Visiting the Migrant Shelters

by Jesse La Tour

In today’s current political climate, the issue of immigration has become extremely polarized. Democrats advocate for the rights of immigrants (documented and undocumented), and Republicans clamor for a border wall to stem the tide of “illegal aliens.”

In an effort to humanize this issue for myself, and (perhaps) for some readers, I decided to try to meet some actual migrants, to put a human face on what is often reduced to little more than a Facebook argument in this country.

I reached out to a San Diego-based group called Border Angels, a group which, every two weeks, leads something called a “Caravan of Love” southward across the border into Tijuana, to deliver food and supplies to migrant shelters.

Council Declares Homeless “Emergency Shelter Crisis”

Fullerton City Council voted, at their July 2nd meeting, to declare an emergency shelter crisis regarding homelessness, to solicit proposals for a “safe parking” program for people living in their cars, and to establish an Ad Hoc Homelessness Task Force to develop a coordinated response to homelessness in our city. The vote was 3-1 (Whitaker “no”, Fitzgerald absent).

Council chambers were filled to overflowing with hundreds of members of the faith/non-profit community, who were there to encourage council to take these and other actions, such as building a homeless shelter in Fullerton, and using city-owned land for the development of permanent supportive housing for the homeless.

FPD Releases Body Worn Camera Footage of Officer Involved Shooting

The Fullerton Police Department released body worn camera footage on July 12, along with further explanation, of the officer involved shooting that took place on July 5, causing the death of a 17-year-old on the 91 Freeway.

The video, and commentary by Police Chief Bob Dunn and Lieutenant Jon Radus gave the following narrative:

On Friday, July 5, at approximately 7pm, Fullerton Police Corporal Scott Flynn (a K-9 officer) was on his way to take his dog to the veterinarian because of an injury he sustained on a prior call.

As the officer was traveling eastbound on the 91 freeway, approaching the Kraemer Blvd. exit in his police vehicle, he noticed a dark-colored SUV traveling past him at a high rate of speed, in violation of the law. The officer then attempted to conduct a traffic stop.

As the officer attempted to stop the vehicle, the gray SUV “appeared to have intentionally collided with his police car.”

The driver then made an abrupt U-turn, into oncoming traffic, and came to a stop, facing the wrong way on the freeway.

Because of the erratic behavior of the driver, the officer requested emergency assistance from additional police officers.

After the collision, Officer Flynn exited his vehicle in an attempt to make contact with the driver of the SUV. He approached on the driver side of the vehicle, at which time he was confronted by a female who was later identified as Anaheim resident Hannah Williams.

Video shows she was in a shooting stance, with both arms extended in front of her, pointing what appeared to be a gun directly at the officer.

In the past two years, Fullerton’s unsheltered homeless population has doubled from 149 to 308, according to the most recent 2019 “Point in Time” homeless count. According the city’s own report, “Orange County, along with the state and nation, is in the midst of a homelessness crisis.”

Before council voted on the new measures, Fullerton’s Housing/Homeless Services Manager Rebecca Leifkes gave a report outlining the city’s current efforts to address homelessness.

For 2019-20, the city is budgeted to spend $481,076 in direct costs addressing homelessness, which includes police and library security.

In addition, approximately $129,223 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and $330,000 from the North Orange County Public Safety Task Force are dedicated to addressing homelessness.

Fullerton has also partnered with 12 other cities in north Orange County to establish two homeless “navigation centers” (shelters with social services), one in Placentia and one in Buena Park, that are expected to open in December of this year—using state funds.

The purpose of declaring a “shelter crisis” is to temporarily relax certain regulations to expedite the process of creating housing for the homeless, particularly on city-owned land and facilities.

Before council discussed these items, many members of the faith/non-profit community in Fullerton spoke of the need for the “Emergency Shelter Crisis.”

Fullerton Armory Shelter to Re-Open in October

The Fullerton and Santa Ana Army homeless shelters will re-open beginning October 15 and remain open through April 15, 2020.

The Armories will provide much-needed shelter to homeless individuals during the winter season. Each Armory can provide shelter for up to 200 people experiencing homelessness.

Meanwhile, 13 cities of North Orange County are working on opening two “navigation centers” (shelters with wrap-around social services) in Buena Park and Placentia by December of this year, which will provide a total of 250 beds.

The County of Orange will spend $1.7 million for the operation of the Armories, and to encourage more folks to use the shelters, those who stay there will be allowed to stay an hour beyond the original 7am checkout time.

Continued page 2
Nonprofit and Community Colleges Partner to End Student Hunger

Fullerton College, Cypress College, and North Orange Continuing Education (NOCE) have partnered with local nonprofit Pathways to Hope to increase services for North Orange County’s students struggling with food and housing insecurity at each of the three schools.

The North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD) and Pathways of Hope launched the partnership on July 1. Through the partnership, Pathways of Hope will operate and scale up existing food banks at Cypress and Fullerton Colleges, and establish a new food bank at NOCE’s Anaheim Center.

Pathways of Hope staff will operate food and resource hubs at each site where students may receive food and hygiene products for free, as well as housing referral services.

“Many of our students do not have the security of knowing where their next meal will come from or where they will sleep at night. As educators committed to student success, we are compelled to expand our support services more than ever before,” said NOCCCD Chancellor Cheryl Marshall. “By partnering with Pathways of Hope, an established and reputable community-based organization, we are much better prepared to address the needs of our students.”

Fifty percent of California community college students experience food insecurity, according to a recent survey of 57 colleges in the state. Local data mirrors this staggering statewide trend, according to the RealCollege survey completed by the Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice at Temple University.

Cypress College had more than 1,100 students participate in the RealCollege survey; the results showed that 44.2 percent of participating students reported having experienced food insecurity; 55.5 percent experienced housing insecurity, and 13.7 percent experienced homelessness.

At Fullerton College, 900 students participated in the survey; fifty percent of respondents were food insecure in the prior 30 days; 61 percent of respondents were housing insecure in the previous year; and 17 percent of respondents were homeless in the previous year.

At NOCE, results indicated that 45.5 percent of respondents experienced food insecurity, 68.5 percent experienced housing insecurity, and 15.3 percent experienced homelessness.

“We know that student hunger and homelessness have been a significant problem on our college campuses for some time. We believe utilizing our expertise in these areas to assist our students on college campuses helps improve stability, academic outcomes, and the quality of life for everyone. This is aligned with Pathways of Hope’s mission completely, and we look forward to expanding this partnership and adding education opportunities in the years to come,” said Pathways of Hope Executive Director David Gilliland, Jr.

In 2017-2018, the State Hunger-Free Campus Initiative, backed by Senate Bill 85, created a funding stream and a regulatory avenue for community colleges to provide staffing and food banks for students. The District will utilize $197,800 in one-time funding to contract services with Pathways of Hope during the 2019-2020 academic year to provide services for the three schools.

COUNCIL DECLARES HOMELESS “EMERGENCY SHELTER CRISIS”

Continued from frontpage

to take these measures to provide solutions for those currently living on the streets and in their cars in Fullerton. Father Dennis Kriz, pastor at St. Philip Benizi Church in Fullerton has, until recently, allowed a certain number of homeless people to sleep on the church grounds.

“Four different times during the past year and a half people have dropped to their knees in front of me asking for help, saying they had no place to go,” Kriz said, “If you do nothing, you will have between 250-270 people on the streets. That’s who you’re looking at.”

Barbara Johnson, who co-founded the Fullerton Interfaith Emergency Services (now Pathways of Hope) over 40 years ago, said, “I’m counting on you, my city council, to go ahead and adopt this ad hoc committee, to go ahead with the safe parking plan, to go ahead and bring about a better condition. I turn 90 next year, and I still have hope...we can bring those things to fruition.”

Diara Trout, a leader of the Tri-Parish Homeless Collaborative (which includes members of St. Philip Beniz, St. Juliana, and St. Mary’s Catholic churches), pointed out that, in addition to the Point in Time unsheltered, there are also hundreds of school-age homeless children, who are classified differently (under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act).

“There are hundreds of homeless people living on our streets. If that doesn’t qualify as a legitimate crisis, I don’t know what does.”

According to a statement by the Fullerton Police Department: “Please keep in mind this is an initial review, and our understanding of this incident could possibly change as additional evidence is collected, analyzed, and reviewed. The Fullerton Police Department also does not draw any conclusions as to whether or not our officers acted within our department policy and the law until all the facts are known, and the independent investigation by the Orange County District Attorney is complete.”

With the July 1, 2019 implementation of California Assembly Bill 748, California police agencies are required to release any relevant video or audio pertaining to the critical incident within 45 days...Based on the circumstances of this critical incident and the fact that only one officer was involved, the Fullerton Police Department is releasing this video just one week after this OIS occurred, in an effort to not just meet, but exceed the requirements of AB 748. As a reminder, while body worn cameras are an excellent investigative tool, they do not always show what the officers may have seen, and they don’t always provide an accurate description of what the body camera footage shows. We ask that the community keep this in mind when viewing these videos.

Fullerton Police Chief Robert Dunn, and Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer, met with the family of the 17-year-old and provided them with an opportunity to view this Critical Incident Community Briefing prior to its release to the public.

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Local Gathered in protest conditions at US migrant detention facility on border. PHOTO BY DANNY TORKES (More photos online at www.fulltontimes.com)

“Lights for Liberty” Vigil in Brea

150-200 people gathered at the corner of State College and Imperial Highway in Brea for a “Lights for Liberty” vigil on July 12, expressing their opposition to the current administration’s immigration policies, which have separated thousands of children from their parents and placed thousands in crowded, substandard detention facilities, simply for trying to cross the border. This was part of a massive “Lights for Liberty” protest that took place in cities around the country.

The event began with the group singing “The Star-Spangled Banner” and a recurring theme of the event was a re-affirmation of the American values of freedom and justice for all.

Following this, a series of speakers, including some local religious leaders, gave messages and prayers for the migrants currently being detained at the border, and those waiting in Mexico, who have been denied asylum, in violation of US and International asylum law.

“A partnership of officials from cities, nonprofits, the County of Orange and the State of California participated in the July 10th ground breaking ceremony for construction of the Buena Park Homeless Navigation Center.

Construction will begin immediately and is scheduled to be completed in early 2020. The Buena Park Navigation Center, is located at 6494 Caballero Blvd.

The facility, being built with repurposed shipping containers, will provide 150 beds, housing and supportive case management, medical services, and a variety of resources to community members experiencing homelessness.

“The Navigation Center will provide a safe place for homeless neighbors to seek shelter, be connected to services they need to move into permanent supportive housing, and become successful,” Buena Park Mayor Arthur Brown said.

“The impetus for the construction of the navigation center was the Orange County Catholic Worker vs. County of Orange lawsuit (recently settled) regarding the lack of local homeless shelters.

The Navigation Center model was first conceived in 2018 when the North SPA, comprised of the cities of Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma, Orange, Placentia, Villa Park, Stanton and Yorba Linda began working together to find suitable locations for multiple shelters.

On November 7, 2018, the North SPA was awarded upwards of $12 million in Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding from the State of California via the Orange County Continuum of Care Board.

The Buena Park Navigation Center will be funded with $6.4 million in HEAP funding as well as additional funding from participating North SPA cities.

