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Emanate Health Names President & CFO Roger Sharma to Succeed Robert H. Curry as CEO

The health care system also names veteran hospital finance executive, Leon Choiniere, to replace Sharma as CFO

COVINA — Emanate Health, the largest health care system in the San Gabriel Valley, today announced that President & Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Roger Sharma will assume the role of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) when Robert H. Curry retires in April following his 13-year tenure on the job.

Sharma—who has held the President's title since September 2020 and has served as CFO for more than 10 years—will become the President & CEO on April 2, 2022 when Curry steps down. Sharma has also relinquished the CFO title now that veteran hospital finance executive, Leon Choiniere, has been appointed.

“Roger takes the helm during a critically important time for Emanate Health as the pandemic continues to impact hospitals across the country,” said Gary Mathewson, Chair of the Emanate Health Board of Directors. “For the past 10 years, Roger partnered closely with Rob Curry to overcome challenges and embrace opportunities to grow our health care system. Roger’s appointment promotes leadership continuity and allows us to build on the investment in our communities and the successes of our organization.”

As part of the board’s suc-



Roger Sharma

sion plan, Mathewson said that Sharma gradually assumed more corporate responsibilities, beginning with finance, expanding to strategy and then clinical and business operations, particularly during COVID-19.

“I’m humbled to know that the Board of Directors has put their trust in me to further our mis-

sion, strive toward the vision, and strengthen the values on which Emanate Health stands,” Sharma said.

“These attributes will always be my north star to ensure that every decision that we make will help promote the health and wellness of the one million people that we serve in the San Gabriel Valley,” he said.

Sharma began his tenure as Senior Vice President and CFO at Emanate Health, formerly named Citrus Valley Health Partners, in October 2011. With Curry, Sharma has been instrumental in successfully guiding the organization to a secure financial future, propelling the growth of service lines and expanding physician practices.

Before joining Emanate Health, Sharma served as Senior Vice President of Financial Op-



Leon Choiniere

erations for City of Hope in Duarte. He earned his Presidential and Key Executive Master of Business Administration degree from Pepperdine University and is a Certified Public Accountant. He also has been named for five consecutive years to the national list of the “100 Hospital and Health System CFOs to Know” by Becker’s Hospital Review, a respected health care industry publication.

“Roger is ready to take the wheel at Emanate Health,” said Curry. “In recent years, we’ve overcome many challenges together to secure the financial viability of our health care system, while providing world-class care for our patients during a global pandemic. Roger is equipped with the leadership tools and vision to take us to the next level.”

Choiniere brings more than

three decades of hospital finance experience to Emanate Health and is a leader in the health care finance professional and organizational arena.

Beyond the traditional roles and background of a CFO, he also held the regulatory role of Corporate Compliance Officer, charged with the leadership responsibility for developing and maintaining a compliance program.

A Certified Public Accountant, Choiniere graduated cum laude from Walla Walla University in College Place, WA, with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Choiniere is a Fellow in Healthcare Financial Management Association, a leading organization to support health care finance professionals in the evolving hospital industry.

Jewels Within the Glendora Women's Club

By Marsha Edwards Mason

GLENDORA - Since Glendora's early beginnings over 100 years ago there has been intelligent, driven women wanting to make this area a memorable place, culturally, ethically and artistically. These women gained much notoriety and wanted to progress from a private organized group to joining the National Federation of Women's Clubs, and in 1908 the Glendora Women's Club was formed.

The Glendora Women's Club has been instrumental in the history of Glendora in assisting with the formation of other groups for various community purposes. The women that laid the foundations in this community became part of Glendora's history and they were the foundation stones of the Glendora Women's Club. They are jewels in the history of Glendora.

The Glendora Women's Club meetings today are conducted much like they were at its conception. After the monthly club meeting there is a program of some type for the enjoyment of those attending. The Women's Club has enjoyed programs from the Forestry Department, New Unto Others thrift store, Shepard's Pantry, a woman's shelter, and enjoyed the choral sounds of Glendora High School



Glendora Women's Club members Gretchen Peterson, pianist, and Gayle Poland, songbird.

and LaFetra's Sing for Joy Chorus.

The women jewels in the Glendora Women's Club come from all walks of life. There are lawyers, educators, professional singers and musicians. The February program attendees were entertained by two of its own member's, Gayle Poland, actress

and songstress, and her professional piano accompanist, Gretchen Peterson.

Gayle Poland sang and performed in such theater productions as Mame, Fiddler on the Roof, Annie, Oliver and That's Vaudeville. Gayle sang "It Isn't Fair" for the February program.

The community is invited to attend the Glendora Women's Club meetings and meet today's foundational women, jewels in the community and Glendora history.

The Glendora Women's Club is having an Open House on April 3, 2022 to show off their renovations to the historic building. They will be offering information, arts and crafts displays, an ice cream social, fun and bingo. Watch for the Open House Flyers around town.

A Little Guy's Dream of Having a Corvette

By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - This guy pulls into Gomez's Tacos place on Vincent Avenue in Covina or Irwindale, not exactly sure exactly as I was there to grab something to eat. He was in one of those very rare Corvettes. Anyway, he places an order sits at an outdoor table to wait for his order. While waiting, a young mother with her young son pulls up alongside this Corvette and parks. She takes a good look at it and so did her son, who looked to be 6 or 7 years old who took a much longer look. When she gets to the counter to order, he looks at her and says rather loudly, "I want a car like that". He continued to admire the car while his mother ordered.

This particular Corvette is only 1 in 1,000 made. It is the Corvette C8.R Stingray. Only two colors, yellow and gray, 500 of each with 250 being coupes 250 hardtop convertible for each color. The guy that owned the car waited until they were done ordering and asked the mother if she had her cell phone with her. She wanted to know why and said because you're going to have to take some pictures. He told them both to go over to the car and told the young man to get inside the car and act like he's driving it. The little guy lit up and said "really!!!" So, Mom took a whole bunch of pictures and I took a couple as well. There was one happy little guy. It might be a little while be-



Young boy gets to sit in his dream car. Not just a new 2022 Corvette, but the C8.R Stingray, and this was one of only 1,000 made.

fore he's able to get into a car like this, the Corvette C8.R. I am sure he will remember this day for a long time and he can brag about being in one. He has the pictures to prove it. I bet one day he'll own a Corvette.

