

25 cents

**Leads to Pursuit and Arrests** 

A Weekly Adjudicated Publication Serving all of Los Angeles County

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Volume XXIV, Issue No. 16

### STRIVING FOR JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

### April 15 - 21, 2021



Funeral Expense Relief / A3

### Eighteen For Eighteen



Monique Vobecky / A7

### INDEX

Commentary	<b>A</b> 4
Financial/Consumer	A5
Legal Notices	B1
City Notices	B12





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Two of the three suspects arrested for grand theft, possession of burglary tools and possession of stolen property.

**IRWINDALE** - On Sunday, April 11, at about 10:50 P.M., Irwindale police officers responded to a business in the 15700 block of Arrow Highway regarding the report of three subject who had just stolen the catalytic converter from a vehicle parked outside the business. The victim was able to provide a description of the suspect's vehicle, a silver 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee, to the dispatcher.

Irwindale Police officers located a Jeep matching the description provided by the victim in the area of Irwindale Avenue and 4th Street and initiated a traffic stop. After pulling to the curb, the Jeep sud-

denly fled as the officers approached the vehicle. A vehicle pursuit then ensued, with the suspect going south on Irwindale Avenue from Arrow Highway through the city of Irwindale and into the city of West Covina. The vehicle committed several unsafe traffic violations during the pursuit.

The Jeep eventually collided with three uninvolved civilian vehicles at the intersection of West Covina Parkway and Sunset Avenue in the city of West Covina. Two of the occupants were detained by officers at the collision scene. The third suspect ran into the West Covina Civic Center, where he was captured by of-



Officers located the victim's catalytic converter inside the Jeep, along with various hand tools, power saws, saw blades and a rolling car jack.

ficers from the West Covina Police Department.

**Catalytic Converter Theft in Irwindale** 

Officers located the victim's catalytic converter inside the Jeep, along with various hand tools, power saws, saw blades and a rolling car jack.

Alfredo Paredes Ramirez, 35-years-old, Herbert Tecero, 38-years-old, and Lejoi Louise Mims, 38-year-old, all from the city of Los Angeles, were arrested on a variety of charges, including grand theft, possession of burglary tools and possession of stolen property. The driver, Alfredo Ramirez, was additionally charged with felony evading and traffic related violations.

Ramirez and Tecero were booked at the West Covina City Jail and Mims was taken to a nearby hospital for minor injuries she sustained in the traffic collision. Due to COVID-19 booking restrictions, all three suspects were later released with citations to appear in court on a future date. The West Covina Police Department is investigating the traffic collision that occurred at the end of the pursuit. None of the occupants of the uninvolved vehicles, including two children, were injured in the traffic collision.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Irwindale Police Department's Detective Bureau at (626) 430-2245 and refer to Case #21-04055.

## **Glendora Community Coordinating Council's Youth Recognition and Humanitarian Award Recipients**

**GLENDORA** - Sally Green is a shining example of putting service above self. In the March 29, 2020 edition of



## Los Angeles County Pauses Use of Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Following FDA and CDC Recommendation

LOS ANGELES COUNTY-Out of an abundance of caution, Los Angeles County is following



the recommendation of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to pause the use of Johnson & Johnson vaccine after reports that six women between the ages of 18 and 48 developed unusual types of blood clots 6 to 13 days after receiving the vaccine. This pause will last until the FDA and CDC complete their review, which is expected to take several days.

Vaccine providers in Los Angeles County will contact patients about rescheduling or providing a new appointment for Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

These reactions are extremely rare, as nearly 7,000,000 peo-

### Johnson & Johnson Vaccine

ple have received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine in the United States to date. People who received the vaccine in the last 3 weeks should look for any symptoms of these unusual clots, including severe headaches, abdominal or leg pain, and shortness of breath, and contact their medical provider if symptoms develop. People who don't have a medical provider can call 2-1-1 to connect with a healthcare provider.

ing the Duarte Kiwanis or pre-

senting at a future meeting,

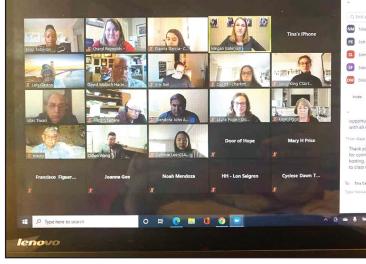
please contact Tina Carey at

tinac51@aol.com. The club is

currently meeting virtually

## **Door of Hope Presentation for Duarte Kiwanis**

DUARTE - Rev. Megan Katerjian, Executive Director of Door of Hope gave a program presentation to a recent meeting of Duarte Kiwanis Club. Door of Hope has unique programs that support families who are currently unsheltered and have expanded their programs to help prevent families from becoming homeless. In a recent brainstorming session of the Duarte Non-Profits, homelessness was identified as the number one issue for the community. Megan was able to share various programs provided by Door of Hope and their remarkable success rate. Former Door of Hope graduate, Erika Johnson was able to share her journey and the success her family has had. The Duarte Club was joined by members from Glendora, Hacienda Heights and



A photo of the Duarte Kiwanis club meeting through Zoom.

West Covina clubs as well as members of their Key Clubs from CS Arts, Duarte High School and Mountain View High School.

If you are interested in join- through Zoom.

Glendora City News Chamber of Commerce President Joe Cina posted a request of help from our Glendora community. He was answering the call from Emanate Health (Foothill Presbyterian Hospital), Glendora Oaks Behavioral Health Hospital and other healthcare professionals who were struggling with a shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) necessary to keep our doctors and nurses safe during the Covid outbreak. Sally saw a need and stepped up to the plate to help. To date she has made and donated over 1,150 homemade masks to Foothill Presbyterian Hospital. Her artfully created masks have come in many different fabric patterns from holiday-inspired designs, sports teams and colleges to name a few. Sally has set a great example of giving back and helping those in need. The Glendora Community Coordinating Council is excited to recognize Sally with April's Hu-

manitarian Award. During these difficult months of Covid the Glendora High School Pep Squad, led by a group of 10 Captains and Commissioners (Katie Cardenas, Liz Delgado, Kylie Dunn, Madi Fallon, Ella Fritz, Jordyn Garcia, Shelby Holmes, Georgia Riggs, Brooke Service and Burke Welte) have been remarkable and selfless in their volunteer efforts to inspire and encourage others through a variety of virtual experiences and videos they made for fellow GHS students, essential work-

Sally Green - Humanitarian Award Recipient



Glendora High School Pep Squad - Youth Recognition Awardee

ers, GUSD staff members, GUSD elementary school campuses, GHS athletic teams and art programs, GHS special needs students and the larger Glendora community. In addition, they have held a food drive which benefitted Shepherd's Pantry, created a Covid-compliant class competition activity with Action-like similarities, tied ribbons in downtown Glendora for Breast Cancer Awareness and adopted a community member with a congenital heart defect and delivered a gift basket to her. This team has worked incredibly hard to continue nurturing,

spreading encouragement and spirit to our Glendora community. The Glendora Community Coordinating Council is very honored to recognize the special students of Glendora High School's Pep Squad, Captains and Commissioners with April's Youth Recognition Award.

The GCCC is always looking for volunteers from the city to be recognized each month. If you have a nominee please visit our website at www.glendoracoordinatingcouncil.org for a form and contact information.

The San Gabriel Valley L. Examiner

## **\$12 Billion Investment Benefits Local Community Colleges Nationwide, Advances Economic Recovery**

Although just a small part of President Biden's budget proposal for 2022, the \$12 billion that has been proposed for community college infrastructure is impressive.

Considered by many economists, business leaders and other experts to be the engine that drives the economy, community colleges are the main source of job training programs in the U.S. Given the rapidly changing technology of the 21st Century workplace, state-of-the-art skills require state-of-the-art training and the facilities and the technological infrastructure to support it. As the nation struggles to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, this investment in the nation's community colleges is well timed.

More than investment in the physical elements of reskilling and upskilling, the proposed national funding is also an investment in American lives and futures. Think good paying jobs in health occupations, automotive technology, public works, heating and air conditioning, office technology, fire science, computer science and a great many more. Much of what we have learned about distance learning, telecommuting and the workplace of the future has been pioneered and perfected by the nation's community colleges.

Community colleges are low cost and open access. They offer flexible classes, career counsel-



Dr. Edward C. Ortell, Governing Board Member, Citrus College, background - California State Capital, Sacramento (courtesy photo)

ing, tutoring, financial aid and a thousands of lives made possible host of other services that help students succeed. Studies show that students who earn a degree or certificate from a California community college nearly double their earnings within three years. And those who transfer to state colleges and universities obtain GPAs equal to or better than students entering these institutions as freshmen.

These and other factors make community colleges a tremendous investment for taxpayers.

Citrus College, founded in 1915, was the first community college in Los Angeles County and the fifth in California. I have been honored to serve as a governing board member for the college many years, in addition to being a faculty member at Pasadena City College. This lifelong commitment to community college education has allowed me to witness the transformation of

by community colleges, and it inspires my continued commitment each day.

