



# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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## INSIDE



Coyote Program / A3

## Mayor of Duarte



Sam Kang / A7

### INDEX

Commentary	A4
Financial/Consumer	A5
Legal Notices	B1
City Notices	B12

# Walnut Students Celebrate Lunar New Year

**WALNUT** - Hundreds of students at Walnut Elementary School performed choreographed songs, poems, and skits during a Lunar New Year celebration on January 24. The kindergartens through fifth grade children are part of the school's Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program that offers unique and innovative instruction in both English and Mandarin. Each grade level took a turn on stage to perform for schoolmates, with the program culminating in traditional dragon and lion dances.

Kindergartners ushered in the new year by being brave and trying new things, like dancing in front of the crowd during "Xin Nian Hao" and "Better When I'm Dancing." First graders danced to "Give You a Big Sticky Rice Cake" and second graders welcomed the new year with a dance and chant wishing great health, prosperity, and luck. Third grade performed a legend about the ribbon dance that originated from the People in the Han Dynasty. Fourth graders presented a Chinese folktale about a monster named Nian and how the color red plays an important role during the Lunar New Year. Fifth graders



Walnut Elementary students perform traditional dances during the Lunar New Year program.

performed a skit written and choreographed by a group of talented students about a mouse and cat who never got along with each other. They faced different types of obstacles and discover that they need to work with one another to overcome the challenge.

The finale dragon and lion dances were presented by students Samuel Zaiantz, Carisa Uy, Avery Cruz, Nathan Chan, Melody Ng, Joshua Almeida, Benjamin Zaiantz, Ella Cruz, and Aliya Uy. They are

coached by Justin Wong Benvavidez and Matt Chung from the San Gabriel Valley Chinese Cultural Association.

During the past nine years,

the DLI program at Walnut Elementary has grown to over 350 students, and in 2017 expanded to South Pointe Middle School serving about 100 sixth,

seventh, and eighth graders.

Students participate in a 50-50 program, where half the day is spent learning in a Mandarin speaking environment. "The children soak up the new language like little sponges," said first grade teacher Henry Lin who sees tremendous growth of the young learners each year. "When the older students were performing this morning, I could see how much they've learned since they were in my class!" he commented. The ultimate goal for the dual language immersion plan is to help develop bilingualism, biliteracy, and an enhanced awareness of cultural diversity.

The Dual Language Immersion program is available for elementary and middle school students in the Walnut Valley Unified School District. Information is available at [www.wvusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.wvusd.k12.ca.us).



Walnut Elementary students perform traditional dances during the Lunar New Year program.

## Irwindale Speedway Opens 2020 Season With All-Star Showdown



The race cars are ready for the premier event "The All-Star Showdown". (File Photo)

by Howard Palmer

**IRWINDALE** - While the Molson Coors Beverage Co. was announcing plans to cease production at its Irwindale brewery by September, just down the 605 Freeway, the management team at the Irwindale Speedway and Drag Strip came under new ownership at the beginning of 2018 and now 2020 will be the 21st season of oval track competition. Irwindale Speedway has been alive and well!

Kicking off this season will be a marquee event on Saturday, February 1. The Sunrise Ford ALL-STAR SHOWDOWN presented by the West

Coast Stock Car Hall of Fame. There will be an attractive purse of \$40,000 to the winners on the line spread over the three divisions racing this night.

The premier race will be the Spears Southwest Tour Super Late Models, 200 laps on the half-mile, with \$25,000 to win. Over 40 cars have registered to qualify for the 36 starting positions. This will be the first point race for this series and will bring many of the top drivers to the track. Names many will recognize are Derek Thorn, four-time Spears Southwest Series Champion and two-time K&N Pro Series Champion; Eric Holmes, three-time ARCA Menards West Series Champion; Trevor Huddleston, three-time Irwindale Late Model Track Champion and four-time California State Champion. A Best of the Best field!

A popular division at Irwindale is the Late Models. This year a new class has been developed that will enable Late Model drivers to run their cars on the many third-mile size tracks in Southern California, Nevada, and Arizona. The

new class is the Pro Late Models. Basically they will be the big chassis of the Late Models with a smaller motor. They will be inaugurated in a 100 lap, \$10,000 to win showdown on the third-mile. The result of running 30 Pro Late Models on the smaller circuit will be a lot of side-by-side door banging and bumper-to-bumper action.

Starting off the evening will be the fastest of the divisions - A Modified All-Star Showdown, 75 laps on the half-mile with \$5,000 to win. Irwindale race fans always look forward to the Spears Manufacturing Modified Series coming to the track. Maybe new records will be set.

The 2020 race season at Irwindale is loaded with 23 nights of events. Enjoy a variety of divisions: Legends, Enduros, Spec Racers, Super Stocks, Late Model, Pro Late Models, Super Late Models, Modifieds, and Southwest Tour Trucks. Plus, the popular Nights of Destruction.

Go to [www.Irwindalespeedway.com](http://www.Irwindalespeedway.com) for further information, the schedule, and tickets.

## Public Health Confirms First Case of 2019 Novel Coronavirus in Los Angeles County

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

- The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed the first case of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Los Angeles County. The infected person presented themselves for care once they noticed that they were not feeling well and is currently receiving medical treatment. There is no immediate threat to the general public, no special precautions are required, and people should not be excluded from activities based on their race, country of origin, or recent travel if they do not have symptoms of respiratory illness. Los Angeles residents, students, workers, and visitors should continue to engage in their regular activities and practice good public health hygiene as this is the height of flu season across the County. Public Health is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal, state and local agencies to monitor this novel coronavirus that has emerged from Wuhan, China over the past few weeks. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

This is the only cases of 2019 novel coronavirus in LA County. There are currently 4 cases in the United States.

People who have traveled to

### ATTENTION

ALL PATIENTS

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- Had close contact with someone who recently traveled outside of the United States and was SICK





Fever      Cough      Trouble breathing

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Wuhan, China since December 1, 2019, could have been exposed to the virus. Seek medical care if you traveled to Wuhan and develop a fever and fever or respiratory symptoms within 14 days of your return. We want to underscore that there is no need to exclude anyone who has traveled to or from Wuhan City, or China in general, unless they are symptomatic, at which time they should seek a medical evaluation. While there is no specific cure for infections caused by the

novel coronavirus, hospital partners and clinical providers are able to provide care for symptoms caused by the infection. Symptoms include Fever, Cough and Difficulty breathing.

For more information about 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), visit our website at <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov> and the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

# Glendora Woman's Club to Present Jazz Singer Debbie Egbert and Display Service Projects

By Joan Hallidy

**GLENDORA** - The Glendora Woman's Club will present jazz singer Debbie Egbert in a musical program at the club's luncheon - meeting set for Tuesday, February 4. Also, at the meeting will be displays of service projects and other club projects, said Club President Chris Ohrmund.

The club day will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a social time, followed by the business meeting at 11 a.m., said Joy Martau, membership vice president. The luncheon by Cambria Catering and the musical program by Singer Ms. Egbert will follow.

A special reminder that the club's Annual Fashion show and Luncheon, one of the club's major events, is set for April 21. Fashions will be provided by on the Avenue, located on Glendora Avenue in Glendora. For tickets at \$40 per person, or for more information, call 909-598-0554.

For the Shepherd's Pantry Service Project, one of the club's ongoing service projects, club members are asked to donate nonperishable food items (but not in glass containers) at the club meetings. Located in Glendora, the Pantry services families in need in 10 area cities, said project chair Gloria Liddle, and donations of food items and monetary donations are always needed and appreciated for the project.

Another of the club's ongoing service projects is the collecting of used eyeglasses from club members and friends for the California Lions "Friends In Sight" project, said Mrs. Ohrmund, project chair and Lions club member. Also collected for the project will be children's eyeglasses, lenses



Donations of non-perishable food items by club members for Shepherd's Pantry is one of the Glendora Woman's Club's longtime ongoing service projects. Pictured, from right, are project chair Gloria Liddle, sitting and her caregiver Elsy Cantillo as they look over club members' donations for families in need.

without frames, eyeglass cases, sunglasses, and broken glasses. After, the glasses have been cleaned and calibrated, the items will then be distributed at area Vision Clinics that are open to everyone.

At each club meeting, the Members Participation Art Display will feature a different display theme, said project chair Susan Lepkojus. This month's display theme will be "Hearts and Flowers," in celebration of Valentine's Day, and members are encouraged to share an item from home for the display.

Also, at every club meeting, one of the club's four departments sponsor the Corner Cupboard project located at the check-in-tables. This month's sponsoring department is the Music-Drama Department with Carolyn Cunningham as chair. The project features an assortment of food items and other

items for sale, all donated by dept members

The monthly Historian's report and display by Historian Rose Myers will include items from the club's archives. Members and new members are welcome to look over the items on display that also include club history, said display that also include club history said Mrs. Myers.

For information about the woman's Club, it's four departments, and special events, call 909-598-0554; For information about renting the clubhouse for a special event or meeting, call Ryan at Cambria Catering at 626-335-7010. The clubhouse is located at 424 N. Glendora Avenue in Glendora.