A Conversation With Gholar and Richie

DUARTE - In recognition of Black History Month, the Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association will present a conversation with Barbara Gholar and Brian Richie hosted by 20-year radio veteran Chris Loos on February 20, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. at the

Duarte Historical Museum, at 777 Encanto Parkway in Duarte. Admission is free. Space is limited. Loos has worked in top markets in the U.S. and has interviewed the likes of Eminem, Mike Tyson, the Black Eyed Peas and Kendrick Lamar.

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County Numbers Show High Vaccination Coverage Helped Prevent Avoidable Deaths in Skilled Nursing Facilities

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – With high COVID-19 vaccination and booster rates, skilled nursing facility residents experienced a peak death rate that was more than five times lower this surge as compared to the previous winter's surge.

The latest Public Health data shows that the seven-day average death rate of skilled nursing facility (SNF) residents dramatically declined from 106 residents per 100,000 during the peak of the 2020-21 winter surge to 21 residents per 100,000 during the more recent Omicron peak. The 80% reduction in the peak death rate among SNF residents is even more striking when considering that the peak seven-day average of new infections caused by the highly transmissible Omicron variant this surge was 15% higher than the peak infection rate during the previous winter surge.

High levels of vaccination

and booster coverage within skilled nursing facilities helped provide life-saving protection. For the week ending January 23, 91% of residents and 97% of staff were reported as fully vaccinated, and 85% of residents and 75% of staff were reported as both fully vaccinated and boosted among those eligible. Since the announcement of the healthcare worker booster requirement in late December, the number of SNF staff boosted has increased by

almost 50%. This essential layer of better coverage and protection with a booster dose has resulted in far better outcomes this surge as compared to the previous winter.

Moreover, newly released CDC data yesterday showed that individuals who were both fully vaccinated and boosted had a 97 times lower death rate (0.1 individuals per 100,000) compared to individuals who were unvaccinated (9.7 individuals per 100,000).

Unvaccinated Residents Twelve Times More Likely to Die from COVID-19 than Vaccinated Residents

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – As the county continues to make steady progress decreasing transmission rates associated with the Omicron surge, the stark differences in COVID-19 outcomes between residents who are vaccinated and those who are not remain pronounced with unvaccinated residents significantly more likely to die from COVID-19 compared to vaccinated residents.

Through the week ending on January 15, unvaccinated residents were 12 times more likely to die when compared to vaccinated residents. These differences in COVID-19 mortality outcomes were magnified for older age groups. For residents older than 50, the risk of dying significantly increased among those individuals who were unvaccinated. The 30-day death rate for unvaccinated residents between the ages of 50-64 was more than 15 times higher compared to fully vaccinated residents. For individuals 65 and older, unvaccinated residents were 24 times more likely to die compared to vaccinated residents.

And among the very small

number of vaccinated and boosted individuals who died, 52% had an immunocompromising medical condition as a comorbidity

While vaccination status played a substantial role in the likelihood of severe outcomes for COVID-19 illness, poverty was also associated with a significantly increased risk of dying.

According to recent Public Health data, residents living in low-resourced communities were more than twice as likely to die from Covid-19 related complications compared to residents who lived in affluent communities. Through February 4, the 14-day age-adjusted death rate in parts of the county where more than 30% of the population lived at, or below, the federal poverty line was nine deaths per 100,000 residents. This was more than two times higher than in affluent communities with less than 10% of residents living at, or below, the poverty line where the 14-day adjusted death rate was four deaths per 100,000 residents.

Law Firm Selected to Conduct Independent Investigation of County Contracts and Processes

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – Los Angeles County has selected a nationally-renowned law firm, Covington & Burling, to conduct an independent audit and investigation of the County's contracting policies and processes as well as major service contracts in light of U.S. Department of Justice allegations against former Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas.

The independent investigation was ordered by the Board of Supervisors (Item 43-C) to

ensure the County's contracting policies and processes follow best practices and are most effectively serving the public's interest. The investigation will begin immediately. The Board directed that the investigation review "all County service contracts in all supervisorial districts with a significant cumulative monetary value approved by this Board between the years 2008-2020, or such other timeframe that is consistent with best auditing practices" in-

cluding "the County service contracts referenced in the Federal allegations, and the associated County processes and policies in place."

Covington's team will be led by Carolyn Kubota and Dan Shallman, two highly experienced former federal prosecutors in Los Angeles who work in the firm's extensive investigative practice. As part of their work, Covington has retained forensic auditing firm FTI Consulting.

Enjoy the Super Bowl Responsibly: Choose a Sober Way to Go

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is reminding football fans to stick to the "go safely" game plan and designate a sober driver if you plan on drinking at a Super Bowl LVI watch party.

During Super Bowl LVI weekend, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will have additional deputies on patrol looking for drivers suspected of

being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

"If you plan to have a drink or two, choose a sober way to get to and from wherever you are watching the game," Sergeant Robert Hill said. "Have a ride-hailing service or a family member who hasn't been drinking take you home."

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department reminds the public that alcohol is not the only

substance that impairs. Marijuana, prescription drugs, and over-the-counter medications can all affect your ability to drive safely. Do your research and understand the potential side effects of certain drugs.

"When it comes to getting to and from places safely, we're all on the same team," Sergeant Robert Hill. "The choice is simple: Don't drive impaired."

School Choice Initiative Breakfast Meeting

GLENDORA - The 48th Assembly District Republican District Committee is having their regular monthly meeting this Saturday, February 12th at the Peppertree Café, 1020 E. Rt. 66, Glendora. Registration for the meeting and buffet breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. Reservations are \$20 and are required. Please call 626-733-6152.

