



# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

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# The 2020 Rose Parade -a Beautiful Way To Start The New Year

by Howard Palmer

PASADENA - When it comes to January 1 in Pasadena, CA, there is a very high probability the sun will break through and provide weather the entire country wishes it could experience to start the new year. The forecast of a cool yet sunny day this year increased the size of the crowd of thousands lining Colorado Boulevard. Everyone was excited awaiting the start of the 131st Rose Parade.

The Rose Parade with its theme "The Power Of Hope" started as the opening spectacular presented by Honda commenced on Orange Grove Blvd. in front of the television networks broadcasting around the world. The opening theme "Reach For The Stars" featured one of the biggest and most popular Latin Reggaeton artists in the world - Farruko and the sultry voiced singer Ally Brooke, the break-out star of all girl group Fifth Harmony.

Everyone knew what was coming next! Now a tradition, out of the western sky appeared the U.S. Air Force B-2 Spirit stealth bomber and all cameras pointed skyward. The crowd let out a big "wow!" For the first time a fe-



The Sweepstakes Trophy went to The UPS Store, Inc. for the second straight year. (Photo by Jean Palmer)

male pilot, Lt. Col. Nicola "Rogue" Polidor, was behind the controls executing the Tournament of Roses flyover. Silently the B-2 swept low over the parade route and on over the San Gabriel Valley. The crowd now could focus on the floats, bands and equestrians.

The first unit to turn the corner at Colorado Boulevard was the American Honda Motor Co. float, "Our Hope for the Future" celebrating the optimism created by the spirit and vitality of children. The young people depicted symbolized the limitless potential of each child and the possibilities their dreams bring to the world to make it a better place for all.

The floats are evaluated by a panel of judges and awards are presented in the areas of floral presentation, float design, and entertainment value. The award most sought is the Sweepstakes for the most beautiful entry encompassing all areas of evaluation.

The Sweepstakes winner for the second year in a row was The UPS Store, Inc, with the title

"Stories Change Our World". Since 2008, The UPS Store has been the exclusive sponsor of the Toys for Tots Literacy Program and has provided millions of stories and books for children across the country. The float showed a family of endangered golden lion tamarins living in harmony with their community. The story was showcased on a platform 55 feet long and 35 feet high.

The tamarins moved their heads from side to side and butterflies fluttered their wings as three waterfalls cascaded. The golden color of the tamarins was attained with the use of bronze and golden strawflower petals highlighted in bands of gold and orange marigold petals. The float had the largest exotic tropical floral presentation in the 2020

Rose Parade with more than 25 varieties from Costa Rica and Hawaii. Over 7,000 stems of tropical materials were used. In addition, 25,000 roses filled the garden.

The float was built by the highest award win rate builder of Rose Parade floats - Fiesta Parade Floats in Irwindale. Some will recall the reign of the Rain Bird Corporation, headquartered in Glendora, winning the Sweepstakes nine times between 1997 and 2010. All their floats were built by Fiesta.

As the parade drew to a close the consensus of the crowd was one of satisfaction. They had been fully entertained and many first-timers were heard to say "I'm coming back next year". This was a beautiful way to start the new year!

## Dr. Walter Jayasinghe Honored By Los Angeles City Council

Sri Lanka's Flag To Be Flown At City Hall



Dr. Walter Jayasinghe, President of the Los Angeles Council Herb Wesson Jr., Dishan Jayasinghe, Mohan Chandramohan, Nandasiri Jasentulyana, Namal Tantula and Adrian Jayasinghe.

By Natasha Kotalawela

LOS ANGELES - History was created within the walls of the magnificent Los Angeles City Council chambers on a rainy morning amidst a gathering of distinguished leaders, where a community came together to celebrate Dr. Walter Jayasinghe and his invaluable philanthropic services rendered to this beautiful city of Los Angeles and the Sri Lankan community.

Herb Wesson The President of the City of Los Angeles City Council celebrating diversity declared the official celebration of Sri Lanka Day in Los Angeles amidst a very hearty welcome to the lion nation, Sri Lankans gathered to witness this auspicious moment. His very patriotic words recognizing the lion in the flag which he stated symbolizes courage and represents pride, was definitely what every Sri Lankan present there felt in their hearts watching him speak.

The distinguished, Herb Wesson President of the LA City Council in recognition of Dr. Walter Jayasinghe's extraordinary achievements and outstanding support to the community recognized the fact he was one of the first doctors to start a practice of a 24 hour clinic where

everyone was welcomed to walk in and get diagnosed at any time, day or night. Apart from that Dr. Walter Jayasinghe is a visionary, entrepreneur, creator and also the founder of the Sri Lankan Foundation in Los Angeles, California which was founded in 2003.

The president went on to say how excited he was when the first official meeting was scheduled to meet Dr. Jay thinking it was the ever famous basketball player who was renowned for his basketball dunks in the court, nevertheless he was not disappointed to meet with Dr. Jay and 20 years of friendship later, he presented the plaque which stated the official celebration of the Sri Lanka Day in Los Angeles on the 17th of August every year which also happens to be Dr. Jay's birthday, in front of the City Council and other distinguished members of the community and Dr. Jay's family and friends amidst a roaring applause from everyone present. He concluded his speech by acknowledging this great man standing beside him by expressing this about Dr. Jay, Success is a debt, and Dr. Jay has spent his life attempting to give back to others for his success. He firmly believes that as he Dr. Jay

climbs up the ladder of success he turns around and pulls somebody else with him and that is what makes him so special.

The man himself Dr. Walter Jayasinghe humbly saluted the president and the members of the City Council for bestowing him this great honor and thanking President Herb Wesson for their friendship of 30 years and for the hard work he has done for the city himself. Even though it was pouring outside the walls of the City Council Chambers, it was only smiles, laughter and gratitude that filled every heart present. It was a memorable moment for the next generation, a start of a new tradition and a legacy was created that forever changed the path for our future generations. Thank you Dr. Jay and the Sri Lanka Foundation.

Following the presentation, the audience was ushered to a reception where the traditional oil lamp was lit by Dr Jay, his family members staff and other distinguished guests, and right after people were treated with delicious Sri Lankan traditional food. This culminated the presentation of the Proclamation declaring 'Sri Lanka Day' on August 17th of every year.

## MAD Town Council's Special Recognition to Capt. Flores, Sheriff Temple Station and Linda Sells



Town Council. Deputy April Nelson (LEFT) Captain Dave Flores, In Business Suit behind Council. LASD COMMANDER Coronne Jacob. (Blue turquoise jacket) on right side of photo.

By Joan Schmidt

The Monrovia Arcadia Duarte (MAD) Town Council held a special meeting on December 18 to recognize Captain Dave Flores, Commander of Temple Station and its staff for their outstanding hard work and commitment to reduce crime. Of all the LA County Sheriff's stations, Temple Station was at the TOP-it had a whopping 21.1% drop in crime from September 2018-October 2019!

There also was a Certificate of Recognition for Town Council Member Linda Sells, who was one of Senator Anthony Portantino's Small Business Women of the Year.

Prior to the meeting, Hector

Elizalde from Congresswoman Napolitano's office came and gave us a Certificate to present to Linda. The Congresswoman had prior commitments, but wanted us to congratulate Linda on her behalf! Thank you Congresswoman Napolitano and Hector!

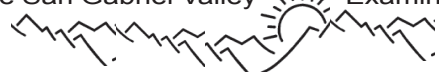
Attending were Carla Boggs, who presented Certificates of behalf of Senator Susan Rubio. Carla spoke so well, and the Town council is so grateful to Senator Rubio.

LASD Commander Coronne Jacob came and spoke of Captain Flores... a long struggle of hard work and leadership to achieve this reduction in crime. From the City of Duarte Council Members

were John Fasana and Toney Lewis. John's an old friend to the Town Council since we first began in 1993. Duarte Library's Joanna Gee and Live Oak Library's Denise Dilley always attend.

After the Recognitions, Deputy April Nelsen, who's been our Deputy for TWELVE YEARS was called up and given a Certificate of Appreciation. She not only attends EVERY meeting with crime stats and suggestions on crime prevention, but looks into other issues and contacts other departments. April was give a standing ovation.

The evening ended with refreshments and a social.



# Home Fire Risks Increase As Weather Cools

The fall and winter seasons bring cooler temperatures, holidays, and images of cozy nights by the fireplace. Yet the change in seasons also comes with the chance of severe weather and an increase in fire risks. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, more home fires occur in winter than in any other season.

“Space heaters, generators, and fireplaces all present fire hazards if not properly used and maintained,” said Steve Hirsch, chair of the National Volunteer Fire Council. “Residents should be aware of the dangers and take the steps to make sure their families and homes are protected.”

Follow these tips to minimize home fire and safety risks:

- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Test monthly to ensure they work.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms and test them at least once a month.
- Know where the gas, electric, and water main shut-off controls are and how to use them.
- Place fire extinguishers in the kitchen, garage, and living room, and make sure all household members know how to use them.
- Develop a home fire escape plan and practice it with the entire family.
- Keep portable generators outside and away from the home.
- Install a screen in front of each fireplace or wood stove. Store cooled ashes in a metal container outside the home.
- Have chimneys professionally inspected and cleaned every



year.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, or other heat source.
  - Never leave lit candles unattended, and keep them out of the reach of children and pets.
- Residents can also take an active role in protecting their communities from hazards such as fires, medical emergencies, and much more. Fire departments across the country are looking for volunteers to serve as firefighters, EMS providers, and auxiliary members.

