



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

November 9 - 15, 2017

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Monrovia Unified Elementary Students Receive Free Dictionaries from Local Elks Club

MONROVIA – Bradoaks Elementary School third-grader Alaina Delgado eagerly flipped through the pages of her new dictionary during the school's Oct. 30 dictionary giveaway assembly, thrilled at having a resource to expand her vocabulary.

"It's really cool that they gave us these dictionaries because it will help me learn new words to use every day," Delgado said. "Now I get to look up a bunch of words that I didn't even know existed before."

Delgado was one of more than 500 Monrovia Unified elementary school students to receive a free dictionary from members of the Duarte Elks Club No. 1427. The organization gives away 3,500 dictionaries to local school districts each year to encourage students to become life-long learners, while also encouraging students to consider college and remain drug free.

"We love the excitement that the Duarte Elks Club brings to our students during their annual

dictionary give away," Monrovia Unified Board President Bryan Wong said. "This gift will encourage our students to understand the power of words and the importance of literacy."

The Duarte Elks has been donating dictionaries to Monrovia Unified since 2011. Each dictionary contains resources for learning American Sign Language, the geography of the United States, different parts of speech and a section for the longest word in the English language, which is a 1,909-letter term for a type of enzyme.

"Our partnership with the Duarte Elks Club is an annual treat for our students because it piques their interest in learning new words and provides them the opportunity to find new ways to express themselves," Monrovia Unified Superintendent Dr. Katherine Thorossian said. "Thank you to the Duarte Elks Club for providing a valuable resource to our students."



A class of Bradoaks Elementary School's third-graders holding their new, personalized dictionaries, donated by the Duarte Elks Club to encourage students to learn new words and improve their vocabulary.

The Village in Glendora Packed With Trick or Treaters



Some of the trick or treaters take a break, Collin Boand and Minnie - Gia of Glendora, Mario- Jediah Figueroa of West Covina, Supergirl Rachel Morales and Cop- John Morales of La Verne.

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - The Avenue/Village on Glendora Avenue was packed with children and their parents, dressed up in an array of costumes, ranging from cops to Disney characters. The costumes seem to get better every year, as par-

ents get more creative in either designing costumes for their children or spending more money on their costumes. Many of the parents were also dressed up.

Trick or treaters come from Glendora and also from surrounding cities as the businesses

on Glendora Avenue participate by handing out candies.

The restaurants on Glendora Avenue were all pretty full with hungry costumed families. This event seems to attract more and more people every year.

Field Of Valor In Covina Is An Awesome Sight



The Field of Valor at Sierra Vista Middle School.

By George Ogden

COVINA - Covina Rotary Club has 2001 American Flags on the fields of Sierra Vista Middle School. This is known as the "Field of Valor". For the entire week preceding Veteran's Day, two thousand and one American flags will fly as a patriotic tribute honoring all Veterans and Active Duty Military Personnel for their dedication

and service to our nation, preserving our security and our freedom. Visitors and volunteers from the surrounding communities experienced an amazing sense of patriotism while viewing and honoring a display of the flags - star spangled banners standing tall and proud, and by participating in various activities during the week ending on Veterans'

Day.

The sixth annual Field of Valor in the City of Covina from November 4 through November 12, 2017 is at Sierra Vista School located at 777 Puente Street, Covina. This is at the corner of Grand Avenue and Puente Street about a half mile north of the 10 Freeway. Don't miss this.

Toastmasters' Toast To The Best Club



Dan Lee (best speaker), Vince Quinones (assist. Dir.), Shaun Hade (Area 5-A Dir.), Idaly Acosta ACS (best evaluator), Tim Cheng (best Table Topics).

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

Last Thursday, November 2nd, our club, Toast To The Best had a fascinating meeting celebrating Día de los Muertos, Day of the Dead. Toastmaster Idaly Acosta, ACS, told them all about the 3-day celebrations October 31 - November 2 devoted to loved ones that have passed away. Art Douglas presented a great instructional on "How to Organize Your Speech".

Dan Lee won best speaker for his Ice Breaker speech "Why I Joined Toastmasters". Idaly Acosta, ACS won best Evaluator

and Tim Cheng won best Table Topics.

Area 5-A Director, Ms. Shaun Hade, ACS and her Assistant Director, Vince Quinones attended. On November 17th, they will have their next meeting. Come sharpen your communication skills.

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

Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary Holds Holiday Open House

COVINA - To usher in the holiday season and to thank the community for its continued support, The Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary would like to invite you to attend their annual Holiday Open House and Sale to be held on Monday, December 4th between 2 and 6 pm. The gift shop will be offering beautiful, unique items perfect for those important people on your list. Except for See's Candy, there will be a 20% discount on all purchases made that afternoon. Delicious goodies along with warm beverages will be served. Remember, the proceeds of this sale will go towards capital improvements of the hospital and our scholarship fund.

If you would like more information on this event or are interested in joining our wonderful group of volunteers, please call (626)857-3103.



Auxiliary member, Dlorah Gonzales, and Lobby Shop manager, Kristine McLeod, welcomes holiday shoppers.

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West Covina's Wu's "Shop Local After School Program" moves forward with Baldwin Park Getting on Board

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - West Covina Councilman Tony Wu had a meeting with Baldwin Park City Councilmember Monica Garcia along with other city staff members about Shop Local After School Program and how to work hand in hand for other issues to improve both West Covina and Baldwin Park.

Wu has pushed and implemented the program in West Covina to help businesses and the kids to get connected. Both cities have a lot to offer and working together is win-win opportunity. Some great ideas were exchanged and they plan to move forward.



Baldwin Park City Councilmember Monica Garcia along with West Covina Councilman Tony Wu.

Christian Community Credit Union Employees Raise \$891 For Breast Cancer Charity



Christian Community Credit Union staff wore pink and raised \$891 during their 17th annual breast cancer awareness fundraiser.

Christian Community Credit Union's employees held their 17th annual breast cancer awareness fundraiser on Friday, October 6, 2017, raising a total of \$891. Employees had the option to donate to Susan G. Komen's Be More Than Pink™ or Lee National Denim Day® where funds support the American Cancer Society. Em-

ployees donated five dollars or more in exchange for wearing jeans, sneakers, and/or pink T-shirts to work.

Many staff had personal reasons for participating in the fundraiser. "As a breast cancer survivor myself, I know how important new methods of detection and treatment can be," said Credit Union Consumer Loan Quality Specialist Christine Liskey. "Anything and everything we can do to fight all forms of cancer is well worth it."

Carmella Long, Marketing Assistant, added, "It's a time

to remember loved ones we've lost to cancer, encourage those who are fighting this disease, and celebrate with those who have won the battle. Let's keep praying for a cure!"

Christian Community Credit Union has \$725 million in assets under management and over 30,000 members nationwide. For over 60 years, the Credit Union has served as a financial partner of Christian ministries, churches, and their members. For more information, please call 800.347.CCCU (2228) or visit myCCCU.com.

St. Dorothy Catholic School Students Visit the Elderly



Students Tom Gerfen, Trenton Norman 8th Grade, Nicole Chakbadof, Katia Sidham, Kaitlyn Vrabel and Marie Timko all 7th Graders, St Dorothy's Principal Adrienne Ferguson, Barbara Mitchell Administrator, Beverly Calderon, Norine - Student Council Instructor with the senior residents.

