



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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25 cents

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

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 46

STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

November 12 - 18, 2020

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Río Hondo College Celebrates Graduation of 49 Cadets in Police Academy Class No. 210

WHITTIER—Río Hondo Police Academy celebrated the graduation of 49 cadets in Class No. 210 during a special drive-through ceremony held Nov. 5 at the College's Whittier campus that followed COVID-19 physical distancing guidelines.

The event featured the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipe and Drums Corps, a presentation of colors by the Pasadena Police Department Honor Guard and an invocation by Covina Police Chaplain Ron Butler.

"After six long months of intensive training amid very restrictive COVID-19 conditions, the cadets of Class 210 have earned the right to graduate from the Río Hondo Police Academy, joining the ranks of hundreds of police officers and police chiefs who have come before them at the Río Hondo Police Academy since 1964," Acting Superintendent/President Teresa Dreyfuss said.

Cadet training covers constitutional law, criminal law, domestic violence, traffic enforcement, emergency vehicle operations, tactical first aid and CPR, mental health, lifetime fitness, firearms, among other subjects mandated by Peace Officer Standards and Training.

The cadets represent 23 police departments from Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties, who



Glendora Police Officer Emma Olague, pictured with Glendora Police Chief Matt Egan and Capt. Matt Williams, graduated from the Río Hondo College Police Academy with Class 210. Officer Olague graduated as the Top Academic Cadet in her class.



Azusa Police Officer Vianney Garcia pictured with Azusa Police Chief Mike Bertelsen, graduated from the Río Hondo College Police Academy with Class 210

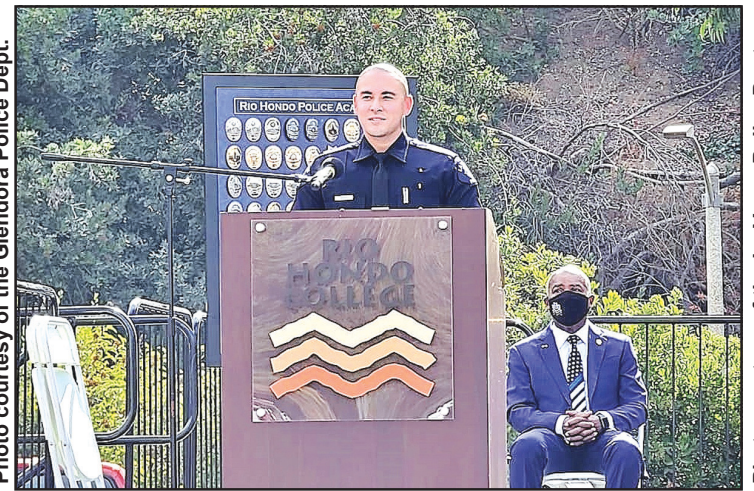
sponsored their instruction. Class President Jullian Silva noted the unique circumstances

surrounding the training, which began in early March but was halted briefly by the pandemic. When the class resumed in May with new precautions, 17 new cadets joined – from many walks of life.

"Our oldest officer in the class is 43 years old and fulfilling a lifelong goal," Silva said. "Our youngest is 21 and is living the dream. Our class includes veterans, EMTs, realtors, students and the list goes on. But no matter our past profession, we all came here with a common goal, and that was to become a police officer and to serve our communities in a way we have never done before."

Academic Director Walter Allen III reminded the cadets of the grave responsibility they inherit. "You are the new guardians of our great democracy charged with tremendous responsibility and authority to enforce the law," Allen said. "It will be important that you use this newly acquired power with the highest ethical standards, compassion, care and wisdom."

The event was attended by Río Hondo College Board of Trustees President Oscar Valladares, Trustee Rosaelva Lomeli, Río Hondo College Vice President of Finance and Business Stephen Kabui, Division of Public Safety Dean Mark Yokoyama and Río Hondo Police Academy Advisory Board Members Anthony



La Verne Police Officer Jullian Silva graduated from the Río Hondo Police Academy as President of Class 210



Azusa Police Officer Spencer Shepard pictured with Azusa Police Chief Mike Bertelsen, graduated from the Río Hondo College Police Academy with Class 210. Officer Shepard received the Honor Cadet Award for best overall performance and an award for Top Scenario Training performance



Baldwin Park Police Department's newest member, Officer Janae Moreno (middle) graduated from the Río Hondo College Police Academy with Class 210.

Miranda (chief of the Vernon Police Department) and David Reynoso (chief of the El Monte Police Department). In addition, chiefs from 21 additional police agencies attended.

Cadets of Class No. 210

Officer Spencer Shepard, Officer Vianney Garcia, Officer Jullian Silva, Police Recruit Jorge Barragan, Officer Javier Covarrubias, Officer Beatriz Rueda, Police Recruit Alyssa Barrera, Officer Carlos Maldonado, Police Recruit Emmanuel Castillo, Officer Janae Moreno, Police Recruit Tadeo Gonzalez Garcia, Officer Peter Choi, Officer Anthony Kardosh, Officer Bryan Rico, Police Recruit Salvador Herrera, Officer Marshall Kang, Officer Kimberly Izaguirre, Officer Jacob Gil, Officer Ashley Crenshaw, Police Recruit Derek Lau, Officer Emma

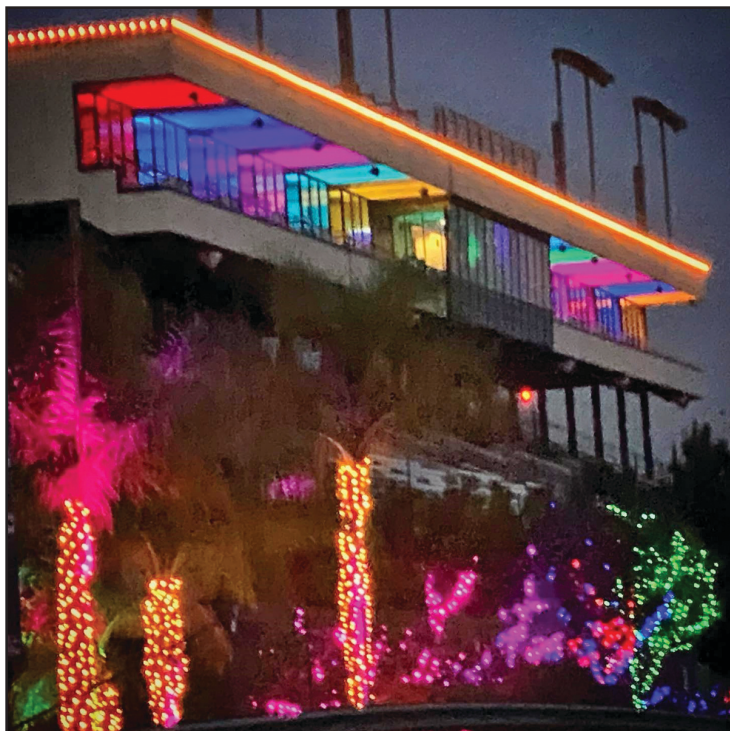
Olague, Officer Carlos Perez, Police Recruit Christopher Lopez, Officer Christopher Calaguining, Officer Jennifer Mero, Police Recruit Taylor Maricle, Officer Judy Chen, Officer Bryan Gonzalez, Officer Jeremiah Nava, Officer Gerson Pleitez, Police Recruit Alberto Mejia, Officer Bryanna Fierro, Officer Robert Jaramillo, Officer Nikolooas Kaldaras, Officer Eric Riddle, Police Recruit Araceli Salazar, Officer Destiny Ruiz, Officer Christopher Rodriguez, Officer Daniel Duarte, Officer Julio Mora, Officer Tyler Williamson, Police Recruit Jose Yamasaki, Officer Sebastian De La Torre, Officer Avelardo Ocampo, Officer Georgina Vargas, Officer Ederson Gramajo, Officer Cynthia Maciel, Officer Melissa Legget and Officer Virginia Granados Martinez.

Irwindale Speedway Brings Holiday Cheer To Families With Debut Of Santa's Speedway Christmas Lights Drive-Thru Spectacular

IRWINDALE – Irwindale Speedway & Event Center, the premier motorsports facility of its kind in Southern California, in collaboration with Mobile Illumination, the company known for its spectacular Christmas tree lighting extravaganzas at The Grove, Warner Brothers and Universal Studios, announced that it will open Santa's Speedway Christmas Lights Drive-Thru, its all new, holiday themed immersive experience for families on November 25, 2020. Advanced tickets for the limited engagement all ages experience are available starting today on www.santasspeedway.com.

Open to the public from November 25, 2020 - January 10, 2021, this 30-45 minute safe yet riveting experience is designed to transport families of all ages into the magical world of Christmas as they witness first-hand a series of jaw dropping Christmas scenes and holiday themed vignettes. As families enter Santa's Speedway between a pathway of California's largest color changing display of palm trees, they will experience the exhilaration of driving on an actual NASCAR racetrack as they come across Santa's Village with elves hard at work, a land filled with Christmas sweets including 20ft tall illuminated lollipops, Rudolph's Enchanted garage filled with Racecar Reindeers, a 100 ft long lit Christmas bow and light display, plus a scene worthy of grabbing Santa's attention - the world's largest free standing light tree, measuring 110ft and made up of over 100,000 LED lights.

"At Mobile Illumination, our team thrives on creating exciting destination experiences that families can enjoy and Christmas has been at the foundation of



some of our favorite projects," said Jason Zdenek, president of Mobile Illumination. "Irwindale Speedway is the perfect canvas in which to paint the Magic of Christmas. We have designed a several mile long experience that will offer guests the thrill of driving on an actual race track combined with the joys of Christmas lighting, decorations, and memories that will last a lifetime."