“The majority of firefighters

in the U.S. are volunteers—neighbors helping neighbors in an incredible and rewarding way,” said Hirsch. “We need more people to answer the call to serve.”

Training is provided by the department, and volunteers can serve in a variety of roles, from providing life-saving emergency response services to conducting fire prevention programs and disaster preparedness planning.

Learn more and find a volunteer fire service opportunity by going to [www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org](http://www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org). (NAPSI)

# Are Your Kids Using Mobile Devices Safely and Responsibly?



PHOTO SOURCE: (c) monkeybusinessimages / iStock via Getty Images Plus

Does your child have a digital device? They are in good company. Fifty-three percent of children own a smartphone by age 11, and 84 percent of teenagers have their own phones, according to Common Sense Media.

While there are many great benefits to being digitally connected at a young age, there are certain issues families should address. Consider these suggestions for safer, more responsible mobile device use:

1) Discuss Privilege and Trust. Have a casual, open-ended chat about the privilege and responsibilities of device ownership. Ask questions about whether their friends own devices, and what they’re most excited to use it for.

2) Set Clear Agreements. Setting clear rules about device usage is essential. Depending on your child’s age, you may agree that the device only to be used for certain purposes (for example: contacting you, FaceTiming relatives, doing homework). Even with older kids and teens, it’s important to discuss appropriate online behavior, healthy digital habits and “screen etiquette.” Consider putting together a “contract” to be displayed somewhere visible.

3) Buy a Protective Case and Warranty. Devices are easy to lose or break -- especially by kids. Consider buying a durable case and screen protector as additional presents, and definitely purchase a warranty through your carrier or a third party. Finally, make sure you have a location monitoring app installed on your child’s device, which offers peace of mind, saves headaches coordinating pickups and can help you locate lost devices in a pinch.

4) Download a Parental Guidance App. Download a parental guidance app onto your own device, such as

OurPact, which allows you to install a simple profile on your child’s device. Then, you can remotely set up automated schedules for when internet and apps are unavailable, or block access manually to the device for a specified period of time. With such features as URL whitelisting and blacklisting, daily screen time allowances and iMessage/SMS blocking, you can be engaged with how your child uses their device, letting you enjoy the peace of mind knowing they aren’t playing Angry Birds or Fruit Ninja past bedtime when they should be snoozing. Available at the iOS App Store and Google Play Store, parents can also sign up for an account at [www.ourpact.com](http://www.ourpact.com).

5) Screen Applications for

Quality. Make sure all apps installed on your child’s device pass your approval. It’s good practice to have the App Store blocked using a tool like OurPact. This way, when your child wants to install a new app, you can research it together.

6) Practice What You Preach! Kids are more likely to respond to actions over words, so make sure that you’re setting a good example. Don’t send emails at the dinner table. Never text and drive. Make eye contact when you talk. Last but not least: always put relationships -- especially with your children -- before devices.

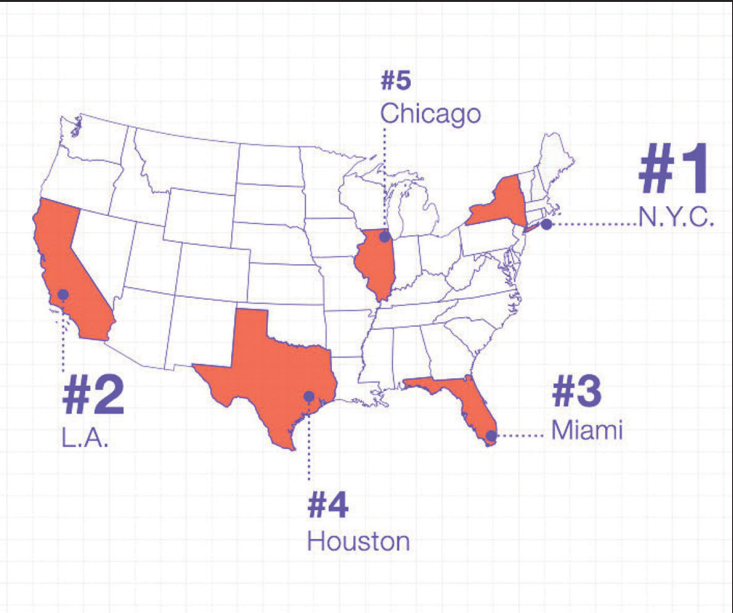
For peace of mind, be sure your child is using their digital device safely and responsibly. (StatePoint)

# Resolving to Start a Business? Website Trends to Consider for 2020

**Wix**

Top 5 U.S. cities overall for site creation:

\* These stats are averages taken from Wix.com, the website builder, for January-September 2019 based on websites built in the U.S.



Is your New Year’s resolution the big step of starting a business? One of the first things you’ll need to do is build a website. Today a website is not only your brand, but it also provides the tools you need to operate your business, and is the central point for you to communicate with your customers.

Web development platform Wix recently took a look at

website creation data for the U.S. in 2019 and found some interesting facts. One significant statistic found is that about 50 percent more websites were built the week after January 1 than the week prior. That means that if you decide to start a business early in 2020, you likely won’t be going it alone.

A key website feature to keep in mind when building

your site is live chat. Almost half of sites implement a live chat feature to communicate with current customers and attract potential new customers. In any business, it’s important from the beginning to be responsive to customers, and doing so can be a key differentiator in growing your business. (StatePoint)

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# Update on Lung Illnesses and Deaths Associated with Vaping in LA County

Residents are warned to STOP VAPING NOW

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) continues to warn residents about the use of vaping and e-cigarette devices as potentially harmful to proper lung function and urges residents to STOP VAPING NOW. Nationally, there continue to be reports of people showing up in emergency departments with similar symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, fever, and may have vomiting and diarrhea. And while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identified Vitamin E acetate as a potential chemical of concern, the cause for this threat remains unknown.

Los Angeles County Cases:  
 • As of January 2, 2020, there is one new reported case, bringing the total to 36 cases of serious vaping-associated pulmonary injury, and one

death associated with e-cigarettes in Los Angeles County.

• Approximately two out of three cases reported are in individuals age 25 and younger. Both male and female cases have been reported.

• All but one case reported using both e-cigarette and cannabis-type products, not necessarily at the same time. One reported using flavored liquids only (no nicotine, THC, or CBD). Various devices and products were reported and remain under investigation. No specific vendor, product or substance has been identified as the

cause.

Public Health continues to urge healthcare providers to be on the alert for signs of severe respiratory illness among patients who recently used vaping products including e-cigarettes and report cases by phone to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health at 626-299-3504.

For more information about the dangers of vaping and for weekly case updates, visit: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/public/vaping-faq.htm>

## Volunteer for the 2020 Homeless Count!

**ARCADIA** - Interested in volunteering during the annual City of Arcadia's Homeless Count on January 21, 2020? The City of Arcadia in partnership with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, will conduct its annual Homeless Count starting at 8:00pm in the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia. Arcadia participates annually as one way to comprehensively identify and address homelessness in their communities. Volunteers will receive training on site the day of the count and all materials will be provided. All volunteers must register prior to the count by going to: [www.theycountwillyou.org](http://www.theycountwillyou.org).

For additional information, please call Arcadia Recreation and Community Services at 626.574.5113.

# Annual Independent Evaluation of the Homeless Initiative Shows Los Angeles County is Making an Impact

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - Los Angeles County is housing more people than ever before as it confronts a large and growing homelessness crisis, a new independent performance evaluation shows.

The annual performance evaluation assessed outcomes in fiscal year 2018-19, known as Year Three, of a comprehensive set of strategies approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2016 and carried out by the County's Homeless Initiative with partners throughout the region.

The Year Three assessment found that the Homeless Initiative placed nearly 10,000 individuals and families in permanent housing last year—an increase of 25% over placements made by the Initiative in the previous year, accounting for close to half of the more than 20,000 placements made by the County's homeless services system over-

all. At the same time, fewer people are returning to homelessness after being placed in permanent housing, the evaluation found. The rate of return to homelessness dropped to 5.9% in Year Three, compared to 9.2% the year before.

In addition, the Homeless Initiative placed nearly 20,000 individuals and family members in interim housing during Year Three—an increase of approximately 27% over Year Two placements.

The independent, annual performance evaluation of the Homeless Initiative was conducted by Public Sector Analytics and submitted to the Board of Supervisors on January 6, 2020 by the County's Chief Executive Office.

Despite a 12% year-over-year increase in the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's annual point-in-time homeless

count for 2019, the Homeless Initiative's Year Three performance was "effective and successful," the researchers said.

The 2019 homeless count was "driven higher by the continuation of an upward trend in the housing market, which has pushed rents to levels increasingly out of alignment with incomes," the evaluation said. "The forces driving this dynamic are largely outside the policy purview of the homeless services system and should not obscure the [Homeless Initiative's] important Year Three accomplishments."

The evaluation credited Measure H, the landmark ¼-cent sales tax approved by voters in 2017, with helping Los Angeles County avoid the much larger increases in homelessness reported by other Southern California counties last year.

## Duarte Public Safety/Essential Services Measure Receives Official Designation from L.A. County



**DUARTE** - The City Council voted unanimously on Tuesday, November 26 to place a three-quarters of a cent sales tax measure on the March 3, 2020 ballot to help preserve public safety and community programs. L.A. County has designated the item Measure D.

