



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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"The Orchard" Breaks Ground in Downtown Azusa



Azusa Mayor Joe Rocha, Azusa Council Members and representatives from Serrano Development Group and Azusa Block 36, LLC.

By Jayam Rutnam

AZUSA. - Azusa Mayor Joe Rocha, Members of the Azusa City Council, City Manager and Staff, dignitaries and representatives from State Senators and Los Angeles Council Member offices, Project Manager Manuel Ramos, were present at "The Orchard" ground breaking. The Orchard, a new and exciting mixed-use project, is coming to Downtown Azusa. The ceremony was held on June 13 at 5:00 p.m. at the future site located at 626 N.

Azusa Avenue in Azusa. There were representatives from Serrano Development Group and Azusa Block 36, LLC, who are developing the project. They spoke about the economic and social impacts this development will have on residents and businesses in the City of Azusa and the region.

"A healthy downtown is key to a strong community," said City of Azusa Mayor, Joseph R. Rocha. "For too long, downtowns have experienced a steady decline.

However, today's ground breaking for this project will help to turn things around. Like many cities in the region, we know that downtowns are the heart of a city - and having a healthy heart is essential to having a strong city and a vibrant economic base. The Orchard will be developed on the southeast corner of Azusa Avenue and Foothill Boulevard on the site formerly known as "Block 36." This four-story mixed-use development will feature 163 residential units consisting of a mix of one-, two-, three-bedroom, and live/work units. Residential amenities at The Orchard include a swimming pool and spa,

community room, fitness room, dog park, community garden, and rooftop decks. The ground level will include approximately 32,500 square feet of retail and restaurant space, which will be anchored by a 4-screen Laemmle Theatres. Laemmle Theatres is the premier exhibitor of art house cinema with several locations throughout the Los Angeles area.

History plays an important role at The Orchard. Azusa was the center of the great citrus belt in Southern California during the early 1900s. Drawing from the surrounding context, the iconic "Bridge to Nowhere" and the

Azusa Theater inspired elements of the historical design. The name itself is a direct tie to the city's heritage and celebrates the citrus culture.

The Orchard's overall style is infused with details and materials that celebrate the past with a new contemporary design for the present. The use of Route 66 iconography, elements of transportation, vintage neon signage and homage to the citrus belt creates a distinct sense of place and character.

The project aims to bring sophisticated transit-oriented living and engaging retail and restaurants to the Downtown area of Azusa. The Orchard is located just one block south of the Azusa Downtown Gold Line Metro Station.

"While this project has been in the planning stages for over ten years, it is expected to be completed in just over one year" said a member of the Azusa City staff. Over two hundred people were present at the vacant lot for the celebration. Some of those included Gabriella Arrelanes of the Azusa School Board and Nathalie Esber who is an active member of the Azusa community and also a realtor with Keller Williams. Appetizers and drink specials were provided by City Cafe Restaurant in Azusa.

After the speeches, the Mayor, Council Members and Developers walked to an area where they wore hard hats and were handed shovels with which they literally "broke ground".

Arcadia High School Class of 2019 Heading To Ivy Leagues, Stanford, MIT



Arcadia High Principal Dr. Brent Forsee (left) Arcadia High Valedictorian Kevin Tan (right)

ARCADIA - Arcadia High School's Class of 2019 took center stage at Santa Anita Park with caps and gowns glistening as the sun set over the majestic San Gabriel mountains backdrop Thursday evening. It truly was the golden hour for the Apaches who have much to celebrate after a 13-year journey spanning Kindergarten to high school graduation.

The Arcadia High Class of 2019 is shining bright with 19 students who have been accepted into six different Ivy League Universities (Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Penn, Brown, Dartmouth), three were also accepted to Stanford, two got into MIT, and three more received admission to Caltech. Arcadia High School alumni are currently attending every Ivy League University in the country plus, MIT, Stanford, and Cal Tech. Collectively, the Class of 2019 earned a remarkable \$14 million in scholarships and grants. Arcadia High's graduation rate was 99.5%, which is significantly higher

than the national average that falls in the low 80% range.

At the head of the class is Kevin Tan, the Arcadia High School Class of 2019 Valedictorian. Tan is an extraordinary student and individual who will be studying Biochemistry at Harvard on a fully-funded Gates Scholarship from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. "One of the great things about Arcadia is that it's such a big school," said Tan just prior to taking the stage. "There are so many awesome individuals that surround you every single day, each one of them driven to pursue their own passions, and I think that diversity really makes Arcadia special. With something as amazing as Arcadia, you're really given the resources to definitely excel. From all the friends, all the faculty at Arcadia, they really do make the high school experience truly magical."

The Gates Scholarship is one of the most prestigious scholarships awarded in the country. The aim of the schol-

arship, according to the Gates Millennium Scholarship website, is to ensure that talented, academically achieving students from traditionally underrepresented groups, receive the support, resources, and encouragement to pursue their higher education goals. The scholarship funds both undergraduate and graduate school and offers leadership training, support for wellness, career and job opportunities as well.

This was also the most difficult year to be accepted into Harvard. A record-low 4.5% of applicants received admission to Harvard's Class of 2023. Meaning, less than 2,000 of the more than 43,000 candidates were accepted. Tan earned straight A's all the way through middle and high school. That translates into 7 years of studies with 88 straight A grades. In addition to his academic success, he volunteers and gives back to the community, and is a well-respected leader on campus.

Preparing For The Fire Season

by Marv Weston

LA VERNE - Recently, on Friday, June 7th, a wildland fire suppression drill was conducted in the foothills above La Verne. Organized by Los Angeles County Fire Battalion Chief Dan Rodriguez and La Verne Battalion Chief Robert Russell, the drill brought together the resources that would be called upon

in the event of an actual fire.

Besides La Verne Fire Department's own personnel and equipment, Los Angeles County Fire stations (San Dimas, Glendora and Irwindale), U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Fire Crews, and West Covina Fire were called together to practice wildland firefighting

tactics. The drill involved deploying hose lines, helicopter water drops and cutting fire lines up to the top of a ridge. This was designed to simulate an actual fire and coordinate resources to fight it.

With the fire season upon us, training is necessary to create a rapid and unified response.



Los Angeles County Probation Camp Crew.



Fire personnel and camp crews working at the top of the ridge establishing a fire line.

San Gabriel Unified Celebrates Class of 2019



Del Mar High School students celebrate their successful pursuit of a diploma during the continuation school's graduation ceremony.

SAN GABRIEL – Gabriellino and Del Mar high school students recalled their struggles and successes on the path to graduation during emotionally charged commencement ceremonies on June 4 and 6 celebrating 432 graduates.

“The Class of 2019 has raised the bar for excellence and awed us with their academic talents, commitment to helping others and resilience in the face of adversity,” SGUSD Superintendent Dr. John Pappalardo said. “We wish our graduates the best of luck as they take on new educational, personal and professional challenges.”

Gabriellino High School

Gabriellino High School highlighted the academic achievements of 400 graduates and reflected on the school's 25-year history during a ceremony on June 4 at Santa Anita Park.

Valedictorian Mason Liu and salutatorian Wei Chi Chen – both AP Scholars with Distinction – were celebrated for their achievements. Liu earned a 4.66 GPA while becoming an Eagle Scout, serving as a marching band section leader, as an officer in campus computer science and math clubs, a California Scholarship Federation member, a Carollo Engineers intern and a Westbridge Technology Group developer. He will study engineering and computer science at UCLA.

Chen completed 255 units of credit – more than any other Class of 2019 graduate – while earning the California Seal of Biliteracy and serving as a member of Gabriellino's UNICEF, Future Business Leaders of

America, Key Club, National Honor Society, California Scholarship Federation, math club and HOSA - Future Health Professionals. She will study gastroenterology at UC Berkeley.

Student speakers Stephanie Rubio and Elijah Arizmendez Urias recounted the Class of 2019's accomplishments and how Gabriellino students embody the characteristics of their eagle mascot.

“Every Eagle here at Gabriellino has powerful vision, an ability to visualize their target and goals and accomplish them no matter how impossible they may seem,” Arizmendez Urias said. “Every Eagle is fearless in the face of adversity and can overcome any challenge presented before them. Every Eagle will be tenacious; they do not throw in the towel when the going gets tough. Eagles fly high and never lay low; we continue to raise the bar further and faster.”

