



# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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# L.A. County Health Services to Vaccinate 10,000 Frontline Health Workers by New Year's Eve

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - L.A. County Health Services today embarked on a mass COVID-19 vaccination effort that will result in 6,000 vaccinations by Christmas and 10,000 total vaccinations by Dec. 31 for its frontline healthcare workers. The vaccinations are initially taking place at three of the four County hospitals: LAC+USC Medical Center, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, and Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

Since the first vaccination allocation is limited, LA County Health Services is following CDC and state guidance in identifying and vaccinating those workforce members who are in the highest risk categories and working in our highest intensity areas, such as the ICU and Emergency Room. The mass vaccination effort is occurring while LA County Health Services manages the largest surge of COVID-19 patients seen during this pandemic. Within the Health Services department, the surge has led to limited ICU capacity, nurse redeployment, overflow triage and treatment areas, ambulance diversion and long wait times in the emergency rooms.

As the County's healthcare safety net, LA Health Services acute care hospitals have been highly impacted by the current



Martin Reyes, RN for the Intensive Care Unit at LAC+USC Medical Center, receives a COVID-19 vaccination on Dec. 18 as part of LA County Health Services' effort to vaccinate more than 10,000 frontline healthcare workers by the end of 2020.

COVID-19 surge as they primarily serve low-income and communities of color that have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. While the vaccinations provide a glimmer of hope, LA County Health Services encourages the public to continue with its vigilance during these next few weeks and to stay at home as much as possible.

"After nine months of working to save our families, friends, and neighbors, healthcare work-

ers who are getting vaccinated today, and soon thousands of other healthcare workers, will now have extra protection and peace of mind so they can continue doing what they do best: keeping Los Angeles County safe and healthy," said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda L. Solis, and Supervisor to the First District. "Hope is here, but we still have much work to do as the COVID-19 crisis is the worst it has been. Just as these healthcare workers are

committing to our communities by getting vaccinated, we must commit to them and do what is in our control to stop this virus," said Hilda Solis, Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and Supervisor to the First District.

Dr. Christina Ghaly, director of LA County Health Services, thanked the healthcare workforce, including nurses, physicians, respiratory therapists and others who have been on the frontlines since March. "They

have seen firsthand how devastating this pandemic has been and continues to be, and today we are battling an unprecedented surge in LA County that threatens to overwhelm our public hospitals and undermine our ability to care for patients," said Dr. Christina Ghaly, Director, LA County Health Services. "But finally, there is hope."

Dr. Ghaly also said LA County's vaccination effort was unique for its scale - 10,000 workers by New Year's Eve. "We are grateful we could mobilize and vaccinate so many of our healthcare workers," she said. "We can't respond to the rapidly growing need or overcome the resounding challenges if our workforce doesn't stay healthy."

"Receiving the COVID-19 vaccination is a huge step forward," said Dr. Tamara Chambers, Chief of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at LAC+USC Medical Center who intubates COVID-19 patients in the ICU and was among the first cohort of healthcare workers to be vaccinated today. "It's a breath of fresh air. We now have another layer of protection that allows us to care for those critically afflicted by the Novel Coronavirus. We get the vaccine for ourselves and for our communities. We want everyone to be protected so we can end this pandemic."

## Glendora Woman's Club Seeking Donations For WINGS Christmas Project For Children



Glendora Woman's Club members from a previous year, with WINGS manager Jody Winger, are pictured after wrapping and filling the Christmas stocking with gifts for the children staying at the YWCA WINGS SHELTER. They are, from left, Gerry McIntosh, Jean Flanders, WINGS Human resource Manager Jody Winger, Woman's Club Project Chair Rose Myers and Mary Moore. Photo by Rick Ingram

By Joan Hallidy

GLENDORA - For the Christmas Holidays coming up, the Glendora Woman's Club will be asking for donations, until December 20, for the YWCA wings Program (Women in Need Growing Strong), said Woman's Club Project chair Rose Meyers.

Through donations from members and friends, the WINGS Program For the Holiday will be able to purchase and provide Christmas stockings until gifts for the children currently staying at the WINGS Shelter. Also, gift certificates from fast-food places are wel-

come for the project. It was noted that the WINGS Shelter currently has a "full -house of children, with their mothers, for the holidays.

The year was 1978 when the WINGS Program was founded by community women who were concerned about the effects of violence on women and children. Originally created as a 24 -hour rape crisis hotline, the volume of violence calls alerted its founders to the need for a shelter for batter women, and their children.

For the past 42 years, the WINGS Program of the YWCA for San Gabriel Valley

has battered women and their children -Women are educated and empowered to be self sufficient, thus enriching their lives in the process.

For years, WINGS has been a leader in the domestic violence field and has received congressional honors for its exceptional work. Cities in its service area, as well as numerous community organizations have also recognized WINGS.

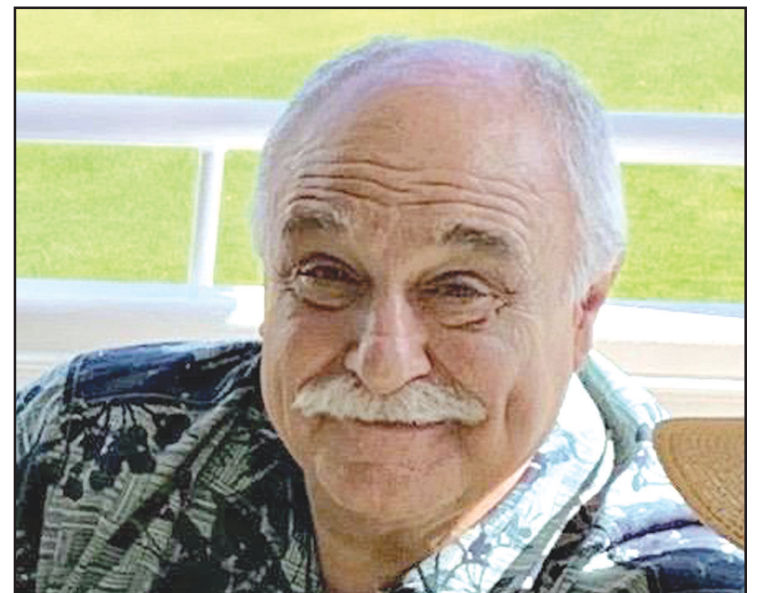
For more information about the Woman's Club's WINGS Program, Project Chair Rose at 626-963-4234

To donate to the WINGS Christmas Project, checks may be payable to the Glendora Women's Club, and mailed to the Woman's Club at P.O. Box 672, Glendora, Glendora, CA. 91740 and noting WINGS on the check's memo line and on the envelope.

## The Home Comfort Specialist

The holidays are here and so is the cold weather. You can help your heater keep your home warm and comfortable this winter by simply changing your filter. Every year we send our service technicians to homes, only to find the filter is clogged and needs to be replaced. A dirty filter can cause so much restriction in airflow that the furnace can overheat and shut off. The holidays can get busy, but just a reminder that now's the time to change your filter if you haven't yet already. If your furnace is a couple of years old or older, we recommend maintenance be done on your furnace. Your furnace was designed to safely and efficiently keep your home comfortable. Lack of maintenance can rob your furnace of that ability and shorten the life of your furnace. A furnace maintenance should include:

- Filter change using a MERV 8 pleated filter
- Checking all electrical connections and safeties
- Cleaning the blower motor and wheel. A dirty blower motor will cause it to work harder and provide less airflow.
- Check for carbon monoxide. Your furnace can be a source of carbon monoxide, especially older ones. It is recommended that all homes have a carbon mon-



by Diego DiBenedetto - Canyon Air Systems

oxide sensor installed in a common area of the home.

A properly performed maintenance will have your heating system running at its best. The cold weather also brings with it the flu season and this year with the added threat of the coronavirus, make sure your heating system is working to protect you. Your heating system can help you keep you and your family safe by cleaning the air in your home. Anytime you have the fan in the furnace on, you are cleaning the air with your filtration system. You can clean the air inside your home even better by upgrading your filter to a HEPA type filter or by adding an air purifier to

your system. Air purifiers, also known as air scrubbers, can help purify and sanitize the air inside your home. 80% of germs, bacteria, and viruses are transmitted by the surfaces we touch, an air purifier utilizes a UV light to kill up to 99.9% of all surface bacteria, viruses, and germs.

Canyon Air Systems has been in Glendora for over 40 years now serving all of Glendora and the surrounding area. We are here for you. Feel free to contact us at (626) 335-1116 or visit our website at [www.canyonair.com](http://www.canyonair.com). Wishing you a Happy Holidays from our family here at Canyon Air to yours.

## RECYCLE YOUR TREE CURBSIDE

Curbside tree collection will take place on your scheduled collection day from **December 28** through **January 11**.

Please remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments & tree stands. Trees taller than 6 feet must be cut in half.

**To Advertise In The San Gabriel Valley Examiner CALL 626-852-3374**

# Baldwin Park Unified Board Members Take Oath of Office



BPUSD held an Oath of Office Ceremony on Dec. 15 for returning Board of Education members Christina Lucero and Santos Hernandez Jr. and recently elected member Diana E. Miranda-Dzib.

