



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

Sept 30 - Oct 6, 2021

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Be the Heart of Hope: Foothill Unity Center

By Joan Schmidt

ARCADIA - Foothill Unity Center recently celebrated its 22nd Annual Golden Plates Gala honoring exceptional individuals who support the Center and our Communities.

Festivities began with a warm welcome from CEO, Tashera Taylor, who thanked Volunteers, Donors, Staff, Board of Directors and Neighbors using the service. This past year has been difficult with the pandemic and recession, but the Center continues its mission of "helping neighbors in crisis, partnering with the community and using our resources wisely to provide vital support services with love and dignity." (This past summer Congresswoman Judy Chu recently honored the Center as "Non-Profit of the Year-Heroes of the Pandemic.") Gary Kovacic, Board President also spoke and thanked everyone for attending as these special people are honored. Channel 7's Rob Fukazaki was guest host. (He and wife Sharyl are also committed to the community.) Rob has partnered with the Center in Food-Give-ways.

The theme of the Golden Plates Awards 2021 was "Be the Heart of Hope", and the recipients certainly were. **Mickey and Lee Segal** received the **HEART IN HAND HUMANITARIAN AWARD**. They have lived in this



Mickey and Lee Segal receives the Heart In Hand Humanitarian Award from Board President Gary Kovacic

area many years and have had a positive impact on thousands of lives. They have continued support of the Center; during the Pandemic, provided full funding for a new van to pick up and distribute food. Other charitable causes include St. Jude Research Hospital, Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation, Covenant House, Cal Poly Pomona, American Cancer Society, Jewish Fed-

eration of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys, and the AUSD.

The **2021 Neighbors Helping Neighbors Business Award** honoree was **Air Tro Inc.** Bob Helbing and partners Jim Hunter, Troy Helbing, and Donn Capps stepped in to help the Center during the Covid-19 crisis. They not only offered vans for the Center's use, but their staff to help as needed. Bob spoke of the Pandemic and how many businesses had to downsize their workers. But he called the Center and offered the vans and his workers, whom he kept on salary.

The **2021 Neighbors Helping Neighbors Youth Service Award** was given to **Fruit 4 Homeless**. This was founded by brother and sister, Andre and Ashley Young. Fruit 4 Homeless provides youth volunteers the opportunity to pick fresh fruits and vegetables for the homeless and those in need.

2021 Carl Foote Legacy Award honoree was **Alan Story**. For over a decade, Alan has volunteered his time at the Center and for the past nine years he has served as the homebound food delivery volunteer. For three days every month, Mr. Story shows up to ensure that our senior, disabled and homebound clients receive their food boxes. He builds relationships and trust with these clients who appreciate his company and assistance.

Please visit www.foothill-unitycenter.org. It is a major source of food, health services, and crisis assistance for thousands of low-income families.

Some 2020 stats: 1,561,150 meals, 62,446 food services, 8,210 food boxes to seniors & disabled, 12,420 meals for homeless; 149,938 health, nutrition, covid, educational materials/resources; 1,017 screenings for glucose/diabetes, blood pressure, vitals, hearing, cholesterol, HIV & sport physicals, 46 eye exams, glasses & eyeglass vouchers; 7,474 case management services; 288, 023 services through core programs, 3,646 bus tokens, taxi vouchers/foothill transits; 3,424 diaper packages; 22 families placed in permanent housing, 37 families in temporary housing, 1,846 services to secure permanent housing; 12,420 meals for homeless, 6,196 bag lunches; 6,700 job development related services, 157 nursing students pursuing licensure training onsite, 18 work experience trainees, 2004 children served for back to school, 2836 pet food bags, 150 pets served at vet clinics, \$90,312 value of dental pro-



AIR TRO - Neighbors Helping Neighbors Business Award



Fruit 4 Homeless - Neighbors Helping Neighbors Youth Service Award



Alan Story - 2021 Carl Foote Legacy Award

cedures for children & parents, 4,375 Thanksgiving food boxes, 1,905 Holiday food boxes, and 1,619 gift cards for toys & clothing.

The goal for the event was \$150,000. I last heard over

\$129,000. Thank you to the Segels; \$25,000 check at the event; and all the generous Auction donors, members and volunteers who made this awesome event possible.

RV Fire Sets Off Blaze in Hills Above Glendora

By George Ogden

GLENDORA - An RV fire sparked a small brush fire on Friday near Glendora, at the foot of the Angeles National Forest, authorities said.

The fire was reported around 4 p.m. in the area of Big Dalton Canyon Road and Glendora Mountain Road, an unincorporated area near Glendora, said Charisma Murillo, spokesperson for Los Angeles County fire.

The flames made their way uphill and burned toward the forest, authorities said. The blaze eventually entered National Forest land, burning three acres of brush.

After gaining control of the fire by Friday evening, a spot fire ignited outside the contained perimeter of the fire at 6:30 p.m., said Supervising Dispatcher Ed Pickett with county fire. The spot fire was extinguished one hour later and fire crews regained full



Glendora Police blocks the road where a motorhome caught fire and igniting the hills above Glendora. (GPD Photo)

containment of the blaze.

Crews from Los Angeles County fire and the U.S. Forest Service battled the blaze.

The fire did not threaten any structures.

People have often complained about people illegally camping

out there and are worried about fires just like what had happened. Glendora Police do not go into that area, because it is actually the county area. This particular area has had homeless living in that area in their motorhomes for some time.

Stolen Jeep Burned, Suspect Booked and Released on "Zero Bail"

IRWINDALE - Los Angeles County Fire Department Firefighters and Irwindale Police Officers responded to the San Gabriel River, south of Huntington Drive on Thursday, September 23 regarding a vehicle fire.

On arrival, they found an unoccupied Jeep SUV that was fully engulfed in fire. Firefighters quickly extinguished the flames and the officers' subsequent investigation revealed the Jeep had been stolen in the city of Azusa earlier in the day.

Irwindale Police Officers subsequently worked with investigators from fire department's Arson/Fire Investigations Unit (AFIU) who



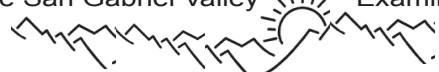
Los Angeles County Fire Department Firefighters quickly extinguished the burning Jeep.

were able to identify the suspect.

Matthew Thomas Dyer, 46 of Pasadena, was later detained and arrested on suspicion of felony arson. He was booked

at the jail and was later released on a citation per the county's "Zero Bail" policy.

The stolen vehicle was towed from the scene and will be released to the rightful owner.



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Distance Education - A Flexible Option for Changing Times

The abrupt change in the delivery of college courses, starting in 2020 and continuing into the foreseeable future, has put the long-touted message regarding the benefits of distance education to the ultimate test.



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

During this dynamic and historic time, myriad questions have surfaced or resurfaced. Are distance education courses effective teaching and learning modalities? Are they sufficiently rigorous? Can most courses be adapted to a distance format that works for students and faculty? What about student advising, testing, tutoring and the remote delivery of other vital student services? Is it equitable and accessible to the majority of students? If not, can inequities be fixed?

From a community college perspective, it depends. Obviously, there is no substitute for in-person clinical rotations for nursing students or under-the-hood, hands-on experience for automotive technology students. And what about performing and fine arts, physical education and other courses traditionally taught in-person-can these be adapted successfully to online learning? The answers to these questions are probably as diverse as the hundreds of colleges that are currently addressing them.

Fortunately, community colleges are doing just that. And they have been addressing these distance education dilemmas for a very long time. Most colleges already are, and will continue to, offer hybrid courses in many subjects. In these select courses, students learn both in-person and online. And there are many other creative learning strategies.

During the Covid-19 shut-down, enrollment at the Califor-

nia Community Colleges-the largest college system in the nation-switched from about 15 percent in online courses to more than 80 percent online. The adaptations necessitated by this change vary greatly and are too numerous to mention. Suffice it to say that faculty and staff have demonstrated their dedication to students admirably.

Today, as many college campuses cautiously begin to reopen, employing stringent safety protocols, what we have learned about distance education will be a valuable resource for the future.

