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Military Care Packages Are Mailed To Deployed Azusa Service Personnel

By Jorge V. Rosales

AZUSA - On Saturday morning December 1, 2018 over 30 volunteers consisting of youth from Girl Scouts Troop Numbers 5811 and 9074, members of the Azusa Veterans Memorial Committee, members of the Azusa Rotary Club and adult volunteers from the community gathered at the Azusa Veterans of Foreign War Post 180's Social Hall, to assemble military care packages for nine Azusa military service personnel serving in either Iraq or Afghanistan during the Holidays, as well as overseas in country such as Japan. Care packages are mailed early in December so that the troops receive them prior to Christmas.

Military care packages deliver some of the comforts of home to troops as well as non-available snacks. Mayor Rocha and the volunteers know that because they have on several occasions received thank you cards or long distance phone calls from Azusa military personnel while deployed outside the United States. Also, when Azusa troops return home for rest and relaxation with their loved ones or are discharged from the service, some of them become part of the volunteers in putting together care packages



Azusa Mayor Joe Rocha (center-back row) and Councilman Eddie Alvarez (6th from left-back row) led a group of volunteers, including members from the Azusa Veterans Memorial Committee, Azusa Rotary Club, and various Girl Scout Troops in sorting out donated goods and packaging military care packages for deployed Azusans.

for those deployed. Such is the case of Councilman Eddie Alvarez, Navy, and Patrick Padilla, Army.

While the military provides the basics of food, shelter and gear, the soldiers must use their military pay to buy personal items and treats, such as gum, candy, or thick white socks to wear with combat boots. However, even if they are willing to pay for such treats, some personal items are hard to find, es-

pecially in combat zones. Military care packages make soldiers' lives a little bit easier and more enjoyable by providing these extras, especially during the Holidays. Each care package depending on its contents weighs between 40-50 pounds of donated goods, including funds for their

mailing. Many of the soldiers that have been discharged and returned home have expressed that they are so happy to receive the packages because it assures them that they are remembered back home and that those back home are so

grateful to them for their sacrifices. They have also informed Mayor Rocha or their families that they shared the contents of their care packages with their comrades just in time for the Christmas Holidays.

"Sending a care package to our troops is a way to let them know that we care for them. Whether you know of a specific service member overseas or are reaching out anonymously, volunteering to collect its contents, sort them out, or package them, is the right thing to do for those who love us and protect us, especially when the youth gets involved, such as local Girl Scouts," said Azusa Mayor Rocha.

It was obvious that everyone present enjoyed collecting the contents and assembling the care packages full of "goodies," for each known Azusa Military Hero, currently deployed overseas. Everyone hoped that this year would be the last time that there was a need to put together care packages and that all Azusa heroes return home safely.

L.A. County Assessor Prang Sworn In To Second Term, Promises Continued Reforms & Modernization



LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Assessor Jeffrey Prang was sworn in for a second term as the 27th Assessor of Los Angeles County before a crowd of more than 500 friends, family, officials, and staff.

In his remarks, Prang highlighted successes attained since taking the helm at the Assessor's office four years ago, including technological modernization and lowering backlogs in new construction processing and assessment appeals. Prang's also thanked his staff for their commitment to public service excellence and lauded this year's record-breaking Assessment Roll value while noting simultaneous savings to a record number of veterans, homeowners, and non-profit organizations.

"I am excited for what the

next four years will hold as we complete the technological innovation of the Office, bring new vision to our public service, and continue to dedicate ourselves to the people of this County," said Assessor Prang.

The Oath of Office ceremony at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, emceed by former State Assemblymember Mike Eng, also included County Board of Supervisors Chair Janice Hahn, Superior Court Judge Dean Hansell, Rabbi Denise Eger, Abbe Land of the Women and Girls Initiative, and Grammy-nominated singer Jonathan Grier and the Tribe of Judah.

Assessor Prang stated, "We have achieved many of the tasks we set for ourselves four years ago, demonstrating definitively that the Office of the Assessor is an agency of which both its employees and the public can be proud.

He continued, "The oath I took today signifies my continued commitment to fulfill the pursuit of excellence in public service; to lead the way so that others may follow; and to improve the quality of life for all families in the County."

Rotary Club of West Covina Awards Teacher Mini-Grants to West Covina Unified School District Teachers



2018 Mini-Grant winners and presenters.

WEST COVINA - On December 5, 2018 in the West Covina Unified School District Board Meeting Room Mrs. Phyllis

McDonald, Director West Covina Rotary Club Teacher Mini-Grants handed out checks to the winning applicants. Fund-

ing for the grants is provided by the Rotary Club of West Covina Foundation.

Congratulations to the following winning applicants of this year's Mini-Grants: Joseph Lechner, Laurie San Miguel (Cameron Elementary School), Allison Burton, Lucy Lopez (Merlinda Elementary School), Laura Perez-Vasquez (Orangewood Elementary School), Brenda Hall, Dianna McRann (Vine Elementary School), Cynthia Martin (Hollencrest Middle School), Linda Roberson (Walnut Grove Middle School), Phillip Goehle, Connor Hipwell (Edgewood Middle/High School), Rebeca Peters (Coronado High School), Tyler Wigglesworth (West Covina High School), Garrett Fisch (Mt. Sac Early College Academy).

The Teachers' Mini-Grant Program began in 1985 by the West Covina Rotary Club following the success of a similar program begun by the Honeywell Corporation.

The program awards competitive grants of up to \$300 for special classroom projects which would not otherwise be funded. Any Kindergarten through twelfth grade classroom teacher in the West Covina Unified School District may apply. A panel from education and business review and rank all applications based on innovation, benefit to students and clarity.

West Covina Officers Search for Suspects



West Covina Police officers hunt down suspects near Del Norte Park. (Photo by West Covina Mayor Lloyd Johnson)

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - On Monday, December 10, West Covina Police responded to Del Norte Park just off Sunset north of the I-10 freeway to search for suspects. Calls came in that three suspects were seen breaking into cars and the police showed up in force.

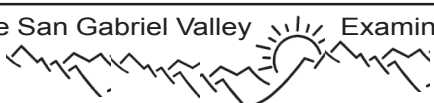
As the police arrived, the trio took off on foot and the police hot on their tail. Two suspects

were taken down and the search continued for the third suspect.

The police came armed with automatic weapons, bean bag shotgun, Taser, the police helicopter arrived and then they had their drone.

As the police approached one home the residents came out and told the police and what they understood them to say that one of the suspects got in-

side their home. An extensive search of the home including a mechanical search device and camera was used in the attic. The suspect was not found. It appears that the residents meant to say the suspect was inside their yard. The search of the home became a delay for searching other areas which may have allowed the third suspect to avoid capture.



Duarte Unified School District Board Of Education Election Results

Voters Elect Diaz, Bell and Carroll to School Board



Reyna Diaz
DUARTE - Three seats on the Board of Education for the Duarte Unified School District were on the November 6 General Election ballot. Based on the official certified results announced by the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder/County Clerk, voters issued a mandate to return incumbents Reyna Diaz and Ken Bell to their positions for another four-year term, and elected new member, Ceci Escarcega Carroll, to complete the two-year unexpired term ending December of 2020.

