



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

July 4 - 10, 2019

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Jan's Towing Hooks Plane Out of Rio Hondo Wash

By George Ogden

EL MONTE - A plane made an emergency landing in the Rio Hondo Wash because of a fuel issue. It had to be fished out of the wash the next day. So, who has a pole big enough for the job... Jan's Towing at your service.

The pilot made an emergency landing in the wash because it appeared that he ran out of fuel. He felt he couldn't make it to the El Monte Airport. He landed safely in a few inches of water. However, instead of walking in the water to the edge of the wash in the dry area, he stayed on the wing until help came. Thus, a full blown expensive air rescue was initiated where a helicopter was brought in and used to pluck the pilot, Jesse Ramos, from the wing. He wasn't hurt in any way, just maybe his pride for not having enough fuel.

The next issue was, how to get the plane out. Couple of options, fuel it and fly it out, tow it out or fish it out with a large tow rig. They came the next day to "fish" it out.

The program was to push or tow the plane to the Lower Azusa Bridge and then pluck the plane out of the water from

there with a huge towing rig.

Jan's Towing brought in their big rig towing unit and it ended up being a piece of cake for them. The police blocked off Lower Azusa Road at both ends of the bridge and Jan's Towing went to work. It looked like a gigantic fishing pole extending from the bridge and over the water. They secured the plane, a Beechcraft BE 35 four passenger plane which weighs in at 1,500 lbs. empty, and pulled it up to the road.

This method was used because flying the plane out of the wash would be dangerous. Towing from the wash was compromised because of the wing-span of the aircraft.

After getting it on the road, the plane was towed back to the airport with a police escort.

Jan's towing has been known for getting rough situations cleared and has a great history of recovering vehicles... and planes. If they say it can't be done, Jan's Towing will do it. It's amazing what this company can do.

Jan's Towing recently received the 2019 Reader's Choice Award from the Tribune Newspaper.



Jan's Towing catches a big one.



Jan lands the big one, a Beechcraft!

Sri Lanka Day Expo and Parade on Rose Parade Route in Pasadena



An "elephant" in the Sri Lanka day parade in 2018. The parade is on Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena on Saturday 20th January.

PASADENA - On Saturday, July 20th the Sri Lanka Foundation in Los Angeles will put on its annual 'Sri Lanka Day Expo 2019', which is being held for its 13th year in succession. This year's stage will be set up as usual, at the Historic City of Pasadena, Centennial Square - immediately opposite Pasadena City Hall, a block away from the world famous Rose Parade route. The focal highlight during the event this year will be, when the entire Square is adorned with 5000 handmade Sri Lankan lanterns, which will be lit up with LED light flames in memory of the victims of the bombings in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday April 21st, 2019. This tribute is made with heartfelt sympathies to the victims and their families by the Founder Dr. Walter Jayasinghe, President Dishan Jayasinghe, Vice President Aeshea Jayasinghe and the entire staff of the Sri Lanka Foundation.

The highly awaited 'Sri Lanka Day Expo' brings in a hipe of activities throughout the day. The event begins at 10:00 am and goes on until 10:00 pm, with traditional stage performances including a variety of dance and music styles rooted from the country's ethnic diversity.

Most of the dances are performed with live drumming. The beat of the drums on this stage will bring memories to young and old and all those present at this Sri Lanka Day Expo. All of the drumming and dance ensembles as in the up country, low country dances, Bharatha Natyam dance harvest dance, and a variety of them, are trained by maestro dancer and choreographer Lal Thilakarathne and Professional dance teachers Chathuri Wickremaratchchi and Umendra Kahandwaarachchi.

Also in the Square will be the mouthwatering authentic Sri Lankan food kitchens, with their chefs preparing the best of the best in Sri Lankan food. The focal point of all the celebrations during this entire day is when the Parade of Lanka begins at 6:30 pm and makes it's way on the world famous 'Rose Parade' route along Colorado Boulevard. This is a depiction of the Kandy Esala Perahera also known as the Festival of the Tooth Relic, which is a grand procession paying homage to the sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha. The Mayor of Pasadena, Terry Tornek and his wife Maria will ride on the back of a vintage automobile, along with his wife Maria, as will the

Founder of the Sri Lanka Foundation, Dr. Walter Jayasinghe his wife Aeshea, President Dishan Jayasinghe and his wife Anarkalli Aarkasha.

The parade includes many traditional dance forms such as the fire dance, whip crackers, stick dance, up country and low country dances, bamboo sieve dance, kawadi dance. Also in the parade will be the elaborately dressed theatre elephants, picturesque floats representing various organizations and schools and ethnicities of Sri Lanka. Please come early and grab your spots along Colorado Boulevard for this spectacular entrance to the Parade of Lanka. The venue will have various booths displaying beautiful hand painted batik sarongs, kurtas, kaftans, handmade arts and crafts, ornate jewelry, Sri Lankan sweet meats, to name a few of the attractions.

The night culminates with a session of 'Baila' songs performed by Sri Lankan bands, which always keeps the audience in full swing.

Come with your family and friends, and observe the Pasadena Centennial Square transformed into 'Little Sri Lanka' for one beautiful summers day! and its FREE!

West Covina Unified Breaks Ground on Science/Career Technical Education Building



West Covina Unified administrators and Board of Education members break ground on West Covina High School's new science and CTE building on June 25.

WEST COVINA - West Covina Unified broke ground on a science and career technical education (CTE) building at West Covina High School on June 25, commemorating the District's latest effort to create innovative, effective learning environments.

The 28,000 square-foot science and CTE building will house new chemistry and biology labs, a state-of-the-art video production lab and broadcast studio, engineering computer labs and robotics spaces that feature a competition arena and manufacturing lab.

"West Covina Unified is committed to providing students with facilities and resources that inspire excellence, and thanks to the support of our community, we have the means to do so," WCUSD Superintendent Charles D.

Hinman said. "We are excited to break ground on this new facility and move one step closer to offering West Covina High School students a place where they can explore the sciences and develop crucial career-focused skills."

The \$15.7 million project, funded by the voter-approved Measure ES, begins construction in late July and is expected to be completed in time for the 2020-21 school year. The building will be the District's

first two-story structure.

It is one of the District's many new major construction projects in its facilities program, in addition to modernization projects at campuses across the District.

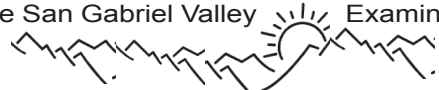
West Covina High is the District's Advanced Placement flagship school, offering 27 college-prep courses as well as 27 career technical education courses, including forensic science, architectural design and business robotics.