# Claims To Be A Victim, But He Is Arrested For Attempted Murder

By George Ogden

**COVINA** - The Covina Police Department responded to a call on Wed., Jan 22, just after midnight where a 24-year-old Covina man was robbed and stabbed several times.

He was riding his bike in the 1300 block of North Grand Avenue when two suspects pulled up in a car and attempted to rob the man on the bike. The driver of the car got out and pulled a knife on the victim who was on the bike. A fight broke out between the two and the victim was stabbed several times in the body and arms. As they continued to fight, they fell to the ground. The driver was only able to steal the man's hat before he fled in his car.

The bicyclist was able to get to the In-N-Out burger to call for help. The victim gave the police the description of the zit and pimpled faced suspect and that he was able to break the rear window of the car as the suspect drove off. The victim was taken to the hospital for his injuries. He was not identified.

While police were investigating this call, they got another stabbing call and responded to the 400 block of East Alisal Street. This person had been stabbed in the abdomen and said that this happened in Azusa. As the officers were investigating this stabbing, they noticed that the back window of his car was broken and it matched the description of the suspect's car in the earlier stabbing. As it turned out, this guy was not a victim at all, but the suspect in that attempted murder case. During the fight, he apparently fell on his own knife stabbing himself in the stom-



Jacob Cannon, 21, of Covina arrested on suspicion of attempted murder and robbery. (Photo Covina PD)

ach. He was arrested and transported to the hospital for his injuries. He was identified as Jacob Cannon, 21, of Covina.

The second suspect, Christian David Camacho, 23, of Covina, was arrested later that day. Covina police waited outside his home and when he came out around 11 a.m. they took him into custody. It appears that Cannon told the po-

lice who he was and where to find him hopefully to get a reduced charge. That did not work out as bail was set at \$1,030,000.00 and is being held in jail. He has a previous felony arrest.

As for Camacho, his bail was set at only \$1,050,000.00 and is being held in a detention center. He also has a record of arrests.

# Become San Gabriel's Next Outstanding Older American

**SAN GABRIEL** - The City of San Gabriel, in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, are sponsoring the next "Older American Recognition Day."

The Community Services Department is soliciting input in determining San Gabriel's Outstanding Older American. This program is designed to seek out and honor individuals who are 65 years of age and older who are actively involved in service to others in their community. To be nominated, you must:

- Be an older adult, age 65 or older
- Not have been honored at the event in previous years;
- Have performed outstanding volunteer service for the San Gabriel community.

For nomination forms contact Recreation Supervisor, Matthew Morales-Stevens, at mmoralesstevens@sgch.org. Nominations for this award must be submitted by Monday, February 17, 2020. For more information, please contact the Community Services Department staff at 626.208.2875.

# Glendora Chamber Coffee Mixer

**GLENDORA** - Please join the Glendora Chamber at The Wishing Well for their February Coffee Mixer. Networking,

Mixing, Education, Fun, and more!

Ken Salzman of SanZman Productions will be their speaker.

Coffee Mixer will be on February 7, from 8:00 AM - 09:00 AM at The Wishing Well, 200 N. Glendora Ave., Unit D, Glendora. Admission is free.

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# San Gabriel Valley Council Of Governments Launches Neighborhood Coyote Program

ARCADIA - The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), in partnership with the City of Arcadia, has officially launched its new regional public safety education and outreach effort to address coyote concerns in local communities. This comprehensive and integrated regional approach to coyote management will provide guidance for dealing with coyotes in the region and allow the SGVCOG to provide coyote management services to the City of Arcadia. As a member city, the program provides Arcadia residents with a toll-free number to report coyote encounters and incidents, along with access to educational resources and referrals to programs and services to foster human and pet safety, including:

- Coyote Safety Community Meetings and Training
- Informational Website
- Coyote Education and Materials
- Online Coyote Reporting

Tool

- Crisis Intervention
- Pet Safety Planning

Arcadia residents are encouraged to call the Neighborhood Coyote Hotline at (626) 278-8039 to report coyote encounters and incidents. The reporting hotline is available 24/7 and is staffed Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Residents may also email coyotes@sgvcog.org for reporting, questions, and upcoming events in their neighborhood.

This program stems from the collaborative work of the SGVCOG Coyote Management Task Force, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the County of Los Angeles, the University of California, the City of

Arcadia, and other cities and external stakeholders. The City of Arcadia continues to work diligently with the SGVCOG to monitor, track, and respond to coyote inquiries and concerns. By approaching coyote management regionally, this program enhances the City's proactive approach to tracking and monitoring coyote activity throughout the City, while also participating in a larger regional effort to educate residents on best practices to discourage the habituation of coyotes in San Gabriel Valley communities including Arcadia.

For additional information, please contact Natalya Romo at nromo@sgvcog.org or visit the SGVCOG's website at sgvcog.org/coyotes.

# Sen. Chang Fights for California's Newspapers & Freelance Journalists

SACRAMENTO - Senator Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) announced she has co-authored two bills to help newspapers and freelance journalists operate in California by exempting them from Assembly Bill 5, the state's new anti-independent contracting law.

"AB 5 is creating a mess and punishing independent contractors," said Senator Chang. "Instead of micromanaging the labor market, we need to reform AB 5 and help California's newspapers and journalists operate normally. We have to fight for our hardworking individuals if we want to keep a diverse and dynamic economy."

Senate Bills 867 and 868, co-authored by Senator Chang and introduced by Senator Pat Bates, address separately the concerns of newspapers and freelance journalists. Both bills are currently pending referral to Senate

policy committees.

## Senate Bill 867

SB 867 would permanently exempt newspaper distributors and carriers from AB 5.

Newspaper publishers argue that AB 5 would eviscerate the newspaper industry because it relies on the independent contractor model to distribute newspapers. Left unfixed, AB 5 could lead to the closing of many local papers by saddling them with additional and unaffordable costs.

## Senate Bill 868

SB 868 would exempt freelance journalists from AB 5, which limits freelance journalists to just 35 stories a year if they wish to remain an independent contractor. This arbitrary limit severely affects freelance journalists.

Vox Media, which owns SB Nation, has ended contracts with about 200 California sports writ-

ers thanks to AB 5. Only 20 people are becoming part-time or full-time staffers for the sports site.

AB 5 codifies and applies retroactively the 2018 California Supreme Court's landmark decision in Dynamex Operations W. v. Superior Court, which prohibits independent contracting unless very restrictive conditions are met. This has jeopardized the livelihoods of many Californians who argue that the new law does not account for their unique working conditions and their desire to be independent.

In 2019 Senator Chang voted against AB 5 and co-authored Senate Bill 238, which would have allowed Californians to remain as independent contractors if they so desired. Unfortunately, the Senate Labor Committee blocked SB 238 on a partisan vote.

# Supervisor Barger Calls For Expanded Access To Substance Abuse Prevention And Treatment Services

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Kathryn Barger to develop recommendations to enhance and expand access to substance use prevention and treatment services.

Substance use disorders are estimated to impact more than 250,000 individuals and cost nearly \$13 billion annually in Los Angeles County alone. Currently, the demand for substance abuse prevention and treatment programs heavily outweighs the existing capacity -- especially in geographic regions such as the Antelope Valley that lack an adequate number of resources. The ability for individuals to access services is becoming critically important as the County continues to address the impact of substance abuse disorder on homelessness and incarceration.

"As we work to address the

needs of homeless individuals or those who are involved in the criminal justice system, we must ensure we are providing comprehensive services to meet the full spectrum of their health needs including substance use disorder treatment services," said Supervisor Barger. "Substance abuse, especially in light of the opioid epidemic, continues to cost lives and wreak irreparable social and emotional damage on children and families. We must do more across the entire substance use disorder continuum of care."

One of the goals of the motion will also be to address the impact of substance use disorder on youth through prevention activities in schools. This effort was publicly supported by Youth Services Policy Group which represents 22 organizations countywide that provide the full continuum of substance use ser-

vices and urged the county to increase capacity for young populations.

The motion calls for recommendations to enhance public-private partnerships that can expand treatment capacity; an increase in the capacity of Recovery Bridge Housing beds to ensure safe living for individuals experiencing homelessness; connections for patients that complete treatment to stable living situations that support recovery; and an evaluation of strategies to address workforce shortages and training needs to increase prevention and treatment capacity. This motion augments earlier efforts by Supervisor Barger to increase capacity and access to mental health services to meet the needs of the homeless or previously incarcerated with an additional 500 treatment hospital beds.

# Secretary of State Approves Los Angeles County's Publicly Owned, Publicly Designed Voting System

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - Secretary of State Alex Padilla approved Los Angeles County's Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) 2.0 Voting System. The approval allows the County to move forward with its implementation plan for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

"Los Angeles County seeks to transition from using 1960's era technology to a modern, secure, publicly-owned system. The county, along with hundreds of experts, and thousands of public volunteers have created the first in the nation publicly-owned voting system," noted Secretary of State Alex Padilla in announcing approval of the system.

Operating within the conditions set forth by the Secretary of State, the VSAP 2.0 system was found to be compliant with all applicable California and federal laws.

