



# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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Since 1997 • Published in GLENDORA, California  
A Weekly Adjudicated Publication Serving all of Los Angeles County

Volume XXII, Issue No. 23

STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

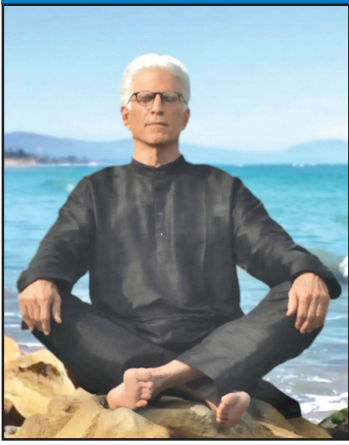
June 6 - 12, 2019

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# Student Success Celebrated by Citrus College During Annual Ceremony

**GLENDORA** - The academic, athletic and leadership contributions of more than 100 students were recently recognized during the 56th annual Achievement Awards ceremony at Citrus College.

Family and friends joined faculty and staff in celebrating the accomplishments of the college's top students during the event, which was held in the Haugh Performing Arts Center on May 30.

"Student success is Citrus College's highest priority, which makes events like the Achievement Awards especially meaningful," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "Whether they have excelled in the classroom, on the athletic field or in their communities, these outstanding students deserve to have their hard work applauded. Their successes affirm the college's commitment to excellence and inspire those around them to pursue their own goals."

Among the recognitions presented during the ceremony were the prestigious Key of Knowledge awards, which constitutes the highest honor granted by the college. Keys of Knowledge are given to the 10 students who have the best overall academic perfor-



The 2019 Key of Knowledge awards, which constitute the highest academic honor granted by Citrus College, were presented to Ibrahim Abboud, Jezreel Wooster Bodley, Darren M. Chang, Peter Francis Conley, Eduardo Contreras Herrera, Rosanna Guarjardo, Elizabeth Amezcuita Hartwell, Joshua Alexander Jones, Madeline Marie Lewis and Julian Tobias Verdon. (Photo courtesy Citrus College)

mances as determined by GPA. This year's Key of Knowledge recipients were:  
\* Ibrahim Abboud of Glendora  
\* Jezreel Wooster Bodley of Claremont  
\* Darren M. Chang of Glendora  
\* Peter Francis Conley of Pasadena  
\* Eduardo Contreras Herrera of Ontario

\* Rosanna Guarjardo of Los Angeles  
\* Elizabeth Amezcuita Hartwell of Glendora  
\* Joshua Alexander Jones of Pomona  
\* Madeline Marie Lewis of Covina  
\* Julian Tobias Verdon of Chino Hills  
"Throughout my schooling, I have always had to work twice as

hard to be on the same level as everyone else. Citrus College provided me with a safe learning environment that enabled me to find myself," said Bodley, a business major. "During the past two years, I have grown as a person, and I was able to improve in areas where I was lacking. Earning the highest academic honor at Citrus College has helped me realize how far I have come as a student and as a person."

Also presented during the ceremony were the Service Leader of the Year awards, which are granted to graduating students based on their academic achievement and volunteer service to the college and community. Students are nominated by faculty, and a committee of college representatives screens and selects the recipients. This year's honorees

were Kyshawna Denise Johnson of Azusa and Makayla Pedroza of Monrovia.

Volleyball star Gina Lipscomb of Yorba Linda and basketball standout Joshua Caston of Burbank were presented with this year's Athlete of the Year honors. Nominated and endorsed by coaches, the female and male recipients are selected for their overall performance as athletes, as well as their academic records.

"This honor shows what can happen when you consistently put in the required work," Caston said. "When I enrolled at Citrus College, I wanted to do something that would allow me to be part of something greater than myself. I believe this award is the culmination of the effort of those who came before me, and it reflects the work and support of my coaches and teammates."

Finally, Distinguished Student Awards were presented to 100 students during the ceremony. This special accolade is given to students whose high academic success in a given program place them at the top of their class.

"It is always a pleasure to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that has established these students as being among Citrus College's best and brightest," said Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "On behalf of the entire college community, I congratulate all of our honorees recognized at this year's Achievement Awards ceremony. We are proud of all they have accomplished and are confident that their achievements will only multiply in the years ahead."

# Angie Dillman Named Arcadia High Principal

**ARCADIA** - After vetting a pool of competitive candidates and a rigorous interview process, the Arcadia Unified School District has announced Angie Dillman as the next principal of Arcadia High School.

In a unanimous Arcadia Unified Board of Education vote at its May 28, 2019 board meeting, Dillman was approved to succeed seven-year Arcadia High principal, Dr. Brent Forsee, who was also unanimously named Arcadia Unified's next Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services. Dr. Forsee succeeds Dr. Jeff Wilson who was recently appointed as Superintendent of San Marino Unified.

"When Angie rejoined our Apache family last year as an assistant principal, we were ecstatic to welcome her back home," shared Dr. Forsee. "She epitomizes empathy and team building and approaches everything she does with a lens of what's best for students; our Apaches are in good hands."

Dillman has been a member of the Arcadia Unified team since 2010. Starting her career with the district as a social science teacher at Arcadia High, Dillman was promoted to Arcadia High's Activities Director in 2013 and assumed the role of Assistant Principal of Foothills Middle School in 2014. After a stint as principal of Crittenden Middle School in Mountainview, Calif, from 2016 to 2018, Dillman returned to Arcadia where she has



Angie Dillman (center) with Arcadia Board of Education and District Administration

served as an Assistant Principal at Arcadia High for the past year. "I am thrilled to be the next principal of Arcadia High School, a place that has become a second home," said Dillman. "This is such an honor and I am truly grateful and humbled by the trust put in me by our district leadership."

When asked about her leadership style, Dillman shared, "I am always open to new ideas, and I will look at our organization from multiple perspectives through input from our stakeholders in order to build a shared vision of growth and progress among our teachers, staff, administration and our many student and parent organizations."

Both Dr. Forsee and Dillman will assume their new roles on

July 1, 2019. With a vacancy left for an Assistant Principal spot at Arcadia High School, the search is already underway for the newest team member who will round out the team of four assistant principals at the Home of the Apaches.

Dillman will look towards continuing and building on the excellence Arcadia High School has become known for, which includes being named a Gold Medal School by U.S. News and World Report on three separate occasions. Arcadia High has also been named in the top 1% of all U.S. public high schools, while also landing in the top 1% for having the best public high school teachers in the country according to Niche. In addition to annually being recognized as one of the best public high schools in Southern California and the Los Angeles area, last year Arcadia High School's graduating class had a remarkable 100% graduation rate. The Apaches currently have alumni at every Ivy League University in the country plus Stanford and MIT. Arcadia High also boasts one of the best performing arts programs in the country and an athletics and sports program that has many of its teams in the CIF playoffs every year competing

for regional and state championships.

An Ohio native, Dillman completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Dayton before pursuing a credential in secondary teaching at the University of California, Riverside, and a masters degree from California Baptist University. In addition to her time served as a teacher and in various leadership roles within the Arcadia Unified School District, Dillman started her teaching career working in Poland and Italy before coming back state-side where she taught social science and served as the Department Chair at Norco High School for six years.

As for Dillman's hopes moving forward for Arcadia High, "[I want to] continue the tradition of excellence while supporting our students to achieve in a healthy, well-balanced way. Our duty as educators is to open as many doors as possible for all of our students so that they have a great variety of opportunities available to them. My hope is to continue to ensure that each of our students leaves Arcadia High with the confidence, skills, well-being, and tenacity to achieve their dreams and find success wherever life takes them."

# Trio Tries to Kill Azusa Police Motor Officer

By George Ogden/Azusa PD

**AZUSA** - Azusa police reported on Friday morning, May 31, around 5:30 am, an Azusa Police Department Motor Officer was driving on the west bound 210 freeway near the Sunflower Avenue off ramp when he was hit by a vehicle. A vehicle traveling in the same direction suddenly and deliberately swerved into the motor officer running into him and forcing him to strike a wall, apparently in an attempt to kill the officer. The Motor Officer was able to maintain control of his motorcycle. The driver and occupants of the vehicle continued driving and began throwing objects at the police officer from inside of the vehicle. He broadcasted the information over the radio, and then attempted to stop the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle failed to yield and continued driving on the freeway while continuously throwing objects at the officer on his motorcycle. A pursuit was initiated by Azusa Police Officers and was joined by a West Covina Police Officer who witnessed the incident.