Measure D - The Duarte Public Safety/Essential Services Measure is a response to the City's growing need to maintain long-term financial stability. If approved by a majority of Duarte's voters, this measure would take the City's existing sales tax from the current rate 9.5 percent to 10.25 percent, generating approximately \$2.6 million per

year in local revenue. All funds would be used to benefit Duarte residents - no funds could be taken by the State, County or other cities.

If approved by the voters, this local funding would:

- Prevent cuts to emergency response, public safety
- Retain neighborhood Sheriff's patrols and crime suppression/investigation
- Maintain streets, roads and repairing potholes, so they don't become more costly to fix in the future
- Keep parks, trails, sports fields and facilities in good condition

• Preserve youth and senior services

Without additional revenues, the City will need to evaluate cutting close to 10 percent of its overall City budget by June 2020.

Arcadia, Glendora, Irwindale, Monrovia, Sierra Madre and other neighboring cities have already passed a sales tax to keep revenues locally controlled. Alhambra, Azusa, La Verne, San Gabriel, San Dimas and West Covina have placed a similar sales tax measure on the March 2020 ballot to protect city services.

Learn more at [www.DuarteMeasureD.com](http://www.DuarteMeasureD.com).

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

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## 'TIME JOCKEY' - Transition

**By Joe Castillo**  
*Law and Order...* Happy New Year! It's 2020 and the beginning of a new year and a new decade. Like most everyone else its time to clean out the old stuff and start with something new. I began with reviewing my old history notes which I encountered years ago but as its still history, and is still applicable today thus it's as good a time as any to write about it.

1850 was the biggest year in California's history. The transition of California from Mexican to American rule was not as safe and sane as many people may have thought and came with a number of challenges. Mexico had a legal system based on civil law while the United States legal system was based on common law. I'm not a lawyer but the primary difference is common law allows a judge to be actively involved in setting the rules and overseeing the proceeding while civil law follows fixed codes and statutes. The Mexican judicial system has no jury and no trial but an alcalde presiding over the case.

The two most significant events which caused a wide breach in the Mexican-American relationship was the Mexican-American War and the Gold

Rush. California was the Siberia of Mexico, its governing body was located as much as 2,000 miles away in Mexico City. When the War with Mexico ended, it left California with a vacuum of authority.

When the United States officially took control over California in 1850, the Gold Rush was just beginning to grow. Gold and immigration brought a record number of people into California, and they weren't all the best of people. A criminal element flocked to the gold fields to take advantage of the fact that for nearly three years there was no formal government established in California which also had a legal and police enforcement system. Murders were a commonplace occurrence with a murder-a-day taking place in Los Angeles. The first "official" criminal in Los Angeles was Tiburcio Vasquez, who committed many crimes along the Monterey coast and eventually made his way to Southern California. Vasquez performed his last crime in the Repetto Hills, was caught, sentenced and hanged in 1875 in San Jose. The last lynching in Los Angeles County took place at Workman Mill in 1874.

By the time Los Angeles had

reached a population of 15,000, only 6 policemen were working to maintain law and order of the surging population. Vigilante groups were organized, like the Monte Boys in El Monte, who enforced their own brand of law and order. The city of Los Angeles was broken into different ethnic groups and maintained their were own type of law. The Anglo-Americans were dominate in Los Angeles, especially south of downtown. The Mexican families were established in the northern part of Los Angeles, with the area around present day Dodger Stadium known as Sonora Town. The Chinese also settled north of downtown but were more often forced to move so they dug underground tunnels for hiding and escaping. A young California, lawless Los Angeles and a population growth rate which surpassed all expectations brought challenges not previously known and a new meaning to the term "Wild Wild West"....

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

# A Few New Rules for 2020

Happy New Year to all as we roll into the new year with eyes on D.C. and the legislature as it goes back into session. A review of the past year always seems to be a wake-up call, especially when it is once again an election year.

We are no longer allowed to smoke or do any vaping at our California state beaches or parks and if we try and get caught, the fine is \$25. The court is permitted to assign the violator mandatory community service time probably to pick up trash or old cigar or cigarette left-overs. California State Parks Department is required to develop and post signs in appropriate locations at a cost estimated to be \$1.12 million for 5,600 signs; estimated one-time State Parks costs of \$700,000 for CEQA compliance and \$228,000 for Coastal Commission permits; and, minor costs for Department of Justice costs associated with enforcing the smoking ban. Those dollar signs seem a little outrageous to me.

California has done it again with another first in the nation. All new homes built in 2020 or later must be solar powered. Building Standards Commission action was reinforced by the California Energy Commission supporting that mandate. Energy officials estimated an additional cost of \$10,000 for completing this solar addition to each new home with cost recovery of that investment by the home purchaser expected over a 20-year time frame. Long time on a mortgage payment with interest.

However, additional green homebuilding standards like thicker attic and wall insulation, energy efficient windows and doors and improved ventilation systems with a couple of other home accessory items like heat pump water systems run the price of a new home much higher. Butte County Treasurer-Tax Collector, Peggy Moak, estimated the cost of just the solar panels running \$25,000. 300 opposition letters were received along with a letter from Assemblyman James Gallagher, R-Yuba City who said,



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

"With median home prices in California already more than double the national average, this decision will make it even more difficult for the average Californian to afford a home."

I have mixed feelings about exotic animals at a circus but new state law in California now allows only dogs, cats and domesticated horses in circuses in this state. Rodeos are exempt. This new law levels a \$25,000 fine a day for violators.

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) would be in charge of monitoring and enforcement of circuses, with one new person to the payroll at \$170,000 a year from the general fund and \$146,000 for investigation and enforcement. Department of Justice estimates it would need an added \$36,000 first year, and \$76,000 annually ongoing from the general fund and Legal Services Revolving Fund.

Another California first: We are now entering a period of monitoring our indoor water usage per Assembly Bill 1668 and Senate Bill 606 and Gov. Jerry Brown's Executive Order. As of January 1st, State Department of Water Resources and Water Resources Control Board will have submitted to the state legislature their analysis of our progress on 55 gallons only of indoor water use and conservation. They are preparing to report back to the state legislature in 2021 with recommendations on how we consumers are doing and if we will be able to meet our 52.5-gal-

lon standard in 2025 and then 50 gallons in 2030. Problems came in fast and furious.

- How do water agencies determine what is indoor use and what is outdoor use? The simple answer is two meters - one for the outside and one for the inside water use. And who pays for meters and modifications? We all know the answer to that question.

- How will the agencies know how many people live in the house unless they go out and do a head count? Or rely on the every 10-year census count by volunteers?

- Smart meters can already monitor your water usage by each day and almost by the hour. State Water Resources Control Board reported in 2017 the average Californian was using 90 gallons of water a day. Using that number and calculating one half of that as indoor use, means the 50-gallon limit was met. And indoor use is far lower than outdoor irrigation use.

- \$30 billion in water bonds approved in this state leaving a big question -- where did all that bond money go, and how much additional water capacity has been achieved?

- October 2018 to September 2019, an amount of water equal to a year's supply for 275 million people flowed out to the Pacific Ocean according to California Globe.

We've all heard for the last 20 to 25 years about the 3-R's - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - to minimize waste and maximize landfill space. What happens when the largest recycling operator decides to close his 284 centers and layoff almost 1,000 employees?

Consumer Watchdog says the last 5 years consumers have been paying that nickel a can or bottle but not getting that money back because of fewer redemption centers. \$308 million in 2018 was never redeemed according to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery. Consumer Watchdog report says that number is closer to \$732 million. Wonder what happens to that unclaimed money?

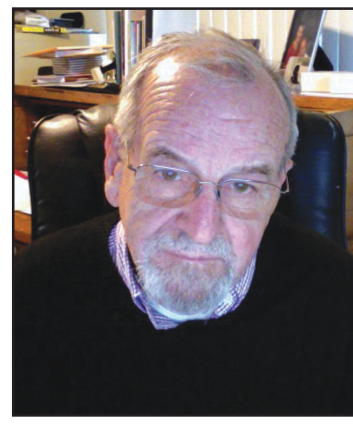
# Presidential Timber

The nation's preoccupation with impeachment is being resolved in a way that will leave no one satisfied. But perhaps this provides the opportunity to take a deeper look at the sort of person this nation deserves to sit in the Oval Office. Whether or not Donald Trump committed impeachable acts may not define the problem. In November's *Atlantic*, Jeffery Goldberg put it this way: "The 45th President of the United States is uniquely unfit for office and possesses a multifaceted threat to our country's democratic institutions."

*Christianity Today* (The voice reflecting Billy Graham's take on evangelicalism since 1967) in its December 19th edition put it in uncharacteristic harsh language after a blazing condemnation of Trump's moral depravity and a call for his removal from office - *The reason many are not shocked about this is that this president has dumbed down the idea of morality in his administration. He has hired and fired a number of people who are now convicted criminals. He himself has admitted to immoral actions in business and his relationship with women, about which he remains proud. His Twitter feed alone—with its habitual string of mischaracterizations, lies, and slanders—is a near perfect example of a human being who is morally lost and confused.*

Here is the President who recently was forced to pay a two million dollar fine for fraud by diverting contributions to his personal use from his charity that raises funds for children suffering from cancer. What sort of person steals money raised to help sick kids?

Decades ago, there was common a phrase that attempted to define whether a potential candidate was qualified to be President. "Was he made of Presidential timber?" Those who did not



Charles H. Bayer

meet this undefined test were written off. What test? Supreme Court Justice Potter said that he knew pornography when he saw it. If somebody was fit to be President, would not the people almost immediately know it? This did not mean that the potential candidate had an inside track on the nomination let alone the election, only that he might be qualified.