Community colleges and distance education will remain engaged in a flexible, viable partnership-one that will be effective in providing higher education options for thousands of students in the changing times to come.

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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Los Angeles County Begins Administering Pfizer Booster to Eligible Residents

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Los Angeles County is now administering Pfizer booster third doses after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Rochelle P. Walensky endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation for a booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in several population groups. The CDC also recommended a booster dose for those in high risk occupational and institutional settings.

Boosters are currently only available to residents who received Pfizer. Residents who received Moderna and Johnson & Johnson will need to wait until the FDA reviews the data about boosters and determines the need for and safety of boosters for these vaccines.

Eligible Los Angeles County residents for a booster dose of Pfizer include those who received the second of the two-dose Pfizer vaccine series at

least 6 months ago and are either:

- 65 years or older
- Residents of long-term care facilities
- 18 to 64 years with underlying medical conditions
- 18 to 64 years with high institutional or occupational risk, including healthcare workers, first responders, teachers and day care staff, grocery workers, and workers in homeless shelters or prisons

"We thank the FDA and the CDC for their thorough and thoughtful review of the data surrounding boosters," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "Starting today, eligible Los Angeles County residents can begin receiving their booster dose at any of the hundreds of sites offering the Pfizer vaccine. The booster dose offers enhanced protection for those fully vaccinated with the Pfizer vaccine 6 months ago who are at increased risk of getting COVID-19 and/or experiencing

severe illness from COVID. The LA County vaccination network is prepared to offer boosters today while continuing to prioritize getting first doses to those eligible and not yet vaccinated."

Residents can make an appointment for their booster by using the MyTurn system or by making an appointment at a pharmacy or clinic that offers Pfizer vaccinations.

Residents will need to bring proof that they have received two previous Pfizer doses, which for most people will be in the form of the white vaccination card, or a photo of the white card, or a digital record of your two doses. At many sites, residents may be asked to sign an attestation form indicating they meet the criteria to receive the booster.

If you need a ride to get your vaccination, you can reach out to the Public Health call center at 1-833-540-0473 and you will be connected to free transportation.

COVID-19 Cases Among Homeless Decline; Pfizer Booster Available

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Reflecting the overall trend in Los Angeles County, the number of COVID-19 cases among people experiencing homelessness increased in July and August and has declined in the past few weeks.

During the week ending August 22, 184 cases were reported among people experiencing homelessness. This week, there were 142 new cases reported among people experiencing homelessness, which includes 70

cases from previous weeks that have been newly identified as cases associated with people experiencing homelessness and are now included in the new case totals. One person experiencing homelessness passed away from COVID-19 this week. To date, 8,948 people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County have tested positive for COVID-19 and 232 people who were experiencing homelessness have passed away from COVID-

19. Of these people who passed away, 109 were sheltered, 75 were unsheltered, and for 48 people who passed away, their shelter status was unknown.

There are 1,221 providers administering vaccinations to people experiencing homelessness; together they have administered over 57,157 doses of COVID-19 vaccine across Los Angeles County; 28,874 people experiencing homelessness are fully vaccinated.

The LACoFD Hosts First Sirens Of Silence Event & Collaborates With Six Flags Magic Mountain

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - On Friday, September 24, 2021, the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) hosted its first Sirens of Silence event at Pristine Rehab Care in the city of Diamond Bar. As part of the program, firefighters from Fire Station 120 met with community members with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as well as their families and therapists to learn how to best approach and respond to individuals with ASD and other special needs.

This week, the LACoFD also collaborated with Six Flags Magic Mountain and Hurricane Harbor by supplying Sirens of Si-

lence sensory-sensitive items for amusement park visitors, if needed.

"Our collaboration with Pristine Rehab Care and Six Flags Magic Mountain is the first of many Sirens of Silence initiatives to better serve individuals with special needs in Los Angeles County. We will continue to build ongoing relationships between first responders and our communities," said Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby. "Sirens of Silence is committed to providing quality and equitable resources for all."

The Sirens of Silence program promotes special needs aware-

ness, education, and inclusion through training and extensive resources, such as a picture board with emotions and common needs and a visual schedule that gives patients a clear picture of what to expect when first responders care for them or their family members. The picture board, visual schedule, and other materials are available to download on their website (<https://fire.lacounty.gov/sirens-of-silence/>) in various languages.

The program will continue spreading autism and special needs awareness through community events and educating personnel and the public.

Family Injured in El Monte Crash, Man Killed in Other Vehicle from a Gunshot

By George Ogden

EL MONTE - On Monday, Sept 20th, around 7:30 p.m., El Monte police responded to 2601 Meeker Avenue in El Monte for a traffic collision with one dead and four injured. The two-car crash had a little mystery to it. One vehicle had four people inside the car, a married couple and two children, who were taken to the hospital. The other vehicle had a man inside who had been shot. He died of what they believe was a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The shooting may have taken place near Valley and Mountain View where that driver headed south until he crashed into the family.

The family was released from the hospital later that night however, the mother remained

overnight because she is pregnant. There were no major injuries.

Later, a woman was located who was in the vehicle of the dead man prior to the crash. She had exited the car prior. It is believed that there had been some type of altercation, verbal or otherwise between the two. This woman was also transported to the hospital because of injuries that appears to come from a beating and not a car crash. Although the police are still investigating, at this time it looks like the man may have shot himself while driving. At this point, the woman is not a suspect, however the investigation continues.

No names have been released at this time.

Case Rate in LA County Continues to Decrease While Deaths Approach Another Grim Milestone

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Los Angeles County continues to see a downward trend in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths, providing some reassurance that higher vaccination rates and safety precautions at Labor Day celebrations helped avert the usual increase in cases we experience after major holidays. On September 15, the 7-day daily case average of COVID-19 was 1,476, the lowest it has been since July 14. Meanwhile, hospitalizations have declined 17% over the last week's numbers, and after a long plateau, deaths have also declined slightly. Tragically, the number of people in LA County that have lost their lives to COVID now approaches 26,000, with a cumulative total of 25,999 deaths reported today.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicators and thresholds to categorize community transmission of COVID-19, transmission in LA County has moved from "high" transmission to the "substantial" level, with a weekly case rate of 86 new cases per 100,000 residents.

With cases, hospitalizations, and deaths declining, Public Health remains focused on sustaining these gains by driving up the vaccination rates to avoid continued cycles of surges. As of September 19, 92% of LA County residents 65 years and over have received at least 1 dose of the vaccine, as have 78% of residents 16 years and over and 77% of residents 12 years and over. Sixty-eight percent of residents 12 years and over have been fully vaccinated. And while the vac-

ination coverage continues to slowly improve, it is clear that not everyone who is eligible for a vaccine is getting vaccinated. Given the dominance of the Delta variant, wherever there are pockets of unvaccinated people, there will continue to be spread, and unfortunately, continued transmission creates opportunities for new variants of concern to take hold that may be resistant to the current vaccines.

"I want to recognize that this is a hard time for the thousands of people who are mourning the loss of a loved one. As we mark the saddest of milestones, acknowledging the loss of just under 26,000 of our LA County family and friends, we extend our thoughts and prayers to all who are grieving and remain singularly focused on ending this pandemic," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD,

MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "While we are seeing important gains in our efforts to reduce community spread of COVID-19, we cannot afford to be complacent given the very real risks posed by this virus. We still need to lower the number of new cases so that we enter the fall and winter seasons in the best possible shape to avoid the devastation we endured last year. We typically see respiratory viruses flourish with the colder weather and when we move activities indoors. If we raise our vaccination rate, protect ourselves and others with masking, and use expanded testing to identify people who are infected early so they can isolate and their close contacts quarantine, we have a chance to avoid another winter surge like we suffered last year."

Two Male Juveniles Arrested For Robbery

GLENDORA - A 16 year old male from Upland and 16 year old male from Colton were both arrested for stealing a woman's purse. On Sunday, September 26th, at approximately 1:15pm, one of the males approached the female victim while she was sitting in downtown Glendora and grabbed her purse. As the male ran with the purse towards a waiting vehicle, several good Samaritans in the area came to the aid of the victim. Together they were able to retrieve the

stolen purse and detain the subject and the getaway driver.