The final canvass of the vote was completed officially on November 30. Once all the ballots had been counted, Diaz (29.08%) and Bell (25.86%) had captured a collective 54.94% of the vote to surpass the other three candidates vying for the two four-year term seats: Miriam Perez (21.41%), Jody Schultz (18.25%) and Cristobal Nahui-Ortega (5.41%).

The two candidate race for the special election unexpired two-year term between Carroll and Irene Murray, was won by Carroll with 51.32% of the reported vote. The seat Carroll was elected to fill was previously held by Murray through a provisional appointment. Sitting members, Douglas Edwards and Tom Reyes, remain on the Board and were not up for election this cycle. Their term expires December of 2020.

Diaz has been a resident of



Ken Bell
Duarte for 27 years, and was first elected to the school board in 1997. She states her top priorities will continue to be supporting students, teachers and staff, academic achievement, safety, and school choice. Serving as a governing member for 29 years, Bell shares he remains dedicated to working to create and maintain a safe and superior learning environment for all of the children the district serves. Carroll has been an involved member of the Duarte community for over 16 years. She affirms her focus will be on supporting the vision of the Competitive Advantage Plan by lending her unique perspective as a parent of students in the district.

"I congratulate Mrs. Diaz and Mr. Bell on their re-election and value the wealth of experience they offer our governance team and the vast contributions they have made to this community. The dedication they have demonstrated to serving the children and supporting the staff of Duarte Unified is admirable. Their ef-



Ceci Escarcega Carroll
forts have been directly responsible for moving our district forward," stated Dr. Gordon Amerson, Superintendent of Schools.

"I am also pleased to welcome new board member, Mrs. Ceci Carroll. As a parent of two children within our district who has taken an active role as a volunteer in our schools, Mrs. Carroll has solid insight into our governance needs and no doubt will be a strong advocate for our students and staff. I am eager to work with each member of our Board to continue the positive momentum that has positioned Duarte Unified to be the destination for a first-class education within this region."

The newly elected board members will be officially sworn in to take the oath of office at the annual Organizational Meeting of the school board scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2018. At this meeting, the selection of the President and Vice President of the Board of Education for the 2018-2019 year will be determined.

Bikers Show in Force for "Toys for Tots" at West Covina VFW



Bikers for Toys for Tots at the VFW in West Covina.

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - Bikers from all over Southern California came to the West Covina VFW Post 8620 on Sunday for the Toys for Tots toy drive. The Marines were on board with the toy drive once again.

Bikers with Harley Davidsons were at the VFW in the morning with the "Rice Rocket Bikers" showing up in

the afternoon. There were no issues, but on the way to the event, some of the Rice Rocket Bikers decided to block the I-10 Freeway and pull some stunts for the motorists. This is a "no - no."

The CHP was following the bikers on the freeway with a helicopter and when they started acting up, they started filming the violators. CHP unit

responded and blocked the street at the arrival point, the VFW. Since the violators and all the other bikers were fully co-operative, they decided they would not impound any of the bikes involve. Some of the officers participated by buying tickets to help with the cause.

The CHP would like to possibly participate next year, maybe providing an escort to the event from where the kickstands go up.

This was a very successful event with great music, food and most certainly motorcycles.

Highway 39 Crash Injures Motorcyclist

By George Ogden

AZUSA - A sheriff's rescue helicopter airlifted a motorcycle rider injured in a crash on Highway 39 north of Azusa to a local trauma center on Sunday, Dec. 9.

Around 11:50 a.m. a motorcycle rider crashed and went down in the middle of the road on Highway 39 north of Azusa occurred near mile marker 34, a few miles

south of Falling Springs.

A sheriff's rescue helicopter was called with paramedics on board to treat the critically injured biker. He was stabilized and airlifted to a local trauma center.

It is unknown what caused the crash. Highway 39 was shut down while they did the rescue and investigated the crash.



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The San Gabriel Valley Examiner

The San Gabriel Police Department Is Helping Keep Roadways Safe Over Christmas/New Year's Holidays

SAN GABRIEL -The Christmas and New Year's holidays are ways to spend time with family and friends ringing in another year, but also a time when people can make poor choices that put themselves and others at risk on the road.

To help spread the message about the dangers of drunk and drugged driving, the San Gabriel Police Department is partnering with the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to get impaired drivers off roads.

During the high-visibility enforcement campaign Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, which runs from Dec. 14-Jan. 1, the San Gabriel Police Department will have more officers on the road conducting saturation patrols looking for drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

In addition, the San Gabriel

Police Department will hold a DUI checkpoint on December 14th, 2018 between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. at an undisclosed location within San Gabriel City limits looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment, as well as checking drivers for proper licensing.

"Whether you are home with family or at the bar, it is important that you find a sober ride home after drinking," said Traffic Bureau Sergeant, Cruz Hernandez. As an adult, it is up to you to make adult decisions and drive sober or use a ride share service. There are no excuses for driving impaired."

The San Gabriel Police Department also reminds drivers that "DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze." Marijuana, prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications can also be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs.

During the 2017 Christmas (Dec. 22-25) and New Year's (Dec. 30-Jan. 2) holiday periods, 25 people were killed and 643 injured on California roads, according to data from the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS).

"Drunk driving continues to be a huge problem in this country, and more recently, marijuana and drug-impaired driving," said Traffic Bureau Sergeant, Cruz Hernandez. "People are out and about shopping for the holidays and going to or hosting parties, so it is important that everyone acts responsibly behind the wheel."

Funding for impaired driving enforcement operations are provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

County Probation Department Receives Grant To Monitor High-Risk, Repeat DUI Offenders

LOS ANGELES COUNTY -The County of Los Angeles has been awarded a \$299,377.00 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to the Los Angeles County Probation Department, ensuring that high-risk, repeat DUI offenders with suspended or revoked licenses are complying with all court orders.

"The Los Angeles County Probation Department is pleased to again be a recipient of the Office of Traffic Safety grant," stated Chief Probation Officer Terri L. McDonald. "These funds allow us to continue providing officers dedicated to promote public safety and provide for healthier and safer communities."

The grant will fund Probation Department personnel to monitor drivers on probation for fel-

ony DUI or multiple misdemeanor or DUI convictions, including conducting unannounced Fourth Amendment waiver home searches, random alcohol and drug testing, and making sure those on probation are attending court-ordered DUI education and treatment programs.

This grant is aimed at reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol and other drug related collisions in Los Angeles County by preventing DUI offenders with suspended or revoked licenses from getting behind the wheel and violating the terms of their probation. In 2016, 97 were killed and 6,691 injured in such crashes in Los Angeles County.

"Intensive supervision of DUI offenders helps ensure that these offenders are not a risk to them-

selves or others," OTS Director Rhonda Craft said. "Our coordinated effort with the Los Angeles County Probation Department to keep a close eye on DUI offenders reduces their chance of re-offending, making roadways safer for everyone."

While alcohol remains the worst offender for DUI crashes, the Los Angeles County Probation Department supports efforts from OTS that "DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze." Prescription medications and cannabis can also be impairing by themselves, or in combination with alcohol, and can result in a DUI arrest.

