



San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

Mar 31 - Apr 6, 2022

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Glendora Mayor Karen Davis Delivers the State Of The City Address

By Marsha Edwards Mason

GLENDORA - The Glendora Country Club was the venue for the 2022 State of the City event hosted by the Glendora Chamber of Commerce. The movers and shakers in town were in attendance to listen to Glendora's four-time Mayor, Karen Davis.

Mayor Davis opened the address with an appropriate quote from the Greek philosopher Heraclitus, "There is nothing permanent except change."

Glendora is moving forward, adapting to change and improvements, being part of the community fabric to live, work and play. "We stay the same but continue to improve," like remodeling a room in a house to improve it. The parklets uptown have made outdoor dining pleasant for the restaurants and the diners. Meda Avenue is planned to have additional seating, lighting and shade coverings for the convenience of meeting places and doing more things.

Part of the Urban Trails plan completed is Pompei Park. Improvements include paved trails, biking, and hiking trail safety. Improvements will be made at Gladstone Park. Finkbiners Park by the tennis courts are scheduled to have new bathrooms.



Glendora Mayor Karen Davis at the Glendora Country Club on March 24, 2022.

The police department look for innovative ways to assist in crime prevention. There are new cameras around town that help with crime stopping. Mayor Davis named several examples of recent thwarted crimes, but the one that got applause was the catalytic converter thief caught on camera and arrested.

Glendora makes other cities jealous with Athens trash service. Good service and good pick up

unlike other sanitation services in other towns.

Glendora was awarded \$1,800,000.00 in grant funding for businesses and non-profits. Sixty-nine applications have been approved for the allotment of this grant funding.

The future is not "If" but "When" for more affordable housing. Glendora is diversifying its housing market to include

more senior housing and affordable housing.

Measure E in 2019 gave Glendora money for 2020, 2021 and 2022. The Capital Improvement Project provides for 26% improvement for streets and 37% for water pipes.

Gold Line construction is moving along and is on schedule to be completed in 2025. Con-

struction may even be completed a little ahead of schedule. Residents are putting up with the temporary dust and inconvenience knowing these interruptions will produce great changes. Being able to ride into Pasadena for a meal and drinks will prevent drinkers from driving if they choose wisely. Mayor Davis got a laugh from her audience when she said, "If residents don't want to ride the Gold Line, they can be happy that those that do ride are off the roads."

The new Gold Line bridges on Lone Hill and Grand Avenue will prevent traffic stopping and slowing to wait for trains to pass. The Gold Line artists working on the bridges are making them appealing to the eye. The community is keeping watchful interest on the changes and improvements.

Mayor Davis ended her informative address by stating the hope for the community continues to be inclusive and vibrant with many upcoming community events. Interested individuals can find unlimited sources of updated and historic cultural and diversified information on the city's website and the Glendora Library.

Photo courtesy of the Glendora Chamber of Commerce.

Bonita Unified Teachers Receive Mini-Grants from La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation

SAN DIMAS/LA VERNE - Twenty-five Bonita Unified School District teachers were awarded mini-grants from the La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation, providing financial support for educators who aim to augment classroom experiences for their students.

The mini-grants, totaling \$9,483.81, were presented to this year's winners during Bonita Unified's Board of Education meeting on March 2.

"The La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation is very proud to continue our charity work within Bonita Unified," La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation President Anthony Porter said. "With these teacher mini-grants, we will continue to fulfill our mission of empowering our communities as well as support and celebrate student success."

Bonita Unified teachers have already used the grant money to fund projects such as library expansions and providing more mental health and wellness resources in their classrooms.

"Our teachers are an integral part to Bonita Unified's suc-



The Bonita Unified School District Board of Education recognized Bonita Unified teachers who received mini-grants from the La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation.

and teacher achievement inside and outside of the classroom, including the provision of teacher mini-grants. "Thank you to the La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation for your longstanding commitment to support the well-being of our students and teachers at Bonita Unified," Bonita Unified Board of Education President Derek Bahmanou said. "We look forward to many more years of partnership and support in transforming the lives of Bonita Unified students."

Since 1983, the La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation has been committed to enriching and enhancing educational opportunities for Bonita Unified students and teachers. The Foundation's primary function is to recognize and reward student

Historic Woman's Clubhouse Renovation



Music and Drama Department discuss clubhouse renovations and the Open House while dining at the Derby restaurant in Arcadia. L to R are Carolyn Cunningham, Susan Lepkojus, Angela Rines, Virginia Bordey, Mona Soza, Joanne Jean, Loretta Salazar, Kathleen Lee.

By Marsha Edwards Mason

GLENDORA - During the recent windstorm and rains, The Glendora Woman's Clubhouse at 424 N. Glendora Avenue in Glendora suffered extensive damage to the roof. The building was originally built in 1912 and renovated in 1955. The 30-year-old roof could not withstand the heavy wind and rain a few months ago and several bad leaks caused water damage to the inside. The ladies gathered with buckets, mops, and brut determination to keep the historic clubhouse dry. Working together and with the good leadership of the club President, Chris Ohrmund, arrangements were made, and funds were gathered to repair and renovate the long-standing clubhouse.

Arrangements were made for the completion of a new roof, and repairs inside to the ceiling. New paint, light fixtures and curtains are breathing new life in the building. The ladies are meeting tirelessly to restore their clubhouse and make their predecessors proud that this piece of Glendora history is maintained in good order.

To celebrate the completion of the major renovations, The Glendora Woman's Club is having an open house Sunday, April 3rd, 2022, from 2:00 to 5:00. The public is invited to the Open

House which will include an ice cream social, 2 scoops with toppings, and bingo with prizes. The Clubhouse will display many of the club's achievements and departments, such as Garden and Crafts, Music and Drama, Potpourri with their tours, civic achievements, history, and philanthropic goals. All of this is offered for an all-inclusive fee of \$5.00. Displays, ice cream, bingo, and prizes.

Save the date, Sunday April 3rd. Look for flyers around town. For further information contact 626 622-6111.

Santa Anita Spring Carnival Set For April 2-17

ARCADIA - With world-class racing, highlighted by the Grade I, \$750,000 Runhappy Santa Anita Derby centerstage on April 9, Santa Anita's annual Spring Carnival, which will include a Winner's Circle BBQ Championship (April 2 & 3), a Ferris Wheel, Zipper, Train Ride, Easter Egg Hunt (April 17) and much more, will be available to fans from April 2 through April 17.

Fans are encouraged to visit santaanita.com/events and take advantage of big savings on a number of items, including In-field admission, Unlimited Ride

Wristbands and much more. **SANTA ANITA SPRING CARNIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & OFFERINGS**

-Carnival to be operational on all weekends April 2-17

-Winner's Circle BBQ Championship on April 2 & 3

-Grade I, \$750,000 Runhappy Santa Anita Derby April 9

-The San Gabriel Valley's largest Easter Egg Hunt on April 17

-Infield Rides & Offerings to include Ferris Wheel, Zipper, Yo-Yo, Tilt A Whirl, Super Slide, Red Baron, Tea



Event To Include Winner's Circle BBQ, Ferris Wheel, Zipper, Yo-Yo & More

Cups, Train Ride, Inflatable Bouncers & more!

-Carnival Games and Snacks

For additional information on Santa Anita's 2022 Spring Carnival, visit santaanita.com or call (626) 574-RACE.

Child Molestation Suspect Arrested in West Covina

By George Ogden / WCPD

WEST COVINA - On March 24, the West Covina Police detectives, along with the U.S. Marshals Service Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force - Team 2, arrested an individual in a child molestation investigation. The suspect, Benjamin Gutierrez, a 57-year-old resident of West Covina, was arrested and booked for 288(a) PC (lewd acts on a child under the age of 14 years old) with a bail amount of \$300,000. He is out on bond waiting court appearances.