Operational costs will be funded by Senate Bill 2. Once completed, Mercy House will operate the 15,360 square foot center. Larry Haynes, Executive Director of Mercy House, spoke directly to those the facility would serve. “We see this as a beacon of hope,” said Haynes. “We cannot wait to serve you.”
July 2 City Council Meeting

CLOSED SESSION: Before every public city council meeting, there is a ‘closed session’ in which council meets with various parties outside view of the public. During this week’s closed session, council met with representatives of various public employee unions (police, fire, city employees) to negotiate salaries, benefits, and working conditions. Council discussed the discipline/dismissal/release of an unnamed city employee, and the court case Ruee Carate De Reyes v. City of Fullerton. Finally, Council met with legal counsel to discuss Orange County Catholic Worker et al v. Orange County et al. City attorney Richard Jones announced that this case has been settled.

Resolution Condemning Trump’s Tweets

Councilmember Flory suggested that council place on the agenda a resolution of condemnation of President Trump’s recent Tweets, telling four fresh congress women of color (three of whom were born in the US, the other a naturalized citizen) “to go back” to where they came from.

“I personally am very offended by this,” she said.

“We are a nation of immigrants. I was born in New Zealand, the child of a man who was the child of Russian immigrants to this country... We are all touched with the richness and the diversity of immigrants who make our society vital...

-Councilmember Flory

Privatizing City Jobs

Council voted 4-0 (Fitzgerald absent) to award a contract with the private, for-profit company G4S Secure Solutions for staffing of the City of Fullerton jail operations. The agreement term is three years, with an option to extend for up to two additional one-year periods. With agreement from the city, the contractor may increase its fees each option year at the following estimated rates:

- Year 1 - $545,147
- Year 2 - $568,068
- Year 3 - $590,886

According to Police Chief Dunn, this will result in an overall savings to the city. G4S is a nationwide company. They have been operating in Orange County since 1970 and currently employ over 750 people in the area. This company provides similar jail and custodial officer staffing services to La Habra, Costa Mesa, Buena Park, Westminster, Arcadia, Irvine, Arizona, Beverly Hills and Whittier.

The action to contract out the jail staffing will necessitate the layoff of four employees serving in the jail. These employees will be offered “bumping rights” to other positions or opportunities to transition to vacant positions.

Public Comments

A young woman named Dani said she has found quite a bit of moldy and expired food at some local food pantries. “Something needs to be done right away because people are at risk of picking up expired food. Nothing should be on the shelves that you wouldn’t buy at a grocery store,” she said.

The Condition of Our Roads

Public works gave a presentation detailing the status of our streets, which have been the subject of much criticism for their deteriorating condition.

The Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rates overall condition of the pavement. According to the latest study, Fullerton’s PCI is as follows:

- Very Good: 28% of all streets (82 mi)
- Good: 43% of all streets (39 mi)
- Fair: 17% of all streets (48 mi)
- Poor: 15% of all streets (45 mi)
- Very Poor: 27% of all streets (80 mi)

Funds for street maintenance and repair come primarily from Measure M2, SB-1 (the gas tax), and the general fund. The staff report recommended increased funding for roads in order to maintain or improve our current PCI.

Fireworks

Councilmember Flory said that on the 4th of July “the neighborhoods in Fullerton...were like a war zone...I have received more complaints about the fireworks this year than any year previous.” She suggested putting the issue of whether to allow fireworks on our next ballot in November 2020.

Fullerton Hills Softball Team Honored: Mayor Silva presented certificates of recognition to each member of the 8 and under Fullerton Hills Softball Star Team, who won second place in the central district championships, and second place in regions. See related story on page 8

July 16 City Council Meeting

(Next meeting is Tuesday, August 6 at 6:30pm. Come see your local government in action!)

CLOSED SESSION: Before every public city council meeting, there is a closed session, in which council meets with various parties outside view of the public. During this week’s closed session, council met with legal counsel to discuss the case Air Combat USA, Inc. v. City of Fullerton, et al. They discussed the discipline/dismissal/release of an unnamed city employee. Council also met with various public employee unions (police, fire, city employees) to discuss salaries, benefits, and working conditions. In the closed session report, the city attorney announced that council rejected the proposals of the city employees and the firefighters’ unions.

Additional items discussed at both the July council meetings are reported on elsewhere in this issue, including: “Council Declares Homeless Emergency Shelter Crisis” (on frontpage), and “Council Wrestles with How to Protect Mobile Homeowners from Rent Gouging” (on page 5).

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Council Wrestles with How to Protect Mobile Homeowners from Rent Gouging

by Jesse La Tour

Residents of Rancho La Paz urge council to take action to protect them.

In an effort to protect 155 homeowners of Rancho La Paz mobile home park in Fullerton from the extreme space rent increases imposed by the park’s new owner, Fullerton City Council voted at their July 16 meeting to agendize a temporary rent moratorium and a tenant-based rent assistance program.

The council chambers were filled with senior residents of Rancho La Paz, many of whom are facing an uncertain future, following recent mediation with John Saunders, who bought the park earlier this year and has proposed rent increases of over 80% over the next six years.

Residents, industry lobbyists, representatives of Mr. Saunders, an economist, a lawyer, and others weighed in on the discussion of how to best protect these homeowners, most of whom are on social security and fixed incomes.

Before public discussion of the issue, Fullerton’s Neighborhood Services Manager Rebecca Leifkes gave an overview of some of the tools council may consider in addressing this issue.

Among these options was rent stabilization (aka rent control), which council discussed but took no action on, and to bring back a federally-funded Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program.

Saunders has offered a “safety net rent subsidy program” to homeowners within the park who cannot afford to pay some or all of the rent increases, which has received a lukewarm response from residents who say that the requirements are unrealistic and would not apply to many of them.

Rancho La Paz resident June Perez said she went door to door to do a survey of the number of people who would not be able to make their house payment without help. Of the 30 on her street, 20 of them said yes, they would need help.

She said that Saunders’ subsidy program “is not adequate or fair” and it is only for two years.

Todd Harrison, another resident of Rancho La Paz, urged council to enact rent stabilization.

“Unless you act before our 45 days are up (October 1), and many others at Rancho La Paz will have to sign long-term leases with a 55% rent increase in the first three years. Those of us on fixed incomes cannot survive this increase. There is just enough time for you to save us if you start taking action tonight,” Harrison said.

Mary Jo Barreche, Vice President of the local area of the Golden State Manufactured Homeowners League (GSML) pointed out that there are currently 110 cities and counties in the state that have rent stabilization ordinances.

Mayor Pro Tem Fitzgerald proposed taking no action, saying that she found the private subsidy program that the owner is offering to be reasonable and she does not believe in rent control.

Councilmember Whiraker said he does not believe in government intervening in a “market-based private transaction.”

Councilmember Zahra said, “While I feel there are some times where government cannot intervene in the free market, there is time when it should, to protect people.”

Councilmember Flory made a motion to establish a six-month moratorium on any rent increase in any mobile home parks within the city of Fullerton, and appoint an ad hoc committee in the meantime to “brainstorm what a decent transaction would be.”

Flory called the proposed rent increases “absolutely obscene” and said, “I very much agree with [Whiraker’s] sentiments of not wanting to interfere in market processes, but at the same time, we have to balance people vs. profits.”

Mayor Silva seconded this motion.

The city attorney interjected that, because a rent hike moratorium was not on the current agenda, it would need to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Same for creating the ad hoc committee. Thus, Flory amended her motion to ask that a rent hike moratorium be placed on the next meeting’s agenda.

This motion passed 4-1 (Fitzgerald “no”). Zahra’s motion to bring back more information on the tenant-based rental assistance program also passed, and will be on the next agenda.

NEW投票 procedure allows residents to vote by mail or at a center.

The county is still deciding whether it will purchase new electronic voting equipment before the next election. Another asked whether a No Party Preference or NPP voter would be able to receive a party ballot for the political parties that will be allowing NPP voters to vote in their Presidential Primary. The ROV responded that NPP voters will receive a pink card in the mail with the opportunity to request a party ballot for the primary. Another resident asked whether there would be a solution for those who wanted to vote under their ballot to vote in person. The answer was no, because the electronic registration process does not allow them to determine what a party ballot that had already been returned to the ROV.

The Draft Election Administration Plan will be available on August 15 and will be discussed at a public hearing Thursday, August 29, 6 to 8 pm at the Orange County Department of Education, 200 Kalmus Dr, Costa Mesa to receive public input. The final version will be published October 4, 2019.

If you would like to attend an upcoming “Roadshow to Vote Centers 2020” presented by the OC ROV, you are welcome to attend any of the community workshops and events in the county as listed below:

• Thursday, August 8, 6:30 to 8:30pm, hosted by HB Huddle, 5245 Foglows, Huntington Beach
• Saturday, August 17, 10 to 11:30am, hosted by the Republican Party OC, 1422 Edinger Ave, Suite B, Huntington Beach
• Thursday, August 22, 6 to 8pm, hosted by the OC Federation of Republican Women at the Orange County Registrar of Voters, 1309 S Glassell Ave, Santa Ana.
• Monday, September 23, 6:30 to 8:30pm, hosted by the Democratic Party of OC, 1916 W Chapman Ave Suite B, Orange.

To provide your input online visit www.ocvote.com/fileadmin/ov/public_input.html.
They Uurned It

Back in 'the day', whenever that was, construction companies often left something behind, maybe it was to attract more business, or maybe it was to say "We did this and we're proud of our work." Well, they should be.

The plaque shown above is located on the still sparkling sidewalk in front of Ace Hardware on Commonwealth.

Artistic touches were often placed on the top of buildings, like these urns, shown at right. And yes, they are still there on Harbor. Recognize either of them?

VINTAGE FULLERTON

If you live in one place long enough you will likely experience a longing for things from the past. Downtown and all of Fullerton has constantly evolved over the past century plus, and thanks in part to social media, many have taken to sharing their thoughts on places and things they miss. Much of it centers on food, namely, restaurants from the past.

Taco Villa and Pup 'N' Taco, Straw Hat Pizza, Helen Grace Chocolates, Hillside Drive-In, Ice Cream Castle, Thrifty Ice Cream and of course Billy Barry's Roller Fantasy, Boege's Sporting Goods and The Williams Company downtown.

By the way, that supposedly extinct Thrifty ice cream is still sold at Rite Aid and now, at Lakeman's Market, ah wait, I mean Viva Villa on East Commonwealth.

Sadly, Frati Gilato is long gone, but many have stepped up and various takes on frozen treats can be found all over downtown now. Just do a little exploring and you may be amazed at the variety.

People move on, popular places fall out of favor, 'progress' takes out something that many consider a landmark. In looking over some vintage photographs, it became apparent that some of those relics are still here, hiding in plain sight.

One of the original horse hitchin' posts (shown above) is in front of the Main Library on West Commonwealth. Do you know where another of those posts is? It's not far from this one, a few blocks to the west on Commonwealth, not easily noticed but it's there.

Many downtown street light poles on Harbor have been replaced with more modern versions, but not all. The new ones don't have much character. Shown at right is one that has survived, across from The Fox Theatre.
I'm going to steal into one of those birds nests for an egg, cause every time I do, that Coyote is looking over my shoulder! I tell you, you'd think those coyotes work for the federal government, the way they get after us. I'm just tryin' to have a fresh and yummy egg snack, and Coyote says, “Whoa, those are endangered, Raccoon! No gnatcatchers or cactus wren eggs for you!”