Michael Alexander will speak on his Educational Freedom Act and School Choice Initiative proposed for the November 2022 ballot. The initiative proposes to establish school savings accounts at the same rate as the state pays for public school students. The basis for this proposal is to allow parents of all income levels to make choices regarding their

children's education.

Former Glendora Mayor, Judy Nelson, will present updates on Concerned Glendora's school improvement efforts "to repair and rebuild GUSD for staff, students and community". Declining enrollment in our public schools and educators leaving the profession warrant some needed discussion and options.



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

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Our Lost Education System Inspires Parental Choice

This is a critical time in California's education system with good reasons why it is time for some changes in educating our children. The State Board of Education is established in the state Constitution providing the Board shall consist of eleven members, appointed by the Governor, confirmed by two-thirds of the state Senate, to serve 4-year terms.

Continued discussions occur on the mask and vaccine mandates for children as parents fight to get their kids back to school and try to take responsibility for their children. Some have noted, Gov. Newsom's children continued in private school while public school children were forced to be home online. Newsom's children went to summer camp maskless while the opportunity for all children was not available.

We've watched parents fighting to end Critical Race Theory (CRT) in our school system only to see a vote by state legislators to implement mandatory CRT courses including a requirement for graduation Newsom signed off on.

Children will be faced once again with a new math program to radically change math instruction at all grade levels. For the past year, debate has been ongoing in Sacramento to change math instruction at all levels of our K-12 system. CalMatters, Dan Walters, reported California Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) released a draft "mathematics framework" shifting instruction from the traditional approach to one steeped in race and culture, or "woke" math. The IQC determined currently mathematics has a history of exclusion and filtering, rather than inclusion and welcoming.

We are now facing a very competitive new frontier in space exploration. Will this new "woke" math, apparently making concessions for those not as good at math as others, provide our students the critical education needed to take the giant steps forward into the space industry



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

and space exploration?

The State Board introduced the 2019 Health Education Framework, currently being edited before publication, but a preliminary view of that Framework includes directives and procedures for introducing gender identity (transgenderism) as early as kindergarten and through high school.

On Fox & Friends, January 25th, San Francisco lawyer, and Republican National Committee Woman, Harmeet Dhillon, has stepped up to represent a mother, Jessica Konen, and her 11-year-old middle school daughter who have charged two teachers with trying to manipulate the daughter into changing her gender identity without parental consent. Konen learned more about the efforts of these teachers from a leaked audio from a California Teachers Association conference on LGBTQ issues where discussions took place on how to implement Gay-Straight Alliance Clubs and how students could hide their participation from their parents.

This situation is nothing new in California colleges and universities and throughout the country. Our higher education institutions have clinics that will implement and promote medications and even surgeries without adequate counseling and no parent notification to implement sex changes. The College Fix is an American conservative news website focused on higher edu-

cation and "right-minded" news and commentary published by Student Free Press Association. They published several articles on the issue.

Jennifer Kabbany, Fix Editor, has reported, "In 2015, we reported that universities across the nation now teach students gender is a fluid concept and not based in biology ... and a growing number of universities embraced gender-neutral pronouns, such as "ze," "hirs" and "theirs. In 2015, we flagged how California universities rolled out six "gender identity" choices on admissions applications. In the five years since, gender transitioning has become accepted, embraced and celebrated, a firmly established dogma in higher education - as well as the medical and psychological fields."

Additionally, "For years, college officials have told students, gender is a choice. They've celebrated students who choose to transition as brave warriors." The Wall Street Journal reports that "health plans at 86 colleges-including those of nearly every Ivy League school-cover not only cross-sex hormones but surgery as well."

I called the Legislative Analyst Office to request a copy of reports on budgets/costs of university student medical plans. I was told they had not published those documents since 2015.

Now with the Dhillon/Konen lawsuit and the new Health Framework pending, the attack is on challenging our children about their sexual identity and parents' rights to know. If students decide to implement a sex change, some of the cost may be billed to parents' insurance. Parent is not allowed to request students' records or medical information, only required to pay the bill.

School Choice initiatives provide alternatives for parents who are disturbed and don't approve of these new "frameworks" and what is happening, and not happening, in our Education Systems.

After the Gold Rush

It's a sunny day in Nevada City, a historic mining town nestled in California's Sierra Nevada foothills, 60 miles northeast of Sacramento. Outside Java John's coffee shop located on the city's iconic Broad Street, an older gentleman sings an eclectic catalogue of songs while strumming his acoustic guitar. He follows up his rendition of the Backstreet Boys' "I Want It That Way" with The Mamas and the Papas' "California Dreamin'."

Walking along Broad Street, I find an equally diverse mix of stores that sell everything from hemp clothing, crystals, and assorted tarot card decks to hand-made chocolates, classic antiques, and cow hides. These sights and sounds are not quite what I expected during my first visit to Nevada City, but they are also not what stood out most.

More prominently, multiple generations of local residents and tourists alike remain enthralled by its deeply entrenched Gold Rush history, which is immortalized in the city's boomtown architecture and detritus of hydraulic gold mining operations. Mineral deposits and gold mines attracted waves of immigrants to Nevada City and other Gold Country towns in the northern part of California during the 1849 Gold Rush. This not only altered the landscape, but also led to the mass murder and displacement of Indigenous Californians, including the Nisenan People whose lands make up today's Nevada County.

From 1850 to 1851, Nevada City was the state's most significant mining town. Nevada County, where it sits, was California's leading gold-producing county. Incorporated in 1856, Nevada City employed some of the earliest gold mining methods such as the destructive process of hydraulic mining. A brick building on Main Street once served as the offices of the South Yuba Canal Water Company, which was



Farrah Hassen

the first company to supply water for hydraulic mining in the area. These holdings later became part of the vast PG&E hydroelectric system.