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - Students of St Dorothy Catholic School visited St Michael's Home For The Elderly in Glendora, to spend time and cheer up the residents during the Halloween season.

Adrienne Ferguson, Principal of St Dorothy Catholic

School accompanied the 7th and 8th Graders along with Norine, the Student Council Instructor.

The activities for the day included Halloween Bingo and painting pumpkins. It was one of the residents' birthday, so they sang "happy birthday" to 72 year old Marilyn. A pasta

lunch with meatballs was provided.

St Michael's Home For The Elderly is located at 1506 Candish Avenue in Glendora. It is operated by James and Jennifer McGee who own a total of seven homes for the elderly.

Burglary Gang hit Six San Dimas Businesses. Burglaries in Azusa, Glendora and La Verne may be Related.

By George Ogden

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY - A gang of burglary suspects are wanted in a rash of Smash and Grab burglaries in the East San Gabriel Valley.

San Dimas had 6 alone with others in La Verne, Azusa and Glendora are believed to be connected to the same gang.

Sheriff's officials are inves-

tigating the burglaries mostly small businesses in the San Dimas area. They are connecting the dots with the other cities.

The suspects used a sludge hammer to smash in store front windows to gain entry. Video surveillance showed three to four male blacks wearing hoodies entering the business

and stealing cash and property.

The burglaries in San Dimas occurred between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. along Arrow Highway and Via Verde Drive. The suspect vehicle is a dark colored four-door sedan.

If you see the suspects, do not approach them, they are considered extremely dangerous. Call police immediately.

Baldwin Park Officers Shoot Gang Member After He Pulls a Shotgun on Them

By George Ogden

BALDWIN PARK - On Friday, Nov. 3, around 8 p.m., two Baldwin Park Police Officers who were working the gang unit spotted an individual who they knew to be a gang member walking along the 3100 block of Frasier street. This is just north of the 10 Freeway. The officers pulled over to make contact with the subject to see what was happening and going on. They simply wanted to make contact. To their surprise, the gang member pulled a shotgun on them. At that point, there was an officer involved shooting.

The suspect was hit twice in the upper body. After removing the weapon, the officers performed aid until the para-

edics arrived. The officers had no idea what provoked the subject/suspect to draw down on them. If anything, he could have been arrested for having a firearm if he was on probation or parole. It is unknown if the weapon was loaded or not as this information has not been released.

The identity of the suspect has not been released as the investigation continues in which the L.A. Sheriff's Dept. is investigating. Frazier St. was closed off for hours for the investigation of the shooting.

The last reports were that the suspect was in critical condition at the hospital and no further details were given. No officers were hurt in the incident.

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Attorney General Files Amicus Brief in Support of Requiring Out-Of-State and Online Retailers to Pay State and Local Taxes

SACRAMENTO—California Attorney General Xavier Becerra joined a bipartisan coalition of 36 attorneys general in filing an amicus brief to urge the U.S. Supreme Court to grant review and reconsider the Court's outdated "physical presence" rule, which restricts states' ability to collect certain taxes from out-of-state retailers. In 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *National Bellas Hess v. Department of Revenue* that states were prohibited from requiring out-of-state retailers to collect sales and use taxes on goods purchased through the mail. With the rise of online shopping, out-of-state retailers — including online retailers — have used the physical presence rule set forth in *Bellas Hess*, and later reaffirmed in the U.S. Supreme Court's 1992 ruling in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, to avoid collecting sales and use taxes.

"Our small businesses and local retailers are the backbone of our economy," said Attorney General Becerra. "But right now, out-of-state and online retailers can do business in California without collecting state taxes. This puts our local businesses at a disadvantage. Given our changing economy, we urge the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider this issue."

"The Court's earlier view of sales and use tax nexus no longer makes sense in today's economy," said Nicolas Maduro, Director of the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration. "It's unfair to both in-state retailers and to all California taxpayers."

South Dakota recently enacted a statute requiring online retailers to collect South Dakota sales taxes. On September 14, 2017, the South Dakota Supreme Court held South Dakota's stat-

ute unconstitutional because only the U.S. Supreme Court can reconsider its own precedents. South Dakota filed a petition for writ of certiorari asking the U.S. Supreme Court to revisit the matter. Attorney General Becerra is supporting South Dakota's effort.

Attorney General Becerra filed today's brief along with the Attorneys General of Colorado, Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Hawai'i, Illinois, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the District of Columbia.

A copy of the brief is attached to the electronic version of this release at oag.ca.gov/news.

Monterey Park Police Receives Grant for Special Traffic Enforcement and Crash Prevention

MONTEREY PARK - The Monterey Park Police Department has been awarded a \$130,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for a year-long program of special enforcements and public awareness efforts to prevent traffic related deaths and injuries. The Monterey Park Police Department will use the funding as part of the city's ongoing commitment to keep our roadways safe and improve the quality of life through both enforcement and education.

After falling to a ten year low in 2010, the number of persons killed on roadways has climbed nearly 17 percent across the state, with 3,429 fatalities in 2015. Particularly alarming is the rise in pedestrian and bicycle fatalities that now comprise nearly 25 percent of all traffic deaths, along with the growing dangers of distracting technologies and the emergence of drug-impaired driving. This grant funding will provide opportunities to combat these and other devastating problems such as speeding and crashes at intersections.

"Unsafe behaviors account for 94 percent of traffic crashes," said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. "This grant emphasizes the two most effective

ways to change behaviors - education and enforcement. Monterey Park Police Department, with assistance from the Office of Traffic Safety, will use these tools to help keep Monterey Park streets safe."

Activities that the grant will fund include:

- Educational presentations
- DUI checkpoints
- DUI saturation patrols
- Bicycle and pedestrian safety enforcement
- Motorcycle safety enforcement
- Distracted driving enforcement
- Seat belt and child safety seat enforcement
- Speed, red light, and stop sign enforcement.

While alcohol remains the worst offender for DUI crashes, the Monterey Park Police Department supports the new effort from OTS that aims to drive awareness that "DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze." Prescription medications and marijuana can also be impairing by themselves, or in combination with alcohol, and can result in a DUI arrest.

• Funding for this program is from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Development Of Legislative Proposals To Expand The Definition Of Gravely Disabled Approved

LOS ANGELES COUNTY— On a 4-1 vote, with Supervisor Kuehl voting no, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Hilda Solis instructing the Department of Mental Health and County Counsel to develop recommendations for legislative proposals that would consider an individual's inability to provide and/or access urgently needed medical care due to a mental disorder as part of the criteria for grave disability. The Department of Mental Health was instructed work with mental health advocacy groups, civil rights organizations, and other stakeholders as part of this effort.

"Our current mental health laws are a one-size-fits-all approach to mental illness which makes it nearly impossible to address the needs of the growing

statistic of the mentally ill among the homeless population and in our jails," said Supervisor Barger. "State law should consider medical complexities in the context of mental illness, thereby allowing for the delivery of more effective treatment and care."

Currently state law defines grave disability as a condition in which a person, as a result of a mental disorder, is unable to provide for their basic personal needs which includes food, clothing or shelter. There are individuals in dire need of health and/or mental health care to the point where their lives are in jeopardy, yet they refuse care because of a lack of self-awareness to their own condition. This change would allow for the urgent medical needs of an individual to be considered when determining their need for treatment.