The vehicle exited in the City of Azusa at Azusa Ave off-ramp and went north on Alameda and then the driver turned right and headed east on 3rd street. The driver noticed that the street soon dead ended and he turned right going south on North Dominguez Place

which was a short cult-de-sac. The driver crashed into a wall at 258 North Dominguez Place and the driver got out and ran but was captured by police after a brief foot chase. Two women remained in the car.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Alberto Gracida, 27, male and is being charged with Attempted Murder of a Police Officer. He is currently being held on \$1,000,000.00 bail. Gracida has been arrested 3 times since May 15. The passengers, both female, were identified as Sonya Luevao 28, was arrested 3 time over the last year and serving only 90 days of a one year felony conviction and was released. Her bail is \$1,000,000. Justine Torres, 28, is pending a charge with Attempted Murder on a Police Officer, however was turned over to West Covina for warrants and bail was set at \$125,000 and is expected to go to \$1,000,000 when the DA files the attempted murder charges.

The officer was taken to the hospital for his injuries and released that evening.

This incident is currently being investigated by the Azusa Police Department Detective Bureau. Anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to contact Detective Beaver of the Azusa Police Department at 626-812-3200.

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# El Monte Union Students Make Waves at Aquatic Engineering Competition

South El Monte Scuba Squad Advances to SeaPerch National Finals



South El Monte High School teacher Michael LeGaspe, left, students Jose Robles, Josselyn Melendez and Erik Zepeda, and SeaPerch coordinator Rudy Loera, pose with their first-place trophy from the 2019 Los Angeles Regional SeaPerch competition, held in March. The underwater robotics team will compete at the national competition in June.

**EL MONTE** – After completing a series of challenges to win first place in the high school division of the 2019 Los Angeles Regional SeaPerch competition in March, the South El Monte High School Scuba Squad will showcase its underwater robotics skills at a national competition June 1-2 at the University of Maryland.

This is South El Monte High School's second appearance at the nationals since 2015. This year's aquatic engineering team, advised by science teacher Michael LeGaspe, is made up of seniors Josselyn Melendez, Jose Robles and Erik Zepeda.

"We will have to work extremely hard to win in the nationals," Zepeda said. "We meet every Friday afternoon to test our

craft. There is a lot of trial and error in the process, but we are up to the challenge."

The SeaPerch Challenge is an underwater robotics competition designed by the U.S. Navy to inspire students to learn science, engineering, technology and math (STEM) subjects. Schools from 31 states, as well as Puerto Rico and New Zealand, will be competing in the nationals.

For the regional competition, the team applied ideas from Project Lead The Way (PLTW) curriculum to navigate a Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) through a rescue and recovery mission and obstacle courses, taking first and second place, respectively, and being awarded first place for its engineering notebook.

"The competition was very challenging, because it was pouring rain throughout the day and we had trouble seeing our ROV in the water," Melendez said. "I discovered that some of the target beacons we were tasked with lighting were an inch taller than we had expected, so we had to make adjustments. Our PLTW training helped us out immensely."

Scuba Squad members are working to improve the ROV ahead of the nationals, trying to balance buoyancy, control and speed, as well as adjusting the ROV's capability to retrieve objects as they emulate a search mission modeled on the rescue of Thai students from in a cave in 2018.

# Americans Still Paying the Price of Cold War With Health Problems



For many Americans, the Cold War is a distant memory or something read about in history books. But for thousands of workers who supported the war effort as an integral part of the nation's nuclear defense system, it continues to be a bitter reality, as many are battling serious radiation-induced health problems from working in or near nuclear plants or uranium mines. According to experts, newly implemented reductions in benefits are making it harder for workers to get treatment for related conditions.

The push to develop superior nuclear capabilities -- what would ultimately become the key to America's success in winning the Cold War -- took place throughout much of the 1950-1980s. During this time, thousands of workers, as well as residents in towns nearby nuclear plants and uranium mines, were involuntarily exposed to radiation, leaving many vulnerable to such life-threatening radiation-induced health problems as leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma. By the collapse of the Soviet Union and the easing of the arms race, it was too late to reverse the damage inflicted on workers' health.

But experts say they're also facing an uphill battle with the US Department of Labor (DOL), which has implemented multiple health benefit reductions since April 2019.

"An act of Congress created the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, which promised protection and health benefits to those who became ill after working in nuclear facilities and uranium mines," said Greg Austin, president of Professional Case Management, the first and largest provider of home health care services to nuclear defense and uranium workers. "Many of these patients -- patriots who served the country honorably -- are gravely ill and cannot afford any delays or restrictions."

The recent changes by the DOL include a reduction of what ex-

perts say is medically necessary case management nursing care from up to 15 hours per month to just 15 minutes per week, as well as increasing a preauthorization process from nine steps to 36 steps.

To stop the implementation of various DOL rule changes, Professional Case Management filed a lawsuit in March 2019, which is ongoing. The company also spearheads a number of educational and advocacy initiatives through its Cold War Patriots division. More information can be found at coldwarpatriots.org.

Experts say that while it may be too late to reverse the health effects of radiation exposure, it is not too late to provide the workers impacted by the Cold War with the benefits they need to manage their resulting conditions. (StatePoint)

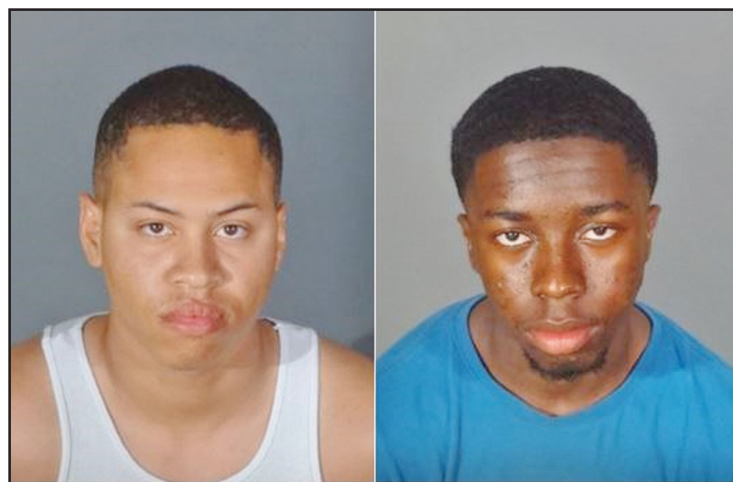


The El Monte Union Board of Trustees recently honored the South El Monte High School Scuba Squad for winning first place at the regional SeaPerch competition in March and qualifying for the national competition in June. Pictured are Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga, left, Board of Trustees Vice President Florencio Briones, Member Maria Morgan, teacher Michael LeGaspe, Erik Zepeda, Josselyn Melendez, Board President David Diaz, Principal Dr. Amy Avina, Clerk Ricardo Padilla and Member Carlos Salcedo.

# Five Arrested for Area Burglaries

**ARCADIA** - Once again, an alert resident calls the police with information leading officers to detain and arrest five suspects for residential burglary. This past Tuesday afternoon, a teenage Hispanic female knocked on the door of a home off Foothill Boulevard. The resident answered the door and the female showed a flyer asking if the resident had seen her dog. When the girl was told no, she quickly left and got into a green 2002 Nissan Altima with a male driver. As the Nissan left, the resident was able to write down the license plate. The resident did not recognize the girl and felt her actions were suspicious so they called APD.

Officers found the Nissan parked nearby in the 1200 block Rancho Road and saw a teenage female walking across the street back to the car. The officers detained the female along with four other males who were in the car. Inside the Nissan, officers found what appeared to be possible stolen



**Amajjay J. Duncan, a 20-year-old male from Compton, Trevor K. Pamphlim, an 18-year-old male from Los Angeles** property.

During the detention, we learned a residential burglary had occurred in the City of Sierra Madre and officers believed the persons who were being detained were possibly involved. A witness was brought to the scene and identified one of the suspects.