The juveniles were both arrested for 211 PC (Robbery) and one of them had a no bail warrant out of San Bernardino. Both were booked and taken to juvenile hall. It is unknown why they were in Glendora, but appears that they were specifically looking for easy-to-grab items to steal.

If anyone has any additional information about this incident contact Detective Salinas at jsalinas@glendorapd.org

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Newsom Seizes Control of Local Zoning Ordinances

The \$276 million recall election has ended, and hopefully Gov. Newsom has taken note of the California Policy Center's comment: "There's more than one way to skin a cat" explaining "... the governor and elected officials up and down the state should consider ordinary Californians - Republicans, Democrats, and everyone in between - [who] made Newsom answer for his role in California's downward spiral and they won on Tuesday."

Noted by the press, Newsom seems to have lost the support of the working class across the ethnic board spending \$60 million more than his closest rival, Larry Elder, to hold on to his governor's chair. Democrats saw the ebbing support for Newsom and brought in the out-of-staters from top to bottom - Barack Obama, Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, Elizabeth Warren, and Bernie Sanders.

Polls barely closed, a rattled Newsom made a quick 'thank-you speech' and noted, "Trumpism is not dead," referencing the fact Larry Elder was able in one month's time to raise \$4.5 million dollars and capture approximately 45% of the replacement candidate votes. Was President Biden's attempted ominous warnings as he spoke to rally crowds on behalf of Newsom, "Keep Newsom in Office or you'll get Donald Trump" to save the gubernatorial seat or stumping for the presidential run Newsom has planned down the road?

Newsom has a lot to answer for in the weeks ahead not the least of which are the \$31 billion Employment Development Department (EDD) fraud scandal; the homeless population in need of drug, alcohol and mental health intervention; the violent crime stats going through the roof because of his support for Propositions 47 and 57; and, the latest move, signing off on SB 9 and SB 10, two bills the Senate Democrat Caucus initiated usurping local governments' au-



Shade's Perspective
Lois M. Shade

Former Mayor of Glendora
thority over zoning in their communities to achieve 3.5 million new residential units promised by Newsom in the 2018 campaign for Governor.

Newsom's drive to create more housing has been focused on already developed areas targeting higher-density development along rail and bus corridors and eliminating parking standards believing everyone will then take these various transit modes to work or to a location of choice for any purpose. The initial step was signing bills restricting local governments' ability to restrict or set standards for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) or an additional unit on a single-family residential lot. The bills Newsom signed mandated a one-bedroom unit could not be less than 850 square feet, a two-bedroom less than 1,000 square feet and cities could not limit lot size or lot coverage for these units. No setback requirements, no yards and some are being built with no garages or parking spaces and now use the streets only for parking.

SB 9 signed by Newsom immediately after the recall election ended, eliminated single-family zones and could result in four homes on one residential lot where one house currently exists. The transition would occur by subdividing the parcel into two lots allowing the single-family home to be converted to a duplex

and allowing the second parcel to build another duplex unit, with 4-foot setbacks and all done with no public hearings or environmental reviews.

Planning departments may object, but need to determine "... a specific, adverse impact upon health and safety ... [and] there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid ... impact." The applicant for the project must guarantee he/she will occupy one of the units for a minimum of three years. There is no exception for projects with homeowner associations even with CCRs.

SB 10 allows a city or county to build up to 10 units on any single-family residential lot, or others not developed, with no environmental review if that parcel is adjacent to a high-traffic area with mass transit services (rail or bus). Local governments would determine the height.

A constitutional amendment initiative has been submitted to the attorney general by Mayor Bill Brand, Redondo Beach, Mayor Peggy Huang, Yorba Linda and John Heath, President of United Homeowners Association who believe land use decisions have an impact on police, fire, quality of life services, like library, parks, recreation, and essentials like sewer, water, open space and water shed. These decisions need to be made locally, not by the far-away disconnected Sacramento state electeds.

California Local Land Use and Zoning to Supersede Conflicting State Law Initiative (#21-0016) filed August 26th proposes "... a city law on land use policy, zoning, or development standards overrides conflicting state law, with exceptions." Those exceptions would only be state projects of public benefit - transportation, power plants, water infrastructure and coastal zoning. If voters approve this constitutional amendment, SB 9 and SB 10 would be voided.

Assassins in the Sky: Confronting the Ugly Truths of Drone Warfare

On September 17, weeks after a U.S. drone strike killed ten members of a single family as they were exiting their car in a Kabul residential neighborhood, the Pentagon finally acknowledged that the strike was a "horrible mistake." The Pentagon had claimed that the target was a suspected ISIS-K vehicle, but the attack ultimately resulted in the deaths of Afghan aid worker Zemari Ahmadi, and nine of his relatives, including seven children between the ages of two and sixteen.

This was a rare admission by the Pentagon, but sadly, not the first time that the U.S. had killed innocent civilians with a combat drone, also referred to as an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). According to documents leaked by former Air Force intelligence analyst Daniel Hale, nearly 90 percent of the people killed during one five-month period of a U.S. drone operation in Afghanistan were not the intended targets. In some instances, U.S. drones have attacked Afghan wedding parties mistaken for Taliban gatherings.

Combat drones, most frequently the Predator and Reaper models, have featured prominently in U.S. counterterrorism policy since 9/11 while still managing to fly under the radar of public opinion. The military has employed them in the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, and the CIA has used them clandestinely for targeted killings of terrorist suspects in countries including Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia, where the U.S. is not officially at war. In the process, U.S. drone use has flouted international legal rules and norms on armed conflict and raises a host of ethical questions.

Drone proponents often argue that because they are unmanned, they keep pilots and soldiers out of harm's way. Drones are also a supposedly cheaper and more "precise" way of waging war in the twenty-first century. It also probably doesn't hurt that defense



Farrah Hassen

contractors like Raytheon, Boeing, and Lockheed Martin have lined their pockets with profits from building drones. In fact, one of the biggest U.S. drone manufacturers, General Atomics, is located right next door in San Diego. The Predator, Reaper, and Grey Eagle drones that they sell to the military are all products of Southern California.

However, the costs of these combat drones go far beyond the initial price tag and far outweigh any perceived benefits. While it is true that drone operators are safer than pilots, combat drones disturbingly reduce the carnage of war to a "video game," and many drone operators are left suffering the psychological consequences from having mistakenly killed innocent families.

Contrary to claims of their "precision," an August 2020 report by UN Special Rapporteur Agnes Callamard revealed that U.S. drone strikes in Afghanistan between 2010 to 2011 were "ten times more likely to cause civilian casualties than conventional air attacks." The full extent of drone deaths is difficult to ascertain since this data remains classified. However, the London-based Bureau of Investigative Journalism estimates that from 2004 through 2020, U.S. strikes in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia killed 8,858 to 16,901 people, with between 910 and 2,200 of those deaths being civilians.

No international treaty cur-

rently regulates drone use in combat, but the prevailing rules and principles under the law of armed conflict still apply to drone warfare. The four 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Protocols govern the conduct of war and protect victims of armed conflict. The cardinal principle of distinction requires that an attacker distinguish between combatants and civilians and take all feasible precautions to spare the civilian population and infrastructure, while another principle prohibits inflicting unnecessary suffering on combatants. The U.S. has clearly not met these requirements in previous drone attacks.

On a broader level, U.S. drone warfare also highlights the threat posed to the rule of law by the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force, which has granted presidents the power to engage in targeted killings outside of recognized battlefields without a formal declaration of war or other congressional oversight. This expansionist doctrine has since paved the way for U.S. drone strikes in Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, and Syria. This sets a dangerous precedent for other countries and armed groups. It has also contributed to a new arms race for drone technology with China, Turkey, Iran, and Israel, among other countries. Drones have even ended up in the hands of militant groups.

The twenty-year war in Afghanistan may have formally ended, but Congress has a responsibility to fully investigate the August 29 drone strike in Afghanistan and hold those who ordered the attack accountable for the egregious loss of civilian lives. The alternative would be to continue drone warfare's remote-controlled descent into lawlessness.