**BALDWIN PARK**—Baldwin Park Unified returning Board of Education members Christina Lucero and Santos Hernandez Jr., and newly elected member Diana E. Miranda-Dzib took their oaths of office during the Board's organizational meeting on Dec. 15.

During the meeting, Lucero was selected to serve as Board of Education president for a third consecutive term. Betsabel Lara was selected to serve as clerk/vice president for an additional term.

Miranda-Dzib was sworn in by

State Sen. Susan Rubio, Hernandez was sworn in by City of Baldwin Park Councilmember Alejandra Avila, and Lucero was sworn in by City of Baldwin Park Councilmember Danny Damian.

Assemblymember Blanca Rubio also joined the virtual board meeting to welcome the new members and thank departing board member Robert Guzman Varela, who served for two years.

"Baldwin Park Unified is delighted to welcome our incoming Board of Education mem-

bers," Superintendent Dr. Froilan N. Mendoza said. "Each board member has tremendous experience in guiding this District toward new levels of success."

Miranda-Dzib previously served as an appointed trustee in 2017. This is Lucero's fourth consecutive term on the Board, and Hernandez has served since 2015.

Miranda-Dzib, Lucero and Hernandez join Board of Education members Lara and Deanna Coronado Robles, elected in 2018.

# Mayor's Year End 2020 Message

Over this last year we have all been on a journey together, it hasn't always been easy, and we're ready to turn the page on 2020 and welcome the new year.

Our hearts go out to those that have lost loved ones and that have faced financial hardships, you are always in our forethoughts and wishing that we could make it better and in some cases we have.

We are a resilient community with a unique set of "Hometown Values". We share our community and are inviting;



**Michael Allawos**  
Mayor of Glendora  
we say hello to those we pass as we are walking and are gen-

erous in our giving.

Our City is blessed with good people at the helm and throughout our entire organization. No subject has been off limits to discuss, moving the City and the community forward with a stable financial plan.

My colleagues and I couldn't have guided the City without your support, I am truly grateful for that.

Happy holidays to you and yours and to a happy and prosperous new year!

# Glendora Women's Club Honors Past Presidents

**By Joan Hallidy**

**GLENDORA** - During a special presentation, the Glendora Woman's Club honored the following five past presidents, in attendance, for their service and leadership serving as president: Chris Ohrmund, 2019-2021, now serving her second year; Joy Martau, 2018-2019; Helen Storland, 2005-2007 and 1995-97; Gloria Liddle, 1999-2001; and Rose Myers, 1985-87.

For the presentation, each past president was asked to relate a



Past presidents, in attendance, honored at the presentation are front row, from left, Gloria Liddle and Joy Martau; standing from left are Rose Myers, Chris Ohrmund and Helen Storland.

highlight during her years as president. Following their reports, each honoree received a special gift from the Woman's Club of a flashlight to show that they 'Light the Way.'

The program featured Joe Cina, Glendora Chamber of Commerce president and CEO. His program was titled "That's Happening in Glendora."

For the Christmas Holidays coming up, See's Candies is offering a fund-raising project to encourage sales. When members

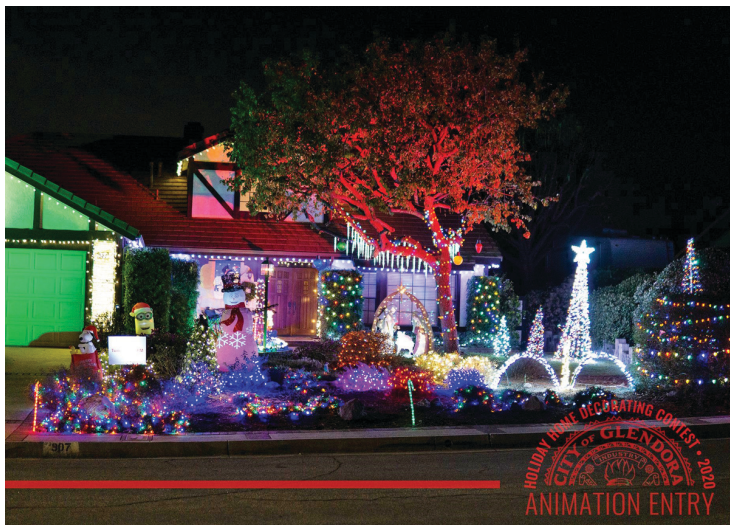
and friends of the Woman's Club order See's Candies at the regular retail price by December 7, a percentage of the total sales amount submitted is returned to the Woman's Club as a discount.

To place an order, receive an order sheet, or more information, call Rose, Woman's project chair, at 1-626-963-4234.

For information about Woman's club membership or service projects, call 909-598-0554.

# Glendora Holiday Home Decorating Contest Winners

Congratulations to the WINNERS of this year's Glendora Holiday Home Decorating Contest, hosted by the Community Services Department! These fantastic winners will receive a yard sign and a gift basket.



**BEST OVERALL** Turunen House



**ANIMATION:** Igoe House



**USE OF LIGHTS:** Denny House



**LAWN DISPLAY:** Fuentes House

# Congratulations to the Winners of Covina's Holiday Home Decorating Contest



**Best of Show!**  
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## Napolitano Awarded Gold de Fleury Medal by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

WASHINGTON, DC - Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA-32) has been selected by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to receive the Gold Order of the de Fleury Medal for her significant contributions to Army Engineering.

"I am incredibly humbled and honored to receive this medal from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on behalf of all my hard-working personal and Transportation Subcommittee staff," Napolitano said. "The Corps of Engineers embodies the best of our nation—soldiers and civilians working every day domestically to protect us from flooding and to maintain our harbors, lakes, and rivers for the economic, recreational and environmental benefit of our country. The Corps designs and constructs our military bases, Veterans hospitals, and other key federal infrastructure, from the California delta to the Florida Everglades. And when abroad, the Corps provides the engineering and implementation support in the most difficult and dangerous places around the

globe to keep our military safe, secure, and ready."

"The greatness of the Corps is found in the soldiers and civilians I have had a pleasure to work with during my 22 years in Congress and the past 6 years leading the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee. It is seen in their willingness to work with our communities to better service the needs of the people in all our areas," Napolitano continued. "These incredible public servants in the Los Angeles District, the South Pacific Division, and throughout the nation devote their lives to protecting the American people and improving our natural resources. They are an unseen, dedicated, and critical part of our government."

"It is truly a highlight of my career to be recognized by these invaluable public servants, and I commit to continue advocating in Congress for their best interests, which are the best interests of the nation, and to support their mission," Napolitano concluded.

Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon, 55th Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, notified Napolitano of her selection to receive the award on December 7.

"Rep. Napolitano has been a staunch supporter of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects," said Lt. Gen. Spellmon. "Most recently she made securing funding for the Whittier Narrows Dam one of her top priorities. She understands the importance of dam safety work and water supply operations. She has spent years working with the Corps and advocating for this project and other infrastructure of national significance."

The 54th Chief of Engineers, retired Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, selected Napolitano to receive the award. The award was scheduled to be presented in July 2020, however due to COVID-19, the award presentation is now scheduled for July 2021.

The Order of the de Fleury was established in 1779 in honor of Francois Louis Tesseidre de Fleury, a French engineer, who volunteered to serve during the American Revolution. There are four different levels of the award, which are steel, bronze, silver and gold, with gold being the most prestigious.

The chief of engineers selects one gold award recipient from inside the Engineer Regiment, and one recipient from outside the regiment, each year.

## Board Approves \$50k Reward In Response To Ambush Of Sheriff's Deputy In Altadena

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Supervisor Kathryn Barger to authorize a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a perpetrator who fired several gunshots at an on-duty Deputy Sheriff in the unincorporated area of Altadena on Friday, Dec. 4.

"This was an unprovoked and heinous act perpetrated against a law enforcement member who has dedicated their profession to serving our community," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger. "We continue to ask so much of law enforcement and we must stand by them in their time of need."

At approximately 12:33 p.m., the Deputy Sheriff was in a marked black and white patrol vehicle traveling northbound on the 2500 block of Fair Oaks Avenue. The assailant pointed a firearm in the Deputy Sheriff's di-

rection and fired several gunshots. Thankfully, the Deputy was not struck by gunfire. Both the suspect and his accomplice subsequently fled the location on foot.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is seeking the public's assistance locating witnesses who may have information leading to the apprehension of the suspects. The stray bullets hit a structure and could have seriously injured or killed an innocent bystander.

Supervisor Barger encourages anyone with information to contact LASD Detective C. Gutierrez at (626) 798-1131 to assist in this investigation and prevent the perpetrator from hurting anyone else. Individuals can also provide information anonymously at "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS or by visiting lacrimestoppers.org.

## Biker Crashes and Dies

By George Ogden

IRWINDALE - A motorcyclist was killed in Irwindale on Saturday, December 19th when he lost control of his Harley-Davidson motorcycle just after midnight.

The man was identified as Cesar Osorio, 49 of Rialto.

Authorities stated he was eastbound on Arrow Highway approaching Live Oak where the roadway curves when he apparently struck the center divider curb area and was thrown from the bike. When paramedics ar-

rived at the scene, they examined the man and pronounced him dead at the scene.

The accident scene was closed for over 6 hours before the roadway was opened again. Police officers from Baldwin Park, Azusa and Glendora assisted the Irwindale Police with the accident scene and street closures as well as the investigation.

