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Overnight Parking Enforcement Catches Residents Off Guard

Residents of Tamarack, Ash, Elm, and Rosslyn in Fullerton were surprised in early February when numerous vehicles received \$40 tickets for overnight parking in front of their own homes. Many community members expressed frustration over the lack of notification regarding the newly enforced regulations, especially since they had parked without penalties for years.

The City of Fullerton's overnight parking ordinance prohibits parking on public streets and highways from 2 to 5 AM unless an exemption has been granted. Additionally, vehicles parked for more than 72 hours are subject to towing.

A neighborhood can be exempted from this overnight parking regulation if the City Council determines there is insufficient off-street parking in the area. To request an exemption, a petition signed by at least three-quarters of



Fullerton Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees President Dr. Vicki Calhoun and the President of Fullerton College, Dr. Cynthia Olivo rode on the Fullerton Fire Department Truck 6 driven by fire fighters Bayless and Avelar, Engineer Diocson, and Captain VanDelinder, as many Fullerton College students walked in front with a Fullerton College banner at the 2025 OC Black History Parade & Unity Festival in Anaheim on February 1st. Photo by Kristi Hofstetter-batiste

the residents must be submitted, along with a non-refundable fee of \$567.

"We shouldn't have to pay \$567 just to submit a petition suggesting how this city should be run," said longtime resident Victor Cortes, expressing the discontent among locals who felt blindsided by the sudden enforcement.

Residents can speak during public comments at Fullerton City Council on Tuesday, February 18 at 5:30 pm at City Hall located at 303 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton.

RESIDENT OR CURRENT

AND AUGUST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH EXCEPT ONLY ONCE IN JANUARY, JULY, PUBLISHED THE

Celebrating the Legacy of Rosa Parks:

The Rosa Parks Spirit Awards

Fullerton resident Bill Preston, a proud passionate Global Legacy Ambassador for The Rosa & Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development in Detroit, Michigan, had the honor of presenting "Rosa Parks Spirit Awards" to individuals and organizations on February 4, Rosa Parks's 112th birthday. Awardees included:

Tina Liedtky, Amber Gabrenas & **Desmond Atkins** (Thermo Fisher Scientific) for their commitment to health equity and STEM at the University of Southern California, where Mrs. Parks received an honorary degree in 1999.

Wijnands (CyrcLife, Netherlands) for his innovative wellbeing app for youth struggling with mental health and peer pressure.

Kathy Hay (Kids Help Phone Canada) for leading Canada's 24/7 bilingual emental health service for young people.

Additional awards were presented at the 2025 World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in January.

Some of the organizations included:

- St Jude Medical Center Outpatient Rehabilitation & Wellness Team,
- Neurology Center of North Orange
- · University of Southern California and California State University Fullerton Faculty and Students who hosted an Awesome Black History Month Program.

Parks used her "Quiet Strength" to live a life full of kindness, compassion, and love toward all of humanity.

Congratulations to all award recipients for embodying the spirit and values of Rosa Parks.

Residents Protest ICE Deportation: Police Respond in Riot Gear

OCActive and Dare to Struggle Fullerton and culminated at City Hall, joined local citizens in a peaceful protest beginning at the corner of Harbor and Orangethorpe in Fullerton on Sunday, February 9, at 10:30 am. The peaceful demonstrators carried signs that read "All Humans are Legal," "We Stand Together," "Diversity is Our Strength," and "If You Think You Love Freedom but Don't Care If It Applies to Everyone, What You Actually Love is Privilege." One sign stated, "We're the voices for those who have been silenced by fear." A young protester shared that she was there to advocate for her parents, who bravely came to the U.S. for a better life for their children.

The march, consisting of about 100 participants, proceeded to downtown visit https://ocrapidresponse.org/.

at the intersection of Commonwealth and Highland, where protestors shared stories of loved ones being deported.

At City Hall, the protesters encountered a line of Fullerton police dressed in riot gear, carrying zip ties, along with police on horseback. The sight of the riot gear prompted some in the crowd to chant, "F*** the Police." The protesters left the area without incident, marching back to Orangethorpe and Harbor.

To report ICE agents or to receive referrals for help, call the Orange County Rapid Response Network hotline at 714-881-1558. For additional assistance if you or a family member, friend, or neighbor is targeted, please

Buena Park High School Teacher's Aide on Administrative Leave Amid Controversy

by Vivien Moreno

Buena Park High School (BPHS) support staffer, Rachel Wickoff, listed on LinkedIn as a BPHS Adult Farm Hand, was placed on administrative leave on Friday, February 7, after students exposed personal social media posts of hers that indicated her choices to wear MAGA political clothing on campus and her proposed efforts to compromise the school's safe learning environment by discussing immigration status, celebrating possible deportations, and burning the Mexican National flag.

