



# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

May 13 - 19, 2021

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## Presidential Award State Finalist



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# Drama Teacher Surprised With \$5K in School Supplies from Honda

**DIAMOND BAR** - Diamond Bar High School Drama teacher Jared Kaitz was busily reading students for a "Phantom of the Opera" concert rehearsal on Monday afternoon. The dedicated educator and alumnus had no idea moments later he would be the one taking center stage as recipient of a SoCal Honda Random Act of Helpfulness. After a year in COVID-19 lockdown, Kaitz finally had about a dozen of his actors on campus - in full costumes and wigs - ready to practice in front of a huge green screen set up in the quad. The other half of the ensemble was joining from home via Zoom. "I'll also be recording their parts and after I edit it all together it will look like everyone is in person," Kaitz shared as he dashed around helping students with last minute adjustments. "It feels like the real thing today fixing ripped costumes with safety pins!" he quipped.

Kaitz had been told that a camera crew would be documenting the drama troupe for a Walnut Valley USD 50th anniversary project. It was all a ruse, of course!

As students began performing the signature song "Masquerade", a blue SoCal Helpful Honda car rolled up and the camera crew sprang into action to record a commercial. Kaitz was presented



Diamond Bar High drama students pay tribute to teacher Jared Kaitz during Helpful Honda presentation.

with \$5,000 worth of educational supplies including a dance floor, blue tooth speaker, and MacBook Pro computer. He was lauded for providing an inclusive theater program that allows every student to feel accepted and to be comfortable to be their most authentic self.

"We hope this will help your productions come to life - congratulations!" the Honda spokesman said. "Thank you, this means the world to us!" the stunned

teacher commented. Instructional Dean Julie Galindo nominated Kaitz for the special accolade. "Jared has done amazing things for the Drama department and all of our students," she lauded, detailing his seamless transition from an in-person to online learning platform.

This year alone, the creative director presented over nine virtual productions that he wrote, edited, and produced. Kaitz sewed the costumes, held daily online rehearsals, and recorded the actors' performances on green screens.

"It's pretty amazing for one person to do all that!" Galindo

said. "You've been instrumental in making this last year, which was difficult for everybody, something that your students were still able to enjoy," praised Board President Layla Abou-Taleb.



Nominator Instructional Dean Julie Galindo shares accolades for teacher Jared Kaitz.

Students quickly chimed in to sing his praises. "Mr. Kaitz has made this year better than any of us could have imagined!" said Ana Barradas. "He's been such a lifeline for all of us during this crazy year and I can't thank him enough!" added senior Diego Tamayo. "He's been such an amazing ray of sunshine - especially during COVID-19 his class has been like a refuge for us," said classmate Allison Santogrossi. "He's definitely made an impact on each and every one of us!" shared Alyssa Guerra.

The school's Phantom of the Opera spring production was cancelled last year due to the pandemic outbreak. "Now we're able to come back together (in person) to present a concert with selected songs from the show," Kaitz said. "It's an honor to be back here with this amazing group of students!"

"We knew Mr. Kaitz was creative and an out-of-the box thinker, but this year he showed us so much more!" Tamayo added.

## Honor And Remember Our Law Enforcement Officers Who Made The Ultimate Sacrifice In The Line Of Duty

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

We take this time to honor and remember our law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. We will also celebrate the contributions made by officers in our community, and thank our Police Officers and all law enforcement officers nationwide, for their dedication in keeping all of our communities safe.

National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many orga-



nizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community. The principal organizers of National Police Week include:

- \* National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), which produces the annual Candlelight Vigil.
- \* Fraternal Order of Police/

Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary (FOP/FOPA), which organizes the Peace Officers Memorial Day Service at the U.S. Capitol.

- \* Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), which holds the National Police Survivors' Conference.

## Edison Aerial Inspections Over Glendora

**GLENDORA** - Over the next few weeks, Southern California Edison (SCE) will be conducting aerial inspections in Glendora utilizing drones and/or helicopters. The focus of these operations is and always will be SCE's own electrical assets, structures and right of ways that support SCE's assets. These inspections are just one part of SCE's broader wildfire prevention and mitigation program focusing on keeping communities safe. The amount of time it takes to conduct aerial inspections varies.

Aerial inspections using high-tech cameras mounted on a helicopter and drones and software that geotags assets are being used throughout SCE's service territory in high fire risk areas and to inspect equipment in hard-to-reach areas and from difficult angles. The cameras can detect invisible flaws using a radiometric infrared camera as well as visible issues using an HD imager.

The effort is part of the utility's Grid Safety and Resiliency Program, which includes additional measures, such as installing covered conductor,



deploying weather stations and increasing tree trimming in high fire risk areas. SCE is also using Public Safety Power Shutoffs where the utility will shut off power during extreme weather that increases the risk of a fire.

## Wine For A Cause Event Will Help Local Charities

**GLENDORA** - A virtual wine tasting event, sponsored by two local service clubs and some of Glendora's downtown businesses, will raise funds for charitable projects throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

"Wine for a Cause," a wine and food event that includes a wine education program, will take place on Thursday, May 27, at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Glendora Kiwanianes, the Azusa-Glendora Soroptimist Clubs and cocoVino LA, participants will be able to purchase wine and hors d'oeuvres packages from cocoVino LA and Luca Bella Restaurant and enjoy the products with friends while learning about wine virtually.

"The pandemic has prevented the Kiwanianes from sponsoring their annual Designer Bag Bingo and Community Tea, so we've teamed up with the Azusa-Glendora Soroptimist



education program and receive one opportunity ticket for a number of prizes. A portion of your ticket will be a tax-deductible donation.

"We've got some terrific items for our opportunity drawing including a Temecula getaway weekend in September, a RING security system, a 23-wine bottle holder with and assortment of wine, a Brighton Handbag and a \$200 gift card to Andrews Inc. of Glendora, a wine barrel table with wine glass holder with wine, a gift card basket valued at \$600, and lottery cards and Godiva Wine County Gift Basket," said Rose Wentz, who is also co-chairing the event.

Visit the event web site at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wine-for-a-cause-tickets-144103349999>. Opportunity

tickets may also be purchased on the site or through Zelle at [Glendorakiwanianes@gmail.com](mailto:Glendorakiwanianes@gmail.com). Drive thru to pick up your purchases on Thursday, May 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at cocoVino LA, 131 N. Glendora Avenue. If you are unavailable to pick up your purchase, delivery is available in Glendora and Azusa for a fee of \$100.

"During these particularly trying times, we've all had to become creative. I think this event is just that. It's a collaborative effort involving two service clubs and local Glendora's merchants. And the funds raised will be put to good use in the community," said Debbie Deal, current president of the Glendora Kiwanianes.

## LUCA BELLA FINE FOODS

club to create this fun event. People can participate by purchasing the wine/food packages and tickets for an opportunity drawing," said Pam Richards, Kiwanian co-chair of the event.

The wine/food packages include: Wine with a Friend - 3 bottles of wine plus a bottle of dessert wine and a Luca Bella box for 4 to 8 friends for a donation of \$200. A Date Night package which includes three bottles of wine and a Luca Bella Charcuterie Box for 1-4 people for a donation of \$150. A Sweet Deal package consisting of 1 bottle of dessert wine and a dessert box full of delectable sweets from Luca Bella for a donation of \$50. Or for a donation of \$25, people can gain access to the zoom wine

## Sierra Vista High School Students Cited for Excellence in Bilingual Education

SVHS freshman Melina Estrada and sophomore Zihua Yu were recognized for excellence in bilingual education, winning first place among high school students in the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) and the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) student essay contests, respectively.



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**BALDWIN PARK** - Sierra Vista High School freshman Melina Estrada was recognized for excellence in bilingual education, winning first place among high school students in the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) student essay contest.

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Sierra Vista High School freshman Melina Estrada and sophomore Zihua Yu were recognized for excellence in bilingual education, winning first place among high school students in the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) and the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) student essay contests, respectively.

The power of language to build bridges and unite diverse cultures inspired two Sierra Vista High School English Language Development (ELD) students, freshman Melina Estrada and sophomore Zihua Yu, to pen eloquent essays encapsulating their dreams and struggles as they pursue a bilingual education.

Estrada and Yu's essays have been recognized for their excellence, winning first place among high school students in the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) and the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) student essay contests, respectively. Both Estrada and Yu received cash prizes and certificates.

"This is a huge opportunity and makes me realize I can do so much in my life," Estrada said. "We must go for our dreams and we must always believe in ourselves and others. We must always be proud to be bilingual and be proud of our roots, our cultures and traditions. We have so much to give to this country, just because of who we are."

Estrada's essay focused on the sudden passing of her father in December 2020 and her determination to live up to her father's high expectations by advocating for civil rights and equity in her community. One of Estrada's goals is to become the bilingual mayor of Baldwin Park.

"I want to fight for justice," Estrada said. "This city is mine and it is yours. Together, we can build a strong, welcoming community, where everyone feels safe, comfortable and part of one giant family."

Estrada presented her essay in English and Spanish at the NABE Conference in April.