This test had little to do with her/his political opinions or party affiliation. It was rather a lived-out honesty, dignity, valor, nobility of character, respect, truthfulness—the sort of person even children would be drawn to respect, as would the leaders and people of other nations. The American people would know Presidential timber when they saw it. Beyond any political affiliation we would view such a person with enormous respect.

We have tended to elect candidates we knew "fit," even if we could not define just what that meant. Woodrow Wilson was such a person as were Herbert Hoover and FDR. Harry Truman just made it but Thomas Dewey, he defeated, was clearly Presidential Timber. Dwight Eisenhower made the grade as did Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and the first George Bush. Bill Clinton had it to start with, but lost it in his fun and games in the oval office. Barak Obama was a stirring example. Every passing

day saw Richard Nixon shed any sturdy image he might have carried, and George W Bush turned out to be the shrub his detractors had labelled him.

In this column I will not attempt to characterize the Democratic candidates, even if all those who remain appear to make the grade. As the convention draws closer, who is Presidential timber and who is not will become increasingly obvious.

But let's get back to the real-estate mogul who has put his name on golf courses, hotels, casinos and office buildings around the world. With the same significant sales ability he put his brand on the Republican Party he now totally controls. To this political base he has added evangelical Christians whose support I find it impossible to understand, and a collection of others I hesitate to categorize. The question remains, is Donald Trump Presidential timber? If so, where is the morality, the dignity, the graciousness, the honor, valor, nobility and capacity to remold the nation into a "more perfect union." Are these not the qualities and character the American people have a right to expect?

Donald Trump was impeached by the House of Representatives but seems certain to survive conviction by a Senate he owns, and whose members would be committed to him no matter what he might do. **The issue is not whether he should have been impeached, but whether he is fit to the President.** That question now goes to the American people who will decide in November.

So while we cannot define what it means for someone to be presidential timber, every day it becomes clearer that Donald Trump in not made of sturdy planks but of moldy straw.

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

# MY TURN: Climate Change Or Otherwise... Just More Hysteria To Promote Socialism

The Democrats, the Left and the cultural elites are constantly in a hurry to resolve things prematurely, making it appear they are accomplishing something. Their aggressive movement and behavior in attempting to address climate change can make your head spin. My take on this is quite simple.

Solving problems, climate change or otherwise, will NOT be accomplished with protests, demonization, banishment, or in other words boycotting and criminalizing things. Solving problems of climate change will NOT be accomplished by reaching premature conclusions. In other words, declaring the "science has been settled," or "the results are conclusive." NO, they're not!

Solving problems of climate change will NOT be solved by denying those that simply ask questions and then are ridiculed as being deniers themselves.

And solving problems of climate change will NOT be accomplished with forced legislation of methods, beliefs, or philosophies that have not in any way reached the point of practicality. In other words, what fuels the generators that provide power to electric cars? What type of drinking straw is acceptable this



Charles Lopresto  
week? Paper or plastic? Please people, make up your mind.

How the problems will be solved, climate change or otherwise, will happen with folks working on innovations in the private sector. Just as the early participants in the Industrial revolution, from Eli Whitney to Thomas Edison to the more recent innovators in Silicon Valley, have made the changes moving forward that will last, it is the people in the field today who are the ones that will solve climate change issues. Not politicians, not protestors, not pundits.

Take Henry Ford for example. Somebody, anybody, could have done what Ford did in 1896 when he invented the very first Ford automobile with an engine mounted on a buggy. As a matter of fact, several guys did, in Europe mostly. One such fellow was a Frenchman named Nicolas Joseph Cugnot, who invented an automobile... in 1769! But here is the rub. There needed to be something done to make the building of such a contraption practical. Ford came upon the

idea of interchangeable parts. Instead of constructing one automobile at a time, he made the parts for his horseless carriage, with tools built to repeat the process, and then put the parts on an assembly line and constructed a whole bunch of autos at the same time. This was cheaper, faster, easier to repair, and made a large number of cars available. Ford discovered the process needed to make automobiles popular, affordable and practical.

We are reminded of a joke. In 1900, rich people had automobiles and the regular common masses had horses. Now, more than a hundred years later, rich people have horses and the regular common masses have automobiles.

Dropping out of school to seek publicity like Ms. Greta Thunberg has evidently chosen to do, won't solve anything either. She would be better off staying in school, and studying the things she needs to learn, and the things she needs to know, to find innovative ways to solve the problems of our environment. Putting her on the cover of Time magazine as the person of the year, seems to be a slap in the faces of the people who are, if you pardon my "French...busting their butts" in schools, laboratories and think tanks, trying to find that kind of "practicality" that saved Henry Ford's automobile.

But unfortunately, doing the "due diligence" doesn't grab the headlines for people seeking climate change initiatives as an excuse to promote Socialism.

# Another Terrorist Bites the Dust

Qassem Soleimani, the head of Iran's elite Quds military force and one of the most powerful figures in the Islamic Republic, was killed early Friday in an airstrike in Baghdad. He was literally blown into various pieces. This guy was pretty ruthless and is responsible for mass murders of his own people and often signature attacks on Americans and other forces in the region. He has orchestrated terrorist attacks around the world. Yes, he was one of the bad guys.

It has been stated that he instigated the attacks and protests on the embassy and pulled his people out of there when apparently, they planned a much bigger at-



George Ogden  
That's just the way it is!

tack against the embassy that never materialized due to the fact that there was an immediate deployment of Marines. There was going to be no Benghazi here.

It appears that many in Iran and Iraq are celebrating the death of this man but are not too happy

about the collateral damage. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei isn't too happy about this either and says "severe revenge awaits the criminals" behind the attack.

Well, let's see what we have here. It is okay for them to set up roadside bombs to kill and injure Americans, to carry out terrorist attacks around the world and basically kill at will. So, when the U.S. retaliates and we pop a couple of bad guys, we end up being the bad guys. Remember when terrorists took down two buildings on 9-11? Well, we took down two countries. We can do it again.

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

# Democrats Vote Down Election Integrity Measure

**SACRAMENTO** - Senate Democrats killed Senate Bill 57 in the Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee. SB 57 would have helped to fix the Democrats' failed Motor Voter program. Authored by Senator Patricia Bates (R-Laguna Niguel) and co-authored by members of the California Senate Republican Caucus, SB 57 would have made voter registration optional at the DMV. Since the Motor Voter program has been implemented, multiple media outlets have reported on inaccurate party registrations and the registration of non-U.S. citizens.

Members of the California Senate Republican Caucus react to SB 57 which died on a partisan vote.

Senate Republican Leader Shannon Grove: "Legislative Republicans have warned Democrats about the flawed Motor Voter program. Since its implementation, there have been non-stop problems. Election integri-

ty is imperative to a fair democracy. Let's be clear this vote by Senate Democrats was against election integrity."

Senator Patricia Bates: "Given that the Secretary of State's office and the DMV have underplayed well-documented problems with automatic registration, today's outcome was not a surprise. The decision to register to vote should be made by the individual - not the state. Those who oppose my bill fail to appreciate that an 'opt-in' process gives citizens more control over their own voter registrations and reduces opportunities for errors and fraud. I will continue to fight for election integrity, including working with my colleagues to make a simple fix to provide clarity to customers who visit DMV offices."

Senator Ling Ling Chang: "Our voter registration process is key to successful elections at every level of representative government. If the people cannot trust that process, then the integ-

rity of our democracy is damaged. Tens of thousands of people have been affected by software errors and false party registration. It's imperative we act swiftly on this matter to restore faith in our democratic elections."

Senator Mike Morrell: "Thousands of Californians have had their voter registrations changed against their wishes. Automatic motor voter was misguided from the start and is clearly broken. SB 57 is straightforward and sensible. Senate Democrats' failure to recognize these blatant problems risks the voting rights of all Californians."

Senator Scott Wilk: "The DMV is hardly the appropriate place to register voters - especially while it infamously struggles to handle its own mission. SB 57 would have put safeguards in place to protect voters from the endless chain of bureaucratic blunders and ensure people are able to exercise their right to vote."



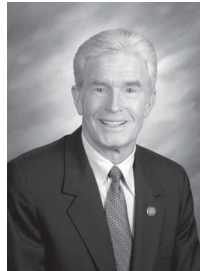
# 2020 Outlook: Bullish Election Year

It appears that the stock market continued to ignore the impeachment circus in Washington DC, as NASDAQ broke through 9000 for the first time, and the S&P as well as DOW continued to set all-time record highs. The more dysfunctional the House of Representatives becomes, the more the stock market seems to "like" beltway gridlock. Naturally, the House impeachment vote was intended to harm President Trump, who apparently could care less. The President just continued to do what he has promised (influencing the US economy in a positive way). At this writing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi still has not sent the impeachment articles to the Senate. Does she really think she can or will influence how the Senate conducts its "trial"?

Across the "pond" the European Union remains very nervous about Brexit finally happening on January 31st. Grumbling from both France and Germany is being ignored by Prime British Minister Boris Johnson, so a "no deal" Brexit is a possibility. France remains totally dysfunctional (with its nationwide strike over pension reform, with schools and trains closed, power outages, as well as hundreds of thousands of protestors). France certainly has no credibility to tell Britain what to do. Germany is a much better-run country, but it is now worried that without Britain (paying into the EU) other EU members will suffer (especially since those economies are currently weaker than when Brexit was just a "what if" concern).