FJUHSD Superintendent, Dr. Steve McLaughlin, posted in a letter to FJUHSD staff, families, and the community that Wickoff is on paid administration leave due to these social media posts (which are currently taken down) and that an investigation is underway. Dr. McLaughlin reiterated that Wickoff's posted opinions do not reflect the views of FJUHSD administration or staff, who are dedicated to making every student feel secure and welcome on every FJUHSD high school campus.

BPHS students and parents protested on Friday outside the high school and gave interviews to local news outlets in which they stated that they wanted Wickoff fired. In addition to protesting the staffer's continued employment,

See Buena Park High School on page 4

On Vacation

Movie reviewer Joyce Mason is on vacation. Hits & Misses Movie Review is written by guest reviewer Mason's daughter and film maker Pamela Mason Wagner. See page 10.

Overnight Parking

Overnight parking has been enforced for decades in my neighborhood, how did these other neighborhoods get away with it for so long? I like the ordinance, it keeps the street clean and helps easily identify vehicles that don't belong.

CC Fullerton

I don't understand why the City let my neighbor park over 20 cars in the street for his own business when others are struggling for parking. When he was going to park one of his cars in front of my house, I told him I was going to get the city involved, but he said that he didn't care as he had a lawyer. I contacted the City, they never did anything about it, which is so ridiculous.

Irma G Fullerton

I've NEVER understood why the City of Fullerton hasn't enforced all along Street Sweeping violators as well as the No Overnight Parking violators. There is signage, no matter which street you enter Fullerton from, that indicates that you may not legally park on its streets from 2am to 5am. Once local signage was posted for street sweeping, after a brief grace period it should be enforced routinely as well.

The City is losing so much revenue in not doing so, revenue that can, and should first of all, be used to redo every street in Fullerton so that there are no potholes on any one of them.

M Buckley Fullerton

More street parking signs should have been installed before the City Council enforced any more "no parking" measures.

Phil M Fullerton

The plight of the "poor illegal aliens"

This is getting ridiculous!

I'm so tired of hearing about the plight of the "poor illegal aliens." We're supposed to give them free housing, free medical, free education, free food stamps, free cell phones etc. etc.; none of which, by the way, is free. Citizens pay for it with our property taxes, health insurance costs, DMV fees, sales taxes, and on and on. Illegals flood our emergency rooms, and flood our schools so that our teachers have to teach at the level of the slowest non-English speaker. Some illegals, not all, have resumed their criminal predator roles from their home countries and we're all supposed to say "Thanks for coming"?

Now in the Observer Feb. edition we've got two articles from Pletka and McLaughlin from the Fullerton school district beating their breasts on behalf of the illegals. Have you looked at the scores of Fullerton schools compared to the rest of the state? When I went to school, a score of less than 70% was a "D".

On the URL schools-ratings.com/cities/fullerton.html, there are 24 schools listed for Fullerton. Twelve of those 24 scored less than 69%. Worse than that, eight of the twelve had a score less than 54% (F). I think our school tax dollars would be better spent if the district leadership spent less time focused on social engineering and more time on improving the education of OUR citizen youth!

John Bryan Fullerton

Dear Mr. Bryan,

Thank you for sharing your opinions. I hear your frustration. I started gathering data to easily refute the 2016 data found at the link you provided, but stopped to reconsider. Correcting your misleading statistics with current valid data on education, ER services use, and public assistance won't relieve your emotional distress or confront the cruelty that permeates the current threat of grown men with guns going into our Fullerton schools and causing all our children trauma.

To dispute your false narrative, I will point out there is no database listing immigration status in public schools, because that data is not asked for or recorded. The 1982 Supreme Court decision, Plyler v. Doe, established that all children, regardless of immigration status, are entitled to a free public education. More precise testing and population education data is easily accessed on the California Dashboard (www.caschooldashboard.org), where you can compare local public schools' CAASPP scores from 2017 to 2024 and the overall state scores in English Language Arts and mathematics scores.

You make a valid point to focus on making Fullerton education better, and the scores show consistent improvement in both ELA and math. There is always room for improvement. Importantly, both districts prioritize educating and supporting responsible, compassionate, civic-minded individuals who are ready to tackle academic and social problems with dignity in a safe education environment and community.

It takes all of us to work together to overcome false narratives filled with fear and ignorance and focus on making the next batch of adults in our community respectful of the democratic process and ready to face challenges that no one could have predicted 25 years ago.

Sincerely, Vivien Moreno, Fullerton Observer Education Reporter

Downtown Fullerton

It's crazy how badly the city council wants downtown to fail, and always has. Let's go back to the 90s when downtown was a place you just didn't go at night, right? More salons and tattoo shops, heaven forbid we try to develop and an actual neighborhood that people might want to stroll and explore with their family.

Jared M Fullerton

Be careful at the undersized "roundabout" at Highland and Wilshire after traffic resumes at the end of the month. That intersection is very dangerous.

L Lane Fullerton

I certainly hope they keep the alley to see a New Orleans-type event happen downtown.