Amajjay J. Duncan, a 20-year-old male from Compton, Trevor K. Pamphlim, an 18-year-old male from Los Angeles, a 17-year-old male from

Granada Hills, a 16-year-old male from Compton, and a 17-year-old female from Compton were all arrested on suspicion of residential burglary. It is believed this group is responsible for several attempted burglaries and at least two area burglaries within the last week. This is another great example of community and law enforcement working together to help prevent crime. Remember, if you See Something, Say Something!

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## Supervisor Barger Calls For Public Health Investigation In Response To Reported Lapd Typhoid Case

County Public Health Department to Provide a Countywide Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** – In a motion submitted for the Board meeting, Supervisor Kathryn Barger directed the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to investigate and report back with a countywide communicable disease prevention and intervention plan in light of a recent case of typhoid fever contracted by an LAPD officer assigned to the Central Division located on Skid Row.

"In the interest of protecting the health and safety of our residents and law enforcement personnel, the county must examine the root causes of the spread of communicable diseases associated with trash and rodent infestations, and develop a comprehensive plan to minimize risk of additional cases," said Supervisor Barger.

While there is not presently an outbreak of Typhoid Fever in Los Angeles County, there are other cases that have been reported

separately from the case reported by LAPD. In 2018, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reported 14 cases of Typhoid Fever and in 2019, has received reports of 5 cases to date. These cases are almost always travel-related. All cases are reported to the Department of Public Health, which conducts thorough investigation of each case.

Typhoid fever is a life-threatening illness caused by the bacterium Salmonella Typhi. Typhoid fever is more common in areas of the world where water may be contaminated with sewage or where sanitation is poor. Typhoid is typically spread through eating food or drinking water that has been contaminated with fecal material from an

infected person. The disease is not common in the United States, and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that only 350 cases of Typhoid fever occur throughout the country each year.

The motion directs the Department of Public Health, in coordination with local health departments, city sanitation departments, and other pertinent stakeholders, to develop a countywide communicable disease prevention and intervention plan that identifies areas that are at an elevated risk for disease transmission due to unsanitary conditions, and provide recommendations to mitigate disease transmission risk in these areas with a report to the Board in 60 days.

## Senator Chang's Bill to Help the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) Passes Senate

**SACRAMENTO** - Continuing her on-going efforts to combat the homelessness crisis, Senator Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) is pleased to announce that the California State Senate passed Senate Bill 573 with bipartisan approval. SB 573 continues funding the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) with a yearly allocation of \$250 million from the General Fund, directly assisting cities and counties through services such as street outreach and criminal justice diversion programs, housing vouchers, and rapid re-housing programs.

"We have a homelessness crisis in California, which is home to one-quarter of the homeless population in the United States," said Senator Chang. "It's essential we fund the HEAP grant program, which has already helped

communities better serve their homeless populations. This crisis requires decisive and compassionate action, and I'm glad the Senate passed my bill to help our homeless neighbors."

In April, Senator Chang delivered a letter to Governor Newsom requesting his support for HEAP. In January, Senator Chang's staff participated in the 2019 Point in Time Count to learn more about homelessness issues in California. They worked with nonprofits such as City Net, which leads multi-sector homeless collaboratives, to gather information on the unsheltered homeless population in Orange County.

The City of Anaheim has the largest homeless population in North Orange County. In a letter addressed to Senator Chang, Anaheim Mayor Harry Sidhu stated

that the City of Anaheim supports SB 573.

"Anaheim is a shining example of the return on investment California can see when it directly partners with cities to address homelessness. In the past three months, the City of Anaheim has opened three homeless shelters, helped hundreds out of homelessness and restored parks, streets and neighborhoods for their intended purposes, all with the help of HEAP funding," said Anaheim Mayor Sidhu.

Since her tenure, Senator Chang has fought to alleviate California's homeless epidemic, housing shortages, and expensive housing market. Senator Chang co-authored SB 248, which would increase California's renter's credit for the first time in 40 years.

## Military & Veterans Affairs Commemorates 75th Anniversary of D-DAY

Los Angeles County Military & Veterans Affairs, the Consulate General of France, Los Angeles National Cemetery and the American Legion Remember D-Day and the Battle of Normandy

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** – On Thursday, June 6th at 1:00 PM, the County of Los Angeles Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (MVA) will host an afternoon of remembrance of the Allied invasion in Normandy, France—the beginning of the end of WWII—75 years later at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, 1816 S. Figueroa St.

On June 6, 1944, Operation Overlord landed nine divisions of sea and airborne troops of over 150,000 men along a 50 mile stretch of coast in 24 hours. On D-Day, three airborne divisions, the British 6th, and the American 82nd and 101st dropped behind the landing beaches before sunrise. After daybreak, divisions of U.S.,

British and Canadian troops assaulted the five landing beaches, code named Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword.

Open to the public, the event will include a dedication ceremony, a historical exhibit representing all military branches, period singers, reenactors, and a film screening of "The Longest Day," courtesy of 21st Century Fox and VetFlicks.

The French Consulate of Los Angeles will award local World War II Veterans who served on D-Day with the French Legion of Honor Medal, the highest honor in France. Recipients include:

Lieutenant Colonel Sam Sa-

chs, U.S. Army Reserve (Ret), 104 years-old, who served as Company Commander of the 325th Glider Infantry attached to the 82nd Airborne Division.

Captain Joseph Kirshenbaum, 99 years-old, who served as an Ordinance Officer, first with the 313th Ordinance Battalion and later with the HQ 82nd Ordinance Group.

Ruth A. Wong, Brigadier General, USAF (ret), MVA Director said, "We will never forget the legacy of the greatest generation. D-Day began the liberation of France from Nazi forces, defending democracy at home and abroad, paving the way for world peace."

## Senator Chang's Legislation to Combat Human Trafficking Passes Senate

**SACRAMENTO** - Continuing her advocacy on behalf of victims of human trafficking, Senator Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) is pleased to announce that the California State Senate passed Senate Bill 35 with bipartisan support. SB 35 creates a uniform system for governments and organizations to work together and includes the first comprehensive study on trafficking in California, which hosts the highest rate of human trafficking in the United States.

"California is home to the fifth largest economy in the world, and with its proximity to international borders and numerous ports and airports, our state is a prime breeding ground for human trafficking," said Senator Chang. "I'm very glad the Senate approved my bill to help combat this form of

modern day slavery. The scourge of human trafficking impacts all races, ethnicities, ages and genders. It cuts at the very fiber of civil society and challenges the resources of law enforcement, the courts, and social service providers."

Since Senator Chang's tenure, she has advocated on be-

half of victims of human trafficking. In 2018, Senator Chang introduced SB 991, which called on the state to reinstate \$15 million to support victims of human trafficking. Her efforts to fight alongside important advocates secured \$10 million in funding for service providers.

## Arcadia Hosts Fire Services Community Forum

Discussion on Future of Fire Services in Sierra Madre

**ARCADIA** - The City of Arcadia is hosting a Fire Services Community Forum to discuss Sierra Madre residents' concerns, insights, and priorities regarding a potential partnership between the cities of Arcadia and Sierra Madre for fire and emergency response delivery alternatives. This free community event

is being held at Arcadia Fire Station 107, located at 79 W. Orange Grove, on Wednesday, June 19 at 7:00 PM.

"This is an opportunity for Sierra Madre residents to share their needs, wants, and expectations for a potential partnership," said Arcadia Fire Chief Michael Lang. "The Arcadia Fire Department is a premier, Class One fire service. Extending our fire and emergency response services to Sierra Madre will provide enhanced fire suppression capabilities along the foothills."

The Cities of Sierra Madre and Arcadia approved a feasibility study in February to review a potential partnership. As the lead agency, the City of Arcadia study will provide valuable information regarding the impacts and opportunities of consolidating services. For more information, please contact Arcadia City Hall at 574-5401.

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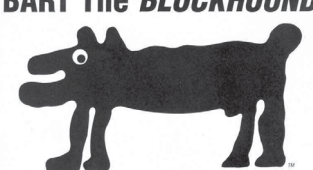
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San Gabriel Valley Examiner, published weekly by Eumo Enterprises, has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles, California in Court Case No. KS 005341.