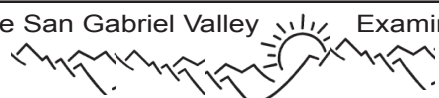
Believing there may be additional victims, the West Covina Police Department is asking for assistance from the public. Anyone with information that may assist in the investigation is asked



The child molestation suspect, Benjamin Gutierrez, 57 of West Covina.

to contact Detective Pruitt at (626) 939-8522. The suspect is also known to have previously resided in the City of Los Angeles.

Gutierrez doesn't show any recent arrests in L.A. County; however, it is not to say that there may be in other areas or counties.



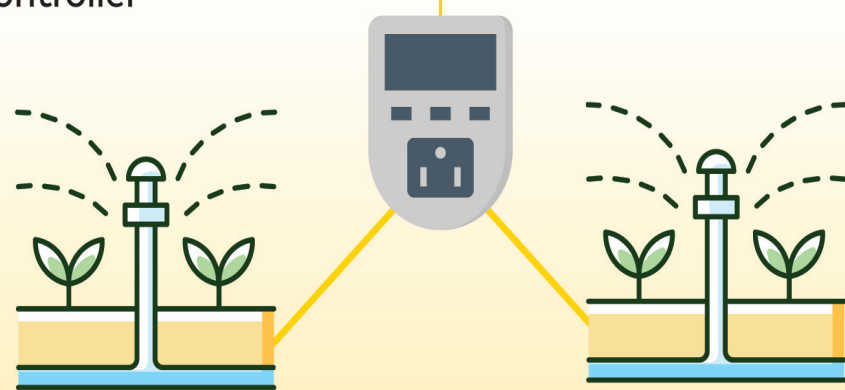
Save Water and Save Money

New Outdoor Irrigation Water Conservation Program starts **January 1, 2022.**

FREE irrigation inspection, irrigation controller and spray nozzles! **Apply Today!**

In response to the drought and declining local water supplies, the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District is offering a **FREE Landscape Survey and Smart Controller Installation** to qualifying residential customers to help water their landscape more efficiently and save money on their water bill.

PROGRAM FEATURES	ELIGIBILITY	VALUE	HOW TO APPLY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irrigation system inspection Replacement of existing irrigation controller Controller programming and training customized for your home Sprinkler nozzle retrofit/replacement on existing spray heads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential water customers in Alhambra, Monterey Park, Azusa and Sierra Madre Must have a working irrigation system with a controller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to \$1,000 in equipment and service (one controller per customer) Save water and save money! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Come First Serve: Time and funding are limited Contact the District's partner, EcoTech Services, at 866-308-8391 or ecotechservices.net



Saving Water...it's a good thing

For further information, contact the District at (626) 969-7911 or by email (info@sgvmwd.com).



Where **healthy** comes from

When it Comes to Stroke, Every Second Counts.

Stroke patients who receive treatment quickly achieve better outcomes and faster recovery. Queen of the Valley Hospital is now a designated Comprehensive Stroke Center, where our medical experts treat even the most complex stroke cases. Learn more about our state-of-the-art technology and award-winning stroke care team here: emanatehealth.org/stroke



Senator Portantino's Bill to Curb Noise Pollution Passes Senate Transportation Committee

SACRAMENTO - Senate Bill 1079, a measure introduced by State Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D - La Cañada Flintridge) to allow cities to monitor noise pollution by using sound activated devices, passed the Senate Transportation Committee. Streets for All, a nonprofit organization that advocates for street safety, is a sponsor of the measure.

"Although there are regulations in place for vehicles that contribute to harmful noise pollution, there is no universal procedure to monitor and enforce these restrictions," stated Senator Portantino. "The lack of enforcement allows people with loud exhaust systems to continue to harm the health and wellbeing of those around them. SB 1079 is an effective way to reduce noise and pollution and improve quality of life in our communities."

Noise pollution is an unwanted or disturbing sound that causes adverse reactions for humans and other living creatures. Loud noises in the street can disrupt walking or cycling, but also can cause hearing loss and pose dangers to physical and cognitive health. Exposure to loud sounds has been shown to raise levels of stress hormones, including cortisol, adrenaline, and noradrenaline. Chronically high levels of these hormones can impact heart disease, hypertension, stroke, immune responses, and cognitive functioning.

"For years illegally loud exhausts — especially prominent in street racing — have plagued our cities and disrupted the peace," said Michael Schneider, Founder of Streets

For All. "This important bill will allow cities to enforce the law without armed police enforcement."

Specifically, SB 1079 would authorize six local jurisdictions to use sound-activated enforcement devices to capture vehicle noise levels that exceed legal limits. Under California Vehicle Code, exhaust noise is limited to 95 decibels (dba) for vehicles and 80 dbA for motorcycles. However, vehicle owners can install new exhaust systems or make other vehicle modifications that change the level of sound produced by their vehicle. These illegal modifications are accessible and easily installed at any in-home garage, resulting in much louder noise disruptions than would be allowed by law.

Baldwin Park City Council Approves Strict Campaign Finance Law

Maximum Allowable Contribution Lowered by 84%

BALDWIN PARK - The Baldwin Park City Council this month unanimously approved a strengthened campaign finance ordinance, placing greater limits on financial contributions to candidates for Baldwin Park City Council, City Clerk, City Treasurer and Mayor. The Council's vote lowers the maximum allowable contribution to \$750 per candidate per election cycle, an 84% decrease from the former contribution limit of \$4,900 per candidate per election cycle.

In lieu of a local campaign finance ordinance, the State of California, via Assembly Bill 571, applies the state contribution limit to candidates for city and county office. The City's new rules will take effect April 1, 2022 and will apply to the 2022 election and all future elections.

"The City Council's goal in creating a Baldwin Park-specific campaign finance ordinance is to create a level playing field for candidates seeking an elected seat in city government. By lowering barriers to local public service, we expand opportunity for all residents who want to serve their community," said Mayor Emmanuel J. Estrada. "Additionally, this ordinance makes it clear that our community values transparency and accountability. It is my hope

that strict campaign finance rules and required disclosure of campaign donations will further enhance the trust Baldwin Park residents have in their local government."

The ordinance, adopted at the City Council's regular meeting on March 2, 2022, restricts campaign contributions from applicants with pending or recently approved entitlements for a project, as well as city contractors with pending, recently approved or active contracts with the City. It also restricts when contributions can be solicited to October the year before an election through February of the year following an election.

Starting on January 1, 2023, the maximum allowable contribution will automatically be adjusted every two years to reflect the California Consumer Price Index. The ordinance will be enforced by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) and anyone who knowingly and willingly violates the ordinance will be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Baldwin Park joins 179 other California cities who have also adopted stricter campaign finance limits, including neighboring cities in the region, such as Alhambra, El Monte, Long Beach, Los Angeles and many others.

Homebound Vaccination Program Helps Reach Vulnerable Individuals At Elevated Risk of COVID-19 Infection

With a more contagious COVID-19 subvariant increasingly circulating in Los Angeles County, expanding vaccination services to homebound residents is even more critical to ensure the County's most vulnerable residents are protected. The County Department of Public Health (Public Health) is expanding its mobile vaccine outreach to assist residents who are unable to travel to a clinic or pharmacy.

Alongside the Public Health Mobile Vaccine Team, Public Health currently partners with six external mobile providers to reach homebound residents. Getting all eligible residents vaccinated, especially residents at elevated risk who are not able to travel to a vaccine site, is essential to preventing severe illness or death, as the vaccines provide the best protection from COVID-19. Unvaccinated residents are about 4 times more likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19 when compared to those who are fully

vaccinated, but not boosted. When adding a booster dose, protection increased such that those who were vaccinated and boosted were 5 times less likely to be hospitalized than people who were unvaccinated.