David M Fullerton

Homeless and HOPE

As a homeless person with the Hope Center, I'm going past the one year mark with no answers as to when the county will release a voucher to get me off Fullertons streets. The Hope Center just drives around with a tablet in their hands with only words of comfort and NO ACTION – you should go to their website Hope Center of Orange County and see ther starting salaries and use of alocated funds from the City with zero results.

Kevin H Fullerton

Ostrich-kind of point of view that only people who are mentally ill or battling an addiction are homeless.. some people are homeless because they have closed to vehicle traffic. I don't want no job. You have no place to live if you can't pay rent and it's just because you haven't got work.

Janey M Fullerton

Whole families are homeless and mine was one of them.

I wasn't a drug addict and we tried for years to get into housing. My ex kept trying to get jobs but we kept being forced to move away from those jobs.

We got housing but I had to leave him because he became abusive. Many people you don't know are now going to be unfairly jailed for something they can't help and are struggling to fix.

G Wells Fullerton

My experience with Point in Time count of homeless in Orange County is most homeless do not want to go into housing where rules exist. Permanent Supportive Housing without remediation (rules) does not solve the longterm problem.

Fritz C. Fullerton

HOW TO VOICE YOUR OPINION

The *Observer* welcomes letters on any subject of interest. Opinions are those of the writer. We must verify your identity, but we allow initials and town to be printed, or anonymous attribution if a reasonable case can be made. Opinions sent to us without name, address and phone number will not be printed. Due to space, shorter letters have a better chance of getting in.

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Fullerton Observer

The Fullerton Observer community newspaper, founded by Ralph and Natalie Kennedy, Roy and Irene Kobayashi, and other friends in 1978, is staffed by local volunteers who create, publish, and distribute the paper throughout our community.

This venture is a not-for-profit one. Revenues are plowed back into maintaining and improving our independent, non-partisan, non-sectarian community newspaper.

Our purpose is to inform Fullerton residents about political, economic, and social forces which impact their lives. We hope that this knowledge can empower residents to participate in constructive ways to hold these public and private entities accountable, so they serve Fullerton in lawful, transparent, and socially responsible ways. We seek to promote a sense of community and an appreciation for the values of diversity with which our country is so blessed.

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NEXT DEADLINE FOR WRITERS & ADVERTISERS IS FEBRUARY 24. THE EARLY MARCH ISSUE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED on March 03.

Fullerton Hills Softball Opening Day Set for February 22

submitted by Glen and Kim Rhynes

The Fullerton Hills Softball league will kick off its season with Opening Day on February 22, at Lions Field, starting at 11 am.

Hannah Rhynes, a 13-year-old and 8th grader at the Orange County School of the Arts, will sing the National Anthem at the event. She has a background in music and has performed at several local occasions, including the First Annual "Tommy Lasorda" Day in 2021.



Hannah grew up in Fullerton, where her parents own The Brownstone Café, a local establishment that has been part of the community for nearly 30 years. She began playing softball at the age of five and has enjoyed

nearly a decade of participation in the Fullerton Hills Softball league. This season, she is playing in the 14U division, which is the last division before



Hannah Rhynes sings the National Anthem at Tommy Lasorda Day in 2021.

players move on to high school teams. Fullerton Hills Softball is run by parent volunteers who coach and manage teams, making the program accessible for young athletes. The league serves girls aged 6U to 14U, emphasizing teamwork and sportsmanship.

As Hannah prepares to perform at Opening Day, she is excited to inspire her teammates and younger players. Anyone interested in volunteering with Fullerton Hills Softball can contact the organization for more information.

www.fullertonhillssoftball.org Fullerton Hills Softball League 1440 Brea Blvd, Fullerton

Valentine's Day **Tradition**

submitted by Mark Sonny

My mom, Judy Sonny, went to get her Valentine's Day box filled on the morning of February 1 at the See's Candy Shop on Orangethorpe & Lemon.

The workers there remember her every year and are excited to see her when she comes in. They even know what candies she is going to pick out. She said that her chocolates include the favorite Scotchmallows, Dark Chocolate Chip Truffles, Milk Chocolate Butter Caramel, and the Polar Bear Claws.

She has used the same See's Candy heart-shaped box her husband Ed gave her on Valentine's Day in 1960 before they were married and they were married in June of that year.

My dad would fill the box each year and, sometimes, they would go to pick out the chocolates together.

Since my dad's passing in 2013, my mom said that filling her Valentine's Day box is a nice reminder of him. She will be 88 years old this year, and they were married 43 years before his passing.



(714) 525-4686 **Celebrating 85 Years of Service:** The Assistance League of Fullerton by Voiza Arnold Amerige Ave., transforming it into the



This year marks the 85th anniversary of the Assistance League of Fullerton, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of the less fortunate in North Orange County. Founded in 1940, the league has established its roots in downtown Fullerton, delivering vital emotional and physical support to individuals and families across the community, regardless of their background.