April is Community College Month, recognizing and celebrating what these quintessentially American institutions have contributed to the nation, local communities and the quality of life for their students. While the nation will honor their importance for a month, community college alumni will experience their impact for a lifetime.

About the Author:

Dr. Edward C. Ortell is the senior governing board member at Citrus College and a Professor Emeritus at Pasadena City College. He has served on the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) state board of directors and 11 terms as president of the Citrus College Board of Trustees.

## **COVID-19: A World Class Panel To Inform You About** What You Need To Know!

By Nandasiri (Nandi) Jasentuliyana

Are you worried about Covid-19? Is the vaccine the answer, or will it ever come back to normal? This Webinar with its virtual panel of medical experts is a unique place for you to learn the answers to these questions.

The Sri Lanka Foundation International has assembled a distinguished panel of medical professionals from across the globe to provide us the answers and inform us what today's scientists have learned, what they have developed for testing and treatment, how the vaccines work, and what therapeutics are available. They will share their expert knowledge of how to view the epidemic scientifically and rationally and how individuals should adjust psychologically during the epidemic.

The COVID pandemic is certainly not our first experience with disastrous pandemics. Many have come and gone over the centuries, and we have combated them. The worst happened in 1918, which killed an estimated 50 million people when the global population was only 1.8 billion. At that time, the Spanish influenza pandemic lasted for two years, occurring in three waves, finally ending in 1920 when the people had developed heard immunity though the virus never disappeared. Many of us wonder whether we are on course for a similar situation!

The current pandemic is different from the pandemic of 1918 because no one knew then what caused the disease or how to treat it. Scientists were groping for answers where there were none to explain the dynamics of the virus and how it infected the population to mitigate it. Physicians were experimenting with cures and desperately testing potential vaccines that had no impact. A century later, we know that the Coronavirus causes COVID-19. Having sequenced its genome, we were also able to rapidly develop a gamut of effective vaccines to help us rapidly reach



This Webinar will be moderated by Dr. Deepthi Jayasekara, **Consultant Infectious Disease Clinical Professor Western** University, and Chief of Infectious Disease, Emanate Health & San **Dimas Hospital.** 

Dimas Hospital.

The panel of doctors led by one of the foremost authorities on COVID-19 in the world, Dr. Paul Holtom, Professor, Infectious Disease, & Internal Medicine, USC Keck School of Medicine, USA, will tell you all you need to know about the virus. Who is susceptible to it, how can it be transmitted? They will talk about the clinical symptoms when people are infected. Whether there are any vaccines available where you live, and which of the available vaccines are more effective.

Dr. Holtom will be joined by Dr. Malik Sriyal Joseph Peiris Professor & Chair of Virology Public Health Laboratory Sciences, Hong Kong; Dr. Ananda Wijewickrama, Senior Consultant Physician, Infectious Disease Hospital (IDH), Sri Lanka; Professor Suranjith Seneviratne Professor & Consultant, Institute of row, join the Webinar on Satur-Immunity and Transplantation and day, April 24th, at 7.00 PM Health Services Laboratories, London, U.K., and Dr. Dushyantha Jayaweera, Professor Infectious Disease. University of Miami School of Medicine & Hospital.

ing out during the epidemic. But many questions remain unanswered. Will cured patients get reinfected? What can you do to protect yourself? What can you do to get vaccinated? Can you travel or not use a mask after you do? How should students prepare for campus life? Are there ways you could collaborate with schools or companies to prevent and control the outbreak?

They will discuss what preventive treatment measures you can take to deal with an epidemic of infectious diseases. What precautions you should take to prevent catching a virus, appropriate mask management and how to boost your immunity.

This Webinar hosted by the Sri Lanka Foundation International. founded by Dr. Walter Jayasinghe, based in Los Angeles, California.

For a safer, healthier tomor-

## **Pop-Up Goes Well for Vendors and Small Businesses at West Covina VFW Post**



From left: George Ogden, West Covina Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado, Yvonne Diaz, Carolina Martinez, Jocelyn Farrah and West Covina USD board member, Michael Flowers.

### By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - When both the county and the state started shutting down businesses to keep people from congregating together for what they said was Covid protection, it destroyed many people's lives and livelihood. So many small businesses where hit, it actually caused some of these people to commit suicide.

With all this going on, the city of West Covina decided that they wanted out of what controlled "them" from Los Angeles County. At the time, Mayor Tony Wu wanted to have their own health department that would make recommendations and to get businesses back open again.

While this is going on, other people were trying to figure out how to save small businesses and

bring them back into the community and to revive them. Two young ladies set a plan to do just this. Yvonne Diaz and Carolina Martinez, who are small business owners as well, approached a local VFW Post. They came on board to help out.

A "Pop-Up" was planned and this is like a Swap Meet type of event where the small businesses would come together and display their products and merchandise and sell what they had. Food vendors of all sorts were there to promote their businesses as they were hit very hard because of all the cancelled special events like wedding, birthdays and sweet 16 parties and so on.

The event was a huge success. West Covina Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado and West Covina USD

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board member Michael Flowers showed up to show their support. They also did not leave without making a few purchases.

The public was actually able to come out and find their old business friends and made some new ones. It looks like there may be a plan in the future at this location as this type of event has gotten very popular.

herd immunity.

Overall, the new Coronavirus presents a significant threat to global public health because it is so contagious and leads to lethal complications. As of the end of March, nearly 3 million people have died from the disease. There have been more than 125 million confirmed cases worldwide, according to data collected by Johns Hopkins University in the United States.

A multitude of myths about the new Coronavirus makes people fearful and others fearless. The medical professionals assembled for this Webinar will offer scientific evidence to dispel many of those myths.

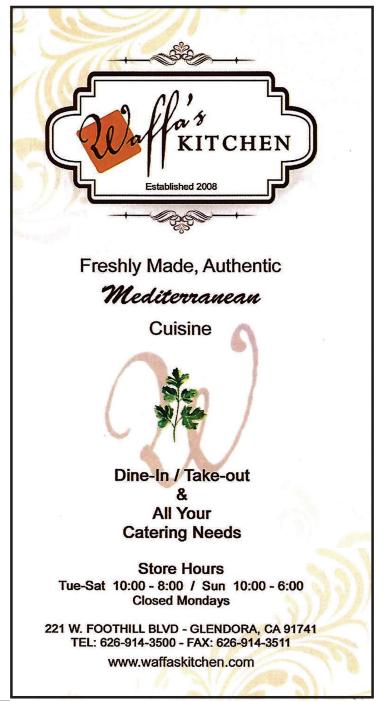
This Webinar will be moderated by Dr. Deepthi Jayasekara, Consultant Infectious Disease Clinical Professor Western University, and Chief of Infectious Disease, Emanate Health & San



Day by day, we learn how to take care of ourselves when go-

(PST), and you are sure to be well informed on the most pressing issue that humanity faces today.

To register, please use this link. https://us02web.zoom.us/ webinar/register/ W N a d M d a F 5 5 Q Q wB7zqD4GZOg-



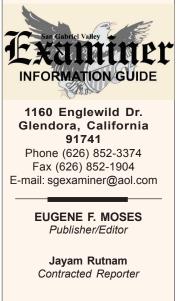
## LOS ANGELES COUNT

## **First Amendment Activists Decry "Blatantly Unconstitutional" SB742**

### Bill Would Prohibit Protests and Picketing in Much of the State

**SACRAMENTO** – Diverse groups of activists on both sides of the aisle are warily watching California Senate Bill 742, by Richard Pan (D-Sacramento), which would prohibit protests, pickets, and demonstrations in much of the state. The bill, which officially bans such protests within 300 feet of any site "where vaccination services are provided" would, of course, preclude a wide variety of constitutionally protected activity within its reach.

If pro-choice or pro-life activists want to stage an abortion-related demonstration? All an abortion clinic must do is administer vaccines to have the protesters arrested. If the state government or a corrupt city wants to hamper a demonstration outside the Capitol or City Hall? All they need do is stage a vaccination clinic. If a union wishes to picket unfair practices at a grocery store? Tough luck, if that grocery store offers vaccination services.



George Ogden Contracted Reporter

**Glenn Purbaugh** Photographer

Contributing Writers Joan Hallidy Ken Herman Charles H. Bayer Lois M. Shade Julia Yoder Gene Morrill Jenny Park Ed Torres

Those examples are not hypothetical. Vaccines - from Covid vaccines to simple flu shots – are currently administered at diverse locations in the state, from family-planning clinics, to government buildings, to grocery stores and pharmacies. All would be included in the ambit of the bill. And the penalties for violating SB 742 are severe – up to six months in jail.

"The temptation to use SB 742 to crack down on lawful protests is manifest," said Christina Hildebrand, Founder of A Voice for Choice Advocacy, a non-profit devoted to consumer information, medical freedom, and trans-

## L.A. County Nears **5 Million Vaccine Doses Administered**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY -As of April 9, more than 4,715,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to people across Los Angeles County. Of those vaccinated, 1,652,149 people received second doses and 136,232 people received the single dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

As of April 6, 70.2% of L.A. County residents 65 and older received at least one dose of the vaccine. In total, 37.1% of the County's population 18 and older have received at least one dose of vaccine.