Families in search of something additionally sweet will be able to enjoy themed concessions including Christmas cocoa and pre-packaged holiday treats, an interactive scavenger hunt, as well as the opportunity to mail a letter to Santa and get an actual email back. Special social media handles for Instagram: @SantasSpeedway and Facebook: Santa's Speedway Christmas Lights Drive-Thru will also be made available for participants to share their experience with loved ones online.

"As a family entertainment

venue, it was only natural for the Speedway to look for ways for the community to come together and share in the positive spirit of the holiday season," said Tim Huddleston, president of Irwindale Speedway. "While the holidays may not look the same for many, we look forward to welcoming families throughout Southern California to our state of the art facility, and providing them with a drive-thru experience that is bound to not only inspire but to make Christmas this year a little bit brighter."

Santa's Speedway Christmas Lights Drive Thru Spectacular at the Irwindale Speedway & Event Center will run nightly starting at 5 pm and will cost \$75 per car. During the experience, all passengers must be in a seat with a seat belt, and must wear masks if outside of the car during restroom and concession use.

For more information about the experience, please visit www.santasspeedway.com.

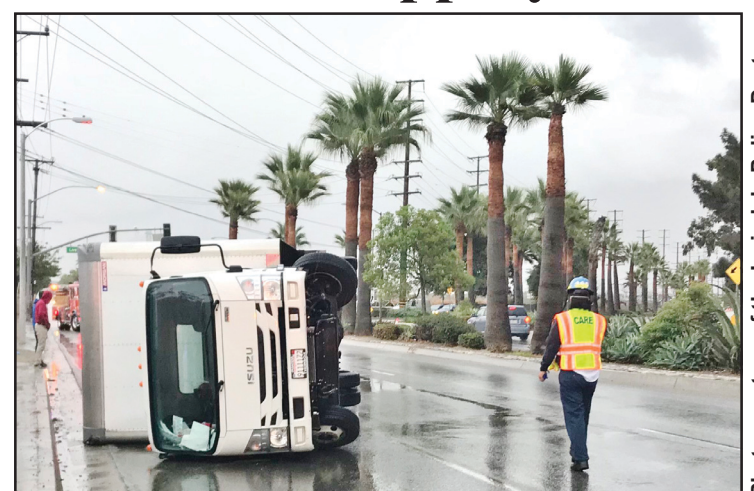
Truck Flips on its Side on Slippery Roads

By George Ogden

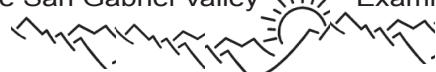
IRWINDALE - Saturday morning brought rains to the valley and its share of accidents. In Irwindale, a truck which was headed westbound on Live Oak came up to the Arrow Highway.

As the truck made the left turn to continue on Live Oak, the truck fishtailed on the wet asphalt and being a high-profile box truck, it turned on its side.

The driver was not injured even though the paramedics showed up. The wet weather along with an unsafe speed making the turn was the cause



Truck ends up on its side in wet weather. Photo IPD of the accident. The number two lane was blocked until they were able to upright the box truck and open the lane up.



Barbara Seidner Passed Away On Sunday October 25th, She Was 67 Years Old.

Barbara was a longtime Glendora resident, She was the Daughter of Ed and Joyce Seidner, she is survived by her Mother Joyce, Husband Tom Kramer, Sons Jacob and Taylor, Brothers Steve and Ron and numerous Nieces, Nephews and loved ones that she affectionately referred to as her "Tribe".

Barbara and her Mother Joyce were the founders and proprietors of the well known "Village Kitchen Shoppe" that they started together in 1983. They provided the community with high end cookware, cooking classes and generally a great place to learn about good food and how to prepare it. Joyce and Barbara were Mother and Daughter, friends and business partners, inseparable to the end.

After close to 25 years of running the Kitchen Shoppe, Barbara was asked by her Father Ed to help with the Family Property Management Business, ERS Partners. She brought the same loving touch to managing properties as she did to the Kitchen Shoppe, always trying to take good care of everyone, it was her nature and just who she was.

In May of 2014 Barbara would marry Tom Kramer and a new chapter of her life would begin, with someone to love and seek out life's adventures. They traveled together throughout Europe, always looking for that special food experience, or something exciting like an ebike ride through Paris. She would share her journeys with her friends on Facebook and inspiring others to travel in her footsteps.

When she wasn't traveling or planning her next trip, she and



Tom would spend time at Pismo Beach, where they kept a Trailer near the Ocean. It was a great way to wind down from a busy week and she would look forward to weekend BBQ's and visits from friends and family.

Barbara had an artistic side like her Mother Joyce (who draws beautifully) Barbara loved to create beautiful Mosaics that you would see throughout her home and yard.

Barbara always seemed to manage a wonderful balance to her busy life, as Single Mother, Businesswoman and Traveler, she always brought energy and passion to whatever she was doing.

She set an example of how to have a life well lived.

Barb was loved by all who knew her and was a beautiful soul filled with love. Her heart was always open to all, as well as her love of sharing her amazing meals to all that came to her home. She was genuine pleasure to know. Barbara had a wonderful spirit and inspired those around her to embrace life to the fullest. She will be missed by everyone that knew her.

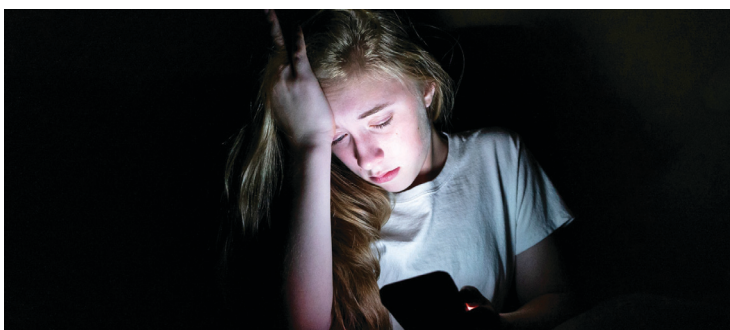
Due to Covid restrictions a small family Memorial Service has already been held and she is resting in peace at Mount Sinai Memorial Park

What Parents Can Do About Cyberbullying Amid the Pandemic

Screen time is on the rise for kids and teens as a result of remote learning and social distancing measures. At the same time, cyberbullying and hate speech are reaching new heights amid the current crisis, according to analysts.

A recent new study conducted by Light recorded a 70 percent uptick in hate among children and teens during online chats since December 2019. While this is worrying, there are steps parents can take to help protect kids from the surge of online toxicity they may be encountering:

- Pay attention: There are many common red flags that a child is either involved in cyberbullying or a victim of it. Those who are instigating or participating in cyberbullying may exhibit increased secrecy around their mobile device or laptop, display arrogance or have other behavioral problems. Signs your



child is a target of cyberbullies include depression and anxiety, (particularly while or after using their device), problems with sleeping, changes in appetite, self-harm or suicidal thoughts.

- Communicate: Open a line of dialogue with your child about what they are experiencing, but be patient. Your child may be reticent to share everything going on with you at first. It can be helpful to draw in the assistance of another adult role model or even a professional therapist. If your child is the one doing the bullying, work on identifying

their motivations, so you can better address the root of the issue, and of course, continue to serve as a positive role model when it comes to expressing empathy and kindness toward others.

- Keep kids active: When remote class time is not in session, it's important to place an emphasis on spending quality time offline. Encourage kids to be physically active outdoors in order to raise levels of mood-boosting hormones and promote better sleep at night (something that may be suffering more these days as a result of additional blue light from screens). If possible, arrange for socially distanced meet-ups with close friends, such as bike rides. Get kids involved in positive hobbies like reading, playing an instrument or art.

- Manage screen time: As parents know, actually managing screen time can be tricky. Kids are not always upfront about what they are doing online and there are many hours a day where it's simply impossible to monitor your child. However, new tools are proving essential in helping parents protect kids from the harmful effects of cyberbullying. For example, OurPact from Eturi Corp. is an app that allows parents to set online schedules for kids, as well as grant or restrict access to websites and apps. Parents can also take screenshots of online activity to ensure their kids are staying safe. These can also be used to facilitate discussions regarding smart digital health. To learn more or download, visit OurPact.com.

While the "new normal" has caused a dangerous uptick in toxic online behaviors, parents have new tools at their disposal to help protect kids. (StatePoint)

Minute with the Mayor

Currently LA County health guidelines prevent us from hosting live events this year. Though the Holiday Stroll won't take place, the Glendora City Council has a special virtual tree lighting celebration in store for you!

This is the time of year we often reflect on how many local non-profit organizations need our help. 2020 has been tough on all of us, and it's important to remember the work these non-profits do to help the less fortunate.

Each year, Giving Tuesday sweeps the globe and helps un-



Michael Allawos Mayor of Glendora

leash the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

This year, Giving Tuesday is December 1st. Please consider donating your time and or money to help local non-profits.

Finally, I want to challenge our businesses across Glendora to decorate their store fronts a little extra this holiday season. Even though many traditional events may be cancelled or look different, lets show our Glendora spirit and light up the hearts of our community during these challenging times.

I know that we can bring an inviting and warm Glendora holiday cheer to everyone!