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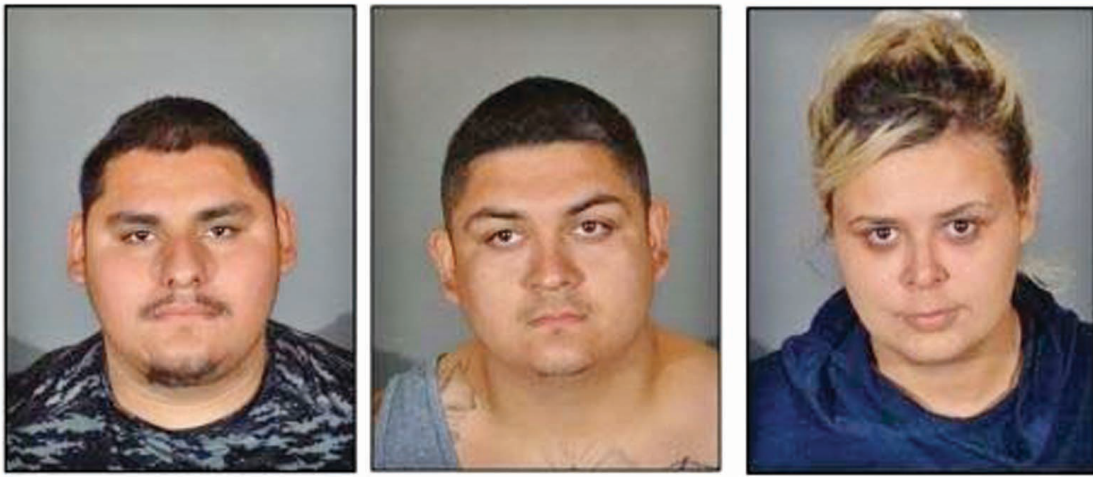
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Three Arrested for Shooting at a Family in Car, 7-Year-old Girl Injured



Brothers Adam Robles, 22 and Marcos Robles, 28, along with Victoria Williams, 24, arrested for trying to kill a family. (Photo by Covina PD)

By George Ogden
COVINA - Back on June 15, Saturday evening around 11:00 p.m. a man (victim) got into an argument with two brothers Adam Jacob Robles, 22 and Marcos Robles, 28 while in a carport at the Petra Apartments, 235 W. Puente. The victim left the area with his kids and headed north when he notices the suspect's vehicle following them. The victim may have attempted to drive to the Covina police department and was headed east on College Street. Just passed Citrus Avenue, the suspects sped up and got in front of his car and cut off the victim forcing him to stop with his family in the car. One suspect got out and took aim with a firearm and fired into the car through the windshield. Glass and bullet fragments injured a seven-year-old girl. The suspects then took off.

With an extensive investigation, the suspects were arrested at a motel in San Bernardino

on June 20 for their alleged involvement in the attempted murder case. The two brothers, Adam Jacob Robles, Marcos Robles, along with Victoria Lynn Williams, 26, appeared in court on Monday to answer to the charges of four counts of attempted murder. Adam Robles was also charged with assault with a deadly weapon and making criminal threats. Williams, who is the girlfriend of Marcos Robles,

was charged with being an accessory after the fact.

It is believed that Marcos Robles has an outstanding felony warrant from an arrest last year that he failed to appear on.

Bail was set at \$5.05 million for Adam Robles and \$5 million for Marcos Robles. Williams is out on bond which was believed to be set at \$35,000. They have court dates in July.

Police Seeking Information in Shooting

By George Ogden
WEST COVINA - Around 9 p.m. Sunday, June 30, in the 900 block of Cameron Ave, just west of Glendora Ave there was, what was reported to be, a car shooting where two people got shoot. A man and woman were the victims and first reports had a woman shot in the hand and a man in the torso. Paramedics treated both and transported them to the

hospital. Both are expected to recover.

The victims and the victim's car were actually found in the parking area inside The Cameron Park Apartment Complex. This complex is known for its high crime calls as well as a lot of undesirables living and hanging out there.

Police blocked off Cameron Avenue and searched the area

for the suspects. Police are working off of limited information and there is a possibility that the shooting was actually in the parking area of the complex because of the location of the victims and their car.

Police are seeking additional information and asking if anyone saw something that could help them to call the West Covina Police Department.

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Duarte Council Declares Fiscal Emergency To Further Discussion About Future Revenue Options

DUARTE - At the June 25th City Council meeting, the Duarte City Council voted unanimously to declare a fiscal emergency. With the start of the 2019-20 fiscal year on July 1st and to maintain service levels that ensures the City remains the vibrant community its residents cherish, Duarte will begin deficit spending. The current budget calls for the City to use a projected \$1.2 million from its General Fund reserve. This action is only a short-term solution and one that is not sustainable for the City's long-term financial future.

Like so many things in life, the cost of providing essential public services is also rising. Duarte's key revenues such as sales and property taxes are not keeping pace. Many of our neighboring cities are also grappling with these issues including Arcadia, Monrovia, Glendora, Pomona and Pasadena, who face mounting annual costs to programs and services.

The Council's action is one of the many steps the City has taken and will take to continue to protect and maintain critical services. By declaring a fiscal emergency, Duarte can now give its residents the opportunity, as soon as the March 2020 ballot, to consider raising its sales tax from the current rate of 9.5% to 10.25% and keep all of the new revenue in Duarte to be spent locally. It is estimated this additional ¼ cent will generate approximately \$2.6 million per year in revenue to both safeguard the City's long-term finances, as well as ensure that our residents and businesses continue to have access to the same, high-quality public safety, drinking water, recreation, youth, senior and transportation services it has enjoyed for over sixty years.

This action by the Council will not change the City's ability to deliver services that are used every day, and residents won't see any difference in the day-to-day operation of the community. Instead, this administrative action, required by California law, allows the Council to explore options to generate additional revenues to strengthen the City's finances including a revenue measure. Over 30 L.A. County cities have passed local sales tax measures, including most recently Glendora and Arcadia with San Gabriel and Monrovia later this year.

Overall, Duarte residents have a very positive image of their local government, especially their parks and recreation and safety services. In fact, in a recent survey, approximately 62 percent felt the City was going in the right direction and over two thirds of those surveyed believe Duarte needs additional funding to provide and maintain services.

The Duarte Council wants to continue the City's tremendous progress and feels strongly about giving their residents the ability to control their own destiny and can keep their tax dollars local should they choose. The City Council and staff will continue providing updates on our collective efforts to protect the City's ability to deliver essential services.