"This is a significant advancement for Los Angeles County. I want to thank our design and manufacturing partners and all the stakeholders, usability experts and technical advisors who have worked over the past decade to modernize the voting experience with and for Los Angeles County voters," said Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean Logan.

As part of the testing and approval process, the system went through rigorous functional and security testing conducted by the Secretary of State's testing consultants. Additionally, the County subjected the system to independent, third-party security and

penetration testing that exceeded state requirements.

"It is appropriate and expected that the VSAP system would undergo unprecedented review and testing. The responsibility for administering elections in the nation's largest, most complex voting jurisdiction using a publicly owned voting system warrants a high standard of achievement and security," added Logan. "The County stands firm in its commitment to meet or exceed that standard."

"This certification is the product of a nationally unique process with immense stakeholder outreach and an unusual devotion of time, patience, vision, and support from county officials," said Justin Levitt, election expert at Loyola Law School and member of the County's VSAP Advisory Committee. "LA voters should be proud that they'll be using a system designed with the flexibility to meet the needs of the most populous and in many ways most diverse jurisdiction in the country, in 2020 and well beyond."

"The Voting Systems for All People is an important advance -- most importantly, that everyone of the ballot marking devices is fully accessible and includes every language the County supports, ending segregation of voters with disabilities, low literacy, or who need to vote in an alternative language," added Whitney Quesenberry, Co-Director of the Center for Civic Design.

Launched in September 2009, VSAP was developed in response to growing voting system needs

and the end of life of the County's legacy InkaVote Plus system. The project transitioned from a research and design project to a full system development and implementation program.

Responding to voter preferences and changes in state and federal election laws, VSAP took an unprecedented and comprehensive approach to modernizing the County's voting system. The vision of the project was to implement a voting system through a transparent process that considered the needs and expectations of current and future Los Angeles County voters.

"Since Los Angeles County's VSAP design project began in 2009, Disability Rights California and other disability advocates have been involved to ensure the system's overall accessibility for voters with disabilities," recognized Fred Nisen, Supervising Attorney for Voting Rights with Disability Rights California. "Virtually every new prototype that the County rolled out had more accessibility features. We are pleased to see the system move forward."

The new voting system is not the only change for voters in 2020. In-person voting has been expanded to 11 consecutive days beginning February 22 and voters can now go to any open Vote Center within the County to cast their vote.

To learn more about Los Angeles County's new voting experience, please watch for informational materials in the mail and visit [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net).

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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.
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- 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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The San Gabriel Valley Examiner is grateful for the articles submitted by our unpaid writers who have contributed to the success of our newspaper. Our only request is that articles submitted be of minimal length in order to accommodate each and every writer. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Trump Promise On WOTUS, EPA Kept

President Trump has issued The Navigable Waters Protection Rule revising the responsibility USEPA has for the huge issue we call water. It reins in the out-of-control efforts of the USEPA, under the Obama administration, to take control of all water in the U.S. and completely ignoring the original directives of the Clean Water Act.

The original intent of the Clean Water Act (CWA) gave USEPA oversight of navigable waters of the U.S. That law, at least as I see it, was any water in which you could float a boat. Obama administration had a different opinion in 2014. USEPA was to have jurisdiction over all water including intermittent streams, canals, ditches, puddles and requiring additional permits for farms and ranches. More out-of-pocket money and restrictions.

Environmentalists saw the Obama rules as a way to prevent new projects by filing lawsuits. Look at the California Delta history and lawsuits to prevent water improvement and delivery structures. A farming community in Wyoming spent 14 years getting permits for a dam that took 2 years to build to ensure water to their farms in a dry season.

A little testimony from those involved so you know what President Trump came into and has been up against trying to reform the rules for water.

In 2014, USEPA proposed a new rule expanding their authority over Waters of the United States (WOTUS). Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) said "The EPA's unilateral expansion of the Clean Water Act [could] include regulation of puddles and temporarily flooded areas [and] is an abuse of power that would allow the EPA to march into the backyards of many Americans ... The EPA is following in the footsteps of our lawless President [Obama] ... Congress must exercise its power to strictly define what the EPA may do under the Clean Water Act."

The outrage and testimony at hearings taking place in 2014 over that land and water power grab was widespread but particularly loud in the west. Mike Enzi



**Shade's Perspective**  
Lois M. Shade

**Former Mayor of Glendora**

(R-WY) said: "In Wyoming, water is sacred and an integral part of our lives. We will fight any attempt by the federal government to have complete control of our water rights and dictate what we can or cannot do with water on our private property." From Roy Blunt (R-MO): "This is another brazen power grab by the Obama Administration, which would have a devastating impact on Missouri farm families and serious implications for productive activities like construction of homes, businesses, roads, and even the development of energy."

The Protecting Water and Property Rights Act of 2014, introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY), was designed to prohibit ... "The Obama EPA [from] trying every scheme they can think of to take control of all water in the United States ... their unprecedented federal water grab is in the form of a rule that will hurt family farms, ranches, and small businesses by imposing outrageous permitting fees and compliance costs."

It's not easy to get things done in D.C. whether you have a title or are just a citizen trying to be part of the process. President Trump has been fighting EPA overreach and Obama regulations since the day he walked into Office. His promise was to review and correct decades-old misguided rules by repealing the 2015 Clean Water Rule. This is how the repeal has gone.

There must be findings for the repeal and it was determined EPA and Obama's Administration ignored the original intent of CWA; ignored states' rights to "... prevent, reduce, and eliminate pol-

lution" and "to plan the development and use ... of land and water resources."

Under Step 2: Declare clearly what waters the federal government is able to regulate. Those are:

- The territorial seas and traditional navigable waters,
- Perennial and intermittent tributaries to those waters,
- Certain lakes, ponds, and impoundments, and
- Wetlands adjacent to jurisdictional waters

There are 12 categories of exclusions like groundwater (our Main San Gabriel Water Basin), waste treatment systems, ditches and canals on private property and areas impacted by periodic water ponding.

Congressional Western States Caucus is a bipartisan group, originally only western states, but has grown rapidly recently to include more than 75 members covering 34 states. The organization used the Congressional Review Act, enacted under House Speaker Newt Gingrich, allowing Congress to review, through an expedited process, new federal regulations issued by government agencies and passed by joint resolutions. They did that for CWA 2015 allowing President Trump to write the new rule.

The Caucus says regarding President Trump's actions on USEPA and WOTUS:

"Thankfully, President Trump has kept another promise by fully repealing this rule and replacing it with a significantly better proposal. Today's announcement will provide regulatory certainty, eliminate federal overreach and balance federal protection of our Nation's waters while empowering state autonomy over their resources." Jan. 23, 2020.

Congressional Western States Caucus is working to support President Trump's proposal to revise the Endangered Species Act (ESA) that "... must be modernized to ensure success where it matters most: on-the-ground and outside the court room. With a 3% recovery rate over 46 years, the ESA needs to be updated to better protect species, and treat property owners, states and local stakeholders as partners ..."

## MY TURN: Just Because Everyone Believes Its Right, Doesn't Make It Right

I have seen and read about several people voicing their opinion from the Democrat or Left side of the aisle, pointing out the number of Mainstream Media network outlets reporting on one side of a particular narrative, while Fox News has been on the other side. In criticism, one writer to the opinions page on my local paper asked "When NBC, ABC, CBS, MSNBC, NPR, AP, the Guardian, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, etc. all report the same event the same way, how can Fox News be the only ones who actually get it right?" With the exception of the Wall Street Journal, my short answer would be this. All these outlets are reporting the same, because they think the same.

What is fact? And what are we to make of talking points that seem strangely familiar from network to network? It happens enough times to be a running joke. We have seen personalities on Fox News run a series of videos where, on a given day, and on a given subject, the same exact language and phrases are used over and over by countless anchors on the networks. One day it might be "bombshell" or "explosive" and another day, "a game



**Charles Lopresto**

changer." Consider Tucker Carlson who interviewed Michael Avenatti during the time when he was making the television circuit. The MSM hosts were canonizing Avenatti for his attacks on Trump, practically suggesting him for the Democrat nomination. Carlson called him a sleazy porn lawyer and asked, what has Stormy Daniels gotten out of this with his help? She still works in strip joints and he wears expensive suits living high on the hog. The MSM minions raked Carlson over the coals, but ended up getting it wrong. Avenatti is on his way to jail for fraud.

Consider Sean Hannity who defended the Covington Catholic High School kids, against some

similar ridicule Carlson received from the minions. But now its media types from CNN and MSNBC, that are facing lawsuits due to accusations of defamation.

Consider Sheryl Attkisson, the reporter now often seen on Fox that resigned from CBS because the network considered her a polarizing figure as she saw her work, since 2009, focusing on the Obama Administration's failures with green energy investments and the attack on Benghazi, shuttled.

Consider Ronan Farrow who secured an interview with a woman claiming Harvey Weinstein raped her. NBC said, they didn't feel Farrow had enough to go on air with. The woman was ready to appear in silhouette and speak directly to her accusations, shuttled.