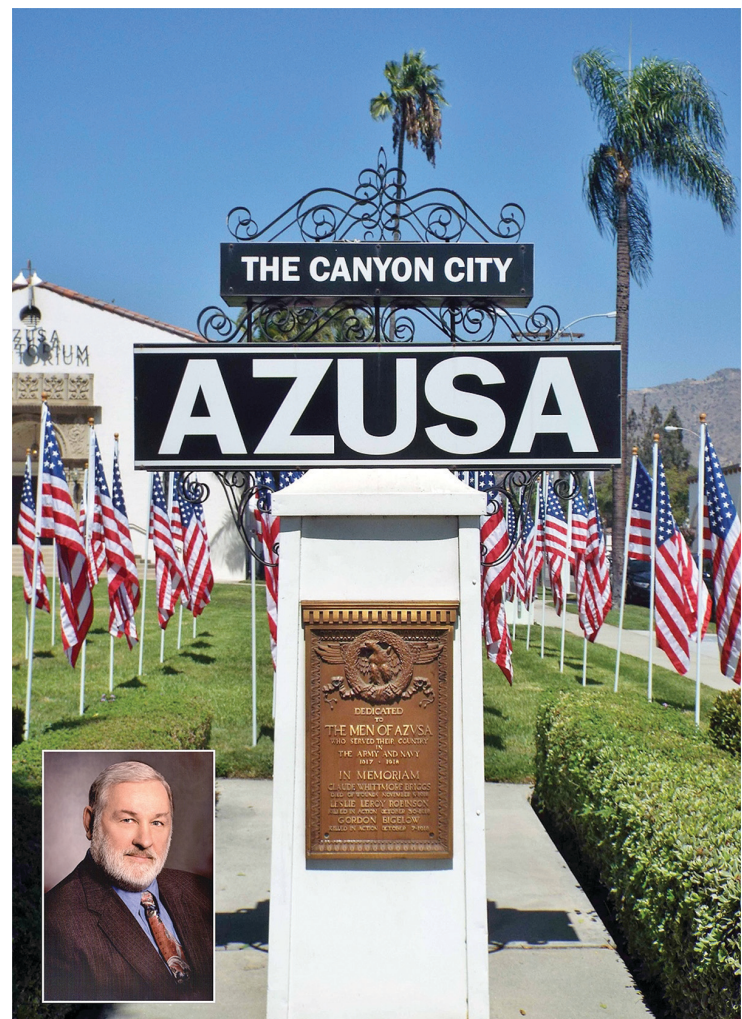
Remembering Veterans, Past and Present

As we enter into this season of celebration and thanksgiving, the turmoil and struggles of 2020 may have left some of us feeling a bit isolated and less that celebratory.

The bravery and sacrifice of the millions of men and women who have served in our nation's military, however, is something worth remembering. It is a cause around which we can unite as a nation and celebrate this Veteran's Day.

With an estimated 18.8 million US veterans living today, it is safe to say that most of us knows a veteran. They come from all walks of life and span several generations. My father served in the United States Airforce as a navigator in WWII. A school friend, Major Richard Elzinga, paid the ultimate price as a pilot in the skies over Vietnam. And with more than 3 million veterans who supported the War on Terrorism, I have had the honor of teaching many of them at colleges and on their military bases.

According to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, there are currently 1.8 million military veterans living in California. Many of them have enrolled in a community college for the education and skills they need to transition to productive civilian lives. Each year, approximately 89,000 veterans, active duty service members and dependents are enrolled at a California community college. And while a global pandemic has threatened to put a halt to their plans, community colleges are creating new and unique ways to continue serving student veterans.



Plaque dedicated to Azusa Veterans at Azusa City Hall; lower left, Dr. Edward C. Ortell, Citrus College Governing Board Member

Citrus College, serving the San Gabriel Valley, is one such college. Although the college campus was closed for the 2020 spring and fall semesters, the staff of its award winning Veterans Success Center have continued to work remotely to provide veterans with the information and support they needed to persist in their studies and successfully complete their academic goals.

Today, the men and women who have served in our nation's military, past and present are our friends, our neighbors and valued members of our communities.

Their courage and service to others did not end when they returned home to civilian life, and they deserve our respect, thanks and remembrance on Veterans Day and beyond.

About the Author:
Dr. Edward C. Ortell is the senior governing board member at Citrus College and a Professor Emeritus at Pasadena City College. He has served on the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) state board of directors and 11 terms as president of the Citrus College Board of Trustees.

Fire and Explosion at an Irwindale Cabinet Manufacturing Plant



A stubborn fire at a cabinet manufacturing plant got scary when a dust silo exploded into a fireball and sent firefighter running for cover. IPD/L.A. Co. FD

By George Ogden
IRWINDALE - On November 7th just before 6 a.m. the Los Angeles Fire Department responded to a fire at 4414 N. Azusa Canyon Road in Irwindale. This is the Decore-ative Specialties which is a cabinet manufacturing plant. The plant is located behind the Pepsi plant on Azusa Canyon Road. The Decore-ative Specialties has been in operation since 1965.

The fire was to the rear of the building near a dust collection silo. Sawdust is highly combustible when it is a floating mass.

At some point while the firefighters were fighting the fire, the silo exploded into a fireball which sent the firefighters running to take cover. There was one main fire line already in place with a number of other lines being deployed to get more water

on the fire when the explosion happened. No firefighter was injured from the explosion or while fighting the fire.

After they got more lines in to fight the fire, they got it under control. Firefighters remained on the scene for hours to make sure there were not going to be any more issues.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

VIRTUAL CITIZENSHIP CLINIC

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2020
9 AM - 2 PM

Pre-Register at:
<https://tinyurl.com/VirtualClinicCovina>

or through the
CARECEN Naturalization Hotline:
(213) 814-5248

Pre-Registration Deadline:
NOVEMBER 10, 2020

CARECEN and The Covina Public Library are partnering to offer a Virtual Citizenship Clinic.

FEMA Financial Support Deadline Extended for LA County Residents Affected by the Bobcat Wildfire

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Los Angeles County residents who lost their home or sustained other losses due to the recent Bobcat wildfire can apply to receive federal assistance now. The deadline to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been extended to December 16, 2020. FEMA gives eligible wildfire survivors financial support to help pay for needs such as rent, home repairs, medical/dental costs, funeral expenses and other disaster-related expenses.

If you are a Bobcat wildfire survivor, you can register for FEMA assistance in three ways:

- Online at www.disasterassistance.gov;
- Download the FEMA app on your smartphone or tablet; or
- Call the FEMA Helpline at 1-800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585) between 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time. The helpline has specialists who speak many different languages.

If you use a relay service such as a videophone, InnoCaption or

CapTel, provide FEMA the specific number assigned to that service when you register. When registering for FEMA assistance, be prepared to provide your personal information, including your Social Security number, insurance policy information and a description of the damages or losses suffered due to the Bobcat wildfire. For additional Bobcat wildfire recovery resources, please visit www.lacounty.gov/recovery or dial 2-1-1 for information and resources.

Fraud Alert: Do Your Research Before Hiring Companies Providing Services

ARCADIA - The Arcadia Police Department recently learned about a theft of property by a moving company. The victims hired a moving company to move their belongings to their new residence out of state. The moving company picked up the victims

belongings but never delivered it to their new residence. The victims believe the moving company they hired is a fraudulent company. The above incident is under investigation by Arcadia PD Investigators.

We recommend doing some research on any company before entering in an agreement with them. Start with a simple internet search. Search for reviews of the company. When evaluating these reviews, look for more recent ones. Read the reviews, don't just look at the ratings. See what other customers are saying about the business. Typically, people will write reviews for businesses that are really good, or really bad.

The Better Business Bureau (www.BBB.org) is a great place to get customer reviews on businesses. Another place to search for ratings on businesses is Yelp (www.yelp.com). Check the business address of the company on a mapping service (i.e.: Google Maps). Verify the address is valid and that the business is located there. If you find a business located in a residential area, that should be a reason to search further. The Arcadia Police Department encourages you to research any business before engaging in an agreement for any services. The more you know, the less likely you are to become a victim.

Ex-Motel Desk Clerk Pleads No Contest in Sex Trafficking Case

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - A man has pleaded no contest for his role in sex trafficking at a Pomona motel where he worked, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today. Ravirajsihn Zala entered his plea to one count of human trafficking of a minor for a commercial sex act. He was immediately sentenced to 18 days in county jail, placed on formal probation for five years, perform 60 hours

of community service and register for life as a sex offender. Deputy District Attorney Trudi White-Black of the Human Sex Trafficking Section, Sex Crimes Division, prosecuted the case. Between August and September 2018, Zala rented rooms to sex workers at a Pomona motel and demanded a portion of their earnings from their commercial sex transactions.

Two Die in Violent Covina Freeway Crash

By George Ogden
COVINA - Late Sunday night, CHP responded to an accident on the eastbound lanes of the I-10 freeway in the Covina area. When the first responders arrived, they found a two-vehicle crash between a white Nissan and a Honda Odyssey. The occupants from the Nissan were killed in the accident. The occupants of the Honda got out and fled the

scene but eventually returned to the scene of the accident. One of the occupants required medical treatment and was transported to the hospital. The identities of all involved were not released. It is unknown what the cause of the accident was. There is an ongoing investigation at this time. No further details were released by the CHP.

City Of Azusa Recognized For Excellence In Financial Reporting

AZUSA - The City is pleased to announce it has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its most recent comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). This marks the 5th consecutive year the City has been honored with this award for demonstrating notable measures toward financial transparency and reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of government accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its

management. GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles. The City's CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to become informed about the City's finances. "Consistently creating an

award-winning CAFR is a significant step toward meeting our goals of ensuring financial health through continued public engagement and financial transparency, and it wouldn't be possible without the good work of our incredible Administrative Services Department," said Azusa City Manager, Sergio Gonzalez. "The City's Finance team is dedicated to working hard throughout the year to comply with governmental accounting standards and to present transparent and easy to understand financial reports, and this is yet another testament to those efforts," said Administrative Services Director, Talika Johnson.