That brought us massive amounts of juicy bugs, along with a plentiful lean main course of lizard. However, don't get the idea I'm going to steal into one of those birds nests for an egg, cause every time I do, that Coyote is looking over my shoulder! I tell you, you'd think those coyotes work for the federal government, the way they get after us. I'm just tryin' to have a fresh and yummy egg snack, and Coyote says, “Whoa, those are endangered, Raccoon! No gnatcatchers or cactus wren eggs for you!”

I guess into every life, a little rain must fall, right? At least I can look forward to a delicious elderberry snack soon, especially since every elderberry tree is bursting with berries. Soon they'll be ripe purple, fall, since the paddle cactus are all covered with the largest and most beautiful yellow flowers ever! That means if it's another hot summer we'll have a juicy red crop of tunas - not the fish, the fruit! - to snack on. Those are so tasty, sometimes, I can hardly wait to get the thorns out before I chomp into them! But I wasn't born yesterday, I'm careful not to get any of those wicked thorns in my fur or my mouth. Ouch! It's not worth it.

But the one thing I can't figure out is those monkey flowers. It's crazy, cause there's nothing for me to eat on them, but I find myself staring at them like I'm hypnotized. Every bush has an assortment of flower colors. Some bushes have apricot and rust flowers. Some have orange, fiery red hot pepper and burgundy flowers. Every bush is different. It's enough to make me hungry! The birds have told me they fly to many other natural areas, and in other nature areas monkey flowers don't work that way... Most places all the flowers there are just lemon yellow, or all apricot. The monkey flowers here are multi-colored. It's like a smorgasbord of colors - on each plant! Amazing! Like I said, looking at those colors reminds me I'm hungry!

It's a good year to be a raccoon here in Coyote Hills. Lots to eat, clear skies to look out into – heck! Some days I can see Catalina from my front porch! Even beautiful flower displays to look at! Come out and take a look for yourself, but stay away from those birds’ nests - or you might see Coyote over your shoulder!

**Evening Nature Hike**

Bring your family and friends and come out to view the unique and beautiful monkey flowers, (only to be seen in Coyote Hills) along with maybe some native birds and animals on the Friends of Coyote Hills Evening Nature Walk, August 11, 6pm. Meet at the Equestrian Ring on Lakeview at Laguna Lake Park. Bring water and wear comfortable shoes.

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**OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2019**

“Just 8” by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 19)

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### ACROSS
1. Slow on the uptake
2. Freudian topics
3. Heat wave
4. “___ fool ball” (caches)
5. Holiday beverages
6. “Loving” actress Ruth
7. “Zipp——Doo-Dah”
8. Citrus drink
9. The end of a rugby match
10. Medical identification
11. Chic sludge?
12. “At ___ eat lunch.”
13. Finished
14. “He’s ___ duck” (doomed)
15. Big name in video games
16. Williams of “Happy Days”
17. Baby’s first word
18. Thor's father
19. Any day now
20. Supplemented
21. Protuberances
22. “Wot not?”
23. B ig nam e in video gam es
24. Fizzy drink
25. William of “Happy D ays”
26. Baby’s first word
27. Thor’s father
28. “That TV show will be ___ minute…”
29. “There Will be Blood” actor Paul
30. “Wot not?”
31. “Much ___ About Nothing”
32. “Warlock” actor Julian 33. Syrian president Bashar al- 34. Carry a cane
35. 1995 Pritzker Prize architect Tadao
36. University V.I.P.
37. My favorite California city and the only eight letters used in this puzzle’s answers
38. Sarcastic
39. “___ conclusion” (wrap up)
40. Sarcasm
41. “___ kleine Nachtmusik”
42. Fats and Kendrick
43. “Wot not?”
44. Medicinal plant
45. “Much ___ About Nothing”
46. Confidentiality contract, abbr.
47. Fried (into)
48. Wind direction line
49. Club soda
50. “_____ folk ball” (caches)
51. Shell or Arco spot?
52. T reat ___ the soul
53. “___ kleine Nachtmusik”
54. browns
55. Chest pain
56. Plans
57. Fries, maybe
58. Kind of dancer
59. British lardo hi?
60. Blood type, abbr.
61. “Come ___” (enter)
62. B ritish lothario bio?
63. “___-X
64. Blood type, abbr.
65. “Come ___” (enter)
66. Not a soul
67. “There Will be Blood” actor Paul
68. Humorist, e.g.
69. ___ a high note

### DOWN
1. Newsmen Rather
2. Freudian topics
3. Not yet final, in law
4. “___ foul ball” (caches)
5. Holiday beverages
6. “Loving” actress Ruth
7. “Zipp——Doo-Dah”
8. Citrus drink
9. The end of a rugby match
10. Medical identification
11. Chic sludge?
12. “At ___ eat lunch.”
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67. “There Will be Blood” actor Paul
68. Humorist, e.g.
69. ___ a high note
Fullerton School Debate Champs by Jan Youngman

The FSD Speech & Debate program includes over 300 4th to 8th grade students who develop skills in argumentation, public speaking and acting. At the Southern California Elementary Championships, Laguna Road finished first and Sunset Lane finished second. Orangehole Elementary was also awarded the small schools division championship. At the Middle School State Championships, Fullerton advanced seven students into the final rounds and two were crowned State Champions: Avishi Bansal (Humorous Interpretation) and Chan Chung (Big Question Debate). At the National Tournament held in Dallas, Texas, one thousand schools from across the country participated and Fullerton’s Parks Jr. High made a very good showing coming in one round away from winning the championship. Twelve of the 19 Fullerton students advanced to the national quarter final rounds. Eight advanced to the semis, and two advanced to the final rounds. Amelie Heying advanced from Ladera Vista finished 4th in the national poetry interpretation competition and Ruby Perez from Nicolas finished 6th, also in the poetry category. Sal Trujillo, who started and coached the Fullerton Union High School Speech Team leading them to one state and four national championships, retired in 2016. He has brought his expertise with high school student teams to the Fullerton School District 4th to 8th grade students.

Fullerton Hills Softball State Champions by Susana Verne

Fullerton Hills Softball, Girls Under 14, won gold in the 2019 Southern California B State Tournament held in Lancaster, California and hosted by USA Softball in early July. After competing an undefeated 6-0 schedule against very competitive teams from around all of California, Fullerton Hills is the newest State Champion. There was so much excitement in the crowd at the award ceremony Sunday night when gold medals, a trophy and a banner were presented to the team. Hard work pays off! Jeanette and Joanna Barrios, Samantha Coffin, Deliah and Darien Cardenas, Trinity Cornejo, Isabella Kingsbury, Raquel Lopez, Alyssandra Mejia, Maia Rodriguez, Kyri Valdama, Isabelle Verne, Ammine Watkins, and Allie Weith took up this extraordinarily hard-working championship team. This team of proud, young ladies leave for Redding, California next week in an attempt to earn their first ever National Title. They will face some tough competition but they are up for the challenge under an all-star coaching staff including head coach, Dee Dee Kingsbury. Good Luck Ladies! Follow our city’s team, Fullerton Hills 14U Gold all-stars at: https://www.blastathletics.com/teams/20414

Student Health Issues

As a parent of a university student, I was not surprised by the recent college admissions scandals. Today, entry into college takes years of planning and a team effort that stresses out many families. Even if a graduate does not pursue higher education, teenagers currently experience greater amounts of mental stress from social media exchanges, and career choices, in addition to the regular disruption of having to complete their homework.

Regardless of socioeconomic status, academic goals, or career pathways, many students deal with a growing overload of social and emotional stress. The CDC reports suicide increases have made it the #2 cause of death, after accidents, for 10-20-year olds. (CDC, July 2018)

Recent information from Healthy Kids school surveys find that teens feel a greater sense of isolation, hopelessness and depression.

Closer to home, last year’s FJUHSD student survey (over 7,000 students participated) revealed that students desired increased mental health resources, facilitated peer groups, and courses teaching life skills (how to make budgets, fill out tax forms, etc.) from their high school experience.

In June, the FJUHSD trustees approved the 2019-20 Local Control Accountability Plan which decides how the district will allocate funds. It includes $268,000 (LCAP p.138 action 10) for a Mental Health Coordinator with school site auxiliary staff. The district already provides multiple programs helping students increase academic skills and providing social and emotional support. Programs like Hi-Step, AVID, Think Again, and restorative practices are connecting students with services that they may need, but many students seem unaware of these programs or do not find them interesting. Most go to their counselors for support, but with a current case ratio of 500:1, counselors rarely have the time to get students additional services beyond academic help. All school sites increased rates of suspensions except for SHHS last year despite having these restorative practice programs to lower suspension recidivism rates according to the Dashboard www.casholdashboard.org.

Many suspensions are caused by students vaping or consuming illegal substances on all campuses. The district spends $2 million dollars yearly to contract a School Resource officer for every school day and major activity, and they expanded this to include drug sniffing dogs at an additional $20,000 a year. The trustees have approved this cost for years but the suspension rates have not decreased while drug use is increasing each year. Doing the same thing each year while expecting a different outcome seems counterproductive, but the options to hire additional counselors or support staff in order to lower the ratio of adult service providers to provide students with better access to services, or increased parental education have not been seriously discussed by the district.

Last March, the district announced a $43 million reserve including a $26 million-dollar unrestricted reserve that prompted Board President Fawley to briefly discuss spending a fraction of the unrestricted money to directly impact students. One way to directly impact students is to increase the service personnel directly affecting student lives on campus. Adding one school counselor to each site lowers the student ratio to 350:1 and allows counselors to be more accessible to their students and less pressured to deal only with academics. These people see students all years and have access to emotional/mental health and community services for at risk students to get them focused on learning and making better choices. In most cases, students do not need intensive psychological intervention, they just need an adult they can rely on in these increasingly stressful times. Spending approximately 3% of the unrestricted reserve to alleviate the causes of student drug use, combative behavior and chronic truancy is still less than what the district currently spends to identify and control criminal behavior and seems like a step in the right direction.

E-Cigarettes as Harmful as Tobacco

Not only can cigarette smoking lead to yellow and brown stains on teeth, but smokers are also more likely to produce bacterial plaque that leads to gum disease. And because smoking prevents oxygen from entering the bloodstream, infected gums heal more slowly, resulting in inflammation and the likelihood of tooth loss worsening. While some may believe that e-cigarettes are a safer alternative to conventional cigarettes, new research shows that vaping subjects the oral environment to chemicals that pose as much of a health risk as cigarettes, if not more. E-cigarette liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals that damage cells in the mouth to the point where e-smokers are at a higher risk for gum disease, tooth loss, and cancer. According to the study mentioned above, e-cigarette vapor appears to exacerbate the cell damage caused by e-cigarette vapor, with menthol-flavored vapor posing the most harm. Breaking (or better yet, never starting) the smoking habit now can greatly reduce your risk of losing your teeth as well as increase your chances of enjoyment good health in the future. One of the most important things we can provide you with is education. We’ll help you keep an eye on your dental health beginning with a thorough oral exam. New patients are always welcome.
Summer Travel: Gateway to Fun Discoveries & Experiences by Francine Vudoti

Traveling always puts me in a good mood. Every summer, it is our family's tradition to take a break from typical everyday life and travel to new places. So far, traveling has helped me encounter in real life the things I have learned from school. For example, last year, I learned about the different biomes of the world.

This summer, I got to actually experience the desert biome in Qatar and the savannah in Kenya.