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Senator Chang Has Eight Bills Clear Major Hurdles

SACRAMENTO - Eight bills authored by Senator Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) have passed out of key committees and the Assembly Floor this week. These proposals support veterans, improve public safety, and promote good digital citizenship.

"I'm pleased to receive bipartisan approval," said Senator Chang. "California has so much to offer including being at the forefront of some of the biggest advancements in technology, but there is always the specter of bad actors who seek to take advantage of others. I'm proud to author bills that support the 2 million veterans who call California home and help my constituents feel safe as technology continues to advance."

Senate Bill 35 combats human trafficking by creating a uniform system for governments and organizations to

work together, and sets the groundwork for a comprehensive study on trafficking in California.

Senate Bill 64 protects pets by requiring municipal animal shelters to microchip any dog or cat that is adopted or claimed by a pet owner.

Senate Bill 180 requires sellers of gene therapy kits known as "DIY CRISPR Kits" to include a warning label stating that CRISPR kits are not intended for self-administration.

Senate Bill 239 makes it easier to prosecute cybercriminals and computer hackers. The proposal aligns the statute of limitations for felony computer hacking with similar forms of crimes by allowing for prosecution three years after the date of discovery, rather than the date of offense.

Senate Bill 245 calls on animal shelters to waive pet adoption fees for military veterans.

California is home to 2 million military veterans, including many who struggle to cope with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and could benefit from an animal companion.

Senate Bill 366 equips students with preventative information about cyberbullying.

Senate Bill 348 requires the state to develop a strategic plan for improving state services with artificial intelligence and calls on the Governor to collaborate with state agencies on artificial intelligence.

Senate Bill 648 promotes user responsibility and public safety by applying the same principles underpinning vehicle hit and run laws to drones.

For more information on these and other bills authored by Senator Chang, visit www.senate.ca.gov/chang.

Napolitano & Cole Introduce Fallen Journalists Memorial Act of 2019

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Reps. Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA-32) and Tom Cole (R-OK-04) introduced the Fallen Journalists Memorial Act of 2019, which would authorize the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to work to collect funds to establish a memorial in Washington, D.C.

"Journalists put their lives on the line every day to protect our democracy and a free and independent press," said Rep. Napolitano. "We must pay tribute to those who perished not only on the front lines of battle, but those whose lives have been lost while simply fulfilling their duty to deliver the news. I thank Congressman Cole for partnering with me on this critical legislation, and I am grateful our bill has bipartisan, bicameral support."

"Throughout our nation's history, members of the press

have gone to great lengths to keep the American people informed," said Rep. Cole. "Indeed, many journalists have even put themselves in harm's way to chase down a story and accurately report on current events. In remembrance of the thousands we have tragically lost along the way, I am proud to join Congresswoman Napolitano in introducing legislation to honor their contributions, dedication and sacrifice."

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation will plan the design, construction, operation, and maintenance with the National Parks Service (NPS). U.S. Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Rob Portman (R-OH) have introduced the Senate companion bill.

Dating back to 1837, there have been more than 2,000 journalists who have wrongfully died while working toward

the promotion of the free press. This has included journalists who have died while covering military conflicts and wars, journalists who were wrongfully murdered, and journalists who died from ruthless acts of terror. One of the most recent and horrifying events was the Capital Gazette shooting in Annapolis, Maryland on June 28, 2018. During this tragic event, the gunman shot and killed five employees and injured two more.

The only memorial that exists to honor the sacrifices that these men and women have made is at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., which is slated to close at the end of 2019. With this closure, there will be no place where the public can go to honor those who gave their lives in the field of journalism.

"TIME JOCKEY" - Elder Statesman

By Joe Castillo
Serving California...

When someone has served in a State elected office for over 30 years, he pretty much knows everything about his position and more. Jesse Unruh was that type of individual. He served as the State Treasurer and nursed California through its most difficult fiscal years in the 1960's and 1970's. When California was strapped for cash following Proposition 13, he designed an emergency bank financing plan to prevent the state from sinking further into debt. But Jesse Unruh just didn't fall into California politics, he survived life's challenges to become someone that clearly succeeded against the odds.

Born to the parents of dirt-poor sharecroppers in Texas, Unruh served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and then attended the University of Southern California. He was elected to the California State Assembly representing the area of Inglewood and within seven years advanced to the speakership position. In this position, Unruh learned how to use his

authority through appointments and committee chairmanship. He quickly adapted to the power structure of Sacramento and with it came a growth in donations and fundraising making him an even more influential politician. Unruh ran the California Assembly with a stern fist and was often compared to Captain Bligh and Simon Legree for his iron fist methods, primarily used to get what he wanted. His chairmanship lasted seven years until the Democrats lost control but they were seven years on being the top politician.

When the Kennedy's were driving a new political base and course for America, Unruh was there to provide his support and knowledge of politics. But the Kennedy dream died with two assassinations and a poor decision, leading Unruh in a new direction. He ran against Ronald Reagan for the Governor of California and lost. In 1973, he ran for the Mayor of Los Angeles against Tom Bradley, and lost again. But opportunity knocked again in 1974 when the State Treasurer position opened up and using his name recognition, he easily won the position. The fiscal state of California was in disarray with high interest rates, bond indebtedness, and dwindling reserves. With no idea how big of a mess he had actually gotten into, Unruh fol-

lowed his experience as a leader of the California Assembly to rebuild the Treasurer's position into its own power hub. He established a network of political ties and persuaded the legislature to create committees to oversee the major projects financed by taxpayer monies. When the legislature agreed, it was Unruh as Treasurer who was named the chairman of each of the committees, eventually leading him to be named to 30 different boards and commissions, and allowing him to direct the projects of his choice.

Through this diplomacy, Unruh's campaign war chest grew to nearly \$600,000 from donations and his own income followed a similar growth pattern allowing him to own numerous properties from Sacramento, to San Francisco, to Los Angeles. Unruh's goal was to become Governor of California but he never realized his goal primarily as it would require nearly \$15 million dollars for a campaign run. Instead he chose to remain in the position as the most powerful elected official in state politics, a position that allowed him to keep his hands on the money...