The organization was founded by Angelina Yorba Kraemer, a key figure in the region's history. A descendant of a prominent family with deep ties to California's early days, Kraemer's vision for the Assistance League was to create a space for giving back and supporting those in need. The league's founding members included several well-known women from North Orange County, who organized events like rummage sales and tea gatherings and sold tickets to local horse shows to raise funds for their philanthropic

Over the decades, the Assistance League has adapted and grown. In 1952, it purchased a building owned by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church at 226

Bargain Box Thrift Shop, which opened its doors in 1959. Since then, the Thrift Shop has continued to thrive, generating around \$350,000 annually for the league's programs. The organization also hosts the annual "Taste of the Town" event, which, in its 45th iteration, is set to take place at Hangar 21 at the Fullerton Airport on June 13. This event contributes about \$40,000 each year towards their philanthropic initiatives.

The league's programs include Operation School Bell, which provides new clothes to K-12 students, and Operation New Start, which assists families escaping abusive environments with essential items. Other initiatives include scholarships for students at Cal State Fullerton and La Vista High School, and holiday support programs in collaboration with local charities. An impressive 95% of the funds raised go directly into these community programs, showcasing the league's commitment to making a tangible impact.

Notably, the Assistance League operates entirely through the dedication of volunteers, who contribute roughly 22,000 hours of service annually. Among its initiatives are two auxiliaries: ALPHA, composed of working women organizing philanthropic programs, and Assisteens, a group of teens engaging in community service while developing leadership skills.

The Assistance League of Fullerton stands as a cornerstone of philanthropic effort in North Orange County, with its headquarters on West Amerige serving as a hub for volunteer activities. The league's enduring presence reflects a community spirit that has persisted for 85 years, embodying the essence of support and care for the region's most vulnerable residents.



From left to right: Jaxper Tsai (first grade, 4th place), Lincoln Liquigan-Pador (second grade, 3rd place), Isaac Lu (second grade, 1st place), Rishi Iyer (third grade, 1st place), Wyatt McLean (third grade, 1st place), Kaylie Yao (second grade, 2nd place), and Sophia Kim (third grade, 2nd place).

Arborland Montessori Excels in the 51st Morrison Chess Tournament by Pete Baron

Tournament, hosted by the Fullerton dents from Fullerton attended the Lions Club, was held on Saturday, event. Remarkably, of those, eight February 1, at the Ladera Vista Jr. High were from Arborland Montessori, earngym. This event, organized and financed by Dewain Barber for the past thirty years, provides students with valuable experience in chess tournaments and attracts participants from the greater Los Angeles area. For the past ten years, the Fullerton Lions, with support from the Fullerton School District, have co-sponsored this event. Due to Barber's health issues, the Fullerton Lions took full responsibility for organizing and conducting this year's tournament, with assistance from Barber and Pete Baron.

A total of 73 students participated, with the majority coming from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, which had 15, 19, and 15 participants, respectively. The largest representation was from the Santa Fe and Long Beach areas. There were thirteen sections, with the top three placements in each section receiving medals. It was disappointing that, despite notifications sent to all

The 51st Morrison Chess Scholastic school district parents, only ten stuing three first-place and two secondplace trophies, marking the best performance among all participating schools!

The two other Fullerton school representatives were Arnik Raina (1st grade, Beechwood) and Julien Pak (5th grade, Sunset Lane), who earned second place. Two other students from Laguna Road, Kevin and Owen Tse, played in a concurrent USCF-rated tournament, held in the Ladera Vista Multi-purpose

The next important chess event is the Fullerton City Chess Championship, which will be held at 6:30 pm on Friday, May 9, in the Ladera Vista Jr. High Multi-Purpose Room.

Both non-rated and rated players are welcome; however, participation is limited to students who either live in Fullerton or attend Fullerton schools. The top player in each grade will be named City Champion for that grade.

City Council Notes by Tara Novelli

Meetings are on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm. Upcoming agenda information and streaming video of meetings are available at www.cityoffullerton.com click on meetings and agenda. City Hall is located at 303 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton Contact Council at (714) 738-6311 or council@cityoffullerton.com

February 4 Meeting

Unhoused Update

Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez nated with Public Works and the Police provided an update on Fullerton's efforts to address homelessness. The city focuses on balancing public safety with support for homeless individuals through cleanups, social services, and enforcing local health and safety laws.

Fullerton collaborates with various shelters and is part of a coalition with 12 other cities in northern Orange County, managing 250 shelter beds in total. The city has committed \$4.53 million over five years to support these initiatives, but recent funding cuts could impact future budget allocations.

The Fullerton Navigation Center has 40 beds available for residents at a nightly cost of \$80, totaling over \$1.1 million annually. However, due to rent credits, the net annual cost is about \$700,000, largely funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The depletion of ARPA funds may affect future funding from the general fund.

This year, Fullerton is launching a motel voucher program to provide emergency shelter for families and seniors during bad weather, using federal funds instead of the general fund.

