government and the issues before City Council, conducts a class-wide election for Mayor and City Council, and guides the students in the hiring of city staff. We then prepare our students using materials provided by Cory and then take a field trip to City Hall where our students get the opportunity to conduct a real City Council meeting in City Hall Chambers. My fifth grade students and their parents have stated that this is one of their favorite activities of the year.

I strongly urge the citizens of the 48th District to vote for Cory Ellenson for State Assembly. I cannot wait to see what Cory will accomplish for our students here in the 48th District and for all of the children of California.

Katy Mendoes
Glendora Teacher



Consumer Watchdog Shows Brown's Dirty Hands

By Lois M. Shade
Former Mayor of Glendora

Consumer Watchdog is an organization whose mantra is:

Investigate, advocate, mobilize, litigate ... to win justice for the American consumers and taxpayers and to achieve that this time are taking aim at Jerry Brown and the Democrat Party.

At the same time Brown and his Democrats are promoting energy efficiency and clean air as part of their climate change campaign, they are taking in huge monetary donations from the very same industries they profess to oppose—the fossil fuel and fossil fuel-reliant companies. How about \$9.85 million in donations from 26 energy companies. \$9.85 million at the same time these companies have business pending in California, money that went to Brown's gubernatorial campaign, ballot initiatives, and the California Democrat Party since 2010!

In order to compile this report, Watchdog pulled company donation records, public emails and PUC Papers.org court filings that left me stunned. Included in the report is a chart showing date of event and date of some very healthy contributions. Coincidental that they have been days or several weeks apart? Doubtful. Where have we all been while this was going on? Can you imagine how hard it is to do business above board in California when you are confronted with this type mentality?

Consumer Watchdog sited in this report some of the "co-incidental" events with contributions to Brown and / or the Democrat Party:

- Southern California Edison donated \$130,000 to the California Democratic Party on the same day former PUC President Michael Peevey cut a secret deal with an SCE executive in a Warsaw, Poland hotel room to make ratepayers, not shareholders, cover 70% of the \$4.7 billion cost to close the fatally flawed San Onofre nuclear plant. Peevey is now under criminal investigation.

- Lawmakers sent Brown a package of six PUC reform bills in 2015 which would have increased oversight, transparency and accountability at the PUC,

and received unanimous, bipartisan support. Brown vetoed the reform bills on October 12, 2015. One week later, PG&E donated \$50,000 to the Democratic Party. In December, PG&E donated another \$175,000 to the Party.

- Sempra donated \$115,000 to the California Democratic Party a week before PUC President Michael Picker reversed a negative PUC decision and approved an SDG&E gas-fired power plant in Carlsbad. Chevron, which produces and sells natural gas in California, contributed \$215,000 the day before the approval. Former PUC President Peevey had long been working to pave the way for the plant.

- Brown's sister, Kathleen, was invited to sit on the Sempra board of directors in June 2013 and was paid a total of \$691,300 in stock and cash for her work from 2013 through 2015. Brown's Administration has taken extraordinary steps to keep open Sempra's biggest natural gas storage asset, Aliso Canyon, following the biggest methane gas leak from a well blowout in US history. Consumer Watchdog says Sempra's stock has since risen 116%

- Brown's sister Kathleen holds \$749,000 worth of stock in real estate and oil company Forestar Group—which owns 700 acres next to Porter Ranch where it plans to build a luxury home community, and another 1,000 acres of oil and gas interests in California. She was on the board of directors, but stepped down one month after Brown issued his declaration of emergency at Aliso Canyon.

- In 2012, 16 energy companies donated \$1.2 million to Prop 30, Brown's initiative to raise taxes. A large chunk of that sum came from just two companies, Occidental and California oil and gas producer Aera Energy. The passage of Prop 30 in November 2012 cemented Brown's national reputation as a budget-balancing governor. Fracking legislation was introduced barely a month later, and the Brown Administration helped to dramatically scale it back.

- Occidental Petroleum's attorney, former Governor Gray

Davis, successfully pressured Brown to fire two oil and gas regulators who wanted oil companies to prove their wells wouldn't contaminate groundwater before getting waste injection permits. They had tried to enforce requirements for injection wells after a Chevron worker was killed when he fell into a sinkhole filled with oil waste. Two months later, Brown's new oil and gas supervisor granted Occidental a permit to frack in Kern County without an environmental review to protect aquifers, violating EPA standards. Four days after that, Occidental contributed \$250,000 to Prop 30, Brown's effort to raise taxes.

Does this give you a little taste of the Dirty Hands Report? It is downloadable – free – and I would encourage you to take a look at the entire Report. There are other eye-openers probably none of us were aware of until now, including the Brown family's involvement in the oil industry back in the 1960's.

Many of us who started learning computers a while back remember the books, Computers for Dummies, Excel for Dummies, well reading Consumer Watchdog's Brown's Dirty Hands is an outstanding lesson in Quid Pro Quo for Dummies in Politics 101. I find it truly incredible all this went on with no questions, no challenges. What happened to our investigative reporters who use to follow and release this kind of activity in the past before it got so out of hand?

It makes real sense for all of us to read the ballot propositions very carefully before voting in November. Proposition 55, an extension of Proposition 30, the Brown promised temporary tax initiative is on the ballot, apparently not temporary at all, and I wonder who has contributed.

Proposition 54, the Legislature Transparency Amendment Act that requires bills to be published, printed and on the Internet 72 hours before a vote can be taken is also there for a vote. If Prop. 54 was in effect back in 2010, some of the above might not have occurred. And unfortunately, there is probably more "stuff" Consumer Watchdog can share with us.

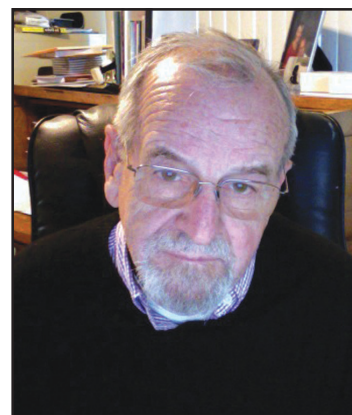
Respecting My Conservative Neighbors

Now and then in these columns I have alluded to the intentional community where Wendy and I live, with about three hundred others. The residents are retired workers in religious institutions and other charitable bodies. We are nationally known for being predominately progressive in our political and economic perspectives.

As such we are against the death penalty and in favor of some form of gun control. We honor diversity, celebrate gay rights and have a score of gay and lesbian couples and singles in our midst. We are profoundly concerned about climate change and other ecological issues and have recently altered our investment policy, which now centers on "Peace, economic justice and environmental sustainability." We have traditionally found a way to welcome a limited number of otherwise qualified persons who do not have the economic resources necessary to live in our community.

Given these points of view, it is easy to assume that most of us here are basically in support of the Democratic Party and its candidates—although there is no political litmus test. Many among us backed Bernie, and are currently in a quandary as to how to vote this November. Several will vote Green, but most of the Bernie faction will support the Democratic ticket—which means Hillary.

At the same time, in this community there are a few conservatives, who tend to be silent, and



Charles H. Bayer

when they do voice an opinion run the risk of being overwhelmed by the more verbal progressives. I have suggested that we liberals become more aware of who is at our table or in our group before we engage in what can be a political diatribe. I have made it a point to listen to this greatly outnumbered minority, and know that their perspective is just as worth promoting as is mine. Every week in response to what I have written, I hear from a number of thoughtful Republicans. I try to listen respectfully—an effort at which I occasionally fail. But I need to hear from them.

I have discovered that these conservatives have an even more difficult problem than do the progressives who supported Bernie and are having a hard time affirming Hillary. They tell us that they have what may be an insoluble political problem. While the Republican Party has chosen Trump, being people with solid ethical and political commitments, they cannot support him. He has neither the religious sen-

sibilities nor the human qualities these good folks honor. His racism, contempt for women, vulgarity and arrogance are not what solid conservatives want for a national leader. Some of them may have voted for him in the primary, but any respect for who he is and what he stands for has long-since evaporated.

I have no advice, even when I'm asked. They just cannot vote for Hillary and I am hesitant to suggest that they consider doing so. And there is no third party, which captures their imagination, perhaps for many not even the Libertarians. Many of them have decided to sit out this election. What other real choice do they have?