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

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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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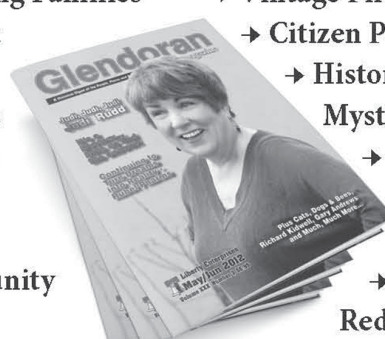
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Ignoring Trump Puts US At Risk "This Is My Country To Have And To Hold"

We've just watched the Democrat debates and some light discussion on illegal immigration and human trafficking at the border with no real solutions offered up. What seemed to be the center of the discussion was the Texas border and the conditions the children are subjected to there. Unacceptable by American standards which is why "... half of the Border Patrol workforce [has been] reassigned to humanitarian support duty ..." allowing migrants to slip through into the U.S.

What none of the Democrats focused on or mentioned was the original mission of the Border Patrol since founded in 1924 -- preventing terrorists and weapons and the illegal entry of aliens into the United States. And, none talked about the truly serious crisis President Trump has tried to address and that is how porous our border really is. Just ask the State of Texas.

On June 13th, Judicial Watch, Tom Fitton, announced: "Five years after [our] investigation uncovered evidence of Islamic terrorists infiltrating the United States through Mexico, a captured ISIS fighter is providing details of a plot in which jihadists enter the country through the southern border to carry out an attack."

The International Center for the Study of Violent Extremism (ICSVE) led by Anne Speckhard & Ardan Shajkovi issued a June 4th report, "ISIS Fighter Claims Attack Plot Via Mexico, Under-scoring Border Vulnerability". The report acknowledges since 9/11 each administration has tried to close the loopholes in our immigration system but it is obvious those "patches" are not working well to ensure the safety of the citizens of this country.

ICSVE, after interviewing 160 ISIS terrorists, reports one of them, in May, Abu Henricki al Canadi, a Canadian with dual Trinidad citizenship, told Speckhard and Shajkovi of a plot to move him into the U.S. through Mexico to attack the financial system in the U.S. He said this plot was masterminded by someone in America located in New Jersey. The Syrian Democratic Forces had captured the 160 terrorists



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

and Henricki, and the interview was done in their prison.

The game plan, according to Henricki, was to smuggle him from Puerto Rico into Mexico and then across our southern border using the "standard" migration routes. Those standard routes it seems are those purportedly used on a regular basis when trafficking people in to the U.S.

In October 2018, Judicial Watch reported the Guatemalan President, Jimmy Morales, announced 100 ISIS terrorists had been apprehended as a large caravan of Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) was making its way north to our border. It would have been quite simple for them to infiltrate that caravan and due to the massive numbers, walk right into the U.S. undetected.

The Washington Times, October 25, 2018, reported the Judicial Watch charges ... "Guatemalan officials rescued seven unaccompanied children who were being smuggled inside the migrant caravan." Chris Farrell, Judicial Watch's director of investigations, said he monitored the caravan and saw men with gothic-script "MS" tattoos meaning they were likely members of the MS 13 gang.

Prior to President Trump's election and several times to date, Trump has talked about MS 13, a notoriously violent street gang originated in Los Angeles. Back in October 2017, Jeff Sessions announced MS-13 as a transnational criminal organization and a priority for the Department of Justice's Organized Criminal Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDEF) giving law enforcement additional tools to go after the gang and enhance-

ment charges under multiple federal laws from RICO to tax laws.

The annual Texas Gang Assessment Report 2018 tells us:

- Gangs in Texas continue to work closely with the Mexican Cartels and provide direct support to cartel drug trafficking and human smuggling in Texas and throughout the nation.

- Gangs are responsible for murder, sex trafficking, armed robbery and trafficking in methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and marijuana.

- Gangs use social media to communicate and recruit and encrypted mobile messaging applications to thwart law enforcement.

- Texas now ranks gangs with Tier I being the greatest threat and those are:

- o Tango Blast and associated Tango cliques (Estimated 22,000-25,000 members)

- o Texas Mexican Mafia (Estimated 4,000-6,000 members)

- o Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) (Estimated 600-1,000 members)

- o Barrio Azteca (Estimated 1,000-2,500 members)

Raging Bull, an operation by Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice, targeted the MS-13 gang. The first phase was conducted in El Salvador with 53 arrests. The second phase was conducted in the U.S. and ended up with 214 MS-13 arrests nationwide.

"Sixteen of the 214 arrested were U.S. citizens and 198 were foreign nationals, of which only five had legal status to be in the U.S. Foreign nationals arrested were from El Salvador (135), Honduras (29), Mexico (17), Guatemala (12), Ecuador (4) and Costa Rica (1). Sixty-four individuals had illegally crossed the border as unaccompanied alien children; most are now adults."

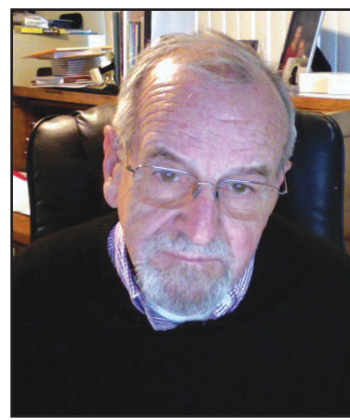
The annual Texas Gang Assessment Report 2018 reminds us: Gangs can be traditional or opportunistic ventures ... joining up with other gangs or the Mexican cartels ... drug smuggling or human trafficking of children or foreign terrorist groups ... but either way their targeted goal is to ensure financial gain and control ... CONTROL ... in capital letters!

He was a man without a country. At his trial he lashed out at the United States, and swore that he never wanted to hear its name again. In the story he was granted his wish, and until he died was shunted from one naval ship to another never touching these shores nor hearing its name. (Edward Everett Hale, *The Atlantic* December 1863)

While many of us occasionally have had serious arguments with the United States, it has remained our beloved homeland, and even when life's trajectory has taken us beyond its borders, "This is my home, my native land."

There have been times in my life when I disputed the policies and the actions of my country. But built into who we are is the right of protest, guaranteed by our Constitution. In my lifetime I have joined with others peacefully protesting its wars, its lack of civil rights, its failure to affirm the role of women, its disdain of gays and lesbians and its oft-legislated inequality. But those have been the debates that have slowly—perhaps too slowly—strengthened us instead of tearing us apart. And the right to disagree has been central to our identity. So despite its flaws, I'm proud to be an American.

These days, however, there is an increasingly foul taste in what has been the sweet American nectar. At home we have listened to the demeaning of our free press, the vulgar personal castigation of anyone daring to disagree with the President about anything, the brutal turning back of any policy seeking to ameliorate the planet's slow decay, the nation's wealth increasingly secured in the hands of the already wealthy, the curtailing of the rights of



Charles H. Bayer

America's workers, the threat to build a wall against those whose welcome is enshrined at the Statue of Liberty—and so much more. And the only justification is a booming economy that is putting more and more of America's wealth in the pockets of those who already own the lion's share of our resources. Is this really America at our best, or only a temporary distortion sold to us by an egomaniac?