I packed my bags, then left for my summer adventure with no expectations. I am a big fan of surprises. In a snap, I was on the airplane, admiring the fluffy clouds that lay under the plane, and took many pictures while in the sky.

After 16 hours, we arrived at our stopover in Qatar, a small country in the Persian Gulf. This country is known to be one of the richest countries in the world due to its great oil reserves. Because our layover was between 12-24 hours, we were given a free stay at a nice hotel, airport transfers, and food vouchers that we could use to explore the food in the hotel.

Our hotel had much more than just rooms. It also had affordable private city rooms. It also had affordable private city rooms. It also had affordable private city rooms. It also had affordable private city rooms. It also had affordable private city rooms.

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Our hotel had much more than just rooms. It also had affordable private city rooms. Our tour guide drove us to downtown Doha for sightseeing. We saw many eye-catching buildings and a peaceful harbor filled with iconic boats, Qatar’s traditional sailing vessels. In the background was the city’s skyline that reminded me of my trip to New York last year. In the end, I was able to capture the city’s beauty through a collection of photographs.

Once again, we boarded an aircraft - this time one that would bring us to Kenya. I couldn't wait for the start of another great adventure.

Kenya is known as the home of the oldest paleontological discoveries and the safari. Safari is a Swahili word that means journey. In the past, it was about hunting for wild game, but today it is more focused on observing wildlife.

I was curious about seeing the oldest paleontological discoveries so we headed to the Nairobi National Museum. While most of the artifacts and fossils were real, the most valuable ones were locked in a secure room and only their replicas were displayed. Some of these fossils were found along Kenya's Great Rift Valley. It took us a half-day from Nairobi to reach this vast landscape.

My first glimpse of the valley from the mountains was filled with wonder, conscious of the fact that this was the place where the fossils of “early humans” were found. As we drove along the valley, we encountered lakes where the famous flamingos amazedly walked or swam or flew together in synchronized fashion. They would soon migrate to Tanzania.

Kenya is also home to wild animals so we went on a safari in search of “the Big Five.” The “Big Five” is a term that hunters used to refer to the five most difficult of Africa’s big game to shoot while on foot; rhinos, lions, leopards, elephants, and buffalos. Seeing these animals freely explore their natural habitat was a jaw-dropping moment.

The signs in the game park indicated that animals have the right of way so when a lioness and her cubs chose to sit in the middle of the road, we had to wait until they decided to head back to the grass.

Did you know that Kenya sits on the equator line? We drove 3 hours to the Ol Pejeta Game Park in Nanyuki, where the equator line is found. I remember learning in elementary school about the equator line and how this unique spot was different from other places on earth. When I got to see and experience it first hand, I felt like it had a great impact on my learning about geography, and made me want to continue exploring places that I have learned about from school.

My trip to the Middle East and Africa was memorable! I loved it because it has given me the opportunity to look into the past and present and know how our world adapts to change.

Experiencing different environments was sometimes difficult, but I’m glad that I was able to get through them all. I know that with every trip I make comes an opportunity to learn more about life and our world.

With every trip comes an opportunity to learn more about life and our world.

EXPLORING SOUTHERN EUROPE by Joy Cheng

I spent part of my summer on a cruise in Southern Europe that covered six countries. Montenegro comes from the word black which alludes to how black the mountains look. Croatia is considered part of Montenegro but it is actually a country on its own. Even though geographically the Vatican is in Italy, it is its own country too and the smallest in the world, with a population of only 500 people. You can only become a citizen if you work there or you are an offspring of someone who works there. It is next to the Sistine Chapel so it is a very popular tourist spot. Besides” kicks,” Naples/Pompeii, and Salerno, a place with beautiful beaches and colorful houses. In Greece, I went to Corfu, Crete, Mykonos and Santorini, the popular tourist spot with blue domes and white houses. The water in Mykonos beach was a mix of sea green, blue, and turquoise colors, the most beautiful beach I’ve ever seen in my life.

BACK TO SCHOOL TRENDS by Irene Shen

Summer vacation is slowly coming to an end, and the back-to-school season is getting nearer. As the first day of school rolls around the corner, teens are busy shopping for new clothing, school essentials, and trendy items. Start off your new school year with some trendy essentials for teens. The following five school supplies are perfect to start off the new school year in an effective manner:

1. Stainless steel water bottles with various styles and color options provide great insulation, and usefulness.
2. Erasable pens reduce mistakes and make note taking much easier.
3. 1. Stainless steel water bottles with various styles and color options provide great insulation, and usefulness.
4. College ruled paper with reinforced rings is the perfect type of paper for students and has more durable holes, making them more sturdy and long-lasting.
5. White-out. When it comes to school essentials, white-out is an absolute necessity. It effectively fixes mistakes, and makes note-taking nearer.

MY FIRST 50 YEARS OF CIRCUIT BREAKERS by John Dooley

I had been anticipating my trip to Thailand and Korea for months and it turned out to be the best time of my life, the only downside being the extremely intense heat and humidity.

It took 20 hours to get to Thailand and during the 5 days we stayed there we visited Khao Chang Park, which is where the royal family lived until 1925 and we learned about Thai history. Another day, we visited Lot Mayom Floating Market. We took a boat and sailed along a small local river. There were all sorts of interesting sights—tray dogs sniffing the ground, plants growing on old houses, and people selling food in boats (hence, the name floating market).

I thought Thailand was a truly amazing place. The sun hit the temperature in Asiatica. It reminded me of Fisherman’s Wharf in San Francisco, but with more shops and attractions. Asiatica also has Thailand’s biggest Ferris wheel, shining and standing tall. There were all kinds of shops selling clothing, food, and souvenirs. Sadly, most was outdoors, so more heat.

Soon, we headed to Korea. We had more opportunities to make good memories. We went to Gwangjang Market. It is a big, cultural market with lots of food stands and restaurants. As I walked through the busy vendors, I caught a scent of the salty smell of Bin Dae Duk, a food nicknamed “The Korean Pizza.” It was delicious. The crispy, crunchy outside dusted perfectly with the soft filling inside.

The next day, we went to see the busy streets of Gangnam Station (the song “Gangnam Style” was named after this place). The tall buildings and the honking traffic create an incredible atmosphere. For dinner, we dined Dak Galbi, a spicy Korean food with ramen noodles and cheese.

Another day, we visited Everland, an amusement park/zoo where you can go on safari by riding a bus to see animals such as tigers, giraffes, lions, cheetahs, and rhinos. This trip was one of the best I ever had. I did everything I had been hoping to do, and had the time of my life.

National Night Out August 6 by Alexandria Kim

Have you ever wanted to know more about the police officers who protect us? If you want to get to know the police community in Fullerton, you can attend the National Night Out Day event happening on Tuesday, August 6 from 5pm to 8pm at the Downtown Fullerton Plaza at 125 W. Wilshire Ave, next to the Fullerton Museum Center.

The free event includes activity booths, games, entertainment and food. This event is an annual campaign hosted to promote the relationship between the police and local neighborhoods. The very first National Night Out Day occurred in August of 1984. At that time, celebrations were held in houses and on porches. Now, on this day, many people come out to celebrate parties, festivals, cookouts, and more.
**Visiting the Migrant Shelters in Tijuana**

Seeking asylum is legal under both U.S. and international law but under the Trump/Pence Administration’s “remain in Mexico” asylum policy, thousands of folks are forced to wait for months in border towns like Tijuana, for their asylum hearing in the U.S. that may or may not grant them entrance to our country. I present here an account of a trip I took with a Border Angels caravan on July 13 to three migrant shelters in Tijuana, where I had the opportunity to meet and speak with actual migrants from places like Honduras, Guatemala, and Haiti—the vast majority of whom were women and children fleeing poverty and violence.

**Border Angels**

Three friends and I drove down from Fullerton to San Diego on a Saturday morning. A few days before, I’d put out a Facebook call, asking for food and supplies, and my friends and family did not disappoint—our truck was loaded. Thank you to those who donated.

We arrived a bit early at the offices of Border Angels in San Diego. Before heading out from there, Hugo Castro, who was leading the tour, gave a short speech about the work of Border Angels, and gave some rather candid insights about US immigration policy (past and present).

He described their work as an effort “to keep the flame of hope alive, because many migrants have lost hope. Most of them feel afraid, in this environment of hate and fear...They are afraid as they are running away from death, from violence, and now here they are seen and treated as criminals.”

Border Angels was founded by a man named Enrique Morones in 1996, mainly doing outreach to field workers living in Carlsbad.

“Most of the workers were living next to the fields,” he explained, “because they wanted to avoid police or border patrol, because they were undocumented, and also they wanted to save as much money as possible to send to their loved ones.”

**Under president Trump’s “remain in Mexico” asylum policy, thousands of folks seeking asylum in the United States are forced to wait in border towns like Tijuana.**

As U.S. immigration policy became more restrictive in the mid-1990s, the work of Border Angels expanded to things like water drops for migrants who were dying in the deserts, trying to cross the border. 1994 was a watershed year for immigration, as it saw the birth of Operation Gatekeeper and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Under Operation Gatekeeper, seven miles of wall was built along the border in San Ysidro. Now more than 800 miles of wall/fence exists between the United States and Mexico. Walls were built under the Clinton, Bush, Obama, and Trump administrations.

NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement between Canada, United States, and Mexico started as a way to decrease tariffs, and to provide the free flow of equipment, goods, and capital.

“But the most important capital was not considered in NAFTA—the human capital,” Hugo explained. “So because of that, many small farm owners in Mexico, and also farmworkers, went into bankruptcy...and they started coming here to the United States.”

Today, an average of 2 people die every day trying to cross the border, either from heat, or from drowning in rivers like the Rio Grande, the All American Canal, or trying to swim across the ocean in Playas Tijuana.

Or they are kidnapped by “coyotes” (human traffickers) and extorted for money.

Tijuana is currently experiencing massive waves of migration from various parts of Mexico, Central America, and Haiti—most fleeing poverty, violence, extortion, and natural disasters.

There are 31 shelters in Tijuana for migrants, and most of them are running way above capacity. These shelters are funded and supplied by churches and non-profits like Border Angels. Hugo explained that government funding from Mexico has been cut off.

We drove across the border into Tijuana and made our way into a very poor “Colonia” (or neighborhood) of the city, where the first shelter was. It was a church called Mission Evangélica Roca de Salvación.

I spoke with Salvador Zepeda, pastor of the church.

“We help people who come from different parts of Mexico and Central America, families who come for a better life, who want to cross to the United States through the process of asylum. We have been doing this, helping people since 2008,” he explained.

Currently, the average wait-time for asylum seekers to get their hearing is over three months. The system has bottlenecked to a tiny drip—about one family unit a day, Pastor Zepeda said.

Instead of being allowed into the US to await their hearing, thousands of families wind up on the streets of Tijuana, or in shelters.

“In the last three months, it’s been very hard. They say they are ‘full’ on the other side. So, they are not letting people enter,” he said.

These are not “illegal immigrants.” They are seeking asylum at ports of entry, as is their right under International law.

I asked Salvador why he thinks the US has stopped taking asylum seekers.

“About a year ago, we had a lot of people from Honduras, and there were a lot of bad people in that caravan. Gangsters smoking weed, using crystal [meth]. But now the people, the good people, have to pay for the actions of those other people. After those Hondurans, they almost closed the door to asylum,” he said.

“The people currently at Roca de Salvacion are mostly from Michoacan and Guerrero (Mexico), and a few are from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

“What is the main reason these folks are seeking asylum?” I asked.