Consider ABC reporter Amy Robach who said "I've had this story for three years. I've had this interview with Virginia Roberts," the most vocal sex abuse victim of Jeffrey Epstein. ABC "quashed" her exclusive coverage of the Jeffrey Epstein sex scandal. A report done years ago, shuttled.

These are the networks that are "getting it right" simply because there are a number of them in agreement? If they are "getting it right," why are brilliant reporters like Lara Logan walking away?

"If you tell a big enough lie and tell it frequently enough, it will be believed." Who said that? Oh, that's right, Adolf Hitler.

But he had no agenda, did he?

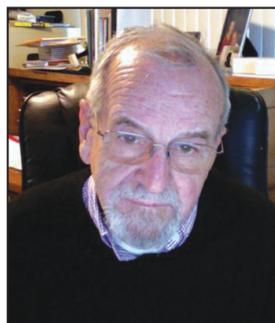
## An Open Letter To Republicans

Fellow citizens,

It might seem strange that I am addressing you. I have rarely voted for any of your candidates, neither have I agreed with most of your policies. Nevertheless, I trust you for demanding conversations about vital issues facing the nation. A one party government is the definition of tyranny. Your perspectives have provided the grounds for considering the most important matters on which this Republic was founded and still endures. The nation has been solidly grounded as you have stood firm on issues including: fiscal responsibility, limited government, free enterprise and a robust defense force.

In the ensuing debate sometimes you prevailed and sometimes you did not. But think how the national integrity might have been gutted had not you demanded a rational debate on these and other critical matters. It was not only issues you insisted be debated, but also you called forth dedicated patriots who kept the conversation on these matters honest. I look back on Republicans with whom I may not have agreed, but whose nobility commanded my respect. There was Robert Taft, Mark Hatfield, Everett Dirksen, William Cohen, David Stockman and a host others who kept America tied to a rational political conversation. I think of the giants you have selected as Presidential candidates from Abraham Lincoln to Ronald Reagan.

Fellow citizens, what has happened!? Your party has been sabotaged, taken over, destroyed by an unworthy, untruthful egomaniac who seems to have frightened you into silence. No matter what you have once believed, you have been reduced to immobility by this demagogue. Anyone who



**Charles H. Bayer**

dares resist has been destroyed, their careers demolished and their very being threatened. Hardly has a single voice been raised lest a punishing wrath silence not only the voice but also the speaker.

It is as if a burglar had been given keys to the house, so instead of breaking in, the burglar simply slipped in the side door, stole the silver and took over the master suite. But the owners were intimidated and simply knelt and shined the burglar's shoes.

That is not the end of the destruction. The great alliances which had guaranteed the world's peace since World War II have been ignored and their faithful members humiliated and told that they have freeloaded on America's taxpayers. As a result we have no world partners left in confronting grave international issues. In the meantime, instead of resolving the desperate situations troubling the nations of the Near East, they are increasingly soaked in the blood of their own people. What is more, we just came within a hair's breadth of war with Iran.

Republican colleagues, why the abdication of any concern with what may well be the most critical problem facing the natural world and its inhabitants. The world is suffocating, and warn-

ings about the disastrous effect of global warming are continually affirmed by the world's scientists. This President holds that climate change does not even exist let alone is the result of human activity, and admitting it might injure the fossil fuel industries and their profits. So you are bowing to the President's continual statements that 97% of the world's scientists are mistaken.

Finally, your leader has put aside all of the above, holding that the only matter of importance is a booming American economy, evidenced in one record stock market report after another. That's good news if you own large blocks of stocks, but if you are a simple worker whose income in real dollars has not seen a raise in thirty years, it may not really be good news.

While we all might applaud a robust economy you cannot hide behind this development in order to avoid facing the tragic developments cited above. Mussolini is credited for insuring that the trains ran on time. And Hitler took credit for saving Germany from the disastrous effects of the inflation resulting from the treaty of Versailles and the Weimar Republic.

Republican patriots, I realize that none of the above comes as news to you, and I know that for many of you it raises as much discomfort as it does for your political opponents. But you are faced with a terrible dilemma. You are caught between the demands for political unity and horror over the acts of the tyrant who has kidnapped your party. How you resolve this conflict may be the most important decision you will ever be forced to make.

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

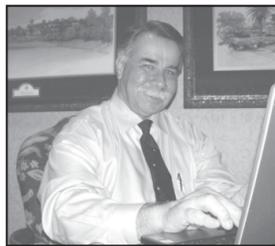
## Kobe Bryant... Our Loss

First off, my condolences all the way around to everyone that is affected by this Kobe Bryant tragedy. The sudden loss of anyone we know or know of is tragic.

By now you're all familiar with the details of our loss of Kobe Bryant and the others that was on his helicopter. To add to this tragedy was the fact that there was a total of nine people on board. There were 6 adults and three young teen girls including Kobe's daughter, Gianna.

The Bryant family lost two members, Kobe and his daughter, Gianna.

Three members of the Altobelli family, John Altobelli, his wife Keri Altobelli and their daughter, Alyssa Altobelli.



**George Ogden**  
*That's just the way it is!*

Two members of the Chester family, Sarah Chester and her young teen daughter, Payton Chester.

One member of the of the Mauser family, Christina Mauser who was a coach.

One member of the Zobayan family, Ara Zobayan who was the

pilot in the crash.

So many families have horrible losses. Family, friends, fans and people from around the world feel the loss. What is interesting about this tragedy, is how it brought the people together. That democratic impeachment process has taken a "far" back seat to something else that is actually really important ... the loss we all suffer.

The news media is out there and talking with people and you "don't" see all those idiots in the background making an ass out of themselves on TV by yelling, giving gang signs, exposing body parts that we don't want to see.

What we are seeing is RESPECT!  
*"That's Just the Way It Is!"*

## 'TIME JOCKEY' - Golden Dreamer

By Joe Castillo

**Dreams Come True...** This month marks the Discovery of Gold in Coloma, California. It was the beginning of the California Gold Rush and hundreds of thousands of prospective miners trekked into Northern California in hopes of finding riches they could only image.

The year was 1848, California wasn't even a state of the United States but the event marked the greatest event in California's young history, and today still is one of the most significant events in the history of the world. But in Southern California, in 1842, on Rancho San Francisco, in the mountain canyons of today's Santa Clarita, a rare discovery of gold also took place.

Antonio Del Valle had received the land grant of Rancho San Francisco after being a soldier in the Mexican War of Independence. Del Valle had been assigned to the Mission San Fernando and when his time had expired, he was generously awarded the land grant for his service to the Mexican governor. Del Valle raised some crops but mainly had livestock, cattle and

sheep which he had roaming on his large rancho. Francisco Lopez, nephew to del Valle, was hired to work the land and manage the rancho's herd.

On a warm day, Lopez had spent the entire day herding del Valle's cattle and he followed one stray cow into Placerita Canyon. Lopez caught the wayward cow, brought it under control and then proceeded to rest under a giant oak tree. He fell asleep and dreamed that he would find a rich source of gold, and would live forever in wealth and prosperity. But like every dream, eventually one wakes up. And like everyone who wakes up after a restful sleep, Lopez was hungry. So, as he rested against an oak tree, Lopez reached for a wild onion to satisfy his hungry urge. He pulled the onion up and attached to its roots were a cluster of gold flakes. Lopez and two of his fellow herders, got the flakes assigned and sure enough Lopez had discovered gold. Word soon spread of the discovery and soon the area was filled with new prospectors from Mexico who came ready to harvest whatever riches it could. Placerita Canyon be-

came filled with miners using mining equipment, picks and shovels to try and uncover larger claims to the primary gold vein.

Placerita grew and grew turning into a camp of mining operations and miner lodgings. John Sutter and John Bidwell, coming up from Los Angeles, heard of the Placerita camp and stopped to see for themselves. What they saw was a number of mining operations which sparked the idea that gold could also be harvested in the Sierra foothills just has it had been mined in Placerita Canyon. Six years later, James Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill and the world flocked to the Sierra foothill country. Gold strikes were unearthed throughout the region but the first documented gold discovery in California was in the Placerita Canyon by Francisco Lopez snacking on a wild onion ...

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

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# Where Have We Been And Where Might We Be Going?

The strength of this market just keeps on "giving" with little pause, correction or consolidation. We certainly are off to a strong start in the New Year! To some this feels a lot like 1999, which was also an extremely strong market year. The bad news "back then" was that the stock market peaked the following year in March 2000, followed by a "crash". Shouldn't we be concerned (or at least sensitive) to historic market movements and momentum?

The S&P 500 is again increasingly dominated by a few big technology stocks. Not only does the 2020 tech sector represent approximately 29% of the S&P 500, but just five included technology stocks (Apple, Alphabet/Google, Amazon, Facebook and Microsoft) now account for about 18% of the S&P 500! This seems to feel uncomfortably similar to 1999; but it should not be nearly so concerning (at least yet). By comparison, in March 2000 seven giant technology stocks grew to be 54% of the S&P 500! (And, there was no Trump driven expansion supporting extremely high market valuations in early 2000.)

