



# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

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# Monrovia Unified Celebrates Graduates with In-Person Commencement Ceremonies

**MONROVIA** – Nearly 430 graduates from Monrovia Unified School District cheered as they walked across the graduation stage to receive their diplomas during in-person and drive-thru commencement ceremonies, held June 8 and 9.

Canyon Oaks High School and Mountain Park School celebrated the success of 45 graduates on June 8 during a drive-thru ceremony, where administrators and teachers delivered emotional speeches that detailed each student's hardships and successes that led to graduation day.

"We are incredibly proud of the Class of 2021 and are thrilled to have celebrated their achievements in-person, acknowledging their dedication during a year that challenged us all," Board President Maritza Travanti said. "On behalf of the Board of Education, we wish all of the graduates continued success as they go on to college and career."

During the Canyon Oaks and Mountain Park graduation, students received thousands of dollars in scholarships from local organizations, including Rotary, Kiwanis, Monrovia Reads, Citrus Bright Futures, Terrance Hall Memorial and more. Many Class of 2021 graduates from Canyon Oaks and Mountain Park will continue their education at four-



Monrovia High School celebrated the graduation of 378 seniors during an in-person commencement ceremony.

year universities such as California State University, Los Angeles, Utah State University and the University of La Verne.

"Congratulations to all of our graduates, who have gone above and beyond to get to where they are today," Director of Alternative Schools Flint Fertig said. "Our graduating Class of 2021 is made up of devoted students who have a great capacity to love and



Canyon Oaks High School and Mountain Park School held a drive-thru graduation ceremony, where 45 seniors were celebrated for their achievements.

to serve, and that is our motto at Canyon Oaks and Mountain Park – to go forth and serve."

On June 9, Wildcat Stadium roared as administrators, teachers, and families celebrated 378 seniors who persevered during an unprecedented school year.

This year, Monrovia High School honored Zoe Gathers, Charlie Heatherly, James DeLisio, Zachary Szymkowski, Haily Sarmiento, Cory Spaeth, Allen Santos, Brooke Gould, and Anthony Nava as valedictorians for receiving a cumulative unweighted GPA of 4.0 or higher.

During the ceremony, the high-achieving scholars were recognized by Principal Kirk McGinnis as he celebrated the

entire graduating class for their exceptional educational journey while at Monrovia High School.

"Congratulations to the Class of 2021 – you are all exceptional and have reached this milestone in your life during a year filled with many adversities," McGinnis said. "Your dedication to your studies is admirable and we cannot wait to see where life after high school takes you. We know that with the skills and knowledge you have gained while being at Monrovia High, there is truly nothing you cannot achieve."

Valedictorian Heatherly, who has helped build the school's prestigious game development team Forge Interactive and will

attend USC in the fall to study game design, addressed his classmates during a heartfelt speech which recounted their time at Monrovia High and the challenges of the last year.

"I don't talk about all of these magical moments simply to reminisce, I do it to define. They are the meaning and value of our high school experience," Heatherly said. "This class has been made stronger because of that struggle – not in spite of it – and now, whenever you encounter those same feelings of fear and isolation in your future, know that you have a network of friends to support and care for you. We will always be connected by the moments that defined us, and I am certain that the Class of 2021 will not leave this ceremony as graduates saying goodbye; we will leave it as Wildcats greeting the future hand-in-hand."

Monrovia Unified School District implemented health guidelines as outlined by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, such as the use of face coverings and social distancing throughout both events, to ensure the safety of its students, families, and entire school community.

"Congratulations to the Class of 2021! You have achieved this milestone under the most difficult of circumstances," Superintendent Dr. Katherine Thorossian said. "As you commence your journey outside our school walls, continue to work hard and be nice. We are proud of your resilience and resolve; and we look forward to celebrating your future successes."

## Field of Heroes Coming to Glendora

**GLENDORA** - Join Glendora Rotary as we honor our Heroes and support our Community. You may honor your Hero at [fieldofheroes.net](http://fieldofheroes.net) by sponsoring a flag in our Field of Heroes. Honor a current Military member or Veteran, a Healthcare Hero, a First Responder or even a Hero you have discovered during the COVID 19 pandemic, by sponsoring a flag for only \$50.00. You may also sponsor our event as an individual or business for only \$300.00.

While you honor your Hero you will also be supporting your Community. Funds raised from this event will go to the APU Veteran's Center, the Citrus College Veteran's Center, the Glendora Police Explorers and Cadets Program as well as

July 2nd through July 5th  
Two locations:  
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Sunflower School, corner of Gladstone and  
Sunflower Avenue

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[FieldofHeroes.net](http://FieldofHeroes.net)

the County Fire Foundation to support our Veterans and First Responders. Any addition funds go to the programs Glendora Rotary supports in

our Glendora schools and Community.

Who is your Hero? Let's honor our Heroes at: [FieldofHeroes.net](http://FieldofHeroes.net)

## As Delta Variant Circulates, Public Health Recommends Masking Indoors

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - With increase circulation of the highly transmissible Delta variant, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) strongly recommends everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks indoors in public places as a precautionary measure. In the week ending June 12, Delta variants comprised of nearly half of all variants sequenced in Los Angeles County. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) noted that Delta variants are now responsible for about one in every five new infections across the country, up from approximately one in every 10 the

week before.

Public Health strongly recommends people wear masks indoors in settings such as grocery or retail stores; theaters and family entertainment centers, and workplaces when you don't know everyone's vaccination status. Until we better understand how and to who the Delta variant is spreading, everyone should focus on maximum protection with minimum interruption to routine as all businesses operate without other restrictions, like physical distancing and capacity limits.

Fully vaccinated people appear to be well protected from infections with Delta variants, however people with only one vaccine dose of Pfizer or Moderna are not as well-protected. The smaller number of COVID-19 infections identified in people who are fully vaccinated have been mild illnesses.

For masks to work properly, they need to completely cover your nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of your face and around your nose. If you aren't fully vaccinated, your mask is one of the most powerful tools you have to protect yourself and other unvaccinated people. This is especially true when you are in an indoor or crowded outdoor space. If you are not fully vaccinated and work in a setting where you have sustained close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated or whose vaccination status is unknown, consider wearing a respirator for additional protection.

Anyone 12 and older living or working in L.A. County can get vaccinated. To find a vaccination site near you, to make an appointment at vaccination sites, and much more, visit: [www.VaccinateLACounty.com](http://www.VaccinateLACounty.com).

## Arroyo High Student-Athletes, Twin Sisters Win Gold at Pan American Championships

**EL MONTE** – El Monte Union High School District twins Brianna and Emilie Gonzalez have gained national recognition after competing and bringing home gold medals from the 2021 Pan American Wrestling Championship tournament, held this month in Oaxtepec, Mexico.

The EMUHSD Board of Trustees honored Brianna and Emilie during the June 16 meeting, celebrating them for their success and dedication to the sport with certificates of recognition and words of appreciation from Arroyo High School's girls wrestling Coach Can Tran.

"Being nationally ranked hasn't really changed how I perceive myself, it's just a number. I know how much work I put in and I believe and have faith in my work ethic," Emilie said. "I plan on going to a four-year university to continue my academic and athletic career, but I am not quite set on where yet."

Brianna and Emilie have been wrestling since seventh grade, and plan to continue to compete and hone their skills during their upcoming senior year at Arroyo High School.

"As sisters we push each other to be better on and off the mat," Brianna said. "Whether that is us communicating with each other on the things that are working for us or the things that we need to improve on. Also, our competitiveness between each other



Arroyo High School student-athletes Brianna (left) and Emilie (right) Gonzalez display their gold medals, won during the 2021 Pan American Wrestling Championships in Oaxtepec, Mexico.

helps us stay ready and wrestle to the best of our ability."

Both sisters fell in love with wrestling after joining Beat the Streets, a national program that cultivates youth development in underserved communities by encouraging a desire for excellence, respect, teamwork, leadership, integrity, and perseverance through the instruction of quality wrestling programs.

"We are very proud of Emilie and Brianna for their hard work, dedication and amazing accomplishments that will undoubtedly be surpassed in their future endeavors," Tran said.

Brianna and Emilie are ranked

nationally by USA Wrestling; Brianna is ranked first at 100 pounds and Emilie is ranked 10th at 100 pounds.

"The District is incredibly proud of Brianna and Emilie for displaying excellence both on and off the mat; they are both very well-rounded students who are not only succeeding in wrestling but academically as well," Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga said. "El Monte Union is excited to have both Brianna and Emilie as part of our community and we wish them good luck as they continue to compete and achieve their goals."

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# Felony Vandalism Suspects Wanted



By George Ogden/LASD

**SAN DIMAS** - Detectives from the San Dimas Sheriff station need your help. They are investigating a vandalism that occurred back on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at "Pioneer Park" in the city of San Dimas. There is a total of three suspects involved.

San Dimas detectives are asking for the public's assistance with information on the identity of a vandalism suspect. The first suspect, a male adult, was seen wearing a black hoodie, black

long shorts and black shoes. The second suspect, a female, was seen wearing all dark clothing, no further details. The third suspect was a female and was seen wearing a black blouse and light-colored pants, no further details.