Sheriff's Department Parking Enforcement Resumes On Sunday, November 15, 2020

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The stay-at-home order issued in early 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic brought to light the need for additional parking and a new way to address parking enforcement across Los Angeles County. Understanding the needs and challenges of those in the communities we serve, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Parking Enforcement Detail relaxed parking enforcement to help cope with parking availability and administrative concerns. In the face of new challenges to prepare for inclement winter weather, parking enforcement will resume issuing citations for all parking violations within the

public right of way. Beginning Sunday, November 15, 2020, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Parking Enforcement Detail will again issue street sweeping and expired registration citations, as well as, towing vehicles in the areas we serve across Los Angeles County. To avoid receiving a parking citation or having a vehicle towed, we urge drivers to be mindful of this change. Resumed enforcement will include:

1. Street sweeping: All streets with posted signs for street sweeping will be enforced, per 15.20.07(2) LACVC
2. Expired registration: Vehicles with expired registration

will be cited for 4000(a)(1)CVC; registrations expired in excess of six months, in violation of 4000(a)(1) CVC, will be towed, per 22651 (o)(1)(A) CVC

3. Red tag warnings: Red tag warnings will be issued to vehicles parked on the street not displaying signs of movement, including excessive dirt, debris underneath and around the tires, flat tires, missing parts, and vandalism. If the vehicle has not been moved after 72 hours or three days, a citation for Abandonment Prohibited - 22523(a)(b) CVC will be issued and an additional 48 hours or two days will be given. If the vehicle still has not been moved, it will be towed, per 22651(k) CVC.

County Seeks Input For Distribution Of Community Development And Housing Funds

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) invites residents of the unincorporated Los Angeles County communities and participating agency recipients to join a virtual Community Meeting to seek input for the County's 2021-2022 Action Plan. The Action Plan will disperse approximately \$33 million in Federal housing and community development funds for projects that improve community facilities, streets, and sidewalks, provide childcare pro-

grams, services for senior citizens and individuals experiencing homelessness, homebuyer assistance and home repair programs, low-interest business loans, and graffiti removal. The virtual Community Meeting will include a presentation of the County's Action Plan, grant funding available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and guide residents on how to provide input through a Resident Survey. In addition, three informational topics will be presented: fair hous-

ing, homelessness, and economic development. Speakers will share information about services relating to rent payments and evictions, the Los Angeles Coordinated Entry System, as well as COVID-19 relief efforts, and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and the Small Business Stabilization Loan Program. The Virtual Community Meeting will be held on Saturday, **November 14**, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on yourvoicecounts.lacda.org.

Citrus College Ranked Among Top Colleges, Universities In Nation For Hispanic Students

GLENDORA - Recognized as a top community college for Hispanic students for more than a decade, Citrus College was recently ranked among the country's top 100 colleges and universities, according to an annual list from the Hispanic Outlook on Education magazine. The publication, which has served the Hispanic community for 30 years, used data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and National Center for Education Statistics to determine which colleges and universities from across the nation enrolled and awarded degrees to the most Hispanic students. In its October issue, the magazine ranked Citrus College in the top 10 colleges and universities in two categories: ninth in the country for conferring family and consumer sciences/human sciences degrees to Hispanic students, and 10th in the country for conferring English

language and literature/letters degrees to Hispanic students. "Being recognized as one of the top degree producers in the nation for Hispanic students reflects our commitment to serving our diverse student body," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "The faculty and staff at Citrus College are dedicated to providing all students with the programs and tools they need to succeed." Additionally, the publication ranked Citrus College 17th in the country for total associate degrees awarded to Hispanic students in 2019, and 31st in the country among two-year schools for total Hispanic student enrollment in the 2018-2019 academic year. Being included in the "Top 100 Schools for Hispanics" list is one of several recognitions that Citrus College has received from the publication. For more

than 10 years, Citrus College has been recognized by the magazine as one of the nation's top community colleges. Additionally, in January, Citrus College was ranked first among all public two-year community colleges in the country for the second consecutive year for the number of associate degrees awarded in English language and literature/letters to minority students, according to Diverse: Issues in Higher Education, a national newsmagazine. "I am so proud to see Citrus College be included on the Hispanic Outlook on Education magazine's top colleges and universities list," said Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "Without our incredibly dedicated faculty and staff, such an accomplishment would not be possible."

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

Mission Statement

- We believe that journalism should be free from any motives other than relaying information to its readers. It should not be used to win a favor by flattery, to enhance a particular political interest, or for the purpose of financial gain.
- 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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DRIVE-THRU FOOD PANTRY



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No Hanging Chads, Only Mail-In Ballot Debacle

The 2000 Florida vote count got hung up on hanging chads and forced an elongated review before declaring George Bush President. Today we are looking at a complex situation with charges of fraud designed by use of emergency declarations using the COVID to create a massive vote by mail scheme.

This election is not over and is changing day by day and hour by hour. This is what I know as of Sunday at noon.

An average citizen's perspective, thinking out loud here ... First, President Trump said at the end of Tuesday, November 3rd, let's stop counting ballots. Election day is over. Joe Biden said, 'Election isn't over until every ballot is counted.'

All of a sudden, on Saturday night, Joe Biden decided to declare himself President and, to paraphrase, in his acceptance speech said, 'Ok, it's over ... I won ... so now we all need to come together and support me and my agenda.' Maybe Joe has spent too much time in his basement or did he, Harris and the party bosses decide to call it before President Trump could prove what was happening. If he thinks the Trump supporters are going to roll over on this election and the Biden Harris radical left agenda, he's wrong. And, I think President Trump knows exactly what's going on and isn't backing off one step.

Fox News, Lou Dobbs, with Tom Fitton, Judicial Watch, and Sydney Powell, former Federal Prosecutor and General Michael Flynn's defense attorney, discussed something new to me - Hammer & Scorecard Voting. Powell said on the program and reported on Public Intelligence Blog: "They (FBI) need to investigate the likelihood that 3% of the vote total was changed in the pre-election voting ballots that were collected digitally by using the Hammer program and the software program called Scorecard. That would have amounted for a massive change in the vote. It would have gone across the country and it explains a lot of what we're seeing. In addition, they ran an algorithm to calculate



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

the votes that they might need for Mr. Biden in specific areas."

Washington Examiner reported: Republicans are probing Michigan counties and suggesting investigations in Nevada and Arizona to determine whether Dominion Voting Systems technology errors caused votes to be counted incorrectly. A "little glitch" resulted in 6,000 votes erroneously given to Joe Biden rather than President Trump.

Arizona, Maricopa County, biggest in Arizona, there were rejected votes due to what is called "over voting." An overvote occurs when someone votes for more than the maximum allowed and the result is a vote or ballot which is not included in the final tally. (If a voter voted for two candidates when only one was allowed.) And, there were other cases where an entire ballot had been voted, counted and the registered voter of that ballot was challenged and perhaps not able to vote or had to vote provisionally. Was that provisional ballot counted or thrown away?

The Arizona election was called in favor of Biden Harris when there were still 100,000 ballots still to be counted and the votes between President Trump and Joe Biden were less than that 100,000. Did someone not tell Biden all the votes had not been counted?

In Philadelphia poll-watchers were not able to watch and even when a judge ordered the city election crew to allow observers, those orders were ignored. The phone call I received Saturday reported 89,000 ballots and 100,000 provisional ballots still

needed to be counted. Overseas and military ballots had not been counted.

The Philadelphia Inquirer reported not all of the state offices had been declared. GOP candidates held on to seats Democrats thought they could flip; Democrats did not take the state house; Democrats lost an auditor general seat; and, incumbent state treasurer trailed the Republican. How can you call a state election final for President when you haven't counted all the ballots? Strange a state flipping red would vote blue or Democrat for President.

Chuck DeVore, the Vice President, Texas Public Policy Foundation, said the state [Pennsylvania] "ironically"; has a "proud tradition of election fraud." DeVore gave an example where the Department of Justice indicted a Philadelphia election official on charges of bribery and election tampering 'just months ago.' Mentioned was Secretary of State, Kathy Boockyar, who has "a long history of very public statements against President Trump going back to when he first declared for office in 2015." Pennsylvania legislators are calling for a full audit and legal challenges have begun.

In Nevada ballots remain to be counted and Trump campaign said there are irregularities. Three thousand people voted who were not eligible to vote, others received three and four ballots and an individual filed a lawsuit because when she went to vote she was told her ballot had already been voted. Attorney General was notified.

Facebook: "I am a Venezuelan American and pro Trump. This happening in the election is a flashback of what happened in Venezuela during many elections trying to put Chavez or Maduro out of the power. Is a photo copy. Many times the opposition candidate was winning until in the middle of the night everything stop. And unexpectedly the government candidate start getting more votes and more votes and finally Chavez, or more recently, Maduro won."

Facebook: "I am a Venezuelan American and pro Trump. This happening in the election is a flashback of what happened in Venezuela during many elections trying to put Chavez or Maduro out of the power. Is a photo copy. Many times the opposition candidate was winning until in the middle of the night everything stop. And unexpectedly the government candidate start getting more votes and more votes and finally Chavez, or more recently, Maduro won."

What I see for the future for our country is a continued division of people. The healing process, if there is one, will take a long time. I think we'll be in trouble, especially our State of California.

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

The Post Election Bends

I ought to be on top of the world, but part of me just doesn't feel it. However, surrounding this shadow is a universe of joy, thanks, relief, euphoria and optimism. Now I realize that in recent years I normally have only had modest energy. Most days it is OK, but occasionally I just drag along. But what I am currently experiencing is different. When I asked my physician about this loss of my traditional zip he said, "I'll give you 90 reasons—one for every year." Or perhaps it is just a depletion of testosterone. So what is behind this physical and emotional shadow? I doubt if I am the only one dealing with this issue.

I digress. Some years ago I was in a physician's waiting room. Unfortunately I had forgotten to bring with me my handy Kindle reader, so I was reduced to perusing the five year old magazines one often finds in such places. Among them I came across a magazine dedicated to water sports that included an article about the dangers of deep



Charles H. Bayer

sea diving. It described the dangers when divers descend too far too quickly.

Another account detailed what happens when a diver is too quickly pulled to the surface. This painful and often fatal condition, called "the bends," results when gas bubbles form in the blood. To avoid this problem, professional divers are confined in decompression chambers, some time for hours.