Outreach includes cleanups coordi-

Department, where individuals are offered resources and shelter options. A dedicated outreach specialist assists with long-term solutions from City Hall and the Hope Center, which provides centralized homelessness servic-

The police have increased enforcement efforts, including a new ordinance regulating encampments near critical infrastructure. Since the ordinance passed, 11 individuals have been cited for violations. The city has also launched Operation Clean Streets, leading to over 400 enforcement actions.

The Hope Center has facilitated engagement with clients, and monitoring similar efforts in neighboring cities, which have implemented stricter anti-camping laws. Overall, HOPE helps cycle unhoused into shelter beds of which there is a limited supply. Without affordable housing and longterm transitional housing Fullerton will continue to see homeless on our

This update was for information only, with no further direction given to the staff.

Parks and Recreations Commission and **Cultural Arts subcommittee reorganization**

The City Clerk provided an update on discussions concerning the reorganization of boards, commissions, and committees, with a particular focus on Parks and Recreation Commission and its Cultural Arts subcommittee. The Parks and Recreation team is prepared to move forward after completing their work plan in January.

Joseph Maldonado, a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, discussed the efforts of an ad hoc committee aimed at improving park effectiveness through an action plan that includes increasing user engagement and providing monthly updates to the Council. He emphasized the importance of public involvement and collaboration among commissioners.

Councilmember Jamie Valencia proposed combining the Cultural and Arts subcommittee with the Library Board to promote collaboration and relieve Parks Recreation the and Commission's workload.

Councilmember Nick Dunlap expressed support for returning the Parks Commission to five directly appointed members and is open to potential changes within the Arts committee, suggesting that it may fit better under the library Board.

Councilmember Dr. Ahmad Zahra advocated for maintaining monthly meetings for the Parks and Recreation Commission and proposed establishing an independent Arts Commission due to previous difficulties in coordinating arts efforts. He also suggested rebranding it to include "Culture" in its title to better reflect its mission.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shana Charles discussed involving Library Board members in the cultural arts conversation and suggested forming a collaborative subcommittee to merge efforts between the library and Parks and Recreation commissions. Library Board President Sueling Chen expressed a commitment to community collaboration and is open to partnerships with the Arts Committee and Parks and Recreation commission.

Mayor Fred Jung suggested reducing the frequency of meetings as well as the number of Parks and Recreation commissioners to five.

Ultimately, it was decided that the Parks and Recreation Commission would consist of five volunteer commissioners meeting monthly, while the Cultural Arts subcommittee would have three members and report to the Library Board.

Buena Park High School continued from front page

BPHS Agriculture program students (and their parents), who personally interacted with Wickoff and have felt intimidated, discriminated against, harassed, or bullied due to their ethnicity, race, or immigration status, may file a Uniform Complaint. This is a written statement of the occurrence that an additional way to support the investigation into an employee's actions, and a record of the actions that lasts long after students have graduated and moved forward. The district is mandated by law to protect students from any retaliatory measures if they submit a valid complaint. The Uniform Complaint form is found in the school's front office, or on the website's home page left side at the bottom of the news scroll. www.fjuhsd.org/Page/968

Pooch Park Relocation Update

The future of Fullerton Pooch Park is being evaluated as City officials consider potential relocation options for the popular dog park, originally established in 2007 and made permanent in

While the Parks and Recreation Commission favors keeping the park at its current location near Hunt Library, alternative sites like Independence Park and Brea Dam Park have been discussed, despite safety concerns regarding Brea Dam Park.

Community feedback revealed limitsupport for relocating to Independence Park, with residents preferring the current site due to its central location, reduced noise for neighbors and security. Maintaining the park

would require around \$50,000 to make it look presentable.

Discussions included operational hours and parking issues, with some council members advocating for improvements at the existing site, while others suggested a potential move to a smaller dog park at Gilbert

The Council is committed to gathering more community input and will continue to examine the park's future while ensuring that the Fullerton Dog Park Foundation is included in discus-

The council directed staff to bring this item back with more data on actual costs associated with the location options discussed.

CITY COUNCIL FACES CRITICISM FOR NOT ISSUING PROCLAMATION FOR ROSA PARKS

During a Fullerton City Council meeting on February 4, Bill Preston, a global legacy ambassador for the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute in Detroit, made a heartfelt appeal regarding the lack of a proclamation honoring Rosa Parks. Preston expressed his disappointment with Mayor Fred Jung for not including this important recognition on the agenda.

Preston addressed the audience, sharing, "Mr. Mayor, my heart is broken todav."

He noted how Parks' legacy has been honored by both Republicans and Democrats alike in Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. He mentioned that former President George W. Bush held Parks in high esteem, pointing out that her impact transcended political boundaries. "It was an act of Congress, the first such tribute since the time of Lincoln," he stressed.

As he acknowledged Rosa Parks' birthday, Preston questioned why such a crucial figure wouldn't receive a proclamation from the City.

"In every city I've visited across

America, she has been rightfully honored in this way," he lamented.