Public Health continues to expand the number of sites offering vaccination services across the county. As of this week, vaccinations are administered at 566 locations. These sites include seven large community vaccination sites operated by the County, nine LA City vaccination sites, 24 hospital vaccination sites, 130 pharmacies, 199 federally qualified health centers and community clinics, and 197 additional sites provided vaccine directly by the federal government and the state.

Last week, 397,430 total doses were allocated to Los Angeparency. "All a location need do is offer flu shots on the day of a big protest or picket, and it can have protesters arrested. We saw a summer where protesters of all stripes, from Black Lives Matter to Gun Rights protesters, worked to make their feelings known to the government, which is their constitutionally protected right. SB 742 would provide the government and corporations with dangerous and alarming powers to shut down protests under threat of jail time."

The bill is set for hearing in the Senate "Public Safety" Committee on April 20.

### ter nearly 700,000 doses this week. Next week, Public Health is expecting to receive approximately 323,000 vaccine doses; a decrease of 74,000 doses from this week due to a reduced supply of Johnson & Johnson vaccine. This allocation includes approximately 165,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine, 139,000 doses of Moderna vaccine, and 20,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Of the nearly 323,000 doses of vaccine the County expects to receive this week, 70% of doses will go to sites located in the most vulnerable communities. Fifty-seven percent of doses are needed for second dose appointments

Additional doses will continue to be allocated directly from federal partners and the state to pharmacies, health clinics, FEMA sites, and multi-county entities. Together, Public Health hopes that slightly over 500,000 doses of vaccine will be allocated to vaccination sites across the county this week.

For information about who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccine in L.A. County, how to make an appointment if it is your turn, what verifications you will need to show at your vaccination appointment, and much more, visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) and www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish). Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status.

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## LA County Residents Can Now Access **FEMA Funeral Expense Relief**

### Toll-free telephone number connects those in need with financial support

LOSANGELES COUNTY-Beginning April 12, Los Angeles County residents can apply for financial help for funeral expenses through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Program.

"We can never take away the pain and suffering of those grieving the loss of a loved one from COVID-19, but in so many communities already struggling to pay for basic necessities, like food and rent, funeral costs only compounds that grief," said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor to the First District. "Over the past year, too many of our residents have had to depend on organizing car wash fundraisers, GoFundMe online campaigns and food sales to come up with the money for burial costs. With thousands in our County grieving from the loss of a loved one due to COVID-19, we have a responsibility to help provide for a proper burial - allowing dignity for those who have passed and closure for their families. The FEMA Funeral Assistance Program will provide much needed relief for our residents and allow them to heal."

FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line is (844) 684-6333 and (800) 462-7585 (TTY) for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Members of the public can call Monday through Friday, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Translators will be available to assist callers who do not speak English.

To be eligible for funeral assistance, LA County residents must meet three important conditions established by FEMA:

• The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

• The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.

• The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or a qualified non-citizen who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.

## **County Supervisors Approve Proposal** to Address Anti-AAPI Hate, Explore **Creation of Equity and Diversity Fund**

### LOSANGELES COUNTY -

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a proposal by Supervisors Janice Hahn and Holly Mitchell to address an increase in incidents of anti-Asian hate and violence through the County's existing Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative and explore creating an LA County Equity and Diversity Fund.

"The escalation of attacks against AAPI Americans has been a heartbreaking reminder of how far we have to go toward building a society where everyone can feel safe, accepted, and equal," said Supervisor Janice Hahn. "LA County's Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative was a response to the racism targeted at the Black community, but this is a framework we need to

now." On July 21, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative that guides the County's ongoing commitment to fighting racism in all its forms. The initiative was created at the height of the Black Lives Matter movement and is especially geared toward the racism that systematically affects Black residents. The proposal to be considered tomorrow directs ARDI to convene a workgroup including AAPI community leaders to consider ways to address the rise in Anti-AAPI hate and incorporate those strategies into the County's anti-racist agenda.

"I'm proud to join Supervisor Hahn on this important motion," said Supervisor Holly Mitchell. gal status requirements pertaining to the deceased person.

Applicants may apply for multiple deceased individuals. If multiple persons helped pay for funeral expenses for one individual, they should apply under a single application as applicant and co-applicants. FEMA's financial assistance is limited to a maximum amount of \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,500 per application.

If you had COVID-19 funeral expenses, you may now apply for FEMA funeral relief. Begin gathering documentation that will be needed, such as an official death certificate that documents the death was due to COVID-19 and receipts of funeral expenses paid by the applicant.

FEMA will not duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, government agencies, or other sources.

More information about this program is available at FEMA.gov.

There are no residential or le-

and long-standing injustices impacting the Black community and communities of color, require an sustained investment to ending all forms of hate and systemic racism. Today's vote does this with the potential creation of a LA County Equity and Diversity Fund to support the necessary research, critical data collection and implementation of policies to help actualize the County's bold anti-racist agenda."

The motion would also explore the feasibility of launching the LA County Equity and Diversity Fund with an initial investment of \$1 million. The Fund would aim to partner with research institutions to better understand, address, and end hate, bias, discrimination, and xenophobia against communities of

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### **Mission Statement**

· We believe that journalism should be free from any motives other than relaying information to its readers. It should not be used to win a favor by flattery, to enhance a particular political interest, or for the purpose of financial gain.

• We also believe in accuracy in fact and context. Journalists should be accountable for any news or subjects they write about. • We believe in growth. Therefore, complaints or mistakes erroneously committed will be entertained and investigated diligently and corrected accordingly.

· We believe in performing our journalistic work to the best of our ability and will continue to present the facts clearly and fairly.

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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.

les County. This allocation included approximately 151,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine, 128,000 doses of Moderna vaccine, and 118,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. With the additional doses shipped directly by the federal government to L.A. County providers, vaccination sites across the county had capacity to adminis-

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use to help the AAPI community the Asian American community

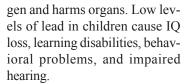
"The rise in hate crimes against

### Holden's Legislation Aiming to Reduce **Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water Passes First Policy Committee**

SACRAMENTO-Assemblymember Chris Holden's legislation, AB 100 that would set a limit on the amount of lead leaching from drinking water faucets and fixtures passed the Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials.

"We all expect the water we drink will keep us and our children healthy, and not make us sick," said Assemblymember Chris Holden. "This legislation ensures that faucets and plumbing fixtures sold in California leach as little lead as possible."

Lead is a severe neurotoxin that damages the brains and central nervous systems of young children. Lead is also a carcino-



Currently, consumers have no idea when they go to a hardware store if the faucet they buy is safe or not. Faucets can leach lead when they are used. Holden's bill would restrict the amount of lead

leaching from faucets and fixtures to no more than one microgram, which is five times lower than the current industry standard.

"We want to ensure that Californians can feel comfortable when purchasing new faucets, and are not ingesting lead that we know to be dangerous to our health," said Holden.

## **Barricaded Suspect** in Azusa Arrested

AZUSA - On April 5, 2021 at approximately 12:34pm Azusa Police Department officers re-



sponded to 500 block of East Tenth Street, regarding a male subject who had battered his family. The suspect Tyler Bachert, allegedly beat several family members and held them against their will. Family members were able to escape the home and call police for assistance, as Bachert barricaded himself inside his residence and refused to exit.

Azusa Police officers along with mental health professionals from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health were able to de-escalate the situation and successfully convince Bachert to exit the residence. Bachert attempted to flee but was ultimately taken into custody a short distance away.

Bachert was arrested for battery and false imprisonment and is being held at the Azusa Police Department Jail.

The San Gabriel Valley

## **Bullet Train: Money Grabber, Few Good Results**

Thirteen years ago in 2008, the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act was approved by 52.62% of the voters providing \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds for the planning and construction of a system from San Diego to San Francisco cruising along at 220 miles per hour traversing the entire line in just two and two-thirds hours. Costs cut the project reducing the route from San Francisco to Los Angeles. \$950 million of was designated for commuter rail system connections to the highspeed rail system.

Initially, we were told state costs would be about \$19.4 billion, assuming 30 years to pay off both principal of \$9.95 billion and interest of \$9.5 billion. General obligation bond interest costs are paid out of the general fund and for this project would be \$647 million a year. Today, estimates to finish the bullet train are somewhere between \$80 to \$100 billion.

The High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program (HSIPR) created in 2008, was the financial incentive of a plan to build a high-speed rail network across the country and part of the clean energy plan under the Obama Administration. That program offered grants to four states to develop and implement new HSR corridors, but California's plan was the only one accepted. Received was \$3.9 billion for the 520-mile Phase 1 "bullet train" from San Francisco to Los Angeles with the initial 119-mile construction to begin in the Central Valley.