What is true of the sincere conservatives in this community is true of other like-minded voters across the nation. I doubt that Trump will withdraw from the race, but many solid conservatives can no longer support him. What is to be done? Neither I nor anyone I have heard about has an acceptable answer. I am told the problem is like having a mouthful of hot potatoes. You cannot politely spit them out on the dinner table, but neither can you swallow them. While we can urge the Bernie cohorts to vote for Hillary, the Republican Party and their more thoughtful members seem to be stuck with no answer and no suitable alternatives to a problem they have bought and now must pay for.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

A Tale of Two Conventions - Controversy and Deceit

by Gerard J. Gianoli, M.D.

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." It was a time of controversy and a time of deceit. The Republican and Democratic National Conventions, now just over, showed some stark contrasts.

The Republican National Committee along with many in the GOP were less than pleased with the eventual nominee—Donald Trump. However, the controversy surrounding Mr. Trump's nomination, for all its warts, was open for everyone to see. There was never any secret that the "GOP establishment" didn't want a Trump nomination. Some of the prominent GOP stalwarts refused to endorse Mr. Trump and were absentees from the convention. In fact, Mr. Trump invited his vanquished opponents to speak at the convention and, like Senator Cruz, they were not constrained in what they could say. Such is the reality of a true democratic process—someone wins, the others lose, and some are sore losers. That's all pretty much normal and expected. Regardless of who wins, there will always be discontent.

Contrast this to the Democrat primaries. All along the Democrat Party claimed to be neutral during the primary process, while Senator Bernie Sanders, among others, claimed there was favoritism and collusion. Recently leaked emails show that the process was anything but open and fair. It seems that the Democratic National Committee was in the tank for Secretary Clinton from the beginning, and worked at undermining the Sanders campaign.

Of course, Senator Sanders was unaware of the collusion against him when he endorsed Hillary Clinton, and he has since left the Democrat Party—a move that has not made many headlines in the press, but should have. When was the last time a presidential contender left in such manner? Even Ted Cruz—the sore loser of the GOP that made national headlines with his non-endorsement speech—is still a Republican. With its dishonest and conniving nature exposed by the emails, can we believe anything the DNC espouses?

Another claim long held by conservatives—of a liberal bias in the media—has been more than confirmed with the email leaks. They show not just bias but actual collaboration with the DNC and the Clinton campaign. Can we rely on independent information from the media, after seeing this collusion?

Although FBI director James Comey refused to recommend prosecution of Hillary Clinton, he did expose her extreme dishonesty with the American people, while essentially stating that Secretary of State Clinton and her staff were guilty of extreme incompetence. Both the dishonesty and the incompetence were known in advance of Comey's statements. The only surprise was his refusal to recommend prosecution. Currently, Mrs. Clinton is professing that she has been exonerated by Comey—another untruth. How can we trust anything she says?

Donald Trump has been a very polarizing candidate, but looking at his past, he generally accomplishes what he says he will do. You may or may not like his policy positions, but we can generally conclude that they are what he says they are. One of the most important qualities of a leader is honesty. A leader who is not trusted cannot lead. While dishonesty is always a factor in political elections, dishonesty to this degree has not been a presidential election issue in my lifetime. The choices we have from our major parties are between a polarizing figure and a dishonest one.

While controversy surrounded the GOP convention, deceit was the overriding theme of the Democrats' convention. Regardless of one's feeling about Mr. Trump, he's been forthright in his positions. Now knowing via the leaked emails of the media's collaboration with the DNC and the Clinton campaign, we can understand why they will hammer Mr. Trump on any issue

they can. However, given the level of deceit emanating from the Democrat Party, Secretary Clinton, and co-conspirators in the media, any rational American should disqualify them for this presidential election.

<http://www.aapsonline.org/>
About the author/contributor:

Gerard Gianoli, M.D., F.A.C.S. specializes in Neurotology and Skull Base Surgery. He is in private practice at The Ear and Balance Institute, located in Covington, but is also a Clinical Associate Professor in the Departments of Otolaryngology and Pediatrics at Tulane University School of Medicine. He pioneered treatments for Superior Semicircular Canal Dehiscence and other vestibular disorders. His private practice has a worldwide reach, with patient referrals coming from all over the United States and from around the world.

Dr. Gianoli opted out of Medicare in 2001 and has had a 100% third-party-free practice since 2005. He's lectured and written extensively (as well as had numerous media interviews) on third party free medical practices and free market medicine. His editorials have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *Investor's Business Daily*, *The Hill* and other popular periodicals.

He has received numerous awards, including the American Academy of Otolaryngology's Honor Award, and has been named in America's Top Doctors and America's Top Physicians every year since their inception in 2001 and 2003 respectively. Dr. Gianoli practices all aspects of neuro-otology but has a special interest in vestibular (balance) disorders. He has researched, lectured and published extensively on the topic of vestibular disorders. Website: www.earandbalance.net

Excuse to Rob, Loot and Burn... Black Lives Matter

By George Ogden

Once again, we see riots in Milwaukee, WI after an African American was killed by police. They do this in the name of "Black Lives Matter!" Let me see if I have all of this right. A criminal, which just happened to be an African American, is running from the police with "gun in hand" turns and tries to kill the police officer that is chasing him. The officer shoots at the suspect and hit him in chest and kills him. Bodycam on the police officer shows this.

All this doesn't matter when groups of terrorist used the social media, mainly, Facebook and Twitter to advocate the unruly actions that took place and to promote killing of white police officers and their families.

Oh, did I forget to tell you, the police officer that had to protect himself just happened to be an African American himself? The suspect died with the gun still in his hand.

It appears that no matter if you



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

are a violent criminal, with gun in hand, and trying to kill a police officer you get a free pass to do what you want with the support of the "Urban Terrorist" in your area. They will waive the flag of "Black Lives Matter".

So, on Saturday night, in Milwaukee, a suspect was being chased by a police officer when the altercation occurred. Both were African Americans. This wasn't a White or Black cop killing a Black person for no reason. This was a clear cut case of police chasing an armed criminal who tried to kill a police officer. That is the bottom line. In return,

there is no "thanks" for the police taking out a "dirt bag" but the city is rewarded with a riot, looting, robbing, burning and shots being fired at police and firemen. REALLY!!!!

Seeing some of the pictures posted of the on the internet media is really sad. I see people standing grouped together watching what is happening to their neighborhood. One group of white people showed what appeared that one was armed with a hand gun protecting their neighborhood or possible local businesses. Not sure if this was just a citizen or an off duty police officer. Whoever it was, I appreciate him being out there taking a stance to protect the community.

At a time when there are moves to take our protective guns away from our citizens and/or disarm our citizens, would simply give way to the criminal terrorist to come in to do what they want to you and your property when they want. What is sad, we have a presidential candidate who supports extreme gun control, basically, disarming of the citizens.

Again, it is a sad day in America when the actions of certain criminals and criminal actions is an excuse to commit such unrest and crimes, and advocate the killing of our police officers. This is what is happening today. "That's Just the Way It Is!"

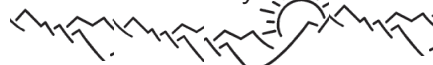


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Higher Interest Rates Anytime Soon?

US equities are at an all-time high, and some Fed officials - especially Lacker, George, and Williams - are eager to put Brexit behind them and get back to raising rates. But the internationally focused FOMC is not likely to let it go so easily. European data suggest a chill could settle over the world economy before the end of the year. The IMF is so concerned, it abandoned its 2016 global recovery forecast.

But what about September? The Fed meeting is on the 21st, two weeks after the decisive ECB meeting. There is not likely to be clear insight in the July statement, and there is no Statement of Economic Policy or press conference. Still, the July statement will be scoured for clues.

Ever since the Fed became serious about raising rates, FOMC statements have been flat-out bland compared to other forms of communication. Considering possible indications of tightening, we are left to conclude there are not many options.

It is easy to hint at no hike anytime soon:

>Characterize the latest crop of global headwinds as likely to be "slow to fade," as the March minutes did.

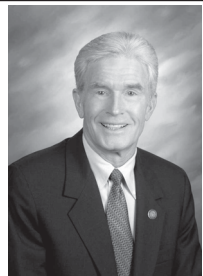
>Downplay Q2 strength by diverging from the usual strength-begets-strength Fed logic and admit strength is likely to be transitory. After all, it has always been transitory since 2012.

>Overtly play for time. Suggest it may take months or, in Fed speak, "some time," before the FOMC can be sure the economy can handle reduced accommodation.