Aha! Could it be I have been suffering from a case of the political bends? My brain has been deep in the political ocean for so

long that with the election finally determining the end of the contest, coming suddenly to the surface has caused physical and emotional air bubbles.

To add to the problem, when I looked around the surface, I saw what appeared to be a somber almost empty seascape now dominated by the silent circling fins of a deadly virus. A few days ago a friend of mine asked me to bring my calendar to a meeting, and when I looked at what I had planned for the coming months, the pages were blank!

I need to decompress from this consuming political contest. That will come over the next few days. In the meantime I need to resist diving back into the political ocean. Beside that, I doubt if anyone really might want to read anything I might write about the campaign or the election.

So I will slowly decompress until my usual robust spirit returns.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

A Message To All American Patriots!

Not since the Civil War has this Nation been so divided.

My Opinion: By D. B. Shimel

Our Constitutional Republic is under attack. This nation is at a turning point in history - will we continue to be a nation of freedom or turn into a nation controlled by socialist anarchists? Let there be no doubt that the American way of life is also under attack. The Socialist Democrat Party will destroy this nation that we all love!

For the past four years this nation and its legally elected President has had to endure the constant harassment of the Democrats. Since Donald Trump won the presidency this group of globalist socialists have been relentless in their vendetta against him and his administration. First he/we had to endure the Mueller Investigation of Russian collusion. This fiasco cost this nation two and one half years and over \$40,000,000 yet yielded only one conclusion. That conclusion is: the Democrats not Trump, was in collusion with the Russians.

Then came the Impeachment hoax. When that Democrat attack on our Constitutional Republic fell flat they had, as Nancy Pelosi said, one more arrow in their "quiver". That arrow is; Mail-in Voter Fraud. If you can't win an election, "rig it. This is the way to power in the Democrat handbook. To the socialist cause, there is no right or wrong, only winning power. As with the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, these modern day Marxist Socialists who rule the Democrat Party believe, "the end justifies the means".

If Biden and the Socialist Democrats prevail in this election, the only thing that can save

this nation is the United States Senate. The Senate can destroy the agenda of the Socialist Democrats. Assuming Republicans maintain control of the Senate, they can block bills to raise taxes; block appointments of radicals to a Biden cabinet; maintain the Filibuster rule; prevent packing of the Supreme Court; and, prevent the Democrats from adding two new Democrat controlled states to the union. If the Socialist Democrats control the Senate our freedom will be lost for the foreseeable future. Once freedom is lost only through revolution can it be regained.

Being one who has studied this nation's founding, I am reminded of the crisis of the Revolutionary War. In the winter of 1776/1777, the war was not going well for the rebel forces led by George Washington. At this time of need Washington and his troops were buoyed by another patriot, Thomas Paine. Paine wrote a pamphlet titled, "The American Crisis," in which he wrote the famous lines: "These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of this country, but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of men and women". Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as freedom

should not be highly rated." These words written so many years ago are just as true today as they were then. Patriotic Americans today face a challenge to our freedoms not so dissimilar to the tyranny facing those patriots that created this great nation. The times and crises we now face are different, but in so many ways are alike - this nation is in a time of great turmoil.

We too are facing a power that wants to control every aspect of our lives. Are we Patriotic Americans going to be summer soldiers and sunshine patriots? I say NO! To preserve our great nation all patriots must come together and fight back against the tyranny of the socialistic doctrine pushed by these globalist radicals of the Democrat Party.

With over fifty percent of the public under the age of thirty looking favorably on socialism, is there any hope of turning this around? Our public schools have become indoctrination centers for the socialist agenda. This battle for freedom must start in the schools. Social media and the radicals of the big TV networks must pay the price for depriving conservatives of their First Amendment rights.

Together we can change the future of this nation and thus ensure that this nation stays on the path of liberty, justice and opportunity for all. Borrowing the last line from the Declaration of Independence "... with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor." This must too become the pledge of all Americans Patriots today.

Election Train Wreck or What?

This election, in my opinion, made this once proud nation a laughing stock around the world. This whole thing was a complete train wreck. I don't trust it in the least. With the stuff we have seen and heard, how can we really trust the election? These mail-in ballots were compromised all over the place. Drop-off boxes were set on fire, or fake ones set up including in one candidate's headquarters in Orange County where they were collecting ballots and then finding many of them discarded in the trash bins nearby. There were allegations that non-English speaking voters being assisted by other people and showing them who to vote for... really?

The U.S. mail ended up being a joke as they have found mail in ballots being discarded or simply being dumped out somewhere.

I am sure you have seen the video of "vote counters" filling out blank ballots as they sat there. This was shown on the news from the security camera recordings. Ballot after ballot being filled out by these workers. It was posted on social media and YouTube.

Reports of cities and towns



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

with more votes cast than they have people living in the city. It seems that something could be a little fishy here.

Voting without ID confirmation is certainly not a good idea. Stolen ballots have been reported, bogus ballots are said to be out there. Not hard to duplicate these things.

People calling "foul" and "fraud" with these elections. You have one side with huge rallies and 100-mile caravans all over the place while the other candidate did not have much of a turnout and he appears to be the winner. You can see why people are questioning the count.

Social Media had hate cartoons and an epidemic of political fights online. There is so much hate out there it was unbelievable. When are we going to get back to posting pictures of our

food and pets on Facebook? For those that know and use Facebook, people are unfriending each other because of who they supported in this election.

What I see for the future for our country is a continued division of people. The healing process, if there is one, will take a long time. I think we'll be in trouble, especially our State of California.

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

Democrats Brought The Hate In What They Said

The Democrats are claiming the election is over and are ready to implement measures like packing the court, adding new Democrat senators through the creation of more states and do other measures including a removal of the filibuster to put their party in control for the unforeseen future.

A writer to the opinion letters page said the event of this happening would not be all Kumbaya. She also claimed that the Democrats were bringing the hate. And, in spite of pushback from other writers, you can't help but see the existence of their hate. It takes many forms reflected in many diverse issues, and, if one doesn't believe it, just listen to the Democrats say it. They have been saying a lot for a long time, and it should be of no surprise if one would just listen. The role of the Democrats has taken many forms.



Charles Lopresto

And just like that we became a Nation Divided.

"Black Lives Matter, separate graduations, separate fraternities and separate clubs." And just like that, the Progressives and their supporting media, entertainers, sports figures and party of the Left, admitted they were segregationists.

"Blow up the White House, get in their faces, take the fight to the streets. When was the last time

an actor considered assassinating the President? We also gave those who wish to destroy, the space to do that as well." And just like that, the Left admitted they were anarchists.

"Make the baby comfortable and then discuss what to do with it. Doctors take the Hippocratic oath too seriously..." And just like that, the Left admitted they were baby killers.

"(Forced buy back of weapons) is exactly what we will do." And just like that, the Left admitted they wanted to confiscate guns.

"I am hoping for a recession if that will remove Trump from office." And just like that, the Left admitted they hated America.

"We will not support anything this President proposes. We are committed to slow walking Trump's nominees... draw out the confirmation process." And just like that, the Left admitted they

were obstructionists.

"Compile a list of Trump donors and we will make sure they no longer are allowed to work." And just like that, the Left admitted they were McCarthyites.

The affirmations are endless. The attacks come from many sources.

Donald Trump, the controversial President who has become the main target of such diverse aggression, might well have found his greatest accomplishment in his ability to bring real transparency to the Left. He has caused the Left to be their own accomplices as they finally admit what they have tried so hard, for so long, to deny. They have President Donald Trump living rent free in all of their heads.

And just like that, the Left "happened." They became so emboldened; they just couldn't help themselves.

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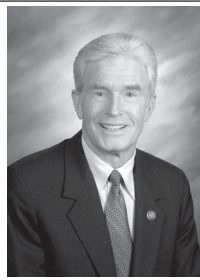
"It's Morning in America" - (Ronald Reagan, 1984)

We should hope Reagan's quote becomes more appropriate than Biden's recent quote: "We're about to go into a Dark Winter". My colleagues on Wall Street hope that Election Week doesn't turn into Election Month, or worse! The last time there was a contested Presidential election in 2000 it took five weeks to get election results. That bitter legal battle was only settled by the courts. In 2000 the market responded negatively to uncertainty, as the S&P 500 Index fell 8.4% between election day and the day Gore conceded in the wake of a Supreme Court ruling that ended the Florida recount.

Punch card voting ballots were summarily eliminated from the Florida election process, followed by national election changes by 2014. Interestingly, during the 2000 "hanging chad" election uncertainty, Bush and Gore were fairly civil in their decorum to each other. Life went on without major social upheaval, as it should. That was expected in the past.

Over the last 90 years, from 1929 to 2019, one party controlled both chambers of Congress as well as the White House in nearly half of those years. Despite huge market swings, the S&P 500 rose an average 7.45% during those 91 years (according to Dow Jones Market Data). During one party rule, market indexes were up 30 times and down 15 years. In the other 46 years, when there was a split government, the index climbed 7.26% on average, rising 29 times, falling 16 times, and remaining unchanged once. While political party control many not have statistically made much difference in the past, that was before one party went radical and supported socialism as

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

well as a green new deal!

There certainly has been a "V" shaped recovery brewing recently, as GDP rose at a 33.1% annual rate in the third quarter. Specific details look even better, with consumption beating expectations and private investment absolutely booming. The biggest drag on growth recently has been trade balances, reflecting the surge in demand from American consumers - which fueled imports - and relatively weaker recovery outside the US - which hurt exports.

The third quarter rise in GDP was bigger than the 2nd quarter drop in percentage terms, but smaller in dollar terms. Nevertheless, this is what a V-shaped recovery looks like. Of course, given this is political silly-season, and the candidates differ in their descriptions of the economy, it is important to realize they both are theoretically correct. As President Trump claimed, the recovery is V-shaped, and as Vice President Biden claimed, it is also K-shaped. That is, the recovery is not yet complete because recovery from the CCP's coronavirus caused recession has not yet equally benefited all lower earning workers. But don't ignore lockdowns in blue states, where employment in restaurants and other non-essential employers

are still severely restricted.