California received \$3.5 billion, from the \$10 billion provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to pull us out of the recession, with the condition it had to finish Central Valley construction by September 2017. When that didn't happen, an extension to 2022 was given. A new business plan was issued June 1, 2020, but final adoption was extended to April



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

15, 2021 due to COVID 19 pandemic. That plan estimates a new infusion of \$20 to \$23 billion.

February 2019, Gov. Newsom told Politico, "Right now, there simply isn't a path to get from Sacramento to San Diego, let alone from San Francisco to LA," and suggested the project be cancelled. Cancellation was quickly rescinded when then-President Donald Trump tweeted, "California officials owe the Federal Government \$3.5 billion. We want that money back now." Newsom tweeted out Trump's tweet was "fake news. The train is leaving the station - better get on board!" Litigation is still pending.

Rep. Jim Costa (D-Fresno) has re-introduced High-Speed Rail Corridor Development Act, (HR 867) to provide \$32 billion to get high speed rail projects funding, but his main objective is to get California's project completed. The bill was introduced a year ago, but with Donald Trump still president and Republicans controlling the Senate, the bill ended up being called "a trial run" for this year's bill.

Costa says his bill reauthorizes grant programs that gave California's bullet train money back in 2008 and 2009, will give priority to projects using "electrified next-generation rail" and can bring in a large share of non-federal funding. California's bullet train, we are told, will run on 100% renewable energy and use electrified trains making California top choice for grant money.

Sacramento Bee, reported more than 500 pieces of property out of about 2,300 are needed for the construction segments in the Central Valley from Madera to Bakersfield. And, correctly reported, contractors cannot build on land the state doesn't own yet. The CHSR Authority has requested \$4.1 billion in bond money be issued to help finish the Central Valley portion of the project.

The Biden Harris Administration has put forth American Jobs Plan with \$80 billion of that \$2.3 trillion package targeting rail maintenance and expansion nationwide.

Democrat administrations have supported electrified highspeed rail as part of green clean energy programs to fix climate change, California. Rep. David Valadao (R-CD21) has communicated the CHSR project is "a waste of taxpayers hard-earned money," and written a letter to the CHSRA about the damage done to the small town of Wasco in his district.

Valadao's letter says the Authority was made aware as far back as 2011 of the disruption to the homes, businesses and Amtrak services in the City of Wasco and suggested another route avoiding those impacts and impacts to low-income, minority populations. The Authority acknowledged the impacts, certified the Environmental Impact Report and proceeded with the Preferred Alignment right through Wasco.

To mitigate the impact of the train on the Wasco Farm Labor Housing Complex, the Authority relocated residents of the 20acre, 100 building-compound with 200 residential units to a new housing development rather than implement mitigation measures. The compound sits empty, graffitied from gang activity.

## **Time To Reflect**

It's been a long year, but we made it through!

Sixty years ago when I still had my gall bladder, every now and then it would send my whole body into terribly painful spasms, usually at night after the wrong meal. These attacks would last for several hours, and then they would ease off. There was no better feeling than the relief I felt that allowed me to fall asleep. Usually the next morning I would recall those painful hours without having to relive them.

Now that the dawn has broken and things have begun to open up, it may be time to reflect on the painful year through which we have just slogged. For the 300 of us who live in my intentional community there is so much for which to be thankful. But while we were in the claws of the virus, we all complained about something. Community life was shattered. We could not even visit our closest friends. We lugged our meals home in plastic containers. Every bench on the campus has a posted sign limiting its users to a single person. Wives or husbands in our skilled nursing facility could not communicate except through a closed set of windows. Zoom defined what few meetings there were. We could not leave the campus and no one was allowed in. We had not seen our relatives and closest friends for over a year.

While our administration had taken a very conservative posture



Charles H. Bayer

and may have been overly cautious, we cannot complain. We have been safe. There has not been a single death nor a virus driven hospitalization. The few cases we had were not severe. And now we are 100% vaccinated.

But hold on! I have been strengthened day after day by my reliance on my wife Wendy. I indeed have been a lucky duck, but so many others were isolated and alone and have not yet recovered from that lonely horror. When I was a parish minister, at the end of our congregational worship service, instead of a traditional benediction, I would often say, "Be very kind to one another for most of us are fighting a hard battle." As I'd look out over the congregation I knew the truth of that observation. Mrs. G had just been diagnosed with cancer. Mr. Whad lost his job. Mr. A's plant had declared bankruptcy. Ms. J was seriously depressed. Mr. S had begun to realize that not only had his memory slipped, but

was also slowly losing his mental sharpness. J's relationship had crashed. On and on it went, and as pastor I knew about some those burdens.

While the pandemic has eased for now, like yesterday's tornado it has left a path of destruction. There are businesses that will never recover and jobs that will never come back. Young people may have lost a whole year's education. Some churches will not survive, and some relationships may have dissolved. Most of us know about someone who has died. No shot in the arm will diminish the pain resulting from that devastating year.

Eliot Rosewater, the hero in Kurt Vonnegut's "novel, God Bless You Mr. Rosewater" was once asked to baptize twins born to a very simple community girl. He hadn't the slightest notion what he might do, but in a conversation with his wife he said,"I'll go over to her shack and say, Hello babies. Welcome to earth. It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter. It's round and wet and crowded. At the outside babies, you've got about a hundred years here. There's only one rule that I know of babies. God damn it, you've got to be kind"

That's it. This year and every year, in the midst of a pandemic or out of it, there's just one rule, you've got to be kind.

Contact Charles Bayer at candwbayer@verizon.net

## Another Week In The Dictatorial Reign Of 'King' Joseph Biden!

### My Opinion: By D. B. Shimel

Before being installed as President of these United States, President Elect Joseph Biden said that he could not legislate from the Oval Office because 'that would be a dictatorship'. Well here we are, less than one hundred days into his reign, and all he has done is dictate from the Oval Office. Bided has already signed over sixty 'executive orders' and/or Procuration's.

On Friday, the ninth of April, Joe Biden signed an order authorizing the formation of a panel of thirty two "experts" to review possible changes to the judiciary branch of the government. The 'smoke-screen' of this panel is to obfuscate and justify the Democrats intention of packing the Supreme Court, thus turning the Supreme Court into a puppet of the Socialist Democrats. Since 1870 there have been nine jurists on the Supreme Court, a number set by congress. Admittedly, Congress can change the number of Justices through legislative action. FDR tried to 'pack' the court but even then the Democrats would not acquiesce to his presidential power grab. Earlier this week, King Biden signed six Executive Orders regarding gun control. Allegedly, his primary target was 'ghost guns' - guns manufactured without serial numbers. There are already laws on the books outlawing the sale of these weapons. He also falsely stated that if people purchased guns at gun shows they do not have to undergo background checks. This assertion is not exactly true. Most people who purchase guns from vendors at these venues do have to undergo a background check. (Except for Federal Firearms License dealer to dealer transfers). There is an exemption: in most states, private citizens may transfer ownership of a gun from one to another without requiring a background check. However, neither citizen may make a significant part of their living from selling firearms. California, of course, has an exemption to this law. Here in California, private citizens must go through a licensed FFL dealer to legally transfer ownership of any gun. Joe Biden is not yet done issuing unconstitutional Executive Orders in his quest to eliminate

the Second Amendment. Biden is planning to issue other Executive Orders regulating 'assault weapons'. Further, he announced that he intends to have pistols with a forward hand grip labeled 'short rifles' and have congress write laws outlawing these weapons.

If you are a legal gun owner, you should be concerned because soon agents of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), at Biden's direction, may be coming for you and your guns. Of note - Some states have issued laws preventing their law enforcement officers from enforcing these Presidential gun-grabs. King Biden recently stated that the 'Amendments are not absolute.' Meaning that he believes that he can override the Constitution with an Executive Order. 'The border situation' as the Biden administration has declared it to be, is a state of crisis. In March alone an estimated 110,000 people crossed into our nation as un-invited trespassers. Custom's and Border Protection (CBP) personnel cannot estimate the number of trespassers who have not been apprehended. Hundreds of criminals have been detained including child molesters and other felons. Recently, two people on the international terrorist watch list were detained by CBP agents. How many MS13 gang members and other terrorists have eluded capture? Thousands of children are held in retention facilities - these same facilities that Democrats and their sycophants called "cages" during the Trump Administration

- awaiting dispensation of their fate.

The 'Border czar" (President in waiting) Kamila Harris, has not even seen fit to visit the border. Could it be, she is too busy playing watchdog over the person she plans on replacing?

Of course Biden blames the entire 'border situation' on Trump. Trump should have foreseen this 'Biden surge' and built more facilities to house these thousands of unaccompanied minors.