West Covina Honoring All Who Served

WEST COVINA - The City of West Covina invites you to join us on Veterans Day, Saturday, **November 11** as we celebrate those who have served in protecting our great nation. Guest speaker, West Covina Police Officer Eduardo Flores, will share his personal account of service in the United States Marine Corps with us on this commemorative day. The City of West Covina is also proud to recognize the many vet-

erans that currently serve our community as part of the City of West Covina staff. Today's veterans bring unique abilities and experience to the workforce.

The ceremony will be held at the West Covina Civic Center Courtyard where the West Covina Veterans Memorial currently stands. The West Covina Civic Center is located at 1444 West Garvey Avenue South, West Covina and the Veterans Days cere-

mony will begin at 10:00 a.m. We encourage all veterans in attendance to wear a symbol of their military branch. Please join us as we honor and salute those who served our country and continue to serve our country each and every day.

For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at 626-939-8430 or visit our website at www.westcovina.org.

No-Shave November At The Glendora Police Department Has Officially Begun

GLENDORA - For the second straight year, the Glendora Police Department is participating in "No-Shave November" to bring attention to men's health. Glendora Police Chief Lisa G. Rosales is encouraging department members to grow out their facial hair to start a conversation about prostate cancer, testicular cancer, heart disease, and mental health. Glendora Police sworn

and civilian personnel participating in No-Shave November are donating to the cause and encouraging others to make donations in order to help change the face of men's health. The Glendora Police Department has joined The Movember Foundation in a First-Responder Challenge to see who can raise the most money for the cause. Check out the Glendora Police Department's

challenge page at <https://moteam.co/glendora-police-department?mc=1> and make your donation. For more details about The Movember Foundation, you can visit their website at <https://us.movember.com/>. Glendora Police personnel may look a little a little scruffier this month, so feel free to strike up a conversation and ask why they are growing their facial hair.

San Gabriel Police Department To Participate In "No-Shave November" To Raise Awareness Of Men's Health Issues

SAN GABRIEL - Throughout the month of November, the San Gabriel Police Department will participate in "No-Shave November" to raise awareness of men's health issues such as prostate and colon cancers.

San Gabriel Police Department believes that a healthy community is a happy community. When people are healthy, it has a positive impact on their physical, mental, and social well-being.

The San Gabriel Police Department believes we are in a unique position to have a positive impact on the community through many interactions in a variety of situations. To help us encourage

living a healthy lifestyle through these interactions, the San Gabriel Police Department is participating in "No-Shave November" through the month of November. "No-Shave November" is a worthy nationwide cause that raises awareness of men's health issues and helps to support healthy and stress-free lives.

Along with an optional donation, male San Gabriel police officers and staff members have the option of growing facial hair (a mustache, goatee or beard) throughout the month of November. For the ladies wishing to participate, a flower arrangement or large bow may be worn in their

hair while at work. The facial hair for men and flower arrangement for the ladies are intended to stimulate conversation with the community about men's health issues and to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

"Like our police officers, we encourage everyone to have a plan to detect the serious diseases impacting men in their early stages, as well as in leading a healthy and happy lifestyle," said Detective Gaona. For additional information about the campaign, please contact Det. Steve Gaona at 626.308.2838 or sg122@sgpd.com.

L.A. County Teams Up With Cities To Creatively Prevent And Combat Homelessness

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Nearly 50 cities across Los Angeles County have earned a unique opportunity to confront rising homelessness in their communities through an innovative grant program created by the County and United Way of Greater Los Angeles' Home For Good Funders Collaborative.

Launched in July 2017, the program called on cities to submit applications outlining how they would create localized blueprints for action in collaboration with the County and its contractors, who are funded by the voter-approved Measure H ¼-cent

sales tax.

The selection process—led by United Way's Home For Good Funders Collaborative—approved proposals representing 47 cities. Each city will receive a planning grant ranging from \$30,000 to \$70,000, depending on the number of homeless families and individuals within its municipal boundaries.

The program, which was financed by an allocation of more than \$2 million from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, underscores the County's continuing determination to pursue regional solutions to the homeless crisis. Individual cities are uniquely positioned to complement and advance the County's wide-ranging Homeless Initiative action plan.

"The County and its cities must work in partnership if we expect to succeed in our battle against homelessness," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Mark Ridley-Thomas. "These grants represent the kind of creative thinking that we need to tackle one of the most pressing humanitarian crises of our region and of our time."

The stakes, in fact, have never been higher: the 2017 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count revealed a 23% increase in homelessness over the previous year—a total of more than 57,000 peo-

ple experiencing homelessness across the County.

"We can end homelessness if we all say yes to housing — and this innovative program proves that the solutions can start in the areas that we know best," said Elise Buik, President and CEO of United Way of Greater Los Angeles. "We're collectively fighting for all of our homeless neighbors and these cities are at the frontlines providing hope for a better future for all in L.A. County."

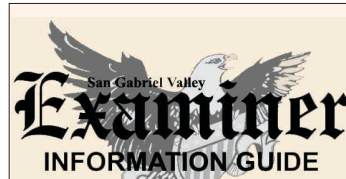
Each city will have at least five months — until March 2018 — to create an individual plan. United Way's Funder Collaborative and the County are committed to helping each city, when needed, create realistic and actionable plans.

The full list of city grantees can be found here: <http://homeforgoodla.org/announcement/>

The cities will kick-off their strategic planning at a convening led by United Way's Home For Good and the County on November 29 in Downtown Los Angeles.

For more information on United Way's efforts to end homelessness, visit www.unitedwayla.org. And for more on Los Angeles County's Homeless Initiative, please visit homeless.lacounty.gov.

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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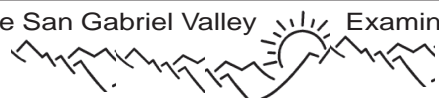
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The San Gabriel Valley Examiner is grateful for the articles submitted by our unpaid writers who have contributed to the success of our newspaper. Our only request is that articles submitted be of minimal length in order to accommodate each and every writer. Thank you for your cooperation.



Dam Failure May Impact Brown's Water Fix

Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 4:42 p.m. - Department of Water Resources (DWR) tweeted EMERGENCY EVACUATION - Oroville Dam predicted to fail within the next hour.

Word went out to 188,000 residents of Yuba, Sutter, Butte Counties and communities along the Feather River Valley giving them approximately 30 minutes to leave the area as the pending failure and collapse of Oroville Dam approached. A dam that is:

- Tallest in the US at 770 feet - 44 feet taller than Hoover Dam
- Creates a reservoir - Lake Oroville - second largest man-made lake in California
- Holds 3.5 million acre feet of water
- Critical component of the State Water System providing water to Central Valley and Southern California
- Flood control to that entire area
- Hydroelectric power to the area

One acre foot of water is the size of a football field, one foot deep. Imagine 3.5 million of those coming down on you!

Independent Institute, a non-profit, non-partisan, public policy research organization, provided its California Golden Fleece Award to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for what it calls its "Patch and Pray" approach to dam safety. This award is given to state or local agencies or government projects that swindle taxpayers or break the public trust.

The Institute names DWR as owner/operator of Oroville Dam and documents indications of pending failure that went unchecked. At the same time DWR is under scrutiny for something between incompetent or worse, Gov. Jerry Brown has named DWR the owner/operator of his proposed Water Fix project, if it proceeds.