Since March of last year, approximately 9,960 residents considered homebound were vaccinated in L.A. County. The number of residents in Los Angeles County who are homebound and unable to access vaccination services outside the home is estimated to be between 10,000-15,000. This estimate is based on an examination of medical claims data by several public and private health care plans in the county that was requested by Public Health.

For the week ending March 5, 2022, 102 homebound referrals were received by the Homebound Project. Of these, nearly 90% were vaccinated within two weeks and nearly 80% lived in under-resourced communities.

An additional 231 residents who were unable to travel to vaccination sites were also served by other providers for the same week ending March 5. Of these, more than 60% resided in under-resourced communities.

Also, this week, Public Health began contacting more than 1,000 social service agencies that work with seniors or the homebound and provided them with information on how to request homebound services for their clients and if they needed a mobile vaccine team. These efforts will continue for the next few weeks.

For assistance on homebound services, the Public Health Vaccine Call Center is available at (833) 540-0473 between the hours of 8 AM and 8:30 PM seven days a week for information on COVID-19 vaccines. Residents can also visit the "How to Get Vaccinated" section at VaccinateLACounty.com for more information.

County Recorder to Remove Discriminatory or Restrictive Covenant Language from Archived Public Records

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) Dean C. Logan announced the recent passing of Assembly Bill 1466 (AB 1466) which aims to remove any discriminatory or restrictive covenant language on archived public records.

Current law prohibits public documents to be recorded with discriminatory or restrictive covenant language based on age, race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression,

sexual orientation, familial status, marital status, disability, veteran or military status, genetic information, or national origin.

AB 1466 expands the current law and will require the RR/CC to identify and redact discriminatory and restrictive covenant language from archived public records, updating the current law.

"Our services and programs must reflect our county's ideals and philosophies on race and equity. This legislation aligns with our direction to adopt antiracist

practices, and design programs that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion," said Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean Logan.

In alignment with AB 1466, the RR/CC is developing an action plan to implement a program to search, identify, redact, and re-record any historical records with discriminatory or restrictive language. The plan will be developed and provided to the public by July 1, 2022.

Napolitano, Katko, Cárdenas & Stewart Launch Bipartisan 988 & Crisis Services Task Force

WASHINGTON, DC - Reps. Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA-32), John Katko (R-NY-24), Tony Cárdenas (D-CA-29), and Chris Stewart (R-UT-02) announced the formation of a new Bipartisan House 988 & Crisis Services Task Force, which will be housed under the Congressional Mental Health Caucus, to ensure effective implementation of the new 9-8-8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and corresponding infrastructure, to provide crisis care services nationwide.

"Our communities, local mental health providers, and many states have already begun preparing for 988, and Congress must continue to partner in this critical effort," Napolitano said. "As the founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Mental Health Caucus, I am very pleased to announce this new task force and I commend Congressmen Cárde-

nas and Stewart for their willingness to lead it, to ensure effective implementation of 988. We can and must all continue to raise awareness of 988, further reduce stigma, and let anyone in crisis know that is always okay to ask for help."

"As Co-Chair of the bipartisan Mental Health Caucus, I am proud to join my colleagues in unveiling the Bipartisan House 9-8-8 & Crisis Services Task Force," said Rep. Katko. "As the roll out of 9-8-8 begins, we have heard from communities that are concerned they will not have the ability to meet the surging demand for crisis support. This task force will work to effectively implement the new 9-8-8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and ensure crucial services are available to those in need. 9-8-8 will save lives, and together, this task force will ensure every person in

a mental health crisis is able to dial just three numbers to get the help they need."

"I couldn't be prouder to co-chair this bipartisan caucus and elevate the conversation around suicide prevention," said Rep. Stewart. "My 988-designation bill was a positive step in the right direction, but our work is just beginning. This is an issue that hits home for everyone - suicide is a top ten cause of death nationwide, as well as in my home state. It's well past time that Americans struggling with mental health challenges get the help they need, and this bipartisan caucus will work tirelessly to do exactly that."

In 2020, the United States Congress unanimously passed the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act, designating 9-8-8 as a universal telephone number for the purpose of suicide prevention, mental health, and substance use crisis assistance. 988 is set to go live as a 24-7, nationwide emergency hotline in July 2022, and it is critical that all states are equipped to implement these lifesaving interventions.

The 988 & Crisis Services Task Force serves as a bipartisan forum for Members of Congress and their staff to work together to effectively implement 988 and the infrastructure to provide crisis care services nationwide, so that every person in crisis, and their family, receives a humane response that treats them with dignity and connects them to appropriate and timely care. To meet these goals, the task force also serves to educate colleagues on the impact of effective crisis services in increasing access to care, improving health outcomes, achieving cost-savings, and reducing unnecessary burden on law enforcement.

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- We also believe in accuracy in fact and context. Journalists should be accountable for any news or subjects they write about.
- We believe in growth. Therefore, complaints or mistakes erroneously committed will be entertained and investigated diligently and corrected accordingly.
- We believe in performing our journalistic work to the best of our ability and will continue to present the facts clearly and fairly.

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COVID Isn't Over for You

Even if you have had COVID, and some restrictions in your area have been lifted at least temporarily, life is definitely not normal, especially in medicine. We live under an increasingly authoritarian regime, which falsely claims to "follow the science," but is really based on fear.

Warning: Much of what follows is "anecdotal," scorned by the "evidence-based medicine" establishment. We can no longer believe our eyes and ears. Of course, a single or a few observations must be replicated before we change medical practice or societal policy—unless they support a politically correct objective. But what to do in the meantime? Wait for a study that will probably never be done because the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will not fund it?

Or at least listen to our patients and their associates?

For COVID, the dogma is that repurposed old drugs are dangerous and don't work, that vaccines are all "safe and effective," and that measures never shown capable of containing an already widespread respiratory virus must be followed under pain of professional death (delicensure).

The "anecdotal" reports that come to our office, from patients all over the country who are resourceful enough to locate us, are highly disturbing.

"I'm sick, but my doctor won't see me because I might have COVID." Or maybe the doctor is no longer there. Or maybe the front desk says at the outset that the practice does not allow prescriptions for nonapproved drugs.

- "My doctor won't see me or treat me unless I get jabbed."

- "My spouse (or child or friend) is in the hospital and I am not allowed to visit."

- "My loved one is dying, but the hospital refuses to try anything not on their protocol even though it isn't working or may (like remdesivir) be causing harm."

- "I don't want the vaccine, but I can't work, or travel, or go to my child's wedding unless I get it."

- "I'm sick after getting the vaccine, but my doctor says it's all in my head."

The changes in medicine—that preceded COVID but were worsened by it—are not over. If government or an insurer is paying the bill, that entity is in charge. If the



Jane M. Orient, M.D.

hospital takes money from government, the system is in charge and must comply. Who would have expected that a legislature would need to pass a law, as proposed in Arizona, to force hospitals to allow both parents to visit their dying child?

But what can be done for individual patients? The hundreds of thousands of reports in the Pfizer vaccine documents and the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) are all "anecdotes," and we are told that "the plural of anecdotes is not evidence."

Nevertheless, I will recount a few anecdotes I have heard from trusted people: my patients or other physicians. I am not and cannot be your doctor; I can only suggest that you ask your doctor, and if the practice discourages ordering "unnecessary" lab tests, search on line for labs that may permit you to order them yourself.

Whether it is COVID, long-haul COVID, or COVID vaccines, check the thyroid. I was astonished to learn that patients can suddenly develop hyperthyroidism OR hypothyroidism, which can be very severe and may cause profound mental symptoms. One thyroid specialist says she sees several cases of vaccine-induced thyroiditis a month.