The former company office and other historic buildings in the downtown area have earned their status on the National Register of Historic Places and as California Historical Landmarks. The Nevada Theatre on Broad Street opened in 1865 and is California's oldest original-use theatre. Mark Twain and Jack London have both made appearances on its stage. The National Hotel, an 1856 Victorian brick property, sits at the bottom of the hill on bustling Broad Street. It is one of the oldest continuously operating hotels west of the Rocky Mountains. Stepping inside the hotel bar conjures up scenes from HBO's American Western series, "Deadwood," which was also set in a mining town coincidentally. All that was missing was Al Swearingen and his incessant cursing behind the dimly-lit bar.

While the meaning of "gold" has changed since 1849 and the search for it has taken on new forms, similar themes still resonate today in Nevada City and throughout California.

Instead of finding actual gold, Californians shout "Eureka!" today when finally securing an affordable home. Like past waves of migration, people are still moving to California for a chance

at success in the Golden State and despite its prohibitive cost of living. Intra-state migration has emerged as a particular trend over the past few years, especially during the pandemic. Bay Area residents have increasingly moved to or bought second homes in nearby Sacramento and surrounding Gold Country cities like Auburn, Truckee, and Nevada City, which has driven up the cost of local real estate. They may not be panning or drilling for gold, but some are probably prospecting for cryptocurrency.

As with many towns facing profound challenges such as deteriorating infrastructure and the global pandemic, the nearly 3,100 residents of Nevada City still work together to address them. At the end of December, a powerful winter storm hit Nevada County, resulting in downed trees and power lines. Many residents of Nevada City and the neighboring city of Grass Valley went without power, heat, internet, and in some cases access to food, for an entire week.

Their community is also not immune to the environmental threats that others face around the world. Nevada County's mining history is once again resurfacing as it considers a proposal to re-open the Idaho-Maryland mine in Grass Valley, only this time residents and advocacy groups are protesting its potentially toxic environmental impacts. The Nevada County Board of Supervisors are expected to vote on the proposal this year.

Nevada City may still cater to its Gold Rush past, but times have clearly changed. As I head out of town, I see a number of yard signs in front of homes proclaiming: "Protect our air, water, quality of life. No Mine!"

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

A Wife With Compassion

A woman awakes during the night to find that her husband is not in bed. She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a hot cup of coffee in front of him. He appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of his coffee.

"What's the matter, dear" she whispers as she steps into the room, "Why are you down here at this time of night?"

The husband looks up from his coffee, "It's the 20th Anniversary of the day we met."

She can't believe he has remembered and starts to tear up.



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

The husband continues, "Do you remember 20 years ago when we started dating, I was 18 and you were only 16," he says solemnly.

Once again, the wife is touched to tears. "Yes, I do" she replies.

The husband pauses, the words were not coming easily. "Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car"

"Yes, I remember" said the wife, lowering herself into the chair beside him.

The husband continued, "Do you remember when he shoved the shotgun in my face and said, "Either you marry my daughter or I will send you to prison for 20 years"

"I remember that, too" she replied softly.

He wiped another tear from his cheek and said "I would have gotten out today."

"That's Just the Way It Is!"

Despicable Mia and Other Forgotten Heroes

By Charles Lopresto

The Western Journal reports: "Washington's NFL team is now known as the Commanders.

The new name unveiled Wednesday comes 18 months after the once-storied franchise dropped its old moniker following decades of criticism that it was offensive to Native Americans and under fresh pressure from sponsors. The organization committed to avoiding Native American imagery in its rebrand after being called the Washington Football Team the past two seasons."

My Take: Apparently the Progressives desire to get rid of Indians is actually mentioned in this report--"committed to avoiding Native American imagery." Now I know why my idea of "The Washington Code Talkers" would

not fly. Sadly I was inspired to embrace that name because it was the choice of the Navajo Nation. About a year ago they suggested it to no avail. It seemed only right to maintain the Native American identity with a less controversial name. And it could have been a way of honoring the "greatest generation" and its veterans. When Mia the Indian maiden was removed from her spot on the banks of a Minnesota lake on the food brand "Land O' Lakes," the joke was actually accurate. "Keep the land, get rid of the Indian."

Sadly, many polls I heard about claimed that a majority percentage of Native Americans didn't consider these Indian names offensive, and many actually liked the symbols. There are at least two Native American high

schools in Arizona that have the name "Redskins." The schools are Red Mesa and St. Johns. Mostly it is Liberal, Leftist, Progressives with a need to feel good about themselves who couldn't bear with the names representing Native Americans. You know what is worse than insulting a group? It's ignoring them.

It is sad that Native Americans Walter "Blackie" Wetzell and Chief Two Guns White Calf, with their imagery represented by the NFL "Redskins" and the Cleveland Indians' baseball player and reason for their name, "Indians," Alex Sockalexis, had to be thrown on the trash heap of politically incorrect historic icons. Wetzell designed the helmet with the profile of a chief. And that chief was a real one, Two Guns White Calf of the Blackfoot Nation. Sock-

alexis was Cleveland's first superstar ball player and the team was named after him. Now everybody is a "guardian" or a "commander." I guess it isn't as bad as Stanford's Indian being replaced with a tree. Please don't get upset with me if I don't share the thrill of these new names.

American culture used to be symbolized by the various groups that made up the folklore and identity of our country. Indians were a part of that. Now I guess we are going to be no different than that Universal cartoon that has those generic little yellow figures called Minions. That is what we have all become. At least to the Progressives. We are all just Minions in a world with no characters, no individuality and no place to stand out. Now that's despicable.

Any opinions are mine based on the research I have done. I am not in the medical field; if you have any concerns you should talk with your doctor.

As COVID hit us in 2019, there became a desperate need in the scientific community to find something that would halt this horrible virus. The topic of a vaccine was frequently thrown about for discussion. The scientific community was particular excited to see if they could develop a vaccine for COVID. The definition of a vaccine, at that time, was the act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease. We all remember the vaccines we received when we were younger, such as measles. This would protect us against becoming infected with measles. It is based on a live but weakened strain of



Karin Schott

measles. This is how all our vaccines worked. A life or dead strain of a virus is injected into us. Your body develops antibodies against the disease.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that usually cause mild to moderate upper-respiratory tract illnesses, like the common cold. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is associated with corona virus (SARS-CoV). It appeared in 2002 in China. The Middle East respiratory syndrome corona virus (MERS-CoV), transmitted from camels, was identified in 2012. The third novel coronavirus in this century is corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Again, this came from China. There is a lot of debate if it came from animals or the Wuhan Lab in Wuhan, China. A topic for another day.