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

Arcadia Public Library Accepts Passport Applications

ARCADIA -Planning spring and summer travel? Did you know that Arcadia Public Library accepts passport applications on behalf of the U.S. Department of State? U.S. citizens planning international travel may apply for their passports on Mondays through Thursdays during the day and evening; Fridays until 5 pm; and Saturday mornings (by appointment only). Appointments, photos, forms and mailing options are all available. Call 626-

294-4848 for appointments and information.

"We're offering customer-friendly hours and service," said Pat Smith, Library Services Manager. "Not only does the Library offer amazing resources for the traveler, but now we can help with passports as well."

For online application forms, information on necessary documentation, fees and a wealth of other passport and international travel information, visit the offi-

cial State Department Passport website: travel.state.gov

For more information about the Library's Passport Services, please call 626.294.4848, or 626.821.4364, or visit the Arcadia Public Library's website at www.ArcadiaCA.gov/library. The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia. The Library is open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

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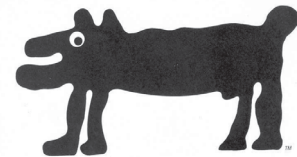
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Los Angeles County Ordinance Protects Consumers from Price Gouging Following Woolsey Fire

LOS ANGELES COUNTY -Price gouging is against the law! The Department of Consumer and Business Affairs encourages residents affected by the recent Woolsey Fire to notify the department if they encounter dramatically inflated prices following the disaster.

Examples of price gouging include large increases in the cost of food, lodging, gasoline, repair services and more, which some residents have reported to DCBA during and after the Woolsey Fire and other emergencies.

If you suspect price gouging, call DCBA at (800) 593-8222 or file a report online at

dcba.lacounty.gov.

Businesses cannot increase the price of vital and necessary goods and services more than 10 percent within 30 days of a declared emergency, including hotels and rental units, and within 180 days for any contractor-related services, such as repair and reconstruction services.

Los Angeles County residents are protected by the County's price gouging ordinance and the California Penal Code following an emergency declaration. The Board of Supervisors enacted the County's ordinance in 2016 to strengthen consumer protections against business owners and ser-

vice providers who exploit emergencies by unreasonably hiking the cost of basic necessities.

Violation of the County ordinance is a misdemeanor. Conviction will result in a fine up to \$1,000, and/or imprisonment for up to six months in the county jail.

For more information about avoiding price gouging and how to avoid scams after a disaster, visit dcba.lacounty.gov/Disaster-Ready.

For all updates from the County of Los Angeles for those affected by the Woolsey Fire, visit <https://www.lacounty.gov/lacountyrecovers/>

"TIME JOCKEY" - Parade During World War II

By Joe Castillo
Conflict in the Parade...

The 1940 Rose Bowl provided an exciting football game with two undefeated teams, USC and Tennessee, providing the fireworks in the annual renewal of the Rose Bowl which pitted the best team from the East versus the best team from the West. Tennessee entered the game with a winning streak of 21 games, completed the 1939 season with a 10-0 record and outscored opponents 212 to zero. The USC team had also gone undefeated but tied UCLA in the season finale. The coaches of the PAC-8 Conference voted to send USC to Rose Bowl game as the conference representative. The game was very competitive but USC held on and defeated the Volunteers 14-0 to claim the title of Rose Bowl champion. The game marked the last time both teams would be invited to play in the game after the Tournament of Roses Committee voted to invite the PAC-8 Conference winner to play in the annual game each New Year's Day. The Committee would invite the best team from

the East to match up with the PAC-8 winner.

The theme of the Rose Parade was "The Twentieth Century in Flowers" which was seeking to promote peace, progress and love of nature during a time when nearly the entire world was at war. Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen were named as the Grand Marshalls and Malicious, one of the most popular racehorses at Santa Anita, walked the entire parade route in special shoes to protect his valuable feet.

The 1941 Rose Parade Theme was "America in Flowers" which hoped to bring out patriotism in a floral design. But it was the Japanese entry which captured the votes of the judges who awarded it the Rose Parade Theme award. The Japanese float entry depicted the U.S. Capital with thousands of white Chrysanthemums and a flag with of red and white carnations. Five young Japanese-American women rode the float under a grove of cherry trees. Stanford defeated Nebraska, and though it was a well-played and entertaining game, it would be the final game before the attack

on Pearl Harbor.

On December 7, 1941, the naval base on Hawaii was bombed by the Japanese and the parade was cancelled and the game moved away from the west coast. But the spirit was kept alive when the Queen and her court rode the entire length of the parade route trying to raise awareness for war bonds. At the Memorial Monument, at Colorado Boulevard and Orange Grove Boulevard, the Queen and her court gathered for the press and media showing their patriotism in the war effort. The game was moved from the West Coast as part of the order of darkness along the Pacific Coast, and was played in Durham, North Carolina in front of a small crowd. Oregon State defeated Duke 20-16 but the war was about to take its toll on the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game over the next four years...

Joe Castillo is a freelance historical writer who has been covering Southern California history for 10 years and has written 4 books on the topic. He can be reached at joeacastillo@aol.com.

San Gabriel Valley Examiner
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- We also believe in accuracy in fact and context. Journalists should be accountable for any news or subjects they write about.
- We believe in growth. Therefore, complaints or mistakes erroneously committed will be entertained and investigated diligently and corrected accordingly.
- We believe in performing our journalistic work to the best of our ability and will continue to present the facts clearly and fairly.

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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.

Ballot Harvesting: New California Election System

Ballot Harvesting is the new political methodology to get the most votes and win elections. Thanks to out-going Gov. Brown and legislation he signed, we have amended our election rules, and from Shade's Perspective, that has increased the opportunity for fraud and eradicated the terminology of and sense of voter integrity.

There are those of us who believe requiring identification at the polls to vote would give our political system the veracity it deserves, and should have, to ensure our system remains unquestionably best in the world. To go to the polls on election day and voice your opinion on a piece of paper that dictates how your jurisdiction is run - whether it is federal, state or local - is the opportunity people around the world are hungry for and in some instances die trying to achieve. To allow our system to degenerate to a "banana republic" style system is unconscionable. Those who are trying to achieve that should be taken out of office and run out of state.

Shawn Steel, a former California Republican Party Chair, is California's Committeeman for the Republican National Committee, and an Orange County resident. His article in the Washington Times is the best critique of what has and is happening in California and has the potential to happen across the country concerning elections. You can view his article on Shade's Perspective facebook by going in and scrolling down to the article.

As we in the 48th Assembly District, and many others throughout the state, wrestle with the homeless issue in our communities, we know some of those on our streets are the result of AB 109, early releases



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

due to prison overcrowding without mental health and drug support systems, and Prop 47, reducing felonies to misdemeanors. Under AB 2466 signed by Gov. Brown, many of those individuals are now allowed to vote along with those still incarcerated.

The elections code use to allow those who could not go to the polls, to vote by mail or have a family member return the ballot to the precinct board member at the polling place. AB1921, signed by Gov. Brown two years ago, now allows a voter to designate any person to return the ballot to the precinct board. Anyone from candidate volunteers, party operatives or anyone else who chooses for any reason to do so.