Christmas Eve 2018's "Santa" appeared to be in a funk, as the DOW collapsed 653 points (down 2.9%). Retail sales were down 2.2% for the month, and the S&P 500 was down 15% through 12/24/18. However, at year-end 2019 the S&P was up 37% (in 12 months)! Was it more than a result of naughty vs. nice Federal Reserve policies? In 2018 the Fed probably raised interest rates one time too many, including early December. During 2019 they cut rates three times. That cer-

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



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

tainly was beneficial for the economy; but we should NOT discount President Trump's positive impact on 2019 valuation recoveries!

As 2019 ended we should also have been thankful that Phase One of the U.S. trade deal with China avoided an escalation of tariffs (at least for now)! Also, Congress finally passed Trump's negotiated USMCA (NAFTA replacement bill to open trade barriers with our two biggest trading partners, Mexico and Canada). The USMCA may not seem to be a perfect bill for everyone (as it favors the job protectionism Trump savors); but, it "greases the skids" for needed cross-border trade going into 2020!

That's another reason the major stock market indexes kept hitting one new high after another on each Friday in December. U.S. business activity (according to the Purchasing Managers Index) also reached a five-month high in December, and that survey was conducted December 5-13, before these trade agreements were finalized.

Canada and Mexico remain our two biggest trading partners; and, most of our China trade is imports, not exports! The U.S. exports five times more to Mexico and Canada than to China. Economists say that the new USMCA deal will create hundreds of thousands of new jobs, and usher in a wave of prosperity for all three neighbor nations. How much more good news can we stand?

Surveys show that global growth should also revive in 2020 (after a year of "slowdown" warnings in major publications). Figures released recently by China's

National Bureau of Statistics (although always suspect) showed industrial output in November was 6.2% higher than a year earlier, up from 4.7% in October. China's retail sales reportedly climbed 8% in November from a year earlier (according to a separate report). The IMF now sees global growth at +3.4% next year, although the European Central Bank (ECB) sees Eurozone growth mired at the +1.1% level in 2020.

It is likely that President Trump will put his most flaming trade war rhetoric on "the back burner" as he strives to keep GDP growth and the stock market humming during 2020. While GDP growth may be seen by some as "stuck" in a 1%-4% channel since 2010, that's good news! The absence of "a blow-out inflationary boom" is beneficial, because such an overheated economy usually leads to a significant recession. Some businesses have "tailed off" during 2019, but others have enjoyed best ever years. It may be wishful thinking by the "fake news crazies" to think that Trump's "economic honeymoon" only lasted through 2018.

The recent rise in real wages plus the savings rate, along with the growing pile of cash on the sidelines, should fuel stock market expansion and rising retail sales in 2020. It's rational to expect real consumer spending to increase 2.5% in 2020, the same as 2019, with similar increasing GDP numbers (unless major trade disputes arise). A tight labor market should boost productivity, which would allow nominal wages to continue increasing faster than consumer prices, boosting consumers' purchasing power and spending growth. Historically, incumbents win when voters feel financially secure with "full pockets" and "buying power".

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

# Your Money - Ask Julia

## Write out 2020

When writing the date, we are all accustomed to abbreviating the year, but let me encourage you to write out 2020. This is especially important on checks and legal documents. For example, if you were to write 1/15/20, it would be relatively easy for that date to be altered to 1/15/2006, or 1/15/2016. An inaccurate date could make the document null and void.

## What is the increase Medicare Part B premium and deductible for 2020?

The Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase is 1.6-percent. For the majority, Part B premium increased by \$9.10, from \$135.50 in 2019 to \$144.60. And, Part B deductible increased by \$13, from \$185 in 2019 to \$198. Example: If you were receiving \$1,200 monthly for Social Security income, your monthly SS income would increase by 1.6-percent, becoming \$1,219.20; an increase of \$19.20. Part B premium and deductible increased by \$22.10 (\$9.10 plus \$13.) Many Prescription Drug plans (Part D) premiums also increased, some considerably.

## Please explain inflation and recession.

Inflation is the increase in the price of products over time. Long-term inflation erodes your power to purchase. In other words, over time, your savings buys less; a dollar no longer buys what it could a few years ago. The factor to determine a Recession is when there has been two quarters (two 3-month periods of time) in a row of negative eco-



**Julia Yoder**  
nomic growth.

## Because we have a small downpayment, we are being told we have to pay mortgage insurance. Can you explain a little about the mortgage insurance?

Mortgage insurance is charged on any loan that has less than 20-percent equity. The purpose of mortgage insurance is to pay the lender in case you fail to make your payments and have to foreclose. Different lenders charge different mortgage insurance premiums. There are non-FHA loans (Conventional) that allow a small downpayment (5-percent or even less). Depending on income and area, research information about Urban mortgage loans, too.

## My mom is trying to decide whether to give her home to me now, or just have me inherit it upon her passing. What is the best thing to do?

It depends. Look at the difference between the Estate tax rate vs. the Capital Gains tax rate applicable in your mother's and your specific case. For example, if the estate tax rate is lower than capital gains tax, it would probably be better to wait. On the oth-

er hand, if the Estate tax rate would be higher than the capital gains tax, it could be better to take action now. Also, check with your CPA about the tax ramifications of gifting equity (rather than cash) up to the annual parent-to-child annual limit. (Keep in mind that life insurance is included in the value of one's estate when calculating estate tax.)

## I have the option of taking all the money now out of my fixed annuity, without any early surrender charges. I like annuities. Although I don't plan to use the money, I might want to access it later. What do you suggest I do with this money?

Depending on your entire financial picture and what is best for you, I'd probably suggest either reinvesting in an annuity or purchasing a paid-up life insurance policy. Some company's products offer an option of almost immediate access to a good part of your money. Some policies offer penalty-free, accelerated access if you need the money for a nursing home. It really boils down to what you want your money to do for you and what is most suitable for you.

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

# Trusts: Why a Will May Not Be Enough

You're ready to face the task of documenting how you will pass along your assets to your family and friends. But you're stuck: Should you use a trust or a will? Here are five considerations.

**Trusts avoid probate; wills don't.** Probate is the legal process estates generally have to go through. It typically involves lawyers, paperwork and fees. A trust avoids probate because assets are owned in the name of the trust and are immediately accessible to the trust maker's designated successor.

**Trusts provide creditor protection for your inheritance.** Your children's creditors, such as a divorcing spouse, unpaid credit card bills, bankruptcy or a business loss, can take a significant piece out of the inheritance. A trust allows you to safeguard the inheritance from creditors, as it keeps assets out of the beneficiary's name. Ownership of assets is in the trust, ensuring that the money is available to your kids and their kids.

**Trusts protect government benefits for a beneficiary with disabilities.** Have a child or

grandkid with a disability? If you leave assets via a will, such benefits as Social Security and Medicaid can be lost. However, in a trust, the state is the beneficiary, and you ensure that the benefits continue to be available. Your inheritance will be available to pay for expenses not covered by governmental benefits.

**Trusts can administer assets for minor beneficiaries without court intervention.** The law says that a minor doesn't have the legal capacity to receive assets. The surviving parent doesn't have the ability to act as the child's legal representative until the court says so. Under a will, the court appoints a conservator to receive the inheritance for your children, and the conservator is required to report annually to the court to make sure the job is being handled well. There may be substantial costs, and long delays are inherent in administering funds for minors. However, by creating a trust to receive the assets that pass to a minor or young adult, you reduce court involvement. The person you deem able to manage the assets for the beneficiary is in charge. The beneficiary can use the assets only for purposes you decide are important or at the age you dictate.

Of course, this is just a summary of the advantages of establishing trusts, and there are subtleties you need to get into before making a final decision. State laws may also make a difference.

ally involves some very complicated choices, and the provisions of your will and the kinds of trusts you need are dependent on your particular financial and family situation. Also, needs can change over time. The point is to not make automatic assumptions about what you may need or not need. Contact a professional for an estate plan that's right for you.

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## THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

# How Much To Budget

AAA estimates maintenance costs at around 4 cents per mile driven, which means you should set aside \$50-60/month for this line item. Sadly, many put off service/maintenance and they end up having an expensive repair that could have been avoided. I then thought...maybe they don't realize how much it costs to maintain their vehicle annually. With that thought in mind I've decided to share with you something in print so you can fill in the blanks for yourself. Granted...this is just an overall average but hopefully you will find it very helpful!

If you have a new car expect to pay \$200 to \$350 each year on preventive maintenance until your vehicle is three years of age. After that, a good rule of thumb is to plan to pay \$600 to \$1200 annually and this includes tires. Preventive maintenance is the best way to keep your car from having to undergo repair. As it ages, certain parts will need to be replaced, of course.

Those old sayings, "prevention is the best medicine" and "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure", have stood the test of time for a reason. They are true! Take a moment, if you will, and figure out the annual cost of vehicle ownership. You might be surprised at how it adds up!

Annual vehicle payment  
Annual finance charge on loan

Annual gasoline costs  
Annual car insurance  
Annual maintenance/repair  
Annual license fee and other fees  
Total

Total Divided by 12 is the monthly cost.

This is how much it costs you to drive each year/month. I just think knowing the facts helps you plan a little better.