Ninety-two percent of Gabriellino's graduates will pursue postsecondary education, attending Boston University, Brown University, Knox College, New York University, Occidental College, Otis College of Art and Design, Princeton University, Stanford University, Princeton University, UC Berkeley, UCLA and numerous technical and trade schools.

Del Mar High School

Thirty-two Del Mar High School students held back tears as families, friends and staff celebrated their accomplishments with raucous cheers during Del Mar's commencement and awards ceremony on June 6 at Gabriellino High School's Gary

E. Goodson Theatre.

The continuation school offers every graduate the opportunity to give a speech during the ceremony; this year, five graduates stepped up to the podium and thanked their families, friends and teachers for their support during tearful speeches.

“It's never too late to become what you've wanted to be if you start right now, one of the many things I've learned throughout the many, many lectures from my incredible teachers,” graduate Daniel Henriquez said. “I am grateful for every chance they have given me and for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself.”

Del Mar handed out seven senior awards to celebrate student improvement and perseverance. Dominic Cazares, Ernesto Martinez and Jonathan Garcia received the Second Chance Award, given to students who embodied the spirit of Del Mar's motto, “Where second chances happen.” Armando Talamantes – who served as Del Mar's student representative on the SGUSD Governing Board – was named Student of the Year.

Twelve graduates were also awarded scholarships from community organizations, including the Kiwanis Club of San Gabriel, West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors, Sunny Slope Water District, Schools First Financial and the San Gabriel Special Needs Group. All of Del Mar's 32 graduates have enrolled in college; this is also the first year in which no Del Mar students will return as fifth-year seniors.



Gabriellino High School honored 400 graduates during the school's commencement ceremony.

Azusa Resident Reaches Goal in "Thank-A-Soldier" Event



Nathalie Esber jumps for joy as she reaches her target of 1000 boxes.

By Jayam Rutnam

AZUSA - Nathalie Esber is getting to be well known in the community of Azusa, California. Recently, she helped with a community event organized by the company she works for to collect donations (such as socks, books, snacks, soaps, toothpaste,

chapstick, cards, handwritten gratitude letters, etc...) to build care packages and send them to servicemen and servicewomen stationed overseas. The event was called "Thank-A-Soldier", which was free if you made a donation at the door, and in exchange, families enjoyed live

music, BBQ, tacos, face paint for kids, and of course the main activity of assembling the care packages. The target was 1,000 boxes which they exceeded. The boxes were assembled and shipped to the troops overseas. Nathalie is a realtor with Keller Williams.

City of Walnut Fourth of July Event and Fireworks

WALNUT - The City of Walnut's annual Fourth of July celebration will be held on Thursday, **July 4** from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm at Suzanne Park (625 Suzanne Rd, Walnut CA). This FREE event will feature live music by the Blues Breeze Band, a Patriotic Pooch Parade, face painting, a pie-eating contest and food trucks. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, canopies and picnic baskets and enjoy the festivities with us.

Sorry, but alcohol, smoking, drones, personal fireworks, BBQ's grills or other cooking appliances are not allowed.

The Fireworks Show will begin at approximately at 9:00 pm. The best places to see the fireworks are at Suzanne Park and Suzanne Middle School Soccer Fields. Please note that the Walnut High School parking lots will be closed due to construction, so plan to come early. There will also be local road closures around the park beginning at approximately 8:45 pm. For more information, please call 909-598-5605.

Fireworks Prohibited in Walnut

The City of Walnut reminds residents and guests that fireworks are prohibited within the City of Walnut. It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, assemble, store, transport, receive, keep, offer to another or to otherwise have possession with the intent to sell, use, discharge, cause to be discharged, ignite, detonate, fire or other-

wise set to action any fireworks of any description within the City's municipal boundaries. The use of fireworks can result in fines of up to \$1,000 and up to six months in County jail. Please report any use of fireworks to the Walnut-Diamond Bar Sheriff Station at (909) 595-2264.



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"TIME JOCKEY" - D-Day

By Joe Castillo

Utah Beach... On June 6th, we remembered the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day invasion in Eastern France during World War II. The invasion was one of the most significant events in modern world history as it orchestrated millions of men, military equipment, munitions, aircraft, and naval units into one coordinated assault against Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Germany forces. Allied forces from the United States, Great Britain, France, Canada, Australia and other countries were assigned to the assault forces knowing that German defenders would form a substantial defense. Young men from across the United States enlisted or were drafted as part of the war effort with many of them unsure of their eventual outcome.

In the State of Ohio, Cuyahoga County provided more soldiers than any county in Ohio and suffered more losses than any other with over 1,700 soldiers killed in action (KIA). In 1944, the State of Ohio recorded 5.14% of the

total population of the United States, and the number of men enlisted in the U.S. Army from Ohio totaled 5.54% of all enlistees. When the war ended, 5.46% of all U.S. soldiers killed or missing during the war were from the State of Ohio. In short, Ohio was one of the strongest contributors of men to the U.S. military and suffered a very high rate of fatalities as a result. Many of the men from Ohio were part of the U.S. assault on D-Day at Utah Beach.

One of the Utah Beach assault units was the 22nd Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division under the command of Major General Raymond O. Barton. The 22nd Infantry Regiment arrived 75 minutes after H-Hour or the time set of attack, and for the next 22 days the regiment slowly but steadily drove into France, pushing back German defenders until their objective was met by capturing 990 German officers and men in the village of Gonneville. The total distance from Utah Beach to Gonneville was 31 miles, an indication that the resistance from German forces was strong and resilient.

The 4th Infantry Division was the spearhead unit for the Utah Beach assault and such an important assignment was given to one of General Eisenhower's most experienced leaders in Major General Barton, the commander of the 4th Infantry Division for the previous 2 1/2 years. Barton became one of 7 Generals who commanded the same unit during

their entire time on duty. He also became friends with Ernest Hemingway who was a war correspondent assigned to the 4th Infantry Division.

At midnight June 6th, the U.S. had lost 6,000 men during the D-Day invasion according to Army reports, 59,000 men landed on the shores of France that day and 23,500 men disembarked at Utah Beach on D-Day. One of those men was Earle D. Campbell Jr., an 18-year year old private from Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Campbell experienced a traumatic event on Utah Beach resulting in his being termed as "Killed in Action". The Army awarded him with a Purple Heart and a World War II Victory Medal for his sacrifice in war time. Private Campbell is buried at Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno, San Mateo County, California. His grave marker is a standard white military marker identifying his name, birth date, date of death, birth state of Ohio, military unit and rank. There are thousands of service men and women buried at Golden Gate but on June 6, 2019, a grave marker with the same day 75 years earlier, makes you appreciate and thank those 6,000 men who paid the ultimate sacrifice for this county on D-Day 1944....

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

Fire Department Reminds Property Owners to Create Defensible Space

MONTEREY PARK - With the large amounts of rain-fall we received this past winter, vegetation growth will be more predominant than in previous years. Maintaining the growth on your property is known as "creating a defensible space."

For those homes situated on a hillside, that defensible space can help reduce the potential for fire spread. However, ensuring that you are clearing away that growth on your property the proper way is very important. Are you doing the right thing the wrong way? For example, trying to eliminate the fire hazards around your home and, in the process, starting a brush fire?

Each year the Monterey Park Fire Department responds to fires started by residents us-

ing equipment the wrong way. Whether working to create a defensible space around your home or just mowing the lawn, if you live in a brush area you need to use all equipment responsibly. Lawn mowers, weed eaters, chain saws, grinders and trimmers can all spark a brush fire.

Do your part, the right way, to keep your community fire safe. Here's how to do it the right way:

- Do all yard maintenance that requires a gas or electrical motor before 10 a.m. Not in the heat of the day, or when the wind is blowing!
- Lawn mowers are designed to mow lawns. Never use lawn mowers in dry vegetation.
- Use a weed trimmer to cut down dry weeds and grass.
- Remove rocks in the area

before you begin operating any equipment. A rock hidden in grass or weeds is enough to start a fire when struck by a metal blade.

• In brush areas, spark arresters are required on all portable gasoline powered equipment including tractors, harvesters, chain saws, weed eaters, mowers, motorcycles, and All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs).

• Keep the exhaust system, spark arresters and mower in proper working order and free of carbon buildup. Use the recommended grade of fuel and don't top off.

• Keep the engine free of oil and dust, and keep the mower free of flammable materials.

• Keep a cell phone nearby and call 911 immediately in case of a fire.