“Violence, from cartels,” he said.

“I mean, when these people are allowed to enter under asylum, is there still danger of them being separated from their children? Do you see that happening?” I asked.

“Yes, we’ve seen minors between 12-18 years old—they separate them because they don’t have their father with them. They require proof from both parents,” he explained.

“Do you think some of these families here in the shelter will be separated when they try to cross the border?” I asked.

“Some of them, yes,” he said.

As volunteers of Border Angels unloaded their cars of food and supplies, a group of about 20 migrant children sat in small chairs watching a cartoon about frogs, sometimes eyeing the volunteers curiously.

Carlos Espinosa, director of the shelter, explained its mission.

“We started this shelter with the idea that it is better to give than to receive. This is a place of hope, humanitarian aid, to provide service to those most in need. This is our mission. People here arrive with sadness, without hope, many of them running away from violence, flying away from death, and God prepared this place to save these people,” he said.

Right now, 70 migrants are staying in the shelter, but they expect 80-90 children in the next ten days.

“The capacity is 120, but we have had up to 380,” Espinosa said.

They are currently working on building a church nearby, which will be able to house more people.

“We need money for utilities, water, etc,” he said. “The Mexican government doesn’t offer any assistance. They bring the migrants, but they don’t bring the donations.”

At the shelter, I spoke with a young man from Ghana, who has been there for four months.

He fled his country because he is gay, and his lover was murdered. In Ghana, as in some other African countries, LGBT folks are often killed.

He is hoping to apply for asylum in the United States, but wants to earn money before crossing.

He explained to me that it has been difficult for him in Mexico, as he does not speak Spanish. The other day, he was happy to meet some other migrants from Africa.

“When they learned I was from Africa, they said, ‘Oh, my brother!’ I just hugged them,” he said.

The asylum system has bottlenecked to a tiny drip—about one family unit a day at San Ysidro.
The Second Shelter: Camino de Salvacion Iglesia Cristiana Bautista

The next shelter we visited was another church called Camino de Salvacion Iglesia Cristiana Bautista. I met a young couple from Honduras named Fabricio and Emma, and their three young children. They have been at the shelter since December 2018 (seven months), waiting for their asylum appointment, which is on December 10, 2019. Thus, they will have waited a full year to get their asylum hearing. Fabricio’s dad lives in the United States, and he is looking for a lawyer to help them with their case.

I asked him why they fled Honduras. He said there was no school being held for their kids (due to national school privatization efforts and a resulting strike). Also there was very little work. Even when he found work, he would be extorted for money by gangs, who also threatened his family.

I met another young man named Jose, also from Honduras, who had a huge scar cut diagonally across his face. Jose had worked for the national police, investigating government corruption. He was uncovering corruption where government officials were stealing thousands of dollars. His life was threatened, so he fled.

“There was a lot of electoral fraud going on with the president in the recent election. A lot of politicians were involved in that. There’s a big smoke screen, everybody’s covering everything up,” he said.

He applied for asylum, and has a court date for August 12. He thinks he will be allowed to enter the US because he has proof of “credible fear” for his life.

“What do you hope to do in the United States? What are your dreams, aspirations?” I asked.

He said his main priority is to take care of his grandparents, who are sick and still living in Honduras. His grandfather has a heart condition, and his grandmother has thrombosis, so she can barely walk. He wants to be able to help them financially.

He didn’t want me to take his photo, for safety reasons, but showed me photos of his grandparents.

A word about driving in Tijuana—be aware of the speed bumps. They are everywhere, and are constructed in such a way that if you are driving in a regular car, no matter how carefully you navigate them, chances are you will get a nasty scrape to your undercarriage. I would recommend an SUV or a truck—something raised. Aside from speed bumps, and the occasional pothole, the streets are not much worse than Fullerton’s (which isn’t saying much).

The Third Shelter: Iglesia Embajadores de Jesus

Getting to the third shelter required us to navigate a rocky dirt road, deep into another very poor colony.

Outside the shelter, kids were milling about and playing. There were farm animals roaming about—pigs, chickens, and a few dogs.

Many of the migrants at this shelter are from Haiti, fleeing natural disasters like the 2010 earthquake, a resulting cholera epidemic, and a more recent hurricane.

There are also a number of migrants from Honduras and Guatemala.

I spoke with a woman named Julieta and her son Victor, who are from Guatemala and are staying in the shelter as they wait their September 27 asylum hearing.

“Why did you leave Guatemala?” I asked.

“There was a lot of violence, a lot of extortion,” she explained.

“Criminal organizations are recruiting young kids into their activities. I have a 14-year-old son who is at the age when they are recruiting him—they’ll use kids to extort money from other people, and it eventually leads to their deaths. A lot of people are getting killed.”

Julieta hopes to be reunited with family she has in Houston, Texas.

“How do you see your life in the United States? What do you hope for?” I asked.

“I hope that my son finishes his studies and graduates from college. I hope to get a job. I hope to eventually bring my two daughters, who are still in Guatemala, to the United States. I hope to be reunited with my family,” she says.

“But it is dangerous for your children in Guatemala?” I asked.

“Yes,” she says, “We are from an area that is considered a ‘red zone’—a very dangerous area with much violence.”

“In another area of the shelter, my friend Bonnie and I spoke with a woman and her 15-year-old son, who are seeking asylum for the very same reason as Julieta and her son.

This young man reminded me very much of my nephew Jonas, who is the same age. The day before, I had gone to see Jonas play basketball at a tournament in Anaheim, and I could imagine this young man being on his team, laughing and joking between games. Instead, he was here, living in a tent with his mother, waiting for my government to say it’s okay for them to enter.

As the woman was speaking, she began to cry, and Bonnie leaned in for a very long hug.

They were both crying, and I was looking at this scene, thinking of my family and the accidental privilege of my birth, and the general unfairness of the world.

And as I typed the words, I began to cry, home in my safe apartment in Fullerton, and I was reminded of the poem below which is written by a migrant:

“Home” by Waran Shire

“No one leaves home unless home is the mouth of a shark.

You only run for the border when you see the whole city running as well.

You have to understand that no one puts their children in a boat unless the water is safer than the land.

No one burns their palms under trains, beneath carriages,

No one spends days and nights in the stomach of a truck, feeding on newspaper, unless the miles travel mean something more than journey.

No one cracks under fences, no one wants to be beaten and pitied.

I want to go home, but home is the mouth of a shark.

Home is the barrel of the gun.

And no one would leave home unless home chased you to the shore.

Unless home told you to quicken your legs, to leave your clothes behind, to crawl through the desert, to wade through the oceans, to drown, to starve, to be hungry, to beg, to forget pride. Your survival is more important.

No one leaves home until home is a sweaty voice in your ear saying.

“Leave. Run away from me now. I don’t know what I’ve become but I know that anywhere is safer than here.””

Recent Developments

For the past two years, the Trump/Pence administration has enacted policies which have sought to severely curtail those seeking asylum in the US, including a recent agreement with Guatemala which requires that country to extend asylum to migrants traveling through, and requires migrants who still attempt to journey to the US to claim asylum to be returned to Guatemala (from which many are fleeing).

Another new asylum rule limits the ability of Central American migrants to claim asylum if they enter the US by land through Mexico.

These rules have placed the current administration at odds with not just human rights groups, but also federal and national and international law.

For example, A federal judge in the District of Columbia on August 2 threw out a Trump policy barring migrants who illegally crossed the border from seeking asylum, determining that it violated the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Both US and international law deem it legal to seek asylum. It is not a crime.

To learn more about Border Angels and their work, visit www.borderangels.org
Past Preserved in the Library’s Local History Room

Every time I’ve walked through the library on my way to peruse the comic book section or visit the Friends book store, I’ve beheld a series of glass windows that a sign identifies as the Local History Room. I thought it would be an interesting subject for a column, so I emailed Cheri Pape, Local History Archivist at the Fullerton Public Library, who was more than happy to talk about a room where the past is always present.

The Local History Room is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to collecting and preserving materials pertaining to the history and development of the City of Fullerton from the late 1800s to the present. “The Local History Room started in 1973,” said Cheri. “Albert Lauter, a local attorney here, was very civic minded and a member of the Lions Club and other those other service organizations. He passed away in ’73 right before this library opened, so his wife, LuLu, made a donation to the library that was arguably the first historical collection. They took the money from the donation to start the collection and their focus was to organize what they had and then somehow take that information and make it available to the public.”

“They were working out of a closet in what is still the southwest corner of the library,” continued Cheri. “They spent several years organizing what we had, trying to make it accessible and available.”

Then they realized the local history collection was growing and it was useful, so they outgrew its overcrowded quarters and commanded additional library space on the third floor, where the Teen Center is now. The Local History Room has been a key facility for collecting and preserving materials for 46 years. Today, the room has an impressive collection of artifacts, rare books, local newspapers, and other printed materials from Fullerton’s past.

The Local History Room is dedicated to preserving materials from the local history and development of Fullerton from the late 1800s to the present. The most used books are the city directories: who was living here at the time and what they did for a living.

“Then there were blueprints of directories sitting on a two-story shelf on top of a desk to the right side of the room. These directories are used by people doing environmental impact reports and private investigators. They’re reverse directories, so you can look someone up by an address or a phone number, not by alphabet like a phone book. ‘Private investigators come in here all the time, said Cheri. ‘They know the phone number, but they don’t know who that person was calling and so they can do to sort that thing of here. We have a complete run from ’71 to current which is also a little bit unique in that most libraries just lease current issues. We’re the only ones in Orange County that have that.”

On the back wall of the other side of the room hung a huge map of the City of Fullerton, mostly from the late 1980s. Positioned to the wall along the map was a collection of books by local authors, many of whom had attended previous local author talks hosted by the library. An old card catalog sat on a desk and there was more paper and files in the center of the room. I was particularly fascinated by the digital microfilm reader, where really old, deteriorating microfilm that might be illegible in some places is still readable. “You can photograph things, lighten them, darken them and bring them back to life, things that had gone missing before,” Cheri said as she led me to the archival scanner, which the public is welcome to use if they have slides that need to be scanned. A collection of high school annuals sat in the far corner next to Judaism Glass pieces from the WPA library that are also visible outside the room.

Leaving me to explore the backroom, Cheri showed me a few blueprints of Fullerton’s historic buildings, like the Fox Theatre. “A lot of the original blueprints were actually salvaged from a dumpster in the eighties,” said Cheri. “They weren’t required to keep those, and so just waiting up space. They survived and we brought them here.”

On a different filing cabinet were small, neatly folded blueprints of more current buildings. In the drawers of some of the adjacent cabinets, there were giant city seals. “Third graders doing reports are always interested in the city seal and why things are the way they are.”

I also had the pleasure of seeing the original color poster made for the 1984 Olympics while the torch came through Fullerton. “We actually have the torch here that ran through town down in the children’s room,” said Cheri as she pointed to the old Olympic film sign with the white letters of “Fujicolor” running down a green sign strip, adventurous as it may sound, of the 1984 Olympics. “We actually do have an Olympic connection here. Handball was an exhibition sport in ’84 and they did that at Cal State Fullerton.”