Ballot harvesting at its worse was when Democrat volunteers went three or four times to the house of a Republican husband and wife and requested their 18-year old, no party preference registered daughter to allow them to pick up her ballot and take it to the polls for her.

San Francisco Chronicle reported, election-day, vote-by-mail drop-off ballots was over 250,000 in Orange County alone where every House seat suddenly turned Democratic. One tar-

geted Republican, I was told, ended up with 18,000 ballots turned in taking her win to a big loss. Orange County's registrar of voters, Neal Kelley, told the San Francisco Chronicle that the county [certainly had ballot harvesting] going on here, with people dropping off maybe 100 or 200 ballots.

I was visiting relatives back on the east coast at election time years ago and that's when I first heard about "walking around money" or "street money". In some instances, at that time, it was legal and if not, no one seemed to pay much attention. It was just noted in the political columns thought to be occurring and in what areas. If there were recipients, none ever came forward.

"Walking around money", in the columns I read back there, was candidate or party money in the pocket of the candidate or party volunteers, who gave cash to encourage target populations to vote one way or not to vote one way or not at all. Is this next on California's election rule changes list to assist in ballot harvesting?

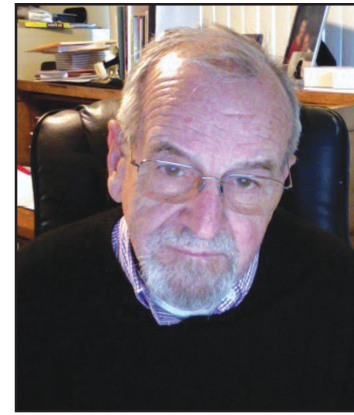
We have those now in jails with reduced sentences due to Prop 47 and out on the streets because of AB 109 early release programs who have been given the right to vote under Brown's new legislation. Out on the streets with no mental health care or drug interdiction support. Take a look out your front door and tell me what you think happens if someone comes up to one of them with some "walking around incentive" and asks to help them out with their ballot and offers to deliver it to the polling place? That's Ballot Harvesting at its quickest, easiest and surely not clearly identifiable.

When Do They Shower?

"When does he/she shower?" I don't know if I read the question, heard it or found it in the vast collection of random thoughts that flow through my awareness. Whatever, it is a very important political question, and one that the Democrats have largely forgotten how to ask. Consider: There are those who shower in the mornings before they dress for the day's work. They may wear suits or dresses, but they can count on putting on different clothing each day.

Then there are those who come home at the end of the workday sweaty, grimy and ready for a good, hot, soapy shower. When they dress before work it will be in the same sort of clothes they wear every working day. These are the people who make almost everything it takes to keep society going. Or they may grow the food and fiber that feeds and clothes the rest of even though historically the nation's workers have been the backbone of the Democratic Party-the people for whom FDR launched and funded THE NEW DEAL. And many of them live in States that in 2016 the party either took for granted or simply ignored. Millions of these after-work shower-ers manned the factories and fields throughout America's midlands, and until recently had been the life-blood of liberal politics.

Key to their support was "The National Labor Relations Act of 1935." This law, The Wagner Act, became the lynchpin affirming the right of labor to share in the nation's prosperity. As such it guaranteed the rights of private sector employees to organize unions and be supported by them. While vigorously fought by the political and economic right wing, its enactment became the core of almost every American city's prosperity, particularly in what is now The Rust Belt. Where you once found healthy middle-class cities and towns, you would have found strong la-



Charles H. Bayer

bor unions that guaranteed millions of America's workers not only a living wage, but also decent working conditions. Around the industrialized world, the ability of labor to organize and bargain for a share of the wealth they produced has been the core of almost everyone's prosperity.

While it has never been officially repealed, The Wagner Act has consistently been under attack by America's conservatives, basically through the Republican Party. Conservatives, having the money and the political power to destroy every advance made on behalf of Americans who shower after work, they have sought to systematically dismantle the gains produced by organized labor. First there was the Taft-Hartley Act severely restricting unions' ability to represent millions of America's workers. This rollback of worker's rights was followed by the adoption in State after State of so-called Right to Work laws, which cripple organized labor's capacity to meet the owners of America's corporate engines on equal terms. So in recent years the already rich have gotten even richer and America's workers have been left behind. In terms of spendable dollars, their wages have not improved for more than thirty years. The recently passed tax bill has simply added to the inequality.

Having essentially destroyed the labor movement, the owners of our nation's economic powerhouses realized that their addi-

tional wealth lay in the even cheaper supply of labor plentiful in undeveloped world. So they have moved much of their productive capacity overseas. The empty factories and the withering of the communities they formerly supported are testimonies to this manipulation. The creation of the rust belt is not that the products formerly produced in the abandoned factories are no longer necessary, but that they are now being produced outside The United States with workers being paid only a thin slice of what organized labor once guaranteed America's workers.

Having gutted community after their community wealthy conservatives have now reappeared as saviors of the decimated cities and towns they helped destroy. One must lay much of the blame for the creation of the rust belt on these economic and political conservatives for playing a zero sum game when they already had most of the chips.

On the other hand, one must also fault the liberals of the Democratic Party for letting it happen. Their defense of the Wagner Act and their failure to support organized labor has been deplorable. In the 2016 Presidential election, and even in the 2018 mid-term election, the Democrats downplayed both organized Labor and the states that had been the backbone of liberal progress.

The Party simply forgot even knowing how to appeal to the after-work-shower Americans. Having turned their backs on what had been their most important voting block, in 2016 the Democrats lost the critical states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. The effort to reclaim them in 2018 was too little and too late. Whether they will develop ways to appeal to the working people of these areas in time to make a difference in 2020 is as yet unclear.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

Think When You Drive, Prevent Road Rage

We have seen too many times that road rage can become deadly. Recently I was talking with a young man whose fiancé was killed because of a brake-check she did on the freeway. The young lady was with her girlfriend on the 605 freeway when this happened a few years ago. The girlfriend said that she hit the brakes to get some guy to stop tailgating her. It almost caused an accident.

The other driver then became irritated and nearly hit them from behind a number of times. She finally pulled over and he got up alongside of her and she gave him the finger. He responded by shooting her in the head. The car crashed off the side of the freeway and she died. This was the result of "Road Rage" between two drivers. The shooter was never found.

Sometimes people just don't think when they are driving. A few examples; when a traffic light turns green and you're going to make a left turn, pull into the intersection so other cars behind you can also move into the inter-



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

section to make the turn as well if you have to wait the full phase of the red light. Some idiots wait at the limit line and when the light turns red, they run the light and make the turn stranding the cars behind them. There have been incidents where there have been violent road rage resulting in crashes, fights and in one case where someone was killed, just because of that.

At a spotlight or stop sign when you are in the lane next to the curb, leave enough room so cars can make a right turn on the red light or with a long line of traffic at a stop sign have room to get by. I have seen people drift

towards the curb so people can't get by. A few months back, this jerk tried to squeeze by a long line of traffic to make a right turn. One car was out of line and was to the right where this guy couldn't pass. He laid on the horn then proceeded to pass within inches of the blocking vehicle. Then came the mirrors. They were in the way and the guy that was trying to pass was so mad he broke off the mirror of the blocking car so he could get by. He simply broke it off and it had wires on it and he tossed it on the fender and hood and he continued along the curb and made a right turn. Now there is about a \$400 to \$500 repair.