The FOMC has been "closely monitoring ... global economic and financial developments" for months.

Since its last meeting, participants witnessed the UK referendum and its aftermath, an attempted Turkish coup and its aftermath, the reemergence of the EU bank crisis, double digit currency swings and a double-digit drop in oil prices. Oh yes, plus a downward revision to the IMF's

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

growth forecast and a loss of momentum in China.

Here's why they might be concerned:

>The UK referendum opens the door to uncertainty. The world's fifth largest economy must renegotiate trade agreements not just with Europe, but with the world. The UK has no trade negotiators, because it has been part of the EU for 40 years. This will take time.

>The Turkish coup attempt was quickly quashed, but the aftermath - including mass arrests, a partial media blackout, and a consolidation of power under president Erdogan - caused Turkish Credit Default Swaps to jump and provoked an S&P downgrade to junk. EU banks have huge loan exposure to Turkey.

>Italy drew attention to the plight of its banks by fighting for approval of a €40bn capital rescue plan. Germany blocked the plan. EU rules require all governments agree before one can inject capital into a bank. Italian banks have the most Turkish loan exposure, suggesting their already staggering nonperforming loan burden is about to grow again.

>Currency volatility approaching 2014 levels is unsettling considering the world is still adjusting to 2014's wild ride.

>With everything else going on, oil falling back to \$43 may not make the Fed's agenda in July, but it should, especially because the rise from \$25 to \$45 incited producers in Russia and the US to boost production and productive capacity. Remember when we thought oil had to hit \$60 to be profitable?

>As for the IMF forecast revision, it was only a tenth, from 3.2% to 3.1%. But it was the fourth downward revision this year and it means no acceleration in global growth from 2015.

>Finally, China. Suffice to say it has been on the Fed's top-three risks list all year.

The ECB and BOE must take the lead in heading off Brexit fallout. But as Mario Draghi explained at a recent press conference, there is not yet enough data to draw policy conclusions. "Beware post-Brexit forecasts," he warned. There are simply too many variables to forecast the fallout accurately, even without additional complication from Turkey. The ECB might be ready to provide additional accommodation in September if it is needed, but Draghi made no promises. He may have to wait for the end of the year before there's enough clarity to act. The BOE is likely to follow his lead, though we won't know until its meeting in two weeks.

This is reason enough for our Fed to remain on hold, but what about September? The answer requires a forecast, and Draghi just warned us against forecasts. Thankfully, we in the States don't need to worry about specific Brexit repercussions. We can step back and recognize Brexit, Turkey, China and the rest as part of a bigger problem: Inadequate global economic growth. According to the World Bank, global GDP growth averaged just 2.5% in the past five years. That's not enough to absorb labor slack, which promotes wage stagnation and income inequality, both of which fuel anger, frustration and crisis. Brexit, Turkey and countless other one-offs are symptoms of this bigger problem. It's safe to say the bigger problem won't be solved by September.

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

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

Financial - Ask Julia

It's really embarrassing to admit that we're so worried about not knowing if we'll have enough money for retirement. Is there something we can to relieve our stress?

You have just taken a big, brave step in the right direction! You spoke up, and asked for some help. Roughly 80-percent of Americans feel the same way, and over half are so worried that it's affecting their sleep. The majority of these people are actively saving for retirement, but still full of anxiety. One the other hand, those who are saving toward a specific goal, with a detailed plan to reach that goal, also gain a high level of confidence that they are going to be okay! Let me know when you'd like a free consultation with someone who can help you make a plan for your retirement years.

A number of years back, we got a line of credit to do some major repairs on our home. Our 'draw' period ended almost 5 years ago, and the bank gave us 5 more years to continue making interest-only payments. In 2 months, our payment amount will almost double when we have to start paying principle plus interest. It's not in our budget; we know we cannot afford it. What do we do now?

It's commendable that you are aware of this impending financial problem and are ready to take some kind of action now. Good job! Here's 3 steps to start with: 1. Let's find out what amount of equity you have in your home



Julia Yoder

(now that house values have risen), and see if you qualify to refinance your first and line-of-credit into one loan. 2. If not, then we'll need to look at your budget to see where you might be able to re-allocate funds. 3. Sometimes it becomes necessary to get a part-time job. But, don't panic. Just take one step at a time.

Now that a new school year is starting, I'm thinking about saving for my children's college education, but I haven't done anything, and I don't know where to start. What are my choices, and what's best?

The earlier one starts to save for expensive things in life - college, home purchase, retirement, the better. Setting up a savings plan is a wonderful gift from parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Choices include College Savings Plans, Roth IRA's, Annuities, and Life Insurance with a cash account. What's best for you and your children really depends on your specific situation - how much money you have available

to invest, how many children you have to save for, and your personal concerns. I personally don't recommend a College Savings Plan (ScholarShare/529, etc.).

Some of my investments have matured; others will soon. Although I'd like stock market like returns, I cannot take the losses. Where can I put my money, temporarily, where it'll be safe, while I look into other investment options?

If you need time to decide where to put your money, then take the time, but set yourself a deadline. For example, by putting your money into 3-month CDs, you're giving yourself 3 months to research and decide. Three months at a low rate of return, safe from losses, is not a long time. However, if you don't need that long, there are 1-month CD's, renewable each month. Let me know when you are ready to meet with a financial professional for a free consultation to discuss your options.

Got a question? Ask Julia by email:

Email questions and comments to juliayoder@yahoo.com

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

Housing Rights Center To Host Free Workshop On Rent Increases, Evictions, Discrimination, Foreclosure And More!

PASADENA— The Housing Rights Center (HRC), and the City of Pasadena, will be hosting a FREE 'Fair Housing Workshop' for Pasadena landlords, residents, and community members on Thursday, **August 25th** from 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Community Room at the Fair Oaks Renaissance Plaza located at 649 N. Fair Oaks Ave, Pasadena, CA 91103. HRC will present information and resources regarding housing discrimination and landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities.

Topics will include: discrimination against families with children, disability rights, sexual harassment, evictions, repairs, security deposits, rent increases, substandard conditions, and much more!

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, known as the "Fair Housing Act," provides protection from discrimination in all housing related transactions based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status and disability. Furthermore, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act provides additional protections against housing discrimination based on marital status, ancestry, sexual orientation, and source of income. The California Unruh Civil Rights Act also provides protection from housing discrimination based on age and protects the right to freedom from violence and intimidation in housing.

For more information, or to RSVP for this FREE workshop, please call Yazmin at (800) 477-

5977 extension 1104. TTY users please call (213) 201-0867. This location is handicap accessible.

HRC is California's largest nonprofit, civil-rights agency dedicated to promoting and securing fair housing. HRC investigates over 1,600 housing discrimination complaints annually and assists over 17,000 individuals with their housing-related concerns. Individuals who believe they are victims of housing discrimination or who have questions about the fair housing laws or their landlord-tenant rights are encouraged to contact HRC for additional information at 1-800-477-5977 (voice) or 213-201-0867 (TTY). Additional information is also available at www.housingrightscenter.org.



THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Fed Up With Recalls?

It is amazing these days that there are so many recalls. Almost daily we hear about a food recall, and of course those recalls for our cars! It is getting harder to feel "safe." Consumers are losing patience!

When it comes to the airbag situation with Takata it is now called a crisis. Automotive "franchise dealers" and "manufacturers" are pointing fingers at each other when it comes to who should have the financial responsibility. There are different rules to the sale of used and new vehicles and this is causing heated debate. State legislatures are getting involved as well.

The federal government prohibits the sale of new vehicles that have a recall until they are fixed. These cars sit on the dealers' lots until the parts arrive from the manufacturer to correct the problem. If the manufacturer

can't get the parts right away, they have to pay the dealership until they can provide them. If they have used vehicles on their lot needing recall fixes it is a different story. This is starting to change as the state of Virginia has now mandated that the manufacturer has to compensate the dealership monthly if the dealer has used vehicles it can't sell due to lack of parts.

Consumers are upset, and rightly so! When they finally get a recall notice, many times months after it was reported on the news, the parts aren't available to fix the problem. Consumers don't always know if the "fix" is urgent for their safety and it creates a lot of unnecessary strain on them. They feel frustrated dealing with the manufacturer and the dealer and wish the government would set up a system to protect their rights and safety.