In response to concern about vaccine-induced myocarditis, vaccine advocates say that you can get that from COVID too. Isn't that interesting! What if the spike protein on the virus, and which the vaccine causes your own body to make, is the culprit? Diagnosis and treatment would be the same. Why not test for troponin levels and C-reactive protein (CRP) or other inflammatory markers?

Blood clots are one of the most important causes of death

from COVID. Many vaccine-related complaints can come from clotting, perhaps microscopic clots affecting many organs. Why not check for D-dimers, a sign of an activated clotting system?

In just one week, a specialist physician says that patients reported four cases of shingles, two cases of new-onset multiple sclerosis (MS), one of Graves disease, three of thyroiditis, two of Guillain Barre, three deaths from heart attacks, and two strokes in association with the vaccine, in themselves, a friend, a coworker, or employee. She is aware of four miscarriages in women who were forced to get the vaccine or be denied care, one stillbirth at 37 weeks in a patient who had been vaccinated 2 weeks earlier, and a 42 year-old woman now blind in her right eye because of an arterial blood clot.

I have spoken to one patient who is dealing with a reactivation of Epstein-Barr virus, herpes, and cytomegalovirus (CMV) post vaccine. It is speculated that the vaccine may weaken the immune system.

Remember, these are just anecdotes. But if any are vaccine-related, we'll be seeing many more as the vaccine and booster frenzy continues.

The devaluation of patients and of all citizens' rights is unfortunately not just anecdotal.

Jane M. Orient, M.D. obtained her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and her M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1974. She completed an internal medicine residency at Parkland Memorial Hospital and University of Arizona Affiliated Hospitals and then became an Instructor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and a staff physician at the Tucson Veterans Administration Hospital. More than 100 of her papers have been published in the scientific and popular literature on a variety of subjects including risk assessment, natural and technological hazards and nonhazards, and medical economics and ethics. She is the editor of AAPS News, the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness Newsletter, and Civil Defense Perspectives, and is the managing editor of the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons.

The Growing Need for Community Gardens

California produces nearly half our nation's fruits and vegetables. Nevertheless, nearly 1 in 5 (roughly 8 million) Californians grapple with food insecurity, according to the California Association of Food Banks. A 2021 study by Public Exchange at the University of Southern California found that a large share of the state's food insecure, almost 1 million households, reside in Los Angeles County.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 recognized the right to food as part of the right to an adequate standard of living. Food must be available, accessible, and adequate. When people face food insecurity, they lack access to the affordable nutrition they need for an active and healthy lifestyle. The consequences are detrimental and wide-ranging: Early child development problems, diminished school performance and work productivity, as well as chronic physical and mental health conditions.

Coordinated, long-term efforts by state and local governments are ultimately needed to fully combat the roots of hunger and insufficient access to food. However, emerging local movements for community gardens can offer more direct and immediate relief from the blight of food insecurity. More than simply supplying food, these movements often promote greater social and environmental justice.

Community-grown food has been shown to improve food security, particularly in low-income communities. In 2016, University of California and Santa Clara University researchers surveyed 85 community gardeners in San Jose and found that, by growing their own food, they saved \$84 dollars a month.

In addition to health and financial benefits, community gardens can play an important social role.

I recently visited one such garden in Broderick, California.



Farrah Hassen

Founded in 2018 by farmer Alfred Melbourne, Three Sisters Gardens is a nonprofit committed to empowering youth through gardening. It teaches at-risk youth how to grow and distribute organic vegetables with a core focus on community involvement.

On a cold Saturday morning, I joined a number of families at Three Sisters to learn canning techniques for food preservation and the ins-and-outs of composting. I marveled at the rows of well-tended crops. The combination of corns, beans, and squash is by design, as the name "Three Sisters" was inspired by this trio of companion crops long cultivated by Indigenous peoples. The beans fertilize the soil, while the squash's vines prevent weeds and keep the soil moist. The corn stalks provide support for the beans as they reach for the sun. Melbourne seeks to build this harmony within Broderick.

This is personal for him as a Hunkpapa Lakota and member of the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes. So, too, is his mission of keeping youth away from the criminal justice system through farming to foster a deeper relationship with the land they live on. Melbourne served 18 years for gun and assault charges, but farming offered him a new start. The gardens were his response to the food deserts he experienced in Broderick, where access to affordable and nutri-

tious food is limited. They began on one donated plot and now span four farms in the West Sacramento area. Around 40 to 60 percent of crops grown are donated to local food programs and homes.

Three Sisters Gardens is a model worth propagating throughout our state, particularly given ongoing supply chain disruptions and escalating food costs. Moreover, climate change will demand new approaches. The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which I discussed in my last column, has warned that global warming will cause severe impacts on food production and access in the future.

Some Native American communities are already experiencing this firsthand. For instance, on Cherokee Nation lands in the northeastern part of Oklahoma, shifting precipitation and temperature patterns threaten the tribe's ability to grow plants that serve as both a food source and a central part of their cultural heritage.

Growing your own food and knowing its origin is an empowering experience. Community gardens like Three Sisters remind us that we can take action locally on major issues such as food insecurity and climate change without having to wait on global leaders.

However, these gardens can be tenuous in the face of threats to land tenure from gentrification and land conversions for development. To ensure their sustained growth and positive impacts for generations to come, they must be incorporated into long-term urban planning.

It will be worth getting our hands dirty.

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

If I Were Governor Of California...

by Joe Gardner

Like many Californians, I am fed-up, and disgusted with our so-called political "leaders" in California. Our state is in critical need of change. We have and out-of-control homeless problem, rampant and blatant crime, theft and waste of our tax dollars and middle-Americans cannot access opportunities for home ownership or prosperity. The cost for everything is going up with no end in sight.

These so-called "leaders" have allowed or have totally ignored the problems facing our citizens for years, if not decades. Solutions for positive change rest at their feet but they refuse to act. So therefore, I would immediately do the following if I were governor.

Declare a temporary state emergency regarding homelessness.

I would immediately activate all state resources to build FEMA-style emergency shelters

across all impacted regions of California. Those resources would include the National Guard, Army Corps of Engineers, state medical and psychiatric treatment agencies, logistical experts to support, feed and clothe all invited to shelter.

Separately, I would immediately rescind all state-wide "ZERO BAIL" policies and establish temporary courts to process those with pending criminal cases. I would recall all retired judges and court personnel to operate 16 hours a day, five days a week until court backlogs and warrants are up to date. I would mandate all convicted arrestees serve their sentences and accept as necessary, rehabilitation and treatment as conditions of probation.

I would mandate construction of temporary detention facilities on empty plots of land for all low-grade misdemeanor inmates, clearing out County Jails so more serious offenders would be housed in those jails. All inmates would be required to go through assessments to determine needs for substance rehabilitation, and mental health treatment. Every single inmate must have an exit plan from custody before release, whether it is family unification, educational accreditation, or extended non-custodian care. Any and all worthy and successful non-profits would be allowed to help transition inmates to ex-

tended care.

I would mandate all local law enforcement make available, with state compensation their jails and personnel to apprehend, book and process all arrestees, to include post-adjudicated incarceration. As governor, I would order all law enforcement officers to bring all violations of the law to the attention of the courts through criminal filings. I would encourage all police chiefs to recall retired police officers to support uniformed street police until crime is under control.

I would order the State Legislature to go into emergency session to address issues of mental health treatment, and substance abuse rehabilitation, passing laws to fund facilities and implement regulations to force mandated treatment for those suffering from severe mental illness.

I would also direct the Legislature to do all within their power to repeal AB 109, Proposition 47 and 57 to assure all criminals are held accountable and responsible for their offenses.

I would direct the Legislature to impose a moratorium on all legislation until harmful regulations that affect commerce, employment and waste are corrected so jobs, dreams of home ownership for average citizens and prosperity would be restored to the Golden State.

I know it sounds far-fetched, but something must be done...