Irwindale police urged anyone with information regarding the crash to call them at 626-430-2245.

## As Vaccine Progress Continues, Public Health Reminds Everyone to Heed Lessons Learned to Stop the Surge; Stay Home as Much as Possible

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - According to the State, the Southern California Region has 0% ICU capacity remaining.

A second COVID-19 vaccine, the Moderna vaccine, was endorsed on December 17 by the FDA's Advisory Committee, and based on the publicly released findings of the vaccine trial, Public Health is hopeful the vaccine will receive Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) very soon. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices will meet this weekend to discuss the recommended use of the Moderna vaccine and will also vote on additional priority populations to receive it.

Currently, the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has been received by all nine pre-designated sites in L.A. County and this initial allocation is being used by acute care hospitals to vaccinate health care personnel. Healthcare workers are prioritized for vaccination based on their job duties and associated risks of exposure to COVID-19 as well as risks of severe disease. A second allotment of Pfizer vaccine is anticipated to arrive next week and will be used to vaccinate additional

healthcare workers at acute care hospitals. If the Moderna vaccine receives EUA, doses of this vaccine should arrive in L.A. County next week as well. These doses will be used to vaccinate residents and staff at skilled nursing facilities and frontline EMS responders.

"We send our deepest condolences to the many people grieving the loss of a family member or friend who passed away due to COVID-19," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "There is an increasingly bright light at the end of this pandemic for us as a second vaccine gets closer to emergency use authorization. However, we are months away from having enough vaccine widely available in L.A. County. Until then, we need to make choices in our daily lives to protect ourselves and others. The devastation we are experiencing now is in part because many people ignored warnings and made the decision to travel or visit with people from outside of their home over the Thanksgiving holidays. We are now learning a very painful lesson that, despite how much we want things to go back to normal, this virus is relentless and will

continue to spread, make people very ill, and tragically lead to people passing away. We can't afford another holiday season surge that will further overwhelm our already strained hospitals and healthcare staff. We must all work together to prevent as much death as possible."

Right now, the most important action for everyone to take to stop the surge is to stay home as much as possible and not mingle with others not in your household. Only go out for work, exercise or for essential services. When you must leave your home, always wear a face covering and stay at least 6 feet away from people you do not live with at all times. Individuals with underlying health conditions and those that are older should remain in their home and not be around others unless seeking routine or essential health and dental care.

If you have symptoms or concerns you were exposed, get tested for COVID-19 and isolate immediately from your family and others if you have symptoms or test positive for COVID-19. If you are having difficulty breathing, go to an emergency room or call 911.

## Los Angeles County Awarded \$6.4 Million To Help House Homeless Veterans

County Receives Largest Funding Allocation in the Country

ALHAMBRA - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded \$46 million to Public Housing Agencies (PHA) across the country to help veterans at risk of experiencing homelessness. The award will help fund 4,875 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers. The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) received the largest allocation of funds to a PHA, totaling \$6,418,080, or 500 vouchers.

This allocation is a result of Los Angeles County's need for more assistance to house veterans experiencing homelessness. The 2020 Los Angeles County Homeless Count found that

2,918 veterans remained unsheltered. Each veteran encounters challenges to maintaining housing - disabilities, substance abuse, mental illness, and a limited supply of affordable supportive housing. Los Angeles County is on a mission to help veterans overcome challenges by obtaining the additional vouchers to secure stable housing and pair it with supportive services, such as health management, personal and financial counseling, and employment services.

Emilio Salas, LACDA Acting Executive Director, said, "We are grateful to HUD for this additional allocation and for helping us address the continuing need. Especially during this uncertain

time, we are glad to help 500 more veterans find a safe, affordable home."

The LACDA partners with the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) of Greater Los Angeles to administer the VASH program, which is designed to improve each veteran's physical and mental health, enhance his/her ability to remain stably housed, and integrate in their local community. The VAMC screens applicants for program eligibility and service needs and refers clients to the LACDA for rental assistance.

Homeless veterans are encouraged to contact the VAMC to determine eligibility by calling (310) 478-3711.

## Grand Jury Charges Man Who Allegedly Bought Maserati SUV with Fraudulently Obtained COVID-19 Jobless Relief Money

By George Ogden

PASADENA - A Pasadena man is scheduled to be arraigned on federal charges alleging he used stolen identities to fraudulently obtain unemployment insurance benefits, which he later used to purchase a Maserati luxury SUV.

A federal grand jury on November 17 named Robert Sloan Mateer, 30, in a five-count indictment charging him with possession of at least 15 or more unauthorized access devices with intent to defraud, aggravated identity theft, possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and being a felon in possession of ammunition.

According to an affidavit in support of a criminal complaint filed in this case, during a traffic stop on October 1, Pasadena Police officers arrested Mateer and found inside his Maserati 17 unemployment benefits debit cards, several other credit and debit cards, approximately \$197,711 in cash, more than 85 grams of methamphetamine, and a loaded firearm with no serial number.

Evidence gathered during the investigation determined that at least 14 of the 17 debit cards were loaded with at least \$133,000 in unemployment insurance benefits, later determined to have been issued under

the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by Congress in March, and had been issued in the names of third-parties, including identity theft victims.

The California Employment Development Department (EDD) distributes unemployment insurance benefits under the CARES Act, which expanded unemployment benefits to cover those who were previously ineligible, including business owners, self-employed workers, and independent contractors, who were put out of business or significantly reduced their services because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the affidavit, Mateer admitted to obtaining the unemployment benefits debit cards by using "thousands" of identity profiles in his possession, that each debit card was loaded with approximately \$14,500, and that he used the fraudulently obtained unemployment benefits to purchase the Maserati automobile.

Mateer also admitted that he withdrew the approximately \$197,711 in cash found in his Maserati from ATMs across the Los Angeles area, the affidavit states. Mateer also allegedly withdrew approximately \$13,840 from the EDD debit cards in his possession from September 19

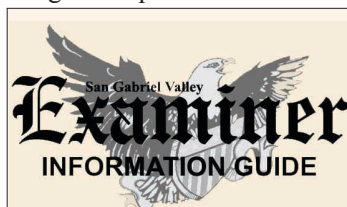
to September 25.

Mateer was taken into federal custody on October 21 and was ordered detained pending trial.

An indictment contains allegations that a defendant has committed a crime. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

If convicted of all charges, Mateer would face a statutory mandatory minimum sentence of 17 years and a statutory maximum sentence of life in prison.

This matter was investigated by United States Postal Inspection Service. Assistant United States Attorney Jason C. Pang of the International Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Racketeering Section and Anna P. Farias-Eisner of the General Crimes Section are prosecuting this case. Assistant United States Attorney Jonathan S. Galatzan of the Asset Forfeiture Section provided substantial assistance in this matter.



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- We believe in growth. Therefore, complaints or mistakes erroneously committed will be entertained and investigated diligently and corrected accordingly.
- We believe in performing our journalistic work to the best of our ability and will continue to present the facts clearly and fairly.

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



### Time for AMERICANS to Wake Up

It is time for AMERICANS to wake up as they did in 1776!!

Our ELECTED Leaders are corrupt and it is time they get put out of office.

All government employees should not receive any salaries as long as they want to deprive businesses of earning a living and their employees not to earn. Why should government employees receive their fat checks, with the exception of police officers and firefighters.

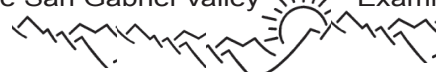
America is going to cease to

exist and no longer be the "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave" unless we stand up for our Country.

As for the "Cowards of the County" (Board of Supervisors) vacate your office. You are not honoring your Oath! Go hide in your basements and let the good hard-working citizens live their lives!

WE DO NOT NEED YOU TO DO OUR THINKING!!

Ed Tracy  
Glendora



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## Recall: And Then There Were Two

And, then there were two. Two recalls symbolizing citizens in California and L.A. County from of all walks of life and political party preferences have finally just had enough. The recall of Gov. Newsom moves forward with over half the signatures needed already collected and people are ready now to finish off Newsom's recall and to start in on newly elected L.A. County District Attorney, George Gascon.

Gascon has Gov. Newsom to thank:

- 2009, San Francisco Mayor, Gavin Newsom, appointed him as San Francisco Chief of Police.

- 2011, Newsom appointed him San Francisco District Attorney to replace Kamala Harris who became attorney general.

Gascon, author of Prop 47, after being sworn into office as L.A. County District Attorney jumped right in and declared on his watch there would be no enhancements on crimes committed in L.A. County and cash bail was gone despite 55% of voters approving Prop 25 initiative on the Nov. 3rd ballot demanding cash bail be retained. Enhancements are additional charges that lead to more incarceration time. For instance, use of a gun, hate crimes, gang crimes and a few other serious acts.

When George Gascon ran against Jackie Lacey, circumstances for his candidacy had become very obvious. George Soros has made it his mission, through his Open Society Foundation, to contribute whatever sums of money it takes to elect district attorneys throughout this country who will support his Open Society Foundation platform.

- National police and criminal justice system so everyone is treated equally (eliminate discrimination).

- End incarceration before and after trial. (no cash bail)

- Reform of mandatory sentencing for drug crimes, and focus on safety and the health of users, rather than suppression. Fight for the Soul of Seattle, a YouTube video, will show you exactly what your city gets when it allows this policy to be activated.