When it comes to the Takata airbags, the problem just drags on and on. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration realizes that the manufacturer can't produce the new parts quickly enough to satisfy automotive manufacturers, dealerships and the consumer. Currently, other manufacturers are helping out by providing parts but even if these are installed, another recall may be in the consumers' future.

It is amazing that 29 million vehicles have been recalled due to the Takata airbag inflator problem. 10 persons world-wide have been killed due to the defect and 139 injured. Sadly, there are another 50 million vehicles in the US that have Takata airbags...so far no recall has been issued but it can't be ruled out.

The cause of the airbag problem is the use of ammonium nitrate inflators and if they don't correct the issue and prove by December 2018 that the airbags are now safe; another 90 million vehicles will have to be recalled. It is going to take a long time to get this problem behind us!

Please call us with any questions at 626-963-0814 or visit our website at www.CertifiedAutoCA.com.
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Important Reminders for Teens Applying for their First Driver License

New California Residency Documents Required

SACRAMENTO - The summer months are a popular time for teenagers to apply for their driver license. The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) wants to remind teens and their parents or guardians that new documents are now required when applying for a first time driver license (DL) or identification (ID) card.

The DMV now requires proof of California residency documents that must list the applicant's first and last name, and the California residence address must match the address listed on the driver license application and be presented when applying. The DMV understands teens may not have residency documents in their name, so to meet this requirement, minors may use a birth certificate to match their relationship to a parent or provide a letter of guardianship with two acceptable residency documents to trace their relationship. Below are a few examples of California Residency documents:

- Medical documents
- Employment documents
- Cellular phone bill
- Records from a financial institution
- Rental or lease agreement
- Deed or title to residential property
- Mortgage bill
- Home utility bills

*Note: Minors do not need to have residency documents in their name as long as their parent's name listed on their birth certificate matches the proof of residency documents.


When completing the driver license application form, the signature of the custodial parent(s) or guardian is required, if the applicant is under the age of 18.

Remember, first time driver license applicants must make an appointment before visiting a DMV field office. Walk-ins are

only accepted at Driver License Processing Centers.

The DMV has a helpful Teen Drivers webpage that features a checklist of requirements for applicants under 18 years old. Among the items needed are a Driver License or Identification Card Application form (DL 44), social security number, true full name, an acceptable birth date and proof of legal presence document, acceptable residency documents, and proof of driver education completion.

The residency requirement law went into effect July 1, 2016. For more information about obtaining a new DL or ID card, visit the Driver License and Identification Card Information web page or find the Residency Requirement link under the "Trending" section on the DMV website.



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Around the Valley & Senior News

AZUSA

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

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.

ARCADIA

Orchid Hobbyists Monthly Meeting

San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyist welcome you to our **August 18** monthly meeting at the L.A. County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia Ca. Judging at 7:00 p.m., Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Our speaker will be Peter Tobias, program on Conservation, Preserving and Seeing Orchids in South America. Refreshments. We look forward to seeing you!

FREE Community Summer Dance Night!

The Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation, the City of Arcadia and the Arcadia Unified School District proudly present a Free Community Summer Dance Night on Saturday, **August 13** from 7-9:30pm on the quad of the Arcadia Performing Arts Center, 188 Campus Drive, Arcadia 91007. There will be karaoke singing and dancing under the stars. Tours of the Arcadia Performing Arts Center facility and desserts will also be available.

Mark your calendar and make sure you don't miss out on this special fun night! Please RSVP to pwang@semprautilities.com if interested in karaoke singing or sign up at <https://goo.gl/dPnMd>. Bring the whole family out to participate in this FREE event! For more information, please call 626.574.5113.

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 pinocle. The group meets at the Assistance League Community House, 100 So. Santa Anita Avenue every Monday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch is provided for a nominal fee or bring your own lunch.

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

COVINA

Open House Event

The East San Gabriel Valley Republican Center is hosting an "Open House" event. Come in and enjoy some food, fun and get to know your neighbors. The gathering will be held Saturday **August 20th** at the Center located at 200 East Rowland St. just off Citrus Ave. The festivities will start at noon and last until 3:00 PM.

Root Beer Floats Fundraiser

The City of Covina Parks and Recreation Department - Library Services Division is inviting the public to join them on Saturday, **August 27** from 1-3pm to come and cool off with a root beer float. For just \$1 donation you will receive a scoop of vanilla ice cream with root beer. All proceeds go towards Library and Literacy programs, while supplies last. Covina Public Library is located at 234 N. Second Ave, Covina.

For more information, please call (626) 384-5303.

Toy Loan Program At Covina Public Library

In partnership with Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, the Covina Public Library offers a new Toy Loan Program, a toy lending service allowing children to borrow toys. Honor Awards are also given to children who bring toys back on time. The Toy Loan Program is sponsored by the LA County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Public Social Services. For more information, or to sign up please visit the Children's Department. Covina Public Library is located at 234 N. Second Ave, Covina.

For more information, please call (626)384-5303.

Blood Pressure Checks

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

DUARTE

Youth Boxing Program

Youth Boxing is an excellent program to help boys and girls ages 8-17, develop their self-esteem and self-discipline. Our knowledgeable coaches are here to teach the fundamentals of boxing, while developing footwork, speed and upper body strength. The training program will also help children gain flexibility, stamina, and coordination.

The Duarte Teen Center Gym is open Monday through Thursday from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Friday from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. There is a \$10 monthly fee for each participant. Non-residents are welcome for \$20 per month. Register now at the Duarte Teen Center. Call (626) 303-0863 for more information or just stop by to see if you are interested.

Hot Lunches at Senior Center

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

Meals on Wheels

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

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program sponsored by the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank provides food to low-income elderly, 60 years and older. Please bring a picture identification and proof of income: Social Security, SSI or pension (bank statement, check stub, benefit award letter.) Every 4th Thursday of every

month from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more information call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

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

Glendora Public Library launches e-magazines!

GLENDORA - Visit the Glendora Public Library website, www.glendoralib-rary.org, to download the latest copies (and back issues, too) of your favorite magazines. Titles available include: Consumer Reports, Cooking Light, Men's Health, People, Sports Illustrated, Lonely Planet Traveller and more! For more information, please contact the Glendora Public Library at (626) 852-4891 or visit us at www.glendora-library.org.

Alzheimer's Peer Support Group

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

Glendora After Stroke Center

A non-fee program for stroke survivors and their families. This

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

MONROVIA

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 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Senior Movies & Munchies

The Department of Community Services invites you to attend the FREE Movies and Munchies program open to all active adults and seniors 50 years and older. Enjoy an afternoon movie and then browse the Library's collection of movies available for rent. For additional information and future movie titles, please contact (626) 256-8246. Movies & Munchies is at the Library Community Room, 321 South Myrtle Avenue on the **Last Friday of the month** at 12:00 p.m.

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

Community Articles Are Welcome

We are seeking articles, photos and news and event items for future issues of the San Gabriel Valley Examiner. Information should be emailed to SGExaminer@aol.com and articles should be in Word format while photos should be in jpeg.

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DAVID LEON
8:00 p.m. to Midnite
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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.

WEST COVINA

Go West Shuttle Service

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

• For questions on the location of shuttle stops, assistance in locating the stop closest to you, and route schedules please call (800)

425-5777.

• The fixed-route service operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

• The fare is only \$1.00 each way.

• No Service on Thanksgiving, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, President's Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day.

Senior Lunch

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

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

Senior Center Dances

Come on over to West Covina Senior Center and meet other single and amazing couples. The fun awaits you every first and fourth Thursday of each month. Dance to the Big Band Sounds of Sentimental Journey at West Covina Senior Center, 7:30 to 10:00pm, 1st and 4th Thursday of each month. 2501 E. Cortez St.

West Covina Dance

Dancing Seniors and friends will meet for dancing and socializing on Thursday, August 25th at the VFW Hall 2328 West Merced, West Covina from 7:00 to 10:00pm. Music provided by DJ. Cost \$6.00 per person. Beverages will be available for purchase.

For information call Carol at 626-858-6619.

State Treasurer John Chiang keynote speaker at CARA Fundraiser Event

COVINA - John Chiang State Treasurer will be the keynote speaker at a fundraiser for the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) at the home of Nancy Russell in the city of Covina on Saturday **August 20** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at 409 North Cedar Drive, Covina CA. 91723.

There will be Food, Refreshments and Door Prizes!

CARA is a non-profit community organization and is a Activists for Seniors issues to improve the life of Seniors.