Today, we have a top-heavy market in which over \$4 trillion in mutual funds and ETFs are systematically pouring money into technology stocks and making tech companies even bigger, bloating their capitalization weighting within the S&P 500 and NASDAQ 100. Although capitalization-weighted indexes ignore fundamentals, eventually one of these giant technology stock bubbles could easily be "violated". So, the question is when might that happen? My best guess is that a market downturn could happen after the 2020 Presidential election, or possibly after the next Fed key interest rate hike. But I also am reluctant to ignore the "Trump dif-

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



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

ference" which could propel this economy for several more years!

However, the fact that approximately 40% of the stocks in the S&P 500 and 75% of the IPO market (according to The Wall Street Journal) do not have positive earnings, means that some of these money-losing stocks could easily trigger some sort of a correction. China is still struggling. Its vehicle sales plunged 8.2% in 2019 to 25.8 million vehicles. This was the second straight year that vehicle sales contracted in China, which is now impacting global growth, especially German industrial production and factory orders. Although "Phase One" of the U.S. trade deal with China was signed recently, and the U.S. officially removed China as a "currency manipulator", China's supply channels have been disrupted and its exports to the U.S. plunged 21% last year (which is good for America). However, it could be interesting (to some market watchers) to see when China's economic strength returns.

My last concern is the impeachment distraction. Nevertheless, I expect that the stock market will largely ignore the Senate trial since an acquittal is widely anticipated.

According to an article in The Wall Street Journal, the Fed could be in "some trouble". This economic expansion has been growing longer, but inflation and interest rates remain incredibly low. If there is a recession in the

near future, and interest rates remain this low, market interest rates could be slashed to modern American lows. The Fed should be able to hold the fed funds rate above zero (as it chose to do after the 2008 rate cuts); but, it could be pinned near zero for years after the recession is over. As a result, the Fed might not be able to stimulate growth enough to help lift the economy out of recession even with an expanded tool kit and improved communications. (But, let's not "write-off" the Trump factor yet!)

The Fed understands this risk very well following its extensive policy review started in 2018. This review should wrap up in the middle of this year. Wall Street expects this review will recommend changes in the Fed policy approach that might restore the Fed's relevance. I say "might" because inflation and rates are so low, the Fed could have waited too long to make changes. And, because the neutral fed funds rate falls during recessions, the Fed must solve this problem before the next recession starts. How does Wall Street know that? Look at the successively lower level of fed funds rates utilized to jump start the economy.

The Great Recession ended in July 2009, making this expansion ten-and-a-half years old, the longest in US history. There is no close second. Growth has been moderate throughout, which helped maintain low inflation. Of course, in past years, the Fed wanted inflation to move lower, not higher, as they do today.

Now, tell me again why you appear to be so concerned about the record-breaking length of this USA expansion.

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

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

## Own a Piece of Duarte History – Old Street Signs Available to Purchase

**DUARTE** - In September, the City of Duarte completed the Citywide Street Name Sign and Installation Project, removing 701 brown and white post-mounted street name signs and replacing them with new blue and white signs proudly highlighting the Duarte 'D'. As this project came to a close, the Public Works department inventoried the signs and created a website to make the signs available to the public for purchase. Visit <https://city-of-duarte-street-signs.myshopify.com> to purchase your favorite Duarte street sign memento.



"Throughout the street sign removal process, we were receiving emails and phone calls from residents, past and present, asking what was going to be done with the old signs," said Duarte Public Works Manager Amanda Hamilton. "People are proud to have grown up or raised their children in Duarte. It's a tight-

knit community. The signs are a great way to display that Duarte pride – people are excited."

The metal signs are 9" in height by 2'6" and 3' 6", depending on the sign and will be priced at \$50, except for Duarte Road which will be \$100. Everything will be sold online, on a first come, first serve basis. Reserving a sign will not be possible. Signs are sold in as-is condition and there will be no exchanges or returns.

Shipping will be available through USPS and UPS with

fees generated based on weight, size, and destination. Please allow four business days for processing and handling. The public is encouraged to select the pick-up option to avoid the extra shipping fees. There will be set pick-up dates for the signs at City Hall. Buyers will be provided the list of dates once they have purchased.

Please contact Yesenia Paez at Community Development Department with any questions - [ypaez@accessduarte.com](mailto:ypaez@accessduarte.com) or (626) 357-7931, ext. 262.

## Senator Ling Ling Chang Earns "Legislator of the Year" Award from California Dental Hygienists' Association

**SACRAMENTO** - Senator Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) earned the Legislator of the Year Award from the California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA). Senator Chang was selected for the award in part due to her extensive efforts to make sure Californians have access to quality dental care.

"It's truly an honor to be recognized by the California Dental Hygienists' Association for

my work to improve access to preventative dental hygiene care," said Senator Chang. "I'm proud of my efforts in the Senate and remain committed to providing dental care to more people in more places. Thank you to CDHA for being such a great partner."

The California Dental Hygienists' Association represents all of California and fights to advance the art and science of dental hygiene. CDHA raises

awareness of the benefits of prevention and promotes the highest standards of dental hygiene education, licensure, and practice.

In 2019 Senator Chang introduced SB 653 to expand dental hygiene care. This bill will significantly improve patients' access to preventive dental hygiene care by allowing Registered Dental Hygienists (RDH) to work in more public health settings.

# Your Money - Ask Julia

*How can I reduce the estimated amount of my tax bill?*

You have until April 15, 2020 to take action. If you qualify, (mostly based on income limits), you might consider putting around \$5,000 (around \$6,000 if you are 50 or older) into an IRA (Individual Retirement Account). (Roth IRA's don't give you an upfront tax break.) Some lower-income taxpayers might qualify for a Retirement Savers Tax Credit. Note that a tax credit has a lot more impact on your tax bill than a tax deduction.

*We have a mortgage and a HELOC on our home. How does the newer tax law affect our mortgage interest deductions?*

The newer tax law does not allow taxpayers to deduct mortgage interest paid on home equity line-of-credit or 2nd mortgage loans. And, you can only deduct mortgage interest on a mortgage loan up to \$750,000. If your total (main mortgage plus HELOC) is less than \$750,000, you might want to consider refinancing both loans into one main mortgage. Check with your CPA before making any changes.

*Is there anything that would help to reduce my health insurance out-of-pocket expense?*

Although you are no longer fined for not having health insurance, it's wise to have a policy in place so that you are covered, just in case. Check with a licensed health insurance agent who will shop the different plans for you, explain the differences, and give you options to choose from. You might also want to check out a Medical Discount plan (see link below). This is NOT insurance,



**Julia Yoder**

but it helps you get the lower, negotiated billings for medical care.

*What are the different retirement accounts, and which one is best?*

There are traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, 401(k)s, Simple IRAs, SEP IRAs, Solo 401(k)s, and Roth 401(k)s. With some, you contribute as a deduction from your wages through a company your employer has selected. With others, you contribute directly through an institution, usually a bank or insurance company. There are advantages and disadvantages with each type of account, so determining which one(s) you qualify to utilize, and which of those are best for you, comes down to an individual, educated choice. Learn what you can online, and consult with a good financial professional.

*We can't afford life insurance, long-term care insurance, AND investing in retirement. What do you recommend?*

There are life insurance policies that can also cover your long-term care needs in the future. Often these policies not only leave your heirs an inheri-

ance upon your death, but can also give you access to some of the money while you are alive. There are annuities which have living benefits for expenses such as health, emergencies, retirement income, education, entertainment, and more.

*I don't need the earnings from my investments currently, and it's putting me into a higher tax bracket. My CPA suggests I mortgage my paid-off house so I can write off the interest. I don't want to do that! Is there another way to lower my tax bracket?*

Since you do not need the investment earnings, you could reposition your investment dollars into a tax-deferred product. That way, you'll only pay taxes on the earnings when you decide to use the money. Financing a paid-off home in order to get the mortgage-interest write-off is throwing your money away. First, it takes time to recover the costs involved in getting a mortgage. Secondly, if you work out the math, you would be paying roughly \$2 - \$3 per \$1 of mortgage-interest deduction; that's not good.

**Ask Julia by email: [juliayoder@yahoo.com](mailto: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/Real Estate Broker 01238153/ Nat'l. Ethics Assoc. Accident-Medical-Dental discount plans: [CalStarBenefits.com/28485](http://CalStarBenefits.com/28485)



## THE CAR GURU

**WHAT YOU "AUTO" KNOW**

**By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists**

## The Importance Of Choosing The Correct Oil

If you purchase your own oil for your vehicle you need to always check your owner's manual so you select the correct oil for your vehicle. The American Petroleum Institute Service Classification can be found on the oil's label in what we call the API Donut to make it easier to select the proper oil.

Here is what you will see....API SERVICE SN on current oil classifications. The SN means the oil was introduced in October of 2010 for 2011 vehicles and newer. The good news is this type of oil is perfectly safe to use in older vehicles as well.

Here is a little history lesson of oils through the ages:

- SA oil was the very first that

API ever classified. These oils were for engines built before 1930. These days, of course they are considered obsolete.