Homeless Count Shows Improvement

WEST COVINA - The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Point-in-Time Homeless Count results for individual cities are in! The City of West Covina has showed a steady increase for the past three years, however the 2019 Homeless Count shows a 49% decrease from 277 individuals who were homeless in 2018, down to 139 people experiencing homelessness in 2019.

The City of West Covina credits the decrease in homelessness to the dedication of the

City's Police Department and Public Services Maintenance staff, collaboration with non-profit organizations, citizen engagement, and the continued partnership with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, LAHSA outreach teams, and Los Angeles County mental health clinicians.

"This has definitely been a team effort, and countless hours and resources from not only the City, but the City's local and regional partners have played a tremendous role in addressing homelessness," stat-

ed Mayor Lloyd Johnson. "We know we have made progress, but our work is not done until the number of homeless in our community is reduced to zero. We will continue to advocate for the City's share of Measure H funding, and continue to work collaboratively with our neighboring cities and organizations to balance the needs of our homeless neighbors and public safety for West Covina."

For more information about homeless resources and information please visit westcovina.org.

Monterey Park Fire and Police Departments Encourage Fireworks Safety, Warn of Fines for Illegal Use

MONTEREY PARK - The City of Monterey Park allows the use of fireworks on July 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. only in the city; however, they are not allowed in city parks. Permitted fireworks must be "Safe and Sane" and cannot be modified or altered (MPMC 5.48.190).

Due to the extreme fire dangers in California and to make sure everyone in the community can enjoy the holiday, the city encourages everyone to have a safe Fourth of July holiday by ensuring the use of "Safe and Sane" fireworks only, making sure children are supervised at all times, and taking care of your pets. Many times pets are forgotten during this holiday and many are sensitive to loud noises. The

fireworks can scare the animals and cause them to run off. It is recommended to bring your pets indoors and play calming music while the fireworks are being ignited or seek the advice of your local veterinarian before the 4th.

Additionally, the City of Monterey Park Fire Department's Arson Team and the Police Department have begun patrolling the city to ensure safe preservation of the community. The city has adopted a new fine schedule for the use and/or sale of illegal fireworks. Individuals failing to comply with the city's fireworks ordinance and found with illegal fireworks or igniting fireworks before July 4 may be susceptible to fines ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per occurrence and

confiscation of the fireworks. Fireworks seized will be destroyed in the interest of public safety and the citee may be liable for the cost of destruction of confiscated fireworks.

So, enjoy the Fourth of July holiday, but remember to use Safe and Sane only within the allowable times. If you and your family would like to celebrate somewhere other than your home, join the City of Monterey Park at its Fourth of July Celebration at Barnes Park at 350 S. McPherrin Avenue. Festivities begin at 2:30 p.m. For more information about Monterey Park's Fourth of July Celebration, visit www.MontereyPark.ca.gov/4thofJuly.

Former West Covina Resident gets 25 Years for Exchanging Child Porn

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - Christopher Clay Tuttle, 33, who is a former West Covina resident, was recently sentenced to 25 years in prison. He was exchanging sexually explicit images of children on a Russian photo-sharing website. This site is frequently used to trade child pornography.

It is believed that Homeland

Security was involved with the investigation. Tuttle will now have to register as a sex offender for life and to be subject to lifetime supervised release once he is out of federal prison, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Tuttle, had already moved to Spokane, Washington, when he was arrested. They confiscated all his electronic commu-

nication devices and was used as evidence of the crime(s). Back in March of this year, he pleaded to advertising child pornography, which carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 15 years in prison.

During a two-day advertising, he had a number of individuals respond. He had over 9,000 images stored in his email as well as over 300 videos.

Senator Ling Ling Chang Responds to Final Budget Vote

SACRAMENTO - Senator Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) issued the following statement after the California State Legislature approved the 2019-20 State Budget:

"It's ridiculous that Sacramento politicians want to add \$2 billion in new taxes when the state has a budget surplus of \$22 billion. While the final budget includes a few worthwhile projects, the budget's

negatives outweigh the positives.

"From housing to gas to energy, Californians pay more than just about anyone in the nation. Why further burden hardworking families with new taxes on health care penalties, the mobile tax, and an additional \$3 billion in taxes and fees on businesses over the next two years? Families are already paying more in taxes and fees,

but receiving less in return.

"The final budget does include some priorities that I support, including increasing wildfire assistance, investing in public schools, and avoiding the water tax. But overall, the budget commits to spending a record \$215 billion and fails to take into consideration our current surplus or a possible future economic downturn."

San Gabriel Valley Examiner
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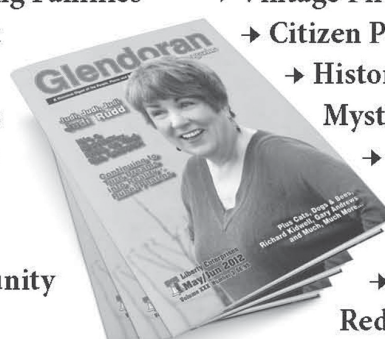
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Human Trafficking: The Travel Plan and Cost

U.S. State Department releases annual reports mandated by the 2000 Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) called Trafficking in Persons (TIP) using criteria to rank countries monitored in international human trafficking. Human trafficking is defined ... for the purpose of forced labor, sexual slavery or exploitation, forced marriage, extraction of organs or tissues and surrogacy. Child trafficking is the same definition but includes purposes of adoption. Perhaps there is a reason we separate children at the border from those bringing them in.

Under TIP, countries are placed in a tier system with Tier I being ones best combating trafficking and Tier 3 as worst performers and subject to potential restrictions like U.S. foreign aid, grant funding, and trade agreements. Congress has over-site making periodic adjustments including naming countries warranting enhanced monitoring. 2008 Congress modified TVPA to identify countries who recruit and use child soldiers; and, 2015 prohibited Tier 3 countries from participating in authorized trade negotiations.

Mexico is a Tier II country with some urging to upgrade to Tier II "watch list" according to the Rand report. Internal conflicts within the State Department have prevented that from happening, but recent meetings over our border crisis and unmanageable numbers reflect a need for the Mexican government to exert a serious effort to halt the flow.

Rand Corporation's recent study on trafficking focused on the Northern Triangle (NT) — Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador — and trafficking exploits through Mexico to reach the U.S. border. Bottom line in the study: there are no "set in stone numbers" in the human count or profit margins. Rand presents a travel guide of options and services available from four types of traffickers identified. Various modes of transportation, lodging, food, fraudulent documents and support services, including specialized knowledge to avoid arrest, extortion, and violence by evading detection or paying bribes and protection fees are available.

"Coyote options":

- Independent operators - one or a few individuals in a small



Shade's Perspective
Lois M. Shade

Former Mayor of Glendora

operational area to start the journey.

- Ad hoc groups - two or more independents, sometimes working together, but in two or several small operational areas.

- Loose networks consisting of a number of small groups working together over several locations to provide portions of the full route or end-to-end service.

- Formal networks structured with a central figure coordinating groups to provide end-to-end services.

Insight Crime, Oscar Martinez, June 2017, reprinted article in El Faro provided human smuggling from a coyote's perspective. El Faro is the first internet newspaper in Latin America, based in El Salvador ... "that covers corruption, organized crime, migration, culture, inequality, impunity and Human Rights."

Interviewed was a five-year El Salvadoran coyote, at times is a traveler (goes with the migrants along the route) and a senior (based at home providing connections) primarily working telephonically to contact his established connections. These connections are essential to move his clients, and are referred to as a "chain".

- "A police officer or agent from the Mexican International Institute of Migration ... [who] ... will tell him when he is on duty ... at a checkpoint. The coyote agrees to a price for his clients and the agent lets them pass ... only a few pesos in Mexico."

- "Then comes the difficult part: "Find an in with the cartel." The traveler must find a senior coyote who has relations with the cartels whose

territory has to be crossed to get to the U.S. border. There is a charge for that "service". The Salvadoran coyote hands his client off to a Mexican senior coyote who works along the U.S. border.

- Mexican coyote is paid to take migrants to and across the border to any city they chose, at least in 2017.

In 2017, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) data indicated smuggling fees were about \$4,700 per person for Guatemalan migrants, \$3,800 for Honduran migrants, \$4,600 for Salvadorian migrants or an average of \$4,400 per person for Northern Triangle migrants.