Beyond our shores we have disparaged long-time mutually-significant democratic alliances in NATO and the United Nations, while the President honors as his deepest of friends fascist dictators in Russia, North Korea and now Hungary. We have pulled away from the very international agreements put in place to save the planet from self-destruction.

Instead of cooperating with China, the economic giant second to our own, as well as Mexico, our closest southern neighbor, we have begun to engage in a disastrous game of economic chicken based on competing efforts to prevail in a trade war that nobody can win and in which everybody loses. We have shaken our increasingly powerful military fist at any nation we think might get in the way of our self-proclaimed world mastery.

Speaking for many of us who are deeply disturbed by what is happening in this nation some would say, if because we are that unhappy should we not just withdraw from public discourse? But we cannot abandon our vision of a peaceful world and a nation guaranteeing liberty and justice for all. So instead of marching off, we have set our minds and efforts toward the real remedy the Constitution guarantees, the right of the people to determine the course of history through the instrumentality of fair elections, without inviting or welcoming interference by some other nation.

In the meantime those of us with Christian roots must continually ask how those whose faith and ethics are derived from a man called Jesus could possibly affirm this national disaster engineered by a bombastic salesman without any moral compass. I suppose party loyalists must in their self-interest continue to support someone they elected, even if they claim not to have realized what came in the package. Instead of distorting Jesus, it is time for us to do what he asked: feed the world's hungry, care for the refugees, protect the children and preserve the earth which is God's gift.

Nevertheless, tomorrow is another celebration of the commitment of a people to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We have much to celebrate this year including the one-hundredth anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. SO, HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

New Taxes, Californians Ripped Off Again

Well, the State Legislators did it again. We VOTE NO and they go ahead anyway. Just like our lying governor, "I will do the will of the people" and then abolishes the death penalty when we VOTED overwhelmingly to have it. We vote no on new taxes on certain issues and they do it anyway. Our votes mean nothing and to me it is stealing our money when we said "No, you can't take it" ...

Have you ever tried to get accountability records of their spending??? Good luck on that. If you should happen to get anything at all, you can see where some of the money goes, but where is the rest of it? Oh yeah, their supporter and friends that they are connected with who end up bidding on various jobs and get the contracts.

They give our money away to people who don't belong here. A good example is an L.A. Co. Supervisor gave away



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

\$500,000 of your money to undocumented people for their court issues. She actually got the supervisors to support this. I guess it was important to them.

The spending is going unchecked and money is wasted... here is another example, the "Bullet Train" which will benefit nobody except those who are building it and overcharging for every nut and bolt. The legislators made their buddies rich on this project and where is it now?

The lotto program, money to go to our schools... Look what happened here.

New gas taxes for our roads. Well Congratulations California, we are the highest in the nation for gas taxes and fees.

Then you have the unions screaming for more money and more and more businesses are leaving the state. The unions already shut down most of the car manufacturers across the nation. Good work. Hell, I

just bought a 2019 Corvette with a sticker price of \$138,000.00 plus and was shocked to find out it was still made in the USA. AMAZING... Now... get this, I get contacted by the dealer and asked if it could be returned because it had actually been previously sold earlier in the morning to a guy coming to California. They said the original Vette I was looking at was still there and they could work a great deal for me if I bring it back and exchange it for the other one. Hell, I had 600 miles on it and thought this might be a better option for me. Both cars do over 200 mile per hour plus I get some of my money back with a bonus and still have a 2019 Corvette. So, I went for it. NOW for the taxes on these cars. I expected to get some of that nearly \$13,000, in taxes on the original car, but 'no' I don't... it was processed and the car is considered a trade in. I am taxed on the new car, almost \$7,000. Then they worked another deal that got me some more money back.

I guess without any real accountability, we will continue to be taxed to death for things we don't need, want or have when the real citizens VOTE NO!

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

The Second Amendment Is Under Attack

By D. B. Shimel
My Perspective

Every time there is a shooting of any kind there is a cry for more gun control from the liberal press and the politicians. Most of these liberals have deluded themselves into believing in the fantasy that another law will fix the problem. Obviously, politicians are attacking the wrong problem. Instead of facing the reality that there are social, economic and physiological motivations behind all acts of physical violence they prefer to attack the easy target of legal gun ownership.

Cities across this nation with the highest levels of regulations on gun ownership have undeniably the highest levels of gun violence. To confirm this look no further than Chicago, Baltimore and Washington D. C. Rather than attacking the problem of drugs and gangs in these violence prone areas legislators attack the low hanging fruit of assault weapons and ammunition. Is it not true that all these laws have done is turn honest loyal Americans unwittingly into criminals?

Let us now discuss the laws that California has passed in the quest to control gun violence all in the guise of being for the public good.

The State of California had passed a gun clip law intended to prevent mass shootings. This law limited all semi-automatic weapons to a magazine size of no more than 10 rounds of ammunition. The stated reason for this law by the politicians that created it was, 'there is no legitimate need for an ammunition clip that held more than 10 rounds'. This law was challenged in a federal court resulting in a ruling that this law was unconstitutional. In the suit (See Virginia Duncan vs. The state of California - penal Code 32310) brought in federal court there were a plethora of cases presented where if the intended victim of a crime had more am-

munition available to them they would have been better able to properly defend themselves and in several cases likely would have been able to save their own lives. The federal Court agreed with the plaintiffs and ruled the law unconstitutional. Recent research on this issue leaves a lot of doubt about the status of this ruling as an appellate court appears to have issued a stay meaning that the state can continue to ban large capacity magazines.

Starting 1 July, 2019 to purchase rifle and shotgun ammunition in California the purchaser will have to undergo a background check and pay a fee of \$1.00 for every purchase. This law was ratified by the passing of a ballot initiative in 2016. If the purchaser is not a legal resident they cannot purchase any ammunition. Additionally, it will be a crime to bring ammunition purchased in another state into California. All this law will do is to prohibit honest gun owners from getting ammunition for legitimate purposes at a reasonable price. One, perhaps unintended, consequence of this law will be the eventual demise of shooting ranges because the cost to shoot there will become prohibitive. It is worth noting that Kim Rhode, a six time Olympic shotgun champion and others are suing the state to overturn this law as an infringement on Second Amendment rights.