Yu's essay described how bilingual education has deepened his understanding of other cultures, and the joy he experiences

when he participates in distance learning with his ELD classmates. For Yu, being bilingual increases his ability to communicate with and learn from others - practices that will allow people to love, protect and honor each other.

"We have to really break down the plastic distance learning screen that has tried to divide and protect us," Yu said. "Instead, we need to spread bilingualism to the entire community, and throughout the world, to promote peace, trust and love. Let us do this by becoming the bilingual bridges that will unite us."

Yu presented his essay in English and Mandarin at the CABE Conference, held in March.

"I feel very excited to win. I did not think I could ever be the winner of this competition," Yu said. "I am proud to represent my school and my District. I want to thank my ELD and English teacher Ms. Fried, as well as Ms.

Rivas and Ms. Chacon. I want to thank my principal, Mr. Pratt, and everyone else at our school. I would also like to thank my parents and family for supporting me."

NABE and CABE are non-profit organizations that advocate for equity in education and excellence for bilingual/multilingual programs at national and state levels.

"I am so proud of Zihua and Melina. It's a great honor to win in both the state and national levels," Sierra Vista English and ELD teacher Charlene Fried said. "I love creative writing, and I urge my students to tell their stories. This has been an extremely challenging year and I think it inspired my students to reach a little further, and to believe in the power of their own stories as a way to promote understanding and unity among people; it is our stories that shape our cultures."

## Free Community College: The Foundation for Monumental Change

When historic events converge, historic change cannot be far behind. As Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "We are not makers of history. We are made by history."

First came a global pandemic. Next, an economic downturn, characterized by food and housing insecurities, skyrocketing prices and massive layoffs. Pessimism followed, with a recent poll finding that 58 percent of Americans rated the U.S. economy as "not good" or "poor."

In that setting, after nearly 100 days in office, President Joe Biden has proposed two years of free community college education, "...so that every student has the ability to obtain a degree or certificate."

Hailed as a "game-changer" and a "monumental shift in the financing of higher education," the Biden administration has proposed this historic investment in the institutions that have proven their ability to transform low- and middle-income wage earners into highly paid professionals and paraprofessionals: community colleges.

California Community College Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley described the plan as "...an investment in America's most resilient students..." and the "...right recipe to speed the post-pandemic economic recovery for working Americans."

Currently, about one in five Americans says they are worse off financially than they were before the COVID-19 shutdowns. Many families are worried about their ability to keep paying rent and putting food on the table. Those actively seeking employment are finding that, while hiring has picked up for those with associate and bachelor's degrees, hiring remains weak for those without



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

any college.

Enter the nation's community colleges, with their famous ability to nimbly adapt workforce training to industry demands. They also provide low cost, high quality courses and make education accessible 24/7, with rolling admissions and online courses. And they do all this and more while offering tutoring, counseling, and

other student services that ensure student success.

While COVID-19 remains a threat to the lives and livelihoods of many Americans and people around the world, there is an air of optimism that seems to quietly proclaim that positive change is on the way.

Free community college will open the door to higher education to thousands of Americans who are on their way back into the workforce. It's a good step toward a healthy, prosperous future and a brighter tomorrow.

*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.



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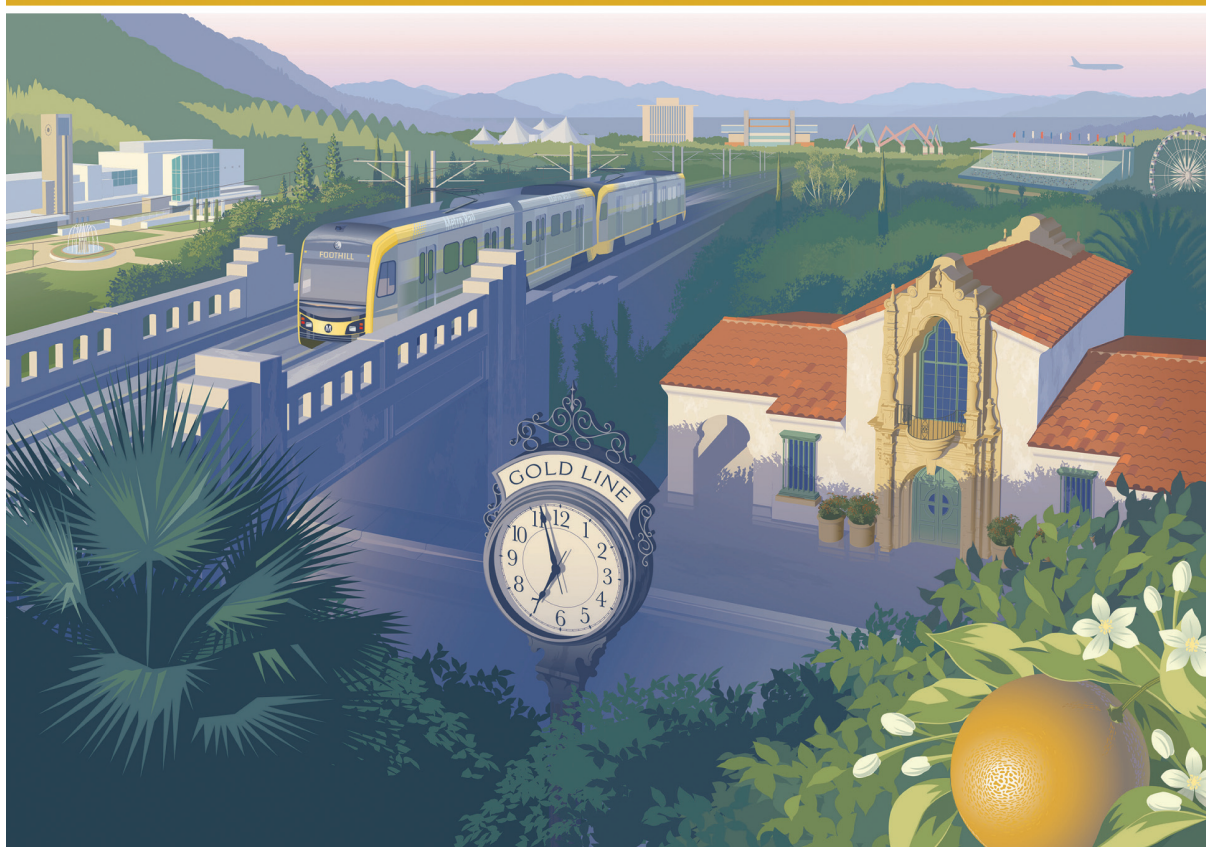
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## Register Today to Attend the Upcoming Virtual Community Meeting



- Visit [www.foothillgoldline.org](http://www.foothillgoldline.org):
- ▶ Learn the Latest about the Foothill Gold Line
- ▶ Register to Attend the Virtual Community Meeting
- ▶ Sign Up to Receive Construction Alerts



With major construction in full swing on the Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to Pomona, the Construction Authority is hosting a Virtual Community Meeting to provide an update on the project and answer your questions. The meeting will be hosted on Zoom and will focus on the Glendora to Pomona segment and current construction.

To comply with COVID-19 social distancing requirements, join the meeting from the convenience of your computer or mobile device. Register to attend today:

**Virtual Community Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 19, 2021**  
**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Presentation on Zoom;  
followed by a Question/Answer Session

**Register to Attend:**  
**[www.foothillgoldline.org](http://www.foothillgoldline.org)**  
Questions? Call (626) 471-9050

To request ADA accommodations - call (626) 471-9050 at least 72 hours in advance.

Si necesita información del proyecto o servicios de interpretación en español, llame a Yesenia Arias al (626) 305-7012.



**Foothill Gold Line**

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# State Legislation on Organic Waste to Impact La Verne Refuse Rates

Residents Invited to Learn More and Participate in Public Hearing

LA VERNE – Similar to many other cities throughout California, the City of La Verne is considering a refuse service rate increase to cover the increased costs of organics and green waste disposal brought about by recent State legislation, as well as a 3.49% increase based on the Consumer Price Index. The La Verne City Council will hear a presentation on this matter at their regular city council meeting on Monday, May 17th, followed by a formal public hearing on Monday, June 21st.

All cities in the State, including La Verne, face the most stringent solid waste legislation in California history. For the City, its residents and businesses to remain in compliance with State Law, new services are necessary, none of which are funded by the State. Therefore, these services must be funded through solid waste rates.

Assembly Bill 1594, which went into effect last year, no longer allows diversion credit for

green waste that is used as Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) for landfills, despite the fact that approximately one-third of all green waste in Southern California was used as ADC. Since green waste is no longer able to be used in this manner, green waste disposal costs have increased by 42% over the last year, from \$46.96 per ton to \$81.37 per ton.

Additionally, Senate Bill 1383 mandates a 75% reduction in the level of statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2025. Cities will also have to increase edible food recovery, starting in 2022. As a result of this bill, organic waste will no longer be permitted for disposal in landfills. Unfortunately, the demand for food and green waste composting facilities will far outweigh the permitted capacity. Currently, 148 composting facilities process green waste and only 19 of those facilities are permitted for both green waste and food waste.