- Remember:
- Keeping current with oil and filter changes prevents the need for a new engine.
  - Keeping current with tire rotations and alignments prevents buying new tires less often.
  - Keeping current with brake fluid and/or brake pads prevents replacing brakes as often.
  - Replacing filters and fluids keeps your vehicle going longer for less.
  - Preventive maintenance reduces your expenses going forward.

I think this gives you the idea. Keep your vehicle healthy and it will be good to you and your bank account!

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# Around the Valley & Senior News

## AZUSA

### Volunteer Drivers Needed

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

### TOPS Meeting

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

## ARCADIA

### Bingo And Lunch

Arcadia Senior Services is having a fun event of BINGO and lunch on Friday, **January 10**. It will take place at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive starting at 10am. Cost is \$10 and includes a 10 pack of BINGO sheets, pizza and salad served during intermission plus great gift card prizes. The final game of "Cover All" is a \$50 prize. A professional BINGO board is used. Daubers are available for \$1. This program is for individuals age 50 and over. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at the Community Center. For additional information, please call Arcadia Senior Services, 626.574.5130.

### Orchid Hobbyists Meeting

San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists invite you to our **January 16** Monthly Meeting at the L.A. County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, Ca. Palm Room. Judging at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Everyone enjoys listening to Peter Lin. His Program will be about Mini-Catts, Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature. Peter answers all questions and is great fun! Refreshments. All are welcome!

### Surprise Musical Presentation

Arcadia Senior Services is having a surprise musical presentation on Friday, **January 17** at 1:00pm. The program will feature Bluegrass, Folk and Old Time Music. Come join us for a sing along, clap along and refreshments! It will take place at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive. Cost is \$3 and you can purchase your ticket at the Arcadia Community Center. This presentation is for individuals age 50 and over. For additional information, please call Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130.

### Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

The Arcadia Senior Card Club is accepting new members. Arcadia residency is not required. Play contract bridge or pinochle. The group meets at the

Assistance League Community House, 100 So. Santa Anita Avenue every Monday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch is provided for a nominal fee or bring your own lunch.

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

## BALDWIN PARK

### Morongo Casino Trip

The Julia McNeill Senior Center will be heading to Morongo Casino on Wednesday, **January 22** from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. All players will receive \$10 in Free Play. If you get tired of gambling, spend time shopping at the Cabazon Outlets, an outdoor shopping experience featuring 19 specialty retailers in a relaxed open-air environment. As a reminder, the trolleys are always available to the Cabazon Outlets. Meals not included. Tickets are \$10 for Baldwin Park Residents and \$15 for Non-Residents. For more information, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

### McNeill Fitness

#### Program

A challenging but accessible workout regimen, which includes basic calisthenics, arm workouts, legs and torso, and a steady run/walk around Morgan Park. Nutritional guidance is also offered. Eating well and exercising will not only improve your overall health, but also improves your mood and energy levels. Group meets in senior center dining hall Monday through Thursday from 8:00am – 9:00am. This class is free to participate. For more information on the class or registering, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

## COVINA

### Community Garden Parcels

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

## DUARTE

### Duarte Museum Needs Docents

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

### Blood Pressure Checks

Health Care Partners will provide a medical assistant to do free blood pressure checks. No appointment needed. **Every 2nd Tuesday** of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For more

information call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

### Meals on Wheels

Eligible seniors can receive a hot lunch and cold dinner plate delivered each weekday, or seven frozen meals delivered once a week by YWCA Intervale Senior Services. For more information, please contact the Duarte Senior Center at 357-3513 or Intervale at (626) 214-9465.

### Alzheimer's Safe

#### Return Registration

Safe return is a service of the Alzheimer's Association to help identify, locate and return Alzheimer's victims who wander and become lost. The one time registration includes identification items, preventative information, membership in the Alzheimer's Association, and participation in a nationwide search system. Call the Duarte Senior Center at 357-3513 for an appointment.

### Volunteering Does

#### Your Heart Good!

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

### Senior Lunch

The Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over 60 years, or the spouse of someone over age 60, and must check in by 11:45 a.m. for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling 357-3513, 24 hours in advance, and 48 hours, in advance, for a choice day. The suggested donation is \$3. The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive.

## GLENDORA

### Genealogy Group Meeting

The Glendora Genealogy Group meets Tuesday, **January 28** at La Fetra Center, 333 E. Foothill Blvd., Glendora. Pat Chavarria leads a refresher class at 6:00 pm. The business meeting is at 7:00 pm, followed by the program: "Share an Heirloom". For questions about our group or this meeting, please call Pat Chavarria at 909-592-4030.

### Glendora After Stroke Center

A non-fee program for stroke survivors and their families. This supportive program offers re-learning (reading, writing, speech), caregiver support, current events, card games, snacks, resocialization, exercise, music, speakers, day field trips, and stroke support. For more information, please call Toni Levyssohn at 909-843-5239. The program is **Wednesdays** 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 pm.

### Instructors Needed At The La Fetra Center

The City of Glendora's La Fetra Center is looking for new class instructors! We are seeking out instructors to teach the following: Cooking classes, Spanish lessons, and American Sign Language (ASL) classes. Share your talents with your peers! If you would like more information on teaching a class

at the La Fetra Center contact Jennelle Markel at (626)9148-8235, or email at jmarkel@ci.glendora.ca.us.

### Cars 4 the Community

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

### Get About

#### Transportation

Get About provides transportation for seniors aged 60+ and disabled residents of Claremont, La Verne, Pomona, and San Dimas. The door-to-door service can be used for shopping, doctor's appointments, church, senior nutrition sites and many other locations within the four cities. The service operates seven days a week and membership is free. To Register: (909) 621-9900. To Schedule a ride: (909) 596-5964. For more information, contact Abby Nuyda at 909.621.9900, Extension 228.

## MONROVIA

### Senior Blood

#### Pressure Screenings

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

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

### Caring Crafters

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

### Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

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

Classes are at the Community

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

## SAN DIMAS

### San Dimas

#### Toastmasters Club

The San Dimas chapter of Toastmasters International, Toast To The Best Club, Club # 5880 meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7PM to 8:45 PM. Learn to motivate and lead. Challenge yourself with Toastmaster's proven education programs. Let us help you grow your strengths and accomplish your goals. Become a better speaker and learn to communicate with confidence. Learn these skills and more in a supportive, self-paced, fun atmosphere. Meets at the Faith Lutheran Church, Parish Hall, 505 E Bonita Ave. Contact Art Douglas at (951) 505-0555.

## WEST COVINA

### Go West

#### Shuttle Service

The Go West Shuttle service consists of three alignments (Red, Blue, and Green) that serve destinations throughout the city including Plaza West Covina, Eastland Shopping Center, Heights Shopping Center, West Covina Civic Center, West Covina Senior Center, Cameron Community Center, and many more. For questions on the location of shuttle stops, assistance

in locating the stop closest to you, and route schedules please call (800) 425-5777. The fixed-route service operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The fare is only \$1.00 each way. No Service on Holidays.

### TOPS Meeting

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets each Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Cortez Senior Center, located at 2501 E. Cortez St in the back classroom building. Visitors are always welcome and your first meeting is free. Come now and learn about nutrition, portion control, food planning, exercise, motivation, and more every week. This group has motivated members from all over the San Gabriel Valley. For details, call Erika Hernandez at 6 2 6 - 3 8 4 - 0 5 0 2 (ehernandez57@aol.com).

### Senior Lunch

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

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

## International Movies at Arcadia Public Library

ARCADIA - Escape to far-away places through the movie screen at the Arcadia Public Library. The Library is proud to present a year-long series of foreign films on the third Wednesday of each month. Patrons 18 and over are welcome to attend.

On Wednesday, **January 15**, the Library will host "A Man Called Ove," the story of how an ill-tempered widower redefines his life. On Wednesday, February 19, a mysterious woman disappears on a family trip to the beach in Iran, while on Wednesday, March 18, "11 Flowers" follows the experi-

ences of a poor family during the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the movie starting at 6:00 p.m. Bring your dinner if you wish - dessert is on us.

For more information, please call 626.821.5569 or visit the Arcadia Public Library's website at [www.ArcadiaCA.gov/library](http://www.ArcadiaCA.gov/library). The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia. The Library is open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

## Christmas Tree Recycling Program for Duarte

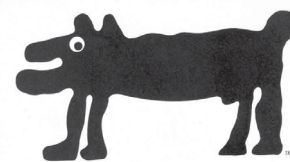
DUARTE - Through Burrec Waste Industries, the City of Duarte will provide a Christmas tree collection service for residential customers.

Christmas trees will be collected on regular trash collection days through **Jan. 11, 2020**. 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.-5 p.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 Burrec Waste Industries at 1-(800) 325-9417.

### BART The BLOCKHOUND



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[SGExaminer@aol.com](mailto:SGExaminer@aol.com)

## Local Historian on Rose Parade at Arcadia Museum

ARCADIA - Fascinated by the Rose Parade? Want to learn more about Arcadia's participation in the beloved annual celebration? Stop by the Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage on Saturday, **January 11**, at 10 am, for local historian Lee Shimmin's presentation on "The Pasadena Rose Parade."

The Gilb Museum has been offering Saturday morning "Coffee Talks" for several years: lo-

cal history buffs can enjoy a hot cup of coffee on brisk Saturday mornings as historians share new, original research on the history of Arcadia.

For more information, please call 626.574.5440 or visit the Gilb Museum's webpage <https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/museum>. The Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage is located at 380 W. Huntington Drive, Arcadia, CA.