On February 25th, 2021, the above unknown suspects were caught on surveillance cameras at the location after dark and the male adult was caught on surveillance cameras defacing the property with black spray paint. They need your help identifying these suspects.

Anyone with information as to the identity of any of the suspects, please contact San Dimas Sheriff's station Detective Sergeant Henry Saenz at (909) 450-2734. If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the "P3 Tips" Mobile APP, "P3 Mobile" for the hearing impaired on Google play or the Apple App Store or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>.

# Why Closing the Technology Gap for Older Adults Matters



The COVID-19 pandemic brought with it a rapid acceleration of telehealth as people looked for ways to access care safely. While technology kept many in the United States connected to care and loved ones, many low-income older adults were left behind by the sudden need to understand and access technology and internet services.

However, among those who could stand to benefit the most from these services are 22 million older adults (ages 65 and above) in the United States who don't have broadband access at home. What's more, older adults (ages 62 and above) with an income below \$25,000 are 10 times more likely to be offline at home.

Many older adults lack the technological literacy needed to leverage digital resources for health and social support.

New efforts are helping to address these inequities. CITRIS Health, an organization dedicated to advancing the well-being of older adults and family caregivers with enabling technology, recently launched "Lighthouse for Older Adults." This project is offering one-on-one training, in-language support and peer-based technical support to equip older adult residents of affordable housing communities with high-speed broadband access, user-friendly devices and digital literacy training.

Following an initial pilot, participants reported both an in-

crease in device usage as well as confidence in using their devices. Technology helped to connect them to loved ones they were isolated from, and improved their overall health and wellbeing by reducing social isolation and loneliness.

When asked about their favorite part of using a Google device, one participant stated, "Being able to connect visually with family and friends. And visually means a lot."

Those at the helm of the project say they hope its success will serve as a model for other such programs.

"Older adults have so much to gain from the connections and health care opportunities available with internet access and a basic understanding of technology," says CITRIS Health director and Lighthouse project lead David Lindeman. "We're eager to see this program replicated to improve equity in telehealth."

For resources that can help other organizations implement similar programs, visit the Lighthouse project page on the CITRIS Health website, [citrisc.org](http://citrisc.org).

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that technology literacy and access are more crucial for older adults than ever before. When it comes to improving the health and well-being of communities, addressing this gap is essential. (StatePoint)

# California's Extreme Drought Intensifies Need For Water Management Professionals

Now in its second year of drought, California is preparing for another destructive wildfire season.

Governor Newsom recently declared a drought emergency in 39 counties, affecting more than half of the state. And according to [drought.gov](http://drought.gov), 85 percent of California is in a state of "extreme drought," indicating that water supplies are inadequate for agriculture, wildlife and cities. Extreme drought also means the fire season will likely last year-round.



By Dr. Edward C. Ortell  
Citrus College Governing Board Member

With this year's drought approaching the severity of the last one just a few years ago, mitigation is on the minds of scientists, politicians and majority of Californians.

How will our state deal with this ongoing crisis? Increasing the numbers of trained water technology professionals is certainly part of the solution. Careers in water technology include numerous job opportunities in both the public and private sectors. But like most good paying jobs of the 21st Century, they also require advanced training, certification and sometimes college degrees.

Local community colleges, such as Citrus College serving the greater San Gabriel Valley, provide low-cost training and certification that prepares students to take certification exams by the State Water Resources Control Board and the American Water Works Association. Students study courses in water supply, water efficiency, program conservation, conservation outreach, natural resources, environmental protection and many others, all of which prepare them for a long list of potential careers.

Those already employed in fields such as public works, construction, landscaping, municipal administration, water distribution/treatment or facilities oversight and planning can complete a certificate at a community college to increase their employability and promotion opportunities.

Globally, extended periods of drought can be documented at least as far back as the Middle Ages. Today's climate experts say that the severity and frequency of drought are increasing, and climate change is exacerbating the phenomena.

That's why experts indicate that water management will remain a viable and growing job sector long into the future, and the importance of providing clean accessible water will remain a California priority.

*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.

# Successful Meet Ends at Santa Anita; Del Mar Opens July 7

By Joan Schmidt

**ARCADIA** - A very successful Meet ended at Santa Anita last Sunday, June 20 and Bob and I were part of the excitement. You did not have to wear masks and it was great to high-five and hug all friends.

The final standings: Flavian Prat: 124 wins, Juan Hernandez: 92, Umberto Rispoli: 71, Abel Cedillo 64, Tyler Baze 39. Apprentice Jessica Pyfer was 6th.

The last weekend had several Stakes races. On Saturday, Kent Desormeaux won the "Snow Chief Stakes" on Jimmy Blue Jeans; Umberto Rispoli won the "Melair Stakes" on Fi Fi Pharoah (American Pharoah's Daughter!); Ricky Gonzalez won the "San Juan Capistrano Stakes" on Acclimate; and Juan Hernandez won the "Siren Lure Stakes" on Kanderall.

What was so exciting was Acclimate is a seven-year-old gelding who hadn't won a race since 2019 at Del Mar and carried an eight-race losing streak. But trainer Phil D'Amato had confidence in this horse. Phil is the leading trainer for the 2021 Santa Anita Meet, and Jess's stepfather. It certainly has been a good year for both. (One day, Jessica had FOUR WINS!!)

Phil is a modest man and had great praise for jockey Ricky Gonzalez after the race: "He (Ricky) did a masterful job of maintaining the distance yet setting those comfortable fractions to have enough horse left. It's a great credit to him and the horse, but to dial those fractions the way he did, he rode like a seasoned veteran at the distance".

Sunday was quite exciting too!



Apprentice Jessica Pyfer and Jockey Juan Hernandez

Juan Hernandez and Tyler Baze won two Stakes Races apiece! Juan rode Warren's Showtime to victory in the "Wilshire Stakes". Trained by Craig Lewis, Warren's Showtime came from next-to-the-last and won by 1 1/4 lengths! Juan's other win was on Big City Lights in the "Fasig-Tipton Furturity Stakes". Trained by Luis Mendez, Big City Lights breezed to a 7/8 length victory!

Tyler Baze two stakes wins were on Restrainedavengence (trainer: Val Brinkerhoff in the "American Stakes", and on At the Spa (Trainer: Jorge Periban) in the "Fasig-Tipton Debutante Stakes".

There's a 7-day Meet at Los Alamitos. Then off to Del Mar which officially opens July 7. Visit their website for more info.

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# Nearly All Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths in Los Angeles County Occurring in those Unvaccinated

Public Health Monitors for Variants of Concern as Metrics Slightly Increase

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - After a period of persistent declines in many metrics, L.A. County is starting to see small increases in cases, hospitalizations, and daily test positivity. This is a signal that the virus is still here and that even now everyone needs to be careful to mask and maintain a distance from people outside your households, if not yet vaccinated. The County's recovery is best supported by continuing to take sensible safety precautions that prevent increases in community transmission.

Although transmission rates remain relatively low, Public Health continues to track the proliferation of variants of concern, because where there are pockets of unvaccinated individuals, these variants can proliferate. In the United States, the Delta variants have become increasingly prevalent among the strains se-

quenced: the CDC notes that Delta variants account for almost 21% of cases across the country. Public Health is especially concerned about this variant because it appears to be highly transmissible - that is, it is more contagious even than other highly contagious COVID-19 variants.

In the week ending June 12, Delta variants comprised of nearly 48% of all variants sequenced in Los Angeles County. The 123 Delta variants collected between April 21 and June 12 are geographically clustered. Forty-nine of these cases were isolated from residents of Palmdale and Lancaster, and 14 of these cases are associated with one household. About half of the people with a Delta variant lived in a household with at least one other Delta variant case. While fully vaccinated people appear to be well protected from infections with Delta variants, people with only one vaccine are not as well-protected.

As of June 20, more than 10,222,171 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to people across Los Angeles County. Of these, 5,734,611 were first doses and 4,487,560 were second doses. Among L.A. County residents 16 and over, 67% have received one dose of vaccine and 58% have been fully vaccinated. Among L.A. County seniors 65 and over, 87% have received one dose of vaccine and 75% have been fully vaccinated.

"We are so glad to be able to gather for food and fun again. Although many safety measures have been lifted, we remain responsible collectively for keeping each other safe. The best way to prepare for the Fourth of July holiday is to be vaccinated. That way, keeping cookouts safe is much simpler: When everyone at a gathering is vaccinated, you can gather outdoors or inside without wondering who would be safer wearing a mask or keeping a distance. However, if any of the guests at your gathering are unvaccinated or immunocompromised, they should wear masks except when eating and drinking and keep a distance from people in other households when indoors. Outdoors, unvaccinated guests don't need to mask unless the gathering is crowded with other unvaccinated guests" said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health.

From May 20 to June 20, the County continues to see gaps in vaccination coverage in adults 16 and over with 44% of Black adults and 53% of Latinx adults receiving at least one dose compared to 65% of White residents and 74% of Asian residents. Although the County is glad to see that Black and Latinx residents were on the higher end of relative percent increases in vaccination, with a 7.7% jump among Black residents and an 8.2% jump among Latinx residents, larger increases are required to close the gaps.