To accommodate the State's requirements under SB 1383 and ensure cities serviced by Waste Management have an outlet to process their organics, Waste Management acquired the South Valley Composting Facility in Tulare. This facility is fully permitted to accept all organic material from La Verne and the associated cost to process, trans-

port and compost organics from La Verne at the facility is \$116.54 per ton.

As previously described, the costs to process organic waste is significantly more expensive, requiring a refuse rate increase to cover these new legislation related expenses. It is important to note that the City of La Verne, like all California cities, is subject to the requirements of Proposition 218 and therefore is required by law to charge customers no more than the cost of providing services.

La Verne residents are encouraged to tune into the May 17th council meeting to learn more about the State legislation and the impacts it will have on how customers dispose of solid waste and service rates. Additionally, Proposition 218 contains specific protest procedures for approving any increase in solid waste service rates. Any property owner or tenant who is directly responsible for payment of solid waste service rates (each, a "solid waste customer") has a right to protest and may submit a written protest against the proposed solid waste service rates. At the public hearing on June 21st at 6:30 p.m., the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests to the proposed solid waste service rates.

# Man Charged with Setting San Gabriel Mission Fire

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón announced on May 4, 2021 that a man was charged with setting a fire that caused catastrophic damage to the San Gabriel Mission last summer.

"The loss to the mission was in the millions of dollars but the loss to the community is immeasurable," District Attorney Gascón said.

John David Corey aka Joker (dob 7/13/63) faces two felony counts of arson of an inhabited structure and one

count each of arson during a state of emergency, first-degree residential burglary and possession of flammable material.

Case BA495218 was filed for warrant. A date for arraignment is yet to be determined.

On July 11, 2020, Corey is charged with breaking into the historic mission and starting the fire which spread to the roof and along the length of the church.

The case remains under investigation by the San Gabriel Fire Department.

# Two-Thirds of L.A. County Seniors Fully Vaccinated; L.A. County Expands Re-Openings as COVID-19 Transmission Remains Low

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Los Angeles County's case rate remains low and stable. On March 28, the County was seeing 424 cases a day. A month later, on April 28, the number of new cases dropped 35% to 276 cases a day. Over the same time interval, daily hospitalizations dropped 37%. Daily deaths dropped dramatically by 82% over the same time period, from 17 on March 28 to three on April 28.

As of May 2, more than 8,096,752 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to people across Los Angeles County. Of these, 5,013,679 were first doses and 3,083,073 were second doses. Overall, 39% of L.A. County residents are fully vaccinated. By age group two-thirds of seniors 65 and older and one-third of adults 16 to 64 are fully vaccinated.

Among people 65 and older, 82% have received at least one dose of the vaccine. Since February, the County increased the proportion of Black/African American adults over 65 who received at least one dose of the vaccine by over 200%, Latino/Latinx adults by 160%, American Indian and Alaska Native adults by over 150%, and Asian adults by over 108%.

Overall, 52% of residents 16 to 64 years old have received at least one dose of the vaccine. Since February, the County's biggest improvements in vaccination rates have been among members of Latinx (593%), Black (414%), and American Indian and Alaska Native (406%) communities, where the percent of adults with one dose of vaccine in-

creased many times over.

When most of the community is vaccinated, and therefore immune from having or spreading a bad infection, transmission drops low enough that it becomes very unlikely the few unvaccinated people will have contact with an infected person and get sick. In the case of COVID-19, community immunity has the added benefit of reducing the chance that viral variants will emerge. The exact number the County needs to vaccinate to achieve community immunity is unknown- but what we do know is that reaching it requires everyone who can get vaccinated to do it.

Changes to the Health Officer Order took effect Thursday, May 6th, reflecting the County's move into the yellow tier allowing for increased occupancy limits across a wide range of sectors with required safety modifications.

Fitness facilities, indoor dining, cardrooms and racetracks, movie theaters, family entertainment centers, breweries, wineries, and craft distilleries can expand indoor occupancy to 50%. Bars establishments are now allowed to open for indoor services at a maximum capacity of 25% or 100 people, whichever is fewer, with no counter seating/service. Amusement parks and fairs can increase capacity to 35%, and waterparks can expand to 40% capacity. Museums and aquariums can increase indoor capacity to 75%. Outdoor live performances and events can increase occupancy to 67% of capacity, while the occupancy limits at indoor live events depend on the total capacity of each ven-

ue and the vaccination and testing status of attendees.

Other sectors where capacity limits have increased include: private informal gatherings, where the occupancy limit has increased to 50% capacity or 50 people if indoors, whichever is fewer; outdoor gatherings are limited to 100 people. At community sporting events, participation is restricted to 500 people per hour and a total of 1,500 people; if everyone is vaccinated or has tested negative at an outdoor community sporting event, the capacity increases to 3000 people. Office-based businesses and workspaces should limit occupancy to 75% of capacity, unless all staff are vaccinated. Distancing and masking requirements remain in effect at worksites per CalOSHA requirements. At indoor malls, shopping centers, retail stores, hair salons, barbershops, personal care providers, libraries, and limited services, capacity remains limited to 75% to allow for at least 6 feet of distancing among staff and customers.

The Health Officer Order requires other modifications across a wide range of sectors. These are modifications focused on infection control, distancing and mask wearing. At all establishments serving food or drink, masking is mandated, except when eating or drinking. Distancing between tables is also still required and counter seating and service is not allowed. Television viewing is now permitted indoors, while live entertainment along with television is permitted outdoors.

# Check Twice for Motorcycles: May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

GLENDORA - May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, and the Glendora Police Department reminds drivers to check twice for motorcycles.

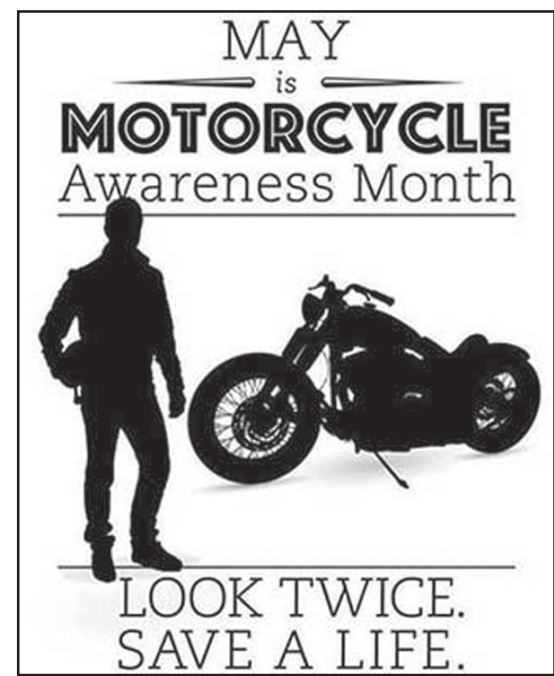
"It's important for drivers to understand motorcycle rider behaviors and learn how to drive safely around riders," Corporal Jake Swann said. "Motorcycle riders are more vulnerable and have fewer protections than those in vehicles do, which is why it is critical for drivers to be mindful of those on two wheels."

During May's Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, the Glendora Police Department will be conducting motorcycle safety enforcement operations throughout the city.

Motorcycle riders are 28 times more likely to die in a crash than vehicle occupants. In 2019, there were 474 motorcycle deaths on California roads.

To help protect you and your family, keep the following tips in mind while driving or riding:

- Drivers
  - Always check twice for motorcycles, looking at all mirrors and blind spots.
  - Motorcycle riders have the same rights to the road as other vehicles. Allow motorcycles to always use the full width of a lane.
  - Never follow a motorcycle too closely. Always keep a safe distance.
  - If you see a motorcycle with a signal on, be careful. The rider may have forgotten to turn the signal off. Be sure that the rider is turning before proceeding.
- Motorcyclists
  - Always wear a DOT compliant helmet. Learn how to identify a safe helmet that fits on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration web-



- Wear appropriate gear like leather clothing, boots with nonskid soles and gloves. Consider adding reflective tape to your clothing to make it easier for other drivers to see you.
  - Ride defensively. Don't assume a driver can see you. Try staying out of a driver's blind spot.
  - Always keep your lights on, even during the day.
  - Signal well in advance before changing lanes and watch for turning vehicles.
- Lastly, both drivers and riders should never drive/ride under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

San Gabriel Valley  
**Examiner**  
INFORMATION GUIDE

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

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# Criminal Justice MIA in Covina Racism

City Council Members in L.A. County are placing resolutions on their agendas and passing them providing "no confidence" votes on District Attorney George Gascon because his directives are counter to state law, voter approved initiatives and putting the safety of the county population at risk. City of Covina became the eighth city to take that vote on a "no confidence" resolution with three members in favor, Councilman Victor Linares absent and Mayor Jorge Marquez voting "no" on the resolution.