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# Smart Funding Recipient Celebrates 20th Anniversary



Ruthie and Joseph Torres of Buena Vista Furniture.

**ALHAMBRA** – The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) is proud to help celebrate the 20-year anniversary of Buena Vista Furniture, a trusted small business in the El Sereno community and one of the LACDA’s SMART Funding loan recipients.

On April 25, 2019, the LACDA awarded over \$100,000 to Buena Vista through SMART Funding, allowing the owners to purchase a delivery truck, which is a necessity in the furniture business. Their old truck had become inoperable and they resorted to renting delivery trucks in the interim, which increased the cost of business operations. Additionally, the loan proceeds were used to refinance high-interest debt.

“SMART Funding was a real game changer for our family business,” Ruthie Torres of Buena Vista Furniture said. “As a

small business, we had to deal with high interest rates on a tight budget. All of that changed with SMART Funding, which helped to cut our monthly payables by more than 50%! It was like winning the lotto. The process may take some time, but it’s worth it — this is the best loan program for small businesses. You won’t regret a single thing.”

“Congratulations to Buena Vista Furniture on this significant milestone,” said Emilio Salas, LACDA Acting Executive Director. “We’re proud to continue to invest in the community and lift up small businesses through SMART Funding.”

SMART Funding offers a variety of competitive loan programs created to assist small and medium-sized businesses in Los Angeles County across various industries, including manufacturing, medical, restaurant, and professional services. Loans can

range from \$25,000 up to \$2 million with flexible loan terms to promote business growth and expansion.

Established in November of 1999 by Joseph and Ruthie Torres, Buena Vista Furniture has been providing the greater Los Angeles County with quality furniture for 20 years. Based in Southern California, Buena Vista specializes in fine handcrafted furniture and home décor imported from around the world. The bulk of Buena Vista’s sales are generated from their furniture, which is primarily traditional wood-based handicraft that possesses authentic Spanish/Latin American flair.

For more information on SMART Funding, please visit [smartfunding.biz](http://smartfunding.biz) or call (626) 586-1856. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, LACDA Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.

# These Behaviors Make You A Scam Target

If you spend a lot of time on social media sites or looking for great online deals, you may wear a bullseye when it comes to scammers hunting for prey, according to groundbreaking fraud research from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation, BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust and the Stanford Center on Longevity.

Researchers surveyed more than 1,400 Americans and Canadians who were targeted by scammers and reported the fraud to the Better Business Bureau (BBB), which tracks scams. Nearly half of those surveyed did not engage with the fraudster. However, 30 percent engaged to some degree but ultimately did not lose money, while 23 percent engaged with the fraudster or offer and lost money.

What separates victims from non-victims?

“The path to victimization begins with engagement,” said FINRA Foundation President Gerri Walsh. “Social media and website scams are flourishing. Every time you respond to a friend request from someone you don’t know or click through to an unfamiliar website, you run the risk of being exposed to a scam.”

Your chance of falling victim to a scam varies by type—for instance, online purchase scams, tech support ploys, fake check or sweepstakes frauds—and by the method in which you are exposed to the offer. For those exposed to a scam through social media or a website, the numbers are chilling. When exposed to a scam on social media, 91 percent



A recent study found nearly half of America is likely to interact with fraudsters-but you can protect yourself.

engaged and 53 percent lost money. The odds of losing money to website scams were only slightly lower: 81 percent of consumers in the study who were exposed to a fraud via a website said they engaged—and 50 percent lost money.

Other factors heighten the likelihood of falling for a fraud. Consumers were more likely to be victimized if they were isolated and didn’t have anyone to discuss the offer with, according to the study. Consequently, those who engaged scammers and lost money were less likely to be married and more likely to be widowed or divorced. “Sadly, loneliness and fraud victimization seem to go hand in hand,” noted Walsh.

You’re also more likely to engage and lose money if you’re feeling financial strain, or have low levels of financial literacy, the study found.

**Protect Yourself**

Take these steps to protect yourself from fraud:

- Ask for input from others. Scammers try to isolate their victims. Don’t be afraid to contact a friend, or a company or organization you trust for advice. It also helps to do addi-

tional research before sending any money. One easy action: Do an Internet search to see if the website or pitch has been flagged as fraudulent or potentially fraudulent by news organizations or members of the public.

- Focus on your financial health and literacy. Individuals under financial strain and those with lower levels of financial literacy may be more susceptible to scammers.

- Knowledge is power. Knowing about scams and scammer tactics can be your best defense in successfully reducing the effect of scams. Keep up with the latest frauds by subscribing to consumer newsletters and seeking out information on current scams.

One-third of consumers who were targeted by a scammer, but did not engage with the offer, already knew about the specific type of scam. In addition, consumers who understood the tactics and behaviors of scammers tended not to engage with fraudsters.

To learn more about how to protect your money, visit [www.FINRA.org/LearnMore](http://www.FINRA.org/LearnMore). (NAPSI)

# Tips for the Best Financial You in the New Year



PHOTO SOURCE: (c) Prostock-Studio / iStock via Getty Images Plus

At the same time that Americans are feeling the financial pinch of the holidays, they’re gearing up for 2020, with their top two goals being to save more and increase their credit scores, according to a national consumer survey by Experian.

Almost three out of four consumers surveyed are motivated to improve their finances. To reach their New Year goals, survey respondents say they’ll spend less money to improve their credit score (59%) and pay off credit card debt (58%).

To help get you started, Experian Boost ambassador, actor and financial empowerment activist, Hill Harper is providing these money tips:

- Create a Financial Blueprint: The first step is to create a blueprint identifying your money, saving and investing goals. Examine your priorities and determine how much money you require to meet your basic needs. From there, you should assess what else you need to be happy and how you can use money as a resource

to achieve it.

- Assess the Cost of Being You: If your expenses or debt outpace your income, then it’s very difficult to live the best version of your life. Rather than continuously playing catch-up, track your spending to discover new ways to reduce monthly expenses. Apply those savings towards self-investment.

- Understand Smart vs. Dumb Money: Not all dollars spent hold the same value. Knowing the difference between “smart” and “dumb” money is key to building a solid financial foundation, according to Harper, who says that “dumb money” is spending on things like credit card interest or items that lose value quickly, whereas “smart money” is spending on things that pay dividends, like an education or home.

- Control Your Credit Score: A good credit score can help you gain access to capital with better terms at affordable rates. To improve it, pay bills on time and use a resource like Experian Boost, which is a free online tool that

allows you to add positive payment history from utility and telecom bills to your Experian credit file, which can increase your score instantly.

- New Year, New You: “We’re starting a new decade and what better opportunity is there to do a complete financial makeover?” says Harper, who recommends many other steps that will set you up for financial success, including building an emergency fund, securing health insurance, avoiding debt for unnecessary purchases and investing wisely. “No one has a crystal ball, but given lower unemployment rates and low interest rates, 2020 could be a good year to have a plan for growth. A diversified portfolio for this next decade is a good portfolio,” says Harper. More tips from Harper can be found at [www.experian.com/education](http://www.experian.com/education).

While managing finances can seem intimidating, identifying trouble spots is the first step toward conquering your goals. (StatePoint)

# Keeping Kids’ Minds and Bodies Active



If you’re like many parents, you want to ensure that your little ones’ playtime gives them a chance to exercise both body and mind. Here are some fun ways to incorporate both into the equation.

- Outdoor fun: Outdoor fun can be had nearly any time of year. Carve out time each week for trips to the local playground or park and for short walks and scooter rides. The change of scenery will activate young minds naturally to explore the world around them.

- Movement through discovery: Seek out toys that inspire movement through the act of discovery. For example, Chase Me Casey, a monkey that skates, spins and wobbles across the floor, encourages children to dance and crawl after him. When your child gets close, Casey reacts with playful sounds and encouraging phrases. Five colorful shape buttons on the monkey’s shirt introduce letters, numbers, body parts, music and more.

- Music class: For young children, music class is a great way to connect mind and body,

as kids are introduced to simple rhythms, dancing, singing and percussion instruments. If music class doesn’t fit into your family’s schedule, you can always get the jams going at home, introducing your child to an array of musical styles.

- Toys to grow with: From floor play to first steps, look for toys that will assist your child with this crucial transition. For example, the VTech Stroll & Discover Activity Walker, which grows with your child, is nicely suited for floor play as its removable activity panel is packed with features like light-up piano keys, spinning gears and shape sorter pieces to help develop fine motor skills. When kids are ready, you can attach the panel to an adjustable two-speed walker, so they can learn and discover while on-the-move.

- Imaginative play: Let kids create their own adventures using their imagination as a guide. Toys such as Starshine the Bright Lights Unicorn can add whimsy and adventure to active playtime. Place the seven charms on any of the three

magic hearts to see the horn light up and hear colors, objects and phrases in English or Spanish. Use the charms to answer quiz questions or add sound effects to create your own special song. Squeeze the unicorn’s tail to see her wings flap and hear phrases and sound effects. Starshine’s majestic hooves feature wheels so kids can push her as they head off on their next adventure.

- Simon Says: “Simon Says” is a fun game to get kids moving while reinforcing vocabulary, from learning the names of different body parts to distinguishing sounds, such as “Simon Says cluck like a chicken.” This is a game that can progress with your child’s development. Start with the basics like, “Simon Says touch your nose.” As kids get more coordinated, try stuff like “Simon Says hop on one leg.”