In the backroom was a series of movable shelves, where more collections of art pieces, transcripts and other documents were stored. Down the first aisle, we looked at maps and special collections. Often, someone will come in and donate to the collection. Opening a box with the label, “Japanese Doll Exchange,” Cheri said, “Downstairs, in the children’s room, we have a Japanese doll that was a gift from an elementary school in Japan as part of a doll exchange.” In the box I saw amazing artwork that was provided by the students at the school and a history of the doll. Cheri opened another box next to the aisle, where I caught a brief glimpse of proclamations, scrapbooks of clippings and other historical materials belonging to previous Fullerton mayor, Howard Cornwall. More giant maps and blueprints were kept at the end of the aisle. “They come in handy whenever someone needs to do a remodel or reconstruction,” said Cheri.

One of Cheri’s favorite items from the collection was an old jail register from 1921. “So it’s literally a list of the people that have passed through the Fullerton jail up until the ’50s. But every once in a while, we’ll find an article about one of the stories that we like to tell all the time. These two bandits that robbed a San Francisco bank were captured here in Fullerton and we were able to go by date and find them here in the jail register to see how long they stayed in Fullerton. It works on a lot of levels. Prohibition, a lot of people being jailed for possession of alcohol. Sort of a document of the times.”

Newspaper clippings made up the nuts and bolts of the collection, located in the middle of the movable bookshelves. In fact, they are currently working on digitizing, the Fullerton Observer and hope to cover over 100 years of the Fullerton News Tribune from microfilm to a searchable digital format in the near future.

Drawers filled with old and new sets of microfilm from the Fullerton News Tribune dating back to 1893 sat up against the wall of the backroom. An index sat on top of the cabinet in case someone happened to be looking for an obituary of a family member so they could see when it ran. One of the more popular items that the general public likes to see is the Hunt Robot, a robot made up of Hunt’s tomato paste cans. “It was donated to us along with some other pieces from a dollhouse,” Cheri explained. “A gentleman who lived over by the Hunt factory would grab test cans and their labels and he would make robots out of them. This is a small one. He has one that’s probably about ¾ to 1 foot tall that he’s not quite ready to give up yet because his grandchildren love it too.”

Parsons can now research their family history using the city directories that are available through the library’s website, 3rd grade can pull pictures of historic people and places from the local history rooms’ Pinterest page and history buffs can follow the collection on Facebook, inquiring and commenting on new additions.

So, whether you’re looking for a picture of the ice-cream shop that was shaped like a cone, a copy of your high school annual proving you were the football superstar you’ve always claimed, or a classified ad from your great aunt’s famous dress shop, it’s here in the Local History Room. The Fullerton Public Library’s Local History Room is open on Mondays from 1 pm to 5 pm, 6 pm to 9 pm and on Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10 am to 12 pm, to 2 pm.

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Not since Robert Redford and Paul Newman shared the screen in “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid” have two major actors combined their star power to create a movie so filled with action, suspense, camaraderie, and surprise. Leonardo DiCaprio and Brad Pitt, each a bona fide movie star, created in “Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood” riveting scenes, both acting on their own and in scenes together, where their contagious energy and ebullient spirit envelope the audience.

Helping these stars perform this magic is writer/director Quentin Tarantino, who likes to say that he never went to film school but he “went to films.” He hails Hollywood movie tropes, then removes their clichés and makes them serve his own purposes. He also manages to create movie magic in the tone he maintains throughout his films, balancing both humor and malevolence at the same time.

Another hallmark of many Tarantino films is his fusion of real-life persons and events, often from the past, with his own fictional characters. This strategy was most significant in his 2009 movie “Inglourious Basterds” in which Hitler was an off-screen presence, and Tarantino played fast and loose with history by twisting events and characters in the King-historical reality. This idiosyncrasy strategy also occurs in “Once Upon a Time” when Charles Manson became a menacing presence during summer 1969.

TV actor Rick Dalton (DiCaprio) has gained fame and popularity as the star of a hit Western show called “Bounty Law,” but the show is almost over, and Rick worries about his future and is even beginning to forget his popularity as the star of a hit Western show called “Bounty Law,” 1960. He is happy living in Hollywood, where his next door neighbors are esteemed directors Roman Polanski and his glamorous wife Sharon Tate. Rick has an intense loyalty to Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt), Rick’s stuntman in all of his films. The two men have bonded and especially now, because Rick has lost his driver’s license and Cliff does double duty as his driver. The two enjoy each other’s company and talk about the jobs and adventures in their respective films. Rick’s stuntman in all of his films.

One of the strengths of “Once Upon a Time” is the balance between the serious and the comic. The two never fail to be entertaining, but the show is almost over, and Rick worries about his future and is even beginning to forget his popularity as the star of a hit Western show called “Bounty Law,” 1960. He is happy living in Hollywood, where his next door neighbors are esteemed directors Roman Polanski and his glamorous wife Sharon Tate.

Rick also has an intense loyalty to Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt), Rick’s stuntman in all of his films. The two men have bonded and especially now, because Rick has lost his driver’s license and Cliff does double duty as his driver. The two enjoy each other’s company and talk about the jobs and adventures in their respective films. Rick’s stuntman in all of his films.

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Cliff has a more comic moment on the movie lot when waiting around to perform his stunt, he meets up with martial-arts master Bruce Lee (Mike Moh). Bruce, a fellow actor of both men demanding that they challenge each other’s toughness. The result is gripping yet understated in its humor. Cliff also has a less humorous but equally entertaining scene in which Sharon Tate (Margot Robbie) goes to a Westwood bookstore to purchase for her husband a book she knows he will enjoy—“Tess of the D’Urbervilles,” then goes to a Westwood theater to watch a movie and bewitches her own performance in the film “The Wrecking Crew.” We share in her joy as the audience laughs in all of the right places and she feels proud of her work in that movie.

“Once Upon a Time” last two hours and forty minutes. The final 20 minutes have become controversial both in the use of violence (a Tarantino trademark) and in its revisionism. But moviewgoers used to Tarantino, the auteur, will find this movie well worth their time and the cost of their ticket.

Two Hits: Don’t Miss it!
“Puffs”  
@ STAGES THEATER  
400 E Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton  
Tickets: (714) 525-4484 www.stagesscal.org

Puffs, or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic & Magic by Matt Cox is a Potter-inspired comedy for anyone who has ever felt like a secondary character in someone else’s story. The play that “never goes more than a minute without a laugh” (Nerdist) gives you a new look at a familiar adventure from the perspective of three new heroes just trying to make it through magic school.

Alongside them are the Puffs, a group of well-meaning, loyal rejects with a thing for badgers. Their humorous and epic journey takes the classic story to new places and reimagines what a boy wizard hero can be.

Written by Matt Cox. Directed by Jeff Lowe. August 9 – September 1. Fridays 8pm; Saturday 4pm and 8pm; and Sundays at 2pm. Special Performances: All Sunday shows are for young wizards and witches meaning they take out all the curse words. Also, arrive an hour early to make your own house flags. Buy a $2 flag and they’ll provide the decoration station! The 4pm performance on August 17 will be a Relaxed Performance for members, family, and friends of the spectrum community. For more information please visit: www.alchemytheatre.com.

“The Wizard of Oz”  
MYSTERIUM THEATER @ THE LA HABRA DEPOT PLAYHOUSE  
311 S. Euclid St, La Habra  
(562) 697-3311 www.mysteriumtheatre.com

In Mysterium’s 10 year Anniversary Year they present The Wizard of Oz. The immortal MGM classic turns 80 this year! Based on the beloved novel by L. Frank Baum and featuring songs by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg, the technicolor film premiered at Grauman’s Chinese Theatre on August 15, 1939.

Starring Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Jack Haley, Bert Lahr, Billie Burke, and Margaret Hamilton, the movie musical opened to critical acclaim and achieved legendary status through decades of annually televised broadcasts.

Mysterium’s adaptation features all the familiar characters and songs. Directed by Brooke Astone, Musical Direction by Chris Harmon, this show will have you following the Yellow Brick Road. August 16–September 15.

Tickets: (714) 525-4484 www.mysteriumtheatre.com

“Richard III”  
@ CHANCE THEATER  
Bette Aiien theater arts Center on the Cripe Stage  
5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807  

Chance Theater presents the award-winning Ragtime. The Musical, written by Terrence McNally, and composed by the Tony Award winning team of Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens and based on the novel Ragtime by E. L. Doctorow.

Nominated for 13 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Ragtime tells the story of three families at the turn of the 20th Century in pursuit of the American dream. The score uses ragtime rhythms to paint a portrait of the people who built this country with the hopes for a brighter tomorrow.

Famous historical characters and a rich score propel Ragtime through a spectacular re-creation of turn-of-the-20th-century New York. The musical paints a nostalgic and powerful portrait of three people, a stilled married woman from the upper classes, a determined Jewish immigrant, and a daring young musician from Harlem—whose fates become unexpectedly intertwined.

“O-centric New Play Festival  
August 15-25  
O-centric: Orange County’s New Play Festival stages four compelling works from OC playwrights that tell stories you don’t typically see in local theatre, stories that need to be told. This year’s festival is dedicated to one-acts so you can see all four at each performance. Beethoven & Misfortune Cookies by Joni Ravenna; Magic Box, Evil Eye by Jordan R. Young; Still Moving by Ben Susskind; Trump in the Night by Lydia Oxenham. Tickets on sale July 1 at www.oc-centric.org or BrownPapertickets.com or call (714) 902-5716.

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“RECREATIONAL SWIM  
Recreational Open Swim is open to persons of all ages from 6pm to 8pm on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday; 7pm to 9pm on Tues.; and from 12:30pm to 2:30pm on Saturday at the Fullerton Community Center. $4

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“I am an American: Japanese Incarceration in a Time of Fear” @ MUZEO
241 S Anaheim Blvd, Anaheim (714) 956-8936 www.muzeo.org

A partnership with the Anaheim Public Library and Muzeo Museum and Cultural Center, “I Am an American” will feature personal testimonials, artifacts and memorabilia as well as give a first-hand look at the Poston, Arizona incarceration camp experience which affected and devastated Japanese Americans in Anaheim and Orange County from 1942 – 1945. Opens August 25.

This 5,000 square foot exhibit presents the story of an amazing testament of courage and determination of its Japanese American pioneers and their descendants before and after WWII.

Anaheim High School was the center of North Orange County education for this community where they established businesses and a church prior to WWII. Anaheim was attractive for these families to return and rebuild with the city becoming a center for local Japanese American commerce and religion in Orange County.

This project was funded, in part, by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. Runs through November 3.

Utility Box Murals in Downtown Fullerton

Downtown Fullerton recently got a little more beautiful, as local artists recently completed paintings of four city-owned utility boxes.

The public art program was organized and sponsored by the city and the Fullerton Museum Center. The artists are Emily Heller (California State Flower); Annabelle Dimang (Hands of Fullerton); Amy Lopez (Space Golf); and Andrea Evington (Three 3D designs). Try to find these colorful utility boxes downtown!

The Hirano family, who was interned at Poston from 1942 to 1945. Photo from the collection of the National Archives and Records Administration.

“The Hirano family, who was interned at Poston from 1942 to 1945.

“Autumn Impressions: Painting the American Landscape” @ MUCKENTHALER CULTURAL CENTER
1201 W. Malvern Ave., Fullerton www.themuck.org (714)738-6595

The California Art Club continues over a century of tradition, presenting America’s stunning and varied landscapes in masterfully crafted paintings in this special group exhibition dedicated to the Fall Season. Gallery opening reception, Sunday, August 18, 12:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Through October 13.