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# LAUSD Expands Fundraising To Parcel Taxes

Are you perturbed with the California education system's ranking of 44th in the nation? Many parents go looking for options for their children either through school choice to another district, remedial or private schools, home teaching or charter schools. What's holding California back?

School districts are trying to find ways to compete with each other to retain students to keep their funding levels up. Schools are paid based on average daily attendance (ADA) and as they lose students their reimbursement from the state decreases. If one school offers a course another doesn't, the student petitions to attend the school with that class. Schools in the East San Gabriel Valley are suffering from declining enrollment, not all due to school choice, but because millennials aren't having children and families are moving out of state. Housing costs and tax increases are big factors.

Aging infrastructure has overwhelmed some districts and has driven the costs of maintenance up and, in some cases, required school districts to take on new construction projects when the band aid fixes no longer work. That's long-term debt and usually comes to us as a bond issue that shows up on our property tax bill once approved. American Society of Civil Engineers reports there is a lack of adequate funding for future routine and major maintenance issues.

The paperwork and time needed to deal with special students, whether it is a special needs student or discipline issues seems to be at an all time high. Discipline issues can require a multitude of steps, including off-site resources and special care to avoid lawsuits. If there are gang and drug issues or problems at home, you have a teacher who is not just teaching but dealing with these peripheral issues interfering with and restricting the entire classroom and teaching.

Big Bad Bonds at <http://www.bigbadbonds.com/CAL-BONDS/> is a website I found that shocked me. That site lists all the school and college bonded indebtedness and number of students attending. Some districts



**Shade's Perspective**  
Lois M. Shade

**Former Mayor of Glendora**  
don't have huge bonded indebtedness and others seem way over realistic. The author of this site issues a disclaimer saying he's done his best to be accurate but if he is wrong, let him know. He provides a realistic picture of what we, the voters, and the education system have done to ourselves when it comes to debt. Is education doing that much repair and new construction?

The headlines are Los Angeles Unified School District with their \$500 million parcel tax headed for the June 4th ballot. You will know how that turns out before you read this, but this measure is a parcel tax not a property tax. The difference is a property tax is based on assessed value of the property and a parcel tax is based on specifics of the property. LAUSD parcel tax is for 12 years at \$0.16 per square foot of building improvements to fund educational improvements. Those over 65 years old, on supplemental disability insurance or social security disability and whose income doesn't not exceed 250% of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines may apply for a tax exemption. The district has already sent a letter encouraging those to apply.

This parcel tax is on commercial and residential buildings, including apartment rental units. Do we think, if that tax passes, the owner of an apartment unit with a disabled 70-year old is going to pay this additional tax and not raise the rent? The supermarket down the street will pay the tax raising the cost of food and everyone will pay that increase.

The fallacy in the LAUSD proposal - it is not focused, but

promising everything for everyone to round up the votes. The parcel tax promises to provide ... school nursing, library, counseling and health and human services; instructional programs, school resources; support disadvantaged / homeless students; retain/attract teachers, school employees, and administrative services. This tax proposal promises NOT to modernize schools, fund legal liabilities or operate schools (charter schools) outside the district boundaries.

I am concerned this is a measure to pay pension and health care costs, prevent layoffs due to declining enrollment and provide a 6% raise. Reason Foundation has determined LAUSD has lost 245,000 students over the past 15 years. Bonded indebtedness on Big Bad Bonds is shown at \$18.2 billion. When any school district has reached the tipping point and can't bond, will they start going for parcel taxes?

Yes On EE group has spent \$1,275,020.19 and is supported by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, Presidential Candidates Kamala Harris and Pete Buttigieg and Los Angeles County Democratic Party. Garcetti is also supporting the 2020 ballot initiative, "Schools and Communities First Act," to reassess commercial and industrial property to market value rather than purchase price with increased tax revenue allocated to schools.

Those opposed are Tracy Hernandez, CEO, L.A. County Business Federation, Hon. Bill DeWitt, former South Gate Mayor, Maria Salinas, President and CEO, L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce. Reported is \$358,000.00 in campaign contributions. Jon Coupal, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, has challenged the district on illegal spending public funds on the campaign and changing the ballot language from the resolution passed by the school board.

Is LAUSD fundraising with a parcel tax to educate their students or pay for a salary increase and pension and health care costs? Is this the new paradigm to fund education? Where does the state responsibility begin and end in education these days?

## "TIME JOCKEY" - In Memoriam

By Joe Castillo

**Bill Buckner...** He played the game of baseball with wild abandon, never one to avoid a wall or fence in fear of injury. He was the Dodgers' version of Cincinnati's Pete Rose, always hustling and playing hard-nosed baseball, always playing like it was the last game he'd ever play. Bill Buckner, also known as Billy Bucks, arrived to play with the Dodger's in 1969.

It was the Dodgers' lean years, three years after Sandy Koufax's retirement and in Don Drysdale's final season. He was the first of the young Dodgers who were on the rise and only played one year in the minors before being promoted to the major league club. He was only 20 years old. His legs were strong and fast, his hustle allowed him to overcome any deficiencies he may have had in the field. But it was Buckner's bat which was his greatest asset. He made contact consistently and could select his target nearly any place on the field. When the Dodgers' brought up their other prized prospects, Bobby Valentine, Steve Garvey, Bill Russell, Davey Lopes, Ron Cey, Steve Yeager and Joe Ferguson, Buckner was already entrenched in the lineup. He moved from first base to left field so the Dodgers could fit in their other jewels. For nine seasons, he was one of the top hitters on the team even though his body was constantly breaking down from trying to catch everything which came his way. In 1973, when Hen-

ry Aaron hit his 715th home run breaking Babe Ruth's long-standing career home-run record, Buckner was in left field. He tried to scale the Atlanta outfield wall trying to catch the soon-to-be historic ball and even though it was well beyond his reach, he continued to try jumping the barrier in hopes of claiming the spherical object. He gave up when a guard retrieved it from the concourse runway.

In 1977, he was traded to the Chicago Cubs in a package of players which included Rick Monday, now one of the Dodger's radio announcers. It was a good deal for both clubs as the Dodgers won back-to-back National League pennants in 1977 and 1978 and Buckner enjoyed his best seasons in baseball. From 1977 - 1982, he led the league in doubles for two seasons, won one batting title, averaged only 21 strikeouts and was named to the National League All-Star team. His value had been set but soon he was on his way to the Boston Red Sox as a prized commodity. The year was 1986 and the Red Sox were trying to do something that they had not done in 75 years, win a World Series title. It seemed like a magical year for the Sox, as they had come back from a 3 to 1 deficit to steal the pennant from the California Angels and were now on the brink of becoming baseball's champion with a 3 game to 2 series lead against the New York Mets.

With Buckner playing first

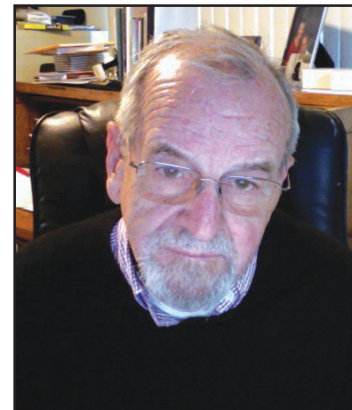
base, Mookie Wilson hit a slow roller toward the bag. Buckner surrounded the surrendering ball but somehow it found an escape path and strolled past Buckner allowing 2 runs to score and securing a Met victory. The Boston Airport restaurant I was in erupted in anguish and expletives. In two days, the final game would also be won by the Mets and the crown escaped the Red Sox again extending their years of agony. Buckner was blamed throughout the Northeast, even death threats were aimed at his family, and he was forced into seclusion.

His career ended in 1990, after 22 seasons and 2,700 career hits but he will be forever remembered for the one misplay which would carry with it nearly 100 years of bad fortune associated with the Red Sox curse. He never blamed anyone for his mis-cue but his true character came out as he persevered for the rest of his life rather than blaming someone or something else. Errors in baseball happen, and has Buckner stated "there are worse things in life. It put everything into perspective". Billy Buckner passed away last week at the age of 69, preferring to think about the good things in life, the times he was happiest with family and friends and when life was so much simpler. .... 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](mailto:joecastillo@aol.com).