How many Americans citizens will have to lose their jobs or die at the hands of these future Democrats before America wakes up? Let us not forget Biden's allegations about the updated Georgia voting regulations as 'Jim Crow on steroids'. These assaults stem from only one issue. Any action that attempts to usurp the House of Representatives HR 1 - a monstrosity that legalizes voter fraud - must be stopped. How dare any state attempt to pass a law that exercises powers granted to the states by the Constitution (See Article I Section 4)? Any usurping of Democrat authority must be vilified by playing the 'race card'. Does 'King' Biden really believe that having to show a valid ID to register to vote compares to the atrocity of "Separate but Equal"? Apparently, in his state of reduced mental capacity, he does!

## MY TURN: It Quit Being

### About The Virus...

I hear of people accused of flaunting the COVID rules by not following along.

We will take it seriously when the administration, the media and other politicians quit allowing BLM and ANTIFA super spreader riots and border chaos which imposes no restrictions on illegals to "flaunt" the rules.

The folks critical of others who they claim are bellyaching about the COVID protocols and restrictions are quick to put the blame on folks being spoiled or privileged and not wanting to be inconvenienced. They often bring up the rationing and restrictions that took place during World War II. They are implying that folks today don't have the resolve. And they lack the fortitude to make a few sacrifices. I wouldn't be so critical. Consider what might really be at play. Not a lack of resolve on the citizens' part, because many of us have sacrificed greatly and have been tested with hardships. Remember the old "walking a mile in one's shoes?" No, rather than resolve, it might be inconsistency as we seem to get mixed messages and mixed signals from those supposedly in charge.

It just might be that somewhere along the way, it quit being about the virus.

It quit being about the virus when flattening the curve was meant to ease the burden in the hospitals and then the hospitals were empty.

It quit being about the virus when the lockdown map



### Charles Lopresto

matched almost exactly the Electoral College map from 2016.

It quit being about the virus when Nancy Pelosi demanded and received stimulus money for many pet Democrat projects that had nothing to do with health, medicine or small businesses in need. Projects that wouldn't and couldn't get passed through proper, normal means. Projects like Planned Parenthood, The Kennedy Center, PBS, voting procedures and illegal immigration.

It quit being about the virus when people were jailed for trying to make an honest living, keeping their businesses afloat, all while criminals were let out of jail to "protect them" from the Coronavirus.

It quit being about the virus when kids were not allowed to go back to school even after it was proven that children were at the lowest risk.

It quit being about the virus when certain jobs were allowed to function and other seemingly similar jobs were not.

It quit being about the virus when some people were

deemed non-essential because their jobs were considered non-essential.

It quit being about the virus when people who were elected to do a job, put the burden on other people who they called experts, but in fact were just folks knowledgable in concentrated and segmented, limited aspects of the entire "big" picture.

It quit being about the virus when Democrats resisted allowing people to save money through a pause in taxation and restrictions, instead preferring they receive a federal handout.

It quit being about the virus when those handouts were meant to keep people from working.

It quit being about the virus when the Constitution was trashed; people were forced to do things like wear masks whether or not they could prove the masks actually were necessary, in spite of our country being one that used to believe that the covering of one's face was not who we were.

It quit being about the virus when people were encouraged to "rat" on each other, which is something else that doesn't reflect who we were.

And...It quit being about the virus when everything was really done to try and remove a President.

When this virus response went from being just that, a virus response, and then turned in to some sort of Kabuki theatre, it quit being about the virus. Throughout history, tyrannical government is what people get when they are duped into voting for dictators!



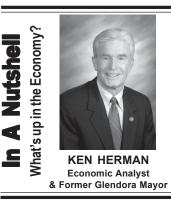
## **A Trillion Here And A Trillion There**

The second quarter is off to a blazing start, with the S&P 500 Index pushing above 4,000 on the heels of President Biden's so called infrastructure plan update. In the weeks or months ahead the market focus may turn to whether Congress will actually pass this "Biden" proposal that includes \$2T in spending on many things besides infrastructure. One news source stated that only 6% would be spent on roads and bridges. This controversial bill also includes much higher corporate taxes (with rates increased from 21% to eventually 28%, spread over 15 years).

Economists at Jefferies estimate the proposal could add 0.5 to 1 percentage points to their estimate of 5.2% growth in U.S. gross domestic product in 2022. However, soon having a higher USA corporate tax rate than most of the free world would create future growth obstacles. Higher Treasury yields have already indicated just who else will pay for this grandiose plan. A trillion here and a trillion there and pretty soon we are talking real money!

When will the Biden administration declare a coronavirus victory? July 4th? Never? During his first press conference he stated that we should be "allowed" to have parties in our backyards and at least be partially back to normal by July 4th. It was widely perceived by cynical observers that the Biden Administration did not want to admit that new Covid-19 cases were plummeting, because they wanted to use Covid-19 as a Trojan Horse to push through more unpopular policies.

Naturally, as soon as the Biden Administration admits that Covid-19 is under control all schools will be expected to reopen, and



working Moms can return to the labor force. At that point there should be nothing holding back U.S. economic growth. The only "glitch" is that some politicians do not like to end or potentially waste any perceived crisis. So, watch out for political advisors counseling Biden to keep economic restrictions in place even beyond July 4th.

However, let's also be realistic in acknowledging what really turned the COVID tide. One year ago, the Dow Jones Industrials fell by a record 3,000 points. Following that fateful week, the stock market continued down as California, New York, and then state after state closed down their core economies. The two most volatile market days - and four of the top seven - came in four straight days, March 16-19, 2020. It took real old-fashioned leadership by then President Trump to save the economy and maybe the nation. But then, something crazy happened. Traders on Wall Street virtually shouted - "It's OVER"!

The market bounced back the next morning with a +2,114point Dow gain (+11.4%) on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, and a total +20% in just three days, the shortest bear market and fastest bull market recovery in history. In about a year the Dow and S&P 500 rose over 80%, while NAS-DAQ is up 114% and the Russell 2000 is up an astounding 143.6%. There is only one former leader of our country that deserves primary credit for this miraculous economic rebound.

However, it appears that not all good news is welcomed by the current President since (presumably) "no crisis should go to waste". Maybe we are seeing that Biden's advisors can't afford to let last year's smorgasbord of bad news evaporate too quickly. Even with dramatically declining new cases and deaths it appears that this administration doesn't want to release Americans from all COVID-19 restrictions any time soon.

In his recent speech President Biden held this four-month carrot out for us: "If we do this together, you, your families, and friends will be able to get together in your backyard or your neighborhood and have a cookout or a barbecue and celebrate Independence Day. That doesn't mean large events, with lots of people together, but it does mean small groups." No fireworks, no parades, no town gatherings - and barbecues only if you behave from now until then! It's your choice, America. Want to "Go Big" this coming July 4th?

Doesn't this also make you wonder how many of our constitutional freedoms current Washington insiders feel we should ever be allowed to again enjoy? We're still living in the land of the free, I think. We thought that COVID-19 restrictions and related government mandates were only temporary.

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comments: kenherman46@hotmail.com

What do you suggest is the best way for me to use the government relief money?

The special purpose of the government relief money (most recently up to \$1,400) is to help with expenses which impacted you due this pandemic. If you don't need this money right now, open a savings account and deposit as much as possible into an emergency fund. If you already have emergency savings, pay down your debt. If you've been paying a little extra on every credit card, stop. Start paying the minimum payment due on all but one credit card. Pay all the extra on that one credit card. Once that's paid off, take the amount you were paying on that card and add it to the minimum payment you've been making on the second credit card. As you pay off the second credit card, add all that payment amount to the third credit card's minimum payment. Once you get your credit cards paid off, put that accumulated payment amount into your emergency fund savings account until you accumulate 3-6 months living expenses. Then, open a second savings account for nonemergencies. All this can be accomplished faster by figuring out where you could cut your budget, even if only temporarily. Also, consider selling items you own, or getting a part-time gig, to get out of debt even more quickly.

I'm so worried and depressed. I've been able to work from home, so I'm financially okay. Some of my family and friends are barely surviving on unemployment and have their rent or mortgage in forbearance. I'm very concerned that there will be a new virus and



Your Money - Ask Julia

Julia Yoder

another outbreak even after the vaccine. I look forward to returning to the workplace, yet I dread the possibility of having to return to 'stay-home' quarantining. How can I put my worries under control and get a grip on my finances?

Start by recognizing and appreciating what you have. You have enough money to purchase what you need, and you still have a job. I encourage you to review your budget, get out of debt, and add to your savings account. Unlike some, you are not alone; you have family and friends. They'll get their finances under control, and will find employment. IF there is a post-vaccine outbreak, you are so much more prepared than you were at the first of 2020. If you get so depressed that you find yourself suicidal, call the hotline: Nat'l. 800-273-8255, L.A. County 800-854-7771 Some other counties have their own hotline. Or, call 911.

I have been self- employed for over 5-years, and my wife is employed part-time. We want to purchase a home. We're being told I'll need to show 2-years' tax returns. My income last year was considerably higher

### than the previous year, so they say we have to wait another vear. By then, interest rates will probably be much higher. What can we do?