Maxwell Szabo, announced he is a former district attorney and was asked by Gascon to come answer questions and present a short presentation about public safety history in L.A. County. His discussion targeted removal of enhancements as one of the more controversial new policies of Gascon saying enhancements don't lead to greater safety, but do provide for mass incarceration with longer sentencing and a greater expense to the taxpayers. By not prosecuting misdemeanors on first time-offenders it has shown to reduce rearrest rates.

Pushed by Councilman Walt Allen, who requested this resolution be agendized, Szabo stumbled around for a few minutes and finally confirmed he is paid by the Gascon campaign. That campaign was the recipient of \$2.5 million from New York immigrant, George Soros who has funded district attorney races across the country. "The fact that you say you are working for the [Gascon] Campaign says it all," Allen told Szabo.

Councilman John King commented on the low-level crime occurring in Covina and called it a "revolving door" process because those offenders know what they can get away with and not end up in jail. Rejected cases have gone up dramatically since Gascon took office and citizens don't understand why people are being arrested and then just released. If a citizen has something stolen



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

from them, their car is broken into, or their property graffitied that is a significant crime to that citizen King told Szabo.

Szabo suggested those stopped by police for drugs and any low-level crime and given a citation would be in itself a deterrent to future events. He told the Council prisons and jails for those suffering from drug addiction and mental illness just doesn't work and has been shown to have very poor long-term affects on this population. A better policy would be police diversion directly into modern services at the time of arrest rather than going through the longer judicial process.

One of those modern services, Allen said, is handing out drugs in a controlled environment and called it total nonsense.

Allen told Szabo during former District Attorney Jackie Lacey's term in 2019, over a 12-month period, 333 cases were rejected [for prosecution] or 27 rejects a month. The first two months of D.A. Gascon's term, 416 cases were rejected or 208 rejects a month. He continued saying, "Covina believes in having a quality-of-life environment for its citizens and when our cases are not being filed and these people are just being released back onto the street, to us, that's not justice. There are state mandates from the legislature and the voters that want criminals incarcerated. Even on small misde-

meanors, they mean a lot to our citizens. Like someone defecating on their front porch, someone not just using drugs but selling drugs, and habitually violating these misdemeanor crimes you are not prosecuting. That creates a problem for us."

Pro Tem Cortez questioned Szabo on his statement about crime rates going down contrary to that morning's L.A. Times showing increased rates of crime. Szabo said he was referring to the previous Lacey Administration with crimes rates escalating 25% between the years of 2013 to 2019 and before the pandemic. That would seem related to 2011 and AB 109 early release to relieve prison overcrowding, followed by Prop 47, written by George Gascon, turning felonies into misdemeanors, including theft of anything under \$950 as often as the urge hits and illegal drug possession of cocaine, heroin and methamphetamines.

Gascon's directives include:

- No cash bail for any misdemeanor, non-serious felony or non-violent felony offense.

- The following shall be declined or dismissed before arraignment without conditions: Trespassing, Disturbing the Peace, Driving Without a Valid License, Driving with Suspended License, Criminal Threats, Drugs and Paraphernalia Possession, Minor in Possession of Alcohol, Drinking in Public, Under the Influence of Controlled Substance, Public Intoxication, Loitering, Loitering to Commit Prostitution, and Resisting Arrest.

Council Members Allen, Mayor Pro Tem Cortez and King voted to support the "no confidence" resolution with Mayor Marquez voting in opposition. Marquez said he could not support the resolution in its current form; a "no confidence" vote on someone in office for only four months just didn't sit well; and, the recall was undermining democracy.

When I hear that America is awash in racism, and that we white people are all really racists, I cringe. The limited ocean in which I swim is made up mainly of solid, white, liberal Democrats who have fought racism most of our adult lives. We marched with Martin Luther King Jr. and have been champions of anti-racism wherever we have encountered or even heard about it. There are racists in America, but we should not be on that list—or should we? Are we really free of the horror generated by bigotry? I recently have become aware that this anti-racist attitude has made it difficult to admit or even see what racism among white liberals is all about. There follows a statement I picked up from Scott Woods, who is best known as a poet. Woods has occasionally appeared on National Public Radio and has been featured in "Profiles from the International Black Community."

The problem is that white people see racism as conscious hate, whereas racism is bigger than that. Racism is a complex system of social and political levers and pulleys set up generations ago to continue working on behalf of whites at other people's expense ... Yes, racism looks like hate, but hate is just one manifestation. Privilege is another. Access is another. Ignorance is another. Apathy is another. ... While I agree that no one is born a racist, it remains a powerful system that we're born into. ... It's a set of socioeconomic traps and cultural values that are fired up every time we react with the world. It is a thing you have to keep scooping out of the boat of your life to keep from drowning in it. I know it's hard work, but it's the price you pay for owning everything.



Charles H. Bayer

Wood's point confronts us with the reality that racism is not an attitude one might hold, but a social condition. It is not therefore anything we change by having friends of other races or fighting the bigots who live on the fringes of our liberal lives. Racism is not conquered by creating occasions for conversations across racial lines, attending workshops or welcoming those of other races into our churches, clubs or social gatherings. Among liberals it is not an attitude to be corrected, but a societal reality we cannot escape by any of our more benevolent impulses.

So what do we do? We probably should begin by admitting that white privilege is our reality, and has been for a long time. White privilege is the ocean in which we swim. While we cannot escape it, we must recognize its existence. I was born into it and it has dominated every important decision and circumstance with which I have been confronted. Societal issues may only be solved with organic remedies. And this means among other things, political action. The long-standing commitment to affirmative action was a healthy start. But even that has been effectively countered by branding it just another form of racism, disadvantage qualified white stu-

dents in an effort to fill quotas.

"Black Lives Matter," is a passionate movement joined by a significant number of solid white liberals. A BLM flagpole flies from the pole at the center of our community. Rooting out police brutality is certainly worth our commitment, but its ending in violence, burnings and looting has turned out to be counterproductive and has little to do with addressing the roots of racism even while white participation has been crucial to the effective impact of the BLM movement. While frantic and misplaced calls to defund the police might have merit, even that leaves the cultural impact of racism unaffected. If the thousands in the BLM demonstrations do not rally their colleagues to vote, their militancy may be wasted.

Perhaps our major effort needs to be directed to attacking the system that for generations has been the root cause of American racism. To believe this societal disease can be easily overcome is to minimize the problem. Elections are only a good place to start. In addition, we must be certain that the opportunity to vote is guaranteed even while this commitment meets the resistance of those conservative political forces that believe limiting voting is to their advantage.

Admitting that racism is the nature of our white culture is a necessary starting place. Beyond that, ridding the nation of those images and symbols celebrating slavery and the Confederacy must be systemically accomplished. This includes eliminating from our communities the Confederate battle flag and the symbols, including monuments honoring those who were the traitors to the nation

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

## House Hearing on Puerto Rico's Status Should Not Treat All Options as Equal

Recently, the House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to discuss the two competing bills regarding Puerto Rico's status. This hearing comes at a time when D.C. statehood is gaining widespread political support. But unlike the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico can become a state through a simple act of Congress. And since statehood is the only status option that has garnered a majority of voters' support on the island, it is incumbent upon elected officials to represent the will of the Puerto Rican people and support statehood for the island.

Two competing bills will be heard at the upcoming hearing, the Puerto Rico Statehood Admissions Act, and the Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act. The first bill is straightforward and provides a path to statehood for the island similar to that of Hawaii and Alaska. The latter bill, however, establishes a complicated process that involves electing delegates, establishing a commission, calling a status convention, and holding another potential vote on the island - with the results of that vote being non binding.

Most can agree that Puerto Rico's current status as a territory is unsustainable. They have been American citizens for 104 years, but still do not have the full rights and privileges afforded to those who live in states. For example, Puerto Rico has no representation in the United States Senate and has one non-voting member in the House of Representatives.



Jessica Ancona  
Mayor - City of El Monte

Worse yet, they cannot vote for President.

Outside of the obvious problem with the lack of representation, there are also negative economic ramifications of Puerto Rico's status as a territory. It's not just the bills that Congress has passed that limit its economic development on the island, like the Jones Act. The island's uncertain territory status deters businesses, and the lack of opportunities on the island has led to educated people heading to the mainland in search of opportunities. History has shown us, most recently with Hawaii and Alaska, that statehood encourages business development, increases wages and opportunities for those who live there.

It's clear Puerto Rico's current status is unsustainable. That is where Congress comes in, since the constitution dictates that Congress must act to establish a new state.

While this upcoming congressional hearing is a step in the right direction, it would be disingenuous to frame both sta-

tus bills as equal. One is a direct reaction to the free and fair democratic election that occurred on the island in November 2020. Voters were asked a straightforward and simple question: "Should Puerto Rico be immediately admitted into the Union as a state?" To which, 52.34 percent said "yes."

And in 2012, voters on the island were asked to choose a preference between the only three options that the federal government has deemed as a constitutionally viable option: statehood, independence, or Sovereign Free Associated Statehood.

Of the territory options, 61% chose statehood, 33% chose free association, and only 6% chose independence.