The disastrous situation is not over yet and given the magnitude of the consequences statewide, deserves a very hard review to establish culpability ... yes, no free ride on this one for any government agency or State elected officer. Serious questions arise about moving forward with Gov. Brown's Water Fix project.

Sacramento Bee (2/8/17) DWR found a crater in the main spillway but told the *Bee*, after conducting test water releases as the water levels continued to rise



Shade's Perspective
Lois M. Shade

Former Mayor of Glendora in the dam, "We do not believe there's an imminent danger to the dam, or the flood control ... gates that we operate, or the public," said Acting Director Bill Croyl.

Meanwhile the crater had grown another 50 feet and DWR's Doug Carlson said, "They found additional damage to the spillway, which was predicted ... It wasn't as bad as they thought it might be."

The reservoir took on another 174,000 acre-feet of water overnight creating 3.2 million acre-feet stored by Thursday morning. Lake level was 50 feet below the lip of the dam and 30 feet below the emergency spillway. Lake levels were increasing at a rate of one foot every two hours.

LA Times - The DWR Emergency Plan reduced the amount of water released to the main spillway and diverted water to the emergency earthen spillway, never used in the dam's 50 year history. Saturday water had reached the top wall of the emergency spillway and as water poured over, DWR was concerned the barrier wall could collapse sending a 30 foot wall of water into the Feather River causing massive flooding of the entire area. More water was then released to the main spillway to ease pressure. Sunday at 4 p.m. emergency evacuation orders were issued.

SF Chronicle February 14, 2017 requested review of 14 dam inspections from 2008 to 2016. They reported findings by Professor Emeritus and engineering expert at UC Berkeley, Robert Bea who said, "My God, we had evidence that there was trouble going back to 2008, 2009 ... The cratering of the main spillway ... occurred in a spot where cracks and other defects had been found repeatedly since 2009."

Independent Institute cited Mercury News February 14, 2017, "... twelve years ago,

FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensing non-federal hydropower projects.) reported the dam's emergency features were fine and the emergency spillway "was designed to handle 350,000 cubic feet per second". But state officials began ordering evacuations when flows over the spillway reached only 6,000 to 12,000 cubic feet per second or 5 percent of the rate that FERC said was safe. "

Yuba Feather Work Group - October 2005, with members from Sierra Club, Friends of the River and South Yuba River Citizens League became intervenors in the (DWR) re-licensing process telling the court ... "Oroville spillway deficiencies, their impact on flood management operations, and the need for the licensee to address these issues have been discussed at nearly every Yuba Feather Work Group meeting for several years. The licensee (DWR) is a member of the Work Group, and is always in attendance. Written communications ... to the licensee date back to August 23, 2001." The group warned of potential massive property damage and loss of life if failures occurred. And, Department of Water Resources ignored the pleas and documents.

Independent Institute cited geologist Eldridge Moores, professor emeritus of geology at UC Davis who concluded Oroville Dam had a faulty design from the start 50 years ago. The main concrete spillway was built on, and the emergency spillway was made of, "incompetent rock," also called "weathered rock," highly susceptible to water erosion.

In September 2017, an independent national team of dam safety experts determined flaws in the original design and construction of the Oroville Dam dating back to 1960's and Gov. Pat Brown, allowed water to collect beneath the main spillway and gradually weakened the structure. The team of forensic investigators concluded that over-reliance by dam inspectors on annual visual inspections of the spillways were not sufficient to find these flaws. Inspectors did not regularly review original design blueprints and construction specifications to discover the flaws.

***** Independent Institute, Briefing, Oct 17, 2017**

Accentuating The Positive

These days I seem to be continually assaulted by snatches of songs or poems I had picked up years ago and then proceeded to forget—so I assumed. The problem is that once the music is retrieved from the tiny crack in my brain where it has been lodged, and begins to play, there is no way to turn it off. The only relief comes when the tune or lyric is replaced by some other verse that demands attention. Here is a current example that appeared yesterday and promises to stick with me for the foreseeable future.

You've got to accentuate the positive,

*Eliminate the negative,
Latch on to the affirmative,
Don't mess with mister in between.*

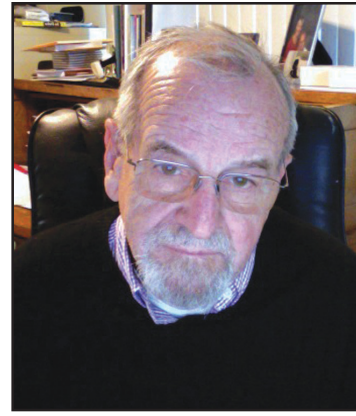
I have no idea where that bit of doggerel came from, although I seem to see it linked to a Disney cartoon. I'm sure one or a dozen of my readers will set me straight.

Recently I have been encountered by a more sophisticated bit of poetry whose origin is equally shrouded, although the image of Leonard Cohen somehow seems to be related.

*O gather up the brokenness
And bring it to me now*

The fragrance of those promises

*You never dared to vow
And let the heavens hear it
The penitential hymn
Come healing of the spirit*



Charles H. Bayer

*Come healing of the limb
O see the darkness yielding
That tore the light apart
Come healing of the reason
Come healing of the heart*

A third even more familiar set of words comes from Psalm 137.

How can we sing the Lord's song in this strange land?

All three of these are invitations to look on the sunny side of life even when my world is encased in a grey cloak of disappointment at best and despair at worst. It comes upon me when the best of times is a vanishing image, and I believe that the worst of times will dominate all that remains. I then am seemingly reduced to mourning what

I have loved even as I hope for a new sunrise, or perhaps just a breeze promising a time when the fog will surely lift. For now I can only live in hope as I hold my breath in anticipation, and face the promised sunrise.

Even if I have spent most of

my life as an optimist, there have been times in my darker hours when someone has told me to cheer up and that things could be worse. So I cheered up and they got worse! Perhaps it is my age slowly attacking my physical health; the awareness that today, November 1, is the birthday of my recently departed daughter, Carol; or it might be the eclipsing of the dream once alive in our intentional community but now seems to have disavowed the commitment to find a way of living together in spite of economic differences. And hovering over everything is a nation that has lost its way in the election of an ego-maniac without moral compass or compassion.

Yet the best in us demands that we must accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, latch on to the affirmative and re-learn the tune and the words of the Lord's song no matter how strange they sound or how they seem now to be submerged in the struggles taking place this strange land.

Just this morning I was visiting a dear old friend on whose wall hangs words of the 14th century mystic, Julian of Norwich: all manner of things shall be well. I will make every effort to accentuate the positive. It will not be an easy discipline. But like everything in which I find myself involved, I never walk alone.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

Making Football Safer for All the Players. How about a Helmet Reconstruction?

By George Ogden

Here is a million-dollar idea for somebody. I do not have time to move forward on this because I am too involved with all my other junk. I buy cars, motorcycles, and airplanes. I have my hands full.

With football season in high gear all the way from Pop Warner Football to Pro Football and everything in between, we still see players getting hurt. One of the most critical injuries is a head injury. Over the years, the headgear or helmets have been developed to protect the players. If you see in the old newsreels, the players had a thin leather helmet and no facemask. Player longevity was often cut short because of a major head injury. Today, we have hardened plastic with padded insides, face guards, and eye shields. They are still looking for other ways to make these helmets much safer.