Keeping kids active and engaged adds meaning to playtime and makes things more fun. With toys and activities, you can foster discovery and imagination while introducing movement to children. (StatePoint)

# Monrovia Unified Recognized With Golden Bell Award for Dual Enrollment Partnership with Citrus College

**MONROVIA** – Monrovia Unified’s Early College Program (ECP), a dual-enrollment partnership with Citrus College that allows students to graduate from high school with up to two years of college coursework, has been recognized with a Golden Bell Award by the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Superintendent Dr. Katherine Thorossian and Director of Counseling, College and Careers Dr. Catherine Real accepted the award on behalf of the District during the CSBA annual conference, held in San Diego on Dec. 5, 2019.

“Monrovia Unified’s Early College Program is allowing first-generation students to receive a head start on their college education and create a culture of high expectations throughout the District,” Thorossian said. “Thank you to the CSBA for recognizing the hard work of our ECP team and the innovative vision of our Board of Education.”

The four-year program is designed to ease the financial burden of higher education and increase the number of underserved students who enroll in colleges and universities. The



Director of Counseling, College, and Career Dr. Catherine Real (left) and Superintendent Dr. Katherine Thorossian receive the Golden Bell Award for the District’s Early College Program during the California School Boards Association Annual Education Conference.

ECP is offered at no cost, with courses taught by college instructors and Monrovia High School teachers at Monrovia High.

Monrovia Unified students can earn up to 54 units of transferable credits – about two years of college – providing a savings of as much as \$70,000 for tuition, books, housing and other costs for attending the University of California. Since the program’s inception in 2017, more than 150 students have earned nearly 1,400

college credits.

Of the students in Monrovia Unified’s Early College Program, 41% qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, 35% are first-generation college candidates and more than 50% are Latino or African-American. The program’s passing rate is 95%, surpassing Citrus College’s rate by 25%.

“African American, Latino, and socioeconomically disadvantaged students are underrepresented in higher education,” Real said. “We want to



Early College students pose during one of the college visits that occurs throughout the school year, which give students a taste of the college experience.

build upon our district culture of equity and access for every student, increase student engagement, and provide relief for our families as they face the task of financing the ever-increasing cost of a college education.”

Students are recruited during their final year at middle school, with many starting the ECP the summer prior to freshman year with a Strategies for College Success course taught by a Monrovia Unified counselor. Other ECP courses include Basic Photography, History of

Rock and Roll, Physical Oceanography, Art History and Public Address.

In 2016, the California State Legislature passed AB 288, which facilitated the establishment of College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) to expand dual-enrollment opportunities for underserved students.

The Golden Bell Award is one of California’s leading educational honors, presented by the CSBA to promote excellence in public education and school board governance by recognizing

outstanding programs and governance practices.

“The Early College Program provides an array of opportunities for our college-bound students to experience the rigors of college classes and reduce the cost of a college education,” Board President Rob Hammond said. “Monrovia Unified is committed to providing our community the support and resources required to ensure world-class education to world-class students.”

## Glendora High School Music Program To Present 2020 Bandorama



Scene from 2019 Bandorama. (Photo by Patricia Kramer)

by Howard Palmer

**GLENDORA** - The Glendora High School Tartan Band and Pageantry has completed another very successful season of parade and field competitions for 2019 and will be presenting their 51st Annual Bandorama on Friday, January 10 at 7:30p.m. at the Citrus College Haugh Performing Arts Center.

Bandorama features the instrumental music program of GHS. The program will include the Tartan Marching Band and Pageantry 2019 competition field show, “Mechanize”. In addition there will be showcase performances by the Jazz Band, Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Pipe Band, Drum Line and ever popular traditional Scottish dancing.

Band Director, Scott Schwarz, now in his 28th year leading this program has ex-

pressed each year, “This is our opportunity to showcase the musical talent at Glendora High to the community and let them know how much we appreciate their support”. When there are significant accomplishments Scott is always one to point them out as he exclaimed, “Our Pipe Band this year went undefeated in competition”. “We are planning to compete in the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland this August”.

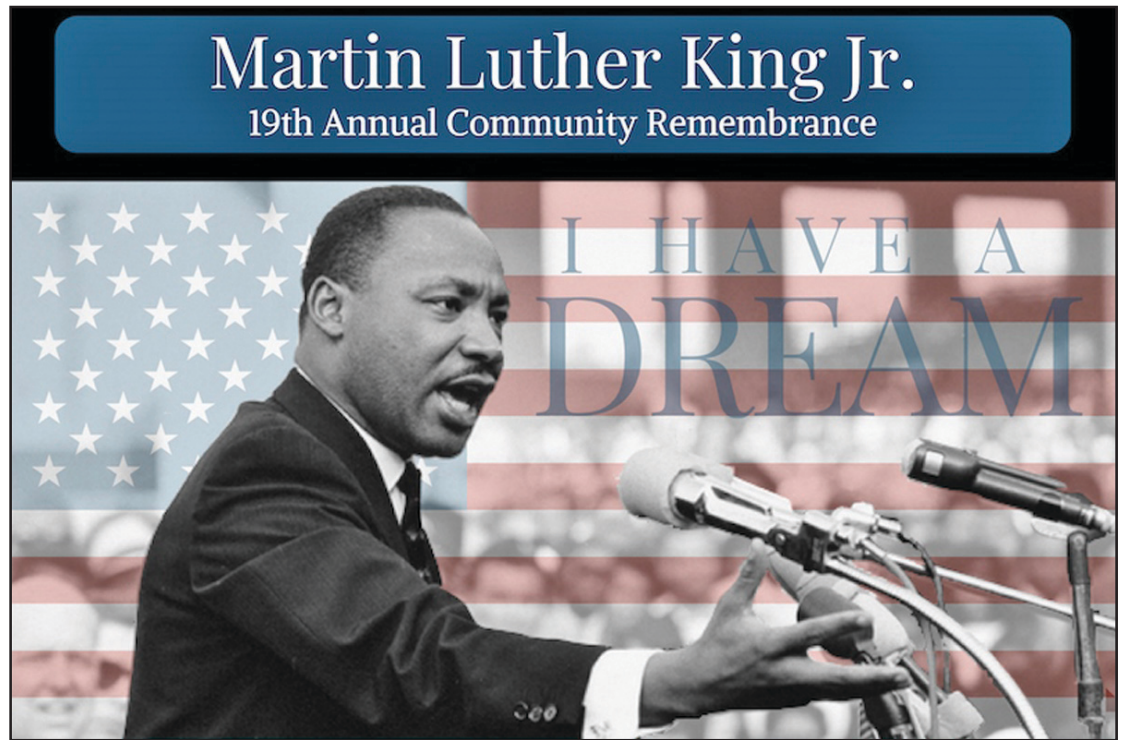
Mr. Schwarz is also very proud of the Tartan Pageantry under the direction of Linda Bergslien. Linda has worked with Mr. Schwarz for 24 years.

Donning traditional Scottish uniforms accented by the Royal Tartan and modeled after the famous 42nd Black Watch, the GHS Tartan Band and Pageantry present a stunning sight. The finale with the

playing of “Scotch on the Rocks and Scotland the Brave” always brings the audience to its feet. This is an evening of music and fun, so add this program to your “must see” list to start off the new year. Attend and applaud the students for their hard work and dedication.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission or \$25 for a seat within the Golden Circle. Golden Circle ticket holders are invited to a special reception before the show and have preferred entry to the auditorium where they will have the best seats in the house. Tickets are available by calling Scott Schwarz at the Band Music Department, 626-963-5731, ext 5011. Tickets may also be purchased at the Haugh Performing Arts Center at Citrus College the night of the performance.

## Duarte to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Through Service



**DUARTE** - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. urged people to join hands and work together for positive change. Embracing that spirit, the City of Duarte invites members of the community to join us in a two-part memorial for the civil rights leader, including a park clean-up day.

On Saturday, January 11th at 9 a.m., Duarte youth, members of the City Council and School Board, along with community members, will clean up Royal Oaks Park (2627 Royal

Oaks Drive). Tools will be provided; well-worn clothing is suggested.

Then on Saturday, January 18th at 10 a.m., meet at the corner of Royal Oaks Drive and Buena Vista Street to march the Donald & Bernice Watson Recreation Trail. The march will conclude at Royal Oaks Park, where guest speakers, music, and live performances will take place.

Sponsored by the City of Duarte and Duarte’s Promise:

The Alliance for Youth (AmeriCorps), the event will also feature the winners of the annual Duarte Teen Center Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest. To RSVP for the park clean-up, contact Daisy Perez at (626) 357-7931, ext. 206 or email [americorpspr@accessduarte.com](mailto:americorpspr@accessduarte.com).

For more information on the 19th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance event, contact Lupe Valerio at (626) 357-7931 ext. 260.

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\*APY = Annual Percentage Yield.

1. New Member Certificate: This 12-month Term Share Certificate (TSC) has a \$1,000.00 minimum balance and \$4,000.00 maximum balance per member. Account must be funded with new funds or funds deposited less than 30 days prior to opening. Early withdrawal penalties do apply which may reduce the principal. At maturity, this TSC will automatically renew for a 12-month term at the prevailing 12-month rate unless we are notified in writing prior to the maturity date. Offer valid for 60-days from membership opening. One certificate per member.

Rates are accurate as of 07/01/2019. Rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Additional restrictions apply. Must qualify for membership. A \$2 membership fee may apply. The credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration. Added savings protection provided by American Share Insurance. Please speak to a credit union representative for details. Equal Housing Opportunity.