They want to see that your income is "reliable" and that there's a great probability that you will be able to continue making the mortgage payments. There are some lenders who only look at 1-year tax return, especially when you have been in the same line of business for a number of years and it looks like you'll continue. Also remember that there are many loan programs, both fixed interest and adjustable, and very low down-payments for a conventional loan. There are VA loans with zero down-payment, FHA loans, and Reverse Mortgage (with age requirements) purchase loans. I do not recommend an adjustable loan. The interest rate on a 15-year loan is lower than a 30-year loan, and the payment is higher because of the timeframe. I recommend a 30-year loan. You can budget to pay extra against the principle of a 30-year loan to pay it off more quickly. If finances get tight, you can simply pay the lower, required 30-year payment without the risk of foreclosure. Ask Julia by email:

juliayoder@yahoo.com

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

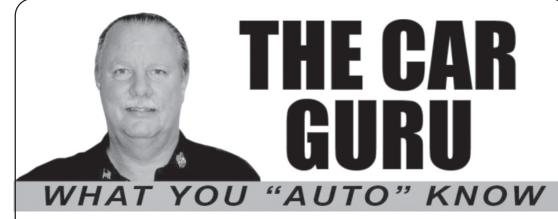
## **Mortgage Relief Program to Offer \$20,000** Grants to Property Owners **Affected by COVID-19 Pandemic**

LOSANGELES COUNTY-The Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) is pleased to announce the new LA County Mortgage Relief Program, a partnership with Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County (NHS) and local HUD-approved housing counseling agencies. The \$5.5 million initiative developed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will support property owners who have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. "Like many others, property owners have been struggling through no fault of their own," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn. "We designed the Mortgage Relief Program to deliver urgently needed economic relief and counseling services to more property owners across Los Angeles County."

demic," said DCBA Director Rafael Carbajal. "We are excited about the expansion of our already robust foreclosure prevention program and to work alongside trusted community partners to help provide assistance to

Los Angeles. DCBA and NHS-LA have determined qualification requirements for applicants. Relief funds will be paid directly to lenders and servicers.

"NHS and our partner agencies are happy to be able to facilitate a fund that is focused on homeowners. We hope property owners will take advantage of the free foreclosure prevention counseling services as well. We're here to help," said Lori Gay, President & CEO of NHS. Free foreclosure prevention counseling will be provided by nonprofit HUD-approved counseling agencies to property owners in multiple languages. Starting Monday, April 12, property owners can apply for the Mortgage Relief Program by calling (888) 895-2647 or visiting nhslacounty.org/mortgagereliefprogram. To find more ways how LA County can help property owners, visit DCBA's foreclosure website prevention at dcba.lacounty.gov/foreclosureprevention.



By Gene Morrill - Certified Automotive Specialists

### **Using Your Senses To Detect Car Trouble**

customers that tell us their car "sounds like" or "smells like" this or that. Often customers feel self-conscious about doing this but it truly is helpful to us. Our vehicles are really good communicators. I know we have dash lights that illuminate to tell us many things but our senses are great at it too.

For example, if you notice a puddle under your car that is dark brown or black and oily looking in appearance, that is most likely engine oil. This tells us you might have a bad seal or a loose oil filter. If you see a red oily spot it is probably a transmission or power steering fluid leak. A clear puddle of fluid is most likely air conditioning condensation, and is the only puddle you don't need to be concerned about.

If you notice a smell of burnt toast it could be an electrical problem. A smell of burning sulfur usually indicates a catalytic converter or emission control system problem. An acrid odor could be burning oil or oil leaking onto a hot engine part. A chemical or resin-like odor



We get calls all the time from might indicate a "dragging brake" or an emergency brake that's been left on by mistake. A sickly-sweet smell coupled with a fogged inside windshield is a strong indicator of a heater core failure.

> Hearing the following sounds definitely means your vehicle wants attention! A squealing or scraping sound when you apply the brakes, knocks or pings from the engine when you accelerate or climb a hill, your muffler making a rumbling or hissing sound,

the thumping of a tire due to a flaw, the clicking of a worn CV joint when you make a tight turn, an engine that keeps chugging when you've turned off the ignition. All these noises indicate trouble!

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"We understand that property owners have faced unique challenges during this ongoing panproperty owners in need." The Mortgage Relief Program

will include a relief fund which provides grants of up to \$20,000 for qualified property owners, plus expanded foreclosure prevention counseling services. The program is structured to benefit single-family homeowners and property owners with four or fewer units living in communities highly impacted by COVID-19. This includes low- and moderateincome communities and those who have suffered a higher percentage of significant health impacts during the ongoing COV-ID-19 pandemic. Properties must be owner occupied.

NHS will administer the relief fund and deploy funds to qualified applicants from a diverse set of cities and unincorporated areas throughout Los Angeles County, excluding the City of

> ACCOUNTANT: Prepare & review individual & business tax returns; research federal & state tax law; perform tax planning; & assist with tax audits. Req. Bachelors with major/concentration in Accounting. Jobsite/location in San Gabriel, CA. Send resume: Attn: HR, Kam P. Lee & Associates Corp., 853 E. Valley Blvd. Ste. 103, San Gabriel, CA 91776.

### **Governor Signs Legislation to Ensure Access to Supplemental Paid Sick Leave** for Workers Impacted by the Pandemic

**SACRAMENTO** - Building on the state's action to expand paid sick days protections for California's workforce during the pandemic, Governor Gavin Newsom today signed SB 95, legislation to ensure access to up to 80 hours of COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave for eligible employees, including those advised to quarantine or isolate and those caring for COV-ID-impacted family members.

"Paid sick leave gives workers the time they need to care for themselves and loved ones while keeping their coworkers, families and communities safe," said Governor Newsom. "Even as case rates and hospitalizations decline and vaccinations ramp up, we can't let our guard down and must do all we can to stop this virus from spreading. I thank the Legislature for its continued leadership and commitment to supporting California workers affected by this pandemic."

SB 95 extends protections through September 30, 2021 and is retroactive to sick leave taken beginning January 1, 2021. Small businesses employing 25 or fewer workers are exempt from the legislation, but may offer supplemental paid sick leave and, if eligible, receive a federal tax credit.

California took early action to expand paid sick days to employees in the food sector, and later enacted paid sick days protections for every employee exposed to or positive for COVID-19. From the beginning of the pandemic, the Administration has taken action to protect and support California's workforce, including expanding access to jobprotected Paid Family Leave and workers' compensation; more resources for critical child support services for essential employees and vulnerable populations; additional weekly unemployment benefits; and support for employees to isolate and quarantine outside their home. The Administration has also built a pipeline of personal protective equipment to help workers stay safe on the job and expanded testing and health plan reimbursement for the essential workforce.





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## E)

## **Around the Valley & Senior News**

### The Raising of the Dodger Championship Seen or Heard Around Town **Banner, Boos then Cheers** And in The Valley

Over the last few years I have fallen away from watching major league sports due to the fact that many of the players show disrespect to our country. These players have racial issues or issues with this country, they are picking the wrong forum to do this. Taking a knee and disrespecting the National Anthem is not an answer. It is a disrespect. Because of this they have lost a fan base along with commercial advertising. The end result is that there may not be enough money to pay these athletes that are showing this disrespect the money they are demanding. This is the same country that allow these athletes to make millions of dollars. Have you noticed how some rosters has dwindled with athletes of color on their team's roster? Example, the Dodgers. It looks like some of these players are being weaned out by various teams. That is very sad as some of the young players com-



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

ing in who do not hold the same political belief of taking a knee may not be selected to play for the team. Looks like some people may have shot themselves in the foot.

So with that being said and the reason why I'm not following sports to any degree, this explains why I didn't even know they were starting baseball season, I guess I should say, already started baseball season. Football and baseball were my pastimes. I guess I'm not interested anymore.

I found myself with some vol-

unteers watching the World Series ring ceremony for the Dodgers along with the raising of the World Series Flag. I guess the Dodgers won the World Series last year. Anyway, when it got time to raise the flag, they started to introduce dignitaries. When they introduced Mayor Eric Garcetti, the crowd booed very loudly, and it did not stop until they introduced Magic Johnson. The transition from boos to cheers was overwhelming. I could not help but burst out laughing and thinking, this must be a real morale booster for the mayor. I guess he has picked up on the fact that this was not going to be a happy place for him the day.

I don't know why they booed him, they elected him. He is nothing like his father was.

Just curious, I wonder if he really cares. Probably not.

"That's just the way it is!"

### By Ed "Hondo" Torres

1. Walk your dog in a nice neighborhood and get killed... But it seems most Americans have been convinced to think that the biggest problem facing the nation is that millions of people are racist, white supremacists.

2. President Biden is an older gentleman and because of his age should not be criticized by anyone.

3. Used to be that problems were solved when people put on their commonsense "thinking caps", but apparently there is a great shortage of them ther'head-things nowadays -- because many younger folks (and older ones too) discarded the caps when they buried their own old folks since the caps were seen as not being stylish enough for modern society.

4. Apparently, America's foreign enemies are shocked, but superbly elated at how easily so many Americans are working to destroy "law and order" -- by defunding the police or working to abolish police forces, and by overall seeking to undermine the goodness within America.