He quoted Parks: "Each person must live their life as a model for others." He expressed his desire to present a Rosa Parks Award to the city council next year to celebrate her legacy.

"Mrs. Parks didn't just make a difference—she transformed the world," he said. Preston further emphasized that honoring her is more than diversity and inclusion; it's about fairness and treating others with kindness.

"If your heart is truly broken and this issue is important to you, you should have come directly to me and don't go through other channels," Jung replied.

It is the responsibility of the Mayor to direct what goes on the agendas. Mayor Fed Jung's decision not to honor Parks with a proclamation raises important questions regarding local authorities' responsibility in honoring those who have made a significant impact on society, ensuring their contributions are remembered and that their stories continue to inspire future generations.

PUBLIC NOTICE

2025-2029 Orange County Regional Assessment of Fair Housing **Notice of Public Meetings**

Program Description:

Federal and State laws prohibit discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, negotiation, advertising, and financing of housing. The 2025-2029 Orange County Regional Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) is a five-year planning document that examines housing and demographic data to identify fair housing issues, determine contributing factors, and establish goals to ensure fair housing choice, address disproportionate housing needs, and increase access to opportunity. The geography addressed by this AFH includes 27 incorporated cities throughout Orange County as well as the unincorporated areas.

Public Meetings:

Public meetings will be held to provide an opportunity for residents to provide feedback on fair housing issues. Orange County residents are invited to attend any of the following public meetings:

- March 5, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. at Santa Ana City Council Chamber, 22 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701
- March 5, 2025 from 6:30 pm 7:30 pm at Santa Ana City Council Chamber, 22 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701 · March 6, 2025 from 10:30 am - 11:30 am at La Habra City Hall, Festival Rm,
- 110 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631 • March 6, 2025 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm at Costa Mesa City Hall, Community Rm,
- 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Two virtual meetings also will be held. To access the meetings, visit the URL listed

- March 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. https://bit.ly/OCAFH
- · March 13, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. https://bit.ly/OrangeCoAFH

ADA Compliance:

All in-person public meetings will be held at locations accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone who requires public documents in an accessible format, the jurisdictions will make reasonable efforts to accommodate requests. If special assistance is required to participate in a public meeting, the meeting host will attempt to make accommodations in every reasonable manner. Please contact David Flores, Housing Programs Coordinator for the City of Santa Ana at 714-647-6561 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to describe specific needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

Language Access: Translation services for participants in the public meetings will be available in Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Mandarin, and Arabic.

Emergency Preparedness Strategies

The Fullerton Fire Department, represented by Fire Chief Adam Loeser, discussed emergency preparedness strategies in response to recent natural disasters affecting Los Angeles County. Loeser presented on behalf of Police Chief John Radus, Public Works Director Stephen Bise, our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Kristi Batiste and Fire Marshall Jon Fugitt, and detailed the impact of events like the Palisades Fire and the Eaton Fire, which resulted in significant damage.

City leaders emphasized the importance of a comprehensive emergency plan that addresses fire prevention, response, and enhancements to the water system. They outlined how evacuations and alerts are coordinated between the police and fire departments, aiming to provide residents with a structured approach to emergencies.

Residents were advised to stay informed by following the Police Department on social media and signing up for alerts at alertOC.org. This allows them to receive important updates regarding local disasters via phone, text, and email. Fullerton's emphasis on proactive preparedness reflects an effort to enhance resident safety amid ongoing challenges associated with natural disasters.

Water System and Emergency Response

Fullerton's water system is structured to provide a dependable supply for firefighting. It includes multiple water sources, backup systems, and approximately 68 million gallons of storage capacity. The city has 434 fire hydrants, which are inspected every two to three years to ensure compliance with state regulations. In emergencies, additional water can be sourced from six nearby areas.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of this system.

California has a well-established mutual aid framework that facilitates quick resource sharing during emergencies, coordinated by the Office of Emergency Services (OES). Recently, assistance was provided to LA County by deploying 11 personnel and two fire

engines.

The fire department operates from six stations, each housing one fire engine and a crew of four members, including a captain, an engineer, and two firefighters. Five of the stations are equipped with Advanced Life Support paramedics. All personnel participate in annual training that covers wildland communication and swift water rescue, and they are provided with appropriate protective gear.

Chief officers from nearby counties, including San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, and Riverside, convene quarterly to discuss weather events and share strategies. This collaboration aims to enhance communication and response efforts, drawing from past experiences such as the Freeway Complex Fire in 2008.

Weather Monitoring and Hazard Alerts

Weather conditions in Fullerton are monitored using data from NOAA and weather.gov, enabling the fire department to disseminate updates to staff and the community via social media and the City website. This information helps residents prepare for severe weather events, including heavy rain, high winds, extreme cold, and intense heat.

As part of the Orange County Operational Area, Fullerton collaborates with other cities to coordinate resources during emergencies, including requests for equipment and additional public safety personnel.

During adverse weather events, we monitor the Public Safety Power Shutoff portal operated by Southern California Edison to assess possible power outages. If outages are expected, timely notifications are provided to the community.