- SB oil was for cars built from 1930 to 1962
- SC oil was for car years 1963 to 1967
- SD oil was for car years 1967 - 1971
- SE oil was for car years 1971 - 1979
- SF oil was for car years 1979 - 1987
- SG oil was for car years 1988 - 1992
- SH was for car years 1993 - 1996
- SJ was for car years 1997 - 2000
- SL was for car years 2001 -

- 2003
- SM was for car years 2004 - 2011
- SN is for car years 2011 and current

Currently, if the number in the API donut is not showing an SN, SM, SL or SJ then it is obsolete. Again, always consult your owner's manual. Oils are constantly changing to make them more resilient, longer lasting and better for our environment.

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

**Hometown Service You Can Count On!**

## Don't Get Flagged This Super Bowl Season, Designate a Sober Driver

**MONTEREY PARK** - Monterey Park Police Department is reminding fans attending Super Bowl watch parties to get a safe ride home after the game.

"If you plan on drinking, plan for a ride home with a sober driver," Monterey Park Police Chief Jim Smith said. "Whether your team wins or loses, you'll always get the 'W' by not drinking and driving."

Super Bowl LIV falls on Sunday, February 2, and the Monterey Park Police Department will increase patrols February 2 ready to flag those suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The Monterey Park Police re-

minds drivers that driving under the influence of anything that impairs is illegal, including prescriptions, over the counter or illicit drugs and marijuana. If you take prescription drugs, be mindful of side effects, especially if there is a driving or operating machinery warning on the label.

If you're hosting a watch party, be a team player and have plenty of snacks and non-alcoholic drinks available for designated sober drivers. If a designated sober driver decides to have a drink, make sure someone else who hasn't been drinking is available to come pick everyone up. Anyone who sees a drunk driver should call 911.

Walking to a bar or party? Walking impaired can also be dangerous, so have someone who is sober walk home with you.

Funding for Super Bowl Sunday enforcement is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



# Around the Valley & Senior News

## AZUSA

### Volunteer Drivers Needed

Do you have some extra time to spare? Are you a good driver? The Azusa Senior Center has a great volunteer opportunity for you! The Azusa Senior Center is currently recruiting volunteer drivers to deliver lunches to our homebound seniors in the city of Azusa between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Lynda Prewitt for more information at (626) 812-5204, ext. 5303.

### TOPS Meeting

Wanted: Men and Women who want to lose weight. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) is a non-profit group that encourages men and women to lose weight. TOPS is a hands on, Pounds Off approach to weight loss. No Quick Fixes, just helpful information you need to reach your weight loss goal. We offer the latest nutrition, fitness and medical information. We also have information on the latest Diabetes resources. Motivational stories from successful TOPS members. Our meetings are every Thursday at 9:30am to 11:00am at Azusa Memorial Park at 320 N Orange. For more information please call 626-967-8829

## ARCADIA

### Arcadia Senior Card Club Looking For New Members

The Arcadia Senior Card Club is accepting new members. Arcadia residency is not required. Play contract bridge or pinochle. The group meets at the Assistance League Community House, 100 So. Santa Anita Avenue every Monday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch is provided for a nominal fee or bring your own lunch.

The group is open to men and women 50 or older. The annual dues are \$5.00. For more information call 626-281-6771.

### BALDWIN PARK Family STEAM Night

Baldwin Park Unified's Foster Elementary School will host its fourth annual science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) Family Night at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30 at 13900 Foster Ave., Baldwin Park. Students, parents and siblings will work together on interactive projects and experiments that explore science-themed lessons.

### McNeill Fitness Program

A challenging but accessible workout regimen, which includes basic calisthenics, arm workouts, legs and torso, and a steady run/walk around Morgan Park. Nutritional guidance is also offered. Eating well and exercising will not only improve your overall health, but also improves your mood and energy levels. Group meets in senior center dining hall Monday through Thursday from 8:00am - 9:00am. This class is free to participate. For more information on the class or registering, please visit the Julia McNeill Senior Center or call (626) 813-5245, Ext. 323

## COVINA

### Covina Woman's Club monthly meeting

Come join the Covina Woman's Club monthly meeting on February 10. Lunch is always offered for \$10. Reservations are required, you can contact Carlene Saria at (626) 335-6741 for your reservation.

Our program this month is Louisa Williamson Hutchison and the Mystery of the lost Indian Baskets. Presented by Anne Collier, Curator of National History Collections, University of La Verne. Anne Collier is an entertaining and knowledgeable speaker. Its not just about the bas-

kets, but the story about all the people who were involved with the basket collection.

Hospitality starts at 11am, Business meeting at 11:30, Luncheon at 12:15 and Program at 1:15p.m.

### Community Garden Parcels

The City of Covina Parks & Recreation Department has a Community Garden located at Cougar Park. Parcels are now available. Grow your own vegetables alongside other gardeners who are passionate about gardening and growing healthy organic produce! Annual fee of \$50 for large or handicap accessible parcel, and \$44 for small parcel. Applications are available at covinaca.gov. For more information, call (626) 384-5340.

## DUARTE

### Income Tax Preparation For Seniors

Beginning Mon., February 3, volunteer tax aides will be available to people 55+ to prepare 2019 income tax returns. Visit the Duarte Senior Center (1610 E. Huntington Drive) to sign up. Appointments are required.

### Measure D Community Education

Join the City of Duarte and the Chamber of Commerce at a Community Education opportunity. Factual information on the City of Duarte's Measure D, The Duarte Public Safety/Essential Services Measure will be discussed. A free "Pop-up Shop" event at the Duarte Chamber offices (1735 Huntington Drive), Tues., February 4 from 3-6 p.m.. For additional information on Measure D including "yes" and "no" arguments, please visit DuarteMeasureD.com

### Duarte Museum Needs Docents

It's fun and educational! Volunteer to serve as a docent at the Duarte Historical Museum in Encanto Park. You will serve about every other month on a Wednesday (1-3 p.m.) or Saturday (1-4 p.m.) with a seasoned docent who will train you. Greet visitors, show them around the museum and learn about local history. Training sessions are available. Call Claudia at (626) 358-0329 for more information.

### Blood Pressure Checks

Health Care Partners will provide a medical assistant to do free blood pressure checks. No appointment needed. Every 2nd Tuesday of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For more information call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

### Meals on Wheels

Eligible seniors can receive a hot lunch and cold dinner plate delivered each weekday, or seven frozen meals delivered once a week by YWCA Intervale Senior Services. For more information,

please contact the Duarte Senior Center at 357-3513 or Intervale at (626) 214-9465.

### Alzheimer's Safe Return Registration

Safe return is a service of the Alzheimer's Association to help identify, locate and return Alzheimer's victims who wander and become lost. The one time registration includes identification items, preventative information, membership in the Alzheimer's Association, and participation in a nationwide search system. Call the Duarte Senior Center at 357-3513 for an appointment.

### Volunteering Does Your Heart Good!

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a Senior Center volunteer. For more information call 357-3513.

### Senior Lunch

The Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over 60 years, or the spouse of someone over age 60, and must check in by 11:45 a.m. for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling 357-3513, 24 hours in advance, and 48 hours, in advance, for a choice day. The suggested donation is \$3. The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive.

## GLENDORA

### Glendora After Stroke Center

A non-fee program for stroke survivors and their families. This supportive program offers re-learning (reading, writing, speech), caregiver support, current events, card games, snacks, resocialization, exercise, music, speakers, day field trips, and stroke support. For more information, please call Toni Levyssohn at 909-843-5239. The program is Wednesdays 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 pm.

### Instructors Needed At The La Fetra Center

The City of Glendora's La Fetra Center is looking for new class instructors! We are seeking out instructors to teach the following: Cooking classes, Spanish lessons, and American Sign Language (ASL) classes. Share your talents with your peers! If you would like more information on teaching a class at the La Fetra Center contact Jennelle Markel at (626)9148-8235, or email at jmarkel@ci.glendora.ca.us.

### Cars 4 the Community

Glendora Rotary has a new and exciting vehicle donation program, called Cars 4 the Community. We are asking for your old car, boat, motorcycle or RV, running or not, be donated and receive a 100% tax deduction for the proceeds. This program helps our schools, community, country and the world. Call 626-963-0814 for more information.

## LA VERNE

### Pick Your Own Oranges

Enjoy a "Slice of La Verne's Past" while picking some of the best tasting oranges around. The Heritage Foundation offers you one of the last working orange groves in the area as a place to enjoy with your family. Bags of oranges are \$6, and mesh bags and the picking poles are supplied. The historic Weber house will also be open for tours from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Orange Picking is open Saturdays and continuing approximately until the beginning of March. For more information call (909) 293-9005 or check out their web site at www.laverneheritage.org. Heritage Park is at 5001 Via De Mansion, La Verne.

### Get About Transportation

Get About provides transportation for seniors aged 60+ and disabled residents of Claremont, La Verne, Pomona, and San Dimas. The door-to-door service can be used for shopping, doctor's appointments, church, senior nutrition sites and many other locations within the four cities. The service operates seven days a week and membership is free. To Register: (909) 621-9900. To Schedule a ride: (909) 596-5964. For more information, contact Abby Nuyda at 909.621.9900, Extension 228.