Please RSVP by August 18, 2016 or for more information contact Lorenzo Rios at (626) - 825-1422

Blood Pressure Screening for Those with Movement Disorders

ARCADIA - Arcadia Senior Services in partnership with POET, "Patient, Outreach, Education, Today" is having a special blood pressure screening for those individuals with movement impairments at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia on Friday, **August 19** at 1:30pm. The blood pressure screening will have a clinical staff trained to work with individuals with neurological disorders and will be approximately 15 minutes screenings. Blood pres-

sure will be taken standing up and lying down (supine/standing) to see if there are any changes in their blood pressure readings. There will also be information on tips on managing blood pressure, potential research opportunities for movement impairment disorders and community resources. If interested in attending this lecture please call Arcadia Senior Service 626.574.5130 to reserve your space. This program is for individuals' age fifty and over.

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Shooting in Covina, One Dead and Suspects Arrested

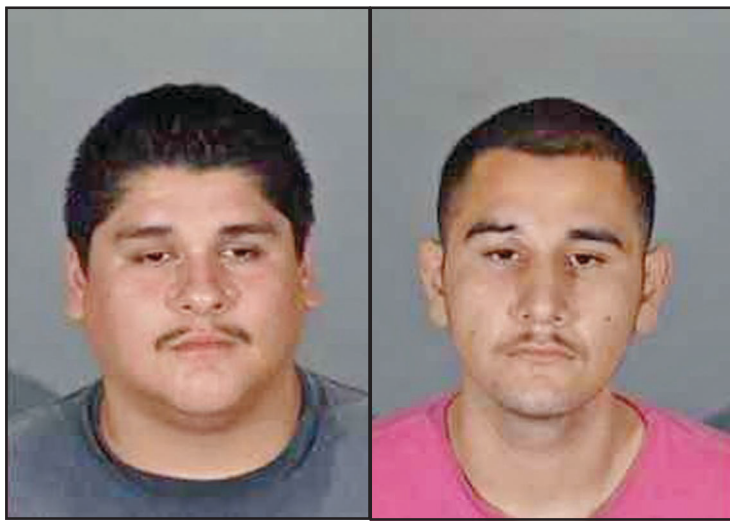
By George Ogden

COVINA / WEST COVINA - Christopher Alexander Avila, 20, of Covina has bail set at \$2,000,000.00 and Adam David Hernandez, 21, of Covina has his bail set at \$1,000,000.00 and both were charged with murder. They were taken into custody the fatal shooting of Isaac Urena Saturday in Covina in a restaurant parking lot in Covina around noon on Saturday, August 13.

The two suspects arrested in the shooting of a 20-year-old Covina man while trying to rob him of jewelry and money after a planned meeting that was setup on the internet and online, according to investigators.

The victim, Isaac Urena was shot in the parking lot of Clearman's North Woods Inn, at San Bernardino Road and Azusa Avenue in Covina where the transaction was to take place.

Urena and a male friend showed up in the parking lot and made contact with the suspects. This is when the event went bad and the robbery attempt turned deadly. One of the suspects shot Urena and his friend, who was driving, quickly fled the scene with his mortally wounded friend



Murder suspects arrested were, Christopher Alexander Avila, 20, of Covina, left, and Adam David Hernandez, 21, of Covina, right.

(Urena). They headed west on San Bernardino road and came to the parking lot of Faith Community Church in West Covina where he pulled in and called for help.

First responders pronounced Urena dead at the (second) scene.

Detectives had some great leads and were able to ID the suspects and had search warrants drawn up and served them. Covina police and SWAT team officers first arrested Hernandez and then Avila. Both were held on suspicion of murder and robbery.

After following leads through

the night and into Sunday morning and securing search warrants, Covina police detectives, aided by SWAT officers, arrested Hernandez, in the 1400 block of Armel Drive in Covina, and Avila, in the 1200 block of O'Malley Avenue in Covina. They were held on suspicion of murder and robbery. A handgun was also found that detectives believe is the murder weapon.

Detectives worked all night to make the arrests quickly before the suspects had a chance to leave the area and/or the country.

Two Shot, One Dead at West Covina House Party



Police Command Post in the 800 block of Michelle which was still closed the next day as the homicide investigation continued.

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - On Friday night, August 12, around 10:15 p.m., West Covina Police Department received a call of loud music disturbance coming from a party in the 800 block of East Michelle Avenue. When the first Officers arrived on scene, they saw numerous partygoers running out of a residence reporting gunfire coming from the rear yard. Officers approached the residence and located two gunshot victims. One victim was transported to USC Medical Center for medical treatment, the second gunshot victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Police quickly set up a con-

tainment area and detained as many people as possible to get as much information as they could to see if they could identify the shooter(s) and to find out what happened.

Police started a yard to yard search looking for the suspect(s) and/or evidence, possible a gun that may have been tossed in the area. After an extensive search, it was determined that the suspect(s) fled before the officers had a chance to set up the containment area.

Many at the party at the residence were high school teens with some said to be football and cheerleader members of a local high school.

The 800 block of Michelle was blocked off until the afternoon of Saturday with a Command Post vehicle parked in the street at the crime scene. West Covina Police Department Homicide Detectives were on scene interviewing witnesses and attempting to identify a suspect(s) throughout the evening and next day.

Anyone with information regarding this incident should contact the West Covina Police Department at 626 939-8500. You can also remain anonymous by calling the WCPD Hotline at 626 939-8688 and leave a recorded message with information concerning this incident.

Start The Conversation Early: Tips On Kids And Alcohol

by Robert M. Vincent, MS.Ed, NCAC II, CDP, NESAPZ Public Health Analyst

Talking to your kids about alcohol may feel like a daunting task, but doing so can help prevent future health challenges and risks. It's important to broach the topic early: Many kids have their first drink as young as 9 years old, and 50 percent of 15-year-olds have tried alcohol. Young people often begin drinking alcohol after experiencing stress, peer pressure, and difficult life transitions such as moving or divorce. While many adolescents consider drinking to be a rite of passage, the reality is drinking poses a serious threat to a young person's growing brain, development and overall health. By having several small, low-key conversations with your kids about alcohol, you can create a comfortable and open space for them to discuss the dangers of underage drinking and strategies for avoiding it, without feeling awkward.

Studies show that parents have a significant effect on young people's decisions about alcohol consumption, especially when they create supportive and nurturing environments in which their children can make their own decisions. And since so many kids begin to use alcohol at a young age, the sooner you begin talking to your children about drinking, the better. "Parents are the number one influencers on a young person. If every parent communicated a strong message about underage drinking, we would already have a delay on the onset of alcohol use," said Frances Harding, Director of SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

Teen alcohol consumption is a significant public health challenge nationwide. Nearly 23 percent of people between the ages of 12 and 20 are current alcohol users, according to the most re-

cent National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) report, published annually by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This age group consumes alcohol more than any other substance, including tobacco and other drugs. While teens tend to drink less frequently than adults, they drink larger quantities, often having five or more drinks during a single occasion. According to NSDUH, over 5 million adolescents binge drink, while 1.3 million are heavy consumers of alcohol.

This trend in underage drinking comes with significant risks. Adolescents who use alcohol are more prone to have legal issues and participate in unsafe sexual behaviors. They are more likely to have memory problems and changes in brain development that cause lifelong effects. They are also at increased risk for using other drugs, hurting themselves or someone else, and being dependent on heavy drinking later in life. There's a fatal risk, too: Underage drinking is responsible for approximately 5,000 teen deaths per year—mostly from vehicle crashes, but also from alcohol poisoning and other accidents.

You can help your children prevent these problems by talking to them early, and on a consistent basis, about the dangers of underage drinking. Continuing the conversation throughout adolescence, when the pressure to try alcohol increases, is also important. SAMHSA's "Talk. They Hear You" campaign provides support and tips for parents preparing to have these small but important talks. Helpful resources and advice can be found on the campaign's website, www.samhsa.gov/underagedrinking, including the downloadable "Talk. They Hear You" app—a tool that illustrates

the dos and don'ts of talking to kids about alcohol use.

"Underage drinking is a preventable problem, and parents play a critical role in helping to save kids' lives," said Harding. "We want to help parents talk to their children about this issue."

Additional information on underage drinking, as well as substance abuse, mental health, and wellness, can be found at www.samhsa.gov.