# Azusa Police Kills Armed Suspect

By George Ogden

**AZUSA** - The Azusa Police responded to the 900 block of West Sierra Madre Ave. around 12:30 PM, on June 27 to a domestic disturbance.

When officers arrive, they found a male subject with a large butcher knife going in and out of an apartment. The officers ordered the man to drop the weapon but he refused to cooperate. He was very agitated and with the man going in and out of his apartment, the police didn't know if someone had been hurt inside and needed medical assistance. At the same time, they didn't know if he had additional weapons, such as firearms.

At one point, the man went after the police officers with the knife in his hand and they had to respond with "less than lethal" weapons to attempt to take the man down. However, that did not work. The man again went after the police officers at which point one officer had to defend himself and fired at the suspect who went

down. This was around 12:50 PM.

Once the suspect was down, they neutralize the situation and disarmed the man. They handcuffed him and called for medical aid. They checked the apartment to see if there were victims in the apartment and apparently there was not. They returned to the suspect and continued life-saving procedures until the paramedics arrived. The paramedics were unable to save the man's life and he died at the scene.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department were called to the scene for the investigation. They closed off the area including the street while their investigation continued.

Investigators are trying to determine why the man was acting the way he was. There is a possibility he was under the influence of either drugs or alcohol or possibly both. No further information is available on his condition until after the coroner's toxicology report.

# West Covina Sends Letter of Disapproval to DA Gascón

By George Ogden

**WEST COVINA** - At the June 23rd West Covina Council meeting, the council approved with a 4-1 vote to send a letter of disapproval to Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón, which criticizes his new policies.

Basically, they took issue that he will no longer process numerous misdemeanor cases and dismisses them. Also, the sentencing of some crimes has basically been removed by the DA. He has removed sentencing enhancements for those convicted of crimes.

Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado reported that over 150 crime re-

ports were sent to the DA's office from January 1 to April 30 and not one of them were prosecuted.

At the June 1st meeting, the City Council would vote on this issue at the next city Council meeting and it was expected that it would be a 4-1 vote to send a letter of no-confidence to the district attorney with councilman Tabatabai not supporting this issue.

However, it seems that the No-Confidence vote ended up being a letter of disapproval which criticizes the DA and his policies and his extreme leniency with the criminals.

Apparently, many people thought that this vote was actually a no-confidence vote. Although the letter somewhat gives that indication, most people want it to be a vote of no-confidence by the City Council.

It appears that the DA has sent word that they would work on setting up some type of dialogue with the city. That wasn't what the people want, they want action, not talk.

The letter that was sent out appears that it did not put West Covina on the list of cities that have voted for no-confidence for Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón.

# City Of Azusa Adopts Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget With Stable Outlook

**AZUSA** - At their regular meeting on June 21, 2021, the Azusa City Council adopted the City's Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget. "This marks an important moment for the City of Azusa", said Mayor Gonzales. "This is a well-planned, responsible budget, with no cuts to services and some expansion in critical infrastructure spending and operations," he said.

Following a year of significant financial impacts to local communities across the country as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Azusa unanimously passed a sound and balanced General Fund Budget of \$52 million and overall Citywide Budget of \$174 million, with a projected surplus of \$178,304. The City's budget also included an increase in total General Fund reserves to \$25 million, up from a negative \$4 million just eight years ago. Key budget highlights

include adding 3 additional police officers, and investments in critical infrastructure such as downtown enhancements, city-wide street and sidewalk improvements, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and various economic development initiatives.

"The City's stable financial outlook is a testament to the prudent leadership of our City Council, the hard work of our City staff, and the resilience of our local businesses and residents. A healthy budget is the foundation for all that we do, and a critical step toward meeting the community's needs and proactively investing in our future", said City Manager Sergio Gonzalez.

It is projected that the City's budget will see annual surpluses ranging from \$38,000 to \$518,000 over the next 5 years. As part of the budget adoption, the City Council also approved an

increase to the City's Budget Stabilization and Catastrophic Reserve Policy - from 20% to 25% or \$13 million in reserves - which serves as a financial safety-net in the case of emergency or catastrophic events. This policy exceeds best practices outlined by the Government Finance Officers Association. Furthermore, the City's budget designates an additional \$6.4 million to address capital needs, insurance liabilities and retiree benefits.

The City Council plans to hold a study session in the coming months to establish their goals and priorities for the year, particularly as local cities are slated to receive federal COVID-19 relief funding as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. More information to be provided about these efforts in the coming weeks.

# LA County Board of Supervisors Appoints First Five Youth Commissioners

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have appointed the first five Youth Commissioners to join Los Angeles County's first-ever Youth Commission.

The Commission will formally launch in July, once a total of 15 Commissioners have joined. The goal of the Commission is to give young people with lived experience opportunities to fundamentally transform the child welfare and juvenile justice systems they have had to navigate.

"We are grateful to all the youth who inspired this Commission and for those who have made it a reality. Meaningful systems change begins with giving youth the platform to share their voice and ideas. Led by the lived expertise of youth, we can begin to transform the systems that serve them," said Alain Datcher, Executive Director of the Youth Commission.

The Board announced the following appointees:

- Florencia (Flo) Valenzuela - First District
- La'Toya Cooper - Second District

- Daniel Bisuano - Third District
- Jacqueline Robles - Fourth District

Amanda Hernandez - Fifth District

The Board chose each of these young adults for their demonstrated lived systems expertise and a clear desire to transform LA County's youth-serving systems.

"Florencia is a young and bright soul who has defied the odds despite the adversities she has faced navigating the child welfare system," said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor to the First District. "A senior at UCLA and a resident of Rosemead, Florencia is dedicated to standing up for young people and driven to help them overcome the same hurdles she's experienced - exactly what we need in Los Angeles County's newly established Youth Commission. I look forward to her leadership in creating change for our next generation."

The Commission will be the first of its kind in LA County to give youth with lived experience

in foster care, child welfare, and juvenile justice the opportunity to recommend specific policies that will lead to substantive change for those currently being impacted by these systems. A task that each appointee is ready and eager to work on.

"Amanda began caring for herself and her younger siblings when she was just 15," said Kathryn Barger, Supervisor to the Fifth District. "When I met Amanda in 2018, I knew her life experience would encourage our County to equip more teens and young adults in our system with the tools and opportunities they need to thrive in the workforce. Though she had to take on a lot of responsibility at a young age, Los Angeles County's Career Development Internship provided her with stability and confidence to overcome those obstacles to pursue her dreams. She is now a deeply valued employee for the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and serves as an inspiration for other young women-including her sisters-who have been in the foster care system. Amanda's story, tenacity, and resiliency will help her bring a much-needed perspective to Los Angeles County's Youth Commission to shape a better system for youth in generations to come."

These first five Board appointees represent the beginning of the Youth Commission's launch. While the Youth Commission will start with 15 Commissioners, it will have the option to increase its membership to 19 after its first year.

"We are all looking forward to seeing the growth of the Youth Commission and its impact on the County," said Celia Zavala, Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors who oversees the Commission. "Our youth are the future and the ones we will count on to lead the way."



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# Two Recalls, One Fake Budget, Three Solutions

California is in a sad state of disorder and to confirm you can ask anyone you bump into. People are tired of personal agendas and self-serving government edicts and their willingness to sign recall paperwork, first, for Gov. Newsom, and then for L.A. District Attorney, George Gascon, reflect that.

Governor's Budget, passed by state legislators, is labeled "fake" and passed to meet the required deadline to allow legislators to continue to collect their paychecks. On Newsom's watch, Employment Development Department (EDD) had to borrow more than \$20 billion from the federal government to pay unemployment claims, more than twice any other state. More than \$31 billion was paid out to fraudsters. \$1 billion is estimated to have gone to prisoners and their accomplices. How many legitimate out-of-work people got their unemployment checks on time or even at all?

Meanwhile, Newsom stands gleefully spinning a giant wheel of vaccine fortune giving away \$50,000 in prizes, bought with tax dollars, simply for getting the COVID shot to protect their health. The Big Spin, June 15th the formal opening up California day, awarded \$1.5 million each to 10 Californians. Wonder how many winning the Governor's big spin handout were those who lost their businesses or jobs during the pandemic lockdown?

- In L.A. County:
- In 2020, 400,000 jobs were lost and 7,500 businesses shut down permanently.
  - 2021 will have 354,000 fewer living-wage jobs compared to the pre-pandemic economy.
  - 738,672 living-wage jobs are needed for the county's workforce to achieve a satisfactory standard of living.
  - Studies indicate living wage jobs are \$14.83 an hour, or \$30,800 a year, for a single-person household.
  - California Association of



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

Realtors announced median home price in California has surpassed \$800,000.

- Southern California median price is \$752,250
- U.S. unemployment rate is 5.8% -- California's unemployment rate is 8.3%.

Will Newsom's big spin, or maybe his budget, solve these problems? Two million people who signed to Recall Gavin Newsom believe the only solution is to vote him out of office when the recall date is set.