Farrah Hassen, J.D., is a writer, policy analyst, and adjunct professor in the Department of Political Science at Cal Poly Pomona.

"Death On The Back Nine" - Approaching That Final Hole

By Ralph E. Shaffer

The golf analogy - describing aging as the back nine of life - has become an obsession with Internet writers and my email companions who finally realize they are getting old. I've seen the same article, either without a byline or attributed to different authors, several times this past week. But we oldsters aren't on the senior tour, with a comfortable clubhouse after the last green. What's missing from those blogs and emails is any reference to the terminal point of the game - That Final Hole.

The bloggers may be reluctant to address the unmentionable but it will be there. Ignoring it, they suggest ways to make the back nine productive and worthwhile. Alas, all that productivity is stymied by that last hole.

In the end, we all fail to make the cut. For those who want to stay in the game a few more years, even though the fairways get longer and are all uphill, here are some tips:

* AVOID MATCH PLAY, where the winner is determined by the number of holes the leader has won. If you are ten down with eight to go the game is over, ending much too soon. In life, don't take on the really sharp guys since the game can end too quickly that way. Competing with those who are far superior may cause stress and shorten life by a stroke. This may discourage you from being an over-achiever but if you are just an over-attempter it's not worth the risk.

* ENGAGE IN TEAM PLAY. To steer clear of the sand trap of a solitary life, most of us need a playing partner. Team play minimizes the negatives of head-to-head competition and makes landing in the rough less unpleasant. The downside is when your partner leaves the game before you.

* PLAY FOR A TIE. The timing of the opening of that final hole can, in some cases, be delayed. I taught my kids to play for a tie. They didn't think much of

that, but my argument was that it took a really good player to end with a tie, as you deliberately try to make nearly impossible shots in croquet, tennis or, yes, golf. If you make them the loser feels that you were really lucky. If you miss, the weaker competitor has a good chance to win.

How does that fit the end-of-life game? Those who want to extend life as long as possible see a tie as the way to do it. If you tie there is an Extra Hole. Ties, in golf and other games, require a playoff. In golf it's that Extra Hole. That can be interpreted as an unexpected extension of life, some extra years, that wouldn't have been there except for the tie. With luck, that extra hole may stretch into two or more additional ones. As long as the players keep tying, the game, life, goes on. The trick is to figure out how to achieve a tie at life's end.

However, all those extra holes eventually end - in sudden death. Not just for the loser, but for the winner as well. In a life playoff there is no winner. Both competitors get their own holes. Some may be more ornately adorned but the final results are the same, whether it came on the tenth hole or in overtime.

Regardless of score or wealth, whether in golf or life, it all ends at that final hole. No one will fault you if you intentionally three-putt that last green. Take all the putts you want. You may have lost all the other holes, but this one is yours.

Ralph E. Shaffer, 91, is professor emeritus of history at Cal Poly Pomona.
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Are Biden's COVID edicts Constitutional?

My Opinion: By D. B. Shimmel

Just last week (want to be) King Joe Biden said of people who chose not to be vaccinated "I am losing my patience". Who does he think he is? The real question to ponder here is; can President (in name only) Biden actually mandate the wearing of face masks and COVID shots for everyone? The simple answer is "NO" he cannot. The United States has neither a dictator nor a king.

Let me explain how I and many Constitutional scholars have arrived at that conclusion. Firstly, I consider myself a student of the Constitution not an expert. For expertise on the nuances, laws and court cases involving the Constitution I frequently draw on actual experts for guidance.

For a starting point for this discussion one must look to the Constitution itself. This document defines the powers granted to the Federal Government and also limits the powers it grants to it.

The U. S. Constitution was created with the ideals of a 'limited' government. Our Republican form of government is based on three co-equal branches of government. The President is only the head of one of these co-equal branches. Congress was granted the power to make federal laws (see Article I) not the President.

Powers granted to the President are as defined in Article II (2). Nowhere in this article does it grant the President the power to edict all Americans must wear a face mask or take an experimental shot. Executive Orders are just that; they are orders, not laws, issued by a president that can be and often are struck down by a following Exertive Order.

The Constitution indirectly, grants Congress the power to regulate health laws limited to government controlled territories including the District of Columbia, not the entire nation. That authority is granted to the individual states.

Now let us return to Presidential edicts and the Constitution.

As a point from which to start I draw upon esteemed Constitutional Professor and author Rob Natelson. In a recent article, where Natelson was addressing the President, he said, and I quote: The ... "Constitution was ratified only because it sharply restricted federal authority. Its promoters reassured the public again and again that the Constitution enumerated (listed) federal powers-and that if a power is not on the list, it isn't there.

The Constitution's supporters even agreed to amendments reinforcing this point. The Ninth Amendment ... says that the Constitution's specific limits on federal authority (such the First Amendment), merely supplement the document's other limits (such as the limits inherent in enumerated powers). The Tenth Amendment says that federal functionaries like yourself have only those powers the Constitution enumerates. The rest are divided between the states and the people, with the specific lines of division varying in each state under its state constitution."

As one can deduct from Mr. Natelson's arguments, presidential powers are actually quite limited. Nowhere in the Constitution does it give the President the power he envisions he has.

Going further, many politicians falsely claim that the "promote the general welfare" clause in the Preamble gives the govern-

ment over-arching powers to broadly regulate the 'general welfare'. Not so fast; several Supreme Court Decisions have stated that the Preamble is only an introduction to the Constitution and not an integral part of the document and therefore has no legal standing.

Arguments against the government having the power to mandate health issues for individuals are numerous. One of the most notable and frequently referred to dates back to the 1824 case of "Gibbons vs. Ogden". In this instance, a case was brought before the SCOTUS where 'interstate commerce' was the main focus. In rendering the Supreme Court majority decision, then Chief Justice John Marshall's writings include a concept presented by Mr. Natelson. Again I quote: "There is no Supreme Court authority higher than (John) Marshall, and he himself told us that "health laws of every description, are matters for determination by the states. Not by Congress ... not by you." Mr. President.

In summary: the US Government claims to have the 'general welfare and interstate commerce' as their legal precedent to make health proclamations. But many experts agree: the Government lacks the Constitutional authority to make laws and edicts that regulate the people's rights of freedom of choice regarding their health. Guidance YES; mandates NO.

One last point. An international decision that came out of the 1947 Nuremberg War Trial(s) was, no one can be forced to undergo any medical procedure without their consent.

Get the shot or be fired is coercion not consent.

San Gabriel Valley
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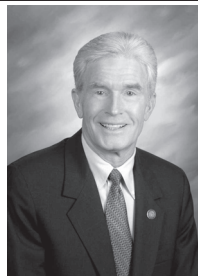
Don't Ignore Inflation

The U.S. economy may well be in the midst of a soft patch due to the more contagious Delta COVID-19 virus plus persistent inflation brought on by excessive government spending, money creation and ongoing global supply chain disruptions. The most recent Producer Price Index (PPI) reading put a spotlight on the bottlenecks that many industries are contending with to manage profit margins. The PPI for final demand increased 0.7% month-over-month in August after increasing 1.0% in July. On a year-over-year basis, the Producer Price Index was up 8.3% versus 7.8% in July. The index for processed goods for intermediate demand rose another 1.0% in August and was up 23.0% year-over-year, its highest increase since February 1975!

Economic growth downshifted slightly to a moderate pace in early July through August. This deceleration in economic activity was largely attributable to a pullback in dining out, travel, and tourism in most Districts, reflecting safety concerns due to the rise of the Delta variant, and, in a few cases, international travel restrictions. The other sectors of the economy, where growth slowed or activity declined, were those constrained by supply disruptions (such as ongoing chip shortages) and labor shortages, as opposed to softening demand.

Several trends normally converge this time of year. First, we look forward to quarter-ending window dressing, when professional money managers try to make their portfolios look "pretty" by loading up on companies with strong third-quarter forecasted sales and earnings. We also tend to see a "pop" in stocks held in equally-weighted ETFs that realign their portfolios every 90 days. So, even though September is a seasonally weak month, the end of the month is often a good time for powerful growth stocks.