5. Be required to show an I.D. to buy liquor and that is all right, but it is not all right to require American voters to show an I. D. if they want to vote legally?...

6. The next batch of politi-

cians in The Valley is already planning and plotting strategy to run for election and use the Corona Virus mess to replace city councils and city managers, and thus advance themselves and their cohorts: just like the virus was used in the federal elections - if you are alert, the wind will get you a waft of the machinations.

7. With the very easy influx of so much illegal immigration, it seems some from inside the country and from outside it seek to overwhelm the current White majority in the U.S.A. and supplant it with a majority of "people of color".

8. People complain about "open borders" and the homeless-

ness blight in their communities, but fail to figure out that the national and state politicians they vote for have caused the mess.

9. Every day seems to be National-Something-or-other Day... There is even the honorific National take-your-localgopher-to-dinner Day... Not really, but in the wacky world we live in just wait awhile and such a day might come up soon.

10. Some folks who have suffered physical ailments go about their lives with a smile on their face, walking about town and engaging with neighbors -- while others become angry and isolated.

Comments/suggestions to: honnod1@yahoo.com

## **Duarte Historical Museum Re-Opens**

**DUARTE** - The Duarte Historical Museum reopened on April 10 after a year-long mandated closure due to the pandemic, announced Claudia Heller, President of the Duarte Historical Society. Masks will be required, and social distancing adhered to.

1-4 p.m. and the first and third Wednesday, 1-3 p.m. A new exhibit on Depression glass from the collection of Karleen Daugherty will be on display through May.

The museum is located at 777 Encanto Parkway, Duarte. Admission is free. For more in-

## "TIME JOCKEY" - Patton Life in San Gabriel

### **By Joe Castillo**

Growing up in the Orchards... George S. Patton Jr., the man who would go on and lead U.S. Army forces in World War II, grew up right here in the San Gabriel Valley, in the township of San Gabriel. Patton started as a young boy, developed his athletic skills, would become an Olympian, climbed the ladder in establishing a career in the Army, rose to the rank of General, and established a legendary record which may never be duplicated. And it all started in the orange groves and vineyards of San Gabriel. The same person who ran beside a tank brigade during the invasion of Normandy also rode a horse down Mission Drive nearly 35 years earlier.

the Township of San Gabriel but located on the present-day later incorporated into the City of San Marino. Even though records indicate that Patton was born at Lake Vineyard, his sister, Ann Patton, insisted until she died in 1972, that Patton was actually born in Los Angeles but the mystery was never solved.

The Patton family was well connected in the early 1900's. His father was George S. Patton Sr., a lawyer who grew up and was educated on the East Coast. Patton Sr. was a partner with Joseph B. Banning in a land deal which would eventually lead both to purchase Catalina Island. Patton Sr. also became associated with Henry Huntington, the largest stockholder of the Union Pacific Railroad and thought to be the During his Army career, Pat- richest man in the world. Both ton was known as "The Liberator" Huntington and Patton Sr. led the and "Old Blood and Guts" but in incorporation of the City of San Marino in 1913 with Patton Sr. becoming the first mayor of the citv In 1901, Patton Jr. graduated from West Point, and after serving in the Army met Beatrice Ayers on the beach on Catalina Island and in 1910, they were married. They built a home in San Marino on Euston Road, adjacent to their family's estate which was

grounds of the Huntington Library. Beatrice and George Patton had three children, two daughters and a son named George S. Patton IV.

In 1912, Patton made the U.S. Olympic team and competed in Stockholm in the Olympic Games. He competed in the Pentathlon which consisted of five events: swimming, shooting, fencing, running and riding. Skills he had learned as a young boy growing up on his Lake Vineyard estate. He was on the verge of sweeping through his competition but this horse, who had suffered from severe seasickness on his trip to Sweden, could not finish the cross-county portion of the competition and Patton finished in 5th place. World War I came soon enough and Patton was promoted to Lieutenant in the Cavalry. His expertise in riding and shooting soon earned him medals for his bravery but he also earned a reputation as a person who was always taking chances. It was during World War I, that he learned first-hand about the use of mechanized tanks and commanded the first tank brigade of the U.S. Army. Patton used his knowledge of mechanized tanks to chase the rebel Francisco "Pancho" Villa back and forth across the Mexican border in order to protect U.S. citizens living in border towns. General George S. Patton Jr., held every rank in the U.S. Army, and eventually he was named Commander of the United States Third Army. His house still remains in San Marino near his family's estate where he learned all the skills, he would need to become one of the leading military generals in United States Army history... Joe Castillo is a freelance historical writer who has been covering Southern California history for 13 years and has written 5 books on the topic. He can be reached at joeacastillo@aol.com.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD **THEME: FICTIONAL** MONSTERS ACROSS 1. "Turkey" dance 5. X minus III

- 8. Accounting acronym 11. Angel's glow
- 12. Like list of chores
- 13. Inside info 15. "National Velvet" author
- Bagnold 16. Heavy Metal band Quiet

17. \*Worn by monster hunters and dragonslayers 18. \*Sea monster with atomic breath 20. Brooms and cauldrons to a witch, e.g. 21. Subject of biographies, pl. 22. of Aquarius 23. Saudi's southern neighbor 26. Ceremonial flight 30. "I" problem 31. Sweet-talk 34. Marine eagle 35. The Revenge of the 1984 37. you sure? 38. Desires 39. Russia's Romanov, e.g. 40. Comfy pants 42. Preceding month 43. Google Maps predecessor, pl. 45. Blackbird-like birds 47. Crow sound 48. Group of professionals 50. Like a bow string 52. \*Witch of Russian fairytales 55. con carne 56. G in 1000 g., e.g. 57. Loose hood 59. Was rebroadcasted 60. Prospector's mother? 61. Bassoon cousin 62. Nod up and down 63. \*He played Dracula and Count Dooku 64. \*Like Sendak's Things DOWN 1. England's favorite drink, in French 2. \*Addams Family's Lurch: "You 3. A dish of stewed meat 4. Waddle 5. Bridal veil fabric 6. Objects of worship

Regular hours are Saturdays, formation call (626) 357-9419. CROSSWORD 35 39 43 50

his hometown, Patton was known as "old Pattoney" and "Georgie". Even though Patton was known to have a colorful vocabulary, he was also considerate enough to ask how his childhood nurse, Mary Sealey was doing in letters he wrote back to his family.

Patton was born on his family's ranch estate known as Lake Vineyard in 1885 which was in

## **Understanding Psoriatic Arthritis & Psoriasis**

cadia Recreation and Community Services Department, Senior Services Division and Methodist Hospital are offering a virtual health lecture on understanding Psoriatic Arthritis & Psoriasis on Friday, April 23 from Noon to 1pm. Join them for a virtual lecture with Rheumatologist Huynh W. Tran, MD from Methodist Hospital. Psoriasis is a common skin condition that affects up to 3 out of every 100 people. Psoriatic arthritis is a painful joint condition and happens in 50% of psoriasis patients. Dr. Tran, who is board certified in internal med-

ARCADIA - The City of Ar- icine, will help you understand these unique conditions to help individuals take better care of their joints and skin.

> If you are interested in learning about this lecture but do not have a computer there is a dialin option. All individuals must pre-register by calling Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130 at least one day prior to the presentation. They will be requesting you to provide an email address if you have one. For more information, please call the Senior Services Office at 626.574.5130.



- © StatePoint Media 25. Like high ground 26. Pestilence pest 27. Lock horns 28. Darlene or Jacob of Ozark 29. MCAT and LSAT 32. \*Amity Island fish 33. Bonanza find 36. \*Transylvanian bloodsucker 38. Shylock's practice 40. Use a Singer 41. Up until now, 2 words
- 7. Just a little 8. Michael Douglas' 1978 mystery thriller 9. Like the Weasleys of "Harry Potter' 10. Second qtr. calendar month 12. Alex Trebek's forte 13. Drooping 14. \*Jeepers sing. 19. Coats with Zn



- 2 words 48. Not kayak 49. Follow rules 50. Shakespearean "you" 51. What snob puts on 52. \*Minotaur is half man, half 53. Mongolian desert 54. Deserter's acronym
  - , The Beloved Country 55. 58. Zeppelin predecessor

### April 8, 2021 Puzzle Solution

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The San Gabriel Valley Learning

22. Tap order

## Black Teen is Eighteen for Eighteen in | El Monte Union Schools **College Acceptance: Top Three Include** Harvard, Stanford, and Yale.

### by Luvina Beckley

**GLENDORA** - Monique Vobecky, a Glendora High School Senior, is still reeling right now as on Tuesday April 6th she received her final acceptance letters from Ivy League schools completing her eighteen for eighteen of schools that she applied to that she got in.

'I just can't believe that they all said 'accepted' says Monique who maintained a 4.7 GPA, this is unreal".