Rand Corp. estimates the "full package" for end-to-end migration, including infiltration into the U.S., could cost \$10,000. Through interviews internally, they also found ... 'smugglers can also provide specialized services for clients such as children, pregnant women, and elderly to reduce risks and physical activity (scaling walls, extended hikes through remote terrain). One smuggler explains, ... 'specialized services increasing a person's chances of evading detection, — use of decoys, look-outs, and safe houses — drive up costs and therefore prices.'

Insight Crime, Ariane Francisco and Josefina Salomon, March 25, 2019, report, "... Mexican immigration officials demanded as much as \$3,500 to allow migrants to stay at the border ... to seek asylum in the U.S.A."

Coyote from El Salvador has two complaints:

1. Since President Trump's election, it has been harder to find "clients". They don't want to spend money and get turned back at the border.
2. The price of moving his "clients" has gone up with more increases promised.

Look at the prices charged. Do Northern Triangle migrants appear to have that kind of money? I doubt it nor do I think they have credit cards. Maybe a "promise to pay all the fees" deal?

LA Times, 6-15-19 — Mexico's top immigration official resigned his post Friday amid continued pressure from the United States that Mexico take a harder line against migrants.

Porch Pirates Getting Killed, Be Careful

As of late, there is a new crime in town... well, kind of new. The criminals are known as "Porch Pirates". These are low-life people that steal your packages off your porch that was delivered to your home.

Some of the methods have been unreal. People driving around with their kids in the car through neighborhoods looking for packages left on porches. They have been known to pull into driveways, get out and steal your package. Some have walked up to the door and act like they are knocking at the door, reach down, take the package and run to their car. We now have mothers sending their young kids to the porch to steal the packages and run back to the car and they speed off.

Lots of life saving medications are now sent through the mail systems. The victim is left without their medication. It takes time to get a replacement sent out. I was trying to find the case where medication was sent out and then stolen by porch pirates. They had camera security and they had the suspect's car and license recorded. The victim, while waiting for the replacement, had to be hospitalized because they were not medicated and ended up dying. Contributing factor was the lack of medication. This now became a homicide. The suspects were located and charged with homicide and



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

from what I heard, the charges stuck. I wish I had more information on this so I'm not sure of all the particulars, but I can't see why this could not have happened.

People have tried to prevent this by setting traps, by placing fake packages on porches and going after the suspects when they get stolen. In some cases, there is violent confrontations with people getting killed or injured on both sides.

Since the present law is a "wobbler law" which could be a low-level misdemeanor or a felony (depending on the value of the item stolen), Assembly Bill 1210 would change that, classifying porch piracy as a burglary crime, which means penalties would no longer be tied to the value of the item taken. Entering the porch or "curtilage" area of a home (a porch, doorstep, patio, stoop, driveway, hallway, or enclosed yard) with the intent to commit package theft would essentially become the same as

entering the foyer of that house to steal a package. "The bill would make a violation of that punishable as a misdemeanor by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or as a felony by imprisonment in a county jail for 16 months, or 2 or 3 years."

The law should, in my opinion, include impounding the vehicle because it was used in the commission of the crime. Hopefully, they will be held long enough where they can't afford to get it back and it gets auctioned off.

It has drawn praise from law enforcement and criticism from criminal justice reform advocates who say taking away prosecutorial discretion has led to overly punitive results for low-level crimes in the past.

Anoop Prasad, a staff attorney at the Asian Law Caucus wrote on Twitter, "This is a terrible bill repeating the worst mistakes of mass incarceration."

Was this guy serious??? What does this tell you?

Let me drop something on you. Mail isn't defined to just being delivered by the U.S. Postal Service, it is all services that supply mail. Whereas, this used to be a Federal Offense to steal mail, so what happened to this law? We should use it, ya think?

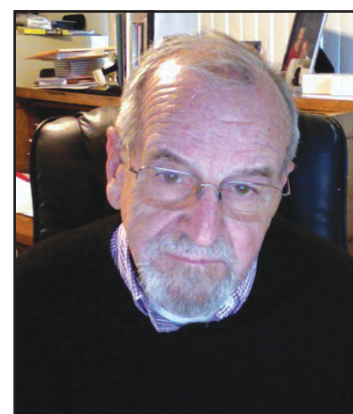
"That's Just the Way It Is!"

Is A Tax On Carbon Possible?

Several weeks ago in a column titled "VESTED INTERESTS," I registered my distress that the Environmental Protection Agency, the federal body responsible for protecting our air and water, is now being led by Andrew Wheeler, who has spent his career as chief lobbyist for the coal industry. In that column I suggested that the only legislative approach that had a chance of being passed is a tax on carbon at the point it is produced; the well-head or the mine-face. Subsequently I received a letter from John Wolfersberger, a long-time colleague, who has followed the legislative progress of a carbon tax bill that is gaining congressional momentum. With his permission I am quoting here a substantial part of his letter.

For the last four years I have been a member of the Citizen's Climate Lobby, which is currently meeting the second Saturday of each month at the Napier Center. (C.B. This building is about 20 yards from our apartment.) CCL now has 105 chapters across the U.S. and a few international ones. It has taken ten years, but we finally have legislation before congress,

HR 763. It currently has 32 co-sponsors in the House and the number is rapidly growing. It is called The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. It calls for a fee of \$15 per metric ton on all fossil fuel mined from the earth, coal, oil, and gas. It is bi-partisan and revenue neutral, that is it doesn't cost the government or the taxpayer anything. The net revenue will be distributed to each American household from the U.S Treasury Dept.



Charles H. Bayer

Marsha and I are going to Washington D.C. June 7-12 to the National CCL Conference. There will be 1,200 of us lobbying every House office for HR763. If passed, the legislation, with careful number crunching, will bring down CO2 emissions by 40% in the next decade and by 90% in the second decade. This is not the Green New Deal which is a broad wish list by the Democrats that is already getting a lot of Republican push back. It will take the Green New Deal years to define itself and gain traction. HR 763 is now!

Way to go John and Marsha! For several years there have been occasional reports focused on the work of the Citizen's Climate Lobby. But it has not been until the Democratic takeover of the House of Representatives that any serious action mandating a carbon tax seemed possible. Now, however, there is a growing movement led by the CCL, believing that the time has arrived for legislative action. HR763 has broken the silence and now needs the support of those concerned about the planet's survival. Three avenues for actions are immediately apparent.

First, if there is an active Citi-

zens' Climate Lobby chapter in your area, get in touch with it.

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org>

Second, contact your member of Congress—which probably means a staffer in his/her office. Ask if she/he has signed on as a sponsor of HR 763. If not, push the issue.

Third, it is obvious that there will be no serious progress on this bill until there is a change in the White House AND the Senate. Until that happens next year the issue must be kept alive, and that means constant pressure at the grass roots. So stay in touch with your representatives, and become involved in the 2020 election campaign through your local party organization

CCL does not suggest it has the only answer, but my guess is it is the only one that is doable. "Cap and Trade" will never work. There is "The New Green Deal," chock full of very good things, and it could be the multi-trillion dollar answer to the environmental crisis, but getting that or any part of it enacted remains a generation-long struggle. But the reality is that the rapidity with which the planet is disintegrating may not allow any far distant solution

Whoever is finally nominated by the Democrats, it is hoped that this complex issue will be the keystone in their November 2020 campaign. Various candidates will develop other proposals, but HR763 already has political momentum. Keep your eye on its progress as it makes its way through the legislative labyrinth, and do what you can to help it become law.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

Democracy In Action In California And Why Democracies Always Fail

By D. B. Shimel
My Perspective

If one wonders why Democracies fail look no further than California.

In previous writings I discussed the pros and cons of a Republic and a Democracy. In those writings was a discussion on the "tyranny of democracy" and why democracies historically, have always failed in about 200 years.

California is technically a Democracy. The voters in this state have the power to pass almost any law that they wish through the Initiative process. This situation is exacerbated by a single party rule that lays claim to an altruistic mission to "help the people". Note - I did not say the citizens. The real citizens of this state are being exploited for their tax monies and at the same time being politically ignored.

At first look it would appear that the state is thriving. California has a state economy that ranks as one of the highest in the world - reportedly fifth in the world. The public is told almost daily that the state has a surplus of money in its coffers. But if one looks under the façade of greatness and investigates the actual state of California's financial, political and social wellbeing one finds a different story. The truth is that California is on the brink of disaster.

In spite of the reported surplus in the budget California has a huge unfunded liability owing primarily to the CALPERS retirement benefits promised in prior years.