# Defining Fascism

In the last year there have been a number of attempts to define fascism. The most comprehensive was by Madeline Albright in her book, *Fascism: A Warning*. I reviewed it last May. The literature is replete with definitions, but beyond efforts to arrive at some formal delineation, we might examine the profiles of notable fascists to see how they got and maintained such enormous power. A recent television series focused on Franco, Hitler, Mussolini and Idi Amin. In each case once they had taken control, first of their party and then the nation, they surrounded themselves with supporters who kept them in power until finally the people of their nation, or some coalition of external forces, brought their reigns to an end. In each case defining their particular take on fascism includes a power base that maintains their support no matter what the rulers do. Among their first efforts was an attack on a free press.

While not a literary giant, perhaps the best simple definition of how fascism functions was offered by Donald Trump in an Iowa campaign rally on January 23, 2016 when he said, "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue, shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any votes." In that boast Trump is telling the world that it doesn't matter what he does or says, his security lies in his uninhibited base, and that may be the essence of fascism. While that was true of him as a candidate three years ago, it may be just as true in the midst of his presidency. It has come to this: no matter how outlandish, crude, obscene, brazen, egotistical or continually untruthful in what he says and does, he has generated a solid



Charles H. Bayer

collection of avid supporters who put him in power and have vowed to keep him there. It is this rock-solid base, that 35% to whom he appeals in every tweet, speech and interview. Most public figures are judged by what they say and do, but with the Trump brand of fascism that doesn't seem to matter.

This is not to say that an unmovable support base is inevitable evidence of a fascist leadership. Often the most honored men and women are held in high regard because of their vision, nobility, honesty, morality and truthfulness. These are the leaders of nations that would have parents say to their children, "I want you to be like that when you grow up."

Some of the world's national heroes have been liberals, and some conservatives, but in each case there was an authentic personal nobility worth honoring and emulating. I think of Gandhi, the Dali Lama, Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher. Among American Presidents we surely would list Lincoln, Roosevelt, Reagan and Obama. It is not that we have always agreed with their policies, but that they called the nation to greater gratitude, nobility, virtue and goodness.

## Beware the Useful Idiots who Clamor for Socialism

By D. B. Shimel

This writing is a continuation on a discussion about socialism.

Let me explain this strange title. "Useful Idiots" is what Joseph Stalin called the people who helped put him in power. It is worth noting that Stalin killed millions of these Useful Idiots once he was in power.

In 1917 there was a revolution in Russia that started what was later called "The great experiment". This revolution was the implementation of the ideas proposed by Carl Marx where a "great society" would be created that would come to rule the world. Many believe that the ideas of Marx were founded in the writings of the French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau thought to be the father of socialism. In 1754 Rousseau wrote "The first man who, having fenced in a piece of land, said 'This is mine', and found people naive enough to believe him, that man was the true founder of civil society. ... Beware of listening to this impostor; you are undone if you once forget that the fruits of the earth belong to us all, and the earth itself to nobody."

Much of the Socialistic ideals in the U.S. today can be traced to Saul Alinsky, an American radical who wrote a book called "Rules for Radicals". In this book Saul lists eight levels of control that must be obtained to create a social society (Socialist State). This list is a simplified form of the Communist ideas as stated in the "Communist Manifesto" and the book *The Naked Communist*. Provided below is a what and why's - according to Saul Alinsky - of control needed to overthrow a capitalist democracy and replace it with a socialist "utopian" government.

Alinsky writes: (Note: some of the following verbiage may have been modified through time but the principals remain intact.)

First and most importantly rule is Healthcare - Control healthcare and you control the

people.

Second; Increase the number of people who are considered in poverty as high as possible - poor people are easily controlled and will not fight back if you control their source of income.

Third; National debt - increase the debt to a level that future generations cannot possibly pay for it - you can increase taxes which will increase the number of people who are dependent on the government for the ability to survive.

Fourth; Gun control - remove the ability of the population to defend themselves against a tyrannical government. (Hitler did it to the Jews before he sent them to the gas chambers.)

Fifth; Welfare - Take control of every aspect of the people's ability to take care of themselves. Once the government controls people's basic needs then they are less likely to revolt.

Sixth; Education - Government takes control the schools and media to indoctrinate the people with the concept that they deserve the product of other people's labors. Once properly indoctrinated they will be complacent with the government confiscating other people's property (taxes, eminent domain and outright confiscation under the use of "for the good of the people").

Seventh; Religion - Remove religion and morality from the government and schools. (Today Christianity is being replaced by ideas that only a few years ago would have been considered outlandish.)

Eighth; Class warfare - Divide the people into groups like the poor against the wealthy - con-

vince the poor that the wealth held by companies and individuals hold rightfully belongs to them.

Further developing this last idea: Get one ethnic group hating another. Convince everyone that they are a victim of some sort of discrimination imposed on them by an unjust society.

Look about you and you will see that much of this list has been implemented. Were it not for the current administration the deed would have been completed and this once great country would be on the path to destruction.

In summary: Is Socialism the utopia that all too many seek? The simple answer is NO, socialism is not a pathway to utopia. Socialism is only a pathway to power for those who will impose oppression on the people who clamored for the implementation of this destructive philosophy. Has Socialism ever been successfully implemented? NO it has not. To implement this form of government requires a compliant people willing to be subjugated to a tyrannical government that promises ever more benefits for the people using wealth confiscated from those who possess it.

To see a comparison of capitalism verses socialism one only needs to compare North Korea and South Korea. In the north there is starvation and oppression. In the South there is a thriving economy with a free people. Could one find a better comparison of the two philosophies?

Capitalism; motivates, innovates and creates. Socialism; regulates, confiscates and incarcerates.

Contact Charles Bayer at [candwbayer@verizon.net](mailto:candwbayer@verizon.net)

### 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](mailto:SGExaminer@aol.com). Articles should be in Word format while photos should be in jpeg. Articles should be in good taste.



# Wall Street Spooked - USA Holds Strongest Position

Despite market declines, bullish indicators grow! First-quarter announcement season is now more than 90% complete; and, The Street reports that the S&P 500's sales are up 5.9% and earnings are up 2.2%. This should be a stunning surprise, since the analyst community had predicted negative earnings growth and 4% sales growth. Accelerating sales growth is a sign of overall GDP growth and a hopeful sign that we'll see positive surprises in upcoming quarters.

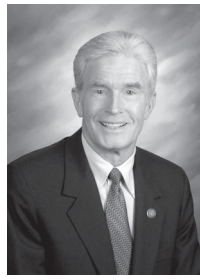
Treasury rates are below 2.4%. The lower rates go, the more aggressive the corporate stock buybacks will likely be. In early June, after first quarter earnings announcement season ends, I expect to see many more stock buybacks which will boost the equity markets.

This past week of elevated market volatility seemed to be reflecting the new adversarial trade relations with China and a rising level of future uncertainty (about the implications of the new higher tariffs implemented by both the U.S. and China). Investors now know that China is going to hike their existing \$60 billion tariff tranche rate from a 5%-10% range to a floating 5%-25% range, in retaliation to the U.S. raising its tariff rate on \$250 billion of Chinese imports from 10% to 25%.

As of this writing, there is obviously no deal close to being made, with no sense that either side is about to give an inch on their newly-entrenched positions. China's President Xi Jinping misjudged President Trump's zeal to do a deal and also miscalculated how hard his trade team should press American trade representative Robert Lighthizer, who has Mr. Trump's full trust in the matter.

The concern going forward is that because of China's top-down

**In A Nutshell**  
What's up in the Economy?



**KEN HERMAN**  
Economic Analyst  
& Former Glendora Mayor

political structure, it is likely that any new rhetoric out of China will be combative and nationalistic, leaving little room to quickly resume trade talks where they left off. Without verifiable systems in place to protect and weigh justice against violations, tariffs will likely be in place for a long time. Quite frankly, the most important takeaway from this stand-off is that China was clearly willing to make promises that it never intended to keep.

Looking at how this unfortunate trade war might affect China's future rate of GDP, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is forecasting China's growth rate to slow to 5.5% in 2020, then fall below 4% in 2025 and below 3% by 2030. How accurate are the OECD forecasters? Well, they published an internal report which found that the OECD tended to be too optimistic about eurozone growth. Given China's current debt-to-GDP ratio of about 300%, it stands to reason that a protracted trade war with the U.S. would only move those future lower growth rate numbers lower - and sooner than expected. Now, President Xi apparently has backed himself into a political and cultural corner that has the risk of only getting messier.