5 Conversation Goals for Talking to Kids about Alcohol:

1. Show you disapprove of underage drinking.
2. Show you care about your child's happiness and wellbeing.
3. Show you're a good source of information about alcohol.
4. -Show you're paying attention and you'll notice if your child drinks.
5. -Build your child's skills and strategies to avoid underage drinking.

Keep it low key. You don't have to get everything across in one talk.

Many small talks are better. For more tips and resources, visit www.samhsa.gov/underagedrinking. (NAPSI)

San Dimas Saints 5k Run/Walk Fundraiser

SANDIMAS - The San Dimas High School Cross Country Team is hosting a 5k run/walk and kids fun run to fundraise money to support their 2016 season. Their mission is to provide each Saint with the opportunity to grow in the sport by participating in races, providing them with uniforms and necessary training tools for a successful season. They focus daily in promoting teamwork, character building and sportsmanship. They depend on fundraising efforts of their student athletes, parents, and the support of the community. This

Glendora Genealogy Group Meeting

GLENDORA - The Glendora Genealogy Group will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 23 in the Elm Room of the La Fetra Center, 333 East Foothill Blvd, Glendora. There will be a refresher course led by Pat Chavarria at 6:00PM. Our business meeting follows at 7:00PM. Our speaker will be Jane Neff Rollins. Her topic will be "A Picture Is Worth 1,000 Words: Dating Your 20th Century Family Photos."

Do you have a shoebox full of photos of people you can't identify? Using her extensive collection of early 20th century photographs as jumping off points, Jane will help you identify which clues in each photo (clothing, backdrops/props, photographic method/paper/framing) can help you pinpoint

when and where the photo was taken and who the subjects might be.

Jane Neff Rollins is a professional genealogist who specializes in Jewish genealogy, translating Russian language documents, and breaking down brick walls. Jane hung out her shingle as a professional genealogist in 2012. Since then she has spoken at the International Association of Jewish Genea-

logical Society's annual conference and to local genealogy societies. Jane is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the National Genealogical Society, and JGSLA.

Any questions about our group or the meeting please call Pat Chavarria at 909-592-4030.

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Duarte USD Starts The New School Year With A Competitive Advantage

DUARTE - When students and staff returned to school at Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) on August 15, 2016, it marked not only the first day of the new academic year, but also the launch of the Competitive Advantage Plan (CAP), the District's five-year strategic plan.

A resolution to adopt the CAP was approved unanimously by the Board of Education on July 21, 2016. This plan will be used as a blueprint for the next five years as the District's fundamental guide for priorities and decision making discussions. The CAP is the result of findings based on a comprehensive nine-month data collection process.

This included a community-wide survey administered by the Claremont Graduate University's Evaluation Center that yielded over 4,200 respondents. Additional details and strategies were collected through over 50 focus group sessions with students, parents, certificated and classified staff at all school sites, a variety of members of the community, including civic and business leaders, parents exiting DUSD, alumni, and faith leaders in the community. In all, over 5,000 stakeholders participated in the process.

All of the data collected was vetted through the District's Community Education Council, comprised of representatives from all stakeholder groups, who together with the District Leadership Team met regularly throughout the year to examine the data, discuss strategies, and develop the actionable items contained in the plan.

"This plan is our beacon to guide us for the next five years," said Superintendent Allan Mucerino. "It is the compilation of much study and work through the efforts of a writing team, a steering committee of staff, and a steering committee of community members. It reflects an honest look at where we are and where we need to be as we meet the needs of our students. The Competitive Advantage Plan is our blueprint to produce the 21st Century learners that are necessary for success in the world."

As a result, the District adopted a new vision statement: "21st Century Schools Producing 21st Century Students." The mission statement was also updated to read: "The mission of the Duarte Unified School District is to provide the knowledge, skills and inspiration for each student to be successful in college, career and life."

The single dominant theme of the CAP is rigor, specifically, rigorous academic standards, rigorous accountability standards and

the rigorous pursuit of identifying and addressing the individual needs of students.

While stakeholders identified the rigor of the Early College Program at Duarte High School, specialized STEM and engineering courses, Computer Aided Design (CAD), Advanced Placement classes, City of Hope internships, and the International Baccalaureate program at Maxwell as examples of rigor and areas of strength, rigor was also identified as a primary need desired by stakeholders. As a result of these findings, rigor has been woven throughout the CAP as the standard by which all actions and expenditures will be measured.

Other needs that emerged from the findings included more support around classroom technology, digital learning resource specialists on site, focused professional development targeted at instructional context and the Common Core, vocational programs for non-college bound students, more specialized courses, electives, and career technical education (CTE) programs in careers such as culinary arts/hospitality, health careers, biotechnology, computer science focused on designing, building, and understanding interactive media, expansion of the Early College programs, recruitment of highly effective teachers, a competitive salary and benefits structure to attract and maintain those teachers, and clear standards of behavior, and site autonomy.

Converting PK-6 elementary schools into neighborhood PK-8 magnet schools was dominant in focus group discussions. Student safety, student support, and logistical implications central to the planning process of restructuring the District were central to the discussion and became actionable items in the CAP.

Regarding extra-curricular programs, the desire for improvements to the arts and athletic programs and facilities including playgrounds, courts, fields, the DHS gym and locker rooms, emerged in surveys and focus group sessions as primary needs and also became actionable items in the CAP.

The CAP creates optimal learning conditions despite the fiscal, educational, and human resource challenges that have been caused by fourteen consecutive years of declining enrollment and the organizational instability it has created.

Four pillars were identified that serve as the foundation for the CAP. These principles will guide every action taken by the District. Subsequently, they also are the District's Local Control

Accountability Plan goals. With the adoption of the CAP, Duarte Unified will now be an organization founded upon the four pillars listed below:

A Focus on Results: The District will reduce the achievement gap equitably between the most successful and least successful students, regardless of their race or ethnicity or social or economic circumstances.

Service-Centered: The District will create a culture of service grounded in the promise that all people will be treated with dignity and respect.

21st Century Schools: The District will prepare teachers and leaders to create the conditions for students to think critically, solve problems creatively and collaboratively, and compete in the world of complex environmental, political, technological, and socioeconomic challenges.

Strong Partnerships: The District will create a culture where partnering entities work together to integrate and complement each other in support of student success.

These four pillars represent the voices of our students, parents, staff, and community members.

Together these principles are threaded throughout the CAP and are reflected in each of the seven primary strategies that drive the plan. The seven strategies are listed below:

1. Reconfigure the District into four PK-8 magnet schools, a comprehensive high school education complex and an alternative-options learning center all strategically designed to create the conditions for all students and staff to thrive and realize their potential.

2. Create an equitable education for all students.

3. Partner with the Orange County School of the Arts, to be known as California School of the Arts- San Gabriel Valley, to create a landmark and replicable compact between a school District and public charter school.

4. Develop and implement a master facilities plan for physical space and technology infrastructure required to achieve our objectives and realize our vision and mission.

5. Develop and implement a rigorous assessment system aligned with the Common Core Standards to effectively analyze student performance data at more frequent intervals in order to improve instruction, close the Achievement Gap, and ensure that all students meet or exceed District standards.

6. Incrementally increase the average teacher, staff, and leadership team salaries to be no less than the median for Los Angeles County.

7. Build trust through transparency, strengthen engagement, and expand outreach efforts to positively impact student achievement by optimizing systems of communication for all stakeholders.

The Competitive Advantage Plan for the Duarte Unified

School District is a living document and will serve as a guide for the future and a report card for the past as the District evaluates it annually.

Superintendent Mucerino offered his gratitude, "to everyone who took the time to make their voices heard by completing the District's community survey, attending focus group sessions, answering phone interviews, and/or submitting comments for reflection. We listened!"

"I also wish to thank the 12 members of the CAP Writing Team, as well as the 27 staff members and 26 community members of the CAP Steering Committee for their tireless efforts in producing the 72-page CAP document."

It is a new day for Duarte schools! Read the complete plan for yourself and see why at <http://www.duarteusd.org/Domain/810>. You may also submit questions or comments about the CAP via the District website at <http://www.duarteusd.org/Page/3680>.

And, if you are interested in adding your child's name to the registration list now for the 2017-2018 school year when the District transitions to PreK-8 magnet schools, including enrollment in our Orange County School of the Arts branded PreK-8 & Project Lead the Way STEM PreK-8 programs, and you do not currently attend Duarte Unified Schools, please send your contact information via email to jowen@duarteusd.org.