Homeliness, drug use and filthy living conditions is on the rise in every large city in the state. Recent voter approved ballot initiatives that provide shelter to the homeless has been a beacon for every down and out person in the world. Glo-

balist, open border policies of the progressive left has brought millions of people illegally across the southern border of the United States mostly from Latin America but also from almost every country on the planet. "No border, no wall, no U.S. A. at all" has been the chant of the globalist left factions of this nation.

The state of California has the largest population of any state and the largest number and percentage of poor, illegal and homeless people. The Sanctuary state marque has been a welcome sign to all illegal trespassers who would to come here to receive massive amounts of benefits at the state's taxpayer's expense. Now, Governor Gavin Newsom wants to give a big portion of the taxpayer money to people who are here illegally in the form of "free health care".

Voter fraud is rampant. This situation is exacerbated by the "Motor Voter" and ballot harvesting laws passed by the state legislature.

California has the highest per student cost of education yet ranks at the bottom of the list by national education standards.

To make things worse the cost of living here is among the highest in the nation. Every time the cost of motor fuel goes up the cost of everyday commodities goes up because of the cost to deliver these goods to the marketplace. Gasoline prices are among the highest of all of the states only made worse by the recent tax placed on the commodity thanks to the "super majority" in the state legislature. In 2018 the voters were sold a bill of goods about the effort to repeal this tax as the Attorney General's office worded the proposition to confuse the voters. This statement is verified by a court ruling to

that effect with wording stating that 'Yes the wording was misleading but is too late to change the ballot'.

Billions of transportation taxes that were collected have been squandered on useless ventures like the High Speed Rail System (AKA the "Crazy Train") now to going nowhere because the Federal Government has cut all funding for the effort. Today it is way over budget and far behind schedule and will only go between two sizeable cities not the ones promised. In spite of the increase in fuel taxes the roads continue to deteriorate.

California has one of the highest personal income tax rates and the highest sales tax in this country.

If this state were a separate nation it would be the next Venezuela with a huge number of poor people clamoring for "free" stuff and politicians eager to give them free stuff in exchange for POWER. There is a sizeable well off upper-class who are doing pretty well in spite of the poverty that surrounds them. Much of the shrinking middle class is either contemplating moving out of the state or has already fled to less progressive environments.

How much longer before the bubble bursts?

How did this terrible but predictable situation come about? In a few words - Progressive Democracy happened.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.
REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO THE POLICE

Switch from Trade Fears to Rate-Cut Hopes

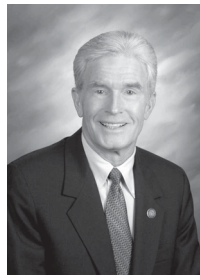
What a difference one week makes! Interestingly, some of the "bad news" on the economic front made a rate cut more likely, which ultimately should favor stocks (at least short term). The financial news media appears to have switched its obsession from existing and potential trade tariffs to a coming Fed rate cut. With the media finally reporting some more positive news, the market "melted up" by almost 5% (recovering more than two-thirds of its losses suffered in the entire down month of May).

It is often discussed how the bond market seems to dictate to the Fed, and not the other way around. Commentary by Fed Chairman Jerome Powell simply appeared to be the Fed acknowledging that they will submit to the power of dramatically lower yields brought on by a massive rotation into U.S. Treasuries (even though it is not known who those auction buyers might be, or what motivated their willingness to accept significantly lower bond returns).

While the Fed did their own version of a "pivot" back in January, the recent bond market has put "Mr. Powell & Company" under rising pressure to cut the Fed Funds Rate much sooner than the Fed had previously considered.

Once again, the Fed may also be playing catch-up with current economic conditions. Soft data from the labor market all but "put

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

a lock" on the prospects of a quarter-point cut at the upcoming July 31 FOMC meeting. The fed funds futures market currently sees an 85.6% implied likelihood of a rate cut during the July 30-31 meeting.

In just these past two weeks, economic announcements provided some clear hints of slower growth ahead, with several reports coming in below forecast. For example:

The ISM Manufacturing Index for May was 52.1 versus a 52.6 forecast. Construction Spending's change for April was 0.0% versus a 0.4% forecast increase. Industrial Production for April changed -0.5% versus 0.1% increase forecast. Durable Orders for April fell 2.1% versus a 2.0% forecast decline; and, employment data showed Non-farm Payrolls growing by only 75K versus the 180K forecast. That last one may have solidified the perceived certainty of an upcoming rate cut. Fed Fund Futures plunged on the lower than ex-

pected labor report. The 2-year yield declined five basis points to 1.85%, and the 10-year bond dropped four basis points to 2.09%. The decline in interest rates probably led to Mr. Powell's latest public insinuation that the Fed would keep the expansion going.

It seems like "happy days may be here again" for stocks. Stock prices vaulted higher on the expectation of a rate cut by the Fed. The S&P 500 all but erased market losses from the prior three weeks (that saw the S&P violate its 200-day moving average during two sessions).

How this market trades going forward, under the assumption of a dovish Fed combating slower growth, will be very interesting to watch. Each sell-off following the Great Recession has proven to be a buying opportunity in stocks; and, the recent dip saw buyers step in with gusto. Until more data is known about whether the soft jobs report is a "one-off" or something more concerning, I expect the market to remain in a fairly tight range, with some days experiencing extreme volatility, especially not knowing the extent to which the Fed will accommodate markets.

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

Is there a way to have good retirement income and still keep my taxes low?

Depending on your personal, individual circumstances, you might be able to put your money into a couple of different safe investments that are tax-advantaged. You should learn about different places to put your money based on it being taxed now, taxed later, or never taxed again. Some of these investments involve life insurance; others involve fixed, or fixed-indexed annuities. You'll need to take a look at what you have now, think about what you want your money to do for you, and then make a plan to best suit your needs and desires.

I'm 72 years old. A telemarketer called me and convinced me to make an appointment with a representative about my finances. It would have saved us both time if I'd known that what he really wanted to do was sell me some life insurance. Isn't there some way to protect us seniors from salespeople like this?

California Insurance Code, section 798.8 requires a written advance notice to any person, age 65 or older, when offering to sell a life insurance or annuity product. There's also a Medi-Cal disclosure requirement. That salesperson broke the law and could be reported. On the other hand, if you called an insurance agent and requested an appointment to discuss finances, an advance notice would not be required.

What are the costs involved in selling our house and buying



Julia Yoder
another?

Ask a Realtor for an Estimated Net Sheet. As the title infers, it is an estimate of what you will net from the sale of your home. A realtor, or a loan originator could give you a similar document with the estimated cost of buying another property. The Estimated Net Sheet shows the math to figure out the costs of paying off your current mortgage, Realtors fees, Title, Escrow, repairs, and other costs involved in selling. As a buyer, the math will include your down payment, loan fees, tax and/or insurance im-pounds (sometimes optional), appraisal, inspections, Title and Escrow fees, etc. Since you have purchased before, you're more familiar with those costs. Nowadays, when submitting an offer on a property, you are almost always required to include a pre-approval letter, (not just a pre-qualification letter), and/or proof of funds.

What is a Lease-Option?

A Lease Option is also known as a Lease with Option to Purchase. It is a lease containing an

option which gives the lessee (the tenant) the right to purchase the property. The price and terms of that purchase must be stated in the lease option for the option to be valid. That option may run for the entire lease period, or only a portion.

We're anxious to move closer to our grandchildren. Is now the right time to sell?

Now is a great time to sell. Homes priced below \$400,000 are being snapped up, many with multiple offers. Homes priced above \$400,000 take a little longer to sell. There are still more buyers than sellers. Buyers are anxious to take advantage of the low mortgage interest rates, but there's a shortage of homes for them to buy. With this supply-and-demand scenario, housing prices have been driven up. However, if your home is not priced right for the market (what buyers are willing to pay based on comparable properties), it'll probably sit there for awhile until you lower your price. Let me know if you'd like me to recommend a Realtor.

Ask Julia by email: juliyoder@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

THE CAR GURU
WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW
By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Warning Lights: After Repair Information

You may have recently had a warning light repaired in your car. This could be a check engine/service engine soon light (this is most common), a.b.s., s.r.s, battery or other warning light.

Our intention with this article is to try to answer any questions about your repair, give you a little insight to how the new car systems function and avoid any misunderstanding or confusion if the light reappears in a short time.

In recent years cars have become more sophisticated, or electrically challenged as we say, and the computer monitors more systems than ever before. We're talking everything from knowing if the windows are rolling down to if the gas cap is tight enough, as well as all the major functions that make the car run.