Why Do We Have to Be Responsible for the Transients and Homeless?

Do you ever find yourself asking, why do we have to be the ones to pay for taking care of the transients and the homeless that are around us? In my opinion, it is the responsibility of their families to take care of these individuals. Granted, some of these people did end up in hard times. However, most of these other individuals that are running around being crazy and hurting other people from everything such as stealing, trespassing, injuring and even killing other people are out there. We did not cause these conditions on these people. A very high percentage of these people are like this because of their parents. Most likely they were on drugs during the time that they were conceived and most likely ended up with some type of brain damage or addicted to drugs when they were born.

Family history can play a big part. If the family history shows a high-volume of alcohol and drug abuse, you can bet it will bleed down through the family. If the grandparents or great-grandparents were drug addicts back in the day, you can bet there will be mental issues in the future generations. This can cause biological factors such as chemical imbalances in the brain in their offspring.

Exposure to toxic chemicals (drugs) while pregnant such as alcohol or recreational drugs produce people (babies) that have mental issues and sometimes physical issues or maybe both. The parents of these people were irresponsible at the time of conception. As their kids get older, they simply let them go off and don't care for them and expect our government and our tax money to do this for them. It is not our responsibility, it is theirs. They should be held liable for what their kids do even as adults.



George Ogden
That's just the way it is!

Let us not dismiss the fact that we have legitimate issues out there that can cause people to be the way they are. We can have brain injuries that can cause people to do things that normal people would not do.

Let's be real, we have had some hard times and they have directly affected some good people and their families. Unfortunately, they get caught up in the stigma of being undesirable in the neighborhood. These people just need a chance to get back on their feet again. Most likely they are in this position because of our government and what they've done. These people do need our help.

The parents and the families of these people that are out there in unacceptable mental state and their action, should be the ones to take care of these people both financially and medically. We the people should not be responsible for what they did and what they have caused.

I had some friends that were druggies through high school and college. They often appeared as though they were high on drugs. They certainly smoked their weed without question. I found out they had some bad experiences with LSD as well. They did all kinds of drugs in the early days. She got pregnant and had a baby and they got married after the baby was born and had two more kids. All three

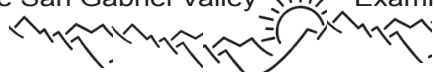
of the kids were problematic and I would classify them as "whack jobs". Their daughter was kind of freaky and I didn't care for. Their second daughter ended up in the streets and was eventually found dead. Their boy was just as crazy. In fact, he was much worse.

One early morning when the mother and daughter were not home, the adult son went into the kitchen and got a huge butcher knife and came back out into the living room where his father was watching the news and he simply started stabbing him to death. His son was a rather large man so it was hard for the father to defend himself. Afterwards, son went into the kitchen and called the Sheriff's Department and when the two girls came back home, they found the street blocked off. They saw the son in handcuffs and found out that he had killed his father. He was found guilty of his crimes and put in prison. What is interesting, he tried to kill his sister the week before. He came up behind her with a knife and tried to cut her throat. He was arrested and was considered a 5150 WIC which is the Welfare Institute Code and held for 72 hours. They cut him loose the very next day only to follow up by killing his father a week later. This is how the system works.

This is an example of what is going on. Even after the parents gave up drugs a long time ago, it came back to haunt them. They both considered themselves alcoholics because they drank a lot but they did it socially. The husband and wife would go to bars and enjoy the evening.

Now with the generations of what they did in the past will come back to haunt all of us in the future and we will have to pay for it in some way or another.

"That's Just the Way It Is!"



The Mother Of All Supply Shocks

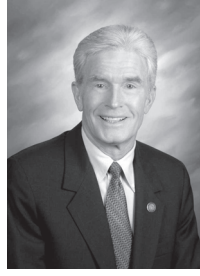
Russia generates 11% of global oil and gas production and likely began considering the economic implications of sanctions and interruptions to energy supplies months ago. There is no question oil prices will continue to rise enough to bring us peak inflation during this cycle. Unless Biden's restrictions on American energy production and delivery go away soon, how high and how long will energy price increases run? What are the negative growth implications from plummeting energy exports from Russia as well as Ukraine?

Russia is the world's second largest energy producer as well as maybe the second largest producer of commodities in general, between the US and China. Because Russia's economy is much smaller than the American and Chinese economies, Russia consumes less domestically, and therefore has a relatively bigger export share. Russia is a critical source of energy supplies to many counties.

Any significant loss of Russian production, not just of energy but also metals and grains, means the war in Ukraine could surpass the 1973 Arab oil embargo as the biggest supply shock the world economy has ever experienced. Alternative available supplies from elsewhere cannot offset a shock of this magnitude since there is no significant excess capacity elsewhere.

Shortages of key commodities will create havoc well beyond the energy sector. Consider the impact on auto production, for example. Platinum and palladium are essential for catalytic converters. Body panels are made of aluminum, and neon is an essential ingredient in semiconductors. All of these manufacturers already suffer from

In A Nutshell
What's up in the Economy?



KEN HERMAN
Economic Analyst
& Former Glendora Mayor

critical supply disruptions, and now they will get worse. For example, Ukraine produces 90% of the semiconductor-quality neon used by US chipmakers. If shipments stop, chip production will plummet regardless of what other producers do to make up some of the shortfall. There is nowhere near enough spare capacity to make up a 90% loss.

Inflationary pressures are being felt everywhere, from the production line to consumers' pockets. For the second time in less than a week Tesla is raising prices in the U.S. and China to cope with the cost of needed components and raw materials. Prices have surged in recent months, from aluminum and palladium used in bodywork and catalytic converters to nickel and lithium essential for EV batteries.

It may be stating the obvious but 2022 is an election year and inflation remains a primary concern of voters (according to a Rasmussen poll published last week). A WSJ poll adds a new wrinkle, as it found inflation is hitting nonwhite voters the hardest. This might help explain other polls showing increasing support for Republicans among Black and Hispanic voters. When the economy has serious problems, voters tend to blame the party in power, especially when that party is obviously complicit in the discomfort.

Lost commodity production due to the war in Ukraine is also sending shockwaves through the global economy. Wall Street expects a significant inflation surge coupled with a concurrent loss of global growth. Central banks will respond to the inflation surge first, meaning short-term interest rates will rise despite slower GDP. Recession will result in many economies, culminating in eventual inflation relief and perhaps (the dreaded) inverted yield curve in the United States. My Wall Street colleagues are not yet forecasting recession in the US, but a severe slowdown is inevitable.

It seems everyday someone on Wall Street is discussing the Fed's recent change concerning their approach to Monetary Policy. Tightening, loosening, accommodative, what exactly does this mean as it relates to their current approach in trying to slow inflationary trends in the economy? In simple terms raising interest rates slows down the economy as borrowing costs become more expensive. That means more consumers, businesses and corporations hold off on purchases or investments, thereby cooling demand and maybe even dampening prices. It's a delicate balancing act and any soft landing can be tricky. Wait too long to raise rates and inflation can surge - suppressing activity and risking an expanding "stagflation" scenario - while acting too early could leave workers on the sidelines and possibly trigger a more significant recession.

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

We don't currently have the money to pay our income taxes for 2021. Can we just file for an extension?

The extension form is a request for an extension of time to file. It is not an extension to pay. When you file the Request for Extension, you must pay the amount you calculate you will owe when you actually file your tax return. The income tax filing due date is April 18, 2022 for your 2021 returns. This later date is for Individual income taxes, not businesses. If you pay quarterly estimated taxes, your deadline was not extended. If you still cannot pay on, or before, April 18, file your completed tax returns on time and select a payment plan. The penalty for filing on time, but paying late, is far less severe than the penalty for filing late when you owe. If you have a credit card that allows you to transfer balances at zero, or a very low interest rate, consider using it to pay your taxes. Then you must do everything in your power to pay off that credit card as quickly as possible.