I still have to laugh at those people who STILL don't turn on their lights in the rain. Talking with the AAA, they had over 500 claims in the L.A. area during this last rainstorm. This is just one insurance company. It doesn't take that much in the way of brains to just slow down.

"That's just the way it is!"

Car Crash Kills Driver in Azusa Dead Body Found in West Covina

By George Ogden

AZUSA - On Sunday morning, Dec. 9, first responders were called to the scene of a single car crash involving a 1990 Mazda RX-7. A 21-year-old motorist who was driving was killed in the crash on the San Gabriel Canyon Road, near the San Gabriel River in Azusa. The crash, at Mile Marker 25.44, occurred just before midnight. The car, heading northbound, for some reason went off the side of the road and struck a tree. Speed may have been a factor and blood tests will determine if alcohol or drugs also play a part.

Paramedics responded and pronounced the driver, Demean Aviles of Los Angeles, dead at the scene at 12:23 a.m. The Los Angeles County coroner's office was called to the location at 12:35 a.m. The accident is still under investigation.

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - On Wednesday morning, December 5, 2018 at 10:26 AM, the West Covina Police Department received a call from a passerby who saw what appeared to be a body lying in the small field area by the bushes next to the freeway in the area of the 3200 block of E. Holt Avenue, West Covina.

Officers responded to the location and found a male who was deceased. The victim did not have any identification on him and remains unidentified. The body was already in a state of decomposition making it difficult to determine any further details about the victim's description. The cause of death is unknown. The Coroner's Office responded to remove the body pending further investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the West Covina Police Department at 626 939-8500.

Democrat Hunting Party is Bagging Elephants

My cynicism comes through often with stories or events. And some events that have happened lately have aroused those feelings again. President Trump announced two potential appointees to fill positions that will be vacant. The highest profile one is White House Chief of Staff with General Kelly getting ready to depart. The other appointment is for a replacement to fill the position of UN Ambassador, as Nikki Haley prepares to move on. Oddly, President Trump's pick for the Chief of Staff was a gentleman named Nick Ayers who has already chosen to drop out. While that is rather odd, the Haley replacement is dealing with other issues. Heather Nauert, formerly a Fox reporter and anchor person, who was picked, upon Trump's election, to be his State Department spokesperson, has been selected for the UN appointment.

Nauert's situation seems to play into the controversy of Left-handed Sexism. Several Democrats on the Hill, most emphatically represented by Hawaii Senator Hirono doesn't think Nauert is qualified and the most amusing comments came from the CNN and MSNBC pundits who called her not only a person not qualified, but referred to her as a "News Reader" who spent most of her career at Fox.

Well, there it is. The news readers call out a "news reader." And of course, a combination of Trump and Fox in your portfolio is worthy of the mainstream media criticism, always consistent and oddly similar with their talking points. They all read the same script.

But there is bigger situation at



Charles Lopresto

hand. My cynicism tells me that it is seems almost unavoidable to recognize the likelihood that the ultimate goal and agenda of the Democrat party is to eliminate the GOP altogether. Blocking any nominees, using immigration to stack the votes with new signees, gerrymandering, and using the money of rich Left wing activist to do just that. In addition using the mass media and the big megaphones of Hollywood to shame the Republican candidates whenever they are, seeking to run, or be appointed to, a Trump administration position, by being subject to the endless attacks, investigations and mudslinging. Nauert and Ayers may have already started to feel it.

The ultimate question for any of these people is simple. Is any person, not as rich as Trump, not as brash as Trump, not as unwilling to be bothered by insults as Trump, and not as equipped in defensive resources as Trump,

willing to put themselves, their families, their careers, and their reputation through this turmoil? In other words, asking to be no more than a big target. Confirmation hearings, thanks to the Democrats have become shooting galleries, maybe literally.

The whole process of using certain means to eliminate the very existence of the GOP has worked well and look no further than the California model. California put through a measure that eliminated the segregated two party primary. Democrats worked it into a new measure where the top vote getters regardless of party, fill the two general election spots. Look at Diane Feinstein who ran against another Liberal Democrat, providing a race with little opportunity for covering policies and issues, just personalities. And the Golden State has very few Republicans, if any at all occupying government positions.

And why eliminate all but one party? So Democrats can have a one party system and control, or in other words, possibly Socialism. Or even worse, Communism.

The Republicans are either blind to it, oblivious of it, denying it or just don't care enough because of their own personal desires to seek power.

And that suits the Democrats just fine.

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Another Correction Causes Another Wave of Panic

Stocks temporarily bounced back last Monday on improving trading volume as a "melt up" ensued and short sellers ran for cover. However, after the short covering ended, volatility with extreme oscillation ensued with an 800-point drop.

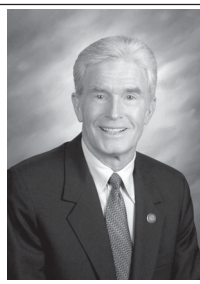
During the prior week Fed Chairman Jerome Powell got both bond and stock markets excited by appearing to be more dovish in a speech before the Economic Club of New York. Specifically, Chairman Powell said, "Interest rates are still low by historical standards, and they remain just below the broad range of estimates of the level that would be neutral for the economy ... that is, neither speeding up nor slowing down growth." By saying that rates are "just below neutral," Powell basically implied that the Fed might be raising rates only once or twice more. In his best Fedpeak, he seemed to be implying that the U.S. economy is close to meeting the Fed's mandate of promoting maximum employment with price stability.

Despite the market's periods of strength, financial markets will eventually have to deal with Brexit, a detailed resolution of the trade deal with China, the upcoming FOMC meeting, GM's plant closings, and a continuing war of words by President Trump focused on the Fed.

The market has provided traders and investors alike with something similar to Mr. Toad's Wild Ride instead of what we're more accustomed to - a nice smooth sleigh ride into Christmas. The main cause for the dramatic market swing was the G20 meeting that produced what is being called a "trade truce" (even though both sides are miles apart from resolving their fundamental differences). In fact, other than to not impose more tariffs for 90 days, neither side gave any major concessions over key issues. And while stocks could still get a Christmas pop, my view is that institutions will continue to rebalance their portfolios into investment grade corporate bonds, REITs, utilities, and telecom stocks.

I happened to be watching

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

CNBC last Monday and Jim Cramer seemed to "lose it", saying, "I have a tremendous contempt for this market, because every time you try to make money with it, it cuts your heart out. That's a bear market."

Cramer kept his emotions at "red-alert" levels, saying, "People come in and get their heads cut off. I just feel ashamed. It's very hard to be very positive about the market unless you're an idiot."

Well, call me an idiot. I don't trade every day, or every week, or every month, and I don't watch hyper-ventilating or emotional gurus who push buttons on the air an hour or more a day. But fast action seems to be what viewers want. Entertainment value lures more eyeballs, and that's what advertisers apparently support.