I'm going to throw something out there that if somebody would like to take this idea and run with it, chances are that you might become a millionaire. They are looking for ways to better the helmet safety by modifying the inside of the helmet in adding protection to it. My idea is simple, in fact too simple.

As we watch the games on television, both college and Pro Football, we often see head to head contact. You can actually hear it all the way into the broadcast booth where we hear it at home over the television. You end up with two players laid out on the field. Many are carried off the field because of their injury. This is not exclusive to college and Pro Football, Pop Warner and high school football experience the same thing.

Why hasn't somebody thought about actually padding the outside of the helmets as well? The padding will consist of a hardened memory foam with a layer of flexible material made of some type of plastic similar to what you find on car bumpers today. The same material that is used on padded dashboards in vehicles. Both of these materials can be incorporated together and molded around the hardened plastic on the helmet today. Team logos and names can be applied without an issue.

What will this do? It will absorb the hardened impact of two



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

helmets coming together and reduce the opportunity of injury. Also, it would protect other players from high impact of helmets to other parts of their body as well. If just 1 inch this material would be applied to the outside

of the present day helmet, I honestly believe there would be a reduction in serious injury all the way through from Pop Warner to Pro-Ball. It would not take much in the way of costs to create helmets that would be much safer. All the attention is given to the inside of the helmet; let's try the outside of the helmet as well. Let's make this sport much safer for our kids and everyone else.

All the football fans out there want a hard-hitting game without question. But they want it without any serious injuries. Trust me on this one.

"That's Just the Way it Is!"

Regional Food Bank Distribution Program

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

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

"TIME JOCKEY" - On The Road To Schaumburg

By Joe Castillo

Fast Food Landmark... Schaumburg, Illinois is a suburb of Chicago situated on the southern shores of Lake Michigan. When the wind blows in the Windy City, temperatures could drop to below freezing levels. Chicago is home to baseball's Cubs and White Sox, football's Bears and basketball's Bulls. Al Capone and Elliott Nest made their marks during Prohibition and Mayor Richard Daly brought even more excitement to the political circles of Chicago. Further east from Schaumburg is another suburb of Chicago named Des Plaines which became home to the site of McDonald's first drive-in restaurant.

Richard and Maurice (Mac) McDonald had created the concept of a limited menu, self-service, value-added restaurant operation as part of their red & white building with Golden Arches in San Bernardino, CA. The restaurant became a hit and the McDonald brothers became a new sensation. They introduced the "Speedee" character, the "millions sold" sign, the lazy susan prep table and

condiment dispensers. Their business grew and soon a need for more Multimixers to make their world-famous shakes became apparent. The brothers placed an order for 10 additional Multimixers and Ray Kroc received the order. Kroc was the national distributor for the 5-spindle Multimixer and was so intrigued by the McDonald order that he flew out to San Bernardino to see the operation for himself.

When he returned to Chicago, he became McDonald's exclusive franchise agent. Eventually Kroc invested with the McDonald's brothers and eventually bought them out to become the sole owner of the McDonald's restaurant chain.

On April 15th 1955, Kroc opened his first drive-in restaurant in Des Plaines, it was the ninth drive-in located in all of the United States. On the first day of business, 1,000 hamburgers were sold. Today, more than 1,000 hamburgers are sold every 8 seconds worldwide and 100's of billions have been sold since that day in 1955. The first McDonald's in Des Plaines was eventually closed to the

public in 1984 but today it has been restored to its original state and serves as a museum for the hamburger chain. The restored store includes the huge sign in front of the store with the Speedee character sitting atop the sign. Two golden arches frame the sign and the McDonald's name is clearly displayed on the sign and store front. Across the street is an operating McDonald's restaurant with the dining area serving as a museum with a timeline of significant events in McDonald's history. The fast food industry would not be the same today if it wasn't for Ray Kroc and his McDonald's restaurants and to see how it was in 1955 provides you with a sense of how a small business operation could become one of the most successful businesses in the world with just a small order of Multimixers.....

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

Why Shouldn't Stocks Continue Upward Trend?

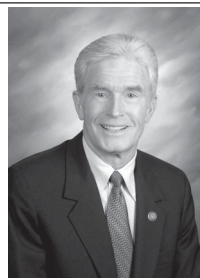
GDP recently posted back-to-back 3% increases as the US economy grew at a 3.0% real annualized pace in the third quarter after 3.1% annualized growth in the second, about a half-point faster than expected and the best back-to-back quarters since 2014. The strength was even more remarkable as hurricanes Harvey and Irma likely clipped September consumption, though we cannot know for sure as the Bureau of Economic Analysis did not see fit to mention hurricanes in the report. The 3.0% rise in GDP lifted year-on-year growth to 2.3%, the fastest since the third quarter of 2015.

However, final sales growth slowed from 3.0% to 2.3%, even as GDP growth was steady at 3.0%. Normally, when increasing inventories add almost three-quarters of a percent to growth, we'd predict a slowdown ahead. However, the \$35 bn inventory increase follows an inventory correction stretching back a year and a half. Indeed, the start of a rebound in inventories may be part of a bigger-picture rebound in the economy.

The most notable spending acceleration this year has been in business-fixed investment in structures and equipment, which were collectively negative in 2015 and made no contribution in last year's fourth quarter. The only significant drag on growth is residential investment. Government's negative contribution was negligible.

There is a lot of "melt up" talk on Wall Street as we head into the heart of the third-quarter earnings announcement season. Current factors supporting ongoing market strength include: (1) Continued globally-engineered economic stimulus. (2) Interest rates continue near historical lows. (3) Sales and earnings of companies largely continue to grow and improve. If we look at consecutive quarterly performance of companies reporting earnings and sales, we see a clear uptrend. (4) Market breadth remains strong as the broad-based equity indices continue to set record highs. (5) Dividend rates

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

are growing. (6) Synchronized global economic growth is bolstering specific sector strength.

Downbeat news keeps some of us busy with worry. North Korea, Hurricanes, Racial tension, Russian meddling, sound attacks in Cuba, tweets, rants, even a new type of angst during the national anthem at sports games. Here's the truth: News and media companies are making a lot of money spraying this avalanche of bad news. But looking at the data shows there is a clear and inherent support for the stock market. Overheating will take place, and the market will need to breathe with a healthy correction from time to time, but overall I believe that stocks are headed higher.

Bad news sells when people are scared and angry. Happy news doesn't pay the publisher's bills because, sadly, not everyone wants to hear happy news.

There may be actually three sides to every story - yours, mine, and the truth. The media is motivated to stir fear to attract viewers. The TV and Internet "talking heads" interpreting these stories are incentivized to endlessly debate and discuss the events taking place. The real story, however, is usually buried in the details. So, if you pay attention to all the noise, there is fake news and truth. The only facts that we can rely on are the actual data. That may be the only real news.

THE RECENT (NOV 1) FOMC MEETING

The Fed left rates unchanged at their meeting last week, as expected by almost everyone in Bloomberg's rate survey. The economy is growing at a solid pace, the labor market is tightening and the Fed continues to hold

with its often repeated belief inflation will reach 2% in the medium term. Hurricanes caused some disruption, but the Fed made clear it is not concerned about growth or inflation.