I should have itemized, but instead I took the standard deduction. Is there anything I can do to fix this?

You can file an amended return within a three-year period.

I'm really nervous that the stock market will crash, and my retirement savings will be greatly depleted. Is it time for me to sell my stocks?

You've heard the saying, "Buy low. Sell high." If you sell now, while the Market is high, you might miss some growth if the



Julia Yoder

Market goes even higher, but you would not suffer the consequences of a Stock Market crash. Meet with your financial professional for some personalized advice on what would be best for you at this time.

I ordered some garden seeds, plants, and supplies online. I did not receive a confirmation. The correct amount showed up as a charge on my credit card, and now a whole list of other charges is appearing from the same company for stuff I didn't order! Help!

Contact your credit card company immediately. You should be able to freeze or cancel that credit card, and be refunded the fraudulently charged amounts. Change your log-in and password for that card. Use a different log-in and password for each of your financial entities (cards, banks, credit unions, bill pay sites, online stores, etc.).

I recently moved out of my parent's home and am on my own. Where can I find more preparedness guidelines and information?

Free information is available on the Federal Emergency Management Agency website: www.FEMA.gov. Additional information is available on the CDC site. Due to Covid-19, we have become much more aware of what we need to have for disaster preparedness. Remember the shortage of toilet paper and hand sanitizer? Imagine adding power outages, phone towers down, and no internet because of a natural disaster (earthquake, wildfire, tornado, severe winds). California is part of the Pacific Ring of Fire, has some really major fault lines, and has a huge shoreline that can be severely damaged by a large surge or tsunami. Disasters in other parts of the world (invasion and war, weather, shutdowns, terrorists, insects, earthquakes), or in other states (tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, fires), can create shortages in your area. Make a plan to acquire necessary items and do not procrastinate in taking action to get those items and store them safely. If you are renting, I highly suggest purchasing a Renters Insurance Policy.

Ask Julia by email:
juliayoder@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/ Retired CA Real Estate Broker/ Member of Nat'l. Ethics Assoc. Accident-Medical-Dental

Minimum Wage in Unincorporated LA County Increases to \$15.96

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The minimum wage for workers in unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County will be \$15.96 per hour beginning July 1, 2022, the County's Chief Executive Office (CEO) announced on Monday. The new 6.4 percent rate increase was determined by the County's Chief Executive Office based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index. This is the first increase calculated by the CEO following the automatic scheduled increases established upon the passage of the Minimum Wage Ordinance in 2016.

Under the County's Minimum Wage Ordinance, employers and workers have complied with the annual increases to make the region a competitive ecosystem that supports fair work, pay, and

prosperity. Some important aspects of the wage ordinance:

- This ordinance applies to employees who perform at least two hours of work in a week within unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County
- Employers are required to post an updated bulletin of the new wage rate in a conspicuous place in addition to the original legally required workplace posting
- Employer retaliation is illegal
- Employees are afforded the protections of the County's Minimum Wage Ordinance regardless of their immigration or work status

"A healthy local economy means support for both labor and industry. This wage adjustment is in line with the spirit of the ordi-

nance to ensure that wages keep pace with inflation and support a stable workforce," said Rafael Carbajal, Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, which enforces the County's minimum wage. "We will ensure that workers in unincorporated LA County are protected and aware of the updated minimum wage, and we will work with our sister departments to support employers that may need assistance with information, compliance, and access to resources."

More information regarding the Minimum Wage Ordinance, including the required postings for businesses, can be found at doba.lacounty.gov/minimum-wage or by calling (800) 593-8222.

Assemblymember, California Retailers Association Introduce AB 2390 To Address Organized Retail Crime Crisis

SACRAMENTO - Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D - Torrance), in partnership with the California Retailers Association and the California Hotel and Lodging Association, has introduced Assembly Bill 2390, which would strengthen existing Proposition 47 (2014) provisions by allowing separate instances of retail theft to be counted in aggregate toward the existing \$950 felony threshold approved by voters in 2014.

"Property theft is a major problem in California. My bill, AB 2390, would hold criminal offenders accountable while providing diversion programs to address the root causes of the crime, such as poverty, mental disorder, or childhood trauma," said Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi, who introduced the bill. "Currently too many offenders charged with a misdemeanor for theft under \$950 are not given any jail time and often re-offend. This bill would help deter serial theft by holding offenders accountable while offering necessary support services so that they

will not re-offend."

This desperately needed legislation would open the door for thousands of additional offenders to be eligible for diversion programs established by Proposition 47 - which would deter serial theft and provide individuals an off-ramp from incarceration and into effective and life-changing diversion and job training programs.

"We need to strengthen and reform California's underutilized diversion programs to create viable alternatives to jail through rehabilitation that diverts repeat offenders - helping them grow and change. Assembly Bill 2390 (Muratsuchi) prioritizes diversion and job training and provides the tools for repeat offenders to make better life choices. This is truly a policy all stakeholders can get behind," stated California Retailers Association president and CEO Rachel Michelin. The California Retailers Association is co-sponsoring the legislation and also chairing a new statewide coalition - Californians for Safe Stores and Neighborhoods -

that supports AB 2390.

While amendments to previously approved initiatives typically must go back to the ballot for final voter approval, the state's Legislative Counsel has confirmed the proposed changes strengthen the spirit of the initiative and therefore only require adoption by two-thirds of both state houses and the signature of Governor Gavin Newsom.

AB 2390 gives members of the Legislature a highly sought-after opportunity to pass a balanced policy proposal that safeguards existing criminal justice reforms while demonstrating that Sacramento is attentive to public safety concerns of Californians.

It is scheduled to be heard in committee on April 5.



Car Talk by THE CAR DOC

What You "AUTO" Know

By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

The Basics Of A Healthy Car

Cars are built better than ever these days and give us miles of service. Keeping them healthy is important and extends their life.

- Oil is their lifeblood. Dirty oil makes it harder for your engine to turn over and causes premature engine wear.
- Belts and hoses are made of very durable material with relatively long lives, but they do deteriorate over time. We recommend an eight to ten-year replacement cycle.
- Leaks are not normal except for condensation from your air conditioner. 11 different fluids keep your car running; brake fluid, antifreeze, engine oil, power steering fluid, air conditioner re-

frigerant, shock absorber fluid, battery electrolyte, windshield washer solvent, rear axle or CV boot lubricant and fuel. If any of these leak, they need to be fixed right away.

- Tires need to be kept properly inflated to save gas and tire wear and rotated every six months.
- Coolant, when neglected can corrode and leave sediment throughout your cooling system causing clogging that results in damaging hot spots that can harm your engine. Flushing every two years is recommended.
- The battery needs to have the cables securely attached and free

of corrosion in order to get power to the starter and accessories so the alternator receives a charge.

Keeping your car healthy means getting it serviced regularly. Remember, we are a full-service preventive maintenance and auto repair center. We work on all makes and models, import and domestic!

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

Hometown Service You Can Count On!

Californians Leads in Motor Oil Recycling

As California continues to be a leader in environmental justice laws and programs, many residents look for personal solutions to help keep California green and clean. One way Californians can make a big impact is by recycling their used motor oil and oil filters when they do oil changes at home. According to the California Department of Toxic Substances

Control (DTSC), approximately 100 million gallons of used oil are recycled in California each year - and as Los Angeles County residents - we can do even more!

DTSC states that recycling and reusing used motor oil provides environmental benefits because it can be re-refined over and over again into new oil or processed into fuel oils which reduces the need to produce "new" oil. Additionally, used oil filters contain reusable scrap metal, which steel producers can reuse as scrap feed.