A computer monitor is a complex sensor system that tests

(monitors) certain components at specific times while you are driving the car and reports the findings back to the main computer. There is usually a minimum of 5 monitors on all cars or can be as many as 20 monitors all testing the car's systems; it just depends on the system and type of car. Once a monitor is sensing a problem with your car, you guessed it, the warning light comes on.

Here's where it gets a little tricky; the monitors check different systems at different times. For instance, an evaporative monitor for most cars has to have the gas tank fuel level between 1/4 and 3/4 then driven at a steady speed no lower than 45 m.p.h. and no more than 65 m.p.h. for one minute. The coolant temperature has to be above 200 degrees and the air temperature above 75 degrees and this is a simple system.

So, imagine a person who never drives on the freeway. It would be difficult for the computer to check this system.

There is a point, once a check engine light comes on, that it stops monitoring all systems until the broken one is fixed. What I'm trying to say is once a check engine light is repaired and the system starts its monitoring program again, the light may reoccur for a totally different system failure other than the one that was repaired. Depending on your driving habits, it could be a week or even a month before all the monitoring systems are checked by the computer. If a system fails, that's right, another check engine light for another reason.

Certified Auto is committed to giving our customers the best service possible. If we have repaired a warning light and it comes back on, we will gladly recheck the codes at no charge to you.

Certified Auto Specialists: the friendlier and more helpful auto shop! Feel free to call 626-963-0814 with any questions and we will be glad to help, or visit our website at CertifiedAutoCa.com

Hometown Service You Can Count On!

California Department of Tax and Fee Administration Announces New Sales and Use Tax Rates Operative July 1, 2019

Countywide Tax Rate Increase	Old Rate	New Rate
San Mateo County (the rate applies in all unincorporated areas and in incorporated cities that do not impose a district tax.)	8.750%	9.250%
City of Belmont	9.250%	9.750%
City of Burlingame	9.000%	9.500%
City of East Palo Alto	9.250%	9.750%
City of Redwood City	9.250%	9.750%
City of San Mateo	9.000%	9.500%
City of South San Francisco	9.250%	9.750%
Citywide Tax Rate Increases	Old Rate	New Rate
City of Glendora (Los Angeles County)	9.500%	10.250%

SACRAMENTO—The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) reminds Californians that new sales and use tax rates will take effect July 1, 2019. The new rates are

the result of voter-approved initiatives. The tax rate changes listed below apply only within the indicated city or county limits.

To find the correct rate for your home or business location,

visit www.cdtfa.ca.gov and click the "Tax and Fee Rates" button. Please note that the new rates will not be available online until July 1, 2019, when they take effect.

New Study Uncovers 'Hidden' Epidemic In Health Care: Hospital Drug Diversion

Hospital drug diversion, in which health care workers divert opiates and other controlled substances away from patients for personal use or sale, is a largely underdiscussed challenge. To better understand health care diversion perceptions, behaviors and solutions, the BD Institute for Medication Management Excellence commissioned KRC Research, a global public opinion research consultancy, to conduct a national survey of more than 650 hospital executives and providers. The findings, released in a new report, were eye opening.

1. The Not-In-My-Backyard (NIMBY) Effect

The survey showed that health care executives and providers may be in denial about substance use among hospital employees and the prevalence of hospital drug diversion. While 85 percent of providers express concern about diversion, and 50 percent report they have observed suspicious activity, fewer than 20 percent believe diversion is a problem in their own facility. Further, despite evidence to the contrary, 26 percent of executives and 29 percent of providers surveyed believe substance use disorder is less prevalent among hospital employees than in the

general population.

2. Workplace Stress May Be a Related Issue

In the survey, 58 percent of nurses and 52 percent of anesthesiologists say their jobs are highly stressful. Among providers, 78 percent know a peer who may be stressed "to the breaking point." And, though 74 percent of providers are comfortable seeking help to manage stress, only 39 percent of all respondents have actually sought assistance.

3. Better Training Could Help Solve the Problem

Nearly 60 percent of providers said they have either taken a diversion training course, talked about it in a work meeting, and/or received information from their hospital. However, 40 percent report they have not had any formal training, and more than a third have not received diversion information from their hospital or discussed it at work. Among those who had not received any training or communication, 60 percent would like that to change.

4. Hospitals Need Better Technology to Detect Diversion

In the survey, 32 percent of executives say they are spending too little on specific measures, such as tools that deliv-

er more accurate data to reduce false positives, machine learning, advanced analytics, and mandatory diversion training. However, the vast majority of executives and providers believe that, with enough resources, they can mitigate diversion risk.

This new report—"Health Care's Hidden Epidemic: A Call to Action on Hospital Drug Diversion"—should not be the last word on diversion. Rather, it should spark a national conversation, spur much-needed research, and ultimately lead hospitals and health systems to adopt comprehensive diversion prevention programs. Through technology, communication and training, cultural shifts and other means, diversion risk can be addressed in a meaningful way.

For more information, including the report, a resources guide and other assets, please visit BD Institute for Medication Management Excellence at www.bd.com/diversion-report. (NAPSI)

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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

Wanted: Men and Women who want to lose weight. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) is a non-profit group that encourages men and women to lose weight. TOPS is a hands on, Pounds Off approach to weight loss. No Quick Fixes, just helpful information you need to reach your weight loss goal. We offer the latest nutrition, fitness and medical information. We also have information on the latest Diabetes resources. Motivational stories from successful TOPS members. Our meetings are every Thursday at 9:30am to 11:00am at Azusa Memorial Park at 320 N Orange. For more information please call 626-967-8829

ARCADIA Summer Concert And Movie Series

The summer concerts and movies are both on Thursday evenings. Concerts start at 6:30pm and movies at dusk on the west lawn between City Hall and the Police Department (240 West Huntington Drive). Please note parking is provided at City Hall and Santa Anita Race Track at Gate 5 only. For more information, please call 626.574.5113. Below is the line-up for June 20.

Stone Soul (Classic Soul/Motown)

Hotel Transylvania 3 - (PG)

Environmental Fair

Saturday Adult Basketball League

Gather your friends, form a team and stay active in the adult basketball league. Whether it's casual or competitive, there's always an opportunity to stay fit and have fun. Games are played at the Dana Gym, 1401 S. First Avenue, Arcadia on Saturdays between the hours of 9:00am and 1:00pm, beginning Saturday, June 29, 2019. Saturday Open League is limited to six teams and is open to all levels of play. League fees are \$502 plus a \$40 forfeit deposit, which includes 9 league games, officials, scorekeepers, and championship award. Registration takes place on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information please call 626.574.5113.

Orchid Hobbyists Meeting

San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists invite you to our **June 20** 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. We will be having an Open Forum- Questions & Answers on all Subjects Related to Orchids. Refresh-

ments. All welcome! BALDWIN PARK 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.

Community Garden Parcels

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department has a Community Garden located at Cougar Park. Parcels are now available. Grow your own vegetables alongside other gardeners who are passionate about gardening and growing healthy organic produce! Annual fee of \$50 for large or handicap accessible parcel, and \$44 for small parcel. Applications are available at covinaca.gov. For more information, call (626) 384-5340.

Walk The Walk

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department offers "Walk the Walk." This is a casual walking experience where you can walk at your own pace, improve your heart's health, and meet new friends. Wear your walking shoes and bring water. The walk takes place on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. at the Covina Senior Center (temporarily located at Lark Ellen Elementary School, 4555 N. Lark Ellen Ave., Covina). For more information, call (626) 384-5380.

Medicare & Vitality Center

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department in conjunction with Inter Valley Health Plan, invites seniors to the Medicare & Vitality Center on Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. and Fridays, 9-11:30 a.m. at the Covina Senior Center (temporarily located at Lark Ellen Elementary School, 4555 N. Lark Ellen Ave., Covina). Obtain information on how to maintain your vitality and stay healthy. Vitality Center offers free screenings, informative

presentations, "Doc Talks" and refreshments. For reservations, call (800) 251-8191, ext. 625. For more information, call (626) 384-5380.

DUARTE 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.

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.

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.

GLENDORA 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.

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.

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.

SAN GABRIEL Screenwriting For Teens

The San Gabriel Library is offering a special opportunity for teens! From Monday, **June 24** to Wednesday, June 26, screenwriter Tony Sands will teach participants about the mechanics of storytelling and the industry.