Stocks have been on a yo-yo string all year, with six up months and five down months - a strong January, then a big plunge, a slow claw-back and then another big plunge, and now maybe another start of a recovery with one month to go in a troubled year. However, the big picture shows a reasonable gain since Donald Trump was elected!

We have been waiting for a "day of capitulation". This past week was dreadful for the "long positioned" investors as the market could not maintain a bid throughout the turmoil. Market capitulation requires HEAVY selling volume which was lacking even with the volatility. Friday's employment number should have had a positive effect but that reaction never materialized. November nonfarm payrolls rose 155k, short of the consensus 198k, and October was revised down 13k from 250k to 237k. September was revised up one thousand to 119k. The unemploy-

ment rate fell slightly, from 3.735% to 3.671%, but not enough to change the one decimal rate from 3.7%. Average hourly earnings rose less than expected.

This weaker than expected employment report was consistent with a moderate economic slowdown. This also was a market-friendly employment report, strong enough to remain consistent with decent growth while not strong enough to justify a tougher stance from the Fed. However, the Traders I know expect the market to continue its gyrations until after the December 19 FOMC meeting.

Using the S&P 500, since this bull market began almost 10 years ago, there have been six corrections of 10% or more, including two in the last year. If you want to stretch the traditional 10% measuring stick a tad, from 2008 to the present, there have been eight corrections of 9.8% or more. We also came close to a 20% bear market trigger in 2011 with a 19.4% decline in the S&P 500. In each of these cases, the proper response was to BUY stocks, not panic.

What logic would support that the proper strategy in the seven previous instances is no longer the proper strategy today? To argue this negative case, you need to point to a situation of deteriorating fundamentals, such as higher P/E ratios (not so); falling earnings (not yet anyway); a looming recession (not close); or significantly higher inflation, interest rates, or taxes (no, nope, and nada).

In my view, we should do the same thing now that we did in previous market corrections - buy low, or just hold on.

And don't forget - November to April usually provides the best six months of the year for stocks, and November already delivered a bit more than its historic norm (1.8% vs. a normal 1.5%). Let's not panic just yet.

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

Your Money - Ask Julia

Be safe! It can save you time and money.

DUI's are very expensive! Although use of marijuana is now legal in California, you can get a DUI if found driving 'high.' Also check the warnings on your prescription and over-the-counter drugs for advice against operating machinery (also includes cars, trucks, motorcycles, etc.). If you drink (even if you only have a light 'buzz') don't drive. Don't advertise to burglars. Put your packages in your car trunk when shopping. Do not leave your purse unattended in your shopping cart. Lock your doors, and keep your garage door closed when not in use. Be aware. Be alert. Please check your smoke detectors and install new batteries. (I encourage you to do this for a senior, or disabled, neighbor, too.) If you are taking a trip, be discrete about loading luggage into your car. Stop your newspaper and mail delivery, or ask a trusted neighbor to collect them for you. Put some interior lights on a timer to go on at night, and leave your porch lights on.

What's the website for money the State is holding, waiting for people to claim it? If I find any funds there, how do I go about claiming it?

For the state of California, go to <https://ucpi.sco.ca.gov/ucp> Don't let anyone charge you to do this for you. (If you do not have access to the internet, I'll look it up for you - no charge.) Instruc-



Julia Yoder

tions for filing a claim are on that website, too.

Can I just wait until 2019 to cash my end-of-year bonus check so I don't have to pay taxes on it as income in 2018?

No, the income would still be earned in 2018. However, you could ask your boss to issue the check in 2019. Make sure to ask for taxes to be withheld. An important factor in deciding whether to get your bonus this year or next is to determine whether or not you are going to be forced to pay the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT.) Either do your research online at the tax websites, or talk to your CPA.

How do I go about figuring out my RMD?

The IRS provides worksheets and tables for calculating your Required Minimum Distribution. (See IRS.gov) You must receive the RMD for the year you turn age 70 1/2 by April 1 of the following year. For all subsequent years, you must receive your

RMD by December 31st of that year. Failure to do so results in a 50% penalty of the amount that should have been distributed to you.

What's the deadline for opening a Roth IRA?

To start a new Roth IRA for 2018, you have until April 15, 2019. You can also open or add to a Roth IRA for 2018 in 2019. The Federal income tax and California State income tax due date will be April 15, 2019. Check with your CPA for further clarification about a Roth IRA, and/or visit the website: irs.gov

Can I buy a life insurance policy on my grandchild?

Yes. A specific life insurance policy that could build up a cash value account might become a very sizeable gift for your grandchild to use for a higher education, purchasing a home, retirement savings, and more.

Ask Julia by email:
juliayoder@yahoo.com

This is your opportunity to simplify your life by having one professional working personally with you to coordinate your finances, investments, real estate, mortgage, insurance, retirement, and estate plans. CA Insurance 0C83859/Real Estate Broker 01238153/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.

Monrovia Becomes Dementia Friendly City

MONROVIA - The City of Monrovia is known for many things, a robust downtown, a beautiful view nestled in the San Gabriel foothills, a connected community where people come together to be one of the most family friendly cities in America, historic, cultural, economically diverse and inviting, and now, Dementia Friendly.

This collaborative effort is part of the Dementia Friendly America movement. It's genesis in Monrovia was the Monrovia Provider's Group, a network of for profit and non-profit organizations and agencies who provide support services for older adults and their families.

Recently a broader cross section of organizations representing businesses, educators, law enforcement, first responders,

health care, the faith community, local government, community members and other partners has formed in Monrovia, guided by Senior Helpers Community Relations Coordinator, Nathan Kirschenbaum, Alzheimer's Los Angeles, Public Policy Manager, Kelly Honda and a diverse group of senior focused individuals, including the Monrovia Public Library and Community Center Staff, the committee meets regularly to advance the effort to develop programming and resources for Monrovia residents and their families that live with dementia. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, **December 13** at Azusa Pacific University School of Nursing, located at 606 E. Huntington Drive beginning at 3:30pm with an informational community presentation. The

committee is following the Dementia Friendly America process, which includes four detailed phases and develops each community from the grass roots level.

A Dementia Friendly Monrovia is a city where people living with dementia and their families feel embraced, engaging in activities with community wide support and every part of the community working together to create a dementia friendly culture.

For more information the Dementia Friendly Monrovia Committee has a Facebook Page [facebook.com/DementiaFM](https://www.facebook.com/DementiaFM), they meet every other month and would like to hear from community members that are inspired to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors who live with dementia.



THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Checkups - They Keep Us Healthy

Our calendars are filled with important "checkups". Just for our health alone we have:

- Doctor and dentist every 6 months
- Yearly blood test
- Vision and hearing test every year
- Don't forget your pets' trips to the vet!

Our homes require checkups, too!

- Smoke alarm batteries need to be changed every 6 months,
- Fire extinguishers also need a 6-month check!
- Clean the gutters!
- Service the furnace/air conditioner systems and don't forget to have the chimney cleaned!

Our vehicles also require a complete semi and/or annual physical checkup. Many drivers think all that they need to do to keep their car healthy is change the oil. While that is vitally important, that isn't all your vehicle needs. Not only does your car need the fluids and tires checked, it also needs a health scan and an analysis of the "class 2 communication systems" on board your car.