As jobless rates stay stagnant, homeless counts grow, L.A. County District Attorney, George Gascon, refuses to prosecute criminals and with a joint policy, seemingly concocted between him and Gov. Newsom, we see the release of more criminals from prison. No forwarding address provided, no mandatory intervention. Do releases go to off-street quarters or to a tent on main street?

Gascon, in Prop 47, gave license to steal anything under \$950 at a time, as many times as the urge hits, without jail time. Covina as an example: The first two months of D.A. Gascon's term, 416 cases were filed and rejected, or 208 rejected cases a month. And, that's just Covina. How many thieves do we have running around the East San Gabriel Valley with an open-ended invitation to take anything they want destroying our feeling of safety and quality of life?

Michelle Hanisee, President, Association Deputy District Attorneys, says when Gascon was D.A. in San Francisco, he diverted young adults up to age 25 away from prison, expunged their past marijuana convictions and therefore reduced incarceration rates.

- San Francisco's violent crime rate was 715 per 100,00 compared to L.A. County's 577 per 100,000.
- San Francisco's property crime rate was 6,168 per 100,000 compared to L.A. County's 2,443 per 100,000.

The difference in property crime rates is indicative of those on drugs trying to find the money to support that habit.

Second solution to stop climbing crimes rates is to recall George Gascon and start prosecuting crime. Those out on the street with Recall George Gascon petitions are easily getting signatures to get the recall job done.

The third solution is called redistricting. Every 10 years, after updated census counts, California must redraw the boundaries of its congressional, senate, assembly and now local school board, council and water district boundary lines to make sure equal and fair representation occurs.

Current office holders could be shifted out of your district area to another district area when new boundary lines are drawn. An unlikely legislator could be drawn out of your district into a new district where, not well-known, would have to campaign hard to sell themselves for re-election to a new group of voters. That's where it gets dicey. Current legislators will be trying to hold on to their current district area where they are well known and get the most votes.

Take a look at [www.wedrawthelinesca.org](http://www.wedrawthelinesca.org) and decide what you want your district to look like and perhaps a new legislator or two.

# The Covid-19 Craze Proves That Einstein Was Right

by Marilyn M. Singleton, MD, JD  
One of Albert Einstein's many aphorisms, "three great forces rule the world: stupidity, fear and greed," is particularly apt in the Covid era.

Our government's duty is to warn the public of a possible pandemic and recommend precautions. However, the initial Covid tactic was to strike fear into our hearts and minds. The constant display of Covid "cases" on the nightly news suggested certain death awaited those who ventured out of their homes.

During the Diamond Princess cruise ship's outbreak in early February 2020, we had a real world demonstration of the behavior of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Trapped in a floating Petri dish, the crew performed their duties and passengers were quarantined in their rooms. With a ventilation system without special high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, only 17 percent of the 3,711 occupants became infected with SARS-CoV-2—only half of whom had symptoms. Because 80 percent of those infected were in cabins that didn't have a previous confirmed case, the likely mode of infection was transmission of aerosols (in contrast to large droplets that quickly fall to the ground) through the ventilation system. Locking people in proved counterproductive.

We also learned from the Diamond Princess episode that the median age of symptomatic folks was 68 years—50 percent of whom had underlying medical conditions, and the deaths were in those over 70 years of age.

Despite this real world clinical experience, the CDC and Dr. Fauci advised state governments to quarantine every living human being in the country. The lessons of the Diamond Princess faded from the news while a never-ending campaign of fear persisted. Only the well-informed realized the news was presented through agenda-colored glasses.

It's not smart to keep people indoors when by May 2020 we knew 66 percent of New York's new cases were in folks who stayed home. Scientific consensus was leaning toward emerging evidence that the SARS-CoV-2 virus was spread by tiny aerosols,

which could be reduced by good ventilation.

After more than a year, the CDC finally acknowledged real world evidence and "the science," and announced that "less than 10 percent" of transmission occurred outdoors. Data shows the actual outdoor transmission is somewhere between 0.1 and 1 percent. While technically true, one wonders whether the CDC used purposefully misleading wording to cover its tracks after mask recommendations for children outdoors at summer camp and mandates for seafaring commercial fisherman.

Fear fuels stupidity. By June 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) had announced that asymptomatic transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is "very rare." And study after study after study have shown that cloth masks do not prevent transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and other similar viruses. When political pundits see unmasked people as a threat and a fully vaccinated physician Covid expert found it "psychologically hard" to dine unmasked with a vaccinated friend, masking has become not "following the science" but an obsession.

Greed knows no bounds. Hospitals are charging up to \$1419 for a \$50 test. Designer drugs are the new cash cow. Regeneron's stock price was up more than 60 percent in 2020. Who would have thought Covid would be justification for a manufacturer to release TV ads for drugs that are not fully FDA approved? Regeneron's ads instill fear, then present their drug as the solution. Covid diagnosis? Oh my! Isolate and call the doctor to get monoclonal antibodies (at \$1,250 per dose).

Wall Street predicts that in 2021 Pfizer and Moderna will generate \$32 billion in Covid-19 vaccine revenue. Thanks to vaccines, Moderna's stock soared 700 percent in 2020. And Pfizer plans for vaccines to be a long-term business plan by roping children into the vaccine corral.

Was the drug and health product manufacturers' \$92 million to lobbyists in the last 3 months intended to ensure the federal gov-

ernment's cooperation? Patients and physicians have a choice. Despite the vaccine uber alles narrative, only 60 percent of Dr. Fauci's staff have taken "the shot." The NIH's Covid-19 Treatment Guidelines are not mandates. Patients can opt for early treatment at a cost of \$10 to \$125 per entire course with effective repurposed generic drugs supported by real-time worldwide evidence. Sadly, as Kaiser Health News noted, despite being a "godsend" to reduce death and hospitalizations, "drug companies have no incentive to spend millions to test new uses for cheap, off-patent drugs."

The people are not stupid, merely ill-informed. Media outlets were increasing ratings at the expense of the truth, the drug companies were rolling in dough, researchers were letting politics guide their outcomes, and social media was censoring experts who disagreed with the wizards at WHO, NIH, and CDC, and medical journals funded by big Pharma.

Could we have avoided lockdowns with repurposed drugs, improved air circulation, and HEPA filters? Could we have saved millions of lives lost not only to Covid-19 but from suicide, overdoses, violence, and cancer?

*Bio: Dr. Singleton is a board-certified anesthesiologist. She is past President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS). She graduated from Stanford and earned her MD at UCSF Medical School. Dr. Singleton completed 2 years of Surgery residency at UCSF, then her Anesthesia residency at Harvard's Beth Israel Hospital. While still working in the operating room, she attended UC Berkeley Law School, focusing on constitutional law and administrative law. She interned at the National Health Law Project and practiced insurance and health law. She teaches classes in the recognition of elder abuse and constitutional law for non-lawyers. She lives in Oakland, Ca. Website: [marilynsingletonmdjd.com](http://marilynsingletonmdjd.com); Twitter: @MSingletonMDJD.*

# My Turn: Some Children See Him

The latest exhibition of madness from the protestors, and the groups like Black Lives Matter and ANTIFA, targets Jesus Christ, desiring to rid us of his iconic images and depictions in works of art. Why? Because they claim, his image is "too White."

The "woke" culture we live in is obsessed with something called a "misappropriation of culture" and not allowing people of another culture to take on the celebration, costumes or traditions of a culture that is not their own. Sadly, it is all part of this exclusion that really takes place under the name of "inclusion" when in fact, there is no inclusion what so ever.

I studied art in school, eventually becoming an art director. And I learned about how the images of Christ and other people in the Bible were interpreted in the ways and the looks that European, Medieval and Renaissance masters thought them to be. It is natural for artists to depict subjects in the manner that they were raised with.

I remember the gift shops I would visit that had Southwestern and Native American gift items. Often those places included some beautifully crafted Nativity scenes with all the figures



Charles Lopresto

depicted as Indians, with the costumes of the various tribes worn by the Three Wise Men depicted not as "kings" but as various tribal "Chiefs."

We have today's hip-hop generation depicting our founding fathers as people of color in a modern and very popular play. Their interpretation has been hailed as innovative and thought provoking as I would imagine any play should be. The musical, of course is, "Hamilton."

We all put our interpretation on events, subjects and people. Based on our own backgrounds and cultures, we look at things in uniquely personal ways. And that is how we visualize "The Christ." He means different things to different people and that is what makes the world go around.

There is a Christmas song that

sums it up better than anything else. The song, most often considered a country song by country artists, has been recorded many times from folks from James Taylor to Tennessee Ernie Ford. It is simply called "Some Children See Him."

The lyrics partly say, "Some children see him lily white, the baby Jesus born this night...some children see him bronzed and brown...the children in each place, will see the baby Jesus' face."