Before 2019, scientists spent a lot of time trying to come up with a vaccine and were not successful. They vaccinated ferrets and released them all back in the wild. When the vaccinated ferrets came in contact with the virus, they all died. So, it looked like there could not be a vaccine made to treat corona virus. Scientists were very frustrated with these roadblocks.

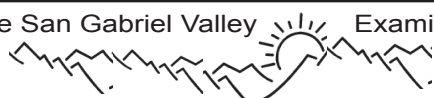
When Operation Warp Speed was announced by President Trump, several companies were in a race to complete a vaccine.

Pfizer, Johnson and Johnson and Moderna raced against each other. A new strategy was developed completely different than previous vaccines. This new strategy was going to use messenger RNA (mRNA). There is no live or weakened virus. The mRNA vaccines teach our cells to make a spike protein, which is found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. These weren't traditional vaccines and the public was questioning why were we calling them vaccines when they didn't meet the definition. The CDC decided to change the definition to meet the new narrative. The definition now is a substance used to stimulate the production of antibodies and provide immunity against disease, prepared from the causative agent of a disease, its products, or a synthetic substitute, treated to act as an antigen without inducing the disease. Very different than the previous definition.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were a two-dose regimen and the Johnson and Johnson were a one dose regimen. We were told by Dr. Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the Chief Medical Advisor to the President that these "vaccines" would prevent us from getting the COVID-19 disease.

Did the hype live up to the reality, are they safe for adults, are they safe for children? Are there any vaccine adverse reactions with these mRNA vaccines? We will discuss this next week.

Karin Schott is a long-time Glendora resident, having lived in the city since 1989. Currently retired, having spent 34 years as a software engineer. She spends her time with gardening clubs, dancing classes, yoga classes and volunteering for Glendora causes. She defines herself as a "truth-seeker".



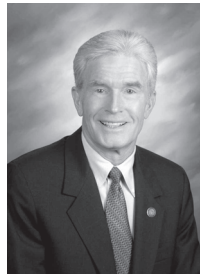
The Wild Ride Continues

Are you strapped in? The S&P 500 Index is down 8% from its all-time high and was off 7% for the month of January in a market buzzing with volatility. Investors are facing the reality that a poor performance by the stock market in January is typically a warning sign for a more sluggish year. However, the stock market ended a hugely volatile week on a high note Friday (the 28th) with a furious late rally to wrap up a roller-coaster week.

A strong earnings report from Apple helped technology stocks rebound from the beating they had suffered early this year. The S&P 500 also added 2.4%, its best session since June 2020. The Dow Jones average swung from an early 350-point loss to end with a 565-point gain, while the Nasdaq Composite surged 3.3% (but still remained on track for its worst month since the 2008 financial crisis). Last week's wild swings highlighted the challenge the market now faces. Financial conditions are going to be tightening, and Wall Street is ramping up expectations for how many times the Federal Reserve may raise rates this year. Five looks like the new consensus.

For the prior week, the S&P and Dow rose roughly 1% while the Nasdaq ended flat, offering no hint of the volatility that happened along the way. If you thought the press conference with Jay Powell would provide some clarity for the markets... guess again. "This is going to be

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

a year in which we move steadily away from the very highly accommodative monetary policy that we put in place to deal with the economic effects of the pandemic," Powell declared. "I would say that the committee is of a mind to raise the federal funds rate at the March meeting, assuming conditions are appropriate for doing so. I don't think it's possible to say exactly how this is going to go, and we're going to need to be, as I've mentioned, nimble about this so that we can respond to the full range of plausible outcomes."

This hawkish pivot, coupled with other ongoing uncertainty, comes as red-hot inflation continues to plague the economy, demonstrated by an annualized rate of 7% during December. Following the Powell press conference futures betting markets projected an 86% chance of a 25-basis point rate hike for the March FOMC meeting, while 14% predicted a 50-bps increase (even though a half-point hike hasn't occurred since May 2000). Stock investing since the global

financial and COVID crisis has been heavily rooted in TINA, an acronym that stands for "there is no alternative". That has helped drive many of the explosive valuations we see today. However, the prospect of higher interest rates is starting to weigh on that market supporting sentiment.

In any market environment, especially the current volatile one, it is important to have some portfolio protection. That includes diversification, having cash on the side, or staying in your long-term positions and not getting too emotional. Investors that do want to dip into pockets of the markets are generally advised to do so in smaller amounts until the trading landscape becomes clearer.

For those looking to put excess cash to work many analysts have said it is (or was) time to get defensive, or rotate out of high-growth areas of the market in favor of safer bets. Others are searching for yields, like stable dividend payers, or maybe even revenue producing tech players. Commodities, utilities, consumer staples and REITs are other sectors attracting attention, while some investors still feel that "buying the dip" could be profitable in any number of beaten down sectors.

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

What can I deduct, and what receipts are needed if I file for the Standard Deduction on my tax return?

(Disclaimer: I am not a CPA.) The IRS states that you can either take the Standard Deduction (no receipts needed), OR take Itemized Deductions (need receipts). You cannot do both. With a little planning, you can legally work their system. Start by doing the math to see which is better for you. Take the Standard Deduction if it is more than you'd get if you itemized. Some folks make extra house payments, and donations to charities, etc., to make it advantageous to itemize rather than taking the Standard Deduction. Keep in mind that the IRS limits the amount of mortgage interest you are allowed to take. I suggest that if you have extra funds, pay your normal mortgage payment (including interest) PLUS an extra amount allotted specifically to be applied to the principal. That would pay off your mortgage quicker.

Besides the obvious, is there anything else that counts as "medical expenses"?