In A Nutshell What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

The Atlanta Fed is now estimating 3.6% annualized third-quarter GDP growth - down sharply from its over 6% forecast in August. Congress should know that it would be political suicide to raise taxes in the middle of a decelerating economy characterized by surging inflation, so it will be interesting to see if any of the proposed huge spending plans and related tax increases will get passed. President Biden's latest approval ratings are below where 3 of the 4 most recent presidents were on Day 240 of their first term according to MSN and 538.com. Fans attending the memorial Mets vs. Yankees baseball game on 9/11 yelled a very embarrassing chant to Biden.

Normally natural gas prices decline in the fall as the weather cools. However, due to a big drought that has curtailed hydroelectric production, plus a lack of wind in Europe which has dramatically reduced wind output, plus this administration's environmental related decisions, natural gas is now in super-high demand for electricity production. Some utilities have even switched back to burning coal to generate electricity, since natural gas prices have almost doubled so far this year.

Naturally this was not the planned result for President Biden's "green agenda", even considering the Biden Administration's ban on drilling on federal lands. Biden's agenda also forced more natural gas to be flared and needlessly wasted,

which is now further contributing to our high natural gas prices. Although the Biden Administration's ban on drilling on federal lands has been overturned by a federal judge, the Energy Department remains hostile to fossil fuels, which continues contributing to higher natural gas prices.

Listening to the White House rhetoric, it is hard to adjust one's focus between reality and fantasy. It is difficult to list, during any given WH speech, the amount of lies presented versus truth. Does the WH really believe we are that dumb? Biden inherited a sound and secure border, strong vaccines that worked, a peaceful settlement in Afghanistan and energy independence. All of the above has been reworked into pathetic failed results, and Biden now tries to blame his predecessor for his administration's failures. How much longer will this BS continue?

It seems obvious that increasing inflation is likely to be the determining factor for Fed lift-off and the pace of future interest rate hikes. Assuming inflation continues to significantly exceed the Fed's forecast for next year of 2.3% (core PCE), the Fed's first rate increase could be seen by early 2022, if not sooner.

My Wall Street colleagues have their own opinions regarding the recent market sell-off. The 750-point decline on Monday (9/20) was believed to be primarily driven by technical (programmed) selling flows combined with overreaction of discretionary traders to perceived risks. My colleagues' technical opinions remain unchanged, seeing any sell-off as an opportunity to buy the dip.

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

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

Your Money - Ask Julia

I use about a half tank of gasoline each day to commute to work and back. That's roughly \$35 a day. That means that I have to work over 2 hours every day just to pay for the gasoline to get to work and back home. My work schedule varies, so I haven't found anybody to carpool. Public transportation would be less expensive, but I drive from business to business during my work shift, so I need my car. And, then there's the rising cost of groceries, and talk of impending food shortages! Has this rise in prices peaked? Or will it get worse?

I'm impressed! You are among the few who take the time to calculate how many hours you must work to pay for necessities. Your good mindset can also guide you in being more frugal when purchasing items that are not necessities. For example, how many hours do you need to work if your holiday (Thanksgiving and Christmas) budget totals \$1,000? According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the food index rose 3.7 percent (August 2020 - August 2021), and the energy index rose 25.0 percent. The prices of new and used vehicles rose even more. Kroger (mother-company of many grocery chain stores) announced that food prices will be rising substantially. Supply chains are straining to the point of breaking, so there is talk about food and goods shortages. It does not look like prices have peaked. Review your budget and cut out some luxuries. Look into a better phone or internet plan. Talk with your insurance agent to see if you can reduce your premiums. You will be better off to plan for the worst and hope for the best. If the worst happens, you will be more prepared. If the worst does not hap-



Julia Yoder

pen, you will be in a more financially stable situation.

What are my options for getting my money out of my annuity that is about to mature?

It depends on your annuity policy contract. With some annuities, you can take a lump sum upon maturity. With others, you leave the money alone during the growth period, and then you're required to take it out over a period of years. Some annuity policy contracts allow limited access to your money, usually starting at the beginning of the thirteenth month of the annuity policy. Annuity contracts are commonly supportive of government requirements for Required Minimum Distributions upon reaching age 72, regardless of other contract rules.

You've mentioned that life insurance is an important part of an estate plan. How?

Nowadays, there are two basic ways that life insurance is important in your estate plan. First of all, there's a type of life insurance that can accumulate money that is accessible while you are alive - funds to use for anything you want. Second, life insurance helps your heirs. Life insurance normally pays quickly, and most often these funds are income tax free. This money helps to pay

taxes, administrative costs, debts, or keep business operating while the estate is being settled. If the survivors have lost the income of a paycheck or Social Security check, life insurance can help to fund an income stream. And, finally, life insurance can increase the family's wealth after the death of a loved one. Fixed-indexed annuities also pay quickly, but can also be set up to pay out over a longer timeframe, thus limiting the heirs from wasting their windfall in a short period of time.

We've done our own financial planning, and now that we are approaching retirement, we'd like some additional guidance.

Is there a way to get some financial advice without being pressured into moving our money unnecessarily?

It's never too late to get a second opinion. An ethical, licensed professional will look at your entire financial picture, talk to you about what you want your money to do for you, and design a plan that is in your best interest and is most suitable for you. You are under no obligation, but if that pro points out something that you feel would be beneficial to you, it would be logical and respectful to utilize them as your agent; at least give them some good referrals.

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



Car Talk by THE CAR DOC

What You "AUTO" Know

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

Oil Consumption

Question: How often should you check the oil level in your car?

Every 1,000 miles of driving; the newer the car and the lower the mileage. This seems to be the forgotten "check list" item.

Question: How often do you check the oil level in your car?

Our shop is seeing more cars come in with no visible oil on the dipstick. Granted, the majority of the cars have 75,000 miles or more. Remember, that many cars with smaller engines also have less oil capacity (four quarts or less) to lubricate the moving parts.

When technology builds in lights, bells and whistles to replace opening the hood and pulling a dipstick or visually inspecting the under-hood fluid, I get concerned. The warning systems are great backups but should not replace physically inspecting items.

The reason for the oil consumption concern is due to low tension piston rings used to get better miles per gallon. This causes engines to run hotter than ever to achieve better

MPG. Today, lighter oils (0w20 and 5w20) are also used for, you guessed it, better MPG, with 0w16 in the new models coming into production.

The latest change is GDI (gasoline direct injection), which is a completely different way for the fuel injector to deliver the fuel into the engine. Yep, this is for MPG also. Combine all these changes and add the extended oil change interval, and you get major oil consumption.

The car mentioned above, with no oil on the dipstick, also did not have a warning light on to let the driver know what was going on. That tells us the light comes on when the car is beyond critical for the oil level and is doing internal engine damage.

The old adage that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, in car terms, means servicing your car more, and often equals 200, 300, or even 400,000 miles of driving. We have many customers that have continued success because they adhere to regular servicing of their car!

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Hometown Service You Can Count On!

Paul Spitzzeri To Be Featured Speaker at Covina Woman's Club

COVINA - The Covina Woman's Club is now 123 years old. This club has been active in helping the community thru their many fund raisers and their many wonderful sponsors and of course the work of their volunteers who give of their time to make their fund raisers a success.

Their meeting is scheduled on October 11, 2021 at 11:00AM. Lunch will be available and reservations are required. Call (626) 967-1963 to secure your reservation. All reservations must be in by October 6, 2021.

This month their program will feature Mr. Paul Spitzzeri, Homestead Museum Director. His subject Female Justice: "The Case of Yda Hills Addis".

A broken promise of marriage,

By Brian Jobst

Recently the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced the preliminary price tag for remediating the BKK hazardous waste landfill in West Covina. The preliminary cost estimate is \$869,286,436.

The landfill, located near the corner of Azusa Avenue and Amar Road is California's largest toxic hazardous waste landfill, covering nearly 200 acres of land and up to 595 feet deep. It contains 5.18 million tons of hazardous waste such as acids, arsenic, cyanide, mercury, and vinyl chloride most of which was liquids applied directly to or injected into the ground.