For ages 12 to 17, these unique sessions will provide book giveaways for attendees while sup-

plies last. Please register in person at the San Gabriel Library (located at 500 South Del Mar Avenue) or over the phone at 626.287.0761.

WEST COVINA Go West Shuttle Service

The Go West Shuttle service consists of three alignments (Red, Blue, and Green) that serve destinations throughout the city including Plaza West Covina, Eastland Shopping Center, Heights Shopping Center, West Covina Civic Center, West Covina Senior Center, Cameron Community Center, and many more. For questions on the location of shuttle stops, assistance in locating the stop closest to you, and route schedules please call (800) 425-5777. The fixed-route service operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The fare is only \$1.00 each way. No Service on Holidays.

TOPS Meeting

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every week on Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Cortez Senior Center, located at 2501 E. Cortez St in the back classroom building. Visitors are always welcome and your first meeting is free. Come now and learn about nutrition, portion control, food planning, exercise, motivation, and more every week. This group has members from all over the San Gabriel Valley. For details, call Erika Hernandez at 6 2 6 - 3 8 4 - 0 5 0 2 (ehernandez57@aol.com).

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.

City of West Covina Summer Concert Series

WEST COVINA - The City of West Covina will be hosting its Annual FREE Summer Concert Series for six Wednesdays beginning June 12, 2019 from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Each Summer Concert event will begin with a DJ from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. followed by the featured band from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. All of the Summer Concerts will take place at the West Covina Civic Center, located at 1444 West Garvey Ave. South. Free parking is available at the Civic Center during the Summer Concerts. Make sure to bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. You

may bring outside food or purchase food on site. No alcohol is permitted at the Summer Concert Series.

2019 Schedule
June 26 SMITH BAND - Country
July 3 SMOKIN' COBRAS - Retro 50's Oldies & NU-SALT - Patriotic Laser Light Show
July 10 KINGS OF 88 - Tribute to Piano Rock Legends
July 17 COLD DUCK - 70's & 80's, Old School, Big Band
For more information please call (626) 939-8864 or visit www.westcovina.org.



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Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation Hosted Record-Breaking 5th Anniversary Blue Diamond Gala Headlined By Music Superstar Bruno Mars

Billie Jean King & Ilana Kloss were honored during the event which raised over \$3 million for the foundation's direct programs

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation (LADF) hosted its 5th Anniversary Blue Diamond Gala, a star-studded evening that featured an exhilarating performance by world-renowned musician Bruno Mars. Equality trailblazers Billie Jean King and Ilana Kloss were honored during the event, which raised over \$3 Million and was attended by over 2,000 guests.

The Los Angeles Dodgers Ownership Group presented the 2019 Blue Diamond Gala. The group includes Chairman Mark Walter, Earvin “Magic” Johnson, Todd Boehly, Robert “Bobby” Patton, Jr., Peter Guber, Billie Jean King, and Ilana Kloss.

The evening also included a welcome from Emmy-nominated actor, Anthony Anderson, introduction of the 2019 Los Angeles Dodgers, highlight of youth impacted by LADF’s programs, and Dodger broadcasters Joe Davis and Orel Hershiser, who helped bring awareness to LADF’s important work. DJ Rashida and DJ Severe provided the soundtrack



Billie Jean King with one of the LA Dodgers “Mascot” pose for a souvenir photo.

for the evening.

Attendees included Players Austin Barnes, Cody Bellinger, Walker Buehler, Dylan Floro, David Freese, Kyle Garlick, Enrique Hernandez, Rich Hill, Kenley Jansen, Joe Kelly, Clayton Kershaw, Kenta Maeda, Russell Martin, Max Muncy, Joc Pederson, Hyun-Jin Ryu, Corey Seager, Ross

Stripling, Chris Taylor, Justin Turner, and Alex Verdugo, Manager Dave Roberts, and Coaches Aaron Bates, Dino Ebel, Bob Geren, Rick Honeycutt, and George Lombard, former Los Angeles Dodgers Ron Cey, Steve Garvey, Rick Monday, Manny Mota, and Fernando Valenzuela, and additional special

guests including Tiffany Haddish, Mario and Courtney Lopez, Prince Jackson, Holly Robinson Peete, Loretta Devine, Tina Knowles, Loni Love, Parker Bates, Ann Meyers Drysdale, Mackenzie Hancsicsak, Matt Iseman, Kat McNamara, Emily Osment, Haley Joel Osment, Danielle Savre, Bernie Taupin, Anne

Winters, Calum Worthy, Marcellus Wiley, Shawne Merriman, and many more!

Founded in 1995, the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation (LADF) is the official team charity of the Los Angeles Dodgers. An award-winning leader in sports-based youth development, LADF harnesses the power of the Dodger brand, and a passionate fan base, to significantly impact underserved youth in some of the most challenged neighborhoods of Los Angeles. With a focus on Sports + Recreation, Education + Literacy, and Health + Wellness, LADF administers direct programs serving youth and communities at large and provides grants to local nonprofit organizations. With a bigger than baseball mentality, LADF is focused on finding innovative ways to create opportunities for children through programs that engage with kids in sports, helps kids stay active and promote academic success. With the support of partners, stakeholders and fans, LADF produces in-

credible results on fields, in classrooms and at recreation centers, creating Major League Communities.

Since inception, more than \$25 million has been invested in programs and grants to nonprofits to improve access to education, health care and sports. LADF has a robust strategy focused on the most significant problems facing the city of Los Angeles at a time when a quality education, youth sports and health care are increasingly reserved for the elite. Using our celebrity and the power of sport, we run and fund proven programs aimed at young under-resourced Angelenos. LADF serves 10,500 youth through its sports-based youth development program and provides 300,000 kids access to a safe place to enjoy recreational activity in their own neighborhood. LADF has even bigger ambitions on deck.

The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation envisions a city where every young Angeleno, in every neighborhood can thrive.

West Covina Unified Celebrates the Class of 2019

WEST COVINA – West Covina Unified School District celebrated the accomplishments of 770 graduates from its two comprehensive high schools and continuation school with commencement ceremonies on June 5 and 6, held at West Covina High School.

“The Class of 2019 has demonstrated a commitment to excellence and a tenacity to overcome any obstacle that West Covina Unified can be truly proud of,” Superintendent Dr. Charles D. Hinman said. “Congratulations to all of our graduates; we wish them the best of luck as they embark on new educational and professional journeys.”

Edgewood High School
Edgewood High School’s 191 graduates threw their caps into the air, shared tearful hugs and sang along to “Stand By Me” as fireworks lit up the sky during the June 5 commencement ceremony.

Valedictorian Daren He and salutatorian Madison Akles delighted their peers, families and staff with humorous anecdotes and emotional expressions of gratitude during their speeches.

“There’s so much left of this world to discover and I believe that you all will carve out your own place in history,” Akles said. “I believe not only in the power of my peers but this generation as a whole. I have

seen a true change that we have been able to achieve within our own communities and as a whole.”

He will study bioengineering at UCLA and Akles will study psychology at New York University.

Edgewood – which is part of the International World Schools of West Covina – also celebrated 25 International Baccalaureate Diploma candidates, 46 Seal of Biliteracy recipients and 54 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma recipients.

Edgewood High School’s Class of 2019 graduates will attend University of California campuses, California State University campuses, Azusa Pacific University, Concordia University, Northern Arizona University, University of Arizona, University of Kentucky and University of La Verne, as well as local community colleges, trade and technical schools. Two Edgewood High School graduates will also enlist in the military.

Coronado High School
Coronado High School celebrated 68 students – part of an overall graduating class of 79 – who overcame personal and academic challenges to earn their diplomas during an emotional ceremony on June 6.

Graduate Ariel Arellano detailed how Coronado – her ninth school during her K-12



West Covina High School graduates line up to receive their diplomas during commencement on June 6.

years – boosted her self-confidence and shattered her expectations of what it meant to attend a continuation school.

“Prior to coming to Coronado, doubt was my biggest enemy,” Arellano said. “However, Coronado is a place where you can reinvent yourself, an alternative way of learning.

Coronado may be a school, but really, it is a family.”

Arellano, who was an active member of Coronado’s MIA mental health club and engaged in a Districtwide mental wellness summit, will begin a paid internship with Kaiser Permanente this summer. She also received a paid engineering internship at UCLA.

Seventy-five percent of Coronado’s graduates have enrolled in community college,

while nearly 17 percent will pursue career technical education or trade school and 2 percent will enlist in the military.