Nevertheless, economic growth boomed during the third quarter. There is only \$670bn, or 3.5%, of GDP to make up before the entire loss from the lockdown recession is recovered. To make that up in a single quarter, GDP would have to rise at a 15.1% annual rate (which is unlikely this quarter). Nevertheless, the economy could fully recover during the first half of 2021, especially if vaccines are as effective as are recently developed therapeutics in speeding COVID recovery. Nevertheless, COVID resurgence fears mean fourth quarter markets may be challenging, especially if Biden/Harris were to win.

The blame game, finger pointing and extreme uncertainty continue to come at the expense of our American society. "Your ALL OR NOTHING approach is hurting hard-working Americans who need help NOW," Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in response to a letter from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (which detailed six areas that must be addressed before stimulus talks could move forward in the Democratic controlled house). Pelosi's PORK included significant state and local (bail-out) funding. While another aid package is overdue, Pelosi said it may be possible to strike a COVID relief deal in the so-called lame-duck session of Congress.

In the meantime, markets will likely be volatile until at least the Presidential election is resolved.

LIVE LOCAL, SHOP LOCAL - THIS IS THE TIME OUR MERCHANTS NEED US

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

Your Money - Ask Julia

My mom just told me that Dad will probably be entering a nursing home next year. She's planning to apply for Medicaid for him. Does this mean that she'll have to 'spend down'?

There is a 5-year 'look back' limiting people from 'hiding' assets by various methods. However, in July 2009, a state Circuit Court of Appeals case sided with the agency that handles Medicaid services saying that monies in the family's combined asset base can be used for an income annuity for the "well spouse" as long as it follows the stated statutory guidelines. Even if these monies are greater than the asset allocation for the well spouse, by following the Medicaid Compliant rules, the annuity is okay. This means that couples will be able to reposition tens, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars into Medicaid-compliant annuities and not have the income from the annuities count against the aid a nursing home bound spouse can receive.

My parents are strongly encouraging me to start saving for retirement. I don't have much money for that but would like to start. What do you have for me?

You can start investing in your own IRA for around \$100 per month. Then, as your income increases, you can put in more. Or, you could apply for a life insurance policy that includes a cash-accruing account, available for you to use for anything you want (downpayment on a house, retirement, etc.) while you're alive. You might even ask your parents to match your retirement savings, up to a set limit, for the first year to help you get a start and build a good habit.



Julia Yoder

We both plan to retire in 7 or 8 years, but are worried that we won't be able to afford the payments on our mortgage that still has 12 years left. What could we do?

You have several choices. 1. Pay off your mortgage early. Go to Bankrate.com and use their mortgage amortization calculator. Put in the mortgage balance, rate, and number of years. This will allow you to see the amount you could pay each month in order to pay off your loan in 8 years rather than 12 years. 2. Refinance now, while still employed, into a 30-year mortgage to lower your payments to an affordable amount. You can still pay it off in a shorter time, but this gives you a lower payment, if needed. 3. Upon retirement, rent your home out, or sell it and obtain less-expensive housing. 4. In retirement, if you find yourself cash poor (not enough money to pay the essential bills) and you have a high amount of equity in your home, you might qualify for a reverse mortgage (HECM - Home Equity Conversion Mortgage), allowing you to stay in your home without mortgage payments. Use a loan profession-

al who specializes in Reverse Mortgages.

If I get an annuity, how can I know, for sure the income from it will last my whole lifetime?

Insurance companies use mortality tables to determine how long you are expected to live. However, nowadays, people are living longer. What happens if you annuitize your annuity and you live longer than the insurance mortality tables said you would? Depending on your annuity contract, and providing you selected the right payout option, the insurance company is obligated to continue paying no matter how long you live. You read that right. Even if your annuity is penniless, you could continue to receive income for the rest of your life.

We have lived and worked in California for 30 years. Now we want to retire in another state. Will California track us down for the deferred taxes on our retirement account?

Public Law 104-95 prohibits state taxation of certain pension income of nonresidents, received after December 31, 1995. In other words, the state you move from cannot collect taxes; the state you move to can.

Ask Julia by email:
juliayoder@yahoo.com

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THE CAR GURU

WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

How Is Your Transmission?

There are two types of transmissions, as you all know; manual and automatic. Here are some signs that they might need a checkup by a professional:

Automatic

- Thankfully today we don't have to guess as much as we did in days gone by. We have dashboard lights that illuminate to alert of a potential problem. It could be the "check engine light" and it may pinpoint it even better as a transmission problem by showing the "reduced power" light.
- If your car simply won't move even after it starts just fine, this could be telling you a major transmission failure has occurred.
- Slippage is another indication and is an odd sensation if you have never experienced it

before. It may be a simple issue like a control solenoid or a serious issue such as loss of pressure.

- If you notice a leak on the ground it could be transmission fluid. Look for red (fresh fluid) or shades of red/brown as the fluid ages.
- Noises you may experience if your transmission is not as healthy as it should be are grinding or whining.

Manual

- Just like with an automatic transmission, if your vehicle starts fine, but won't move, it could be a transmission issue.
- Shifting issues often indicate worn rings or gear teeth. These can make it difficult to shift gears, cause the gears to clash or even jump out of gear!
- If you notice a brown leak on the ground, this tells you the

gear oil is leaking. A professional can find the leak for you as it can come from a few locations.

- If you hear a growling, grinding or whining noise, this can signal low fluid, worn bearings and/or gears.

If your car is experiencing any of these problems, please contact your automotive repair professional. They can quickly diagnose the problem and tell you the best solution for your vehicle.

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CHP Ramps Up Efforts To Reduce Impaired Driving

SACRAMENTO— The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is launching a new education and enforcement campaign to reduce the number of crashes caused by impaired drivers in California. Efforts associated with the yearlong Safer Highways Statewide grant will continue through September 30, 2021.

The Safer Highways Statewide grant provides the CHP with funding to conduct additional driving under the influence (DUI) saturation patrols, DUI checkpoints, and traffic safety education efforts throughout the state. Additionally, the CHP will participate in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign.

"DUI is the result of poor decision-making, and too often, it has tragic consequences," said CHP Commissioner Warren Stanley. "If you drive while impaired, you could be arrested, or worse, involved in a crash."

In 2018, there were 566 deaths and 11,298 injuries associated with DUI crashes within the CHP's jurisdiction. Each one of these injuries and deaths represents a preventable tragedy and a continued need to focus efforts on reducing impaired driving.

The CHP reminds the public, "DUI Doesn't



Just Mean Booze." Alcohol, cannabis, prescription medications, illegal drugs, or any combination of these, can impair your ability to drive and will result in an arrest if you are under the influence. Always designate a sober driver, take public transportation, or call a taxi or a ride-share service. There is always a better option than getting behind the wheel while intoxicated. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety, through NHTSA.

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RECYCLE

Around the Valley & Senior News

Covid-19: The Twofold Pandemic

It takes a pandemic to show America's true colors. Racism towards Asians in the United States has been largely ignored; amid a pandemic, this bigotry has been amplified, and it is now more crucial than ever for society to take a stand. Covid-19's second wave is on the brink, and the United States has just reached a record number of daily cases on October 24th. Along with this, the anti-Asian sentiment has risen once again.

According to NBC news, anti-Asian conspiracies rose 85% after news of Trump's Covid-19 diagnosis was announced, seemingly attributed to frustration over Asian people "starting" the virus. This virus does not seem to be ending anytime soon, but what Americans can do is to end this false narrative. When political leaders, celebrities, and popular culture are targeting specifically the Chinese community, educating others about the truth of the situation is crucial towards the goal of equality. Democratic Congresswoman Judy Chu stated that anyone who states that they cannot see the connection between rhetoric and increased racism "is lying to themselves".

The Asian community faces a strong dilemma of how they stand in the coronavirus situation. While others worry about the economic and health effects of this pandemic, Asian Americans face a niche issue of how it affects their standing in the United States. Especially as they turn to

increasingly racial rhetoric from certain political leaders, the decision for how they should vote is not an easy feat. Examples of this can be linked to terms such as the "Chinese Virus", which on the surface seems unproblematic, but can generate much larger societal issues. Further, one needs to look no further than President Trump's Tulsa rally, in which he coined Covid-19 as the "Kung-Flu" to find instances of this commonplace discrimination. Not only was our own president promoting this type of behavior, the thousands of supporters cheering behind the president is yet another alarming occurrence.

Again, in Phoenix, the president used the term following chants of "Kung-Flu" from the crowd. When explained as the Chinese virus or Kung-Flu, users of this phrase often claim that it is merely due to its origination in Wuhan; however, when one delves deeper into this matter, we can look back at examples such as the Spanish flu to understand why it is so inappropriate. When H1N1 started to be called the Spanish Flu, its meaning was largely political and had hidden biases. Though it was not clear that the virus stemmed from Spain, this name made the Spanish people sustain the burden of the effects of the virus, but economic and political. Further, phrases like "Kung-Flu" become not a geographical issue as the president says, but an attack on

Chinese American heritage as a whole.

This only proves that racism against Asian-Americans are not a thing of the past, rather, it is an issue which the country must come together to oppose. When the president makes an obviously racially charged remark, it is the duty of political leaders, democrat and republican alike, to criticize his actions. The status quo of the party now defending his words after the president's own counselor Kellyanne Conway had just deemed the phrase offensive not long ago is not acceptable.

For the country to move in a direction of equality, acceptance, and tolerance, speech like this ought to be condemned in any circumstance. For countless years, Kung-Fu has been almost a key symbol of Chinese society and attaching that especially important emblem to a pandemic only divides the country even further.