Future policy decisions will be influenced by data only in so far as it affects the forecast, as has been the case since the unemployment rate fell to the Fed's estimate of NAIRU (Non-Accelerating Inflation Rate of Unemployment). Or, as the Fed put it in the statement, "the actual path of the federal funds rate will depend on the economic outlook as informed by incoming data."

One sentence in the Fed's statement epitomizes the Yellen Fed: "Although the hurricanes caused a drop in payroll employment in September, the unemployment rate declined further." Got that? Weakness is explained away by one offs. Strength is real. Never mind that the strength in this case was also hurricane related as an army of workers flocked to Houston for the post-Harvey cleanup.

Bottom line: Based on their statement, the Fed will raise rates in December. After all, the economy is steaming along, the job market continues to tighten, and the Fed has a never-ending reservoir of faith inflation will return to 2%.

TAX PLAN UPDATE: Details related to a revised Republican Tax Plan were released on 11-2-17, proposing a federal tax overhaul which would lower the corporate rate to 20%, while providing much less significant tax relief for almost everyone else. While this recent proposal appears to be less beneficial for many wealthy taxpayers (than Trump's initial Plan) it still can be criticized for primarily benefiting the extremely wealthy. Next week's article will discuss more Tax Plan details and my opinions on the fairness thereof.

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

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

Your Money - Ask Julia

To all Veterans – past and present:

THANK YOU so very much! Please take advantage of the VA benefits (medical, vision, hearing, prescription, real estate related). It really is a small token of appreciation that Americans can give for your sacrifice and service. Remember, the spouse of a veteran gets some benefits, too!

What is this secret, tax-free method of investing that I've read "Washington insiders" (Senators, Congressmen, etc.), and the very wealthy, are using to save for retirement? Can I get it?

You've seen the hype, along with the solicitation to pay for a newsletter subscription in order to receive the 'free' report about a much better retirement account than a 401(k) or IRA. Here's the scoop, and you're getting it for free! This "secret" method is not really a secret. It's a 702(j), or 7702 (IRS code that regulates life insurance contracts). These life insurance policies are not like the old whole-life or universal life insurance policies. Today there are permanent life insurance policies which offer much more than the death benefit. The cash value component of these policies can be equity-indexed (similar to many of today's annuities), with company-backed guarantees to protect your funds. These policies have much more transparency, allowing you to choose between several equity indices, and several crediting methods. Basically, you pay for insurance, plus you fund the policy with additional funds. If used as a part of your retirement plan, you could later 'borrow' from that cash value component during your retirement years. Loans are not taxed. Typically, death benefits from a life insurance policy are not taxed. Ultimately, paying



Julia Yoder

off the loans you've taken from the policy would be paid off from the death benefit. A real win-win.

Getting one of these policies is like getting any other life insurance coverage.

I'm 53, and my wife is 51. Should we buy long-term care insurance, or wait a few more years?

Although you'd be paying premiums for several more years, there is a big cost for waiting. The older you are when you purchase insurance, the higher the premiums. Also, keep in mind that long-term care is not reserved for the elderly - serious injuries from an accident can necessitate care at a rehab-facility, nursing-home, or in-home. Presently, the IRS (under Section 213(d)(10), includes qualified long-term care premiums, up to certain limits, to be included with your tax-deductible medical and dental expenses.

My annuity (IRA) contract says I would have to pay a penalty if I take the money out too soon. I turn 70 next year, so I'll need to start taking Required Minimum Distributions. Is there a way to do that without a penalty?

Even though the annuity contract states there's an early withdrawal penalty, it is waived for RMD.

I have a lump sum of money

from a CD. Is there an investment that is safe, and that will give me lifetime income right away?

An immediate annuity would give you exactly what you are looking for - safety and immediate income. The insurance company gives you choices for payout: for a fixed period of time, for the rest of your lifetime, or for the rest of your and your spouse's life, and more.

We have really good credit and we rent an apartment. I want to buy a small home or condo, but my husband doesn't think we can afford to make this change. Do you think we could afford to buy?

Either get the facts and present them to your husband, or let your husband know that you'd like to sit down with a professional and figure out whether or not you could afford to purchase instead of continuing to rent. He'll probably react in one of two ways - agree or disagree. If he agrees, act before he changes his mind. If he disagrees, he might have another reason. Use the link below to start your loan application process - it's easy and there's no obligation to follow through.

Ask Julia by email:
juliayoder@yahoo.com

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

Home loan application:
<https://blink.mortgage/app/signup/p/allsourcemortgage/juliayoder>

Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans:
CalStarBenefits.com/28485

DMV Launches Disabled Person Parking Placard Awareness Campaign

SACRAMENTO – In an effort to curb the fraudulent use of Disabled Person Parking Placards, the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has launched a statewide public awareness campaign to educate Californians about the proper use of disabled parking placards and the consequences of misusing one. The campaign, combined with proactive enforcement efforts, is designed to achieve greater compliance.

The multifaceted program includes the release of a monthly citation report, the distribu-

tion of posters and brochures that can also be easily printed from the DMV website, a public service announcement for television and radio, and social media messages and testimonials, among others.

"By raising public awareness, our goal is to get drivers to think twice before illegally using a disabled person parking placard," said DMV Director Jean Shiomoto. "We want to remind Californians that these placards are issued to individuals who have a qualified disability and can only be used by them."

People breaking the law must appear in court and face possible fines that range from \$250 to \$1,000. While the misdemeanor offense will appear on an offender's driver record, no points will be assessed because it is not a moving violation.

"The level of reported or observed abuse varies from area to area," said DMV Investigations Chief Frank Alvarez. "Most violations involve using disabled parking placards issued to family or friends to avoid parking fees, and to obtain convenient and unrestricted parking."

California Vehicle Code Section 4461(b) (c) prohibits anyone issued a disabled parking placard from lending it to another person, knowingly permitting the use of their placard or allowing anyone else to use it while they are not present. In addition, a person shall not display a disabled person placard that was not issued to him or her or that has been canceled or revoked.

It is important to point out that some qualifying disabilities are not visually apparent and allegations of misuse may be unfounded. Anyone who suspects a person may be misusing a Disabled Person Parking Placard is urged to notify the DMV by using an online complaint form or contacting their local DMV Investigations office.



THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Keeping Your Vehicle's Components in the Game

Football season is here again and even though the staff at Certified Automotive Specialists are not football superstars, we are the superstars of auto service and repair! Just like a football game where it takes each player doing their job correctly to have a winning team, it takes each component operating in peak efficiency to have a properly running car!

• Fluids – just like you, your car must have fluids to be healthy. We offer products that give you the **home field advantage** each and every time.

• Filters – just like in football when the players **block** the defense from getting to the ball carrier, filters block contaminants from entering your car's operating systems.

• Battery & Charging System – If this system **fumbles** you aren't going anywhere. We will keep it charged and ready to go when you are!

• Belts and Hoses – One snap or break and you are stranded and you will be calling **personal foul!**

• Lights – Your lights keep you from getting **picked off** in the dark because others can't see you coming or going!

• Wipers – If your wipers aren't working in the rain and snow and morning condensation, you risk getting **sacked!**

• Tires – Proper inflation and tread keep your car rolling along

in a **rush.**

• Suspension – Steers your car going in the right direction so you have a **complete pass.**

• Brakes – Stopping when you need and want to is a very good thing and keeps you from getting **tackled** by trees or other vehicles!