When doing oil changes at

home, it is crucial that the used motor oil and oil filters are disposed of correctly and not poured down the drain, in the trash, on the ground or in the storm drain. The Environmental Protection Agency mentions that used motor oil from a single oil change can ruin a million gallons of fresh water - that's a year's supply for 50 people.

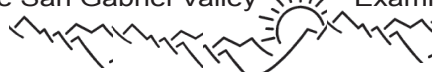
For detailed instructions on how to properly store, dispose and recycle both used motor oil and oil filters, visit CleanLA.com or call (888) CLEANLA.

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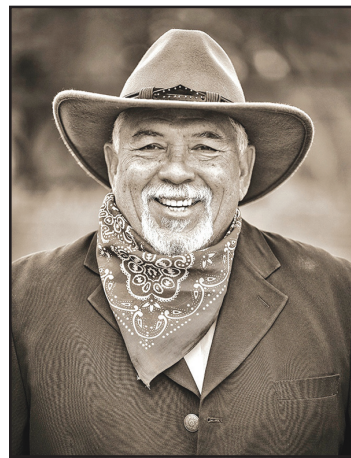
The San Gabriel Valley Examiner

CALL

626-852-3374

"TIME JOCKEY" - Wizard of Westwood

One of a Kind... This week, UCLA Men's Basketball lost in the NCAA Tournament against North Carolina ending their attempt to return to the championship round and capture another title. UCLA has won more Men's Basketball Championships than any other college, eleven in total. The mark has become a standard in the college sports world and every year hope springs eternal that number twelve is just around the corner. But the success of UCLA Basketball belongs to someone who was more than a Basketball coach, it belongs to a man who made a person's life more important than what happened on a basketball court.



Joe Castillo

Coach John Wooden put UCLA on the map and in the process brought a world into believing in his simple philosophy in life. Wooden lived to be 100 years old and when he passed away, his home was filled with memories of his life but the only UCLA Basketball memories were ten framed pictures of the championship teams he coached at UCLA. His first UCLA Basketball team was in 1948, his first championship in 1964, his last year and final championship was in 1975. During that span, Wooden's teams won 10 National Championships including 7 in a

row, 88 games in a row, 4 perfect seasons and was named by Sports Illustrated as the Greatest Coach of the 20th Century. In addition, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in a ceremony at the White House.

But as successful as Coach John Wooden was, his past is where he learned about life and how to become even smarter from it. When he was growing up, Wooden's father gave him 7 hand-written notecards with the steps to become a better person. It became known as the 7 Point Creed and they provided a path in life. The seven points were: 1) Be True to Yourself, 2) Help Others, 3) Make Each Day Your Masterpiece, 4) Drink Deeply from the Good Books, Especially the Good Book, 5) Make Friendship a Fine Art, 6) Build a

Shelter Against a Rainy Day, and 7) Pray for Guidance, Count and Give Thanks for Your Blessings Each Day. The 7 Points Creed led Coach Wooden to develop the "Pyramid of Success", 15 personal building blocks which would bring those who followed it to be a success in whatever they chose to do in life. Coach Wooden knew that there was more to life than basketball and as a teacher and coach at UCLA he hoped to instill in each student a philosophy which would build young people into being something special.

With 100 years of wisdom and a lifetime achievement of teaching young students about basketball, life, and success, Coach John Wooden left us with a legacy of UCLA Basketball successes but it was his wisdom in the philosophy he established that will always remain with us. "Make Each Day Your Masterpiece" is certainly what drove Coach Wooden throughout his lifetime and for that the loyal fans of UCLA Basketball will always be thankful. ...

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.

FOOD & WINE

By Jaunenito Pavon, Sommelier



Why Do We Hate Merlot?

The Misguided Predicament of A Noble Grape

"I don't drink Merlot," someone exclaimed in my wine shop recently. Curiously, I asked what it is about Merlot he didn't care for. He replied, "well, I just don't like it." I have always marveled at this stance especially when the next comment is something like, "but I do love cabernet sauvignon!" For all of the so called "dissimilarities" that exist between merlot and cabernet sauvignon, there are twice as many similarities to suggest otherwise! Was this the "Sideways Effect"?

We are now entering into year 18 since Paul Giamatti's character, Miles Raymond, said, "if anyone orders merlot, I'm leaving! I am NOT drinking [expletive] merlot!" A few years leading up, merlot was the wine being mass produced in California in such great quantities that it became impossible to maintain any semblance of quality. Many wines were cheaply made into fruiti sidehows aimed more at being innocuous that they, on the contrary, became offensive, tasting green and overly eager to please. THIS was the reason Miles despised merlot. Not because the grape itself was not appealing.

Yet the grape was writing its own eulogy in blood with its explosion in popularity and easy drinking nature. Therefore, when "Sideways" turned it into a casualty, essentially, Miles' anger was the "official" and decisive blow of its run as sales king in California. Just like that, merlot was an also-ran, bowing down to the "majesty" of pinot noir, which

was favorably portrayed in the movie. Pinot Noir sales, paradoxically, soared and the rest was history in California. Today, not much has changed. Pinot Noir sales are still soaring and merlot is patiently waiting backstage. As fickle as pinot noir is (and its consumers), it is surprising that it, too, hasn't suffered a similar fate as more mediocre versions have emerged, tasting more like syrah than pinot noir.

Notwithstanding, I sincerely believe the "Sideways effect" was the best thing to happen to California merlot. With the decline in sales and the unfavorable tableau of merlot, the best of the best were the ones left standing. Some of my favorite stalwarts like Duckhorn, Pride Mountain, Pahlmeyer, and Shafer Vineyards continued to enjoy the consistently great reviews of their prized merlots, and have gone great lengths to "restore" its rightful reputation.

I have always preferred merlot, albeit French merlot. There was no such decline in Bordeaux. The French would never allow a 'frivolous' character in a movie to dismiss the centuries of work the Monks perfected. Great regions like Saint-Émilion and

Pomerol, to name a few, are the 'Holy Grail' of merlot, producing wines like Château Petrus, Château Asuone, and Château Cheval Blanc (although merlot is usually not the dominant varietal).

Here in California, merlot is making a comeback as Sommeliers fiercely defend its honor. Yes, wine professionals have taken tremendous pride in noting the structure, acidity, and forward fruit characteristics of a merlot that can make an immediate impact to your dinner experience without impacting your wallet adversely. Admittedly, it is quite a luxury having a wine that can dangle a red muleta in front of a filet mignon while romancing a tarragon-roasted chicken; or, simply, just hanging out in the back yard with gorgonzola and water crackers. THIS is why we love merlot!

Jaunenito Pavon is the owner/founder of COCOVINO, a Boutique Wine Shop and Wine Bar specializing in Chocolate and Art, located at 131 N. Glendora Ave in the Glendora Village. He can be reached at jaunenito@cocovinola.com or 626-335-8466.

The Holy Name Of Mary Annual Family Festival Returns April 22-24, 2022

SAN DIMAS - Following a two-year hiatus, Holy Name of Mary Family Festival welcomes back the community on April 22-24, 2022.

The HNM Family Festival starts Friday, April 22 at 4 pm and ends 8:00pm on Sunday, April 24.

The HNM Family Festival is visited by over 13,000 people for a weekend full of delicious food, rides, live bands and a grand raffle.

The weekend headlining bands include, Chicago Tribute Experience on Friday, Mick Adams and The Stones on Saturday and Cold Duck on Sunday. Other bands performing are Stone Soul, Timba

Tumbao, LA Sound Machine, Mariachi Sol de Mexico, Bruno Mars and The Hooligans and La Sonora Dinamita con Vilma Diaz! The Festival will also be featuring some local artists like Soloist Angélica Montaña and Mariachi Juvenil Herencia Michoacana.

Pre-sale ride tickets are currently on sale at www.hnmfestival.org for \$30 and \$40 during the festival.