Yes, the IRS allows you to count under medical expenses: round-trip travel expenses for medical treatments, purchase of things that you needed, but insurance didn't cover, the expense of some quit-smoking and weight-loss programs, medical and dental insurance premium payments paid with after-tax money, special-needs expenses (adding ramps, widening doors, etc.), and long-term care insurance premiums.

When we retire, we will sell our first home and move into our second home. Have capital gains taxes changed, or are we



Julia Yoder

okay?

On your primary residence, the capital gains tax exemption amount is still \$250,000 (single), or \$500,000 (married). If more than that, you'll have to pay capital gains, but only on the amount above the exemption limit. This could change by the time you retire.

My banker keeps calling me to schedule an appointment to discuss moving my money from a 7-year annuity that I bought there in 2019. Is that something I should consider? Oh, by the way, I'm in my late 60's and semi-retired.

Take a close look at what you already have vs. what your banker is recommending. Most annuities carry a surrender fee, comparable to an early withdrawal penalty. Your annuity policy will clearly show this as something like: 1st Year 15-percent, 2nd Year 12-percent, 3rd Year 9-percent, 4th Year 7-percent, etc. In this scenario, your annuity would be in year 3, and the contractual surrender fee would be 9-percent. If you received a bonus when you first put your money into that annuity, you might lose that, along with any related gains, too. Do the math. Annuities are issued by insurance

companies which provide guarantees, based on their strength and government mandates for readily available funds to pay claims. They are not a bank product, and are not FDIC insured. Insurance companies' compliance departments have guidelines which clearly and deeply frown on replacing a recent annuity. Of course, there are exceptions. If you feel pressured, you might seriously want to question your banker's ethics.

I like to be in the know, and in control. My retirement savings is in the 401k at work, and I have little to no control over it. Is there anything I can do?

Ask H.R. for contact information on the financial professionals with the company that actually holds your 401k. Give them a call and schedule a free appointment to discuss your concerns. Most folks only think about diversifying their portfolio (the stocks they're investing in). If your employer does not match any percentage of your investment contributions, you might want to consider diversifying some of your retirement savings into different investment products, like a Roth IRA, a fixed-indexed universal life insurance policy, or a modern-day annuity.

Ask Julia by email:
juliyoder@yahoo.com

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This Valentine's Day... and Every Day... Show That You Care

Each time a driver starts their engine and gets on the highway that car, truck or SUV needs the driver's full attention and the vehicle needs to be well maintained in order to protect the driver, their passengers and those they share the road with.

Here are a few of the ways Certified Auto Specialists can help make sure the vehicle you drive is good to go!

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inflated and rotated to keep them and you going for miles.

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4. We check all your vehicle's filters because only a clean filter can perform properly to capture impurities.

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7. We inspect the brakes so you can stop when you need to!

8. We inspect the exhaust system to make sure it is working properly.

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Hometown Service You Can Count On!

Irwindale Chamber Recognizes Jan's Towing as it's Business of the Month

IRWINDALE - Jan's Towing is locally owned and operated by Jan Qualkenbush and has been in business for over 3 decades. After starting his towing career in 1979, Jan opened up his own shop in 1981 in Glendora where he was raised.

Jan has been with the chamber for 22 years. Through his work with the chamber and local business community, he was awarded our Business Person of the Year in 2012. His business has also received our Joe DiShanni Business of the Year award in 2004.

Still an active member of the chamber, Jan's Towing has sponsored our 41st Annual Golf Tournament (with his team winning place at the event) and our First Responders Appreciation BBQ. Their own David Bonilla is a Business Ambassador for the Chamber and is this year's Ambassador of the Year recipient.

Citrus College Receives Highest Level Of Accreditation Reaffirmation

GLENDDORA - After nearly two years of self-evaluation and preparation, Citrus College has received a vote of full confidence from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC).

During its Jan. 12-14, 2022, meeting, the commission acted to reaffirm Citrus College's accreditation for seven years, which is the best possible outcome an institution can receive. The decision was made following a review of the college's Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER), evidentiary materials and the Peer Team Report that was developed following a virtual site visit in October 2021.

"Reaffirmation is an outstanding accomplishment that was facilitated by the hard work and diligence of more than 80 members of the campus community who contributed to the self-evaluation process," said Dr. Greg Schulz, superintendent president of Citrus College. "It was also made possible by those who participated in the virtual site visit and are active in our ongoing planning and governance processes."

Superintendent/President Schulz continued, "This has been a collective effort, and we are very proud of these impressive results."

Citrus College is one of three institutions that are part of a pilot program for the ACCJC's new formative/summative method of accreditation. As part of this new method, the college's ISER was sent to the members of the visiting team prior to the virtual site visit. Comprised of peers from other community colleges, the visiting team developed lines of inquiry regarding any items needing further clarification. Citrus College then had the opportunity to address any of these lines of inquiry prior to the visit.

"You all boldly went where others had not yet gone, and we really appreciated that," Sunita "Sunny" Cooke, Ph.D., chair of the ACCJC visiting team, said during the virtual site visit in October. "The team was very impressed with the involvement of folks across the college in the planning and work of the college, as well as in the approach to accreditation. It was clear that this

was a very inclusive process, and that this is a very inclusive and collaborative campus."

In a letter sent to Citrus College on Jan. 27, the ACCJC listed no compliance requirements for the college. The commission also commended the college for the "diligent work and thoughtful reflection" it invested into the review process. According to the letter, Citrus College will not need to take any additional action until October 2025, at which time a midterm report will need to be submitted to the ACCJC.

"On behalf of the board of trustees, I extend my most sincere gratitude to all of the members of the college community who devoted time and energy into ensuring that Citrus College was prepared for this important moment," said Mary Ann Lutz, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "Because of these efforts, our students and surrounding communities can be assured that Citrus College's commitment to institutional effectiveness remains strong."