The latest impasse spotlights China's egregious behavior and puts their duplicity on full display around the world. Once again, we

must all learn that doing business on a transparent level with a communist regime is fraught with risk and prone to failure. Now, the Trump administration is preparing to hit China with 25% tariffs on the balance of the \$300 billion that China exports to the U.S., while aggressively pushing American and foreign manufacturers to move supply chain operations out of China altogether.

## WHAT MIGHT CAUSE CHINA TO BE MORE REASONABLE?

A flight of investment capital from a devalued yuan - which is being manipulated by China's government to offset the cost of tariffs - and large multi-national businesses hitting the exits to set up shop in other Asian nations may represent the only way China could agree to terms the U.S. can accept. Until then, the stock market, which only recently set new highs, will be under pressure to reset its growth expectations.

What are the capital markets telling investors? They may be saying that the U.S. economy will grow, but at a slower pace. To me, this means that investors should allocate more capital to defensive blue-chip stocks paying high dividend yields, and to stocks that are growing their dividends aggressively. Under this China impacted scenario, capital flows into those areas will likely be the most bullish, because they're the "best game in town". And when I say, "in town," I mean "in the whole world."

We also should recognize that America can no longer afford to subsidize Communist China's pursuit of world domination.

## 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

*I'm in my late 20's. How much should I be saving for retirement?*

The most common conclusion from recent studies is that you should be saving 10-percent to 12-percent of your annual income for retirement. If your employer provides 3-percent, then go ahead and save 10-percent so you'll be essentially saving 13-percent. If this exceeds the government limit for a 401(k), see if you can put \$5,000 annually into a Roth IRA, as well as purchasing a life insurance policy (Fixed-indexed Universal Life) which gives you life insurance and potential funds to use during your lifetime. It is equally important to plan on being debt-free when you retire. Pay off student loans, credit cards, auto loans, and mortgage. If you do not pay off your student loans, payments will be taken out of your Social Security check. IF you find yourself still owing a considerable amount on your mortgage when you are close to retirement, consider working a few more years to pay off that mortgage, or sell and move to a more retirement-friendly state, or lower your payments by refinancing into a 30-year loan just before retirement, while you still have income and lenders cannot age discriminate.

*We currently rent a 1 bedroom, 1 bath place for \$1,800 per month. This includes water and trash. We have about \$15,000 in savings, and my parents said they could help with another \$15,000. We'd love to be homeowners, but how do we*



**Julia Yoder**

*figure out if we could afford the payments?*

You've done really well to save up \$15,000, and are blessed to have that offer from your parents! The most direct way to know what you can afford is to apply for a mortgage. Once you have the preapproval letter in hand, you'll be ready to work with a Realtor and make offers on properties! Let me know if you need a referral to a quality Realtor in your area. Interest rates are still low. Don't procrastinate.

*Is there a way for us to help our children pay the taxes when inheriting our estate?*

The income-tax free benefit from a life insurance policy is typically paid quickly to the heirs, providing them with the funds to help with final expenses and estate taxes that exceed the prevailing exemption amount.

*A collection company keeps calling me. I cannot afford to pay the \$2,200 balance. I feel bad, but what can I do?*

Answer their call. Since your credit is already harmed, ask them if they can offer you a "set-

tlement" amount instead of the whole \$2,200. When they tell you a dollar amount, hesitate, groan, and tell them it'll take you a couple of days to figure out if you can come up with that amount. Sometimes they'll come back with an even smaller settlement, and often they'll post-date the payment until the end of that month, or freeze the account and let you make steady, small payments. If they refuse to negotiate, consider a balance transfer to another credit card with zero or low interest. Then review your budget and pay it off as quickly as possible. This will take discipline, but you can do it!

*I take care of my elderly dad who is housebound. He really wants to get his hair done, but I cannot take him to a beautician. Does anyone make house calls?*

On Mondays, "Fritz" of Campus Kuts does house calls for those who are housebound. Call him at (626) 335-9511 to set up an appointment. He's been in business for over 30 years, and is warm, friendly, trustworthy, skilled, and reasonably priced.

**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:  
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# County Modernizes Online Property Tax Portal

*Redesign Improves Access to Services and Information*

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - The County of Los Angeles Assessor, Auditor-Controller, Treasurer and Tax Collector, and Assessment Appeals Board, which administer the property tax process, launched a redesign of the Property Tax Portal today, making it increasingly convenient to access services and make payments.

The improved portal, which can be accessed by visiting [www.lacountypropertytax.com](http://www.lacountypropertytax.com), is a collaborative effort between the four Departments and offers an enhanced user experience.

"It is our duty as public servants to ensure the best possible service for constituents," said Assessor Jeffrey Prang.

"With several departments involved in the property tax process at the County level alone, taxpayers should not be left to guess where to direct inquiries. This improved portal presents a landmark change in a series of improvements to our online tools, providing a single point of contact in nine languages."

In addition to offering multilingual services, the redesigned portal includes easy-to-navigate features as well as educational tools that will assist constituents in better grasping the property tax process.

"Given the complexity of the property tax process and the number of governmental departments involved, cross-departmental collaboration is es-

sential to providing streamlined customer service," said Arlene Barrera, acting Auditor-Controller. Public and employee input are among the driving forces behind the redesign of the tax portal, which is visited more than three million times annually.

"This tax portal responds to constituent needs by consolidating onto the main page the services most requested by taxpayers, highlighting self-service options, and optimizing use for the device of choice, whether that is a desktop computer, tablet, or mobile phone," said Joseph Kelly, Treasurer and Tax Collector.

Celia Zavala, Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors, which oversees the Assessment Appeals Board, said, "This dynamic portal is one of many strategic initiatives designed to help us achieve our Department's long-term goals, including continued enhancement of constituent services to the wide and diverse demographics of LA County."

the University of La Verne, Campus Center, 3rd Floor, 2000 Second Street, La Verne. Free parking available. Persons requiring special accommodations should call 1-562-356-5641.

# CDTFA Free Small Business Tax Seminar

**LA VERNE** - The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) invites business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs to attend a free Small Business Tax Seminar in La Verne on Thursday, **June 6**.

This seminar will deliver informative presentations for those looking for assistance with state and federal tax issues, as well as those who want to expand their business knowledge. Topics will include, avoiding common sales and use tax problems, employee or independent contractor, better business through better records, and forms of ownership.

Small Business Tax Seminar will be held on Thursday, June 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (check-in begins at 8:00 a.m.) at

# Are You Being Spied On... By Your Vehicle?

Those of us in the United States are still waiting for our government to pass laws on who owns the data generated by your vehicle. The European Union has already passed laws stating that the owner of the vehicle also owns the data it generates.

Considering the vast amount of data being wirelessly transmitted to the manufacturer (25 gigabytes an hour) it is scary. Why do manufacturers of our vehicles need to know where we like to eat out, how much we weigh, what concerts we attend, what entertainment we enjoy? Seems intrusive...even "Big Brotherish!"

California hopes to have a state data privacy law by early next year. It states that vehicle owners have the right to the data collected. It also states that the sale of the data to third parties is to be prohibited.

A group called The Auto Alliance wants to limit how much data consumers get to see.

They feel that if manufacturers were required to share all the information collected with the consumer, the consumer might feel they were being stalked. The Auto Alliance also says that the information might not pertain to the vehicle owner as a spouse or other family member may drive the vehicle as well. The Alliance also says that the data sold to third parties can be helpful to the consumer as roadside assistance and emergency vehicles need that data. Hmmm...

Manufacturers have also been seen as the bad guy trying to cut out independent auto repair shops. This is very possible if they refuse to share data with the independents. Currently, a car's computer information can be downloaded via

an onboard diagnostics port. Manufacturers though, are now using wireless systems and having it sent directly to them. If they choose to get rid of the diagnostic port, only the manufacturer will have access to the data.

We will have to see how this all plays out. Privacy and consumer advocates are very concerned. Hopefully federal legislation will be in place sooner rather later.