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Search for Mystery Sculpture’s History

Several issues back reader Charles Hand asked about the background of the sculpture pictured at right. Who is the artist? How did it come to be placed at the corner of Euclid and Commonwealth?

Charles asked each business at the adjacent shopping center what they knew and found one business owner who said the sculpture was erected around 2013 when the center was remodeled.

Cheri Pate at the Fullerton Public Library History Room said she could find no records and the sculpture is on private prop-
erty. Anything we find out will be added to Fullerton history.

After we asked the public to send in information to observernews@earthlink.net so we can satisfy community curiosity we received several interesting emails.

One was from a local resident who is also the west coast represen-
tative of Takeform Architectural Graphics. He said he searched for a signature on the sculpture with no luck. He said he remembered when Tuality took his hands off one of the little girls that she had a heart in her hands which has since disappeared. He said “if I can find a photo of the book, I can have one made. I am a fabricator and I am willing to get that done.”

Another interesting message came from a reader who said that the artist who owns Blanquiel on Harbor (just south of the Commonwealth intersection) could give more insight into the

Republic Stand up Against GOP Support of Trump

Please accept my resignation from the OC Republican Central Committee. Our bylaws (Art. II, Sec. C) require members to support all Republican nominees, and I cannot in good conscience support Trump’s re-election. I support principles, not personality, and support limited government—not unlimited power for one man.

Chris Norby Fullerton City Water Waste

As a senior citizen and longtime Fullerton homeowner I am not looking forward to the increased water rates. However, as the city water system is in dire need of repairs I will willingly pay my water bill.

Since I’m willing to hold up my end of the bargain I think it only fair that the city hold up its end of the bargain. I would like to see the city turn off the fountain at Hilcrest Park. The water used by the fountain should be going to the water rate payers and not be used to increase our water rates.

ED: The fountain is on a recirculating pump so uses less water than might first be assumed. The observer question to the city about how the city saving water has not yet been answered.

Who Represents Residents Who Live Within 1,000 Feet of a District Councilmember?

Recently Mayor Jesus Silva had to recuse himself from voting on issues around the proposed Fullerton College Stadium because he lives within 1,000 feet of the project. This is a ridiculous and leaves residents within a 1,000 foot radius of their dis-
cistrict’s elected council member without representation on an issue that seriously affects the district which they are required to live in order to be the representative.

Now that we have district representation we need to change this rule. How can we change it?

DB Fullerton

ED: We asked the state Fair Political Practices Commission to comment on its reg-
ulation. Below is what they sent us:

The Commission, at its January 2019 meeting, voted 4-0 to adopt regulations 18702.2 which, in part, establishes 3 basic lines relating to distance, less than 500 feet, 500 feet-1,000 feet, and more than 1,000 feet. (Visit www.fppc.ca.gov to read the back up for that meeting.)

“A public official at any level of state or local government has a prohibited conflict of interest and may not make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use his or her official position to influence a govern-
ment decision when he or she knows or has reason to know he or she has a disqual-
ifying financial interest. A public official has a disqualifying financial interest if the deci-
dision will have a reasonably foreseeable m aterial financial effect, distinguishable from the effect on the public generally, directly on the official, or his or her immediate family, or on any financial interest of the official’s. For example, the financial interests that can cause a conflict for an official include a business interest, real property, and a person who has been a source of income or gifts to the official.”

If there is a conflict, they must recuse themselves. All public officials can write in to request legal advice on such matters from the FPPC Legal Division, which offers dozens of Advice letters to public officials every month.

Jay Wierenga
Fair Political Practices Commission
Communications Director

Fullerton Observer
The Fullerton Observer Community Newspaper, founded by Ralph and Naomi Book in 1978 by Roy and Irene Kobayashi, and other friends in 1978, is staffed by local volunteers who cre-
ate, publish, and distribute the paper throughout Fullerton.

Page 16 FULLERTON OBSERVER AUGUST 2019

The Fullerton Observer Community Newspaper, founded by Ralph and Naomi Book in 1978, is staffed by local volunteers who create, publish, and distribute the paper throughout the community.

This venture is a non-profit, non-commercial enterprise, and computer technology.

Our purpose is to inform, educate, and enlighten our readers about the institutions and other societal forces which most impact their lives, so that they may be empowered to participate in constructive ways to keep and make these private and public entities serve all residents in lawful, open, just, and socially-responsible ways. Through our extensive local calendar and other cov-
erage, we seek to promote a sense of community and an appreciation for the values of community work which our country so uniquely enjoys.

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Submissions:

Some topics and expressions of interest are accepted from Fullerton residents. We strive to get something about everything in but shorter pieces do have a better chance of getting in. Email: observernews@earthlink.net

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Fullerton Observer LLC

The Early September 2019 issue will hit the stands on September 2.

Submission & AD DEADLINE: August 26

Community Opinions

Fullerton

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One reason we have no civil political dis- course is that we seem to have given up on persua- sion or seducing those with whom we disagree. Insults are easier and more cer- tain to get a predictable result: rejection. In my single days, back in the last Ice Age, there was no name-calling because trying to seduce a girl to go out with me by calling her stu- pid or ugly. As a wooing strategy this seemed self-evidently counter-productive. While I still think it seems to be our political modus operandi.

We have no political discourse, no discus- sion of issues and, worst of all, no listening. Like the social irony of everyone being elec- tronically connected but unconnected from each other, the louder we scream the less we hear.

Our opponents are not sim- ply wrong, and we don’t have reason- ed disagreements. No, I’m right and good and the very model of Truth, Justice and the American Way. You, creature of hell and spawn of Satan are not simply wrong, but you are purveying evil!

I suspect that one reason that we can’t be reasonable is that issues are often complex, while labels and slogans are sim- ple. Truthfully, we are getting away from shouted epithets and pas- sionate mischaracterizations of each other.

This is not new, but I have noticed that over time the per- sonal invective has gotten louder and featured more con- descending.

Yes, we have always had dirty fighting, but it used to be whispers by surrogates. The shouting seemed to start on early talk radio, while shouting and conflict as entertain- ment.

The “Age of Trump” breakthrough was having the candidate himself do the shout- ing. Suddenly, contrary to the theme that the candidate belonged in jail was more than transgressive of our norms. It was shattering. Can the genie be put back in bottle? Maybe. I do think that one reason that we can’t be reasonable is that issues are often complex, while labels and slogans are simple. Truthfully, we are getting away from shouted epithets and pas- sionate mischaracterizations of each other.

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Lawrence Macaray

May 8, 1921 – July 18, 2019

With his son and daughter at his side, Lawrence Macaray, noted Northern California artist and art teacher, died in the early morning of July 18. He was 98 years old. Lawrence was born to Bethsaida Cooper and Francisco Macaray on May 8, 1921 in Elsinore, California. He liked to remind people that Warren G. Harding was U.S. president when he was born. A seventh generation Californian, Lawrence’s 5th great grandfather, Juan Pablo Grijalva was granted the 68,000 acre Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana by the king of Spain, establishing the first homestead in present day Orange County.

Lawrence and his brothers returned to the last of these original acres owned by their grandparents Ramon Cooper and MANuela Alvarez on Santa Ana Canyon Road in the town of Olive for barbecues, gossip, and idle music for the adults and hours of play for the cousins.

He graduated from Anaheim High School in 1938 and, in 1943, he married Kathleen Vincent, also of Anaheim. Lawrence and Kathleen lived in Fullerton for the last 30 years. His beloved wife Kathleen passed away in August of 2006.

After serving in the Army Air Forces, Lawrence went to college on money provided by the GI Bill, one of the greatest and most beneficial government programs ever created. He received a B.A. degree from Whittier College and an MFA from Cal State Long Beach.

Lawrence taught art at Torrance High School and served as professor of drawing and painting at El Camino College from 1962 to 1988. Lawrence also wrote the column “Let’s Talk About Art” for The Torrance Press-Herald, a weekly review of art, culture and travel in Southern California. For ten years, Lawrence and Kathleen ran the very successful Macaray Art Gallery, in West Anaheim.

In addition to his teaching career, Lawrence was himself an accomplished artist. His paintings and lithographs have been exhibited in well over one hundred shows at art galleries and museums across the United States and Europe. His work is in the permanent collections of the Bowers Museum, the Laguna Art Museum, LACMA, as well as and in numerous private collections.

He is survived by his loving son and daughter, David and Pegge, along with five grandchildren—Jennifer, Alexander, Adam, Sarah, and Valerie—and six great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank his neighbors for their kindness, especially to Don and Rosemary and to an exceptional young woman, Zoe.

Howard Neal Perkins

Howard Neal Perkins, 64, passed away at January 1 of this year at the corner of his home, surrounded by family. Tears were shed yet his infectious laughter echoed from Fullerton to his second home in Tonga. His family is peacefully at rest in the company of his father, Gilbert Perkins and sister Cheryl Denise Perkins.

He was born on February 15, 1955 to Gilbert and Mary Perkins in Santa Monica, then moved to Fullerton in 1960. Howard graduated from Fullerton Union High School he attended Fullerton Junior College where he found his calling. He was elected President of the Associated Student Body, became Editor of the campus newspaper and was an effective leader, with excellent organizational and management skills, leading to his being named Man of Distinction. After graduating from college with an AA in Journalism he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Management from the University of Redlands. Then he moved on to a career in public service, serving as an intern for the City of Fullerton, then County of Orange as a Personnel Analyst and finally with the City of Costa Mesa where he retired as a Personnel Director.

As his many friends know, Howard loved birding, living the Bohemian, outsider man, his family and liberal democracy. He was a devoted husband, son, father, grandfather and was a loyal friend, loved by many.

Howard married Sulia Sime on October 21, 1995 with two sons, Nicholas and Michael Martale, and fulfilled his lifelong goal of retiring at age 50 to a tropical island in 2005 in the Kingdom of Tonga. He enjoyed island life and the people of Tonga, he became a member of the Royal Nukula’alo Club, Billfish Bar 100 Club, Tonga Darts Association and the Nukula’alo Fishing Club. As Howard said, “I did not know that marrying a Tongan is marrying the whole island.”

He leaves behind Sulia, his loving wife of 23 years, sons Michael and Nicholas, granddaughter Avery Martale, mother Mary Perkins, sister Annette Ford of Chicago, niece Donna Fuller, Delvin Fuller, Kyle Fuller, aunt Clara Rogers, cousins Norman Rogers, Noah, Joseph Rogers, Agnes, Jay, cousin Donna Gay and Gary Butler of Santa Monica, Clarence Anderson of Shreveport Louisiana, his Tongan family, Longo and Mikaela Sime, Apa Hauser, Leaifanga and Tautuaa, Moleni, Brian Sime, and a host of friends and relatives. Howard will be sorely missed.

The Perkins Family asks that any donations be made to the Fullerton First United Methodist Church ( Pancake Breakfast) to feed the homeless, 114 S. Pomona Ave, Fullerton, CA 92632.

Hans Stanley Kohlenberger

Hans Stanley Kohlenberger passed away in the morning on July 21, born in Fullerton on July 30, 1928, Stan, as many knew him, was the son of Hans and Martha Kohlenberger and Louise Fair Craven. His civic-minded father was mayor of Fullerton from 1939 to 1944. His beloved mother died in a tragic accident in 1942.

Stan attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he earned his degree in Architecture, subsequently working in San Francisco for the legendary firm of Wurster, Bernardi, and Emmons. William Wurster took a personal interest in the young architect. He also worked for DeMars and Reay, architects in Oakland after which he opened his own office in Oakland.