• Exhaust System – If you don't want to be put on the **sidelines** these systems need to operate properly. Keeps your car pleasant and safe for you and others to be around.

This is just a small example of

all the systems that keep your car running properly. Most mechanical failures can be traced to neglected maintenance. Just like a football team, if each player does their job well they all benefit and run like a well-oiled machine. **Touchdown!**


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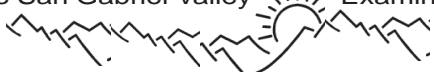
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110

From old to new...
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Around the Valley & Senior News

AZUSA

Volunteer Drivers Needed

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

ARCADIA

Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

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

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

BALDWIN PARK

Chinese American Film Festival Screening

Wednesday, November 15 10:00am-11:30pm. In partnership with EDI Media Inc. the Julia McNeill Senior Center is proud to host the Chinese American Film Festival. The event will showcase the up and coming Chinese American Films. There are dozens of new film makers and emerging talent creating exciting new stories, so come by the center and experience one of these new exciting movies for yourself.

McNeill Fitness Program

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

COVINA

American Legion Breakfast and Boutique

The American Legion Post 755, located at 20516 E. Arrow Hwy in Covina, will be hosting a breakfast and a sweet boutique on Sunday, November 20 from 8am till 11am. So come and pick a sweet treat for the holidays. For more info, call 626 967-7786

Volunteer Your Gift Of Music

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

DUARTE

Winter Solstice Craft Fair & Flea Market

Handcrafts, vintage items, antiques, local author book sign-

ings, entertainment, food and holiday fun will fill the day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Andres Duarte Statue Plaza and adjacent Grace Fellowship Church, 1551 Huntington Drive in Duarte on **December 9**.

A vendor registration application is available on www.insidesocal.com/66. Call Karen Levein at (626) 201-1449 or k.levein@gmail.com for further information. The Fair is sponsored by the Duarte Historical Society & Museum. Fair admission is free.

Hot Lunches at Senior Center

The Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over 60 years, or the spouse of someone over age 60, and must check in by 11:45 a.m. for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling 357-3513, 24 hours in advance, and 48 hours, in advance, for a choice day. The suggested donation is \$3. The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive.

Alzheimer's Safe Return Registration

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

GLENDORA

Alzheimer's Peer Support Group

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's can be frustrating, challenging, and sometimes distressful. This peer support group is designed to share experiences, coping strategies, information, and ideas with each other, and to offer understanding and encouragement to one another. We meet the **2nd Thursday of each month** from 6:30-8:30 pm at Glenkirk Church, 1700 Palopinto Ave., Glendora, in Room #11. We caregivers look forward to lifting each other up as we journey through this season of life. For more info, visit glenkirkchurch.org or call Glenkirk's church office at (626) 914-4833.

Glendora After Stroke Center

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

Cars 4 the Community

Glendora Rotary has a new and exciting vehicle donation program, called Cars 4 the Community. We are asking for your old car, boat, motorcycle or RV, run-

ning or not, be donated and receive a 100% tax deduction for the proceeds.

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

Introduction To Computers And Internet Learning

Never touched a computer before?! You did, but felt confused? It's never too late to learn! Explore the basic skills to enrich your knowledge and understand the terminologies and access the online world through the Internet. Our hands-on practice can accelerate students to master computer learning while making it easy and fun. Register online at www.ci.glendora.ca.us or at the La Fetra Center; 333 E. Foothill Blvd. Glendora. \$120 Tuesdays, September 26- October 31, 11:15am to 12:00pm

MONROVIA

Senior Blood Pressure Screenings

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

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

Caring Crafters

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

Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

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

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

SAN DIMAS

San Dimas

Toastmasters Club

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

WEST COVINA

TOPS Meeting

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) meets **every Thursday** at 6 pm at the West Covina Senior Center, 2501 E. Cortez St in the classroom building. The weight loss group seeks members who

wish to lose weight and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Meetings last until about 7:30 and the first meeting is free. Visitors are always welcome. Come for support with your weight loss journey. You can do it! For more information, contact Erika Hernandez 626-384-0502 or email: ehernandez57@aol.com

Go West Shuttle Service

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

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

425-5777.

- The fixed-route service operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- The fare is only \$1.00 each way.
- No Service on Thanksgiving, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, President's Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day.

Senior Lunch

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

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

4th Annual "The Gathering" Fundraiser for Shepherd's Pantry

GLENDORA - The ARDENT Group will be hosting their 4th Annual "The Gathering" event on Thursday, **November 9**, from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM at Glendora Gardens, 1132 S. Grand Avenue, Glendora. The special evening is designed to raise funds, food, clothing and awareness for Shepherd's Pantry.

Shepherd's Pantry provides emergency food, clothing, and educational programs to families in need during times of crisis. They provide the necessary tools and resources to help them be-

come self-sufficient. www.shepherdsparntry.com

Tickets can be purchased online at www.facebook.com/theardentgroup or in-person at the door. Suggested ticket donation is \$30.00/person. Food and refreshments will be provided by Domenico's Jr. - a pasta bar, along with other delicious signature dishes. Alosta Brewing Company will also be serving delicious craft beers.

The ARDENT Group's mission is to empower women by providing them with unique products,

services, experiences and by supporting local community efforts benefiting women and their families. The ARDENT businesses include: Fiorina, Visiting Angels, Spin 360 Core Fitness, Glendora Gardens Nursery, Luxe Salon, Simpson Portraits, Glendora Florist, and Glendora Employment Agency, Inc.

If you are unable to attend, donations are welcomed. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/theardentgroup.

Veteran's Salute and Tribute Show

PASADENA - Lake Avenue Church will sponsor a Veteran's Salute and Tribute Show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, **November 17-19** in the church's Family Life Center, room 300. These USO-style performances honoring our military veterans will feature a variety of acts spanning three decades, from Bob Hope, Ella Fitzgerald, The An-

drew Sisters, swing dancers, excerpts from 1940s radio shows, and more. The show will culminate on Sunday with a gourmet luncheon and show honoring our veterans.

Showtimes are Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.; and on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. a veterans' luncheon followed at 2:30 p.m. by a special veterans'

show.

On Sunday veterans and one guest may attend the luncheon and show for free. Tickets are available until November 16 at <http://www.lakeave.org>. Search using keyword: veteranshow

Lake Avenue Church is located at 393 N. Lake Avenue in Pasadena, at the corner of Lake Avenue and the 210 Freeway.

Santa Anita Family YMCA Annual Gala

ARCADIA - The Santa Anita Family YMCA Board of Directors invites the public to its 9th Annual Santa Anita Family YMCA Gala and Awards Dinner, to be held on Saturday, **November 18** from 6:00pm until 10:00pm at the Santa Anita Race Track clubhouse in Arcadia.

The Y-Gala features live music, dinner, presentation of the YMCA's three "persons of the year awards", followed by faux casino gaming for "Y-Bucks", live and silent auctions, with fine wines and spirits offered throughout the evening. The honorees for this year's Y Gala are: Youth of the Year - Emily Quach, 2017 Arcadia High graduate who headed 2016/17 Santa Anita YMCA Youth & Government delegation. Volunteer of the Year - Karen Schoeni, Monrovia resident is one of many wonderful people who serve as "unpaid staff", giving their time to assist with YMCA programs; in her case, YMCA water exercise classes for seniors, and youth

swim lessons. Servant-Leader Award - Julie Gentile, long time YMCA and Duarte Chamber Board member and Monrovia Kiwanis Club member receives the highest award a person can win at Santa Anita Family YMCA.