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

Tony Montoya, President, San Francisco Police Officers Association, said, "We are praying for the residents of Los Angeles, hoping that George Gascon does not do to their city what he did to San Francisco during his tenure: double-digit increases in crime, author of Proposition 47 that created our criminal justice revolving door, cars broken into by the thousands and neighborhoods ravaged by open air drug markets and crime." Sadly, it looks like Gascon is on his way turning Los Angeles into another San Francisco.

When Gascon created Prop 47 and approved by the voters, drug possession was reduced to a misdemeanor and any theft under \$950, no matter how many times that theft occurred, was a misdemeanor also. With AB 109 already approved shifting non-violent felons to county jails already full, booking offenders was a simple revolving door task. In the front door, booked, and released just as quickly out the back door with no intervention or treatment of those who needed that support.

Burton Brink, retired law enforcement officer wrote, "I've warned people for many years against the progressive crime reform measures AB 109, Proposition 47 and Proposition 57, warning they will cause crime to increase dramatically. Now crime is up 22% in LA County over the last eight years! Under Gascon's ridiculous policy, a career criminal gets the same sentence as a first-timer. Not even murdering a police officer would warrant the death penalty or life without parole. It is time to stop this crime-loving prosecutor and

go back to protecting the victims of violent crimes!"

Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CD 4) who serves on the House Judiciary Committee, told Fox News when discussing L.A. D.A. Gascon, "I don't want to jump to conclusions, but it appears that if you stop prosecuting criminals you get more crime." He was referring to Gascon's implementation of no cash bail and drug policies Gascon implemented in San Francisco.

McClintock cited crime numbers: "When Gascon came to town [in San Francisco in 2009] the violent crime rate in San Francisco was 63% above the national average and, when he left it was 79% above the national average." Property crimes in San Francisco when Gascon began his career there were 30% above the national average and when he left, property crimes were 118% above the national average, McClintock said.

Gascon has issued a directive to his deputy district attorneys forbidding enhancements be filed with any cases. Reported by Fox News: A 20-year-old was beaten horrifically and thrown off a cliff in Azusa by four, all charged with special circumstances of kidnapping, robbery and murder, one of whom identified himself as a member of the Crips Gang. This would have put them away for life without parole.

Under Gascon's directive, these special circumstances were dropped and all four will be eligible for parole. Just as horrific as the crime were reports from the victim's mother who said, "[They were] smirking from ear to ear [in court]. One of the lawyers giving one of them a fist bump on his shoulder like 'Good job, way to go.' They thought my son was dead three different times, and yet, they continued to beat my son to death. You're going to tell me those aren't murderers?"

I worked with this victim's aunt and I hear her pain. Gascon's Prop 47 allowed a meth addict's early release, and after finding his fix, tried to kill another friend. Recalling Gascon, and his enabler, Gavin Newsom, has become personal to me.

## MY TURN: The Twelve Songs Of Christmas And A Few More

Christmas carols result in some varied discussions and arguments. When should you start playing them? How long do people hear them until they reach the threshold of patience? I happen to like Christmas carols. I think the one reason that people get tired of them is due to the choice that is made on radios and sound systems to only play the same few over and over again. If you looked at how many Christmas albums have been recorded and how many artists have recorded so many different songs, you would realize that very few carols are actually played. "White Christmas" for example is one of a great number of carols that the late and great Bing Crosby recorded. And numerous other artists as well. It is also significant that many old time and wonderfully talented artists are these days only heard on radio and sound systems during Christmas. Unless you specifically search out golden oldie channels or websites, the non-seasonal works of Bing and Perry Como and Burl Ives are not heard anymore. Young kids don't even know them even if they hear their Christmas recordings a hundred times.

My favorite Christmas songs as it pertains to specific recordings (as the best ones) is mentioned below, in no particular



**Charles Lopresto**  
order. I call it the "12 Songs of Christmas."

"Sleigh Ride"... Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops. Other honorable mentions have been versions done by Leroy Anderson and Andre Kostelanetz.

"White Christmas"... Bing Crosby. The best of so many versions.

"I'll Be Home For Christmas"... Frank Sinatra. Again, the best of so many versions.

"The Christmas Song (Chestnuts roasting...)"... Nat King Cole. Written by Mel Torme' who had a good version for honorable mention.

"Feliz Navidad"... Jose Feliciano. The one and only.

"Do You Hear What I Hear?"... Bing Crosby. Still the best of so many versions.

"Mistletoe and Holly"... Frank Sinatra. Oh by gosh by golly!

"Mary's Boy Child"... Boney M. A very unusual song.

"Christmas in

Killarney"... Bing Crosby. A bit of old Ireland.

"Mele Kalikimaka"... Jimmy Buffett. Bing Crosby's is excellent but I like the nostalgic arrangement of Jimmy's.

"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"... Judy Garland. Many excellent versions including Frank and Bing, but nothing is better than the scene in "Meet Me in St. Louis," with Garland and Margaret O'Brien.

"Mary, Did You Know?"... Kenny Rodgers. A new favorite among country singers, but Rodgers' is the best.

I have in the last several years found some other worthy mentions including "The Little Drummer Boy," with Bing Crosby and David Bowie, "It's a Marshmallow World" with Dean Martin, "Some Children See Him," with James Taylor and of all the great versions of "Baby, It's Cold Outside," I still like the late forties original with Johnny Mercer and Margaret Whiting. I also think that just about any Christmas song from Burl Ives, Gene Autry, Elvis, Herb Alpert, Harry Connick, Jr. and The Beach Boys can't be ignored. And they are far from being the only ones. We all have our favorite artists and many have done at least one Christmas song.

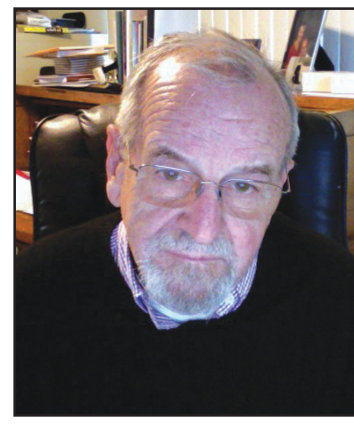
Merry Christmas, Everyone!

## Christmas Memories

It will be very quiet in apartment 204, unlike any we have ever experienced. This column is being drafted several days prior to Christmas day. COVID-19 is just one contact away, and the isolation is profound. Wendy and I will phone the children, hold each other and be thankful for another year. We will see few neighbors but will call to any we might see, "Merry Christmas." But there will be no children, few gifts to unwrap, no family deaths to mourn. Again this year the gifts I give in honor of the family will be a \$10,000 contribution to my favorite—I cannot call it a charity—life-giving organization.

But despite the limitations, the day will be filled with memories and visions. Among Christmases still permeating my consciousness will be those in the late 1930s when I was a grade school child. I can still see my father descending the stairs Christmas morning before dawn to turn on the Christmas tree lights, not knowing (or did he?) that my little brother Peter and I had crept down those stairs an hour earlier to observe the pile of gifts under the tree. That tree was always richly decorated with traditional-mostly homemade -ornaments. The actual decorating did not take place until Peter and I were safely in bed. We were not to see the finished product until we were roused from a deep sleep—as if we really were still sound asleep.

My father and I had bought the tree from the neighborhood tree lot, but not until late Christmas Eve when the leftover trees were much cheaper even if almost



**Charles H. Bayer**

bare on one side (the side we would turn to the wall). We never paid more than a dollar, and if we waited for the tree lot to close, they were even cheaper than that. We may have been poor, but didn't know it, and we never never complained about it or even discussed it. We were warm, well fed and surrounded with a love no money could buy. What more could a child want? There was no tv to show us what we didn't have.

That tree would remain in place for weeks, until at night we could hear the needles falling on the newspaper used as a decorative base. When the tree had finished its assignment, it was carried to a nearby field and, with a couple of hundred others, ignited in a great community bonfire.

Later on Christmas Day Nana and PopPop would arrive with wooden wonders PopPop had made—a three inch race car, a tiny chair, a toy kitchen. Christmas dinner would be turkey. Easter would arrive in a few months and the dinner would be ham. (Don't ask me why. Tradition doesn't need a reason.)

The gifts under the tree, or

hanging from the fireplace mantel in mother's old stockings, tended to be apples and oranges. There were also warm clothes and at least one game, or a little device for stringing beads to make Indian bracelets, or maybe even a child's chemistry set.

I remember the years when there was a serious snowfall, and after the gifts had been opened, hours would be spent building a snowman, complete with a carrot for a nose and lumps of coal for eyes. When we had finished that creation, we would lie on our backs waving our arms resulting in the creation of angels. Then there would be hot chocolate.

During the war (WWII), we would sit quietly in a much subdued darkened house and remember cousin Fred, who was a prisoner of the Germans somewhere in France. Mother would be hard at work creating braille books for blind veterans, and Dad, as the area's air raid warden, would have checked neighbor houses to be certain no light was escaping the curtained or boarded windows.

As deeply religious as was my family, we never went to church Christmas Day or Christmas Eve. In fact, there were no services at our church. I was told only Catholics did that.