We offer a comprehensive inspection that includes a check of the exterior lighting, mirrors, flashers, interior doors, locks, seat belts, tilt wheel, windows, clock, spare tire/jack, trunk latch, air conditioning and blower motor, heater, defroster, battery and cables, starter, charging system, washer/wipers, power windows, warning lights, horn, complete cooling system performance test, brakes/rotors/calipers/master cylinder/brake lines/fluids/parking brake and engine condition and filters, fluid leaks, exhaust system, mounts, emission systems, transmission condition, steering

and suspension, power steering, ball joints, bushings and of course, the tires!

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Around the Valley & Senior News

AZUSA

Volunteer Drivers Needed

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

TOPS Meeting

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

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

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

ARCADIA

Orchid Hobbyists Meeting

San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists invite you to our **December 17**, Monthly Meeting at the L.A. County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, Ca. Palm Room. Judging at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Our program will be an American Orchid Society Webinar "Green with Envy" Referencing the green color in species and introducing the green spectrum into new hybrids. Refreshments. We welcome everyone!

Instructors Needed

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

Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

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

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

BALDWIN PARK

A Christmas Carol at Pasadena Playhouse:

Join us on Saturday, **December 15th** from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm for everybody's favorite holiday humbug, Ebenezer Scrooge, on a fantastical journey that celebrates the spirit of the season as A Noise Within presents Charles Dickens' beloved story A Christmas Carol, as adapted by the company's own Geoff Elliott. This holiday show tells the story of surly miser Scrooge, whose cold heart has isolated him from his community and the spirit of Christmas. Watch as visits from Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future send Scrooge on his trans-

formational journey to rejoin the world, find redemption and discover what it means to open your heart and be fully human. We will be stopping by Souplantation for brunch before heading to the playhouse (meals at your own expense). Tickets are \$50 for Baldwin Park Residents and \$55 for Non-Residents. Limited Tickets! For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

Birthday Celebration

Join the Julia McNeill Senior Center monthly Birthday Celebration on the third Wednesday (**Dec 19**) of the month from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm. Dance to the music of DJ Sonic Boom as active adults celebrate their birthday. Have some cake and lots of music, as well as door prizes for your celebration! \$1 door admission. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

International Potluck

Come join us on **December 27th** from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm as we celebrate our accomplishments of our year with a taste of dishes from different cultures. Live music performance to be announced. There will be a slideshow of the senior center events of 2018. Please register your dish at the Julia McNeill Senior Center. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

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

BUNCO!

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department is hosting BUNCO at the Covina Senior Center (temporarily located at Lark Ellen Elementary School, 4555 N. Lark Ellen Ave., Covina) on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 1-3 p.m. The cost is \$2. For more information, call (626) 384-5380.

Indoor Chair Beach Volleyball

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department hosts "Indoor Chair Beach Volleyball" at the Covina Senior Center (Temporarily located at Lark Ellen Elementary School, 4555 N. Lark Ellen Ave., Covina) on Thursdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m. For more information, call (626) 384-5380.

DUARTE

Santa's Holiday Party

Santa's Holiday Party is scheduled for Wednesday, **December 19th** and will take place from 4:00-5:30 pm at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive. This event is free and for children ages 5-12. Space is limited to the first 90 participants; therefore, an RSVP is required and can be made by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931. Guests will enjoy holiday games, special crafts, music, prizes, refreshments and quality time with Santa Claus!

Duarte Museum Needs Docents

It's fun and educational! Volunteer to serve as a docent at the

Duarte Historical Museum in Encanto Park. You will serve about every other month on a Wednesday (1-3 p.m.) or Saturday (1-4 p.m.) with a seasoned docent who will train you. Greet visitors, show them around the museum and learn about local history. Training sessions are available. Call Claudia at (626) 358-0329 for more information.

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.

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.

Senior Lunch

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.

Volunteering Does Your Heart Good!

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a Senior Center volunteer. For more information call 357-3513.

GLENDORA

Glendora After Stroke Center

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

Cars 4 the Community

Glendora Rotary has a new and exciting vehicle donation program, called Cars 4 the Community. We are asking for your old car, boat, motorcycle or RV, running or not, be donated and receive a 100% tax deduction for the proceeds. This program helps our schools, community, country and the world. Call 626-963-0814 for more information.

Instructors Needed At The La Fetra Center

The City of Glendora's La Fetra Center is looking for new class instructors! We are seeking out instructors to teach the following: Cooking classes, Spanish lessons, and American

Sign Language (ASL) classes. Share your talents with your peers! If you would like more information on teaching a class at the La Fetra Center contact Jennelle Markel at (626)9148-8235, or email at jmarkel@ci.glendora.ca.us.

LA VERNE

Get About Transportation

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

To Register: (909) 621-9900. To Schedule a ride: (909) 596-5964. For more information, contact Abby Nuyda at 909.621.9900, Extension 228.

MONROVIA

Senior Blood

Pressure Screenings

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

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

Caring Crafters

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

Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

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

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

SAN DIMAS

San Dimas

Toastmasters Club

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

and more in a supportive, self-paced, fun atmosphere. Meets at the Faith Lutheran Church, Parish Hall, 505 E Bonita Ave. Contact Art Douglas at (951) 505-0555.

WEST COVINA

TOPS Meeting

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

Go West

Shuttle Service

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

Covina Senior Center, Cameron Community Center, and many more.

- For questions on the location of shuttle stops, assistance in locating the stop closest to you, and route schedules please call (800) 425-5777.

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

- The fare is only \$1.00 each way.

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

Senior Lunch

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

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

Mother and Son Found Dead in Baldwin Park

By George Ogden

BALDWIN PARK - Baldwin Park Police responded to a call on Tuesday, Dec. 4 around 5:25 a.m. When they arrived, they found two people dead in separate rooms. The deceased were a mother and son. Susie Drake, a 73-year-old woman and her 50-year-old son Joseph Drake, were found dead in their Baldwin Park home in the 3900 block of Kenmore Avenue.

The pair were discovered in separate rooms of the resi-

dence. Susie Drake and Joseph Drake died at the scene and autopsies are pending.

Other relatives who live in the home discovered the male unresponsive in the morning and called 911. Neither victim appeared to suffer any traumatic injury.

The Sheriff's Dept. is still trying to gather as much information as possible to see what happened.

Sheriff's homicide detectives were assisting Baldwin Park police in the investigation.

CAPS Adult Day Care

WEST COVINA - Community Assistance Program for Seniors (CAPS) is a day program designed for adults with Alzheimer's and other types of Memory Loss. We provide Fun and Socialization in a Safe and Caring Environment.

A day at CAPS provides:

- Mentally stimulating activities
- Physical exercise
- Companionship and socialization
- Nutritious lunch and snacks

- Time away from home
- Caregivers can take a break knowing their loved one is being cared for in a safe and friendly setting.