Many feel that we worry too much about the "objects" we destroy. They really are just objects. But are they? Someone's talent and someone's soul went into their creation. A person, a real person, not an inanimate object, put their personality into those works. The story behind the subject, as well as the story behind the artist, is important and will be lost forever if the piece is destroyed. From the very first time some cave man or other primitive individual figured out how to make dyes and paint images on a cave wall, a crude early building, or a stretch of animal skins, he began making images interpreting what he believed to be the reality of what he had visions of. So, if Jesus Christ is depicted in a number of different ways, whether in a master painting, a cathedral ceiling, a sculpture or in the words of various apostles writing in the Bible, it is all the collective ways that the greatest human being that has ever walked the earth is visualized. It is shame to rid ourselves of any of them.

After all, how else will some children see him?

# Illegal Fireworks, Don't Do It.

With the Fourth of July coming up, many people want to celebrate with illegal fireworks. Lately, people have been celebrating almost every night for just about anything with illegal fireworks. Everything from birthdays to various sports were there favorite team wins and they go out and send explosives in the air.

Most of these loud booms that people are been complaining about over the last few months come from ground mortars where they send up a report. A report is actually an aerial explosive that is extremely loud. The other part of the same explosive that people don't think about, is how dangerous they really are.

A situation in an apartment complex recently where a number of people were blowing off these mortars had one that misfired. It did not blow out of the tube, but apparently the fuse had lit. When somebody walked over to inspect it, the detonation went off from the tube. Some people that were there said the guy had part of his face blown off and had bad injuries to one hand, and some figures may have been missing. I did not get the whole story but what I do know is that the paramedics and an ambulance arrived and took the victim away with lights and siren.

Let's not forget the damage that these things can cause. A misfire with an aerial rocket of some sort and landing in a palm tree, on a roof, or in some brush



George Ogden  
That's just the way it is!

can start some serious fires. Another thing that is been happening, these people are making their neighbors angry and they reacting was retaliation. I am sure you have heard that some of these perpetrators of the fireworks have been attacked by their neighbors, their car windows being knocked out, and there have been some cases where people in the neighborhood have shot into the suspect's house.

Myself, I like fireworks. I like things that go up and go boom. However, I'm certainly not going to do it in a populated area. It's too dangerous and I don't want to piss off my neighbors.

Those people that do this in their own neighborhood will create everlasting friction with their neighbors. It scares people in the neighborhood, scares their pets where they may run away because they are scared. Some people have been injured by their animals when the loud fireworks go off. An example was one young girl who was holding her cat when a loud explosion went off and the cat took off and causing cuts

from its claws on her face and arms. Now there's a lawsuit that these people can win from those other people that set off the fireworks.

Here's the new thing that's out there. There are cities that are putting out rewards up to \$1000 for every person that turns in someone who was lighting off these illegal fireworks. The city fines that will be leveled against these people will be more than enough to cover the reward money. Also, not only are they subject to citations, but also arrests and fines from the courts. If it is deemed necessary, the fire department will respond along with HAZMAT and the Sheriff Bomb Squad. They will come to remove explosives from the house after they have removed the people from homes in their neighborhood. The cost to the subjects who were blowing off the fireworks could be in the tens of thousands of dollars. So you have to ask yourself, is it really worth it?

No matter how you look at it, these things are illegal and dangerous no matter what.

"That's just the way it is!"



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# Inflation Is Getting Real

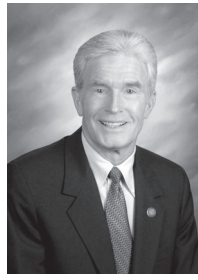
Inflation is making headlines all over the country, but the mainstream media is not being honest about the true severity of the crisis. We are being told that the official rate of inflation is still in single digits, but what we aren't being told is that the way inflation is calculated has changed dramatically over the years. In fact, according to Forbes "the government has changed the way it calculates inflation more than 20 times" over the past 30 years. The rate of inflation directly affects so many other things in our system, and the government would like to keep that number as low as possible. So, they tinkered and tinkered with the formula until they got it just where they wanted it.

But even with the highly modified formula that they are now using, the rate of inflation last month still rose at the fastest pace in almost 13 years! Adding to our fear of runaway inflation, the PCE (personal consumption expenditures indicator reported June 25) showed an increase of 3.4 for May - the fastest increase in over 30 years! This is a key indicator that influences monetary policy by the Fed.

The consumer price index, which represents a "basket" of food, energy, groceries, housing costs and sales across a spectrum of goods, rose 5% from a year earlier. Economists surveyed by Dow Jones were expecting a gain of 4.7%. This reading represented the biggest CPI gain since the 5.3% increase in August 2008, just before the financial crisis sent the U.S. spiraling into the worst recession since the Great Depression.

We all remember what hap-

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



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

pened in the months following August 2008. Hopefully we will not have a repeat of that.

The uncomfortable truth is that consumer prices are rising much more than 5 percent rate in the United States right now.

According to John Williams of shadowstats.com, if the rate of inflation had been calculated the way that it was back in 1990, it would be above 8 percent right now. And if the rate of inflation was still calculated the way that it was back in 1980, it would currently be sitting at about 13 percent! But our government's 5 percent inflation sure sounds a whole lot better than 13 percent, doesn't it?

One thing that many of my Wall Street colleagues are keeping a very close eye on is food inflation. You may have noticed a significant jump in prices at the grocery store. More and more grocery shoppers are experiencing sticker shock every day. The price of food - especially meat, fruit and vegetables - is going up at a substantial rate. If prices were increasing at just a 5 percent annual rate, that wouldn't be a big deal. Sadly, the reality is much worse than that, and that is especially true for meat prices. According to one economist I

know very well, the true rate of inflation for meat prices is "probably closer" to 20 or 30 percent.

We will continue to get a lot of happy talk from the Biden administration and from the Federal Reserve, but this is becoming a real national crisis. The biggest problem is way too many dollars chasing way too few goods and services! Instead of taking emergency measures to get inflation under control our leaders seem intent on making things even worse.

The Biden administration wanted to spend 2 trillion dollars on infrastructure plus a variety of "pork", but a group of U.S. Senators are currently working on a "compromise deal" that would only provide about one trillion dollars in new infrastructure titled spending. This would be on top of the trillions upon trillions of dollars that we have already borrowed and spent during this crisis. It is complete and utter insanity.

Unfortunately, politicians in Washington don't seem to care. They seem determined to continue to borrow and spend giant mountains of money that we do not have, and the Federal Reserve is going to continue to shovel enormous gobs of cash into the financial system.

So, more understated (by our government) inflation is on the way, and the standard of living for most Americans is going to continue to go down.

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

*I welcome your questions and comments:*  
[kenherman46@hotmail.com](mailto:kenherman46@hotmail.com)

# Your Money - Ask Julia

**Happy 4th of July!!**

Celebrate FREEDOM! Read the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and Bill of Rights. Listen to some patriotic music. Thank a soldier (currently enlisted, or a Veteran.) Be thankful for your freedom and your rights, but not at the expense of others or yourself. Fines and other consequences of a DUI, illegal fireworks, or starting a fire are all very expensive. Be considerate of those who live with PTSD. Be understanding and comforting to frightened pets. Practice your escape plan in case there's a fire. BE SAFE!

**Are the contents of my safety-deposit box at my bank FDIC insured?**

No. FDIC does not insure the contents of safety-deposit boxes. You can contact your homeowner's insurance company agent and purchase your own insurance for this purpose. An alternative would be to purchase a good-quality safe for your home, and add to your homeowner's policy the value of whatever you put into your home safe.

**I went to the bank to withdraw my savings and the bank limited the amount they would give me. They said I needed to contact them two days ahead and schedule the withdrawal. A friend of mine is refinancing, and the bank said the loan would close and fund on a specific date. It closed, but did not fund. The bank said it'll probably fund two or three days after the weekend. This is scary! What's happening?**

Some banks are limiting the amount you can withdraw, saying



**Julia Yoder**

that they have to order money and await delivery. Certain branches are limited on the amount of money they have available to pay withdrawals. More and more banks are putting a 'hold' (waiting period) on access to funds when you deposit cash or a money order. None of this seems right, nor logical, but it is what you have to plan for. It raises concerns that if there was a run on the bank (customers closing their accounts and taking large sums of money) there would not be enough cash to pay everybody. Regarding the late funding on a refinance loan, the borrower should contact the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to find out if closing, but delaying funding, is even legal.

**My financial advisor told me I should buy an annuity from him because the insurance companies he represents are members of some California guarantee company that would assure my protection if the company went bankrupt. Is this true?**

Your financial advisor has crossed a legal line. Here's a quote from the California Life

and Health Insurance Guarantee Association Act Summary Document and Disclaimer, "Insurance companies and their agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association (CLHIGA) to induce you to purchase any kind of insurance policy." The existence of this Association cannot be used by an agent or advisor to induce you to buy. Annuities are policies issued by insurance companies.

**With my Stocks and Bonds, I'd like more safety. With my CDs, the safety is good, but I'd like a higher return. I'd also like a guaranteed income when I retire. My peers give me a big chuckle and look at me like I'm crazy. Can I have what I want?**

Others might tell you, "You're dreaming! Face reality! Can't happen!" I'm here to tell you, they are wrong. You can have better returns than you're getting with your CDs and still have the safety you enjoy. You can have index-like returns without the worry about losses. And, you can have a guaranteed, lifetime income when you retire.