As of August 1, the District and school offices have been open during regular operating hours. Staff members are available to provide assistance to parents and students needing further information.

"The collective accomplishments of our students and staff in 2015-16 have thrust us into a new school year that is sure to be among the most exciting in the recent history of DUSD," stated Superintendent Mucerino.

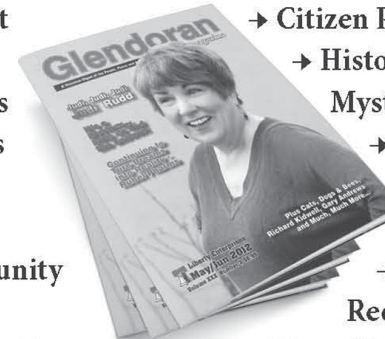
"We have so much momentum going that it will be hard to stop us from realizing our goal of being second to none, a model school District with a focus on results. I hope you share my enthusiasm and plan to make this year your best year ever."

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Tips to Prevent the Spread of Back-to-School Germs

Back-to-school is an exciting time of year for families, but it also means new exposures to germs.

From school desks found to have 400 times more bacteria than the average toilet, to personal items like backpacks and cellphones, germs are everywhere. Taking steps to reduce exposure can make for a healthier school year ahead.

Remember to wash hands and your items frequently -- did you know that backpacks have 10,000 germs per square inch? Then, use shelf liner in areas of your home where school items are stored for extra protection. Try using Easy Liner brand shelf liner by Duck brand with Clorox antimicrobial protection, which protects the liner from the growth of mold and mildew. Plus, the liners can be tossed in the wash for easy cleaning.

Parents can help keep classrooms cleaner by providing teachers with disinfecting wipes and shelf liners to protect desks, drawers and shelves. (StatePoint)

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Glendora Woman's Club Honors Club Member Gerry McIntosh for Service

By Joan Hallidy

GLENDORA - The Glendora Woman's Club honored clubmember Gerry McIntosh with the club's "Club Woman of the Year" Award for 2016 during a surprise presentation at a recent club meeting.

The special service award was established in 1982 in recognition for outstanding service to the Woman's Club over a period of years.

Mrs. McIntosh, this year's award recipient, has a long history of continuing service and involvement in the Woman's Club since joining the club in 2001. She has served as president for two terms for from 2009-2011, and over the years, and first vice president of membership for five terms, as second vice president of ways and means for two terms.

In addition, Mrs. McIntosh has served on numerous committees, special projects, and has held various chairmanships, including, Philanthropy chair and Potpourri Departments chair. Some of the committees she has served on have included Budget, Inspirations, Singer Mansion



Glendora Woman's Club President Carolyn Cunningham, left, presents club member Gerry McIntosh with a special gift and a service award recognition pin and this year's recipient of the club's "Club Woman of the Year" Award that recognizes a member for outstanding service to the club over a period of years.

Rose Garden Benefit Tea, and Annual Fashion Show, and also as a Fashion Show model.

During the award presentation by Club President Carolyn Cunningham, Mrs. McIntosh received a service recognition pin and a special gift of a hand-cut lead crystal glass container, w/

lid, which featured a special inscription on the front. The award gift was made in Poland by Taunton.

For information about the Woman's Club special events, call Karen at 626-375-5200; for information about renting the clubhouse ballroom or hall call Ritz Catering at 909-592-1130.

Keep Your Family Healthier this Back-to-School Season

Back-to-school season can be fun and exciting for kids and parents alike. With your kids coming home after being exposed to all the children at school and the added stress that the school year brings, it could mean more days stuck in bed for your whole family. Experts say that rather than being reactive, it's important to be proactive by taking steps to keep kids healthy.

"Building and maintaining a strong immune system is key to a long, healthy life," says Larry Robinson, PhD, and vice president of Scientific Affairs, Embria Health Sciences, a manufacturer of science-based ingredients that support wellness.

For a strong and healthy school year ahead, Robinson and Embria are offering some useful health and wellness tips. Great Habits

A healthy lifestyle means developing healthy habits. Perhaps most important is to enforce a consistent bedtime to promote adequate sleep, which is proven in studies to promote good health. Added bonus: kids will be more alert in their classes after a full night's rest.

Proper nutrition is also key: three solid nutrient-filled meals a day and healthy, non-sugary snacks. Regular, moderate exercise also promotes good health, so encourage them to participate in physical activities like sports teams, dance classes and even just playing in the yard.

Smart Supplements Even well balanced diets can use a few more benefits to promote better wellness and good health. The best immune system supplements are well researched and do more than simply boost the immune sys-

tem.

Consider supplements containing the breakthrough, fermentation ingredient EpiCor, shown to support the body's ability to initiate the proper immune response when needed. For example, NOW Healthy Immune contains EpiCor, Zinc, Selenium, and Vitamin D-3 and C for additional support for the body's immune system. Formulated into easy pouring packs, they are a convenient way for busy families to stay healthy on-the-go.

To help strengthen the immune system another way, think about your gut, which is where 70 percent of your immune system resides. Probiotics can keep your gut and you healthier. Consider a supplement such as Hyperbiotics Immune, which contains EpiCor, targeted probiotic strains, zinc, vitamin C and echinacea.

While these statements have not been evaluated by the Food & Drug Administration and these products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent disease, many experts believe they can help you maintain a strong immune system.

Reduce Stress Too much stress can compromise the immune system. Help kids reduce the stress in their lives by not over-scheduling them. Ensure that with schoolwork, chores and after school activities, kids still have time to relax, see friends and just be a kid.

For happy, healthy kids, practice wellness habits that promote a strong immune system. (StatePoint)

Students Excited as School Begins at Baldwin Park Unified

BALDWIN PARK - Precious Lemus, 12, delivered a boatload of high-fives at Jones Junior on Thursday, though not all of her friends knew they came from her.

That's because Precious was dressed as the school's Blue Jay mascot - part of a push by school leaders to create a celebratory atmosphere for new seventh-graders and returning eighth-graders at the Baldwin Park Unified campus.

"It's exciting to be back," said fellow eighth-grader Lizeth Villavicencio after giving Precious a big hug. "I love this school and I haven't seen my friends in a long time."

Jones is one of 20 schools at Baldwin Park Unified that welcomed back about 14,000 students on Thursday, a day of new beginnings from transitional kindergarten to high school.

New Jones seventh-graders Manuel Mendez, Anthony Garcia, Kris Vazquez and Julian Mendez greeted each other with joyful shouts. Most hadn't seen each other since the end of year at nearby Vineland Elementary, one of the junior high's three feeder schools.

Together, with more than 450 new classmates, the boys trooped through a balloon-festooned entry on their way to their new classes.

At Sierra Vista High School, more than 500 freshmen were greeted by members of a newly minted Link Crew, a team of 96 juniors and seniors trained over summer on ways to connect with the new kids.

"It's all about building relationships," said Link Crew Coordinator Eric Pinal. "Students who feel more connected to school have greater success and higher graduation rates."

Link Crew members met with freshmen on Tuesday for a four-hour orientation and campus tour. Teams of two Link Crew members were assigned groups of 10 students each. Their task: Engage the new students, let them know



Returning eighth-graders cluster around their friend, Precious Lemus, dressed as Jones Junior High's Blue Jay mascot on Aug. 11, the first day of school for Baldwin Park Unified.



New seventh-graders Anthony Garcia, 11, Kris Vazquez, 11, Manuel Mendez, 13 and Julian Mendez, 12, show their class schedules on Aug. 11, the first day of school at Jones Junior High in Baldwin Park Unified.

about clubs and campus opportunities.

"I want to help these freshmen find their place here," said Link Crew member Dania Duran, 16. "I remember as a freshman, I was so nervous, I was so lost."

Duran said she helped new freshmen on Thursday find classes and gave them tips about teachers. For students who were uncertain about high school, she talked until she could see they felt welcomed and comfortable.

Transitions were also a focus at Tracy Elementary, where Principal Erika Valenzuela and her team of teachers gathered kindergarten parents and children

for a morning assembly.

The new kindergarteners clapped and cheered at Valenzuela's prompting while their parents received information about school operations.

Daisy Castro said her son, Noah, was excited to start kindergarten. Noah, 5, said he likes his new classroom and can't wait "to learn new stuff."

Nicole Alcaraz said her daughter, Arianna, was also ready for her first day.