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](http://CertifiedAutoCa.com)

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# Ted Danson Shares Tips for Healthy Aging

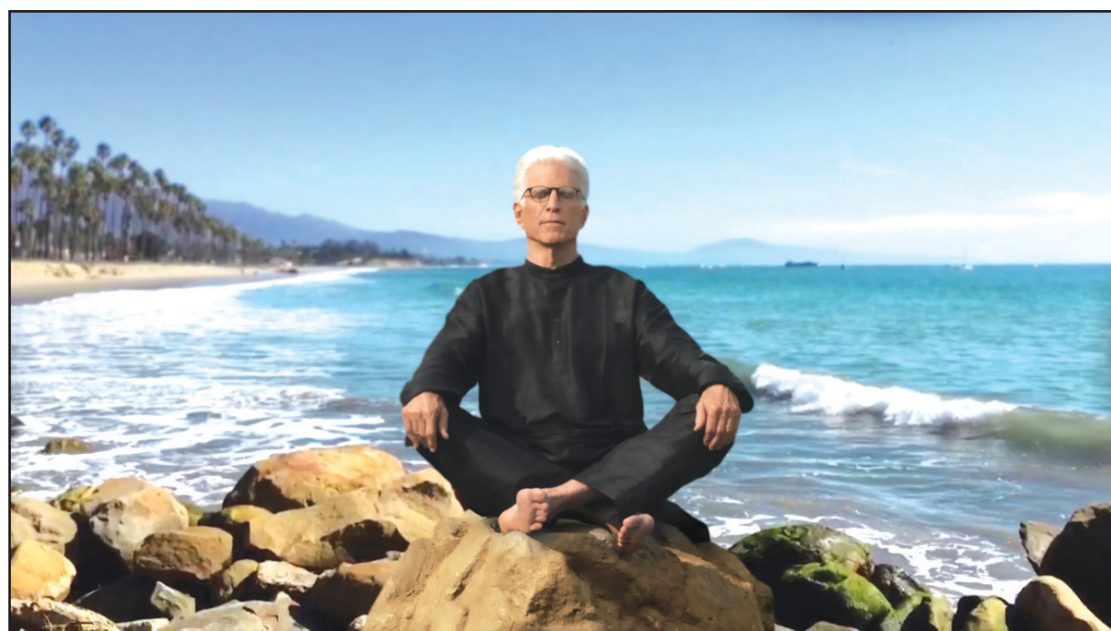


PHOTO SOURCE: Courtesy of Cigna

In his distinguished career, actor Ted Danson has played many iconic roles, including a cantankerous but caring doctor. In real life, the 70-year-old says good relationships with health care providers are critical for healthy aging.

"I like the personal relationship with a fellow human being who has compassion, and offers a solid plan to fix whatever is going on with both body and mind," says Danson. "If something is going on with me, or I'm afraid something is, usually just knowing the facts not only relaxes me, but empowers me, because the doctor will tell me what to do to make it better."

Danson is currently promoting whole person health with Cigna, which serves older adults in 16 states through its Medicare Advantage (MA) plans. He's encouraging people to talk to their health care providers about emotional and physical health, including preventive care, as well as common issues like stress, anxiety, loneliness and sleeplessness, which can impact overall health, according to experts.

"Preventive care plays an important role in long-term wellness. Issues like stress can lead to serious health conditions such as diabetes and heart disease. That's why it's so important to have annual wellness exams, and make that time meaningful by

being open about everything you're feeling," says Dr. Dirk Wales, chief medical director with Cigna Medicare.

For healthy aging, Dr. Wales recommends the following preventive measures:

- Annual health risk assessment (HRA). Your physician or insurer will likely ask you to take an annual HRA -- a quick series of questions designed to help flag issues early, so you can access the right benefits and resources for you.

- Colorectal cancer screenings. Too few older adults get screened for colorectal cancer, the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the country. When caught early, the disease is curable. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends starting screening at age 50. MA plans, like those offered by Cigna, cover screening costs at various intervals depending on risk.

- Breast cancer screenings. Breast cancer, the most common cancer in American women outside of skin cancer, affects one in eight women in their lifetimes. USPSTF recommends women ages 50 to 74 years old with average risk get a mammogram every two years. Screenings can help detect breast cancer early, when it's easier to treat.

- Eye exams, if you have dia-

betes. People with diabetes have a higher risk of blindness, but early detection and treatment can help protect against vision loss. Getting an annual eye exam -- which Medicare covers if you have diabetes -- is critical. Certain MA plans may offer additional coverage.

- Annual flu shots. Between 70 and 90 percent of seasonal flu-related deaths occur in people 65 years old and older, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The best defense, an annual flu shot, is covered fully by Medicare and MA plans when you visit a participating provider.

- Discuss mind and body. Depression isn't a normal part of aging and it's treatable. Be open with your health care provider about everything you're feeling -- body and mind.

To learn about Cigna's Medicare products, visit [www.cigna.com/medicare](http://www.cigna.com/medicare). For more information about the connection between physical and emotional health, and the Body & Mind initiative featuring Danson, Queen Latifah and Nick Jonas, visit, [Cigna.com/takecontrol](http://Cigna.com/takecontrol).

Every individual has unique health needs. Ask your personal health advocate for additional preventive measures tailored for you. (StatePoint)

# Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary's 2019 Scholarship Winners



Back row, left to right: Abbigael Aday, Angela Prince, Annamarie Arias, Natalie Taby, Christopher Diaz. Front row, left to right: Melissa Mendoza, Victoria Olivas, Iris Marie Loaiza.

**GLENDORA** - The Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary held its annual scholarship awards dinner on May 23rd to recognize deserving students who are planning to further their studies in a medically related field. Thanks to the fundraising of the Hospital Auxiliary and the Junior Volunteers, along with the generosity of Emanate Health, individuals, and families, 14 scholarships were presented that evening.

The scholarship recipients and

their families were invited to an awards dinner at Bidwell Forum catered by Claro's Italian Market. The highlight of the evening came when Jade Knight, scholarship committee chairman, called the award winners to the podium where each gave a short speech about themselves and their plans for the future. All of this year's winners should be very proud of what they have accomplished thus far and should look forward to even more success as they go forward towards their goals.

2019 Scholarship Recipients: Jillyn Turunen, Abbigael Aday, Dominic Allaf, Christopher Diaz, Iris Marie Loaiza, Melissa Mendoza, Angela Prince, Michelle Chiew, Victoria Olivas, Emily Rodriguez, Sarah Eltiste, Natalie Taby, Carina Semaan and Annamarie Arias.

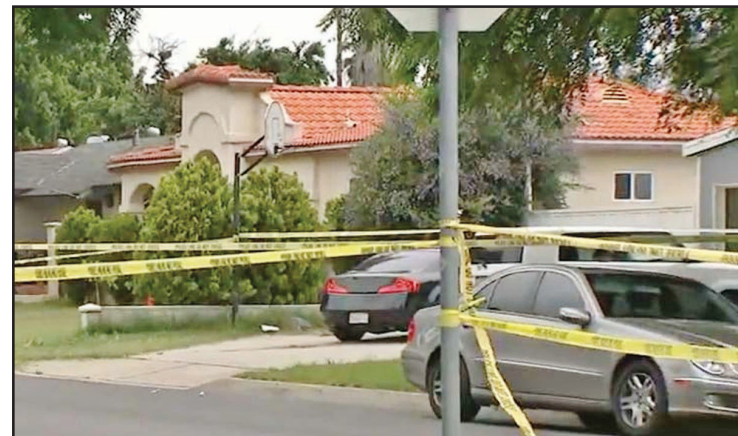
If you might be interested in joining this community organization, we would like to invite you to find our more about the hospital auxiliary by calling the volunteer office at (626) 857-3103.

# Shooting in West Covina, One Teen Dead, Three Others Injured

By George Ogden/  
Rudy Lopez WCPD

**WEST COVINA** - A La Mirada teenager was killed and three other teens were wounded in a shooting at a party in West Covina, authorities said Saturday, June 1.

Officers from the West Covina Police Department responded at 10:30 p.m. Friday to a house at 306 North Hollow Avenue in West Covina. Police learned that a fight broke out at the party and a shooting took place. Police located three shooting victims at the scene. One, who was identified as Dennis Bracamonte, 18, was pronounced dead at the location. Two other male teenagers suf-



The home at 306 Hollow Ave in West Covina, where the shooting took place.

fered gunshot wounds to the legs. Paramedics treated them and they were transported to an area hospital.