**Ask Julia by email:**  
[juliayoder@yahoo.com](mailto:juliayoder@yahoo.com)

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# Holden's Upward Mobility Act of 2021 Passes Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee

**SACRAMENTO** - Assemblymember Chris Holden's legislation, the Upward Mobility Act of 2021, Assembly Bill 105 that addresses barriers to upward mobility and inclusion for people of color working in California's civil services system passed the Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee.

"Upward mobility is integral to achieving racial justice, and we should be setting the example," said Assemblymember Chris Holden. "The existing systems in place at our own state agencies fail to create inclusive workplace environments, and hinder qualified individuals to move on up within their department simply based on the color of their skin."

Data from the California Department of Human Resources reports show that the majority of Non-White civil service personnel are paid a salary in the "\$40,000 and below" range, but when the salary range increases, the percentage of Non-White civil servants moving into management positions decreased. The exact opposite takes place for White civil servants.

"We already mandated the private sector to do their part. It's

high time for the state to step up and do theirs," said Holden.

AB 105 requires diversity on all state boards and commissions that have volunteers. The bill would also reform processes that hinder upward mobility for people of color in the civil service system, giving attention to compliance, the appeals process, and annual parity goals for upward mobility.

In September 2020, California took a bold step to address racial inequity in the private sector when Governor Newsom signed AB 979 (Holden) that requires diversity on corporate boards of corporations based in California - a policy that will help drive upward mobility for people of color.

AB 105 will next be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Specifically, AB 105 would:

- Require the California State Personnel Board (SPB) to establish a process that includes diversity and best practices in each aspect of the design, announcement, and administration of examinations for the establishment of employment lists.

- Provides that the Department of Human Resources (CalHR) may develop model upward mobility goals to include race, gender, and LGBTQ as factors to the extent permissible under state and federal equal protection laws.

- Require that CalHR submit within its annual workforce analysis and census report all of the adverse actions taken by departments against employees. It calls for the report to include the type of adverse action, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation, if available. The goal is to see if there are patterns of discrimination in the departments.



## Car Talk by THE CAR DOC

**What You "AUTO" Know**

**By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists**

# The Life Of A Car Battery

The two main reasons for shortened battery life are:

- Excessive heat - Heat causes battery fluid to evaporate, damaging the internal structure of the battery.
- Overcharging - A malfunctioning component in the charging system, usually the voltage regulator, allows too high a charging rate, resulting in a slow battery death.

To get the most out of your battery:

- Have your battery and its connections checked at every oil change.

- Be sure the electrical system is charging at the correct rate. Overcharging can damage a battery as quickly as undercharging.
- Always have the battery replaced with one that's rated at least as high as the one originally specified.
- Keep the top of the battery clean. Dirt becomes a conductor, which drains battery power.

Further, as corrosion accumulates on battery terminals it becomes an insulator, inhibiting current flow. Batteries do not always give

warning signs before they fail. If your battery is more than three years old, it is probably wise to have it replaced.

Your car care provider can determine the health of your battery so you know how much life it has left.

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# Supervisor Barger's Motion To Support Small Businesses And Facilitate New Development Is Unanimously Approved

*Motion will streamline and expedite permitting and development processes throughout the region*

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** - The Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Janice Hahn intended to help small businesses and facilitate new building by vastly improving the permitting and development processes in Los Angeles County.

"As businesses struggle to recover from the devastating impacts of COVID-19 closures, the County must look for ways to reduce barriers, especially those that negatively impact small businesses, which are often owned by women and communities of color," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger. "We should also facilitate new development throughout the region to support the local economy and increase housing stock. To do so, we must assess and eliminate anything that would impede or delay these efforts."

This motion is an effort by Supervisor Barger to implement initiatives that can help small businesses open, relocate or expand in Los Angeles County while supporting job growth and housing availability. As outlined in this motion, businesses of all sizes continue to face regulatory hurdles when

applying for permits with County departments. Often, these barriers are too great for small businesses to navigate and overcome.

The motion directs County departments, including the Department of Regional Planning and the Department of Public Works, to work with a consultant and engage with impacted stakeholders to review the existing land development permitting process, identify bottlenecks, and look for areas to improve the technical, operational, and cultural aspects of the process.

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The San Gabriel Valley Examiner

# Around the Valley & Senior News

## Shepherd's Pantry Launches 2020 Campaign "Nourish the Body, Feed the Soul"

GLENDORA - Shepherd's Pantry is launching its major fundraising drive, "Nourish the Body, Feed the Soul." The campaign for individual donors is scheduled to run from July 1 through July 31. Shepherd's Pantry also will be reaching out to businesses in the early Fall and asks that companies and local businesses stay tuned for more information and sponsorship opportunities. Shepherd's Pantry hopes this campaign will unite the community to raise funds to help those who need hope and a helping hand.

Since 2004, Shepherd's Pantry has provided food, clothing, counseling and additional resources to families and individuals struggling to make ends meet. With facilities in Glendo-

ra, Irwindale and Baldwin Park, Shepherd's Pantry serves well over 1,000 households every month. Clients served include families struggling to put food on the table, senior citizens on fixed incomes, and individuals who have suffered job loss, illness or severely reduced income. The COVID-19 crisis has created major challenges for many, and the situation is more dire than ever before.

According to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, an estimated 2 million people in Los Angeles County live with food insecurity, which means 1 in 5 people who live here may not know where their next meal is coming from.

Shepherd's Pantry appreciates every donation no matter the

amount. All donors will be acknowledged in September as we highlight Hunger Action Month.

Through "Nourish the Body, Feed the Soul" Shepherd's Pantry also invites individuals to consider other activities to help fight hunger such as neighborhood food drives. If you are having a birthday or other special event, start a fundraiser and ask family and friends to support Shepherd's Pantry and the fight against hunger, or consider donating in memory of a loved one or friend.

Shepherd's Pantry encourages everyone to participate in the "Nourish the Body, Feed the Soul" campaign and consider sharing their blessings with others in need. To learn more about the campaign or Shepherd's Pantry, visit [www.shepherdspantry.com](http://www.shepherdspantry.com)

## Sportsplex & Independence Day Celebration Event

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - The City of West Covina will have a Sportsplex & Independence Day Celebration Event. West Covina is excited to announce the Sportsplex & Independence Day Celebration event will be held Saturday, July 3rd from 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM at the West Covina Sportsplex located at 2100 S. Azusa Ave. in West Covina.

Some Festivities will include Family Fun zone with games, Bubble Show, Kids Parade, a softball game with the City Council and the evening will end with live music by Smokin Cobras Band.

Pre-Registration for the event is required. You can register through the City's DASH Program on line.

Schedule of events: 4:30 pm - Kids Parade, decorate your wagons, strollers, bikes or scooters, City Council will announce winners at 5:00 pm and 5 prizes will be awarded to the most decorated entries. 5:15 pm - City Council Softball Game. 6:00 pm - Live Music by Smokin Cobras Band. El Cholo will be selling Food and Drinks.

## Senator Portantino Secures Funding for Glendora Streetlight Retrofit

SACRAMENTO - Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D - La Cañada Flintridge) announced that his budget request for the City of Glendora was approved by the Legislature. The 2021-2022 State Budget will include a one-time allocation of \$1.5 million for the City of Glendora to retrofit historic streetlights.

"I am excited to be able to as-

sist with the cost of retrofitting Glendora's historic streetlights," stated Senator Portantino. "Glendora has many local priorities that make demands on its city budget. Having the state offset the cost of the streetlights will allow the Mayor and City Council to carry out these important projects with local dollars. The new streetlights will reenergize the city

and preserve the character of Glendora for future generations," he added.

Between 1911 and 1914, 107 Heritage Lampposts were installed in and around Glendora Village. These lampposts stand as a monument to Glendora's history and heritage. In 2004, the lampposts were decommissioned due to safety concerns.

## CHP Joins Tri-State Effort Keeping Motorists On I-5 Safe

SACRAMENTO - State patrol agencies in California, Oregon, and Washington are partnering for a traffic safety campaign focused on speeding drivers aptly named, "I-5 Alive" on July 2. This coordinated education and enforcement effort is aimed at making the 1,381 miles of I-5 safer for all summer travelers.

In addition to a social media campaign, officers of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), Washington State Patrol (WSP) and Oregon State Police (OSP) will be especially watchful for traffic violations that often lead to tragedy on our highways. Speed and distracted driving top the list, along with driving while impaired by drugs or alcohol and failing to use safety belts and child safety seats.

"Driving responsibly and at a reasonable speed is the best way to help ensure you and your passengers will arrive at your destination safely," CHP Commissioner Amanda Ray said. "We

know people are eager to get out and travel, but reckless driving will not get you there sooner - it will just create dangerous conditions for you and everyone else on the road."

In California, citations issued by the CHP to drivers for speeds in excess of more than 100 mph increased drastically during the early days of the pandemic, from 1,331 citations statewide in May 2019 to 3,480 in May 2020, an increase of 161 percent. The number of citations for driving over 100 mph is still well above pre-pandemic levels, with 2,201 citations in April 2021.