"She's a good listener and she was really ready for this. She loves school. She wants to learn and make new friends," Alcaraz said.

Smart Packing Tips for Better School Lunches

Despite one's best intentions to send kids to school with a healthy homemade lunch, a lot can happen between the time you pack it up at home and when your child unpacks it in the cafeteria. But no one wants a soggy sandwich or warm milk for lunch. And not only are some lunch time woes unappetizing, they can pose health risks.

Perishable food transported without a cooling source won't stay safe for long. Indeed, harmful bacteria multiply rapidly after only two hours in the "danger zone," the temperatures between 40 and 140 degrees F, according to the USDA.

Here are some lunch-packing tips to keep foods safer, fresher and tastier:

- Top to Bottom: You may be in a rush in the morning but take the time to take a packing cue from the bagging experts at your local grocery store. Pack strategically, with heavy items like apples and oranges on the bottom and lighter more fragile items like pretzels and peanut butter and jelly on top.

Encourage kids to do likewise in their book bags, cubbies and lockers. Books should never be piled on top of lunch!



- Skip the Brown Bag: Disposable brown bags get soggy, threatening student's math homework, electronic devices and other book bag contents. More importantly, a thin paper bag does nothing to keep lunch cool and safe to eat.

- Do your kids and the Earth a favor by sending them to school with a smart reusable cooler designed to travel and keep foods chilled for hours, such as PackIt, the first foldable, freezable bag to keep food and drinks cool up to 10 hours.

"Standard insulated bags don't cut it because you have to stuff them with gel packs that don't work and inevitably get lost, or ice baggies that leak everywhere," says Melissa Kieling, co-founder and CEO of PackIt. "An all-in-one solution with built-in cooling makes bringing lunch from home easier, safer and more appetizing for kids."

A mother of three, Kieling invented PackIt, which features freezable gel built into the walls

of the bag to simplify weekday lunches for families. The Freezable Lunch Bag and Freezable Classic Lunch Box both fold flat, and the entire cooler goes in the freezer overnight. In the morning, the walls will be completely frozen and ready to chill food and drinks from all sides for hours, like a refrigerator.

- Pack Smart: There are some prep steps to improve the taste and appearance of lunch. For example, using thick slices of toast means a better chance that bread stays intact until the lunch hour. Likewise, condiments and slices of tomato and avocado in the center of a sandwich will keep bread dry until it's ready to be eaten.

If you are going to pre-slice apples or pears, be sure to store them in an airtight baggie to prevent browning.

With a few considerations, you can make lunch time fresher, tastier and, above all, safer for kids. (StatePoint)

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Annual Picnic Held by FPH Auxiliary

GLENDORA - Good food, music and fellowship, is there any better way to spend a summer evening? Members of the Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary and their guests don't think so. On Sunday, August 7th the group got together for their annual picnic at Finkbiner Park. Hamburgers and hot dogs were provided by the hospital with an array of sides and desserts brought by those who attended. To add to the enjoyment of the evening the Fab 8, a Beatles inspired group, kept everyone moving to the beat and singing along.



FPH Auxiliary members, Josephine Nowell, Jacqueline Swinney and Karin Walters, enjoy the music at the annual picnic in the park. If you are interested in helping jobs at the hospital, please call your community by volunteering the volunteer office, (626)857-3103.

Healing Connections Provides Support to Community

DUARTE - Healing Connections is a wonderful organization that was created out of the tragedy of teen suicide. Ulises Gutierrez came to a recent Duarte Kiwanis meeting to share the vision and purpose of Healing Connections. Healing Connections meets on a monthly basis to explore ways to provide information about mental health concerns within our community and give support to individuals impacted by depression, anxiety and other stressors which may increase the risk of suicide. The group includes 23 certified mental health first responders are available for help. You can connect to them through their facebook page at MonroviaHealingConnections.

For further information on speaking or joining the club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandez-optometry.com



Duarte Kiwanis President, Cheryl Reynolds hosted Ulises Gutierrez at the recent meeting.

Arroyo Orchestra Performs Pops Classics Under the Stars at the Barnes Park Amphitheater

MONTEREY PARK - Audiences will be charmed by a variety of classics composed by Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Aaron Copland, Bizet and more at this summer concert series finale

Uplifting classic pops music is coming to Monterey Park with a summer concert in the park on Saturday, August 20 featuring the Arroyo Orchestra and pops music from the centuries. Pops music is a lighter version of classical music that everyone will enjoy. Classical music lovers, young and old, from throughout the San Gabriel Valley are invited to attend another great MPK centennial-related event at picturesque open air Barnes Park Amphitheater.

Dr. Paul Sherman, professor, Glendale Community Col-

lege, will conduct the 32-piece local orchestra which has been organized by manager Lisa Fowler and includes members of the Arroyo String Quartet, California Philharmonic, LA Opera, Pasadena Symphony and La Mirada Symphony. Many orchestra members possess film and television credits, and one young member is a Monterey Park resident and an acclaimed student at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts.

The August 20 performance is the third and season finale of MPK's centennial summer concert series and will be held at the Barnes Park Amphitheater, in the heart of Monterey Park. Moving, inspiring and rousing are just a few words to describe the heights the Arroyo Orchestra will take you.

Concerts in the park details:

- Barnes Park Amphitheater doors open at 6:30 p.m.; concert starts at 7:30 p.m.
 - Amphitheater seating is \$2 per adult; \$1 per child (13 and under).
 - Lawn area only \$1 per adult; free for children 13 and under.
 - Snacks and alcohol will be sold for consumption in the amphitheater only to those 21 years of age who show a valid I.D. (MPMC 12.04.100). Alcohol is prohibited in all other areas.
- For more information visit www.MontereyPark.ca.gov, email MPK100@montereypark.ca.gov or call 626-307-1388. Barnes Park Amphitheater is located at 350 S. McPherrin Avenue, Monterey Park.

Los Angeles County Unveils Superscooper Firefighting Aircraft Leased From Quebec For Fire Season

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and County Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby hosted a media day on Friday, August 12, to showcase the recent arrival of two Canadian CL-415 Super-Scoopers, Erickson Air-Crane, the dangers of drones (unmanned aircraft systems) and how drought conditions are expected to affect this year's fire season. Quebec Representative Elizabeth MacKay, and Los Angeles City Deputy Chief Trevor Richmond were also in attendance.



Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby, with Quebec Representative Elizabeth MacKay

Oak Tree Challenge 5K/1 Mile Run/Walk

by Kristi Ambriz
CHARTER OAK - Join the Charter Oak Education Foundation Sunday, September 18, as we host the Oak Tree Challenge 5K/1 Mile Run/Walk at Charter Oak High School.

Registration opens bright and early at 7:00am. Each runner will receive a T-Shirt, bib number and enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast. The 5K Run/Walk will begin promptly at 8:00, and the 1 Mile Run/Walk begins at 9:00.

Breakfast is at 8:00, and is free for all runners/walkers. Not a walker or a runner? No problem! Breakfast is available to everyone for only \$5.

This is an event for the entire family. We'll even have vendor booths to peruse and shop. Nutrishop, PASS Tutoring, Glendora Chevrolet, Sylvan Learning Centers, Crazy Dog Ladies, Fitness 19, and Kaleo Realty are only some of the vendors we can expect to see.

This is also a fun way to show school pride. Form a running club on your campus and train together, then show up September 18 representing your school! Which of our Charter Oak schools will have the most runners/walkers? We're keeping a tally as registrations come in, but we won't know for sure until the day of The Oak Tree Challenge. Medals are given to all youth who complete the 1 Mile Run/Walk.



1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each age category of the 5K will receive medals, and the person who comes in 1st overall will receive a 1st place medal.

Registrations must be received by September 7 to guarantee a T-Shirt and avoid paying a higher registration fee. Each participant pays only \$25 for the 5K, and \$15 for the 1 Mile. Save even more if you have 5 or more in your group. Each member of your group pays only \$20 for the 5K and the \$10 for the 1 Mile Run/Walk.

Participants registering after September 7 may not be guaranteed a T-Shirt.

The Oak Tree Challenge gives us a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and work together to raise money for our Charter Oak schools. Last year, our Oak Tree Challenge participants and partners raised \$12,000! Let's surpass that milestone! Are you up for the challenge? Register today!

After September 7, the registration fee for the 5K is \$30 (\$25 each for groups of 5 or more), and the 1 Mile is \$20 (\$15 each for groups of 5 or more).

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