Both the DTSC and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency describe remediation as the implementation of a "final protective remedy" for a contaminated site. The Potential Responsible Parties, those that disposed of hazardous waste at BKK would

bear the \$869 million cost.

West Covina Councilman Tony Wu has led the effort for a 400-room hotel directly adjacent to the unlined landfill, indicating the land at BKK is "just dirt" and ready for development. To date, sitting Council members Wu, Letty Lopez-Viado, and Dario Castellanos have voted in favor of Council resolutions associated with selling the land to hotel developer Singpoli prior to remediation of the hazardous waste landfill at BKK.

The city of West Covina had been working with the Singpoli Group LLC on developing the hotel. That effort appears to have temporarily stalled. Singpoli's Hotel Constance declared bankruptcy in February of 2021. However, two months ago Singpoli began revisiting the BKK site along with investors in an effort to again pursue what some West Covina and Walnut residents refer to as the "Landfill Hotel".

Livable West Covina, a local civic group focused on public health and safety at and around BKK has repeatedly asked the West Covina's City Council and senior City Staff to allow the landfill to be remediated before initiating efforts at intensive development at BKK like a hotel. Livable West Covina also continues to press the City to fulfill its own public health and environmental commitments at BKK, ones made to regulators years ago.

The DTSC indicates that prior to initiating the remediation work at BKK, two studies that are underway must be completed, both of which will provide insight into the "final remedy" for the site.

Mr. Jobst is a 33-year resident of West Covina and co-founder of Livable West Covina, a civic group focused on protecting public health associated with the landfills at BKK
www.LivableWestCovina.org



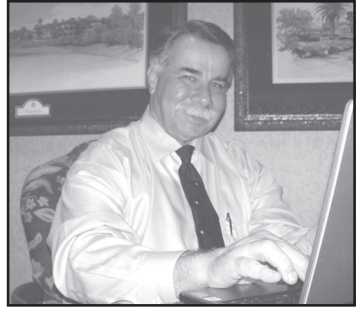
Paul Spitzzeri, Homestead Museum Director

Around the Valley & Senior News

If You're a Big Person, Respect Other People's Property

If you're big person, in other words, overweight, respect other people's property. I am a big guy without question and I have to watch what I do.

If I am sitting on one of those folding chairs, I need to make sure that I just don't plo down, otherwise I will actually damage the chair. I need to make sure that I land my butt near the back of the chair, or the seat part will bend down. I can turn the chair into a mini slide. The seat part bends down in the front and the chair is ruined. I can't tell you how many chairs at a facility I am at where we have had to throw the chairs out because of this damage. Big people come into an event and they just let themselves slam down into the folding chair and they bend the seat platform and they think nothing of it or the cost to the facility to replace it. Same thing with the bar stools.



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

I have seen people lean way back and pull the back out of place with the screws that hold it in place pulled out. The chair is not made for that. It is actually not repairable. Or, better yet, they lean back on the two back legs like it is some type of rocking chair and bend the legs. They ruin a \$120 barstool for a cheap beer.

We have one guy that comes in for the free food and asks for a "cup" of water so he doesn't

have to pay for the bottled water. He weighs around 300 lbs. and has ruined two barstools and a dining room chair. He is not a member of the organization and comes to visit a friend at the bar when he knows there will food available. He puts nothing into the donation jar for the food he eats.

I have seen people do this often at the facility and it cost the organization a lot of money. Also, it is not just the guys, but the ladies as well.

As for me, I try not to do things like this for a number of reasons. Being big, I need to take it easy, especially when it comes to other people's property. If I don't, you just might see me sitting flat on my fat ass on the floor at a dining table after the chair collapses.

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

Seen or Heard Around Town And in The Valley

By Ed Torres

1. President Biden's *Open Border Policy*, although against American law, apparently is based on the immigration policy of the *United Nations*, which is, in essence, that no country of the world, has the right to keep out any immigrants coming from any other country of the world. Thus, after Biden became president, reportedly over 1 million illegal immigrants, almost immediately, were allowed to begin entering the United States at the southern border.

2. The Corona Virus (that pesky lime-light seeking *critter*): so long as politicians and *news folks* publicize it to their advantage, this *Covid* will never leave the nations' *news rooms*, and will forever remain an American controversy - - thereby helping one segment win elections and the other to line-its-pockets with silver.

3. Two street racing *bicyclists* in-the-Valley, speeding toward a city intersection, and having a red traffic light facing them as they approached (with no cross traffic in sight) - - instead of stopping, made agitated hand gestures and yelled "Get out of the way": to some children and a couple of senior citizens *legally in the crosswalk* - - they *barely avoided* being hit.

4. On a blazing hot day, cattle in trucks on the Foothill Freeway (210) were *squeezed in* like the proverbial sardines... But, humankind, *listen up*: cattle are not just inanimate *burger-patties-on-the-hoof*... Do they deserve better treatment from humans, even if on the way to the *slaughter house*?

5. America, where everyone metaphorically finds themselves living in the *Land of Alice* - - not

Alice from the T.V. Show "Alice" of yesteryear, but of Alice from many yesteryears in "Alice in Wonderland" - - where citizens are being told that up is down, that bad is good, that apples are oranges, that holding law breakers accountable is bad and burning police stations is good (you get the idea)... If the results of the last Presidential and Congressional Elections accurately reflect the mood of the nation, then the majority in "America the Beautiful" abhorrently believes this country is "America the Horrendous"... If the results of those Elections are truly reflective of this country, what has happened to people's common sense, as well as to their sense of sight and hearing, and smell?

6. It seems many *White People*, to avoid confrontations or to remain anonymous, more likely than not would accept being called something worse than *dog poo*, than to be called a *Racist* - - so when the racist term is directed at them, directly or indirectly, they simply acquiesce and tolerate the *pejorative*... Many even apologize for their *whiteness*.

7. If a person were prevented from shopping at any place of business, such as Home Depot or Walmart, because the business owners decided they did not like the particular person's political views, that action would be condemned, immediately.... But

companies like FACEBOOK and Twitter, ban some people from writing their comments on their company's business sites, if the "tech people" disagree with the political views being expressed.

8. *Awhile back* a guest on the Doctor OZ show mentioned that all neighborhoods have a *gossiper* who flitters and flatters here and yonder, ostensibly to be a good neighbor, but spreads innuendos and rumors among the neighbors - and can cause disunity. (Dr Oz, incidentally, was not the star of "The Wizard of Oz").

9. Clamoring to Defund or Abolish the police; making the Border Patrol ineffective; the deterioration overall of *law and order* - - why are people doing that?

10. Many college students, evidently, are *channeled* into useless yesteryear *basket-weaving* caliber of degree programs, or into *social justice style* curriculums... The result is that America winds up with a shortage of many needed professionals - - such as doctors, engineers and scientists - - and too many unemployable *social warriors*, as well as the proverbial *basket-weavers*... The result is that this great country has to *import* foreign doctors, engineers and scientists... Huh?