Federal and state legislatures across this nation have passed numerous pieces of legislation aimed at banning "assault weap-

ons" (commonly AK47 and AR15 rifles) claiming that these weapons pose an existential threat to people's lives. The truth is that of the tens of thousands of deaths caused by violent acts in the last ten years about 300 lives have been taken at the muzzle of an assault rifle. Hand guns held by Chicago's inner city youths have claimed far more lives in a single year. Most of these weapons were either stolen or acquired through black market sources.

These laws and the myriad of other legislation that California and other legislatures, including the federal government, have passed has the stated purpose of fixing the problem of gun violence. Have all these laws prevented mass shootings like the one inflicted on the school children of Parkland Florida and the people in Las Vegas? No they have not because the problem is not guns it is deranged individuals.

Why all this clamor and legislation to circumvent the constitution? Because it makes good press for political activists.

At the risk of sounding like a 'paranoid conspiracy theorist', I believe that there is an even more serious and existential threat to the American citizen afoot here. The plot at the root of this movement is a push to criminalize the lawful ownership of all guns then confiscate the guns. One of the first steps to a socialistic dictatorship takeover is to take the guns away from the citizens so that they cannot defend themselves all in the name of public safety.

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. Articles should be in good taste.

buzzed driving is drunk driving
designate a sober driver

The Best June Since 1938

Stock indices reacted favorably to the Federal Reserve's latest report and hit new highs recently. While the Fed is having a significant impact on the market, it is also important to keep a broad view of the economic and political landscape.

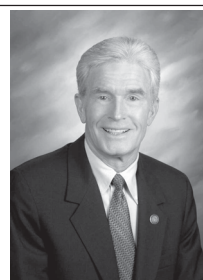
Personally, I did not think we would see a fresh new high in the stock market before a trade deal with China was consummated. The lesson here is to never underestimate the ability of the Twitter account of the U.S. President to create a short (covering) squeeze in stocks. The fact that the Fed has more or less promised a July fed funds rate cut also was significant. The July 2020 fed funds futures, which will settle about a year from now, also anticipates four 25 basis point rate cuts from the Fed. While that may happen, it remains far from certain.

If there is a trade deal with China, there likely would not be four fed fund rate cuts delivered as the U.S. economy very well may re-accelerate. There also is a tendency for major tax cuts to have a second-leg effect, after the initial sugar highs blow over (that is already behind us). There also still may be too much doom and gloom in investor sentiment because of the Chinese trade situation. Many investors fear a full-blown trade war might create a recession here (as well as in China). Doom and gloom investor attitudes have been supported by sharply weakening manufacturing indexes and other economic data in the U.S.

We are not in recession territory, but a 10-year low in U.S. Manufacturing PMIs is concerning. This may be one reason why the 10-year Treasury traded below 2% in the past month. Still, the Chinese have not devalued the yuan (yet). We are not in a recession. Why the 10-year Treasury yield dropped like a rock may be debated, but the answer likely recognizes what is happening in the rest of the world.

When the next recession comes, and when (or if) the Chinese decide to devalue the yuan, the 10-year Treasury yield could

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

be headed below 1%, similar to what many government bond markets in Europe and Japan have delivered. This is due to the willingness of the Fed to go to extreme monetarist measures to support the economy; and, because European and Japanese negative yields are pulling Treasury yields lower.

There are those on Wall Street that think that the next recession could be very serious - a repetition of the Great Recession of 2008. I do not believe that will be the case. The 2008 recession was manufactured in its severity, as the global banking system nearly stopped working. While certain large European banks - like Deutsche Bank - have already "taken out" their 2008 stock market lows, it is unlikely that regulators, both here and in Europe, will let a Lehman-size institution fail. (For comparison purposes, Deutsche Bank's balance sheet is 3X the size of Lehman's at the time it failed.)

Furthermore, it is not the failure of Lehman Brothers that caused the 2008 Great Financial Crisis. Lehman was merely a catalyst, not a cause of the crash. The same decline in the stock market would have happened, but likely over a two-year period instead of one, because of improperly designed mortgage securities that were wiping out banks' balance sheets, combined with the shrinkage of available credit in the system.

Recently, European Central Bank (ECB) President Mario Draghi, in a speech in Portugal, signaled that an interest rate cut and more ECB stimulus (bond buying/quantitative easing) would be forthcoming. This

caused the euro to abruptly fall in value, the German 10-year bund to fall below -0.3%, and the 10-year U.S. Treasury bond to decline. Gold also hit a 14-month high over \$1,400 in the wake of Draghi's comments, since negative interest rates in Germany and other major European countries are forcing investors to increasingly look at alternative investments.

Complicating matters further, President Trump criticized ECB President Draghi on Twitter and implied that the ECB was purposely devaluing the euro and that a currency war may be forthcoming. President Trump's tweet said that Draghi's remarks "immediately dropped the Euro against the Dollar, making it easier for them to compete against the U.S. They have been getting away with this for years...."

President Trump also tweeted that he will have an "extended meeting" with Chinese President Xi at the G20 meeting, which sparked a stock market rally on the hope that there will be progress on the China tariff spat. In case you have not noticed, President Trump likes to have his trade fights one at a time, so if an unlikely China trade deal is reached fairly soon, then the European Union may be the next opponent to face the President's wrath in a tariff fight, especially in the wake of his latest ECB criticism.

Now that the Mueller report isn't the daily fodder of the scandal-hungry press, all of a sudden news from Iran, China, Venezuela, Europe, Cuba and elsewhere is suddenly more relevant. Those trouble spots have been there all along, but spurious rumors of 2016 collaboration with Russia have wasted two years of mental focus for hundreds of Beltway scribes (which provided mainly boredom for 328 million Americans).

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

Happy 4th of July!!

Celebrate FREEDOM! Be thankful for your freedom and your rights, but not at the expense of others. Consider reading the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and/or Bill of Rights. Listen to some patriotic music. Thank a soldier. BE SAFE!

Addition to last week's Q & A regarding: Will my heirs have access to the money in my CDs when I die, or does this money have to go through probate?

If you include a list of your beneficiary(-ies) with the bank where you put your money into a CD, your beneficiary(-ies) can access those funds by going to the bank and presenting your death certificate and their personal ID (usually a government-issued photo ID). Otherwise, proceeds from a non-IRA bank CD go through probate and may be subject to expenses, delays, and lack of privacy.

I have a safety-deposit box at my bank. Are the contents FDIC insured?

No. FDIC does not insure the contents of safety-deposit boxes. You can contact your homeowner's insurance company agent and purchase your own insurance for this purpose. An alternative would be to purchase a good-quality safe for your home, and add to your homeowner's policy the value of whatever you put into your home safe.