Today, it is important to understand a disease is not an issue of race, ethnicity, or even culture, but is a societal issue that the world must come together to defeat.

About the author:
Aaron Zhang is a 16 year old resident of Rowland Heights, California and is interested in current affairs. He is currently a junior in high school and an award winning Lincoln Douglas debater.

Arcadia Unified Secures \$5.7 Million in Taxpayer Savings

ARCADIA - In a year filled with unfavorable financial figures for many, the Arcadia Unified School District has secured \$5.7 million in silver-lining savings for Arcadia taxpayers. Capitalizing on low interest rates and the district's exceptional credit rating, Arcadia Unified took action to refinance its current bonds and once again created savings for taxpayers.

"With interest rates falling to historic lows, we were grateful to use this opportunity to create savings for our taxpayers while also being able to get more than we planned for out of these bond dollars," said Arcadia Unified Superintendent of Business Services Dierk Esseln, who heads the district's business and fiscal services teams.

Arcadia Unified's refinanced bonds are those from Measure I, which was originally passed by Arcadia voters in November 2006. Measure I, or the Arcadia Neighborhood Schools, Health, Safety and Repair Measure, authorized \$218 million of general obligation bonds to be spent solely for the improvement and modernization of Arcadia Unified's schools, classrooms, and facilities.

To date, every project on the district's original capital improvement list has been completed, with every Arcadia Unified

school receiving upgrades to classrooms and campuses. Upgrades have included improved technology and renovations in every classroom in the district; increased safety features, such as additional security lighting and fencing; landscaping and sidewalk repairs; new phone and master bell systems; the Arcadia Performing Arts Center; improved utility and power infrastructure; new library and media centers; electronic marquees at every school; enhanced student support and services facilities; and several additional needed restorations and repairs district-wide.

"Our theme for this school year is 'opportunity'," shared Arcadia Unified Superintendent Dr. David Vannasdall. "While this year has been rough on us all for many reasons, we are doing our very best to find all of the opportunities we can to help make the most of this time, and this is a prime example of that."

While low interest rates started the refinance conversation, a key component to the district's ability to take advantage of the low rates is its high credit rating, explained Assistant Superintendent Esseln, who advised that an integral part of the refinance process involved a review of the district's credit rating by two industry-leading credit rating agencies, S&P Global Ratings (S&P) and

Moody's Investors Service (Moody's).

S&P and Moody's affirmed the district's bond ratings of AA and Aa1, respectively, citing reasons for the exemplary ratings as Arcadia Unified's prudent fiscal practices and strong financial position with healthy reserves. Of California school districts that have issued rated bonds so far this year, only 27% received as high a rating from S&P and only 10% received as high a rating from Moody's, according to the district's bond refinance report.

Arcadia Unified had the same superior credit rating when it underwent a similar bond refinance of Measure I bonds in 2017, which resulted in taxpayer savings of over \$80 million.

Another positive result of Arcadia Unified's exceptional bond rating, coupled with a competitive bidding environment and cost management, was a gain of over \$260k in more funds for district facilities modernization than budgeted. Projects that will be worked on with these additional funds include, but are not limited to, upgrades to technology network cabling; district-wide playground, field shade structures, lighting, and building controls; modernization for the kitchens and locker rooms of each of the district's middle schools; a Stagecraft Building to complement the Arcadia Performing Arts Center; and updates to Arcadia High's locker rooms, stadium field rooms, and weight room.

In addition to its sound fiscal practices, Arcadia Unified was recently named in the top 1% best school districts in the nation, according to Niche. Arcadia Unified has also achieved the rare feat of being named to the prestigious AP® District Honor Roll in consecutive years for 2017 and 2018. Likewise, each Arcadia Unified elementary and middle school has been recognized over the years as California Distinguished Schools by the California Department of Education. For more information about the Arcadia Unified School District, visit www.ausd.net.

Parking Citation Suspension During the Winter Holiday Season

DUARTE - In recognition of the holiday season, the Duarte Public Safety Department will not be issuing parking citations for street sweeping or 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. parking restrictions from **November 22-28, 2020** and then again from **December 20, 2020 to January 3, 2021**.

Please note, Public Safety will still issue citations for safety violations and violations of the

Duarte Municipal Code. Recreational Vehicle permits will also be required and enforced during both of these periods as well. Recreational Vehicle parking permits can only be obtained at the Public Safety Office (1042 Huntington Drive). For additional information on Duarte's ticket holiday program, contact Duarte Public Safety at (626) 357-7938. Happy Holidays!

West Covina Unified Opens 'District of Choice' Enrollment for 2021-22

WEST COVINA - West Covina Unified is accepting enrollment applications for the 2021-22 year through the state-certified District of Choice program. As a District of Choice, West Covina Unified is eligible to accept families from throughout Southern California in its engaging, highly competitive academic programs. The

District's signature programs include Mandarin and Spanish dual language immersion, California's only TK-12 International Baccalaureate Continuum, dual enrollment through the Mt. SAC Early College Academy and more. Visit the WCUSD website for enrollment information.

West Covina Unified Opens 2021-22 Performing Arts Academy Applications

WEST COVINA - West Covina Unified is accepting 2021-22 enrollment applications for the West Covina High School Performing Arts Academy, which offers an exclusive

fine arts education in a free, public school setting. Highly motivated students with a passion for the performing arts will receive valuable industry insight from teaching artists, gain

internships and prepare for advanced educational and career opportunities at the Academy. Spaces are limited; interested students may apply through www.wchspaa.org.

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BPU Voters Elect New, Returning Board Members

BALDWIN PARK - Baldwin Park Unified voters on Nov. 4 re-elected Board of Education President Christina Lucero and board member Santos Hernandez Jr., as well as returning 2017-18 board member Diana E. Dzib. New and returning board members will be sworn in during a virtual board meeting in December.

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Citrus College Trustee Joanne Montgomery Announces Retirement, Ready For New Chapter

GLENDORA - Long-standing Citrus Community College District Trustee Joanne Montgomery announced her retirement from the college's governing board after serving for 22 years.

Trustee Montgomery, who represents Monrovia, Bradbury and portions of Duarte, was first appointed to fill a vacancy in 1998. She was later elected in 1999 and then reelected in 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2015.

She began her career as an educator and worked as an elementary school teacher for the Monrovia Unified School District for 32 years. She was also a master teacher for several universities and served on numerous school committees.

At Citrus College, Trustee Montgomery was known for her passion for student success, visionary leadership and kind personality.

"During her more than 20 years of service to Citrus College and the communities it serves, Trustee Montgomery has contributed greatly to the college's growth and progress. Her leadership has been instrumental in establishing Citrus College as a national leader in higher education," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "On behalf of the college community, I congratulate Trustee Montgomery on her retirement



Photo courtesy of Citrus College.

Joanne Montgomery is a governing board member of the Citrus Community College District. She represents Trustee Area 5, which includes Monrovia, Bradbury and portions of Duarte.

and thank her for the decades of guidance and vision she has provided. Her presence at the college will be dearly missed."

Throughout her career, Trustee Montgomery received countless awards as an educator and community leader. Some of her honors include a Teacher of the Year award; being appointed by the California governor to serve on the board of directors

for the 48th District Agricultural Association, where she served for over 16 years; being selected as the 2003 recipient of the Dick Lord Award from the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce; being named the 2015 Woman of the Year for Monrovia for California's 48th State Assembly district; and the Outstanding Educator Award from the Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association. Most recently, in May 2019, Trustee Montgomery received a Fulfilling the Trust award from the Community College League of California.

Trustee Montgomery took great interest in all of the college's instructional programs and had a reputation for understanding how big-picture decision-making affected instructors and students. She was a passionate advocate for AB 288, which allowed high school students to take college-credit courses while still in high school, and she tirelessly promoted Citrus College and its many benefits.

"This is a bittersweet moment for me. I have been honored and privileged to serve Citrus College for over two decades, but now is the time for me to move on to a new chapter in my life. I would like to thank the students, faculty, staff and constituents of the district for allowing me the opportunity to serve," said Trustee Montgomery. "I'm looking forward to spending more time with my children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren."

"It has been an honor to serve beside Joanne Montgomery on Citrus College's governing board, and I extend my most heartfelt congratulations on her retirement," said Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "Mrs. Montgomery's commitment and thoughtful decision-making will leave a positive impact on Citrus College for years to come. We wish her a most enjoyable and rewarding retirement."

The Women's Club of West Covina Donates Two Cakes to the Police Dept.

By George Ogden
WEST COVINA - On Friday, October 30, members of the Women's Club of West Covina showed up at the West Covina Police Department to show their gratitude to the officers and staff for everything that they do for the community and the city of West Covina. They presented a plaque thanking them and brought two large cakes which was presented to Watch Commander, Sgt. Keith Shishita.

Later that evening a number of the members went to the West Covina Mall to hand out candy for Halloween. The club was honored to have been part of program.



West Covina Women's Club Members with Watch Commander Keith Shishita

Three Dead, One Critical in 57 Freeway Crash



Fatal crash scene where a red SUV slammed into a big rig, killing three and critically injuring one.

By George Ogden
POMONA - The CHP responded to a traffic accident on Tuesday morning, November 3rd, around 3:30 a. m., in the south bound lanes of the 57 freeway just south of Temple Ave. When they arrived, they found a red SUV buried under the rear trailer of a big rig. It was an obvious a high-speed impact. Paramedics were called to the scene and all south bound lanes were closed while they tried to extricate the four victims.

One lane was opened up to allow traffic to pass after about an hour. All lanes were opened up around 10:30 a.m. to all traffic. This backed up traffic all the way to the 10 freeway.

It appears that the SUV was traveling at a high rate of speed when it came up on a parked big rig off the shoulder of the road, and slammed into the rear trailer so hard that it actually skewed the trailer at an angle.