Each of us will have our own stories. Some will be fountains of joy and others will be wet with tears. What are yours? Why not tell them to each other? But for now this Christmas will embody its own quiet dignity

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

## Is Our Republic In The Final Stages Of Collapse?

**My Opinion: By D. B. Shimel**

To say that 2020 has been a traumatic year for the planet would be an understatement! We are all living in a world where government mandates against personal freedoms have become the norm. Where elections can, and are controlled by machines and software that is made in foreign nations. Where the daily news is writhe with government officials, at all levels, whose allegiances to this nation are questionable. Where the 'mainstream media is part of the political elite. I cannot overstate the concerns I feel about the future of our Republic.

If patriots do not alter the course of this nation it is in the final stages of destruction. Let me elaborate by citing a noted source:

John T. Wenders, a professor of Economics at the University of Idaho, wrote the following article: "Freedom and Democracy are different. In words attributed to Scottish historian Alexander Tytler: 'A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until a majority of voters discover that they can vote themselves largess out of the public treasury.' Democracy evolves into kleptocracy. A majority bullying a minority is just as bad as a dictator, communist or otherwise, doing so. Democracy is two coyotes and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch.

Also attributed to Tytler is the following. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence: From bondage to spiritual faith; From spiritual faith to great courage; From courage to liberty; From liberty to abundance; From abundance to selfishness; From selfishness to complacency; From complacency to apathy; From apathy to dependence; From dependence back into bondage. These two paragraphs provide a summary of why Democracies are, by their

very nature, self-destroying."

Of note; in 2021 our Constitution will be 235 years old. One need not look to hard to see that, according to Tytler, this nation is in the terminal phases of his cycle. The only thing that is keeping Socialist politions from totally destroying this once great nation is the Constitution. Progressive/Radical Left politions have openly stated that the Constitution is out of date and needs to be eliminated and replaced with a pure Democracy. A single ruling party will finalize the destruction of this country. It happened in Venezuela and is happening here in California.

If Joseph Biden is inaugurated as the 46th President and the Senate falls to the Democrat Party, stand by for the chaos and destruction that will ensue. As I have written before; the Democrat Party Sycophants will destroy any resemblance of Separation of Powers. Firstly; they will repeal the "Filibustering" rule; then pack the Supreme Court with Left Wing Judges and make the Supreme Court the puppet of the Democrats. Then they plan on adding two more Democrat controlled states. If this happens, expect more job killing higher taxes and regulations that send American jobs to foreign countries. Once the Democrats have total power they will begin the final phases of converting this Nation to Socialism. Be not deluded - Socialism is a form of Totalitarianism.

We the Deplorables - as Hillary Clinton called those who did not support her - those of us who do not want to see our Country

fall to socialism - must unite. We are not alone. At least seventy four million American Patriots voted for Donald Trump. We are the genesis of this movement. To re-establish the beliefs of our founders, that liberty lies in the Separation of Powers, we must have a united plan.

Firstly, we must demand fair and trustworthy elections. Then we must identify all Republicans who are actually Democrats and vote them out of office and replace them with real patriotic Americans. We must take back our schools that have become Socialist indoctrination centers. Finally, all officials of government must come under 'term limits'. Term limits for the Supreme Court Judges also. The concepts of the 'Society of Cincinnatus' must be reestablished. For those of you who are not familiar with this organization of long ago let me quickly explain who and what they were. Cincinnatus was a Roman who went from a farmer to a General in the Roman Legions and after a successful career went back to farming. President George Washington and many of the founders belonged to this group and practiced this concept.

Career Politicians have become our aristocracy. They firmly believe that they own and rule this country. Forget the opening words of the Preamble to the Constitution of "We the People" it has become 'We your rulers'. If we the people do not reverse this freedom killing concept the Constitution and our freedom will be forever lost.



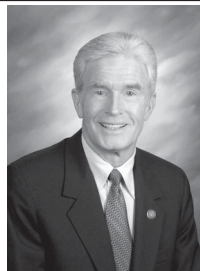
# Just Who Is Janet Yellen?

Joe Biden nominated former Fed Chairperson Janet Yellen as his potential Treasury Secretary. She could become the first person in American history to hold both of those two offices. As Secretary of the Treasury Yellen could be working with the Fed to make sure that robust quantitative easing continues, while multi-trillion-dollar-per-year budget deficits likely become the norm.

Yellen is a well-known labor economist who previously set monetary policy based on the "Phillips Curve" which did not work well under her Fed tenure. The Phillips Curve implies that inflation surges as labor becomes scarce. However, the Goldilocks economy during Trump's first term showed we can have low inflation and low unemployment at the same time. U.S. productivity soared in recent years, which allowed robust wage growth without corresponding inflation. The work-at-home trend under Covid-19 also improved labor productivity by reducing labor costs. It would be interesting to hear Yellen's comments regarding U.S. labor productivity if she becomes the next Treasury Secretary.

Wall Street has universal love for Yellen. Part of this is relief she might be running Treasury (and Elizabeth Warren will not). Yellen would likely be more pragmatic than Warren. There's also optimism Yellen could work across party lines and become an effective consensus builder. Yellen's biggest challenge could be living up to the optimism. There is an underlying assumption that she comes from the appropriate political party and is a proven leader, a combination which may lead to success in the eyes of like-minded reporters.

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



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

A Biden Presidency may reverse an economy that has already made a positive turn. GDP grew at a 32% rate in the third quarter, Black Friday sales broke records, and Moderna is expected to join Pfizer in receiving vaccine approval. Confidence is rising, as is economic activity (as long as mandated shut downs don't change that). Wall Street also still believes some pandemic aid would be better than none, so hopefully the House will finally be willing to support a reasonable bill.

More problematic is the idea that Yellen's experience at the Fed will make her adept in the kind of politics that will help steer legislation through Congress. Yes, the Fed is a political place, where people with firmly held ideas about the causes of inflation, for example, square off in policy battles every time the FOMC meets. But it is not the US Congress, where people believe their political opponents are actually Nazis or Communists and policy disagreements fester for decades.

There is a widely held belief Yellen is not partisan. Sure, she is not Elizabeth Warren, a proud Progressive, nor is she Lael Brainard, who donated thousands to the Hillary Clinton Campaign from her seat on the Fed Board in 2016. But Yellen had her own

political controversy early in her tenure as Fed Chair when she met with and took phone calls from Democrats on the Senate Banking and House Financial Services Committees, while limiting interactions with Republicans. Republican members saw it not only as a sign of bias, but also an indication she believed Democrat ideas were more valid. Republicans won't forget it.

All that said, Wall Street is thrilled with the Yellen choice. Warren would have been a disaster, and Brainard would have been difficult. Janet Yellen is known on Wall Street as being patient, smart, resourceful, and pleasant to work with. Just don't walk into a meeting unprepared. She has steel in her, too. She has no patience for shenanigans and will not be pushed around. Still, her ability to get things done may depend in large part on the outcome of the Senate run-offs in Georgia. If Democrats pick up two seats, she would have a much easier time of it. If not, she would have to find a way to work with Mitch McConnell and the Republicans.

However, we should not yet make assumptions that election fraud challenges are behind us. As explained in his speech on December 2nd, President Trump stated "As president I have no higher duty than to defend the laws and the Constitution of the United States. That is why I am determined to protect our election system, which is now under coordinated assault and siege".

**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

**Plan now for a happier New Year.**

Good news: you can decide and take action to make this a better year than you've had in 2020. Each new year is an opportunity for a new start. Bad news: Covid will not just disappear at midnight on New Year's Eve.

There is almost always a reaction in the economy when there's a new President. There are many factors that affect the stock market, interest rates, and inflation. Hope for the best, and plan for the worst. Diversify where you have your retirement savings invested. Get out of debt. Set aside an emergency savings account. These are basic guidelines, regardless of the economy.

Please be safe! A DUI or accident can really mess up your life and the lives of others! Plan ahead to have a designated driver, or call a Taxi, UBER, or LYFT. Since there might be intoxicated drivers on the road, drive defensively, be aware of your surroundings, give the other driver the right of way, and avoid road-rage.

**The stock market has been doing really good, which scares me that it might be nearing a crash. What can I do now?**

Investment advisors have said for many years, "Buy low. Sell high." If you sell your stocks now, and the market rallies, you could miss out on even higher gains. If you do not sell, and the market crashes, you could suffer terrible losses. Now you have a better understanding why I advise you diversify the types of products you put your investment dollars. Don't have ALL your retire-



**Julia Yoder**

ment savings in the stock market. For example, fixed-indexed annuity policies offer a guarantee\* that you cannot lose your money. They do not offer the very highest gains, and they protect you from losses. (\*Guarantees are based on the strength of the insurance company.) A similar product is a fixed-indexed universal life insurance policy.

**What are the differences between a 401k and a Roth IRA?**

401(k)'s and Roth IRA's each offer something worthwhile, but are different. A 401(k) is funded with money you have not paid taxes on, yet. Roth IRA's are funded with money you've already paid taxes on. 401(k) money is taxed when withdrawn, but Roth IRA money is not. 401(k) money is subject to Required Minimum Distributions, but Roth IRA's are not. Contributions to your 401(k) are tax deductible from your gross income; Roth IRA's are not. A 401(k) has higher contribution limits than Roth IRA's. For tax information specific to your circumstances, check with your CPA.