Proceeds from the YMCA Annual Gala help to provide financial assistance to individuals and families, enabling people of all ages to participate in a wide range of Santa Anita Y-programs. These include children's swim lessons, sports, and afterschool enrichment programs, Youth & Government for teens; and water exercise or strength & balance training for senior citizens with Arthritis or Parkinson's disease, and more.

The awarding of Y-program scholarships is guided by the YMCA's financial assistance motto, which simply states that

"no child/person will be turned away due to inability to pay." The Santa Anita Family YMCA granted over \$180,000 in financial assistance between 2015 and 2016, and requests continue to rise across age ranges and program offerings in 2017. The Santa Anita Family YMCA serves the communities of Arcadia, Azusa, Bradbury, Duarte, Irwindale, Monrovia, and northern El Monte.

Tickets for the YMCA Annual Gala are \$125 per person or \$1000 for a table of 10 people. A portion of the Y-Gala ticket price may be tax-deductible. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact YMCA Executive Director Eric Boyd at (626) 359-9244, extension 8391; or YMCA Office Manager Gabby Galvez at Gabrielagalvez@ymcala.org.

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Homecoming Parade on Glendora Avenue

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - The Homecoming Parade of Glendora High School started at 4 p.m. on Friday October 13, 2017 in the Glendora Village on the Avenue with the famous Glendora High School Tartan Band leading the procession. Glendora Avenue was lined with students of all ages, mostly from Glendora High, cheering and waving at the Prince, Princess, King and Queen of the Homecoming. There were students riding fire engines, police cars, the Mayor of Glendora and Glendora City Council Members riding on the back of convertible automobiles. This is an occasion that GHS students look forward to every year.



Homecoming King Michael Chase and Queen Natalie Olivos ride on the back of a convertible.

San Gabriel Mission Historic Statue Vandalized

SAN GABRIEL - On November 3, 2017 at approximately 7:52 a.m. a report of a vandalism to a statue placed in front of the San Gabriel Mission Church was reported. Officers responded to the location and discovered that an unknown suspect (s) vandalized the Junipero Serra statue with red paint. Surveillance revealed an unknown suspect (possibly a male) approximately 5'07", 130-140 pounds, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, black

pants, dark colored gloves climbed on the statue and began to saw the neck area using what appeared to be an electric reciprocating saw. With no success, the suspect then poured red colored paint on the chest area of the statue.

At this time detectives are conducting an investigation and are seeking any information that would assist with this investigation. For additional information about the investiga-

tion, please contact Det. Steve Gaona at 626.308.2838 or sg122@sgrp.com.

New Glendora Kiwaniannes



GLENDORA - Sherry Heinrich (Front), President of the Glendora Kiwaniannes, welcomes two new members and their sponsors. Right to left: Debbie Deal sponsored new member Kathy Valney and Judy

Nelson (last) sponsored Margaux Viera. Valney and Viera were installed as new members at the October 19 meeting of the club. The 40 member Kiwanianne Club has served the community for 33 years raising funds for local stu-

dent scholarships and other charitable programs. For more information about the Kiwaniannes, go to their website at www.glendorakiwanianne.org.

Surprising Perks Of Your Medicare Plan

With more than 10,000 baby boomers turning 65 each day, the number of people eligible for Medicare is growing rapidly. Medicare Open Enrollment starts Oct. 15 and runs through Dec. 7, a time when millions of people are evaluating their health plan options to ensure their coverage meets their retirement lifestyle.

When looking at Medicare plans, people check to make sure their physician is included in the plan's network and prescriptions are covered, but it's important to see which unique benefits and perks a plan offers to take full advantage of the program. There is much more than standard health care available.

Medicare plans can offer benefits including a free gym or fitness facility membership through programs such as SilverSneakers, the nation's leading community fitness program designed specifically for older Americans. Exercise is key to helping people live their best lives as they age, maximizing their health and well-



When considering Medicare plans, many people look for those that cover fitness membership.

being to maintain an active lifestyle. No matter a person's goal—from running a marathon for the first time to keeping up with grandkids—SilverSneakers members enjoy the many benefits of the program, including:

- Membership to more than 14,000 fitness locations: SilverSneakers members have unrestricted access and unlimited visits to every fitness and wellness facility in the national

network, including each location's basic amenities, such as weights, treadmills, pools and more.

- Specialized fitness classes: SilverSneakers offers a variety of classes in partnering locations that are designed to accommodate all fitness levels and interests. Led by certified SilverSneakers fitness instructors, classes range from SilverSneakers Classic and

Splash, to SilverSneakers BOOM®, a fast-paced, higher-intensity class designed for baby boomers and active older adults.

- Friendship and community: So much more than an exercise program, SilverSneakers helps foster new friendships with a welcoming and supportive member community that becomes one of close friends.

- Quality of life: The program changes lives by engaging participants in physical activity to help them do more of what they love. In fact, 91 percent of members say SilverSneakers has improved their quality of life.

More than 14.5 million people are eligible for this program offered at no additional charge through the nation's leading Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplement and group retiree plans. You can check your Medicare plan to see if you are eligible for the program and claim your free fitness membership at www.silversneakers.com. (NAPSI)

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It's All In The Stars: Rating System For Medicare Plans Explained

Seniors enrolling in Medicare often are surprised to discover that most Medicare health and prescription drug plans are measured by a five-star rating system. Much like a reviewer guide to restaurants or hotels, Medicare plans are ranked from a low of one star to a high of five stars. The overall ratings provide an easy and intuitive way to help people evaluate and compare both the quality of the product being offered and the overall experience of real-life consumers.

Developed by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Star Rating system is based on member surveys as well as information provided by doctors, health care providers, and Medicare's regular monitoring activities. The standards are evaluated on



An insurance agent or broker can help you navigate the Medicare system to your best advantage.

an annual basis and are built to drive continuous improvement in the health care system and better health outcomes for Medicare enrollees.

For 2018, there was only one Medicare (Cost) plan in the state of Minnesota to receive a five out of five-star rating: Platinum Blue by Blue Cross

and Blue Shield of Minnesota.

For plans covering health services, ratings are based on a plan's performance in five categories:

- Keeping people healthy: Includes whether members received appropriate preventative screening tests, vaccines, and other check-ups to help them

stay healthy.

- Managing chronic (long-term) conditions: Includes how often members with certain conditions got recommended tests and treatments to help manage their condition.

- Member experience: Includes actual member's ratings of the plan.

- Member complaints and changes in the health plan's performance: Includes how often Medicare found problems with the plan and how often members had problems with the plan.

- Health plan customer service: Includes how well the plan handles member appeals.

Evaluating a Medicare plan should take other factors into account as well, such as covered benefits and which doctors, clinics and hospitals are included in the network.

Health insurance comes with many complexities. At no cost or obligation to you, a local insurance agent or broker can explain the different parts of Medicare and find the most cost-effective coverage that best fits your needs. He or she can also assist with any claims issues that arise at any time during the year.

For more resources, you can visit bluecrossmn.com/medicare or to speak with a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota representative call (855) 579-7658 (TTY users call 711) 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Central Time, daily. (NAPSI)

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