If the House Natural Resources Committee wants to have a fair and honest debate regarding Puerto Rico's status, they must respect the democratic results of Puerto Rican voters. We are counting on the key California elected officials who are members of the committee, like Representatives Doris Matsui (CA-05) and Grace Napolitano (CA-32), to stand up for the voice and votes of those who have to live as second-class citizens in America. Since Puerto Ricans do not have full voting representation in the Congress that will debate their future status, that is the least our representatives can do.

Jessica Ancona is the Mayor of the city of El Monte, CA.

## Is America Being Served Up On A Platter To Socialism?

My Opinion: By D. B. Shimel

The Biden administration is making outlandish promises of government handouts. Free daycare for all children where they can be indoctrinated with 'Critical Race Theory' and the 1619 project propaganda, at an even earlier age. Free money to single mothers. A policy that will continue the destruction of the American family unit. All of this "without raising the national debt". How is this perpetual motion government giveaway going to achieve these lofty sounding objectives? By taxing the 'rich'. Stealing from the producers to re-distribute the wealth of a nation there-by destroying the incentive to excel.

Apparently, these geniuses have not realized, the big corporations, they wish to tax, do not actually pay the taxes, you do. These corporations merely pass taxes along to the consumer in the form of price hikes on the goods and services they produce.

Back to my original query: Is America being served up on a platter to Socialism?

I present an analogy for your consideration:

When I look at today's political arena I am reminded of an episode of the old TV series "Twilight Zone". In this episode, earth is visited by aliens. Beings, who seem quite benign and peaceful. Their alleged mission is to better the plight of mankind. This alien race offers the inhabitants of earth the opportunity to visit their planet to see firsthand now glorious and peaceful their world is. People were flocking to board the alien's spacecraft to journey to this utopian planet. When addressing world leaders the aliens left behind a book where, on the front cover, once translated, are the words "How to serve mankind". Questioning the

intent of the aliens the governments put their best translating mechanisms to bare to translate the entire book. Eventually the book is translated. At the closing of the episode a scientist comes running toward a spacecraft, screaming "Don't go: It is a cook book".

This episode of The Twilight Zone exemplifies my vision of what the Democrat Party is perpetrating on America. For years the Democrats have been saying how they are serving the American good by providing them with money and unearned benefits while serving them up on a platter to Socialism. If the Democrats had wanted to free people from poverty then why have they enslaved them to the Government? Government handouts always hide the iron fist of government tyranny. If people rely on the government for a living they are slaves to the government and the capricious laws made to rule them.

Apparently, in the Socialist Democrat vision of America there but one state. - The USSA. USSA is an acronym for the United Socialist State of America. One government for America, totally administrated by political oligarchs and the bureaucrats that reign from the only state left - the state of Washington D. C. To achieve this vision they must first beguile the masses into accepting total government control. Then they must destroy the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. In the USSA the only rights are those granted by the government. Look no further than the COVID restrictions levied across this nation - compliance not science.

Only the states, acting in unison, can save this Republic. We are seeing several states pushing back on the dictatorial edicts

emanating from the Biden Administration. Several states have enacted laws prohibiting their police from enforcing federal gun laws. States are exercising their constitutional obligations to ensure integrity in the voting process only to be attacked by Biden, political activists and the ACLU. Today, Arizona is being besieged by the DOJ and 100 Democrat lawyers attempting to atop the vote recount process.

The Government has abrogated their responsibility to ensure a Republican form of government in all states. Article IV paragraph 4 clearly states:

**"The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and ... against domestic Violence."**

A republican form of government is one where the people control the government not the inverse.

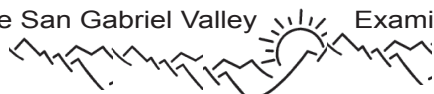
The government certainly is not protecting us from invasion; look at Biden's open borders policies.

For over a year domestic violence has been on display in every major city (Democrat run) across this nation. These nihilists have rioted, burned, looted and murdered numerous Americans. The tactics used by them are the definition of domestic violence. Almost none of the sedulous anarchists are being prosecuted.

In spite of what the MSM told us, no one died at the hands of the protestors on January 6th. Yet people who marched in DC are being hunted down and placed in solitary confinement by the FBI and DOJ. Is this justice?

**Big Brother lurks in the shadows!**

**"Don't go. It is a cook book!"**



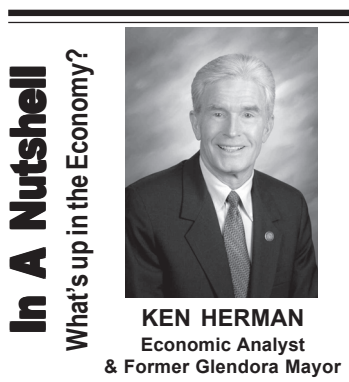
# Good News From The Fed / Tax Proposals Not So Good

Fed Chair Jay Powell painted a rosy picture of the U.S. economy last Wednesday. He showed no sign that the central bank would change monetary policy anytime soon (due to his envisioned "uneven and far from complete" recovery). That's good news for investors who had been watching to see if the Fed would increase rates after a series of positive economic reports. Powell added "It will take some time before we see substantial further progress". He also avoided focusing on steps that may be needed to eventually withdraw monetary support.

Despite the dovish tone, stocks dipped during the post-FOMC meeting news conference as Powell addressed the topic of financial stability. "You are seeing things in the capital markets that are a bit frothy. That's a fact. I won't say it has nothing to do with monetary policy, but it also has a tremendous amount to do with vaccination and reopening of the economy." He also reiterated that any increases in inflation are likely to be transitory - and may ease after supply chain issues subside - while others see possible more lasting consequences.

"All arrows are pointing to another increase in inflationary pressures. Keep in mind the Fed knows this, they are prepared for it" cautioned Patrick Leary, chief market strategist at Incapital. "While I won't say whether or not the inflation we are seeing right now will indeed be transitory or more sustained, I am willing to bet that it will go higher and persist longer than the market will tolerate."

The S&P 500 closed at another record high on Thursday (post-FOMC) after seeing robust U.S. growth figures. The first snapshot of first-quarter GDP detailed an



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

**In A Nutshell**  
What's up in the Economy?  
expansion of 6.4%, beating estimates of a 6.1% annualized rate, as households and the government shelled out big bucks on retail items, vaccines and aid to businesses. That left the world's largest economy within 1% of its GDP peak reached in late 2019, just before China's coronavirus pandemic came to the U.S. The Labor Department also revealed that 553,000 new weekly jobless claims were filed in its latest report, marking another pandemic low.

President Biden's "Build Back Better" agenda was on display last Wednesday evening as he addressed the nation following his first 100 days in office. Biden was so soft spoken I thought perhaps he had hoped no one would hear it. At the heart of the speech was the "American Families Plan", the second stage of a multi-trillion-dollar investment proposal. The first part, called the "American Jobs Plan", was released at the end of March and would be funded by a corporate tax hike. That bill is currently working its way through Congress, though the administration is prepared to push it through without GOP support.

The American Families Plan proposal is being referred to as an investment in so-called human infrastructure like child care, health care and education. It would be paid for by hiking taxes on the wealthiest 1% of Ameri-

cans, most notably a near doubling of the capital gains tax rate on incomes above \$1M to 39.6%. The top income tax bracket for households earning more than \$400,000 is also expected to return to 39.6% (where it had been before the 2017 tax cuts).

As for the details in the bill, it would include free preschool for all three- and four-year-olds, and require that all pre-kindergarten teachers earn at least \$15 per hour. It would also expand the Child Tax Credit through 2025, in addition to extensions for the Earned Income Tax Credit and subsidies in the Affordable Care Act. Paid family and medical leave are among other benefits, as well as education programs that include free community college.

The White House has portrayed the plans as a Robin Hood-style endeavor to tax the rich in order to spend on the middle class and poor. A lot more taxes would need to be collected in order to pay for the two infrastructure proposals, which add up to a massive \$4Trillion. This also comes on top of the \$1.9T "American Rescue Plan" passed in early March to combat COVID-19.

Legislative aides say Democrats plan to use reconciliation to move Biden's plans through Congress, but it remains unclear what pieces will make it through to the final package. How much confidence do Americans have that the current leadership in Washington could really keep America Great?

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

# Your Money - Ask Julia

*I really want to buy a house. I have been saving 20-percent of my take-home income to cover the downpayment. I'm afraid of an adjustable loans. I see that there are loans with a smaller down-payment, but then there's mortgage insurance. Is there any way for me to buy a home?*

Congratulations on being able to save 20-percent of your take-home income! Go online to FindAMortgageBroker.com and get personal guidance on what you need to do to get a mortgage. Get pre-approved for a specific loan amount. Then you can start looking for homes in your price range. Look for homes that are at least \$20,000 - \$50,000 LESS than you can afford. In our current real estate market, there are sometimes bidding wars which go above the asking price, and often above the appraised value. Lenders base the loan amount on the appraiser's report. The buyer must pay, out of pocket, the difference between appraised value and the winning bid. Don't let this discourage you. Stick to your plan to buy. I do not recommend adjustable loans, even though they are not the ugly beasts they used to be. Ask your loan broker about ways to reduce or 'eliminate' mortgage insurance.