The HNM Family Festival will conclude with a Grand Raffle which include, a First Prize of \$12,000, Second Prize of \$7,000 and Third Prize of a 75" UHD 4G TV. Raffle tickets can

be purchased onsite for \$10 each.

Marketing opportunities to promote and brand business are available.

Holy Name of Mary is located at 724 E. Bonita Ave. San Dimas, Ca. 91773. For more information visit us at www.hnmfestival.org.

For over 60 years Holy Name of Mary Parish has celebrated community and opened their doors in welcome. Every year we come together as a community and celebrate with joy and anticipation in a safe and fun environment.

Arcadia Senior Services Musical Moments

ARCADIA - Arcadia Senior Services is having two Musical Moments programs in April. Join us on Tuesday, April 5, from 1:30pm to 2:30pm at the Arcadia Community Center. Ray Briggs is the Associate Professor of Music and Assistant Director of Jazz Studies at California State University Long Beach. He will discuss the history of Jazz and play jazz tunes for the audience. On Tuesday, April 26, from

1:30pm to 2:30pm at the Arcadia Community Center, the Brighter Side Singers from Temple City High School will be performing. You can register today at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, for only \$3 per person. The program is for individuals 50 years of age and over. For additional information contact Arcadia Senior Services 626.574.5130.

ACROSS

- "We all fall down" preceder
- Zedong of China
- W of gridiron's WR
- Short for betwixt
- Second-largest bird, by height
- *"The Taming of the ___"
- Godfather's family
- Make a choice
- Bridal veil fabric
- *Like Rock Hudson's and Doris Day's talk
- *Katherine Heigl wore 27 of these
- Dumbo's big one
- Gift for the naughty
- **"I Was a Male ___ Bride" starring Cary Grant
- Inauguration ball, e.g.
- Eyelid drooping

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD - THEME: ROMANTIC COMEDIES

- Half of binary code
- Ruptured
- PayPal money
- Part of colliery
- Avoid, as in taxes
- "The Sun ___ Rises"
- "Colorful" announcement
- Fifty-fifty
- Bit of slander
- Rookie
- Tolstoy's Karenina
- Hitherto
- Hammer part
- Canada's neighbor
- *Sleepless in which city?
- *Drew Barrymore has never been what?
- Don't mention it
- Akira Kurosawa's 1985 movie

- Erasable programmable read only memory
- Seize a throne
- Gold medalist Nathan Chen's turf
- Smooth transition
- Post-deductions
- "But I heard him exclaim, ___ he drove out of sight, Merry Christmas..."
- Sound like Wilbur
- DOWN
- 20s dispenser
- Type of meet
- Sound reproduction quality
- Expatriate
- German POW camp, slangily
- Garfield's cry
- Unit of electric current
- One up
- "___ Afraid of Virginia Wolf?"
- Novelist Murdoch
- Expunge
- Bo Peep's females
- Gracefully slender
- Perform on a dais
- Eminem's genre
- Wagon train, e.g.
- *Julia Roberts played a pretty one
- Old and feeble
- Extend subscription
- *It's crazy and stupid?
- South American tubers
- *Who did Harry meet?
- Question in dispute
- Like small distance
- Belgrade native
- *She starred in "I Dream of Jeannie"
- Boredom
- A-one
- Slippery reef dweller
- Appraise
- Like a haunted mansion
- Colorado skiing destination
- Render speechless
- Facilitate
- Adjoin
- Suit material
- Leg joint
- "Cogito ___ sum"
- Brooding
- Acronym, abbr.
- NYC art museum's nickname, with the

March 24, 2022 Puzzle Solution

O	D	D	S		F	B	I		C	E	D	E						
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N	I	S	E	I						L	O	R	E		O	G	L	E
A	N	O	N							S	P	Y			V	A	S	E

HOUSE OF FOOD AND PRAYER FOOD BANK

Fighting Hunger by Feeding the Hungry
Stephen Casey and Eileen Casey set up and operate the House of Food and Prayer Food Bank.
NOW 2 LOCATIONS:
VINEYARD MONROVIA CHURCH 223 S. Encinitas Ave. Monrovia. Every 1st and 3rd Friday from 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm.
THE HILLS CHURCH 805 N. 1st Avenue. Arcadia. Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 10:00am until Noon.

We are helping our local communities to fight hunger through local churches and other events to distribute food to the people who are outside living on the street.
 The Food Bank provides a variety of Produce, Vegetables, Meats, Dairy Products, Juices, Water, Sports Drinks, Sodas, Teas, Cereal, Chips, Crackers, Bread, Pastries and Bakery goods, Canned goods, Asian Food Items and occasionally we have random items, Masks and Hand Sanitizers and much more.

If you need prayer for anything we also have people that will pray for you.
Blessings

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CALL 626-852-3374

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13					14			15					
16					17			18					
	19			20			21	22					
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64					65	66			67			68	
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72					73				74				

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City of Arcadia 2021 Senior Of The Year



Elizabeth Renfrew - Senior of The Year

ARCADIA - Congratulations to the 2021 Senior of The Year, Elizabeth Renfrew. Over the past 20 years, Elizabeth has volunteered in many capacities including Arcadia Unified School District PTA, Sports, Boy Scouts, Holy Angels Church, Library Board of Trustees, and as a member of the Friends of the Library. Elizabeth's cheerful demeanor

and positive attitude is admired by her peers. Elizabeth has delved into her passion at the Arcadia Library, she does so many things and volunteers so many hours every week, one would think she is a paid employee. The City of Arcadia would like to congratulate Elizabeth for her services, dedication, and contribution to the community.

Daughters of the American Revolution Honor Local ROTC Students

GLENDORA - At the March monthly chapter meeting and luncheon of the Serrano Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, at the California State Headquarters in Glendora, they honored local ROTC students with medals, certificates, and scholarship awards in recognition of their leadership skills. Pictured left-to-right are Serrano Chapter Regent Heidi Wilmsen; Cadet SSG Veronica Plata, La Puente High School; Serrano Chapter NSDAR ROTC Chairwoman Leatha Comstock; Cadet 2LT Graciela Anaya, Azusa High School; Cadet 2LT Brenda Amaral Gladstone High School; and Cadet LCDR Kaitlyn A. Heinemann, La Verne Lutheran High School.



Three Catalytic Converter Theft Suspects Arrested



WEST COVINA - In the early morning hours of Wednesday, March 23, a West Covina police officer was patrolling through residential neighborhoods when he saw a vehicle parked next to a motorhome. As he went to investigate further, he saw someone underneath the motorhome quickly get into the adjacent vehicle. It was discovered the vehicle was occupied by two other

individuals. The officer made contact with the three individuals and discovered they were on parole/probation. The officer searched the vehicle and found blades, saws, and other tools consistent with catalytic converter thefts. It was confirmed the catalytic converter had been cut off from the motorhome. All three individuals were arrested without incident.

Glendora Kiwaniannes Donate to YWCA



GLENDORA - The Glendora Kiwaniannes, a local service club, donated 45 pairs of pajamas to the San Gabriel Valley YWCA recently. The clothing will be used for the shelter services the Y provides women and children. Fifteen pairs each of women's, boys', and girls' pajamas were donated by club members for the

project. Pictured are Kiwaniannes Club member Tami Hauser, Gege Engwald and current president of the Kiwaniannes, Debbie Deal, along with Ana Interiano, Director of the YWCA. Founded in 1935, the YWCA of the San Gabriel Valley has been a long-standing multi-service community resource in the region.

BINGO	
1	27 33 48 75
8	19 45 56 61
3	18 44 49 69
15	26 41 53 66
2	21 37 46 65

OPEN HOUSE

GLENDORA WOMAN'S CLUB

APRIL 3, 2022

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

EVENTS and DISPLAYS

BINGO and prizes

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