"Summer holidays should be a time of fun and family, not sorrow and tragedy," Chief John R. Batiste of the WSP said. "We ask everyone driving the I-5 corridor to slow down, pay attention, drive sober, and buckle up. When it comes to safe highways, we are truly all in this together."

"Speeding continues to be one

of the highest contributing factors to serious injury crashes and fatalities," stated OSP Superintendent Terri Davie. "Speeding tickets are easily the most common ticket issued; however, it isn't the goal of law enforcement. The goal of speed enforcement is to potentially save your life and the lives of the others."

Five simple strategies for drivers to help make I-5 safer for everyone:

- Slow down
- Drive sober
- Be patient
- Put your phone down
- Buckle up

Each state agency will use its best strategies to provide additional enforcement presence during July, including use of existing grant funding and shifting resources already on the road over to the I-5 corridor.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security.

## Eviction Moratorium Extended

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has extended the Temporary Eviction Moratorium through September 30, 2021.

The moratorium, which was first put into effect March

2020, places a Countywide ban on evictions for residential tenants, commercial tenants, and mobile home space renters.

The updated moratorium extends protection to commercial evictions; prohibits no-fault

evictions, evictions for unauthorized occupants, pets, nuisances, or for tenants who reasonably deny entry to a landlord, if related to COVID-19.

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

## "Time Jockey" - Bathroom Investment

By Joe Castillo

### Most Important Room...

The bathroom is one of the most important rooms in any house and it rivals the kitchen as the centerpiece of a family home. But when it becomes the "favorite" room in a house then that bathroom must be something special.

In 1856, Judge Charles Fayette Lott, built a Victorian-style mansion in the City of Oroville with as many as 6 rooms on the lower floor, 7 rooms on the second floor, a kitchen, parlor, dining room and the other basic rooms in a house. The mansion was not excessive like so many other houses of that era but it was designed with the simple characteristics that Judge Lott expected. Judge Lott had three children and the house had ample room for them to grow up in and when Judge Lott passed away he left the house to his only surviving daughter Cornelia, who had married Jess Sank. Cornelia and Jess moved into the house and lived there comfortably until in time they too passed away.

Under the Sank's ownership the bathroom took on a much different appearance than its original design. Whereas the Lott House is historic, the rejuvenated Lott bathroom became the special project of the Sanks, a project so special that it became their favorite room in the entire

house, and they took more pleasure from that room than any room. There are those of us who also enjoy our bathroom but to receive the highest pleasure from a bathroom may sound just a little odd. But to Jess and Cornelia Sank, their bathroom held a special place in their lives and here is the reason. The Sanks were very prudent and conservative in their spending but when they invested excessively \$1,000 to build a bathroom, it was quite an exorbitant investment for the 1930's.

Building the bathroom included installing indoor plumbing, and in the 1930's that was quite an event. Cornelia would sit in a rocker all day long watching her husband Jess as he laid tile throughout the bathroom. She was so proud of his work that she even invited their wealthy friends to come and watch Jess as he skillfully tiled the entire bathroom. Jess was so in love with Cornelia that he installed a built-in radio with a speaker high up the wall so Cornelia could be able to listen to music while she bathed. It was an extravagance which no other house had or even thought about having.

In the days of the Great Depression, the Sanks knew that they would be criticized for spending such an excessive amount especially when bread

lines were long, butter cost 14 cents a pound and 5 cents for a gallon of milk. These amounts seem small today but when the economic crash of the 1929 stock market resulted in high unemployment, business failures and a difficult time for all Americans, even the lowest of prices were difficult to pay. But the Sanks had been planning to construct a bathroom in their beautiful home for the previous three years and when the opportunity came, they started and completed the project.

After the bathroom project was completed, the Sanks returned to their frugal and conservative life style, and when they passed away, their entire estate was left to the City of Oroville with enough assets to support the house and property for a long time.

The moral of the story is when you're having difficulty thinking what to give your wife for Christmas, or your anniversary or even her birthday, think about giving her a bathroom, it's an investment which is definitely not out of order....

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

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD ACROSS

- Welsh dog breed
- With juice, or au \_\_\_\_
- Pirate's yes, pl.
- What a subordinate does
- Cigarette residue
- Chimney cleaner
- Coffin holders
- "Sheep be true! \_\_\_-ram-ewe!"
- Poisonous Christmas berry
- \*First U.S. city to host Summer Olympics
- \*Swimmer with most Olympic medals
- Part of a min.
- \*Field hockey's stick and ball, e.g.
- Gayle King's network
- Capital of Latvia
- \*Canoeing: slalom and \_\_\_\_
- Rhine tributary
- Building annexes
- A in AV
- Three-ply cookie
- \*Madison cycling, e.g.
- \*Light ball tap, in volleyball or tennis
- What hoarders do
- Not happening (2 words)
- Half-rotten
- \*Martial art debuting in Olympics in 2021
- Make a plaintive cry
- Short for although
- Luuu instruments
- Street in Paris
- \* \_\_\_ horse in gymnastics
- \*One of pentathlon events
- Kentucky Derby drink
- Rock in a glass
- Small Asian ungulate
- Spy's cover
- Not a win nor a loss
- Ran off to marry
- Pat dry
- Eastern Standard Time
- Between shampoo and repeat

### THEME: SUMMER OLYMPICS

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
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- A valley in Scotland
- "Ant-Man" leading actor
- Dostoevsky's "The \_\_\_"
- Beethoven's famous symphony
- \*2021 Olympic host
- Civil Rights icon
- Long adventure story
- \_\_\_ welcome!
- Tree cutters' leftovers
- \_\_\_ out, as in victory
- One suffering from

- tuberculosis
- Chosen few
- Food safety threat
- \*Threat to muscles
- Mixture
- Source of protein
- Pedal pushers
- Golf club
- Midday slumbers
- High school club
- #6 Down, sing.
- Post-Soviet Union union

### June 24, 2021 Puzzle Solution

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# California Credit Union Provides \$5,000 in Teacher Grants To Benefit Educators & Students Across Los Angeles County

COVINA - California Credit Union has awarded \$5,000 to fund innovative school projects through its Spring 2021 Teacher Grant initiative. Through the program, the credit union provides 10 grants of \$500 each to local teachers to underwrite a diverse range of original learning projects for their students.

The Spring 2021 California Credit Union Teacher Grant recipients include teachers across Los Angeles county which includes Kathleen Pickard of Badillo Elementary School in the Charter Oak Unified School District.

"California Credit Union was founded to support the education community, and our grant program is one way we are continuing to assist teachers as they work to engage and inspire their students," said California Credit Union CEO Steve O'Connell. "We congratulate these educators who are going above and beyond to create exciting new programs for their students and families. We hope these grants will help our teachers bring learning to life for their students in creative and innovative ways."

The California Credit Union grants will help fund a wide variety of programs illustrating the creativity and commitment teachers bring to their class-



Yajaira Olivares, CCU VP Covina Branch Manager; Kathleen Pickard, Grant Winner from Badillo Elementary School

rooms and communities. Projects receiving grants include art expression programs focused on social change, anti-racism, diversity & inclusion, a cooking channel for special needs students, a mobile library, ASL instructional videos for families, coding & robotics programs, and a volunteer student reading program in assisted living facilities, among others.

Since the creation of the program in 2012, California Credit Union has awarded \$135,000 in

teacher grants to support innovative learning projects. Up to 20 grants are awarded bi-annually in the spring and fall. Any full-time classroom teacher in Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, and Riverside County can apply for a grant for a program that has clearly defined learning objectives tied to students' academic needs, displays creativity in education, and targets a significant number of students. More information is available at ccu.com.

# Route 66's Philanthropist: Thrifting the New Gifting

By Jenny Park

GLENDORA - Driving down 66, new developments have cropped up. Road signs are still there. Forgetting where to turn right? Frustrated by the quick turns on '17 Mustang, I decided to park at Flappy Jack's and walk past the old Tailor's parking lot. I purchased a beautiful bracelet, earth-friendly disposable pads, a silver watch, and a solid round ring with a rose hue. After not finding anything in Azusa for my niece's birthday present, my interest was piqued by a new sign.

The new philanthropist helped me to decide on these items as gifts to reward myself after a long Covid-19 school year. AIUPNA is a wonderful school in Los Angeles. She encouraged me, waited for me, and gave me inspiration to finally plant new seeds this year.

She offered me wisdom, take it or leave it. She then asked her husband to find the walking cane to turn on the Air Conditioner. Oh? It was sold. He then found another walking cane to flip on a switch. They don't do well online. She also asked questions about the neighborhood. She offered me mugs.

I know because a Prime De-



Thrift Store Crave is located at 616 W Historic Rte 66 in Glendora.

livery driver broke a mug that I still have to return. It was a gift from Dr. I. Patla. I then decided to use the mug as a sugar container. Thrift stores are not second-hand stores, but philanthropy stores. Some gifts are second-hand.

Fr. Charles Balamaze and I came to a consensus that gifts can never be regifted and once a gift is given, it will never be retaken. The philanthropist and I chatted about track & field, coaching, and fashion. She would not sell me an azure blue dress from Banana Republic. It seemed like her closet, garage, and office rolled into one shop. I did not

want to leave.