GLENDDORA WOMEN'S CLUB OPEN HOUSE

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

EVENTS and DISPLAYS

BINGO and prizes

Sunday, April 3, 2022 from 2:00-5:00 is OPEN HOUSE

GLENDDORA WOMEN'S CLUB

424 N. Glendora Avenue

Glendora, CA 91741

CELEBRATING our recent renovations to our historic building.

Beautiful, artful displays of the philanthropic programs the women's club promote in the community.

Displays of current club events and activities; garden and crafts, music and drama, library book donations, and a Potpourri Department holding annual Auctions and more.

Ice Cream Social with 2 scoop sundaes and multiple toppings.

Fun Bingo games with prizes.

BROWSE

EAT

PLAY

Everything for an all-inclusive fee of \$5.00

Around the Valley & Senior News

"TIME JOCKEY" - History of Horse Racing

Spanish California... Living in Southern California allows us to be close to one of the best, scenic and most historical horse racing tracks in the United States and the world. Beautifully located at the foot of San Gabriel Mountains, Santa Anita Race Track has been a part of the Southern California sports scene since the 1930's and today continues as a leader in California and West Coast thoroughbred racing. But the history of horse racing in California and the West goes far beyond Santa Anita Racetrack.



Joe Castillo

Back to the days of the great explorers and colonization of the North America continent, horses initially came to the New World. In 1629, the Swedes brought horses to Delaware, the Flemish to New York in 1660 and the French to Canada in 1665. Neither the Swedes, the people of Flanders or the French had a historical racing tradition but they all decided to bring horses to their new colonies in the new world. While the Eastern seaboard of the United States were welcoming breeding grounds for the Newmarket breeders and farmers of England, the Andalusia was establishing itself north of the Rio Grande. And with horse breeding, also came horse racing. T

he Spanish first brought the sturdy horse into Texas in 1665 but 10 years later lost their collection to the Indians. When Alonzo de Leon encountered In-

dians in 1687, the welcoming party were all on mounted horses. In the early 18th century, the French bought horses from local tribes as they moved into the territory which would later become known as the Louisiana Territory. The Indians "borrowed" horses from the Spanish but the Indians learned to be better horsemen than their predecessors. They watched the Spanish ride, then they stole horses from the Spanish and finally they repeated what the Spanish had done.

The Missions needed "vaqueros" to tend to their large collections of livestock and horses and trained Indians and Spaniards who were available and looking for work. The half-breed Comancheros picked up the trade of illicitly-acquired horses and in a short period of time became the best horsemen in the West. All the great hunting and fighting tribes of Texas, the Apache, Co-

manche, Cheyenne and Arapajo, became the great horseman of the Southwest but it was the Comanche who excelled in horse racing.

Competition of horse racing skills was initiated by the Comanche who made up contests to ride and capture live animals while hanging from a post or tree. It may sound simple enough but throw in other riders trying to do the same thing and everyone fighting off each other to gain the tied-up livestock, it was definitely a challenge. When the Spanish moved into California in the 1760's, the horse population became so large that they were allowed to roam free and eventually became a pest. The Spanish used them in bullfights, and created rodeos to show them off and eventually as California moved from Spanish, then to Mexican control, and finally American governance, horse racing grew as a show of game and livestock quality. The vastness of California and the western territories required a horse just to get around, and in the process the horse became a part of the California landscape, culture and life

.....
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.

Seen Or Heard Around Town And All Around

By Ed "Hondo" Torres

1. In Pasadena, reportedly, police are responding more quickly to calls from the community, whenever a *street person* is creating a disturbance or is being a nuisance — probably as a reaction to the young woman recently killed in Los Angeles... How many *cities* have become more responsive to such calls?

2. In Glendora, on city "park land" on the north side of Foothill Bl., a bit west of Valley Center Drive, a little oak tree is being thwarted by the *intruding* branches of a huge pine tree, turning the oak into a contorted, *humpbacked* shell of its full potential. *Come on*, tree trimming honchos who continually *trim* all over town — surely you have seen and *heard* the little majestic oak ... Have a heart and help the little one grow. How 'bout *cutting back* the pine branches. Anyone in Glendora care about oak trees?...

3. *Speaking about Glendora, a message* from the little "yield" sign on Glendora Avenue, at the parking lot entrance to THE VAULT cafe location: "Just had a *makeover* and still doing my job here guys, but some of you drivers keep hitting & running over me. Just doing my job — 'My head is [sometimes] bloodied, but unbowed. ... I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul'..." Heck ye-ah!

4. The police chief of Los Angeles is *appointed* — therefore, he can be more easily influenced by the politicians. The sheriff of Los Angeles County is *elected* by the voters of the County, so is more independent... Apparently, a large number of L. A. City Council members and L. A. County Supervisors, as well as the County District Attorney, prefer the *lax enforcement* of laws against law breakers — but the sheriff is resisting the pressure from the

politicians to be lax, as they are...

5. These folks supposedly want the County Sheriff out-of-office because he is resisting their efforts. Reportedly, some L.A. County and L.A. City politicians have encouraged various folks in the law enforcement field to run against the current County Sheriff — so that maybe, if a new sheriff is elected, she or he will be easier to control... *Shouldn't they* let the sheriff do his job, rather than trying to undermine him and seeking to have a *weak sheriff* elected, one they can control?...

6. Supporters of L. A. District Attorney Gascon suggest that Los Angeles County is safer now because they say fewer people have been convicted of crimes since he became the "D.A." — but what they fail to understand, is that Gascon is *turning lose* many who are legally arrested, so thus there are fewer people being convicted... *But-there-isn't-less-crime*... If "progressives" living in safe communities expand their horizons and see life as it truly is, they might sign petitions to recall the District Attorney.

7. In the field of education, there are some who have similar views as those held by the ones who suggest that if you do not prosecute criminals, there will be fewer criminals, and thus society will be safer... In *education*, there are a number of "progressives" who do *NOT fail* students, *tho' they deserve-to-be-failed* — so consequently,

more *unqualified students are PASSED* — and it is said that society will be better off... Seriously?!