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$67 per day (cost may be covered by insurance in some cases)

Pre registration is required. For more information or to arrange a visit, please call us at (626) 917-4484. West Covina Senior Center (Room#14)

Christmas Tree Recycling Program

LA VERNE - As part of the City of La Verne's curbside recycling program, Christmas tree recycling will be available again this year on Monday, **December 31, 2018**, and again on Monday, **January 7, 2019**. Residents who have curbside recycling available must first remove all decorations, the stand, and place the Christmas tree next to their recycling bins. A separate truck will pick-up the tree and take it to be recycled as alternative daily cover

at the landfill. Participation in this program helps the City of La Verne meet California requirements to divert thousands of tons of materials from area landfills. If your tree is six feet or more, please cut in half and avoid flocked trees if possible, as they cannot be recycled.

For more information on this or other recycling programs, please contact La Verne Customer Service at (909) 596-8744.

Friendship Garden Club Boutique and Bake Sale

COVINA - The Friendship Garden will hold its Christmas Boutique and Bake Sale at its regular meeting on Thursday, **December 13** at 11:00 am. The Club meets at the Covina Woman's Club, 128 S. San Jose Avenue in Covina. Following a brief business meet-

ing, a program on natural planting will be presented by Ashlee Armstrong from the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens. A tea will be held following the speaker's presentation. All interested parties are welcome to attend. For more information, call 626-422-7904.



Board Member Jerome Horton Recognized by Franchise Tax Board

Board of Equalization (BOE) Member Jerome E. Horton was recognized by the Franchise Tax Board as a strong advocate for California taxpayers and small businesses and his many contributions to the efficiencies of the agency during his tenure as Chairman of the Board of Equalization and Member of the Franchise Tax Board.

The FTB Executive Officer, Ms. Selvi Stanislaus presented the recognition on December 7, 2018, at the Board of Equalization District 3 Office in El Segundo.

Board Member Horton served on the Franchise Tax Board from January 2011 through December 2015. During Member Horton's tenure with FTB he championed programs to help taxpayers pay the minimum amount of tax under the law and empowered taxpayers to capitalize on tax credits, state resources, and other benefits. He also advocated for and advanced poverty prevention policies, government accountability and transparency initiatives, and education and customer services programs.

Noteworthy was Horton's leadership with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program to help working families, seniors, and the disabled recap-



The FTB Executive Officer, Ms. Selvi Stanislaus presented the recognition on December 7, 2018, at the Board of Equalization District 3 Office in El Segundo.

ture millions in state and federal refunds through the California and Federal Earned Income Tax Credit program; state employment opportunities; and legislative efforts to preserve the middle class. Horton's legislative accomplishments also included authorship of criminal tax evasion laws; among them was AB 1418 that led to the BOE and FTB Top 500 tax delinquency lists. Since its enactment, the Top 500 list has resulted in \$875 million in General Fund revenue collected. During Horton's ten-

ure on the Franchise Tax Board the agency excelled in customer service, technology improvements, and government efficiency and transparency measures with his guidance and support.

"I was deeply humbled and honored to be recognized by the Franchise Tax Board, and I commend Executive Officer Stanislaus for her strong and effective leadership in administering California's franchise and income tax programs," said Horton.

The Glendora Christmas Parade Keeps Getting Better

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - The Glendora Christmas Parade started off at 9 a.m. sharp. Staged at the beginning of North Glendora Avenue, it started off with a Los Angeles Fire Department helicopter flying low along the parade route. The Honor Guard of the Glendora Police Department headed the parade, with Glendora Police Chief Lisa Rosales riding in a car, behind two Glendora Police motorcyclists. The Glendora High School Band Banner Line held shields with letters of the alphabet spelling "GLENDORA," followed by the award winning Tartan Band of bagpipers. Immediately behind them were the full contingent of the Glendora High School Band. The Glendora Chamber of Commerce was represented by Director Joe Cina and Michelle Street in the smallest car in the parade. Jan's Towing always participates by donating their flatbed trucks and oversized U. S. Army vehicles. Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts from various troops, as always, were present as marchers.



Mayor of Glendora, Mendell Thompson rides in the back of a truck.



Glendora High School Band Banner Line helped spell GLENDORA.

Then came the dignitaries. Representatives from the School Districts, Citrus College and the Glendora Council Members, who all rode atop sports cars. Council Members Michael Allowos, Judy Nelson, Gary Boyer and Karen Davis, with Mayor of Glendora Mendell Thompson, riding in a big red truck. State Senators, Assemblymen who represent the district also participated. At the very end of the parade was Santa Claus, who this year, looked like the real thing!

It seemed like there were more floats, trucks and marchers than before. The route was packed with Glendorans as well as residents of other surrounding cities. Although it was quite nippy, it seemed that this annual event is looked forward to and attended by many regulars regardless of the weather.

This certainly is an event that has become very popular and is looked forward to, by young and old in Glendora, San Dimas, Azusa, Covina and many other surrounding cities.

West Covina's New Council Members

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - The first election since the mandated implementation of Districting in West Covina resulted in two new elected members, Councilwoman Letty Lopez and Councilman Dario Castellanos. One seat will remain open and there will be an appointment made by the council members.

Strangely enough, two candidates that ran, former Assemblyman Roger Hernandez and former Mayor Fred Sykes who were in support of Districting in the city were defeated. Hernandez created an Assembly Bill that mandated this. Sykes also became a



West Covina's new Councilmembers Letty Lopez and Dario Castellanos

supporter with a ballot measure to go to Districts that was defeated by the voters 2 to 1.

Hernandez then created a bill, stating that the voting population was not representing the Hispanic community and other minorities. It was thought that it would make it easier for both Sykes, (believed to be the first

black mayor of West Covina) and Hernandez to get elected to the council.

Well, that backfired big time. Because of Districting, they cannot run for four years again. Prior to mandated Districting, they could have run again in two years. Some have made the comment, "Be careful of what you wish for."

Letty and Dario are looking forward to working for the people and the city. Letty is looking at a plan where the people can assist with supporting the financial crisis with the first responders.

Dario will be targeting the financial aspect on how to make ends meet with the city. They are both ready and looking forward to serving.

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According To MATTHEW

AWARDS 2018

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

TAPROBANE PICTURES

SCREENINGS

Laemmle's Glendale Theatre
207 N Maryland Ave, Glendale, CA 91206
Begins Dec 14, 2018

ABOUT THE FILM

The true story of Father Matthew Pieris, a socially popular and powerful Anglican priest of St Paul's Church in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Father Matthew was also a well respected and sought after Exorcist, who in the late 1970's, conspired with his mistress, to murder his wife and his mistress's husband, by poisoning the victims with gradual overdoses of insulin. He evaded detection owing to his standing in the community and continued fearlessly with his nefarious activities.

BEST PICTURE

Chandran Rutnam

BEST DIRECTOR

Chandran Rutnam

BEST SCREENPLAY

Christie Eliezer
James Rutnam

BEST ACTOR

Alston Koch

BEST ACTRESS

Jacqueline Fernandez

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Kian O' Grady
Ryan Wijayarathne
Gavin Anthony Ludewyke

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Bimsara Premaratne

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

Chandana Jayasinghe

BEST FILM EDITING

James Rutnam

BEST MUSICAL SCORE

Morris Hayes

BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN

Sunil Wijeratne

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Theaters Limited

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