Looking back in the rearview mirror, Drivers must be careful exiting the shop. Do not knock over anything expensive or you will pay for it. Purses, shoes, plants, and furniture can be difficult to move. Items range from age 7-95. US dollars only. Prices range from \$1-negotiable. Time spent, priceless. Oh, and if one does regift, don't tell the original gifter.

Jenny Park can be reached at jennypark0622@gmail.com. Stay tuned for her review of the Irvine Improv featuring Kevan Moezzi, the world's famous "half-Persian" comedian.

# COVID-19 Cases Remain Low Among People Experiencing Homelessness

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Similar to the overall trend in L.A. County, the number of COVID-19 cases among people experiencing homelessness have declined significantly and continue to remain low. During the last week of December, weekly cases peaked to 630 cases a week. Last week, there were 60 new cases reported among people experiencing homelessness which includes 53 cases from previous weeks that were newly identified as cases associated with people experiencing homelessness and are included in the new case totals. To date, 7,296 people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County tested positive

for COVID-19 and 213 people who were experiencing homelessness passed away from COVID-19. Of the people experiencing homelessness who passed away, 97 were sheltered, 70 were unsheltered, and for 46 people who passed away, their shelter status was unknown.

There are 967 providers administering vaccinations to people experiencing homelessness; together they have administered over 35,296 doses of COVID-19 vaccine to people experiencing homelessness across Los Angeles County. The County continues to work closely with partner organizations to vaccinate and protect

people experiencing homelessness from COVID-19 infection.

"Given the significant increase in the circulation of the Delta variant - which is now estimated to be responsible for 20% of cases across the U.S., sensible public health precautions are recommended at all worksites and megaevents. Unless vaccination status can be verified when indoors in crowded places, masks prevent virus transmission. Workers that are unvaccinated and working indoors with sustained close contact with others should be provided with a respirator and where appropriate, a solid partition. Until we get more individuals vaccinated, let's make sure workplaces are as safe as possible," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health.

# Tips to Keep Kids' Minds Active All Summer Long

School is out and already parents are hearing the dreaded, "I'm bored." Unfortunately, too much mental downtime in summer can leave kids floundering in fall.

To keep minds active all summer long, check out these brain energizing tips and ideas:

- Take a hike: Whether your children were learning remotely or in-person this past school year, they are likely due for some quality time spent outdoors. Take a hike with your kids or go on a camping trip. Exploring the natural world offers a geology, biology and ecology lesson wrapped up into one experience.
- Make math fun: Keep students' mathematics skills honed during the summer months by visiting the Casio Education website. Found at casioeducation.com/activities, this free resource features tons



of tools that help incorporate technology into mathematics learning. Plus, Casio's free all-in-one web-based mathematics software ClassPad.net offers a personalized approach to math and can be fun for kids to use whether on a road trip or home on a rainy day. Finally, Casio's YouTube channel is another good summer resource, as it offers tutorials and webinars in a range of subjects, including elementary and middle school math, algebra I and II, geometry, pre-calculus, calculus and statistics.

- Hit up the library: Many schools, local libraries and other entities dedicated to childhood literacy host annual summer reading challenges. Encourage

your kids to not only participate, but to actively choose books they are looking forward to reading.

• Get moving: Exercise is critical for a healthy brain, so make sure kids are moving each day. Take a bike ride together as a family, visit a playground or pool, round up the neighbors for a game of flag football -- there are many fun ways to boost physical activity, particularly during the summer months.

This summer, be sure you mix up the down time with opportunities to exercise the mind. Doing so will keep kids happy, entertained and intellectually challenged. (StatePoint)

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 Ceremonies will be at 10am on Saturday July 3 at the Sunflower Campus.  
 If you would like to purchase a flag please visit <http://www.rotaryofglendora.org/field-of-heroes>

# Tips for Surviving the First 5 Years of Small Business Ownership

# Robbery at 99 Ranch Market, Police Seeking Information From Public

**The Tipping Point: Making the Jump to Self-Made**

**Success-bound: T-minus 5 years**

**58%** More than half of small business owners gave themselves five years or less to make it or break it.

**Newer businesses give themselves an even shorter timespan to make it**

- < 1 year in operation: 60%
- 1 to 2 years in operation: 50%

60% of business owners that have been in operation less than 1 year, and 50% of those that have been in operation 1-2 years, gave themselves 2 years or less to determine success or failure.

**Definition of success for small business owners**

- Before deciding to start a business: Achieving profitability (48%)
- Making more money than I was previously (34%)
- With the business up and running: Profitability is still a measure of success (30%)
- But creating a legacy has gained importance as well (28%)

Looking back to motivations for starting a business - Gen Z (10%) vs. Baby Boomers and older (3%) say creating a legacy was a motivation for starting a business.



**SAN GABRIEL** - On June 26 at approximately 8:41 p.m., three suspects robbed an Asian female victim in her 40s inside 99 Ranch located at 140 West Valley Boulevard in San Gabriel Square. Upon fleeing, the three suspects proceeded to rob another Asian female victim in her 40s. Two purses were stolen.

The three suspects are believed to be three African-American males in their 20s. At this time, San Gabriel Police believe this to be a strong-armed robbery with no weapons.

Security footage from the incident may be viewed at [https://youtu.be/\\_3NUf18qKwE](https://youtu.be/_3NUf18qKwE).

No motive has been determined, though San Gabriel Police believe that these are isolated robbery incidents based on initial details. Those with additional information about this crime are invited to call the San Gabriel Police Department Detective Bureau at 626.308.2835.

# Duarte To Enforce Fireworks Restrictions for Independence Day

**DUARTE** - The City of Duarte will be enforcing restrictions on all fireworks usage for the 2021 July Fourth holiday. Fireworks may not be discharged on the day of July 4th or any other days since the passage of Measure F in November of 2018.

Both Duarte Public Safety and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will have extra patrols out on the holiday and days leading up to it to ensure that restrictions are enforced. Violators of the City's fireworks restrictions may be prosecuted and receive a \$1000 fine and/or six months in jail. The California State Fire Marshall has decreed a zero tolerance against illegal fireworks due to drought conditions.

For additional information regarding fireworks, contact Duarte Public Safety at (626) 357-7938 or, if you see some-

**ALL Fireworks Are Prohibited in Duarte**

**\$1,000 Minimum fines for each violation**

one discharging any type of firework in the community, contact LASD Temple Station (626) 285-7171.

What motivates entrepreneurs to become self-employed? How do they measure success? What's their cutoff for profitability and self-reflection on status? A new survey examining these very questions provides important insights to small business owners and those looking to start their entrepreneurial journey.

"The Tipping Point: Making the Jump to Self-Made" report from global small business platform Xero surveyed 1,200 small business owners nationwide and, among respondents, 58% gave themselves five years or less to make it or break it - with newer businesses giving themselves an even shorter timespan on average. Here are some of the survey's key findings, along with tips for surviving your first five years of small business ownership:

1. Define what success looks like: When they made the move to branch out on their own, 48% of small business owners defined success as achieving profitability, and 34% defined it as making more money than they were previously. Fast forward to the present with their businesses up and running and 28% of business owners cite creating a legacy as their success measure. Having tangible and intangible benchmarks of achievement can help you stay focused.

2. Know your "why": According to the survey, one of the strongest motivators for starting a small business is the belief that it provides greater flexibility and control when you're your own boss (45%). Passion/purpose in work (28%) and financial reasons (15%) were also strong motivators. Running a business can be tremendously satisfying when you understand what your "tipping point" was for taking a leap of faith and venturing out on

your own.

3. Be flexible: Twenty-nine percent of small business owners say the pandemic has increased their desire to run a business, particularly among younger business owners (43% of Gen Z vs. 18% of Boomers) and women (34% of women vs. 24% of men). But what do those businesses that thrived in the COVID-19 era have in common? "The majority of newer businesses have been set up on technology platforms and digitally enabled since their inception," says Ben Richmond, US country manager for Xero. "They're ready for and in many cases even expecting disruption, so they've established a foundation that's open to pivots."

4. Be realistic: While most business owners say they started their business for increased flexibility and control, being the boss doesn't equate to less stress. In fact, that's the biggest misconception about starting a business (47%). Another top misconception is that starting a business will be more fun than working for someone else (25%). Understanding the realities of entrepreneurship can help you avoid surprises, and ensure comfort in the role as it changes.

5. Lean on digital tools: When you're a small business owner, it can often seem like there are never enough hours in the day. Using software that streamlines the nitty-gritty can free your time so it's better spent on the big picture. For example, the cloud-based accounting software platform Xero gives small business owners and their advisors access to real-time financial data on any device. Its 2.45 million subscribers are leveraging its array of tools that simplify tasks like paying bills, payroll, claiming exp-

penses and sending invoices.

To view the full report and for more information, visit [xero.com](http://xero.com).

"It's certainly been an unusual year for business, but entrepreneurs are generally feeling positive about the economic outlook in the months ahead. For enterprises still in the make-it-or-break-it period, that's especially good news," says Richmond. (StatePoint)

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