## MONROVIA

### Monrovia Unified Elementary School to Celebrate Chinese New Year

Plymouth Elementary School's PTA will celebrate the Lunar New Year during Chinese New Year Family Night from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, January 31 at Plymouth Elementary School, 1300 Boley St., Monrovia. The event will feature arts and crafts and a cultural dance student performance. The event was created to emphasize the school's Mandarin Dual Immersion curriculum and enhance students' learning of the language.

### Senior Blood

### Pressure Screenings

The Department of Community Services invites active adults and seniors, 50 years and older, to attend a monthly blood pressure screening. The free program is hosted by Methodist Hospital. The program is designed to detect high blood pressure. For additional information, please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256-8246.

Blood Pressure Screenings is at the Community Center, 119

West Palm Avenue on the **Second Tuesday of the month** from 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. and on the **Fourth Wednesday of the month** from 9:00am - 10:00am

### Caring Crafters

If you have an interest in knitting, crocheting and hand work or would like to learn, join us at the Monrovia Community Center **every Wednesday**. The Friendly Crafters is a social group that meets every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is designed to foster friendships and provide social opportunities while crocheting and knitting. The group always welcomes new participants to teach and share new ideas! This free program is offered to all Seniors and Active Adults! Crafters meet every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Monrovia Community Center.

### Senior Stretch & Exercise Class

Stretching is essential for our bodies. The Department of Community Services invites seniors to join our weekly senior stretching and exercise class. The class includes stretching techniques geared toward seniors over 50, though the class is great for anyone in need of a good routine. Movement increases range of motion, relaxation, and decreases risk of injury. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Bring a towel and bottled water. For additional information, please contact the Department of Community Services at (626) 256-8246.

Classes are at the Community Center, 119 West Palm Avenue on Mondays from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Fee: \$2 per class.

## SAN DIMAS

### San Dimas

### Toastmasters Club

The San Dimas chapter of Toastmasters International, Toast To The Best Club, Club # 5880 meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7PM to 8:45 PM. Learn to motivate and lead. Challenge yourself with Toastmaster's proven education programs. Let us help you grow your strengths and accomplish your goals. Become a better speaker and learn to communicate with confidence. Learn these skills and more in a supportive, self-paced, fun atmosphere. Meets at the Faith Lutheran Church, Parish Hall, 505 E Bonita Ave. Contact Art Douglas at (951) 505-0555.

## WEST COVINA

### 'How to Succeed'

### Musical

West Covina High School's

theater department will stage the musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" from Thursday, **January 30** to Sunday, Feb. 2 at the Covina Center for the Performing Arts, 104 N. Citrus Ave., Covina.

### Merced Elementary Named a California Distinguished School

Merced Elementary School was named a 2020 California Distinguished School, among just 323 elementary schools in the state to be honored for closing the achievement gap and exceptional student performance. Merced will be honored by the state on Monday, **Feb. 10** during an awards ceremony at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim.

## Go West

### Shuttle Service

The Go West Shuttle service consists of three alignments (Red, Blue, and Green) that serve destinations throughout the city including Plaza West Covina, Eastland Shopping Center, Heights Shopping Center, West Covina Civic Center, West Covina Senior Center, Cameron Community Center, and many more. For questions on the location of shuttle stops, assistance in locating the stop closest to you, and route schedules please call (800) 425-5777. The fixed-route service operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The fare is only \$1.00 each way. No Service on Holidays.

### TOPS Meeting

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets each Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Cortez Senior Center, located at 2501 E. Cortez St in the back classroom building. Visitors are always welcome and your first meeting is free. Come now and learn about nutrition, portion control, food planning, exercise, motivation, and more every week. This group has motivated members from all over the San Gabriel Valley. For details, call Erika Hernandez at 6 2 6 - 3 8 4 - 0 5 0 2 (ehernandez57@aol.com).

### Senior Lunch

The West Covina Senior Center has an award-winning lunch program that provides a **daily lunch service** for seniors, Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. The lunch program is funded in part by the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging.

There is a suggested lunch donation of \$2.00 for those 60 years and older. Persons younger than 60 years old pay \$4.00, and persons with disabilities younger than 60 years pay \$3.00. West Covina Senior Citizens Center is at 2501 East Cortez Street.

## Local Superintendents to Speak at Retired Teachers Meeting

ARCADIA - The California Retired Teachers Association #71 (CalRTA) will hear updates from local superintendents at its Friday, **February 14**, luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will take place at the Senior Center Building in Arcadia Park (county park), 405 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia, next to the Lawn Bowling Greens. The cost of the luncheon for members and guests

is \$13. For those who pay at the door, the cost is \$14. Please call John Gera at (626) 286-0714 for reservations by the February 7 deadline.

Although retired, members of the Retired Teachers never stop caring about education in general and are particularly interested in current education trends. Superintendents on the program's agenda are Dr. Edward Zuniga, El Monte Union

HSD; Alejandro Ruvalcaba, Rosemead School District; and Lynn Bulgin, Valle Lindo School District. Other superintendents may also be able to attend.

Membership in the California Retired Teachers Association is open to all retired educators, and to any others interested in joining. CalRTA's motto is "Your Partner in Pension Protection."

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## Sam Kang Elected Mayor of Duarte; Bryan Urias Elected Mayor Pro Tem in Annual City Council Reorganization

**DUARTE** - Duarte City Council members voted to elect Sam Kang from District 5 as Mayor for the 2020-21 term and Bryan Urias from District 6 to serve as Mayor Pro Tem during the first official Duarte City Council meeting of the year on January 14, 2020.

Mayor Kang was first elected to the Duarte City Council in 2013 and is the first Chinese American to serve the community in this capacity. This is his second time serving as the community's Mayor, and his focus for the upcoming year is to foster the completion of the many development projects currently underway, as well as lead the community back to fiscal stability. Kang, a business entrepreneur and adjunct professor at Azusa Pacific University, was voted unanimously to serve as Mayor by his colleagues. In addition to his duties on the Council, Kang serves as the official Council representative to both the League of California Cities and the Duarte Community Services Council, and as alternate to the Foothill Employment and Training Consortium. Kang is also a member of the League of California Cities Asian Pacific Islander Caucus.

Urias was first elected to the Duarte City Council in November of 2018 and represents Dis-



**Duarte Mayor Sam Kang**

trict 6. Bryan prides himself on bringing new leadership to the City Council and offering fresh perspective and experience in making government work for residents. Urias serves as the Council representative to the Duarte Community Coordinating Council, and alternate on both the Gold Line JPA and the Duarte Community Services Council.

For the eight years prior to joining the Council, Urias represented Duarte residents as the District 5 Director on the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Board and also worked with Duarte as a staff member for both then-Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis, and later Congresswoman Judy Chu.

## City Of Irwindale Receives Grant To Purchase Electric Vehicles

**IRWINDALE** - The City of Irwindale partnered with the South Coast Air Quality Management District through its Clean Transportation Funding from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee to purchase two electric John Deere Utility Vehicles for its Parks.

The grant is part of the Local Government Partnership that allows for a maximum funding amount of up to \$10,000 per vehicle or 50% of a light-duty zero emission vehicle's net purchase price, whichever is less. These electric vehicles are the first for the city's public works department.

Public Works Services Manager Elizabeth Rodriguez said, "Irwindale is committed to pro-



**John Deere Utility Vehicles for use in Irwindale Parks.**

vide professional staff support to residents and businesses by using ethical and fiscally sound principles to ensure a safe and sustainable future." The city of Irwindale supports SCAQMD's goal in reducing air pollutants

such as NOx, oxides of nitrogen, by eliminating diesel and gas vehicles and purchasing electronic vehicles.

## Monrovia High Showcases Academic Pathways, Campus Life during Annual Open House



**Monrovia High School French club students share information on the club during the school's Open House Showcase on January 15, 2020.**

**MONROVIA** - Monrovia High School hosted its annual Open House while showcasing scholastic academies, career technical education (CTE) pathways, visual and performing arts programs and extracurricular activities on Jan. 15, giving Monrovia Unified students and their parents a comprehensive overview of what it means to be a Wildcat.

"If you have a passion, we are here to help you connect to it," Principal Kirk McGinnis said. "You will always be a Cougar or a Cub, but when you come to Monrovia High, we are all Wildcats. We all work together to succeed."

Families spoke with teacher and student representatives from Monrovia's Math and Science, Humanities and Digital Arts academies, Theater Arts Conservatory, Achievement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Advanced Placement and eight CTE programs.

Club life, elective classes, student leadership and extracur-

ricular activities were well represented, with students and faculty detailing a diverse array of campus life - including robotics, dual immersion, Renaissance leadership and band.

"Monrovia's Open House is a way to make our new students feel welcome, meet their new classmates, and lessen the anxiety of beginning high school," Superintendent Dr. Katherine Thorossian said. "It also gives our high school students a chance to show their leadership skills by promoting the classes and activities that resonate with them."

Monrovia junior Marc Altamirano pitched the perks of enrolling in French class and joining the French club, which includes celebrating the French Epiphany - the date of the Three Kings - and eating traditional French pastries such as Galette des Rois.

"French class is really fun; I highly recommend it," Altamirano said. "The focus is on comprehension and immersion. We listen to a lot of

French music and watch French New Wave cinema. Each week we come in and try to describe our weekend entirely in French."