Advanced Detection and Strategic Readiness

The Irvine Ranch Conservancy provides training for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members on fire watch activities. These trained volunteers monitor highrisk areas during red flag conditions for any signs of fire.

The state has allocated funding to pre-position fire resources for rapid deployment during severe weather, enhancing response capabilities.

The fire department focuses on reducing fire risks and conducts safety inspections, particularly in very high fire severity zones. Each year, informational postcards are sent to residents in these areas, offering tips on fire hazard reduction.

Last year, fire prevention specialists completed numerous inspections to ensure safety in various properties.

Programs are available for different age groups to prepare the community for emergencies. The CERT program accommodates community members, and a Teen CERT program has been

established with local high schools.

Additionally, the "Prepare with Pedro" program is being introduced for first and second graders, and "LISTOS" emergency training for seniors is offered in multiple languages, with plans for further expansion. Emergency training is also provided for city staff.

Recovery begins once a disaster is stabilized. This process can take time and often involves partnerships with local, state, and federal organizations, as well as community businesses.

The emergency operations center is designed to address the needs of citizens and businesses during vulnerable times

In summary, the focus is on risk reduction, effective response, and building community resilience. More information is available on the city's website.

This update was for information only, with no further direction given to the staff.

Parks and Rec Report by Christina Gardner

Meetings are on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm.
Upcoming agenda information and streaming video of meetings are available at www.cityoffullerton.com click on meetings and agenda.

City Hall is located at 303 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton

Email parks@cityoffullerton.com

FEBRUARY 10 MEETING

Department Updates

New Commissioner Mark Freeman was sworn in.

Independence Park received a million-dollar grant from Senator Tom Umberg's office that will allow resurfacing of the gym, fumigation, and installation of new offices and restrooms. The gym will reopen later this year. Youth sports, partner leagues, and rental groups are all kicking off the spring season with opening ceremonies. The Fullerton Tennis Center has sold-out classes and is seeking additional coaches for private lessons.

Public Comments

Sue Ling Chen, President of the Library Board, expressed gratitude for the lawn improvements at Hunt Branch Library and requested the relocation of Pooch Park due to its unsuitability for events like weddings. McKendry noted that discussions about Pooch Park will continue in future meetings.

Maureen Milton inquired about recent Park Dwelling Fees, with City staff reporting an \$800,000 contribution from a development on Commonwealth and an expected \$4.2 million from a project near CSUF. She also requested a list of accessible parks and trails for individuals with mobility challenges.

Linda Lu from Hawks Point HOA sought contact information about red flag warnings. Staff confirmed that the Fire Department would manage all related communications.

Fullerton Community Center

There were 50 attendees at a Mommy and Me Tea Party. An Adventure Play Day is planned for Presidents' Day, offering activities like music, arts, and crafts for working families. The Little Learners program provides preschool education and daycare.

Seniors can access free fitness classes through NOCE. Fullerton residents can get transportation assistance with OCTA bus passes for \$7 a month and free taxi rides for medical appointments. Pickleball and morning tennis are popular, and tech assistance classes are offered twice a month.

SecondHarvest provides monthly grocery distributions with fresh produce, and Meals on Wheels delivers daily lunches. AARP volunteers are available for income tax help, and a health and wellness fair is coming soon. This month also features a Winter Formal and the Fullerton Wedding Show.

Special Events Calendar for 2025

Julie Sandoval, Recreation Supervisor for Special Events, presented the following calendar:

Saturday, March 15:

Spring Cleaning community garage sale at Independence Park

Thursday, March 17:
Paint & Sip art event at Hillcrest Park

Saturday, March 22: Free Kid's Fishing Day

at Laguna Lake for up to 200 children

April 4 to August 28:

Downtown Farmer's Market Rated one of the top three Farmer's Markets in Orange County in 2024

Saturday, April 19:

Eggstravanza Family Day at Hunt Library with an egg hunt and photos with the Spring Bunny.

Saturday, June 28:

A new International Food Festival at Hunt Library July 4th-see below

July Wednesday evenings:

Family Movies in the Park event at different City parks

August Friday night concerts
Fullerton Sports Complex
Saturday, October 11:

Puptoberfest at Hunt Library with dog races, and vendors **Thursday, October 30:**

Octoboofest, at the Farmer's Market in the Plaza with trick or treat and costume contests

Tuesday, November 11:

The City will host a Veteran's Day ceremony at Hillcrest Park.

New in November:

Thanksgiving Turkey Trot 5K will be held from 9-1 pm at Laguna Lake or the Fullerton Sports Complex, along with other health and fitness activities

Friday, December 5:

Tree Lighting at City Hall, free to the public, with Santa photos and live performances

Wednesday, December 31:

First Night New Year's Eve in the Downtown Plaza

Youth Sports Leagues

Staff presented the Youth Sports Partner League Annual Compliance Report. After many problems in recent post-COVID years, staff was pleased to report that there had been no violations by partner leagues during the fall season.