*I know that I'd save time and*

*money by being more organized, but I cannot seem to get into a routine. Do you have any recommendations?*

"Time is money." Start with a budget. Using your bank and credit card statements, receipts for cash payments, and memory, write down every expense you've had for the last 2 or 3 months. Make special note of semi-annual and annual bills (taxes, car registration, etc.). Take that information and create a monthly budget. Every day make a note of your income (paycheck, pension) and your outgo (bills, and all money spent). It will soon become apparent to you where you could reduce your spending, or what you could do without in order to get something you want. For example, if you really want to save for a vacation, what part of your budget could you trim? Create a specific place to put your receipts, bills, tax returns. Let me know if you'd like some help with setting up your budget. For a free monthly TO DO list, go to [www.GetOrganized.com](http://www.GetOrganized.com). For routines that you could customize and use right away, try [www.flylady.net](http://www.flylady.net).

**Ask Julia by email: julia.yoder@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/ Member of Nat'l. Ethics Assoc. Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans: CalStarBenefits.com/28485

# Which Way Is Up And Finishing Strong?

If anyone could have predicted this last year you would have called them crazy, but here we are. This brings me to the essence of business and being prepared with a strong business plan and 3 to 6 months' worth of cash-flow on hand to be considered a solvent business.

There is no doubt that business has become incredibly more complicated day by day with regulations on top of regulations costing big and small business alike dearly to the point of mass relocation and a second look at their business model. Business by and large try to do the right thing by their employees not only because it's the right thing to do but the labor market is tight for skilled labor or more simply if an employee will even show up for work.

A positive outcome of the current crisis is those businesses that can work remotely do and are changing their business model and shuttering a portion of their office footprint saving a tremendous amount of overhead costs. What business have also found is the personal touch and employee physical interaction is still key to a healthy business.

Manufacturing has been hit hard in some areas including transportation but has increased in other areas such as plastics, molding, and pharmaceuticals to name a few. Transportation and on-line businesses have seen amazing growth and will continue as folks become more accustomed to online purchases and food delivery. Airports and Airlines have balanced passengers with freight and airports are gaining ground.

The hardest of all is how do you plan when the direction continues to change along with the rules? How do I stay positive, focused, and viable when the ones making the rules get a paycheck regardless of the rule they make? Keeping pride and a sense of self-worth while moving through this crazy time? These are all valid questions and concerns.

The two areas to focus on first is your metal attitude and stay-



**Michael Allawos**  
Principal Consultant  
Global Management Consulting Services

ing positive with a clear mind. If you're not positive you can't have a positive outcome. Second, get help and get engaged with your local Chamber of Commerce. Your local Chamber of Commerce normally has a direct line to legislators and/or the local municipalities that make the rules that you have to follow.

Pushing back when appropriate is healthy and it's your right. All too often government wants businesses to provide all to everyone taking away personal responsibility and when businesses get overburdened not only the business fails but the community and the employees fail as well.

Besides your local Chamber of Commerce there are a number of resources available to help either at no cost like the SCORE program that retire professionals coach and give helpful advice and industry connections or low cost or no cost such as some law firms that provide pro-bono services to those in need. Also, in some cases Community Colleges step out of their box and provide resources as well such as asking to work with an instructor that specializes

in an area of need for your business or a student intern that is working towards their marketing degree that can help get your message out and/or come up with new and creative advantages to road blocks.

Reaching out for help and uncovering all opportunities not only gives one hope but also alleviates second guessing and regrets down the line.

The bottom line is to finish strong and pay it forward, stay positive and remember to be kind to others, the whole world is watching.

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*Allawos & Company is a comprehensive global management business-consulting firm, tuned to enable organizations to identify and exploit opportunities through creative engagement built on a foundation of decades of senior management experience.*

*We are a global management consulting firm specializing in business plans, business development, corporate development, contract negotiations, employee surveys, strategic planning, and turnarounds.*

*We service the aerospace industry to healthcare, semiconductor to farming and most industries in between. Our comprehensive consulting services improve the client's condition and leaves behind the tools for growth.*



## THE CAR GURU

**WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW**

**By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists**

## Working In A Car Care Wonderland

*We love cars, are you listening?*  
*To keep them serviced is so thrilling.*  
*A beautiful sight, a car working just right,*  
*Working in a car care wonderland.*

*We raise cars up on lifts,*  
*Keeping them like new is our gift.*  
*We service them well, and enjoy it, you can tell,*  
*We love working in a car care wonderland.*

*In the shop bay we can fix cars' problems,*  
*And you will know that we fixed it right.*

*You'll say can you set an appointment for the next time,*  
*And we'll say yes we will and have a good night.*

*Serving you well is our pleasure,*  
*As each customer we all treasure,*  
*We work very hard to please one and all,*  
*Working in a car care wonderland.*

*We enjoy changing oil and rotating tires,*  
*We can do brakes and mufflers, belts and hoses too!*  
*We exchange fluids, and new filters and batteries,*  
*And yes it's true we like very much what we do.*

*When customers come in, it's so thrilling,*  
*We love cars, so we're willing,*  
*To us it's all in a day, the technician way,*  
*Working in a car care wonderland!*

Happy Holidays From All of Us!

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!**

## LACoFD Christmas Safety Tips

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - During this time of the year, our 9-1-1 dispatchers receive many emergency calls related to Christmas trees and other home decoration fires. We encourage everyone to keep the following information and tips in mind to ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season:

- Have working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in all bedrooms, outside of common sleeping areas, and on every level of the home.
- Place your Christmas tree at least three feet away from any heat sources and water fresh trees daily. Remove dry trees; they become a safety hazard for your family.
- Remember to unplug or turn off all your lights before going to bed or leaving your home.
- Be sure to fully extinguish all candles before leaving a room. Never leave a candle burning unattended. And, do not use candles to decorate a tree.

• Across the country, there are nearly 3,000 deaths and over 11,000 injuries caused by residential fires each year. Make sure your family has a plan in place on how to escape, including knowing how to use a window as an immediate and viable option when the front door is not available. To learn more about how to safely escape during a fire and for valuable tips on how to safeguard your home, download the Family Instructions for Rapid Escape (F.I.R.E.) guide at [lacity.gov/f-i-r-e/](http://lacity.gov/f-i-r-e/).

For additional safety tips and information, please visit our website at [fire.lacounty.gov](http://fire.lacounty.gov).

**buzzed driving is drunk driving**  
designate a sober driver

## Wanted

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# Around the Valley & Senior News

## "TIME JOCKEY" - Fundraiser

By Joe Castillo

**Mission Fire...** Misión del Santo Arcángel San Gabriel de los Temblores was established on September 8, 1771 in the Whittier Narrows area and moved five miles north to a new location in 1776. Founded by Father Junipero Serra, the Mission was the fourth of the twenty-two California Missions and became the most prosperous of the entire collection of Missions. Father Pedro Cambon and Father Angel Somera were the first two Franciscan friars assigned to build a Spanish presence and establish Catholicism as means to Christianize the local indigenous people.

Established near the native village of "shijjat", the Mission was built through the hard physical work of the indigenous tribes of the Gabrielinos, Tongva and Kizh. The Mission took 26 years to build and was completed in 1805. Over the past 249 years, the Mission has survived secularization,

natural elements, government changes, earthquakes and more recently a devastating fire which destroyed the vintage roof, the newly varnished pews and a number of interior items which were in the interior of the Mission. The cause of the fire is still unknown but repairs have already begun and are on pace to be completed before the winter rains come into the area.

During this Christmas season, a fundraiser has been initiated by the Native Sons of the Golden West and the Native Daughter of the Golden West to raise funds for the repair and restoration of the Mission San Gabriel. Both groups have been extensively involved with other California Mission restoration projects including the raising of funds and even performing structural work and repair. In addition, both groups are the leading organizations for preserving the special history of California. If you would like to help the Mission restoration

project, please visit the attached website and make a donation for whatever amount you can afford or even purchase a T-Shirt as part of the Virtual 5K Race. All money raised will be donated to the Mission to help offset costs associated with the restoration project which is expected to be in the millions. In September 2021, the Mission San Gabriel will be celebrating its 250th Anniversary but it needs all the help we can provide in order to meet this significant milestone. Please help to rebuild the Mission San Gabriel so that it can have preserved for future generations of Californians.

The fundraiser site is <https://www.customink.com/fundraising/race-to-rebuild>.

*Joe Castillo is a freelance history 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).*

## This May Be the Last Christmas for Some



**George Ogden**  
*That's just the way it is!*

When you look around and see what is happening, it saddens me. Not sure if you can trust the government and their hired medical authorities. Who knows if what they are saying isn't what they are being told to say by those who hired them. Maybe they say what they are saying because they know that is what those that hire them want them to say so they can keep their high paying jobs. Their idea of closing down everything has certainly backfired according to many people.

They tell you to stay home and don't go anywhere, in other words, quarantine yourself from the outside. So, if you do, you certainly won't be able to come out again until you can figure out how to build up your immune system and antibodies. Once you isolate yourself, you no longer have the elements that would cause your immune system to

react. So, you can figure once you stick your head out the door, you will be a high-risk candidate to catch almost anything that is out there.