Comment/suggestion: honnod1@yahoo.com

"TIME JOCKEY" - Theater Threat

The Good Old Days... Nearly 100 years ago, movie theater were the primary source of entertainment in the San Gabriel Valley. But recently with COVID-19 forcing existing movie theaters to shut down and the escalation of streaming movies over cable networks like Disney, Apple-TV and others, movie theaters are being threatened like never before. With customers willing to subscribe to streaming movie channels rather than venturing out to see a movie at a theater, the future of the movie theater appears to be doubtful. In the early 1900's, the City of Alhambra boasted an excessive number of theaters to meet the growing demand of customers wanting to see at first black and white and then color full-length films. James Edwards started to build his chain of successful movie theaters along selected thoroughfares in the San Gabriel Valley and used the name of Edwards Theaters to promote his growing entertainment business. In 1921, the Temple Theater, designed by architects Walker and Elsen, opened in the City of Alhambra. It was a simple building with a small marquee displaying the names of movies showing at that time but held enough seats to get a good size crowd. When Edwards bought the theater in 1930, he renamed it the "El Rey" and it became one of the three theaters Edwards owned in Alhambra at that time. The theater had a single screen and small concession area but the intimate setting of a small movie theater made every seat a good seat and the sound system especially captivating. The "El Rey" was regularly open and drew its shares of entertainment seekers but in 1987 the strong Whittier Narrows earthquake severely damaged the theater and within a year the theater was razed in order to protect the public from any further damage. In contrast, the Garfield Egyptian



Joe Castillo

Theater was an oversized theater which opened at the corner of Garfield Avenue and Valley Boulevard. In 1924, the theater opened with over 1,000 people in line. It was a huge theater but was not big enough to hold the over-sized crowd and most had to be turned away. The venue was one of the largest in Southern California especially for a single screen theater and its close proximity to the original "The Hat" and its World-Famous Pastrami which opened in 1951, made for an economical destination for an evening of dinner and a movie. The theater had a large concession area and lobby area in the front entrance making the entire experience Hollywood-like. But in the late 1970's the movie business started to decline and in the mid-1980's the theater was converted into a collection of retail stores. The building still remains intact displaying the unique architectural design going back to early designs of the 1920's but the entire screen and stage area was dismantled. The Alhambra Theater was located on Main Street and Wilson Avenue and was another smaller single-screen venue operating in the 1920's. The other theaters in the area consistently outdrew the attendance at the Alhambra Theater and soon vaudeville acts were booked at the theater but even the various acts forced the theater to close but it eventually re-opened

as the "Coronet". A new larger marquee was added to the front of the building and additional amenities were added but in 1971 the Sylmar Earthquake severely damaged the 50-year-old building and it was torn down two weeks later. Whether by age or natural disaster or just plain lack of business, movie theaters have been in constant danger of closing down. Today, the threat is more focused on technological changes but it appears the small venue of single-screen theaters just may be in severe danger, ending an era of showing movies in a full-size theater house while eating popcorn and drinking Coca-Cola...

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

ACROSS

1. Shenanigan
6. "Losing My Religion" band
9. Kind of learning
13. Capital of Egypt
14. Nest egg acronym
15. Cupid's target
16. Bar, legally
17. Indian restaurant staple
18. Kind of committee, two words
19. *Hedge maze, dull boy, redrum, with The
21. *Pretend girlfriend, surgery, body parts
23. Monkey ____, monkey do
24. Post-it message
25. It makes a guitar louder
28. Royal Indian
30. Perfumes

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: SCARY MOVIES

35. Glorify
37. Freeway exit
39. Like today's cell phones?
40. Keen on
41. Like a confection
43. At any time
44. One of the large keys on the right
46. Greek portico
47. Common workday start
48. Former President of Egypt
50. Ancient eternal life symbol
52. *Bathtub, hacksaws, Jigsaw
53. Euphemism for "damn"
55. *Blind violinist, transplant surgery, sees ghosts, with The
57. *Hotel, mother, shower
60. *Count, bite, cross
64. Hot winter drink

65. Aye's opposite
67. Financial benefactor
68. Seize a throne
69. Headquartered in Langley
70. Exclude or omit
71. Done on a Smith Corona
72. Old age, archaic
73. 6666...

DOWN

1. Single pip cards
2. Crosby, Stills, ____ & Young
3. South American monkey
4. Actor Jeremy
5. Xerox machine
6. *Videotape, stone well, seven days, with The
7. Paleozoic one
8. Tropical smoothie flavor
9. Make over
10. Hawaiian island
11. Ragtime turkey dance
12. And so on, abbr.
15. Bias crime perpetrators
20. Closes in on
22. Pilot's announcement, acr.
24. ID badge, two words
25. *Sigourney Weaver, outer space

26. Old Testament miracle food
27. Hits while on the green
29. *Beachgoers, police chief, need for bigger boat
31. *Boy, shadows in photographs, three sixes, with The
32. "Transylvania" daughter
33. Entertainment complex
34. Scatter
36. "Nobody ____ It Better"
38. Low-ranking worker
42. One who accepts the offer
45. Porter's head gear
49. U Rah ____!
51. Seven daughters of Atlas
54. Present
56. Food-borne bacteria
57. One in a pocketful, according to Mother Goose
58. Fish a.k.a. porgy
59. Bygone era
60. Two of a kind
61. Type of operating system
62. Prospector's mother?
63. God of war, son of Zeus
64. Director's cry
66. Be ill

Halloween Coloring Contest and Trunk-or-Treat

LAVERNE - It's that time of year again, The Halloween Coloring Contest! Children 3-12 years of age are encouraged to participate in this fun contest, where winners in various age groups will win prizes. Pick up a coloring sheet at the La Verne Community Services Office during designated operating hours. Turn in final coloring sheet submissions by the Thursday, **October 7th** due date. Winners will be notified. For any additional information, you can contact the La Verne Community Services Department at (909) 596-8700. On Saturday, **October 9th**,

the La Verne Community Services Department will be hosting the City's first-ever Trunk-or-Treat! The event will take place at the La Verne Community Center/City Hall parking lot from 5:00-8:00 PM. This event is FREE and will include a live DJ, food trucks, activities, and more! Costumes are encouraged. We invite all community members interested in participating to sign-up and decorate a vehicle on a first-come, first-serve basis. It's free to register; reach out to Amanda Triay, La Verne Community Services Specialist if interested at 909-596-8776.

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Walnut Valley USD Trustees Celebrate Vejar Shining Stars

WALNUT - Walnut Valley USD Board of Trustees kicked off the September 15 meeting by recognizing an exemplary student and parent from Vejar Elementary School. The Super Star Student Award was presented to tenacious fifth grader **Jolie Wang** for her "bright spirit, kind heart, and soul of joy," according to Principal Whitney Prenger. As a third grader, Jolie endured treatment for an autoimmune disease while studying at home under the guidance of her teacher, Rick Lantow. After successfully completing treatment, Jolie's doctors cleared her to return to school for the fourth grade, but unfortunately the COVID-19 pandemic prompted a year of distance learning.

Throughout the school closure, Jolie joined her fourth-grade class on Zoom and brought her beautiful smile back on campus for the spring hybrid format. This year, she will be featured in a Camfel Production for schools celebrating inclusion and diversity. She will also represent Vejar as a member of the Superintendent's Student Advisor Council.

"Jolie is a true ray of sunshine who has persevered, overcome, and brought joy to our school. Congratulations, Jolie!" Prenger commented.

Vejar parent and WVUSD employee **Natalie Candelaria** was honored with the Partner in Education Award. Natalie



Vejar Elementary fifth grader Jolie Wang receives Super Star Student Award



Board President Layla Abou-Taleb presents Partner in Education Award to Vejar parent and instructional aide Natalie Candelaria.

serves as a one-on-one instructional aide for special education, offering support to the student she serves to ensure success throughout the day. Throughout the years, Natalie has built special bonds with Vejar students and staff. During distance learning, she was on campus with her student as often as possible to join a connectivity cohort. On Zoom lesson days, she created opportunities to stay connected

and engaged with creative strategies for social emotional support, including outdoor picnics, arts and crafts, beach chair set ups, brain breaks, and more.

"Natalie is a rock star! She has truly cracked the code with our kids and continues to support our school by sharing her love, support, and time," Principal Prenger said during the presentation.

CHP Slammed for Restricting Honor Guard from Motorcade for Fallen Marine

By George Ogden

ONTARIO - Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola, 20, of Rancho Cucamonga, was killed in the Kabul airport bombing on Aug. 26. He was brought back to the southland last Tuesday on Sept. 21st. At the request of his mother and family, the Patriot Guard Riders (PGR) were requested to escort Dylan on a route through his home town area and then to Forest Lawn Mortuary in Covina. The escort and procession would include various police departments with motorcycles and police units.

As the call for the PGR to gather for this mission, they responded. In most cases they ride the Harley Davidson Motorcycles and carry a large American Flag and often the PGR flag and/or Military Flag. The staging area for the PGR was at the south side of the Ontario Airport in the parking lot. The flight was to arrive at 5:30 pm and by 3:30 p.m. there were already over 150 PGR members at the staging area with more coming. There were also a growing number of vehicles other than motorcycles such as Jeeps, pickup and cars that had flags attached to them, with most being PGR members.