West Covina High School
West Covina High School concluded the District’s commencement festivities with a grand celebration on June 6, honoring 500 graduates during a ceremony that concluded with a firework show as students tossed their caps in the air.

The Class of 2019 recognized two co-vicepresidents – Isabella Ferreiro, who will attend UC Berkeley, and Narine Setian, who will attend UCLA.

“Collectively, I believe that the core idea of what graduation means to us lies in this piece of advice: value the knowledge that your experiences at West Covina High

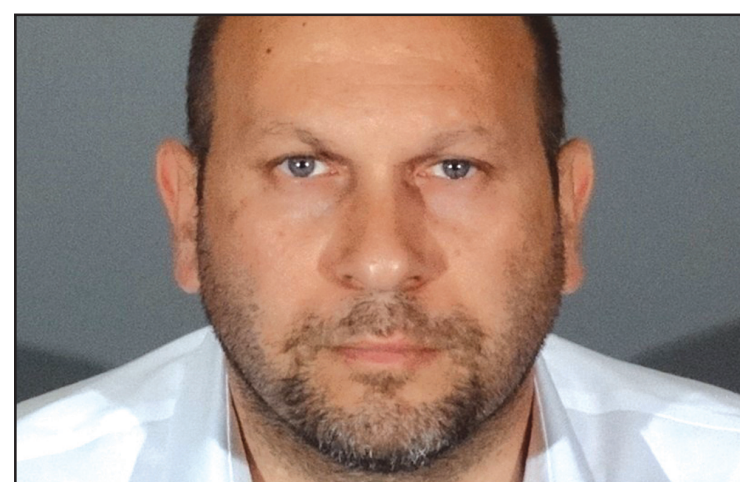
School have provided you with, bear that wisdom with you through life and embrace collaboration with others as you embark on your own individual journeys,” Setian said. “In life, we are not always set up for success, but this only drives the inner strength we have inside of us to thrive. . . . Every single hardship has had a hand in creating the intricate masterpiece of your high school experience.”

Each West Covina High School graduate invited a teacher of educator from their past to join them as an honored guest at the ceremony, part of a longstanding WCHS tradition.

West Covina High – the District’s flagship Advanced Placement school – also honored 56 Seal of Biliteracy recipients, 153 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma recipients, 11 AP Scholars, 25 AP Scholars with Honor, and 11 AP Scholars with Distinction.

Approximately 90 percent of West Covina High School graduates will pursue postsecondary education, attending four-year colleges and universities across the country, enrolling in community college or attending vocational and trade schools. Nearly 20 Class of 2019 graduates will also enlist in the military.

Pastor Sentenced for Sex Crimes on Child in Covina



Pastor Douglas Rivera going to jail for forcible sexual assault on a girl. (Photo by Covina PD)

By George Ogden
COVINA - A Glendale pastor, Douglas Rivera, 40, of Baldwin Park, was immediately sentenced to six years in state prison after pleading No Contest in his recent court appearance for sexually assaulting two young girls in a Covina hotel room.

Rivera was arrested back in February of 2018 after he forced his way into a hotel room in the 1200 block of east Garvey in Covina. Rivera drove into the parking lot around 8 p.m. and parked his pickup truck facing the open window of a motel room occupied by two girls who were said to be 10 and 13 years old. They were visiting from China via a school trip to the United States. It was stated that he masturbated while he stared at the girls for more than 30 minutes. After that, he got out of the truck and made his way to

the door of the room and forcing his way inside. Once inside, he sexually assaulted one of the girls and then left the room.

There was a video security recording that was used to help ID the suspect. Police released surveillance images of the attacker and Rivera was quickly identified as a suspect. Numerous church members and associates recognized him as the pastor of the God’s Gypsy Christian Church in Los Angeles.

Originally, he pled “Not Guilty” but made a plea bargain with the DA’s office to plead no contest to one felony count of lewd act upon a child. The original charges were first-degree burglary, indecent exposure and lewd acts upon a child. He will get 6 years and have to register as a Sex Offender for life.

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Monrovia High School Class of 2019 Graduates 'Poised to Change the World'

MONROVIA – Wildcat Stadium roared as administrators, teachers, and family and friends celebrated 367 Class of 2019 graduates who said goodbye to Monrovia High School during an evening commencement ceremony on June 5.

This year's commencement ceremony was dedicated in memory of senior Kelsey Meza and MHS teacher Tom Reale, who passed away this school year. Amongst the sea of graduates, an empty seat was set up next to Meza's best friends, and her diploma was presented to her family.

"Look at yourselves and look around you – 12 long years of education and I am proud to be representing this Class of 2019," valedictorian Penny Lan said. "I see in front of me such a variety of talent and limitless potential, but don't forget where we came from. Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat."

The 2019 Honor Guard was made up of more than 60 Monrovia Unified teachers, coaches, and counselors who applauded and cheered. The honor guard was nominated by the Class of 2019 for the continued inspiration and support members give to students.

"When I look at this group of graduates, I see many different stories and I see leaders," Principal Kirk McGinnis said. "These young adults are poised to change the world as we know it, and they will put a mark on humanity with both flair and purpose but – more importantly – with energy, in-



Valedictorian Penny Lan delivers speech during Monrovia High School's graduation ceremony, encouraging members of the Class of 2019 to always chase their dreams and never forget where they came from.

telligence, and a sense of service to something bigger than themselves."

The night of celebration continued as Santa Fe Computer Science Magnet School Principal Geoff Zamarripa delivered a keynote address, inspiring students to continue following their dreams and take risks.

The 2019 graduating class includes 160 students recognized with special honors, 91 Golden State Merit Diploma graduates, 51 students who earned the State of California Seal of Biliteracy, 59 members of the ninth graduating class of the Math and Science Academy, and 14 members of the second graduating class of the Humanities Academy.

"It is my honor to receive and accept this graduation class of Monrovia High School," Board President Ed Gililland said. "We know that you have done the hard work to acquire the knowledge and the life skills to be successful wherever your next steps take you."

Ending the night, graduates walked on stage and were congratulated by MHS administrators, the Board of Education, and Superintendent Katherine Thorossian.

"Having hope and a plan will lead you to the most unexpected and remarkable places," Thorossian said. "Enjoy the journey and continue to give your family and friends reasons to be proud, celebrate, and take pride in you. Congratulations Wildcats."

Students turned their tassels from right to left, threw their caps in the air, and hugged each other as McGinnis acknowledged them as the new graduating class of MHS.

Shepherd's Pantry and Cory's Kitchen Food Pantry Merge



Executive Director of Shepherd's Pantry, Craig Cerro speaks to the invitees.

AZUSA - About 100 people attended the celebration of the mergers of Shepherd's Pantry and Cory's Kitchen Food Pantry. It was in the afternoon of June 8th at the Shepherd's Pantry location in Irwindale, Ca.

After several years of consideration and planning, the leadership team with Cory's Kitchen Food Pantry chose to retire, relinquish their role and merge the operation with Shepherd's Pantry. Not only is this a historic time for both organizations, but it's also a time of celebration for Pastor Wayne Leamons who founded Cory's Kitchen over 20 years ago. The community was invited to the celebration as Shepherd's Pantry grows and continues this strong legacy. As

of June 1, 2019, Cory's Kitchen became a Shepherd's Pantry site.

Cory's Kitchen and Shepherd's Pantry have been working together to serve the foothill communities between the 57 and 605 freeways for fifteen years. In 2005, Cory's Kitchen opened its first facility in Irwindale and expanded, adding a Baldwin Park location in 2010. Shepherd's Pantry has its roots in Glendora, where it has been serving those in need at its location, also since 2005.

In those fifteen years, the two organizations have grown together for the good of the community, adding new services as demand increased. Cory's Kitchen would often provide support to Shepherd's Pantry. Cory's

Kitchen provided leadership-not just on how to operate a successful food pantry, but also on providing emotional and spiritual support.

Now it's Shepherd's Pantry's turn to support Cory's Kitchen. Cory's Kitchen and Shepherd's Pantry have joined to form one food pantry with three locations-Glendora, Irwindale and Baldwin Park. While the new organization retains the Shepherd's Pantry name, it will continue the Cory's Kitchen mission. Each of the three locations has services tailored for the needs of the local community, and with the newly combined resources, Shepherd's Pantry will be more effective at providing hope and a helping hand to those in need.

Community Articles Are Welcome

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

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