What is sad, the government tells everyone to not have any families gathering or get together because it is not safe. In fact, they just about threaten you if you do bring the family together. In my opinion, you should be the ones that make that decisions about where and who you go see.

These people weren't voted into office to order us around, they work for us and we tell them what to do. So how did this get all turned around? If you decide to have a family gathering and you keep it in the family, and everyone is okay with this, then who are they to tell you "no"?

This may be the last time the grandkids will see their grandparents and for others the last time they see their loved ones. If you feel it is not a good idea to do this, then don't do it. However, if something happens and you lose a loved one and you didn't go see them, you have to live with that... Are you okay with that?

For me, I wish I had a family to go and visit. If I did, I would certainly try to be with them. If the government told me I can't, I would simply give them the finger and go.

**"That's Just the Way It Is!"**

## City Facilities Will Temporarily Close To The Public

**GLENDORA** - Due to the current state of new COVID-19 infections and its impact on health services and City resources, City of Glendora facilities will temporarily close to the public through Sunday, January 3, 2021, with the possibility of an extension depending on applicable health orders and current COVID cases.

As the City continues to navigate through the pandemic, we encourage the community to:

- Support our businesses by shopping and eating locally; and
- Practice safety protocols as required by LA County's Department of Public Health and the State of California.

Links to resources for more information on COVID-19 and Public Health guidelines can be found on the City's website at [www.cityofglendora.org/covid19](http://www.cityofglendora.org/covid19).

City services are accessible during this closure via the City's Virtual City Hall, by phone, email or appointment. Visit [cityofglendora.org/eservices](http://cityofglendora.org/eservices) or call (626) 914-8200 for more information.

• **WATER BILLING** services are available via email at [WaterBilling@cityofglendora.org](mailto:WaterBilling@cityofglendora.org) or by calling (626) 914-8239. Water Payments can be paid online at [cityofglendora.org/water](http://cityofglendora.org/water) payments or dropped off in parking lot behind City Hall in Blue Drop-Box.

• **POLICE DEPARTMENT** services remain available. For emergencies, dial 9-1-1. For

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## City Facilities Closed to the General Public

Your health and safety is our top priority. We apologize for any inconvenience, and thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

For More Information Regarding COVID-19 visit [www.CityOfGlendora.org/COVID19](http://www.CityOfGlendora.org/COVID19)  
For Questions Call (626) 914-8200

non-emergencies, call (626) 914-8250. Visit [glendorpd.org](http://glendorpd.org) for more information.

• **CITY CLERK** services (passports, public record requests, claims, subpoena) are by appointment only or can be made via email at [city\\_clerk@cityofglendora.org](mailto:city_clerk@cityofglendora.org) or by calling (626) 914-8210

• **LIBRARY** services available online, phone or email at

[glendoralibrary.org](http://glendoralibrary.org), [library@glendoralibrary.org](mailto:library@glendoralibrary.org) or (626) 852-4891. For Library to Go, "curbside" pickup available M-F, see [glendoralibrary.org](http://glendoralibrary.org) for more information.

For a list of City Department phone numbers and email, visit [www.CityOfGlendora.org/Contact](http://www.CityOfGlendora.org/Contact)

## Christmas Tree Recycling Program for Residents

**DUARTE** - Through Burretec Waste Industries, the City of Duarte will provide a Christmas tree collection service for residential customers.

Christmas trees will be collected on regular trash collection days from December 26, 2020 through January 18, 2021. All decorations, tinsel,

and stands must be removed. Flocked trees will not be accepted.

For information about Christmas tree recycling programs in unincorporated areas, call 1-(888) CLEAN LA between 7 a.m.-5p.m., Monday through Thursday.

For more information about the Christmas tree recycling program in the City of Duarte, contact City Hall at (626) 357-7931 or Burretec Waste Industries at 1-(800) 325-9417.

## County Extends Waiting List Registration Period For Elderly Family Public Housing Sites

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) has extended the deadline to register for its elderly family public housing sites. While initially set to close on December 31, 2020, applicants may now continue to add their name on up to seven site-based waiting lists (waiting lists) through June 30, 2021, 5:00 p.m. by registering at [www.lacda.org](http://www.lacda.org), or calling (626) 586-1845. The County's Section 8 waiting list remains closed.

An elderly family is a household whose head, co-head, spouse, or sole member is a person who is at least 62 years of age. It may include two or more persons who are at least 62 years of age living together, or one or more persons who are at least 62 years of age living with one or more live-in aides. Elderly families may choose, based on eligibility, to register for one, or all seven, waiting lists. Applicants will be selected from each waiting list in order of admission preferences, followed by date and time of registration. The seven site-based waiting lists include the following nine available properties: Carmelitos (Long Beach), Nueva Maravilla and Herbert Avenue (East Los Angeles), Francisquito Villa (La Puente), Whittier Manor (Whittier), West Knoll/Palm (West Hollywood),

Marina Manor (Marina Del Rey), Orchard Arms (Valencia), Foothill Villa (La Crescenta), and South Bay Gardens (Los Angeles).

If an applicant is offered a unit from any of the waiting lists that they have registered for, and the unit is not accepted, the applicant's name will be removed from all selected waiting lists, and they must re-register. Therefore, it is important that applicants only register for locations in which they are willing to reside. Further, please note that the LACDA prohibits smoking on

the grounds, and within housing units, at all public housing developments, except for the South Bay Gardens senior public housing development, which has a designated smoking area within the complex.

The LACDA maintains and manages 3,229 public and affordable units located on 68 sites throughout Los Angeles County. For more information on the LACDA's programs, please call (626) 262-4510. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.

## Creative Support for Kids

**DUARTE** - Naelh Othman continues to have a passion for service to kids. In her role as Director of Student Services, Naelh also has responsibility for homeless and foster youth within the Duarte Unified School District. There are currently 126 homeless youth and 28 foster youth within DUSD. Naelh and her team maintain contact with each of these students to determine their needs and what services can be provided to ensure their educational requirements are met. Naelh has created a unique Memorandum of Understanding with ACTS Thriftstore in Pasadena. Folks can donate to the

ACTS Thrift store ([www.ACTSthrift.org](http://www.ACTSthrift.org)) in DUSD's name. This way, Naelh can provide the kids in need with a certificate to purchase needed items from ACTS. The Duarte Kiwanis continues to support Naelh's CHIK (Community Homeless Initiative for Kids) through donations of money as well and will be presenting a check for \$400.00 for this effort.

If you are interested in joining the Duarte Kiwanis or presenting at a future meeting, please contact Tina Carey at [tinac51@aol.com](mailto:tinac51@aol.com). The club is currently meeting virtually through Zoom.

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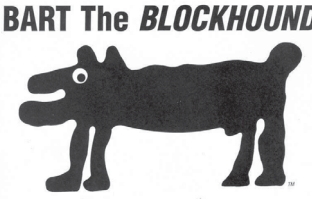
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## Glendora Community Coordinating Council's Humanitarian Award Recipient

GLENDORA - Richard Bridges is the kind of neighbor that every neighborhood wishes they had. His core values of integrity, responsibility and respect for his neighbors exceeds what most neighbors expect from each other. There is no task too great or small that Richard would not say yes to in helping his neighbors. From home repairs, to car maintenance, hanging Christmas lights, mowing their lawn, putting in their trashcans, running to the store or just being someone to talk to, Richard is there. The definition of kindness, "The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate" perfectly describes Richard. The Glendora Community Coordinating Council is very proud to recognize Richard Bridges with December's Humanitarian Award.



Richard Bridges is GCCC's December Humanitarian Awardee.

The GCCC is always looking for volunteers from the city to be recognized each month.

If you have a nominee please visit our website at [www.glendoracoordinating-council.org](http://www.glendoracoordinating-council.org) for a form and contact information.

## Emanate Health FPH Auxiliary Brings Some Holiday Spirit to Local Hospital



FPH Auxiliary delivers a thank you and an ornament to Emanate Health Foothill Presbyterian Hospital workers. From left to right Celina Begon, and Melissa Howard, hospital staff, Pam Byers, Mary Barham, Jana Swete, Delorah Gonzales and Pat Losie, auxiliary members.

GLENDORA - The FPH Auxiliary knew they wanted to show their gratitude to the many hardworking doctors,

nurses and support staff at Emanate Health Foothill Presbyterian Hospital. Thanks to a generous donation made in the

loving memory of Ron Gonzales, late husband of Auxiliary President, Delorah Gonzales, the group was able to do just that. Under the direction of Pat Losie, chairperson, they safely created 375 Christmas ornaments which were delivered to the hospital with the hope that they would bring a smile to these very essential workers.

## Department of Children and Family Services Host MAPfest Event for Transitional Age Youths



Glendora City Councilman Mendell Thompson, Connie Rex, Alisha Von Lewis and Glendora Mayor Michael Allawos at the DCFS MAPfest event.

GLENDORA - "Like a Bridge over Troubled waters" - Not only is this a popular song in the 70's - but this is a perfect depiction of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Glendora Supportive Transition program servicing Foster Youth (TAYs) aging out of foster care, have an extended time and the resourceful support to prepare them for emancipation in the quest for self-sufficiency. By doing so, this unit becomes a "Bridge" to assist TAYs with support during some of their most challenging times in their lives.