However, a Upland Police Sergeant announced at the briefing at 4:00 p.m. that only 50 Patriot Guard Riders would be allowed in the motorcade/procession with motorcycles and no other vehicles. The Upland Sergeant stated that this



This is one of hundreds of motorcycles with U.S. Flags and PGR flags that showed up for the escort and was denied permission to participate.

came from the CHP and if he found that people would join in, that they would do traffic enforcement. The PGR members were taken back by this announcement. It was interesting to many of the people that it was an Upland officer making this announcement and not a CHP representative was there to make this announcement and restrictions.

There were a lot of unhappy people there. Some riders came from San Diego to participate as well as some from Bakersfield, Arizona and Nevada to give honor to the young Marine.

The Sergeant stated that the rest of the people could stand on the curb or an overpass on the freeway. PGR didn't come to stand on a curb to be a road

ornament. They came to honor and pay tribute to the Marine and his family.

After the announcement, many started to ride off in disgust.

Some people felt that this was actually coming from the Upland Police and they were saying it was coming for the CHP. Upland may have had concerns that since the procession was going through Upland, they didn't want to have to deal with the traffic issues caused by a long procession.

Many of the riders are pointing their finger at the CHP for this being a "low-blow" for this young Marine and his family with this restriction. The family wanted the PGR members to participate but it appears that the CHP basically said "no" to this request. It didn't look good for the CHP. There was no public comment from the CHP on this issue.

Rising to the Climate Challenge

By Thomas Wong, Board President, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

We are at a confluence of crises. The global pandemic and Delta variant continue to wreak havoc, but our region is also hampered by the devastating impacts of the climate crisis, with massive wildfires blazing, extreme heat, and severe drought conditions spreading across the state. We need to act boldly, commensurate with the scale of the climate crisis, before it's too late.

Climate change is evidenced in the San Gabriel Valley by the return of intense drought conditions. In August, the federal government declared a water shortage on the Colorado River for the first time ever, triggering painful water cuts for southwestern states. Also, the Edward Hyatt Power Plant at Lake Oroville was shut down for the first time since it opened in 1967 due to unprecedented low water levels, and the state took unprecedented action to force farmers to cut back on water they use from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed. This year, the State Water Project, a source of water for 27 million Californians, is only delivering 5% of requested allocations.



The San Gabriel Valley depends on water from the State Water Project and the Colorado River, as well as local rainfall, to meet our needs. Local rainfall from July 2020 until June 2021 was the lowest July-June period in recorded history, and 16 of the past 20 years have featured below average rainfall. Urgent action is needed.

We must build out more resilient sources of water supply if our region is to thrive in the decades to come, including accelerating and expanding investments in water recycling, stormwater capture, and water use efficiency, which includes replacing old appliances with water efficient models. Fixing aging infrastructure in homes, businesses and utilities is critical: 10 percent of homes in the U.S. have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day; and 10 percent of all urban water deliveries in California are lost to leaks annually.

The U.S. Senate's recently passed bipartisan infrastructure package is a small step in the right direction. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act sets aside \$8.3 billion for western water infrastructure investments, \$3.3 billion for wildfire response and mitigation, and \$2.1 billion for ecosystem restoration. The bill also sets aside \$55 billion to help replace lead pipes and to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), harmful chemical contaminants which are found in some of our water supplies locally. More investments are needed, and optimism abounds for further federal action to address the climate crisis.

The country and the San Gabriel Valley need these investments urgently, and our local governments, including our water districts, must be ready to implement these investments effectively and equitably. Our cities and residents answered the call for water conservation during the most recent historic drought and LA County voters signaled their support for investments in resilient water supplies by approving Measure W in 2018 to build out multi-benefit stormwater capture infrastructure.

Climate models, including the recent United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, show that current conditions may be here to stay, and without significantly stepped-up action on climate change, conditions will worsen even more. We need to adapt our communities and our infrastructure to these conditions. Our leaders at the global, federal, regional and local levels must act urgently and collaboratively to address the climate crisis and ensure the sustainability of our communities. We have no time to waste.

Thomas Wong is president of the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors (www.sgvmwd.com), representing his home community of Monterey Park.

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church's Blessing of the Animals

Stuffed animal donations sought for children treated for exposure to violence

MONROVIA — On Sunday, October 3, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Monrovia will once again celebrate one of its most beloved traditions: the Blessing of the Animals in honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The church invites all pets (and their human companions) to the 10 a.m. service to sit, sing, (chirp, purr or howl), worship, and share in God's blessings.

Attendees are also invited to bring a new stuffed animal to donate to the Martin Luther King Jr. Pediatric Hub, an LA County center that provides medical and mental health care to children exposed to domestic and sexual violence. St. Luke's parishioner Dr. Janet Arnold-Clark is the hub's Director.

Per the request of county health authorities, the church asks that all worshippers wear masks indoors, whether vaccinated or not.

About St. Luke's
With roots in Monrovia dating to the 1890s, St. Luke's Episcopal Church is an inclusive community that invites and welcomes all to join them in service and fellowship. The landmark 1924 Romanesque church is located at 122 S. California Ave. at Foothill Blvd. Services are held on Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. The Reverend Neil Tadken presides as Rector. For more, visit saintlukesmonrovia.org.

Key Clubs and Kiwanis Serve at Duarte City Picnic



DUARTE - The Duarte Kiwanis Club partnered with Duarte High Key Club and CSArts Key Club at Duarte's City Picnic. The Key Club members provided opportunities for rock painting for 120 children! They also helped at the Friends of the Duarte Library booth by handing out free

Children's books. A great time was had by all. If you are interested in joining the Duarte Kiwanis or presenting at a future meeting, please contact Tina Carey at tinac51@aol.com. The club is currently meeting virtually through Zoom.

Virtual Family Feud Fun Returns this October!



DUARTE - It's almost time for Duarte Family Feud Fun again! Just like last year, two families will face off in a race to answer the most questions correctly for points. Teams that score the most points will advance to the next round, but only four will win cash prizes: First Place \$500, Second Place \$400, Third Place \$300, Fourth Place \$200. Plus, all teams will be en-

tered in family fun pack raffles! Entry fee is \$40 for a team of five members. Three of your five team members must be related by blood, marriage, or partnership. Lastly, we only have room for 26 teams, so be sure to sign up ASAP. Registration ends October 8, 2021. Call the Duarte Teen Center at (626) 303-0863 for more information.

Man on Probation Arrested for Possession Of Firearm, High Capacity Magazine



WEST COVINA - On September 21 at approximately 12:26 PM, a West Covina Police officer made consensual contact with a pedestrian. During the contact, the officer learned that the male pedestrian was on probation for possession of a firearm. The officer searched the male and located a loaded un-serialized firearm in a holster. The handgun was

loaded with a high capacity magazine. A 50 round drum magazine was also located. The male was also carrying a backpack. Inside the backpack was a cordless saw with several blades, crow bar, bolt cutters, mechanic gloves, several pairs of black latex gloves, postal keys, a shaved key, and heroin. The male was arrested.

Dia de Los Muertos To Be Celebrated at Baldwin Park High School



BALDWIN PARK - The Baldwin Park High School Dual Immersion Language Program presents the 10th annual Dia de Los Muertos event on Thursday, **October 21** at Baldwin Park High School, 400 Building. The event is FREE and open to the

public, it will take place from 5:30pm-9:00pm, there will be an altar competition, face painting, children activities, art gallery, food and live music by Eric Antonio and Mariachi Lindas Mexicanas.

Seniors Day Trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific



BALDWIN PARK - Take a glimpse into the extraordinary underwater world at Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach on Monday, **October 4**. The Aquarium will be free on Seniors Day and special exhibits and presentations will be featured. The Pike Outlets is conveniently lo-

cated nearby for some shopping and dining. Meals not included. Guests are required to wear a mask on the bus at all times. Please register at the Julia McNeill Senior Center. For more information, please call the Senior Center at (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323.



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