*I cosigned a car loan with our son. He faithfully makes his payments, and only has one more year to pay it off. I applied for a car loan and was declined. They said that if his car loan were paid off, they'd give me a loan. My son's car payments don't come out of my*



**Julia Yoder**

**budget! How can they do this to me?**

As you knew when you cosigned your son's car loan, if he were to miss payments, you would be responsible. "His" car loan is also "your" car loan. Since he only has one year until payoff, ask him to look into refinancing in his name only. He will feel more grown-up and independent, and you will be free from this financial burden.

**Why don't we just manufacture more goods in America and reduce trade with foreign countries?**

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has set stringent regulations on manufacturers in America. Americans expect higher wages than many in foreign countries. As a result, numerous American companies have their goods manufactured in outside of the United States. Americans have grown dependent on goods made on foreign soil, and other countries have grown dependent on the United States for certain products, especially raw materials. Covid-19 and the trade war

both challenge those dependencies.

*My banker said that I should only invest my 401k money into an annuity through the bank because other investment companies, like insurance companies, are not FDIC insured. Is that true?*

Your banker needs to read his own bank's disclosure statement which clearly says that bank investments (including the one he/she works for) are NOT FDIC insured. Although insurance company products (life insurance, long-term care insurance, fixed annuities, equity-indexed annuities, etc.) are not FDIC insured, they come under a set of regulations that, among other things, demand that each insurance company have enough assets to cover their issued products. As you can see, this can easily exceed the FDIC's limit. Caution: Less regulated Private Equity companies are buying up insurance companies. There may be some regulatory differences. Make sure you know the facts.

**Ask Julia by email:**  
juliyoder@yahoo.com

This is your opportunity to simplify your life by having one professional working personally with you to coordinate your finances, investments, real estate, mortgage, insurance, retirement, and estate plans. CA Insurance 0C83859/Real Estate Broker 01238153/ Member of Nat'l. Ethics Assoc. Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans: CalStarBenefits.com/28485

## Financial Navigators Program Provides No-Cost Help to LA County Residents Facing COVID-19 Financial Hardships

**Program Helps County's Most Burdened Households**

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** – The L.A. County Financial Navigators program, operated by the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs' Center for Financial Empowerment (CFE) in partnership with Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund (CFE Fund), is currently providing L.A. residents with free assistance to help them deal with the financial challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our trained Financial Navigators provide assistance by telephone to help L.A. County residents with many common financial issues, including:

- Maximizing income;
- Managing debt;
- Locating food and housing resources; and
- Finding special services or resources.

The County of Los Angeles was one of 31 city and county

governments selected by the CFE Fund, a national nonprofit organization, to receive funding, training, and technical assistance to launch the new service which will help the residents of L.A. County at no cost.

L.A. County residents can access the L.A. County Financial Navigators program today by simply completing a short online request form at [dcba.lacounty.gov/financial-navigators](http://dcba.lacounty.gov/financial-navigators). The call center is also available to provide assistance in completing the form at (800) 593-8222.

"We are seeing increasing numbers of L.A. County residents struggling to make ends meet," said Rafael Carbajal, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs. "We are proud to deliver the Financial Navigators program to L.A. County residents through our partnership

with the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund. We encourage those in need to reach out and let our Financial Navigators help guide you to find a way through and beyond these challenging times."

The Financial Navigators program is available to anyone living in Los Angeles County. We can provide services in languages other than English.

During an initial soft-launch period, L.A. County Financial Navigators provided help to 375 L.A. County residents, nearly 60 percent of whom were currently unemployed. Most participants were seeking information about assistance for renters, searching for jobs, and food resources.

Financial Navigators are not long-term counselors and cannot provide direct financial assistance such as cash or loans.

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

**THE CAR GURU**  
WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW  
By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

## How Drivers Can Keep Their Car's Value High!

Many of our customers at Certified Automotive Specialists plan to keep their car going until it can't go another mile. If you are in that category, this article is not necessarily for you. If you do plan to sell your car in the near future, or trade it in someday, read these pointers on how to give your vehicle more value when it is time to part ways!

**1. Keep up with regular maintenance.** A good technician can always tell if a driver skipped oil changes or other maintenance. When we do a used car inspection at Certified Automotive Specialists for our customers prior to purchase, our technician runs tests that can tell if the fluids have been changed or not. Some leasing companies charge lessees for unperformed maintenance. Make sure you keep receipts to prove you have kept current with your vehicle's service.

**2. Mileage.** Keeping your mileage between 10,000 and 12,000 miles per year gets you more at trade in. If you're driving significantly more than 10,000 to 15,000 miles per year - especially if the high mileage pushes the vehicle out of the

manufacturer's warranty - that could lower the car's value. Many drivers rent a car when they have to travel far distances, for example, to keep the mileage on their vehicle lower.

**3. Make Changes That Increase, Not Decrease!** Modifying your car to suit your style might make you feel great...but it might just hurt the value when you want to sell it or trade it in. Keep that in mind before you spend the money to install any feature. Research to see what changes may help...and what changes may hurt. Do not do any change that will affect the vehicle's warranty.

**4. Color!** I have seen everything under the rainbow when it comes to paint colors on cars. When you have been in the industry as long as I have, nothing will surprise you. Just keep in mind that painting your car an unusual color could deter potential buyers. Stay with a generic color like a silver or white because those tend to be the most popular colors.

**5. Fresh!** Cigarette or pet smells often linger and could give the impression you haven't taken the best care of the vehicle. If you smoke in the car,

then that smell will remain in there so someone who gets into the car will be able to tell. The smoke can also discolor the ceiling and other areas. Before trading in or selling, you might want to visit an auto parts store and ask what they suggest to remove the smell. Keep pet hair removed. If it is not coming off for you, go to a car wash that does a great inside job as well and explain your predicament. Hopefully, then can help.

**6. Keep it Clean!** Wash your car regularly to maintain its appearance. Try to wash your car once a week and wax it once a month. If the car looks good that will absolutely improve its value and you will feel good driving it as well. "It's part of proving that the car is well-maintained." It shows you care!

Certified Auto Specialists: the friendlier and more helpful auto shop! Feel free to call 626-963-0814 with any questions, and we will be glad to help, or visit our website at [CertifiedAutoCa.com](http://CertifiedAutoCa.com)

**Hometown Service You Can Count On!**

## Glendora Police Department Holding DUI Checkpoint May 14th, 2021

**GLENDORA** - The Glendora Police Department will hold a DUI Checkpoint May 14th from 6:30pm to 2:30am at an undisclosed location within Glendora city limits.

Checkpoint locations are chosen based on a history of DUI crashes and arrests. The primary purpose of checkpoints is not to make arrests, but to promote public safety by deterring drivers from driving impaired.

During the checkpoint, officers will look for signs that drivers are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The Glendora Police Department is committed to keeping the traveling public safe.

"The safety of our community is and always will be our mission," Corporal Tim Crawford said. "We are looking for impaired drivers because driving under the influence is dangerous and puts others on the road at risk."

The Glendora Police Depart-

ment reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol. Some prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving. Always follow directions for use and read warning labels about driving or "operating heavy machinery", which includes driving a car. While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

If you plan on drinking or taking medications that may impact your ability to drive safely, plan on staying at home.

Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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# Around the Valley & Senior News

## Grateful Patients Can Honor Their Caregiver at Emanate Health

Caregivers can range from a doctor to a volunteer and anybody in between who makes a significant impact on a patient or their family

COVINA - While most people might think of a doctor or nurse, a caregiver can wear different hats and serve in a variety of roles. One thing is certain; a caregiver does their job with "love, compassion and selflessness."

Through the "Honor Your Caregiver" program, grateful patients or family members can share their thoughts about a caregiver who played a significant part in their family's lives. It's also a great way to simply say thanks to these unsung hospital heroes.

With any contribution, the Emanate Health Foundation will share a letter with your kind

words, give them a custom-crafted "Caregiver Honoree" lapel pin to proudly wear and a personalized "Caregiver Honoree" certificate to display. The amount of your gift will not be disclosed.

The appeal campaign takes place during May which coincides with National Nurses Week and National Hospital Week, and focuses attention on the work of caregivers during the pandemic.

"For the last 14 months, health care systems have been turned upside down by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Rob Curry, Emanate Health Chief Executive Officer. "Doctors, nurses and caregivers all have made significant sacrifices in caring for all

patients. We can't thank them enough for their love, compassion and selflessness during a very difficult time in our nation's history."

Caregivers may include doctors, nurses, technicians, therapists, admitting representatives, housekeeping, maintenance, volunteers, a board member or anybody else who helped a patient feel comfortable and loved in their time of need.

Proceeds will benefit Emanate Health services to support our care for patients. For more information about Honor Your Caregiver, visit [emanatehealth.org/caregiver](http://emanatehealth.org/caregiver) or call 626.814.2421.