These TAYs are in need of housing, education, employment, personal enrichment support, and Health and wellness. In efforts of meeting their needs, a special event entitled "MAPfest," was created to provide a day to celebrate these youth and offer a ONE STOP opportunity for youth to come and obtain resources to assist them on their life's journey. The event invites community agencies from local businesses, housing programs, Community Colleges to Faith Base Ministries- to come and share their information to assist youth in their journey to become established in today's society.

This year, during the challenges of COVID-19, the LA County DCFS - Glendora and Pomona offices had an awesome opportunity to host a Community Collaboration with the Glendora Community Church and provide a "Merry MAPfest", coordinated by Connie Rex, Pomona Office, and Alisha Von Lewis, Glendora

office for the youth in the East San Gabriel Valley - known to DCFS as SPA -3. A drive and Go safe affair.

Throughout the year DCFS-SPA-3 and the MAPfest team (a collaboration of Los Angeles County DCFS/SPA -3, Citrus College, and LACOE/Los Angeles County of Education) reach out to the community, to develop community partnerships that will connect the youth to the necessary resources for establishing themselves. Many will ask: What are their needs? Like many of the needs challenging families in today's society, Housing, Employment and Education are their top 3 needs for the TAY's. However, during this crucial COVID time - the needs of our youth have

been magnified. Through community commerce support, their needs can be met with affordable housing, opportunity to be hired in local businesses, and continued educational support through the community colleges.

This year - The DCFS MAPfest team is so appreciative and thankful for the Community support of the Glendora Community Church, Pastor Michael Anthony, Glendora Mayor Michael Allawos, Glendora City Councilman Mendell Thompson, Mrs. Reanna Thompson, Mrs. Shannon Martin and the City of Glendora, with offering them community support throughout the year and giving them a Merry and Safe Christmas 2020.

**YOUR 'BUBBLE' IS ONLY AS SAFE AS ALL OF THE PEOPLE IN IT.**

For more information, visit: [publichealth.lacounty.gov/coronavirus](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/coronavirus)

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# Leticia "Letty" Lopez-Viado, New Mayor for West Covina



Judge Lucy Armendariz administered the oath of office to Leticia "Letty" Lopez-Viado as Mayor of West Covina. Her husband, Garry Viado and their children Victoria and Garrett Viado are at her side.

By George Ogden

**WEST COVINA** - On Tuesday, Dec. 15th Leticia "Letty" Lopez-Viado was sworn-in as the Mayor of West Covina. Her husband, Garry Viado and their children, Victoria and Garrett Viado were by her side as she took her oath of office administered by the honorable Judge Lucy Armendariz.

The outgoing mayor, Tony Wu, gave accolades to "Letty" and was excited to see the Mayor Pro-Tem move up to mayor during the reorganization of the city council.

Sadly, prior to what was supposed to be a festive event, Armando Herman came before the council's business meeting during oral communication and used racial slurs and using the "F" word repeatedly over and over again in a loud agitated tone only a few feet away from Mrs. Lopez-Viado's young children without any regards to the children hearing this language. It appeared that

the young daughter was visibly shaken by this man and his loud vulgar tone.

After that they went to city business and then that was followed by the change of leadership.

The new mayor was excited with the new role that she will have with the council and the city. She will do whatever she can to get the city into a direction that will be positive all the way around.

Letty is the city's first mayor of Mexican and Filipina descent. She works for city of Los Angeles as a senior recreation director for recreation and parks. She runs an all-around sports program(s). She plans on using this experience to assist the city with youth programs and events.

One thing that she is concerned with is the coronavirus and how it affected the city and the businesses. She is looking to get the city back on track and getting businesses back open as soon

as they are allowed to. They have already met with a number of businesses to keep them informed as well as to get their input.

Brian Tabatabai and Rosario Diaz were sworn in as new members of the West Covina City Council.

Brian Tebatabai who is a teacher will represent the 1st District.

Rosario Diaz retired criminal investigator with the FBI will represent the 3rd District.

It appears that there are a lot of challenges for this very young council none of which has any more than two years on the council. Tony Wu, Letty Lopez-Viado and Dario Castellanos were all elected in November of 2018 giving them only two years' experience. Total number of years for all five councilmembers is only 6 years. This will be very challenging for the entire council and staff; however, they are ready to take it on.

# Collegewood Staff Performs 'Peace On Earth' Using Sign Language



Collegewood Elementary teachers and staff perform a sign language rendition of "Let There Be Peace On Earth" on Dec. 16.

**WALNUT** - Collegewood Elementary has a decades-long tradition of hosting a Sing-A-Round with holiday songs performed by every grade level.

The event always concludes with hundreds of students and staff joining hands to sing "Let There Be Peace On Earth."

This year, to continue the beloved ritual during Distance

Learning and to reach a hearing-impaired parent, 25 teachers and staff members learned the song in sign language.

The online students will be watching the special performance before Winter Break dismissal on December 16.

The Collegewood students also regularly demonstrate compassion and love for each other

by saying "Peace on Earth" after the daily flag salute, shared Principal Dr. Mary Wendland.

"This beautiful tradition captures the heart of our community!"

View the "Peace on Earth" sign language performance at: [https://youtu.be/RNAPZPqM\\_Lk](https://youtu.be/RNAPZPqM_Lk).

# Citrus College Governing Board Installs Two New Trustees, One Returning Trustee

**GLENDORA** - Two newly elected trustees and one re-elected trustee were recently sworn in during the annual organizational meeting of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees.

On Dec. 15, Laura Bollinger and Mary Ann Lutz took their oaths of office, filling the seats of longtime trustees Susan M. Keith and the late Joanne Montgomery, respectively, who both retired in November 2020 after more than 20 years of service each. Patricia A. Rasmussen, Ed.D., who was first elected in 2007, retained her seat after being reelected to another term.

"The Citrus College community is excited to welcome Trustee Bollinger and Trustee Lutz to the board, and to congratulate Trustee Rasmussen on her reelection," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "Each individual has demonstrated a keen awareness of the value of collaboration and understands the need to form meaningful relationships within our communities. They bring impressive experience, which will be valuable in the months and years ahead."

Citrus College alumna Laura Bollinger was elected to serve as the representative for trustee area 2, which encompasses Claremont and portions of La Verne and Pomona. She assumes the position previously held by Susan M. Keith.

A Claremont resident for 25 years, Ms. Bollinger has participated in numerous community organizations, holding leadership roles on several occasions. Her community involvement includes time spent with the Claremont Community Foundation; Friends of the Claremont Library; and two organizations that serve the Claremont Colleges. She has also continued to be involved with Citrus College and has been very active with the Citrus College Foundation.

"Citrus College is one of our communities' greatest assets because it provides learning equity to all who want to pursue higher education," Ms. Bollinger said. "As a trustee, I will help ensure that Citrus College continues to lead the way among community colleges as a provider of educational opportunity for all."

Mary Ann Lutz, a long-time public servant, ran unopposed in this year's election and assumes the position previously held by Joanne Montgomery. As the representative for trustee area 5, she will serve the communities of Monrovia, Bradbury and portions



Two newly elected trustees and one reelected trustee took their oaths of office on Dec. 15, 2020, during a virtual meeting of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. Pictured (L-R): Patricia A. Rasmussen, Ed.D., board president; Mary Ann Lutz, board vice president; and Laura Bollinger, board clerk/secretary. Photo courtesy Citrus College.

of Duarte.

Ms. Lutz brings extensive knowledge and expertise to her new role, having previously served in a variety of government positions. Most recently, she was the government liaison/policy advisor to U.S. Rep. Grace F. Napolitano. She also spent six years as the mayor of Monrovia, after being elected in 2009 and reelected in 2011 and 2013; and six years as a member of the Monrovia City Council.

"I am so grateful for this opportunity to serve on Citrus College's board of trustees," Ms. Lutz said. "This board has always worked together to achieve the common goal of increasing student success, and I am looking forward to contributing to this effort. I hope to build upon Mrs. Montgomery's legacy and will ensure that the district thrives despite the challenging times in which we now live."

In addition to the election of the two new board members, Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen ran unopposed and was reelected to serve as the representative for trustee area 4. As such, she will continue representing Glendora and portions of San Dimas on the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees.

A career educator, Trustee Rasmussen taught English and journalism at the high school and college levels. In 1983, she joined the Citrus College staff and went on to hold several ad-

ministrative positions, including dean of planning and economic development and director of public affairs, before accepting a position at Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC). Trustee Rasmussen retired as vice president of institutional advancement at Mt. SAC in 2007. She has served nearly 13 years on Citrus College's board of trustees, serving multiple terms as board president and as the trustee representative on the Citrus College Foundation Board of Directors.

"This has been a season of significant change for Citrus College," Trustee Rasmussen said. "While the current global pandemic has created unprecedented challenges and the board's composition has changed, there are many opportunities for growth and progress ahead. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my service and I am happy to welcome Trustee Lutz and Trustee Bollinger to the board. Together, with Trustee Ortell and Trustee Contreras, we will shape the Citrus College of the future."

Additionally, at the organizational meeting, trustees were elected to the following positions for the period from Dec. 15, 2020, through Dec. 14, 2021: Trustee Rasmussen will continue to serve as board president; Trustee Lutz is the new board vice president; and Trustee Bollinger is the new board clerk/secretary.

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