Monique who fell in love with the arts at an early age when she learned to play the Violin is still not clear how it all happened. There is some guess that maybe it was because of her being an athlete as she also fell in love with sports, particularly Soccer at an early age, and served a member of the Glendora High's Soccer team where she exceled as the 2017-18 "Defensive player of the year", Captain, and was elected MVP of the Soccer team in 2019-2020.

Or maybe, as many believe, it was because Monique created the Little Sunshine Foundation a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in 2018, at the age of 14, that was selected by Glendora Chamber as the Nonprofit of the Year in 2019. The foundation's mission: provide underserved youth in the community with the necessary resources to improve their quality of life through tutoring, increased access to sporting gear, civic engagement and leadership. When Monique was asked why she decided she decided to start the foundation, she replied "because I believe that every child



### Monique Vobecky

deserves a little sunshine"!

We may never know all the reasons why every single school she applied to 'accepted' her to study the next four years at some very difficult to get into schools, was it her academics, the essay, the multiple community service awards and organizations reflected in her bio? We may never know. However, what we do know is that Monique Vobecky, a Black Teenager from Glendora, was willing to put in the work to excel academically and take time to help shine light in the lives of so many others via her foundation, community service and sports,



that maybe it is simply time for her to be given an opportunity to have the light shine brightly on her!

When asked her thoughts about what she would do with now know she has been selected to all 18 schools, she smiles and says "I wish we all could see that Black Girls are capable of some amazing things and should be recognized and 'accepted' for who they are and the talents, skills and passion we bring...no matter how different they are... artist, musicians, or even poets...can you say Amanda Gorman!"

Speaking of which, Monique has always wished that she could meet Oprah Winfrey, Michelle Obama and now Amanda Gorman! With Monique Vobecky maybe being one of the few black students to herald such a feat, maybe just maybe Monique it is possible that they would also want to meet you too!

Monique wants to major in medicine and become a doctor. Her parents, Pete and Bianca Vobecky plan to leave Wednesday to be college tours to help Monique make a good decision between 18 schools! Even as most offered scholarships as well, Bianca Vobecky states 'We are going to let the decision be all hers since she is the one that put in all the work... although Obama did go to Harvard' she says with a smile.

## **Continue Strong Showings in LACOE Academic Decathlon**

EL MONTE – El Monte High School senior Oscar Martinez and South El Monte High School senior Marina Limon both joined Academic Decathlon as a way to challenge themselves and enjoy the camaraderie that comes with being an AcaDeca team member.

As team captains, Martinez and Limon knew that the 2021 Los Angeles County Office of Education competition would be the most challenging yet, since the El Monte Union High School District AcaDeca teams-including those from Mountain View and Arroyo high schools - could not study and sharpen their skills in-person. Instead, what the teams gained was a lesson in teamwork and perseverance.

"Because of the pandemic, this year's AcaDeca experience was vastly different from past years," Martinez said. "It took a lot of adjusting in our study sessions, but we managed to echo the spirit of the competition as closely as we could. There were obstacles along the way, like virtual meetings, but we still found a way to build camaraderie through virtual platforms."

Mountain View High led the way in this year's competition with a fourth-place Division II finish. South El Monte, Arroyo and El Monte high schools finished in fifth, seventh, and eighth place, respectively. Overall, 24 students earned medals, with six students receiving gold and 13 students earning multiple medals.

Academic Decathlon is a competition consisting of ten scholastic events, with a common theme linking the subjects. This year's theme was the Cold War. Teams are divided into three groups, based on grade point average - Honor, Scholastic and Varsity. Individual scores are combined to determine the winning teams.

"Academic Decathlon was definitely a challenging but rewarding experience," Limon said. "Our coach. Mr. Castillo. made the entire competition more enjoyable despite the setbacks that came with studying at home. It was an amazing opportunity that allowed me to try new things and learn about interesting subjects." For El Monte High, the 2021 competition was a high point, with the team earning an all-time high of eight medals. Martinez, who won a gold medal in the interview category, felt the team's twice-weekly "Kahoot" study sessions inspired his teammates to excel in the core tests, and that remote learning did not diminish the thrill of the Super Quiz, AcaDeca's hallmark event.



El Monte High School senior and Academic Decathlon team captain Oscar Martinez was a driving force behind the school's success at the 2021 LACOE Academic Decathlon. Martinez won a gold medal and inspired his team to perform at their best.



South El Monte High School senior and Academic Decathlon team

captain Marina Limon helped her team to a strong performance at

FOR MOVIE LIST & DATES OR TO PURCHASE **TICKETS VISIT CI.AZUSA.CA.GOV** 

"The adrenaline rush we get

the 2021 LACOE Academic Decathlon. from Super Quiz is immeasurable," Martinez said. "Super Quiz sparks laughter, light-bulb moments and continuous excitement as we journey through each question and a spectrum of different subjects ranging from Calculus to Soviet music."

Martinez's enthusiasm and leadership are no surprise to El Monte High AcaDeca adviser Joseph Estrada, who marveled at Martinez's ability to pull the team together during a year like no other and called him a driving force behind the team's success.

"We are extremely proud of our El Monte Union Academic Decathlon participants, who go above and beyond their classroom studies to represent the District," Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga said. "This year's competition was a unique experience that strengthened team spirit and inspired a valuable lesson in determination that will serve the students well."





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## On Easter Sunday, the VFW Post Became A Church | La Verne Vaccine Clinic

### By George Ogden

WEST COVINA - With the Our Lady of Guadalupe church in El Monte being forced to not have the church services because of government restrictions and the church wanting to be compliant, they had to look for other locations for a place to worship.

They approach the VFW in West Covina with the fact that these veterans believe that they fought and protected the constitutional rights of individuals to believe in any religion without restrictions of the government. They had discussions and meetings to see how they could help. They moved forward and used their facility. It was soon transformed into a place of worship. The congregation would meet up to 4 times a week. The congregation would also take up a collection and make a small donation to the facility to help cover whatever costs that it may incur. The VFW membership was all



for supporting this congregation. Some had to chuckle a little bit because it is connected to a cocktail bar that the VFW has. Some

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joke that they could come to the bar and do a little excessive drinking and then go through the doors for confession.

During the Easter period, the congregation would basically need the facility for 4 days. During that period, they transformed the rental hall into a beautiful house of worship. During the celebration, they played music

all night long and also baptized some babies. They stayed until Easter sunrise. During that time, they did have the baptism of the babies, as well as a candlelight entry into the facility and receiving the Holy Eucharist.

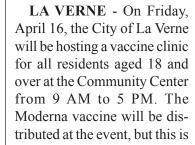
The VFW was honored to play a part where the congregation could actually celebrate their Easter Sunday.



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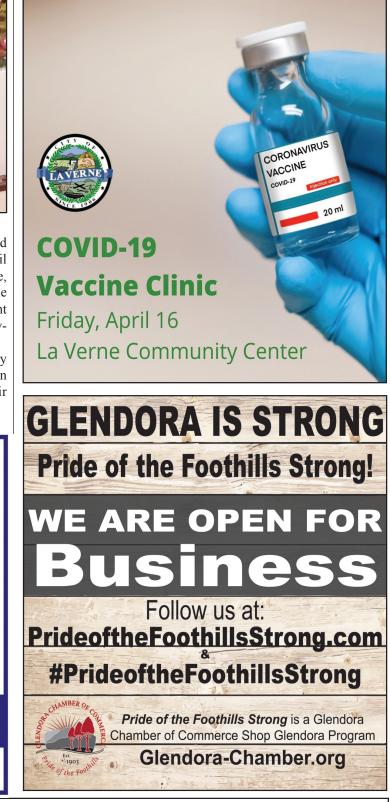
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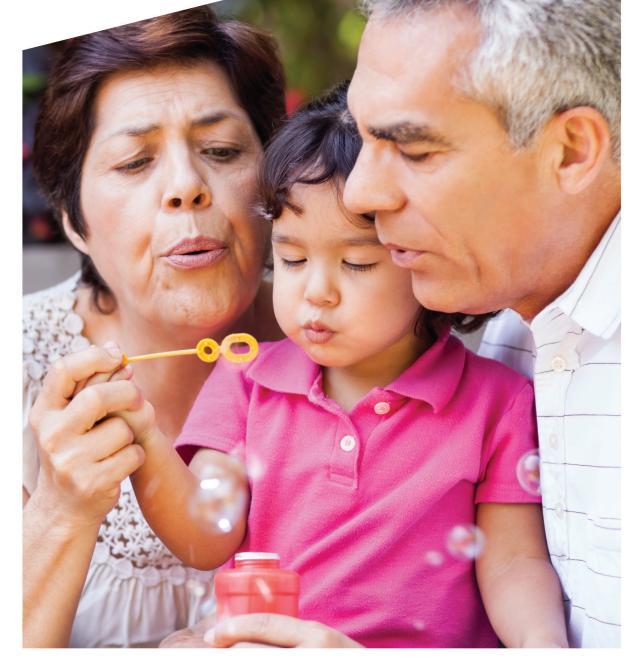
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