Why do you only recommend certain annuities?

I recommend Fixed and Fixed-Index annuities, with very little or



Julia Yoder

no cost nor expense, up to 100-percent participation (percent of your money that participates in potential growth), and *guarantees that you cannot lose your principal, locking in any growth each contract anniversary. (Some "Riders," added for additional benefits, can have an annual fee, but this is clearly disclosed to you before you invest; it's something you decide to include or not.) A good reason I don't recommend Variable annuities: The SEC warns people about the dangers of Variable annuities due to their costs, expenses, and risk to potential principal. *Guarantees are based on the strength of the insurance company issuing the annuity policy.)

My financial advisor told me I should buy an annuity from him because the insurance companies he represents are members of some California guarantee company that would assure my protection if the company went bankrupt. Is this true?

Your financial advisor has

crossed a legal line. Here's a quote from the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association Act Summary Document and Disclaimer, "Insurance companies and their agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association (CLHIGA) to induce you to purchase any kind of insurance policy." The existence of this Association cannot be used by an agent or advisor to induce you to buy. Annuities are policies issued by insurance companies.

We're retired and would like to downsize from our large home in the Inland Empire to a much smaller house closer to the beach. Our main concern is that we will lose our Prop. 13 property tax status. What can we do?

If you are 55 years old or older, you could sell your home and buy that beach house (of equal or higher value) and transfer your Prop. 13 property tax status with you!

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/Nat'l. Ethics Assoc./Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans: CalStarBenefits.com/28485.

Queen of the Valley Hospital Will Welcome Expectant Mothers Following Foothill Presbyterian Hospital's Perinatal Department Closure

COVINA – Emanate Health's Foothill Presbyterian Hospital in Glendora will move its perinatal department operations on August 11, 2019 to Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina, which is better equipped with the resources to safely care for new moms and babies.

"It is our responsibility to adapt to growing needs in healthcare – and being proactive about enhancing our departments that welcome babies into this world, is perhaps, one of the most thoughtful services we can provide to families of San Gabriel Valley," said Emanate Health President &

CEO Rob Curry.

While Foothill Presbyterian Hospital has been a place of compassionate care and birth for thousands of babies throughout the years, health care has progressed and measures for successful deliveries have changed. Emanate Health is responding to these needs by transitioning perinatal care to Queen of the Valley Hospital, which has one of the largest state-of-the-art NICUs in the area and has been designated a level IIIB NICU by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

"Childbirth is a lifechanging event and we're doing whatever it takes to make expectant mothers feel safe, supported and in good hands," said Chief Nurse and Clinical Executive Melissa Howard, RN, MSN. "We have the best job in the world and the mothers

and newborns are like family to us."

To ensure expectant mothers have a smooth transition with their trusted doctors from Foothill Presbyterian Hospital to Queen of the Valley Hospital, physicians are working closely with their patients and Emanate Health to arrange for any service needs. In addition, Emanate Health is working with Foothill Presbyterian Hospital staff to find the best place for them to work following the closure.

The decision comes on the heels of Citrus Valley Health Partners becoming Emanate Health on May 1, 2019 – a strategic business decision to unify more closely the 19 network facilities under one umbrella and provide comprehensive complex care to the residents of San Gabriel Valley.



THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

It's Kind Of Like That!

In many ways, our vehicle's health system is a lot like our human makeup! Seriously!

Clogged Filters - When your filter gets full of debris, it can't do its job. It is how a human with asthma must feel! Most of us know we need to change the filters in our homes but some might not realize that they also need to change the filter in their cars. In vehicles built in 2007 and later you will find 80 percent of them have a cabin air filter and its function is to protect drivers and their passengers from contaminants such as pollen, mold spores, dust and other small and annoying particles.

Sludge - This is similar to clogged arteries! It is actually a gooey, tar like substance that deposits itself inside your car's engine. One of the roles of

motor oil is to keep your engine cool so it has to be able to take the heat...when it fails to do so these deposits form in the engine. Some vehicle's engines have more trouble than others due to poor design. Their passages are smaller and they actually bake the oil inside the engine.

Smoke - We all know by now how bad smoking is for human health. When your car has a smoking issue, it is literally telling you to pay attention...it needs help!

Black exhaust smoke means the engine is burning too much fuel. The first thing you should check is your air-filter and other intake components like sensors, fuel injectors and the fuel-pressure regulator.

Blue smoke is a clear sign that the engine is burning oil.

What happens is that the valve guide seals or piston rings are worn out, and oil is leaking past from where it should be lubricating the moving parts, to the combustion chamber where it's being burned up with the fuel.

Gray smoke can mean that the car is burning oil or suffering from a bad turbocharger. It can also be an issue with your automatic transmission fluid getting burned up in the engine or could mean a stuck PCV valve.

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Hometown Service You Can Count On!

Support the Glendora Public Library at Night on the Plaza!

GLENDORA - Night on the Plaza is the Friends Foundation's largest fundraising event and attracts more than 400 friends and community organizations that are committed to supporting the Glendora Public Library. This year guests will experience the sumptuous tastes and sounds of Havana, featuring culinary delights from Chef Henry at Spaggi's and the rhythms of the band, The An-

swer. Night on the Plaza is an amazing evening of fine dining, designer cocktails and dancing under the stars. With silent and live auctions offering unique gifts and adventure, from Dodger/Angel games and spa days to a trip to Costa Rica, we don't want you to miss this opportunity to be a part of this year's celebration!

Night on the Plaza will be held on July 13 from 6:00 -

11:00 pm at the Library Plaza | Glendora Public Library 140 S. Glendora Ave., Glendora.

Proceeds from this event support and enhance many Library programs - from children's reading programs and community cultural events, to adult literacy tutoring. Call 626-852-4894 or visit www.gplff.org to make your reservation or to learn more about sponsor opportunities.

Upcoming Event?
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More Than 17 Million Unsafe Airbags Remain In Vehicles On U.S. Roads

Today, in the U.S., more than 17 million recalled Takata airbags remain in vehicles on the road. A defective part inside the airbag can explode when the airbag deploys, potentially shooting sharp metal fragments at the driver and passengers. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has confirmed that 16 people in the U.S. have been killed, and hundreds of others alleged to have been injured, by this defect.

Affected vehicles include those made by BMW, Chrysler, Daimler, Ferrari, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Infiniti, Jaguar, Land Rover, Lexus, Mazda, McLaren, Mercedes-Benz, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Scion, Subaru, Tesla, Toyota and



To keep your car on the road to safety, find out whether the airbag is safe or has been recalled.