Two died instantly and a third died while being treated. A fourth person was in critical condition and transported to

the hospital. the reason for the crash is. The accident investigation continues to determine the cause.

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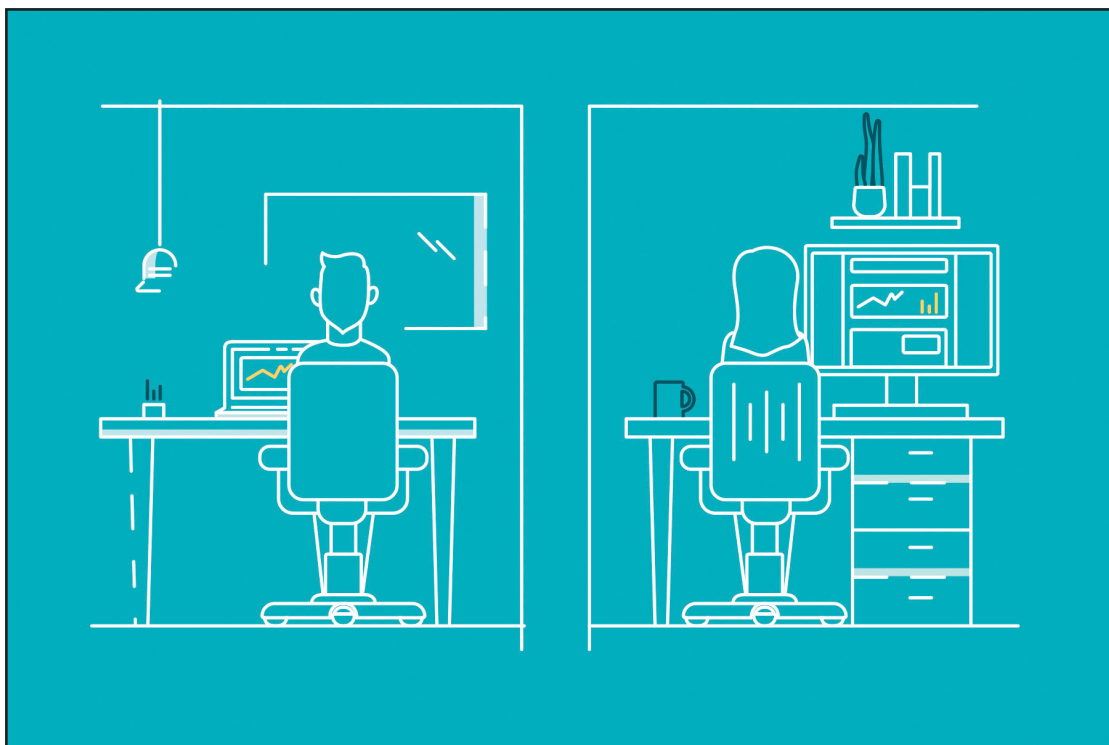
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How COVID-19 Has Changed The Way We Do Business Forever



The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed how business gets done. And when it comes to mid-sized and small businesses, the importance of investing in new technology, facilitating remote work and maintaining a tech-savvy workforce has never been so clear, according to a new survey.

Conducted by The Harris Poll for CIT Group Inc., a leading national bank focused on empowering businesses and personal savers, the survey of leaders of U.S. middle-market and small businesses is designed to illuminate the intersection of technology and talent.

Compared to last year's survey, significantly more leaders today believe continuous technological investment is a business requirement.

"The resiliency and flexibility that technology can deliver businesses has been convincingly proven by COVID-19," says David Harnisch, president of CIT's Commercial Finance division. "Business leaders have taken that lesson to heart and are focused on making technology a fundamental part of their 'tomorrow thinking'."

Most executives surveyed wish that they'd invested even more in technology over the past 12 months. In fact, more than three in four middle market executives

believe investments in technology would have helped their company fare better during the pandemic. For small businesses, roughly half felt similarly.

However, there's little question how important technology will be going forward, with the majority of respondents saying it's crucial to future success.

Seemingly determined not to repeat the mistake of under-investing, the majority plan to invest as much or more in their business over the next 12 months as compared to the past year. Only 15% of small businesses say they may invest less this coming year, likely due to financial constraints resulting from the pandemic.

"Small businesses don't always have the financial resources that larger enterprises often enjoy," says Ken Martin, managing director of CIT's Small Business Solutions group. "When investments are imperative, borrowing or leasing may be the right solution to acquiring the technology needed to remain competitive."

When it comes to these upgrades, investments that make it easier for employees to work remotely are a clear priority. Over the next 12 months, 71% of middle market executives and 31% of small business leaders

who plan to invest will spend on technology that facilitates remote work.

"It's not just a matter of convenience. Businesses that empower employees to work remotely have a clear competitive advantage," says Denise Menelly, CIT's executive vice president and head of Technology and Operations.

This is a trend that's likely here to stay. Approximately a quarter of small businesses operating remotely expect -- and want -- these changes to remain permanent after COVID-19 subsides, and about 40% of middle market executives expect the same, with some seeing it as a means to grow the company.

However, this digital transformation puts a premium on a tech-savvy workforce able to support customers and collaborate with colleagues remotely. While many believe their current workforce has the skills to keep up, businesses are also substantially more likely than last year to say companies need to focus on hiring tech-savvy talent.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has created a great deal of uncertainty for small and mid-sized businesses, it has in many ways clarified what's needed to remain successful in an evolving world. (StatePoint)

How to Shop for a Medicare Plan from Home



Every year, eligible individuals can shop for a health plan during Medicare's Annual Election Period (AEP), which runs from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7. Doing so can potentially improve your coverage, lower your costs or both. The options are many, including Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage (MA) plans, Medicare Supplement plans and Prescription Drug Plans.

According to Aparna Abburi, president of the Medicare Advantage business at Cigna, one of the nation's largest insurers, those concerned about COVID-19 exposure have a number of ways to shop.

If you're computer savvy, visit plan websites like www.cigna.com/medicare or Medicare's Plan Finder at Medicare.gov. You might even be able to attend a virtual educational session. If you prefer phone, call individual plans or independent brokers representing the health plan you're considering. You can also request a face-to-face meeting, but be sure to follow the COVID-19 safety

precautions outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Abburi said you'll want to think about the following when picking a plan:

Review changes. In late September, health plans send their MA customers a document called the Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) with information about costs, benefits, available doctors and facilities for the upcoming year. Check this document to see if anything in your plan will change.

Weigh extras. Pay attention to extra benefits not available with Original Medicare but which may be built into an MA plan at no additional cost, such as dental, vision, transportation or even an allowance for purchasing certain over-the-counter items. In these times, you might be especially interested in benefits that help you stay healthy while safe at home, such as telehealth, prescription drug delivery and in-home fitness programs.

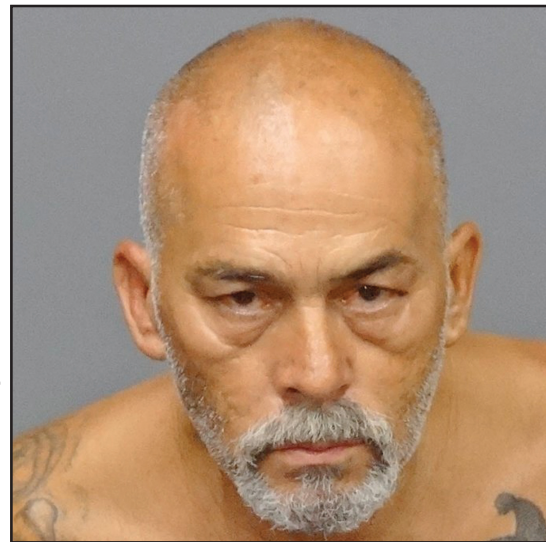
Know your network. Beyond cost, make sure the plan's net-

work includes your favorite facilities and doctors. Are you okay seeking care within a network? These kinds of choices should be guided by your own personal goals and preferences.

Consider costs. To estimate total costs, first, know the plan's premium or monthly cost. Second, check for out-of-pocket costs, including copays and deductibles on doctor and hospital visits and prescription drugs. Finally, check to see what the cost will be if you need to see a specialist. In some plans, you pay more for going outside your network.

Don't forget prevention. Many MA plans cover preventive health screenings beyond those covered by Original Medicare. Talk to your doctor about which screenings are important for you given your age and health status. While it's smart to minimize your risk to COVID-19, you still want to make sure you're getting preventive and other necessary care. Your doctor will have proper safety protocols in place. (StatePoint)

Armed Felon Arrested with Modified Gun and Stolen Property



Felon Sean Ontiveros arrested. By George Ogden

IRWINDALE - On November 5th the Irwindale Police worked with the Proactive Patrol Team in the early morning and found a homeless encampment along Huntington Drive in the 3000 block. The team found a modified rifle, they 2 stolen motorcycles, and they found



The modified weapon that the suspect had the suspect and arrested him for being a wanted felon.

Sean Ontiveros, who is a 54-year-old former resident of Alhambra was taken into custody. The charges filed against him were: A Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Possession of Stolen Vehicles, Operating a "Chop Shop" and Two Active Warrants (No-Bail Probation Violation Warrant and a \$30,000.00 Narcotics Violation Warrant). Basically, there is no bail set.

He was arrested last year on a felony and was convicted of the crimes and served time and was released. He served only part of his time before being released back into the community.

Photos courtesy of the Irwindale Police Dept.

Employers, promote teleworking when possible to reduce workplace exposures to COVID-19



Employed adults who tested positive for COVID-19 were almost **twice as likely** to report regularly going to a workplace* than those who tested negative

When telework isn't possible, implementing **worker safety measures** can help protect employees and the community

*Employed adults reported going into an office/school regularly or working from home or teleworking. Case-control investigation of symptomatic people with positive SARS-CoV-2 test results (n=120) and negative tests (n=128)

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