## We Need More Prisons. Then Why is the Governor Closing Them?

When you hear about our jails and prisons being overcrowded, wouldn't you think we need more prisons to house these people? You would figure the answer would be "yes". But our state governor feels the right thing to do is to release 76,000 criminals back into our communities. At the same time, he is authorizing the closure of more of our state prisons. What is wrong with this picture? The only thing I can think of is that most of these people he is releasing are actually his future constituents.



George Ogden  
That's just the way it is!

He also removed the death penalty from over 700 prisoners that were on death row. During Newson's campaign he clearly stated on the death penalty that he would abide by the will and the vote of the people in regards to the death penalty. Once elected, that promise lasted 3 months. He actually removed all the equipment used for execution from the prison(s).

These people were voted in to represent and follow the guidelines and the will of the people. They work for the people. Instead they ended up ruling the people. What gives

them the right to do that?

They are making decisions that are compromising the safety of our citizens in California. When somebody gets arrested they are immediately released and spend no prison time. Look what has happened around us with some of these prisoners that have been released. It is unbelievable. The police are at the point where they can't even protect their own communities let alone all the citizens in California. We look at options to get firearms for the safety of our family and our homes and property. Then the government makes laws so you can't get a firearm or make it extremely difficult to get one.

Back a few years ago, when the Democrats had the rule they decided to vote and remove our money from the cit-

ies in the way of taking our re-development funds. Today I can't figure out why they think they were entitled to our money. If we had those funds today, all the businesses that they caused to close by their mandates over the last year, could help them reopen and start all over again. Never could figure out what the state did with our money. Kind of like that Lotto money that was supposed to go to the schools. Has anybody ever seen the financial reports of this Lotto money and how it's being spent? We're talking about multimillions of dollars.

All that money that we put in the banks and saved is no longer worth what it was 2 years ago. What you could've bought for a dollar back then, cost you \$2 today. Can't trust the government, can't trust the banks, and can't trust those voting booths, what else can you not trust?

We have lost so much lately, we've lost our safety, our money, our businesses, and we can no longer do anything about it.

"That's just the way it is!"

## Monrovia Historical Society Selling Many Vintage Items to Repair Anderson House Ceiling

MONROVIA - The Monrovia Historical Society is holding an on-line and in-person fundraising sale of vintage treasures to raise money to repair the ceiling of the historic Anderson House at 215 E. Lime, which began crumbling and had to be removed.

Items for sale include furniture, vinyl music albums, vintage office machines, a Thomas Edison Dictaphone, a steamer trunk from Selfridge's in London, a 1842 coverlet by a weaver whose works are in

the Smithsonian, and much more. You can see the items at [monroviahistoricalsociety.org/sale](http://monroviahistoricalsociety.org/sale), and you can purchase them using PayPal if you are an Historical Society member. If you are not a member, you can become a member at [monroviahistoricalsociety.org/membership-1](http://monroviahistoricalsociety.org/membership-1), then purchase the items.

Then, on Friday, June 11, from 1-6 p.m. members can in-person view and purchase items and non-members can view items and become mem-

bers if they want to purchase items. The next day, Saturday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the sale will be open to the public - no need to be a member to purchase. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing.

The items for sale, while historic, either do not relate to the Society's mission, or are surplus. For questions write to [monroviahistoricalsociety1896@gmail.com](mailto:monroviahistoricalsociety1896@gmail.com) or text or call (626) 675-8323.

## El Monte Union to Host Information Session Regarding By-Trustee Area Elections

EL MONTE - The El Monte Union High School District will launch a series of public meetings to gather community input as it begins the process of shifting from at-large elections to by-trustee area elections.

The transition means that residents will vote for a single candidate residing in their newly drawn trustee-area, usually one-fifth of the entire district, instead of voting for any board candidate on the ballot within the El Monte Union District boundaries. The change will go into effect November 2022.

The process will be divided into two parts. First, the District will initiate a community information program beginning in May, which will share details about the transition through postcards, a website and community meetings held in the morning and in the evening Thursday, May 13.

The second, more formal part of the process, will begin in August. The District will hold public hearings, and work with a professional demographer, who will develop several map options with five districts that meet legal requirements and best align with the criteria established by the

Board of Trustees.

At that point, the District will hear formal comments on map priorities from the community and receive public input regarding voting area boundaries that will ultimately help define the new by-trustee voting areas.

This change has been initiated by the Board to strictly adhere to the California Voting Rights Act, which calls for a shift from an "at-large" election system - where all trustees are elected by voters of the entire school district - to a system where the Board is divided into five trustee areas and candidates are elected by voters of each specific area.

"Our District is proud to be proactively beginning this important and historic process, ensuring that we adhere to the California Voting Rights Act and main-

taining a fair election system that upholds representation, diversity and inclusivity," Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga said. "Every decision the EMUHS District of Trustees makes is always with the best interest of the students at the forefront. Transition to a By-Trustee Area Election formation will not change the way our District prioritizes its students and will help us to ensure that every part of our community is represented."

The District will discuss districting criteria during public hearings, the first of which will begin Wednesday, Aug. 18 during a special board meeting. More information regarding this transition and the upcoming information sessions can be found on the District's website: <https://emuhsd-by-area-trustees.com>

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- RPM gauge
  - Have a brawl
  - \*"Neutral" capital
  - Paella pot
  - Mend, healthwise
  - Deadly snake of southeastern Asia
  - Multicolored horse
  - Estimator's phrase (2 words)
  - "The Addams Family" manservant
  - \*Northernmost European capital
  - One of British Isles
  - EUR, pl.
  - Ensign, for short
  - Pieces of glass, e.g.
  - Vacuum cleaner alternative
  - "\_\_\_ the land of the free..."
  - Oxygenate, as in lawn
  - Insane, in Spain
  - Just harvested, e.g.
  - A in IPA
  - Church song
  - Tiny amount
  - Military marksman
  - Fake tooth
  - Devoid of liquid
  - Jet setters' vessels
  - Address abbreviation
  - Sports stadium
  - Japan's highest mountain
  - \*Capital that hosts Nobel Prizes
  - Sophia \_\_\_\_, Italian actress
  - Genesis twin
  - Curved molding
  - Tequila source
  - Non-permanent office worker
  - Like dental surgery
  - \*Capital on a fjord
  - Possesses
  - Big top
- DOWN
- Unit of pressure named after Torricelli
  - Post sun-bathing relief
  - Wallace & Gromit modeling material
  - Desire
  - Aussie gas station
  - Desert wanderer's hope
  - Alexander Alexandrovich \_\_\_\_, Russian poet
  - \*Also the capital of European Union
  - James \_\_\_\_, Jones
  - Paddy grain
  - To the \_\_\_ degree
  - Like voice after a pep rally
  - "A Fish Called Wanda" actor Kevin
  - Judea, alt. sp.
  - Mama sheep
  - \*Bulgarian capital and actress Vergara's given name
  - Long-necked bird

### THEME: EUROPEAN CAPITALS

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11		
12					13				14					
15					16				17					
18					19				20					
				21					22					
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35					36				37		38			
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56									57			58		
59									60			61		
62									63			64		

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- Rocky ridge
- Pas
- Hunt illegally
- Audience's approval
- Frolics
- "Atlas Shrugged" author Ayn
- Cassius Clay
- \*Balkan capital and 1984 Olympics location
- Practical joke
- Canine command
- Eyeball washing vessel
- Offer two cents
- Collusion
- Away from harbor (2 words)
- Drifts
- \*London was famous for these pea soup particulars
- Russian mountain chain
- Comedian Rogan
- Shrek, e.g.
- Not fatty
- Patty \_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ Tzu

### May 6, 2021 Puzzle Solution

N	A	V	A	L		S	A	P			B	A	B	E									
A	G	I	L	E		U	R	L			T	O	N	E									
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G	I	R	L								R	E	D			S	L	A	T	E			

TRUST - Nearly 100 years of Service to the community  
 QUALITY - Highest standards of service in the industry  
 AFFORDABILITY - Pricing plans to meet all needs  
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## Walnut High Science Teacher Named 2021 Presidential Award State Finalist

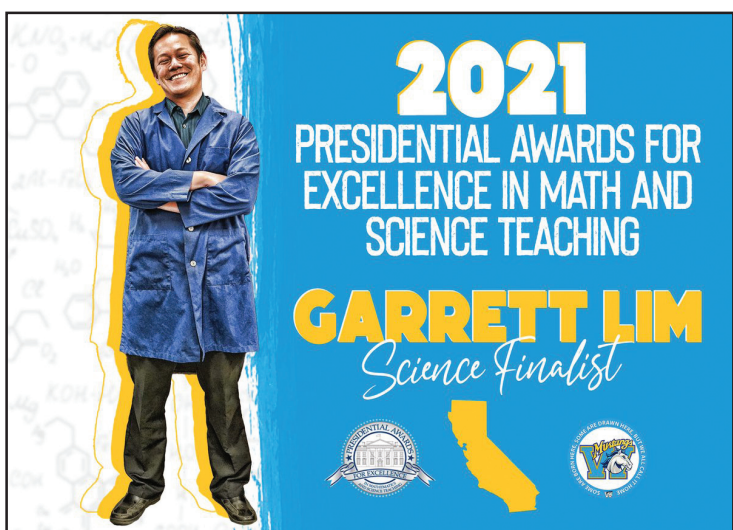
WALNUT - Walnut High School science teacher Garrett Lim has been honored as a California finalist for the 2021 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

He is among three exceptional science teachers lauded for excellence during an unprecedented year of remote learning and the COVID-19 viral pandemic.