Police later found out that a female teenager was also shot when the hospital notified the police that a gunshot victim had arrived. She was brought to the hospital by friends. She was treated for non-life-threatening injuries. It is also possible that there may be other victims that were shot and left as well and are treating themselves.

The party was advertised on social media. The party was being held at an Airbnb home which is a home that is rented out for short terms. Many of the partygoers were in their teens and/or under 21 years of age had been inhaling nitrous oxide. This is also known as laughing gas. The Social Media Ad asked for a \$5 admission and \$55 if you brought your own bottle of nitrous oxide.

A detailed description of the shooter was not available and those that were at the party were

reluctant to cooperate with police. However, it appears that they now know the identity of the shooter.

On Sunday, they had a candle light vigil at the home, (crime scene) where the shooting took place. While this reporter was attending, West Covina Mayor Lloyd Johnson showed up to give his condolences and show support for the family. He talked with a number of family members about this sad event. Hundreds of people showed up to show their support.

Mayor Johnson stated that Airbnb is not authorized in the city without having compliance and that is not available at this point with the city.

Residents near the home have said there has been a number of parties at that home in the past. "It was simply a night club that was out of a house. They had another party 3 months earlier that got out of hand," said one resident. He did not want to be identified.

# The American Cancer Society and The Relay For Life of Santa Anita Park 24 Hour Event

**ARCADIA** - On June 8 & 9, local participants will join together at the annual Relay For Life of Santa Anita Park at Santa Anita Park Racetrack to help beat our biggest rival - CANCER. The event starts at 11:00 am.

Come join our relay. Our theme is "The Movies" - LIGHTS, ACTION, CURE. Enjoy a day full of activities from Opening ceremonies at 11 am to Luminaria at 9 pm or walk with us all night. We kick off the event by honoring everyone who's been affected by cancer and everyone who has contributed to the success of this year's Relay season. During Luminaria each light represents a life--a life taken by cancer, a survivor of cancer, or support for a person still fighting the disease. It's a powerful demonstration that gives people the opportunity to grieve

but also offers comfort and hope. During the day there are games, best movie character contest, a live band, karaoke and so much more. At night movies, a scavenger hunt and walking. We have raised over \$30,000 of our \$83,000 goal.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) is the only organization fighting cancer on every front. Funds raised from Relay For Life events allow the ACS to attack cancer in dozens of ways, each of them critical to achieving a world without cancer - from developing breakthrough therapies and innovative research, to building supportive communities that come together to help those affected by cancer with access to treatment. The ACS provides empowering resources to deploying activists to raise awareness and develop game-changing approaches to address

the cancer burden for all people.

Founded by Dr. Gordy Klatt in Tacoma, Washington, in 1985, the Relay For Life movement of 3.5 million participants across the world unite at more than 4,500 events to celebrate people who have been touched by cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change. Symbolizing the battle waged around the clock by those facing cancer, our event lasts 24 hours and empowers

communities to take a stand against cancer. Since 1985, Relay For Life events in the U.S. have raised more than \$6.3 billion.

The Relay For Life of Santa Anita Park is supported by many local businesses and organizations. Together, we can beat our biggest rival. Join or donate to the Relay For Life of Santa Anita Park. Visit [RelayForLife.org](http://RelayForLife.org) or [RelayForLife.org/santaanita-parkca](http://RelayForLife.org/santaanita-parkca)

# Medical Auxiliary Needs Volunteers

**COVINA** - The Citrus Valley Medical Center Inter-Community Auxiliary needs volunteers. If you are a senior citizen, retired, or simply looking for something to do, join the auxiliary and be a volunteer! Volunteers are needed in the following areas: The Front Desk; the Gift Store; The Sur-

gery Waiting Room; the Bargain Box; Newspaper Delivery to patients and other areas of the hospital. Call Tiffany Ramirez, Director of Volunteer Services at (626) 925-6237 or email her at [tramirez@mail.cvhp.org](mailto:tramirez@mail.cvhp.org) to start the volunteer process.



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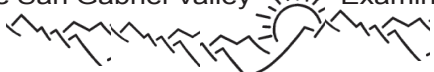
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# Citrus College Honors Two Leaders During Alumni Month

**GLENDORA** - This May, Citrus College continues its eight-year tradition of celebrating Alumni Month.

Whether they graduated from the college years ago or recently transferred to a four-year institution, alumni play a significant role at Citrus College. Many are active with organizations on campus that support student success through networking and financial giving, such as the Citrus Alumni & Friends Association and the Citrus College Foundation. Others volunteer their time, ideas and resources to advance the college's mission within their professions and communities.

Perhaps the greatest contribution of Citrus College's alumni is serving as role models for current students. Their vision, hard work and service is exemplary, and their stories encourage students to pursue their academic and professional goals upon graduation.

"The incredible academic and professional successes of our alumni pave a path for future generations to follow," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College.

For over half a century, the college has highlighted alumni who have set an example through their professional and lifelong development, community service, and influence at Citrus College, and awarded them with the honorary title of Distinguished Alumni. Former recipients include medical professionals, lawyers, business executives, artists, educators, performers, civil servants and skilled workers.

The two Distinguished

Alumni recipients for 2019 are Martin A. Gundersen, Ph.D., and Sal Medina.

A renowned electrical engineer and academic researcher, Dr. Gundersen has been an innovator and international leader in bioengineering and electrical pulsed power for over four decades. A member of the last graduating class of Citrus Union High School in 1958, Dr. Gundersen credits Citrus College with encouraging him to think seriously about his academic and career goals.

At the University of California, Berkeley, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in physics (1965) before earning his master's degree and Ph.D. in physics (1972) at the University of Southern California (USC). Dr. Gundersen taught and conducted research at Texas Tech University before accepting a faculty position at USC in 1980. His research interests, which have included the physics and applications of nanosecond pulsed power miniaturized for defense, consumer, agricultural, biological and medical applications, have earned him funding from the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation. Currently, Dr. Gundersen leads pulsed power research in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering.

Dr. Gundersen holds 10 U.S. patents and has delivered over 350 presentations. He has published more than 300 technical papers and a book. In 2015, Dr. Gundersen was named Citrus Community College Automotive Advisory Council member of the year.



Photos courtesy Citrus College and Sal Medina

**Martin A. Gundersen, Ph.D., and Sal Medina are the Citrus College 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.**

Mr. Medina is a member of the Citrus College class of 1995 and a successful businessman and educator with deep roots in the San Gabriel Valley. An alumnus of Gladstone High School in Azusa, Mr. Medina enrolled at Citrus College to pursue a career in education, and cites Dr. Michael Hurtado and Dr. Dale Salwak as the instructors who had the greatest influence on him.

At the University of La Verne, Mr. Medina earned his bachelor's degree in political science (1998) and master's degree in education (2000) before accepting a position as a political science teacher at Monrovia High School. He soon became a popular instructor, known for his engaging style and ability to motivate

students. In addition to teaching, Mr. Medina coached the girls' volleyball team and served as an advisor to the Key Club.

In 2007, Mr. Medina launched his own business: Packing House Wines. In its first year, Packing House Wines was recognized as the Claremont Chamber of Commerce "Business of the Year." Since then, it has developed from a small boutique to a full-sized wine bar and restaurant located in the Claremont Packing House, one of the most historic buildings in the Inland Empire. With a selection of wine unparalleled in California, Mr. Medina's dedication to quality has positioned Packing House Wines as a premier resource for wine connoisseurs in Southern California and

across the country.

Recently, Congresswoman Judy Chu presented Mr. Medina with a Congressional Leadership Award as the "East San Gabriel Valley Businessperson of the Year" for California's 27th congressional district. As a lifelong educator, he takes pride in teaching his staff about the wine industry, and several of his past employees have gone on to successful careers in the hospitality indus-

try as wine makers, owners, distributors and sommeliers.

In addition to receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award, Dr. Gundersen and Mr. Medina will be honored at Citrus College's 103rd annual commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 15. The two will then be celebrated by members of the college community at the annual Alumni Reception immediately following commencement.

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