8. Where have all the local handymen gone, including *Henry the Handyman* and *Otto the Odd Jobs Guy*? They used to live in most any area, and *got around pretty soon* to do the little jobs you *needed to get done*... Now you have to *contact a computer* in Silicon Valley, New York City or London, to schedule anyone to do your handyman work — and the "Fat Cats" get a fat chunk of your money, for doing none of the actual work... What-a-gig, for those fat Fat Cats!... Sorry for using the word *fat*...

9. Inquisitive minds continue wanting to know, can a fat dog run? Or do they waddle? Or, how do they get around?

10. In general, *dysphoria* is the opposite of *euphoria*, and refers to being *extremely unhappy*... Parents are dysphoric for different reasons, but nowadays, with the whirlwind of young people purportedly going through *gender identification issues* (?), parental dysphoria often arises because of their child's gender issues... Evidently, some parents are extremely depressed because, although they might totally doubt it and be angry that someone says their "kids" are *transitioning*, they keep quiet because they do not want to alienate anyone.

Comments/suggestions: honnod1@yahoo.com

The Monrovia Arcadia Duarte Town Council Addresses Suicide Prevention

By Joan Schmidt

In December 1992, deputies in the unincorporated MAD area were being shot at. Two community meetings were held; Temple Station Commander Bob Mirabella and Sarah Flores, Chief Field Deputy for Supervisor Antonovich attended, and it was suggested a "Town Council" be formed. In June 1993, seven members were voted in, including current members Dave Hall, Yvonne Bullock and Joan Schmidt. (Other current members include Terrence Williams, Michele Wright and Linda Sells.)

A Town Council is different than a city council. We are a non-profit. We cannot make laws. What can we do? After our election, Council Member Carolyn Ziegler spoke with Supervisor Antonovich. Now Monrovia Transit travels to our county area to transport residents to nearby medical offices. There are stop signs at Tyler/Daines, Arcadia, and California/Shrode, Duarte/Monrovia. We worked to keep Pamela Park, and the Live Oak and Duarte Libraries open. (We benefitted with a new gym, and state of the art library!)

We are the liaison between our residents and county agencies. We meet the third Wednesday of each month on Zoom at 7 PM. Sandra Croxton, Field Deputy for Supervisor Barger attends EVERY meeting. She gives an excellent report on Barger's activities and answers questions from at-

tendees. Whatever the issue, she will answer or refer them to the appropriate county agency.

Deputy Duke Sanders from Temple Station and CHP Officer Tony Chen attend. (The Sheriff's Department is responsible for crime in county areas, the CHP, traffic.) They give us stats for the month and information about staying safe and preventing crime. Denise Dilley, Live Oak Library and Joanna Gee from Duarte Library share programs and events at their respective library.

Often there is a guest speaker. Before the last School Board Elections, we invited the candidates from Monrovia Unified School District one month, and Duarte Unified School District the next month.

Residents asked about the Santa Anita Village on Live Oak Ave. Brookfield Residential, builders for the site gave an excellent presentation and answered questions. They came a second time and had heeded residents' concerns, making changes.

Other speakers have come from Public Works, Animal Control; there even was an informative presentation on cannabis from the Arcadia PD.

This month's meeting is Wednesday, **February 16** at 7pm. There will be two speakers addressing Suicide Prevention - Ulises Gutierrez, CEO at Inspire and Megan Lungren, a therapist, from Relationships for Better:

Therapy for Individuals, Couple +Families. They have done presentations on suicide prevention for all ages and dealing with grief. Please tune us in on ZOOM: shorturl.at/qBKMx MEETING ID #597 919 4473 PASSCODE: 2rDsUi

ACROSS

1. Outback birds
5. Pilgrimage to Mecca
8. Well, to Sofia Loren
12. Impose a tax
13. No way!
14. Malicious burning
15. ___ over
16. Radiant light
17. Ran easily
18. *"The King of Staten Island" star Pete
20. Goyim, alt. sp.
21. Mork from Ork, e.g.
22. Common furniture wood
23. "Der Ring des Nibelungen" composer
26. Petroleum product (2 words)

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD - THEME: KINGS AND QUEENS

30. Shakespearean fuss
31. Loan shark
34. Village People hit
35. City in France
37. Street, in Paris
38. Show in progress (2 words)
39. Tiny purse
40. Was almost out of gas, e.g. (2 words)
42. *First H in HRH
43. Type of bag
45. Unguarded
47. Brick and mortar carrier
48. Resize a dress, e.g.
50. "For ___ the Bell Tolls"
52. *Netflix royal drama (2 words)
55. Bridal veil fabric

56. One who hoes
57. Not far
59. Orderly arrangement
60. Drunkard, slangily
61. Stare
62. Country club pegs
63. Drivers' licenses, e.g.
64. *2019 movie "Queen & ___"

DOWN

1. Not Moose or Shriner
2. Fitting reward
3. Iris holder
4. Forest spirit
5. Gingerbread sculpture
6. Kitchen garb
7. *Billie ___ King
8. *Queens neighbor
9. ESPN trophy
10. Denials
11. December 31st, e.g.
13. Lowest points
14. Plural of alga
19. Intestinal obstruction
22. Opposite of their
23. *Prince Charles' domain
24. Temples' innermost sanctuaries

25. Not stay in (2 words)
26. Perceive by touch
27. *The NBA's Kansas City-___ Kings (1972-75)
28. More unfriendly
29. *Late "Live" King of CNN
32. Russia's mountain range
33. Seek a seat
36. *The last "king" of Russia
38. Proprietor
40. *The ___ Queen, regal chess character in "Through the Looking Glass"
41. Public disapproval
44. Cozy and comfortable
46. Two of these do not make a right
48. Near the wind
49. Potato soup partner, pl.
50. "She ___ a Yellow Ribbon"
51. Add to payroll
52. Native of Thailand
53. Lash mark
54. Member of National Socialist German Workers' Party
55. Giant pot
58. "Shiny Happy People" band sanctuaries

CROSSWORD

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February 3, 2022 Puzzle Solution

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