The Open House was the first step in preparing incoming freshmen for high school. On Jan. 16-17, MHS reps traveled to Clifton and Santa Fe middle schools to make program presentations. A campus tour for all eighth-graders is scheduled for Feb. 4. Fall registration begins July 15 and new freshman orientations will be held Aug. 10

"The Monrovia High Open House is a wonderful community event, and it's not unusual to see MHS alumni here with their children, talking with their former teachers and just as excited as their kids," Board of Education Vice President Bryan Wong said. "Our mission is to provide equity and opportunity to every student and encourage them to find the academic path that will help them to become lifelong learners."

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## Exhibit Proceeds of Chris Van Winkle Artwork to Benefit Citrus College Students

**GLENDORA** - The family of Chris Van Winkle, acclaimed artist and esteemed educator, recently presented Citrus College with a donation of more than \$17,000 to support visual arts students in their pursuit of higher education.

The watercolor exhibition, "Chris Van Winkle, A New View," was hosted at the Citrus College Art Gallery in November 2019. Highlighting four distinct collections from the artist's portfolio, all paintings were available for purchase, with the proceeds benefiting the Chris Van Winkle Memorial Scholarship. In addition to the 17 pieces on display, numerous unframed paintings were sold.

The Van Winkle family attended the Jan. 21 meeting of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, where the college expressed its appreciation for the donation.

"The Van Winkle family's support of Citrus College and its fine arts students is a touching tribute to the career and legacy of a respected faculty member," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "The art exhibition was a creative way to raise funds for students, and I am grateful for the Van



**The Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees thanked members of the Van Winkle family for donating original watercolor paintings by their late father, Chris Van Winkle. Proceeds from the sale of this artwork will fund scholarships for visual arts students. Pictured (L-R): Gary Van Winkle; Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president; Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, board president; Caroline Van Winkle; Christopher Van Winkle; and Dyane Duffy, visual arts instructor.**

Winkle family's willingness to share these beautiful and original watercolor paintings."

Chris Van Winkle served Citrus College and its students for 30 years. In addition to teaching watercolor classes in the college's visual arts program, he was also a signature member of the National Watercolor Society. His art earned him numerous awards and speaking engagements across the United States and abroad.

When Mr. Van Winkle passed away in January 2016, the Chris Van Winkle Memorial Scholarship was established in his memory. The scholarship is the first the Citrus College Foundation has offered exclusively for visual arts students and is available through a competitive process that involves being nominated by a faculty member.

"On behalf of the board of trustees, I would like to thank

the Van Winkle family, the Citrus College Visual and Performing Arts Division, and the Citrus College Foundation for working together to produce such a successful exhibition," said Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "I am confident that many future artists will be empowered to realize their dreams due to the generosity of the Van Winkle family."

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## Duarte Schools Continue to Excel

DUARTE - DUSD Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Amerson, shared the progress being made at the Duarte schools sites at a recent Duarte Kiwanis Meeting. The goals of the continuing Facilities Projects are :

- Prepare students for 21st century success
- Repair and upgrade our aging schools
- Improve student access to science labs, classrooms, technology, outdoor education spaces and shade structures
- Improve safety and security
- Upgrade vocation and career technical education (CTE) to prepare students for career success in a competitive economy.

The corresponding results have been excellent.

Dr. Amerson shared one of the highlights - DHS Culinary Arts Program. They were recently featured guest on KFI's popular radio show, The Fork Report.

If you are interested in joining Duarte Kiwanis or being a speaker at a future event, contact Tina Carey at tinac51@aol.com



Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Amerson and Duarte Kiwanis Club President, Kaye Biggs.

## Los Angeles County Awarded Nearly \$4.6 Million In State Funding

*Additional 300 Families to Receive Assistance Through the Bringing Families Home Program*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The California Department of Social Services recently notified the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) that the County will receive an additional \$4.6 million in Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program funding, through June 30, 2022.

Since its implementation in January 2018, DCFS and the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), in collaboration with housing partners, have successfully served over 300 families and 400 children under the BFH Program. Through this

additional funding, the DCFS and the LACDA will be able to assist another 300 homeless families. The primary focus of BFH is to provide rapid re-housing and case management services to families in the child welfare system.

"Children thrive in safe and stable homes. This investment from the State, and partnership with LACDA, will strengthen the Department's goal of reunification by providing supportive services to the many families of Los Angeles County," stated Bobby D. Cagle, Director of DCFS.

In spite of the challenges to locate affordable housing for

these high-barrier families in Los Angeles County, the continued success of the program reflects the strong partnership and shared mission to reunify families and end homelessness in the community.

"Throughout the years, the LACDA has partnered with DCFS to administer programs to reduce homelessness," said Emilio Salas, LACDA Acting Executive Director. "This additional funding from the State of California will continue our efforts to help families in the child welfare system stabilize their lives."

## West Covina Unified to Launch High School Performing Arts Academy



Students passionate about the performing arts will have the opportunity to hone their craft at West Covina High School's new Performing Arts Academy, launching in fall 2020. The Academy will be supported by a new 650-seat Performing Arts Center.

WEST COVINA – West Covina Unified will establish the next premier performing arts academy in Southern California, empowering students to delve into their creative potential, gain insight from industry professionals and prepare for a future in the arts.

The West Covina High School Performing Arts Academy will welcome its first freshman cohort – capped at 50 students – in fall 2020, providing an exclusive fine arts education in a free, public school setting.

Highly motivated students with a passion for the arts – in fields such as instrumental or vocal music, theater, dance and theater tech – will receive valuable industry insight from teaching artists, gain internships and prepare for advanced educational and career opportunities at the Academy.

"The fine arts are a highly valued component of West Covina Unified's educational offerings, and we are thrilled to expand them into an academy of their own," WCUSD Superintendent Dr. Charles D. Hinman said. "Students will be able to develop their artistry under the direction of our outstanding educators and gain a

competitive edge, all within their normal school day."

Designed as a "school within a school," the Academy will ensure that as students hone their craft, they also receive all of the benefits of a traditional high school – including clubs, athletics and a rigorous academic program.

College-preparatory and general education courses are embedded in the Academy's curriculum, providing performance-focused Advanced Placement classes that can yield college credit and ensuring all students fulfill graduation and college admission requirements.

Many arts academies encourage students to study a concentration of their choosing. At the WCHS Performing Arts Academy, students not only select courses based on their artistic interests, but also benefit from an all-encompassing curriculum that requires the study of each fine arts subject.

Students will be able to make meaningful connections to their art – and to other artists – through the Academy's field trip and networking opportunities.

In their senior year, Acad-

emy students who excel in their program will trek to New York, observing professional artists at work, immersing themselves in the creative culture and exploring some of the nation's top arts colleges and universities.

The Academy's distinct educational program will culminate with a capstone jury experience – showcasing students' knowledge, skills and experience in the arts – that may be used in college applications and auditions.

Starting in fall 2021, the Academy will be supported by a \$32.6 million Performing Arts Center, a robust 650-seat complex featuring a dance studio, a black box theater and dedicated spaces for performing arts classes. Additional practice space will be available in a state-of-the-art instrumental music building, also to be completed in fall 2021.

Incoming freshmen from Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange counties are eligible to apply to the WCHS Performing Arts Academy. The District is now accepting applications; students can begin the application process online - <https://forms.doc-tracking.com/2862/2863/2089>

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## Public Defender Leads \$1.2 Million Mental Health Diversion Grant

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - The LA County Public Defender's Office is the lead agency for a \$1.2 million grant to divert people suffering from mental illness out of jail and into treatment. LA County has been awarded the two-year grant from the MacArthur Foundation to directly address the over-incarceration of the mentally ill.

Los Angeles County operates the world's largest jail system and its jails remain critically overcrowded. One of the main drivers of the local jail population is the incarceration of the mentally ill.

The grant will allow the Public Defender's Office, working with other County and City agencies, to expand pre-plea diversion for those in custody as a result

of a mental disorder. The effort will work toward breaking the cycle from medical and mental health facilities to custody, with a focus on the homeless population.

"Mentally ill people do not belong in jails," LA County Public Defender Ricardo D. Garcia said. "The startup funding provided by the MacArthur Foundation represents a substantial opportunity to mitigate the counterproductive use of criminal courts and jails as holding centers for the mentally ill men, women and children of Los Angeles County."

This new initiative will include embedding mental health professionals in high volume courtrooms, same-day assessments of defendants who appear to suffer from a mental health disorder,

and the pre-plea release and diversion of qualifying individuals into mental health treatment programs.

To help guide the launch of this program, the initiative will utilize provisions of AB 1810, a state law enacted in 2018 that allows pre-plea diversion for some defendants with mental health needs.

Partner agencies in this endeavor include the Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender; Los Angeles City Attorney's Office; Department of Mental Health; Sheriff's Department; Department of Probation; Department of Public Health; Health Agency Departments; County Counsel's Bail Reform Team; Project 180, with support from the Superior Court.

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8:30 am	Special Guest Presentations
8:45 am	Survivors Dove Release
9:00 am	Run/Walk