After eight years in the bay area, Stan moved his family back to southern California to open and own his own business in downtown Fullerton. His projects included the libraries at Orange Coast College and the City of Fullerton, churches and homes and models for many clients. The Fullerton Main Library, built in 1973, was his proud accomplishment. The powerful metalwork creation of artist Sergio O’Doherty graced the entrance courtyard. With admiration, Stan’s brother, Chuck Kohlenberger, referred to him as “the consummate architect.”

Stan married his lifetime sweetheart, Irene Marie Alvarado, in 1952. When they met at Fullerton College, he was smitten. When Stan transferred to UC Berkeley, he hitchhiked to southern California to see Irene until he bought a Model A Coupe. When he finally proposed, he told her he loved her, but that he could go on without her if she turned him down. And with that, she said yes. They were married for nearly 67 years and have seven children, Angela, Matthew, Juliana, Clare, Teresa, Anthony, and Andy. Stan’s interests were wide-ranging. He loved flying and earned his pilot’s license at the age of 62. He flew until he was in his eighties and frequented the Fullerton Airport hobbying with many friends at the AFI Flight Training Center. He loved music, learning the trumpet in high school. During college, the band Stan played in opened for Nat King Cole who was performing in the bay area.

In later years, he joined the Fullerton Community Band, playing in many public concerts and acting as a strong advocate and promoter. He attended Bible Study Fellowship and held regular meetings of CBMC, the Christian Business Men’s Committee at his office in Fullerton. He supported California Right to Life, the Orange County Rescue Mission, the Union Rescue Mission, and Thru the Bible Radio Ministries.

Stan Kohlenberger is survived by his wife, Irene, his seven children, 11 grandsons and eight great-grandchildren. His ashes will be scattered from a plane high above the Pacific Ocean near Huntington Beach after the Celebration of Life service at St. Julian’s Church in Fullerton at 10am August 5.
The Fullerton Observer provides space for NEIGHBORS to advertise. To participate you must have a local phone number. Contractors must provide valid licenses. Editor reserves right to reject any ad not considered suitable for our family newspaper. The cost of a classified is $10 for 50 words or less per issue. The newspaper assumes no liability for ads placed here. However, if you have a complaint or compliment about a service, please let us know at (714) 525-6402. Call City Hall at (714) 738-6531 to inquire about business licenses. For contractor license verification go to the California State Contractor License Board website at www.cslb.ca.gov.

Second Power Outage in Two Months

A massive power outage affected over 15,000 homes and businesses in Fullerton on Monday, July 15 from 8pm to 12pm. Power was restored to most homes by midnight.

About 700 homes still without power after midnight were restored around 11am Tuesday morning according to So Cal Edison. The utility is analyzing the cause which has not been identified.

The Edison sub-station at Walnut St/ South Harbor adjacent to the railroad tracks and SoCo Townhomes in Fullerton was the source of the power outage.

The last power outage occurred on Thursday June 6, when a transformer at the same Edison electrical power sub-station exploded several times and burst into flames. The city of Fullerton, and Southern California Edison, have not yet given a cause of either outage.

San Onofre Nuclear Plant Meeting August 20

Fullerton is within the 50-mile radius of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (located at the edge of San Clemente, California). Cities within the radius could be told of at least 50 days before an outage.

Recently, there were cut down one such power plant area along the east side of Euclid at Rosecrans.

Fuel loading operations were suspended last year following an incident involving a loaded spent fuel storage canister that was misaligned and became stuck on a flange while being lowered into the storage vault. Edison resumed fuel loading last month after the NRC determined operations could be safely resumed following extensive corrective actions by the company.

The plant was permanently shut down in 2013 following a series of incidents and public pressure. Resident groups object to flimsy storage canisters buried on-site so near the corrosive ocean, earthquake zones, and thousands of people.

San Onofre Nuclear Plant Meeting August 20

Fullerton, the City of Fullerton, and Southern California Edison will hold a meeting to update the public and take their questions and comments on spent-fuel storage related issues. The meeting will be held August 20 from 7pm to 8:30pm at the San Juan Capistrano Community Center, 25925 Camino Del Avion.

Stress and Trauma through EMDR

People who have had severe trauma, like a rape, or ongoing trauma, such as children raised in homes where they are repeatedly told that they are stupid, often feel that they are permanently broken or are worthless. I have people come in my office daily who tell me that they cannot be fixed or do not deserve to be fixed.

I want to say, very loudly, that these statements are not accurate. Let's start with the second one. Why do they feel that they are permanently broken or are worthless? I have people come in my office daily who tell me that they cannot be fixed or do not deserve to be fixed.

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The following is the fourth in a series of articles that will summarize the “Report on the Investigation into Russian Interference in the 2016 Presidential Election” (aka The Mueller Report). In Part 1, we looked at the ways in which the Russians used social media to influence the election. In Part 2, we looked at ways in which the Russian government carried out “hacking” operations to further influence the election. In part 3, we looked at various contacts between Russians and the 2016 Trump campaign.

In this part, we look at potentially obstructive acts by the president, as outlined in Volume 2 of the Mueller Report.

SOURCE: All of this information is taken directly from Mueller’s report, which you may read for yourself at http://www.pbs.org. You may also listen to an audio version report with commentary at http://muellerreportaudio.com.

**MUELLER TESTIFIES BEFORE CONGRESS**

Robert Mueller finally testified on July 24 before two congressional committees: the House Judiciary Committee and the House Intelligence Committee. His testimony basically reiterated the facts outlined in his 448-page Report.

You can watch Mueller’s full testimony before the Judiciary and Intelligence committees at www.c-span.org.

According to Mueller, “Our investigation found multiple acts aimed at the U.S. election, it was imposed through one-on-one meetings in which the President sought to use his official power outside of usual channels. These actions ranged from efforts to remove the Special Counsel and to the effect of the Attorney General’s recusal; to the attempted use of official power to limit the scope of the investigation; to direct and indirect contacts with witnesses with the potential to influence their testimony.”

Volume 2 of the Mueller Report documents, in great detail, a number of acts taken by President Trump and his administration that could be seen as attempts to impair, or even end, the investigation into Russia’s interference into the 2016 election.

**THE PRESIDENT USED HIS INFLUENCE TO TRY TO GET THE FBI TO STOP INVESTIGATING MICHAEL FLYNN.**

On December 29, 2016, the Obama Administration announced that, in response to Russian cyber operations aimed at the U.S. election, it was imposing sanctions and other measures on several Russian individuals and entities.

On that same day, President Trump’s National Security Advisor Michael Flynn called Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak and requested that Russia respond to the sanctions only in a reciprocal manner, without escalating the situation.

Flynn then lied to incoming Administration officials, including Vice President-elect Mike Pence, and the FBI, by saying he had not discussed sanctions on the calls, reads the report.

On January 27, the President invited FBI Director Comey to a private one-on-one dinner.

According to Comey’s account, at one point during the dinner the President stated, “I need loyalty, I expect loyalty.” Comey responded, “You will always get honesty from me.” The President said, “That’s what I want, honest loyalty.” According to the report on February 13, 2017, in the midst of the FBI investigation, Flynn was asked to resign as National Security Advisor.

That same day, in another one-on-one meeting, the President told Comey, “I want to talk about Mike Flynn.”

The President said of Flynn, “he is a good guy and has been through a lot” and “I hope you can see your way clear to letting this go, to letting Flynn go. He is a good guy, I hope you can let this go,” according to the report.

Comey agreed that Flynn “is a good guy” but did not commit to ending the investigation of Flynn.

Comey later testified under oath that he took the President’s statement “as a directive” because of the President’s position and the circumstances of the one-on-one meeting.

When the FBI Director did not comply with the President’s wishes to limit its investigation, he was fired.

According to the report, on the morning of March 30, 2017, the President reached out to Comey directly about the Russian investigation. “[The President] said he was trying to run the country and the cloud of this Russia business was making it hard but that he himself had not done anything wrong and he hoped Comey would find a way to get it out that we [FBI] weren’t investigating him.”

On the morning of April 11, 2017, the President called Comey again. According to Comey’s contemporaneous record of the conversation, the President said he was “following up to see if [Comey] did what [the President] had asked last time, getting out that he personally is not under investigation.” The President then added, “Because I have been very loyal to you, very loyal, we had that thing, you know.”

On May 3, 2017, Comey testified in a congressional hearing, but declined to answer questions about whether the President was personally under investigation.

Mueller reports that two days later, on May 5, 2017, the President told close aides he was going to fire Comey, and on May 9, he did so, via a formal termination letter to state that Comey had on three occasions informed the President that he was not under investigation. According to the report, the following morning, President Trump met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak in the Oval Office, telling them, “I just fired the head of the FBI. He was crazy, a real nut job. I faced great pressure because of Russia. That’s taken off...I’m not under investigation.”

Firing Comey removed the FBI’s oversight of the Russia investigation. According to Mueller, “Substantial evidence indicates that the catalyst for the President’s decision to fire Comey was Comey’s unwillingness to publicly state that the President was not personally under investigation, despite the President’s repeated requests that Comey make such an announcement.”

**HERE ARE SOME NOTABLE EXAMPLES FROM THE REPORT**

Former FBI Director James Comey

The President used his influence to try to get the FBI to stop investigating Michael Flynn.

On May 17, 2017 Acting Attorney General Rod Rosenstein appointed Robert S. Mueller, as Special Counsel and authorized him to conduct the Russia investigation and matters that arose from the investigation.

According to notes written by aide Jody Hunt, when Attorney General Jeff Sessions told the President that a Special Counsel had been appointed, the President slumped back in his chair and said, “Oh my God. This is terrible. This is the end of my Presidency. I’m f****ed.”

In the days following Mueller’s appointment as Special Counsel, the President repeatedly told advisors that Mueller had conflicts of interest.

On May 23, 2017, the Department of Justice announced that ethics officials had determined that Special Counsel Mueller did not have conflicts of interest that would bar him from service.

According to the report, on Saturday, June 17, 2017, the President called his lawyer Don McGahn and directed him to have the Special Counsel removed.

McGahn recalled that the President said something like, “You gotta do the [thing] or you gotta call Rod.” McGahn said he told the President that he would see what he could do. McGahn was perturbed by the call and did not intend to act on the request.

When the President called McGahn a second time to follow up on the order to call the Department of Justice, McGahn recalled that the President took a more direct, saying something like, “Call Rod, tell Rod that Mueller has conflicts and can’t be the Special Counsel.”

According to the report, McGahn recalled the President telling him “Mueller has to go” and “Call me back when you do it.”

McGahn understood the President to be saying that the Special Counsel had to be removed by Rosenstein.

McGahn recalled feeling trapped because he did not plan to follow the President’s directive but did not know what he would say the next time the President called. McGahn decided he had to resign.

Other aides urged McGahn not to quit, and McGahn ultimately returned to work that Monday and remained in his position. He had not told the President directly that he planned to resign, and when they next saw each other the President did not ask McGahn whether he had followed through with calling Rosenstein.

After the media reported on the President’s actions, he denied that he ever ordered McGahn to have the Special Counsel terminated and made repeated efforts to have McGahn deny the story.

According to the report, “Those denials are contrary to the evidence and suggest the President’s awareness that the direction to McGahn could be seen as improper.”

Stay tuned for Part 5 of this series on the Mueller Report.