Volkswagen.

Vehicle manufacturers are sending official recall notices to

affected consumers. Consumers also get notifications through postcards, e-mail, so-

cial media and other forms of communication urging them to contact their dealers immediately to schedule an appointment for a free recall repair.

Even if they haven't received a communication, all vehicle owners should check if their vehicle is affected by the Takata airbag recall by visiting www.SafeAirbags.com or www.NHTSA.gov/Recalls and entering their vehicle identification number (VIN).

Dealerships around the country have replacement parts available, and the free recall repair should take an average of one to several hours depending on vehicle make and model.

"Unfortunately, many consumers are not taking immediate action, either because they

have ignored the repeated safety recall notices or do not understand the severity of the situation," said Patrick Juneau, who is leading a nationwide outreach program by SafeAirbags.com.

"It is vitally important for consumers to pay attention to any notifications they receive and to schedule an appointment to have their airbags repaired for FREE. This literally could be a matter of life and death."

The call to action is simple. If consumers receive a Takata airbag recall notice, letter, postcard or e-mail, they should immediately schedule a free recall repair at a local dealership.

Consumers uncertain whether their vehicles are part of the Takata airbag recall should visit www.SafeAirbags.com. They will be prompted to enter the

vehicle identification number (VIN), upload a photo of the license plate, or manually enter the plate number. The website will immediately indicate if the vehicle is currently under recall for defective Takata airbags.

A free smartphone app, Airbag Recall, can also be downloaded, enabling consumers to take a picture of their license plate to immediately determine if a vehicle is under recall.

It takes just a few minutes to determine if a vehicle has a recalled airbag and just a few hours to have an airbag repaired. Take the time to protect yourself, your family and your friends.

For more information, visit www.SafeAirbags.com and www.NHTSA.gov/Recalls. (NAPSI)

Concerts In The Park

LA VERNE - Come with your own blankets and/or lawn chairs to listen to the wonderful music while relaxing in the warm, balmy, summer nights. Concert series will begin at 6:30 PM on Sundays. All concerts are held at Heritage Park, 5001 Via De Mansion, east of Wheeler and north of Baseline

in La Verne. The entire line-up features the following:
 • Sunday, **July 14** - Hard Day's Night (Beatles)
 • Sunday, July 28 - Cold Duck (Variety)
 • Sunday, August 11 - The Answer (Classic Rock)



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This year, let us all, take a moment to remember the brave men and women who served and sacrificed for our freedom.
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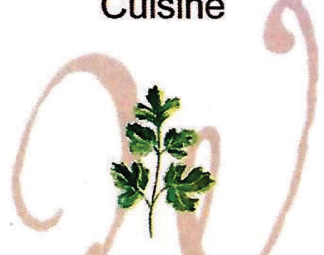
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County of Los Angeles Announces Summer Kick-Off of Youth@Work

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The County of Los Angeles announced the Summer Kick-Off of Youth@Work, a regional initiative to prepare youth ages 14-24 for careers in our local economy. Los Angeles County leaders announced a regional goal to hire 25,000 youth and emphasized efforts underway to create job and career opportunities for youth, including justice-involved youth and others with barriers to employment.

"Youth@Work brings together the County, employers, community organizations, and other partners to prepare the future workforce in our region," said Supervisor Hilda L. Solis. "As a former Secretary of Labor, I know how important it is to provide employment and career opportunities for all youth, no matter their background or history. This year, Youth@Work is focusing on providing career pathways for justice-involved youth and other youth facing employment obstacles. Everyone deserves a

chance to re-write their story. Now, we're coming together to help justice-involved youth re-write theirs."

"We are grateful to the leadership of the Board of Supervisors and to our many partners in the public and private sectors, which allow us to invest in the lives of thousands of young people so they gain skills that will lead to future careers," said Otto Solorzano, Acting Director of Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS).

Youth@Work pairs paid work experience for youth with a comprehensive and strategic set of employment, training, and support services provided through a network of America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) that are guided by WDACS. Youth@Work targets priority populations with the highest need, including justice-involved youth, youth experiencing homelessness, foster youth and CalWORKS



Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, WDACS Acting Director Otto Solorzano, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Maria Salinas, Director of the Office of Diversion & Re-Entry Peter Espinoza, Chief Deputy Probation Officer Sheila Mitchell, and youth participated in today's press conference.

Photos Courtesy of Benny Uy



Field of Heroes at Glendora City Hall



Glendora Mayor Judy Nelson, State Senator Anthony Portantino, Rotary President Marc Chaldy, U.S. Army Captain Gerardo Gomez, Guest Speaker Everett Brooks. Reverend Tom Strickland gives invocation, while Glendora Council members, Gary Boyer, Michael Allawos and Mendell Thompson look on.

By Jayam Rutnam

GLENDORA - It was Saturday June 29th, 2019. A beautiful morning opposite Glendora City Hall. Over 100 Glendorans gathered around where over 100 American flags were positioned on the lawn, waving to a gentle breeze. The Glendora Rotary Club held its Field of Heroes Celebration.

The Master of Ceremonies Marc Chaldy (who is also the

President of Glendora Rotary), gave the welcome speech, followed by the Presentation of Colors by the US Army San Gabriel Valley Recruiting Company. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Captain Gerardo Gomez and the Invocation by Reverend Tom Strickland. Introductions were by Rotary President Marc Chaldy after which the following spoke,

Glendora Mayor Judy Nelson, State Senator Anthony Portantino and the Guest Speaker Everett Brooks who is the Executive Director of Military Veteran Services at APU and a US Army veteran. Reverend Tom Strickland read a touching poem written by a soldier on DDay in Normandy titled "I am not afraid."

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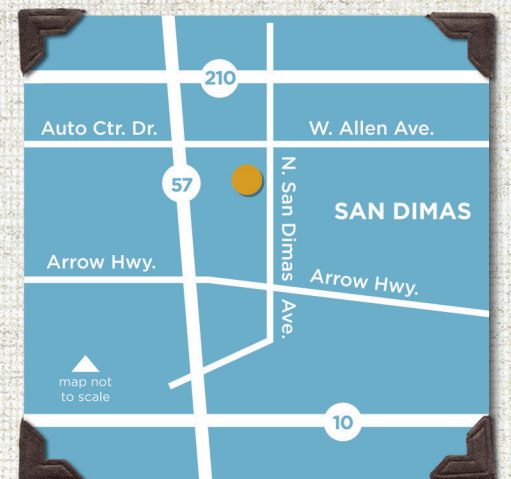
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