"The teachers recognized today are giving students the tools to help them tackle difficulties, find creative solutions, ask questions, and be the problem-solvers we need for the challenges of tomorrow," said State Superintendent Tony Thurmond.

Lim has been teaching for 14 years and helped develop and currently teaches the school's first-ever International Baccalaureate Higher Level Chemistry course.

He was part of a district committee tasked with brainstorming



Walnut High chemistry teacher Garrett Lim has been named a California finalist for the 2021 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

how the Common Core curriculum could be implemented and integrated within the science classroom.

"To be honored as a finalist has been a surreal experience and can be attributed to the Walnut High School community," Lim said.

Lim credits support from In-

structional Dean Barbie Cole, Principal Dr. Ryan Maine, and fellow chemistry educators around the country for their support and collaboration.

"They helped foster my professional growth to even be in a position to apply for this award."

Walnut High senior Sabrina Li nominated her chemistry teacher for the recognition.

"Mr. Lim has been the most memorable and kindest STEM teacher I've ever had," said Li who will attend Johns Hopkins University in the fall.

"He inspires me to work hard every day and I would not be where I am without him."

Each PAEMST applicant was required to display subject mastery, appropriate use of instructional methods and strategies, lifelong learning, and leadership in education outside the classroom, and 30-minute video lesson.

National PAEMST winners will be announced next fall.

"I hope for more success on the national level, but I am honestly blessed to even have made it this far!" Lim said.

## Women's Club of West Covina Has Live Meeting and Lunch



Women's Club of West Covina finally has an in-person meeting.

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - The Women's Club of West Covina finally had an in-person meeting at El Torito restaurant in West Covina. This was their first in-person meeting in about a year. It

was nicely attended. They had their meeting on Friday, May 7th. They introduced some new members and brought everyone up to date. They had a great lunch and were glad that they could all meet together again. They also intro-

duced the incoming officers for the year. They were having ZOOM meetings that was sometime difficult for some, but they made it through some tough times. Welcome back!

## "Open" Signs Take on New Meaning for Small Business Owners

More than a year into the pandemic, the "open" sign in countless online and retail storefronts has evolved into a universal symbol of the grit of small businesses. Tenacious entrepreneurs nationwide made a way to stay open in spite of all the obstacles.

As part of an effort to amplify these inspiring stories, Wells Fargo has commissioned three artists to design custom "open" signs for businesses that persevered and is also pointing entrepreneurs to resources that can help.

Dedicated to showcasing women and diverse voices, illustrator and graphic designer Sophia Yeschi, is paired with Roxelography, a woman-owned business based near the Colville Reservation, outside of Seattle. Owner Roxanne Best shifted from in-person yoga and photography classes to outdoor stand-up paddleboarding classes and photography that embodies her love of nature.

Precision Productions, a new rental music studio, was just about to open its doors when the pandemic hit. Optimistic owner Kasey Phillips, who hails from Trinidad and Tobago, pivoted to a hybrid in-person and virtual studio model, never wavering from his plan to expand the music scene and own his first studio. Taking cues from music while paying homage to Phillips's Caribbean roots, Korean-born illustrator Deborah Lee, known for her



Photo Source: (C) Gabriela Alemán

use of bold, vivid colors, is interpreting how Precision Productions made a way to stay open.

"As an artist, it was rewarding to support not just a small business that stayed open in tough economic conditions, but one that's a platform for creativity," says Lee.

Writer, illustrator, visual artist and community organizer Gabriela Alemán has a passion for helping combat food insecurity. With her comics and pop art aesthetic, she's working to bring the mission of PREP Atlanta to life, which focuses on offering diverse food truck owners and caterers access to a commercial kitchen. During the pandemic, PREP Atlanta was a venue for keeping the city's restaurant and food industry afloat, including for many Black-owned businesses. Aleman will combine her art

with a shared dedication to feeding the community as she depicts PREP Atlanta's grit.

This project comes on the heels of the July 2020 announcement of the Wells Fargo Open for Business Fund, a roughly \$420 million small business recovery effort providing grants to nonprofits that serve small business owners. The fund was created by donating all gross processing fees from Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans made in 2020. The company has also committed not to take a profit from the second round of PPP. Overall, the Open for Business Fund is expected to translate into roughly \$1 billion in available financing and 7.5 million hours of technical assistance for small business owners, helping them close the gap on rent, utilities and employee pay, while accessing expertise to adapt for the future.

To learn more about available support or to download an artistic "Open" sign, entrepreneurs can visit wells Fargo.com/together.

"Today 'open' signs represent much more than they used to, embodying the ingenuity required to pivot in this ever-evolving economy," says Jenny Flores, head of Small Business Growth Philanthropy at Wells Fargo. "We are inspired every day by small business owners pushing through these tough times, particularly those who have been hard hit. This effort aims to shine a light on stories of resilience so entrepreneurs can learn from each other and seek the resources needed to keep their dreams alive." (StatePoint)

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### Summer Water Savings Tips

From Director Ed Chavez  
Division 3

#### Simple Things We Can All Do

<b>Step on it:</b> Step on the lawn; if the grass springs back, it doesn't need water.	<b>Leave it long:</b> Longer grass promotes a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced evaporation and fewer weeds.	<b>Take a sprinkler break:</b> Grass isn't really meant to be bright green in the summer.
---	--	--

**Tune up your system:**  
Inspect irrigation systems, and fix leaks and broken or clogged sprinkler heads.  
Make sure you're watering the lawn, not the sidewalk or driveway.

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# CREATE YOUR OWN SUCCESS STORY

## SUMMER SESSION BEGINS JUNE 21

Citrus College

# Police Pursuit Ends in Covina

By George Ogden

COVINA - A family dispute in Azusa, led to a 44-year-old man who was high on meth to take off in his pickup truck Saturday afternoon May 8th. The man will not be identified by this paper because we feel that this is a medical issue. He apparently had relapsed from his sobriety and got high on meth which may have led to the dispute with family members.

One of his two daughters chased him in his other vehicle, which was a sedan, a short distance before the man stopped. The daughter got out of the car and was talking with her father when he decided to leave and put the truck in reverse and backed into his own car and drove off. It was a low impact and the airbags did not deploy.

The family did call police and the vehicle was located a short time later. He failed to yield to the officers that were chasing him. Nothing has been said if the driver was being reckless or driving at high speeds, however, it appears that the pursuit was at moderate speeds. This allowed officers to get in front of the pickup truck and deploy spike strips. This appeared to flatten the two front tires. This ended the pursuit.

This pursuit ended at 5:13 p.m. in the southbound lanes Hollenbeck Avenue south of Cypress Street. Deputies ordered the man out of the vehicle, but the man refused to get out. Family members showed up at the location and offered to assist with trying to talk him out of the truck. The deputies took this under consideration but had to move the family back from the crime scene area for their safety.

The man remained in the truck and the deputies not



The pickup truck has two front flat tires and one rear flat tire after police deployed spike strips. (Photo by Alexis Diaz)

knowing if he was armed had the sheriff's SWAT team show up and basically surrounded the truck. The show of force convinced the man to give up and they took a man into custody

around 7:45 p.m.

No injuries were reported. The man was suspected of assault with a deadly weapon and failure to yield. Bail was set at only \$30,000.

# Governor Newsom Announces Largest State Tax Rebate in American History

SACRAMENTO - Governor Gavin Newsom previewed his \$100 billion California Comeback Plan - the biggest economic recovery package in California's history - including unprecedented investments to address the state's most persistent challenges, starting with nearly \$12 billion in direct cash payments to Californians hit hardest by the pandemic.

Chief among the new proposals is a major expansion of the Golden State Stimulus, providing additional direct payments to middle-class families that make up to \$75,000. Under the plan, two-thirds of Californians will benefit from \$600 direct payments. Qualified families with

dependents, including undocumented families, will also now be eligible for an additional \$500. The plan triples California's previous investment, reaching more people and giving bigger benefits.

"California's recovery is well underway, but we can't be satisfied with simply going back to the way things were," said Governor Newsom. "We are tripling the Golden State Stimulus to get money in the hands of more middle-class Californians who have been hit hard by this pandemic.

Two in three Californians will receive a check from the state and more than \$5 billion in aid will be made available to those who need help paying their rent or utility bills."

Under Governor Newsom's California Comeback Plan, the state would also offer the largest renter assistance package of any state in America, with billions of dollars to help low-income Californians pay back 100 percent of their back-rent, their rent for the months to come and overdue water and utility bills.

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