Commissioner Maldonado called in at the end of the meeting to participate in voting for new officers for the coming year. He was elected committee chair and McKendry vice chair of the commission.

Commissioner Comments

McKendry wondered if there would be prohibited items for yard sale, and the staff said a list was being distributed.

Freeman asked if priority would be given to resident vendors at the sale. Talavera suggested aligning Spring Cleaning with Earth Day celebrations.

The commission reviewed five options for the Fourth of July event. Since fire-

The commission reviewed five options for the Fourth of July event. Since firework vendors are unavailable on July 4, after deliberating on many options, the commission decided to adopt the parade and daytime festival plan and allocate any savings to Veteran's Day events, unless new firework vendors were found.



Unexpected

Spotted at a location just off Raymond Avenue. We just cannot comprehend all of the repercussions of the devastating fires, can we? We have to search for something positive, and who could ever have known this could be one? A truckload of overused gear from the fire was termed out; you can see the damage, yet this truckload was being offloaded to a storage unit, soon to be driven to Mexico, where the person we talked to said they were Heaven Sent. Lives will be saved. Have mercy.

Depot Improvements

Even if you have never taken a train trip, stop by the Fullerton Transportation Center soon and experience one of the most enjoyable places to go when roaming downtown. There are a few things going on now that are making sure it will be an even better visit.



The City's Clean California Transit

Enhancement project will upgrade signage, including new entry monument signs, provide enhanced landscaping and new planter boxes, refinish and restore paint. Public art will also eventually be featured at a prominent depot location. Yes, there will be even more, such as new benches, trash receptacles, and bike lane restriping.

By the way, this is all being funded by a grant. Be sure to stop by the Santa Fe Café and take in the activity, or head to the Railroad Museum on the first or third Saturday of any month, open from 9am to Noon (FREE).



WoW RIP

Yep, gone; we shall see how this affects commerce on West Wilshire in the next issue.



We still had no complete answer to the question from two issues ago, so here is an updated photo and info. The reaction was about as big as any we have ever posted here.

No Reservations needed (310)538-4211

\$25 Seven Days a Week

Pick up times & locations are:
• 7:30 & 11:30 am in Norwalk
Town Square at Pioneer & Valencia
• 8 am & Noon in Fullerton
Bowlero at 1501 S. Lemon & 91 Hwy

PALA
Casino Spa Resort
COMPLETE
CHARTER



4 HOURS OF GAMBLING FUN!

Sports Shorts

It's that time of year, so we checked in with Downtown Fullerton's Titan Guru, Tom Elliott, for the annual Titan Report: As usual, the Titans opened the 2025 campaign against their perennial foe, the Stanford Cardinal, at home on February 14-17.

The Titan team makeup is a mix of upcoming new talent (freshmen and transfers) and a veteran presence from last season's squad. We can expect to see a team that should score a lot of runs as well as a pitching staff that will develop as the team unfolds.

A new development this year will be the return of the Big West Tournament that CSUF will host at Goodwin Field May 21-25.

For tickets and info go to www.athletics @fullerton.edu



Mo's Goes?

Say it ain't so. After moving truckload after truckload from the immense, time-honored downtown location just down the road a piece to Commonwealth near Raymond, we all figured Mo's Music would be around for a few more decades. Not so fast, Roger has decided to pull up stakes and close 'er down.

Yet another tease: stay tuned and subscribe to get the rest of the story. This is where you get all the Fullerton news that's fit to print.

Photo Quiz Send answer to Mike at AllMedia@sbcglobal.net



Last time: Sure, the answer was actually in the copy itself, which was Billy Barty's Roller Fantasy, so the question really generated a lot of response. The photo question in the previous issue with the construction photo did not generate any correct answers and now, here is an updated photo of the construction site right across Chapman from Fullerton College. Many of you did figure it out since, so thanks to Pam, Debbie, Judy, Robert, Joe, Jeffry, Rob and many more. This is the Wilshire chiller plant relocation and yes, the Wilshire Auditorium will remain.



This time: This was Fullerton's first park. Where was it?

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

"You're Getting Closer" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 15)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | 9 | 10 | 11 |
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| 65 | | \vdash | | 66 | \vdash | Т | Т | Т | | | | 67 | Т | П |

ACROSS

- 1. Stomach woe
- 5. Boo-Boo's buddy
- 9. Pale
- 12. Yokels
- 14. Aspects
- 16. " questions?"
- 17. Popular lemonade mix
- 19. Popular oil additive
- 20. Gambler's concern
- 21. Got out
- 23. "Like a good neighbor" insurance company
- 26. Mopes around
- 28. Runs into
- 31. Everyone
- 32. Hit TV drama series featuring Coach Taylor: Abbr.
- 34. Lipinski and Reid
- 36. Costa Mesa hosts one every summer

- 39. Partner of void
- 40. Concrete-reinforcing rod
- 41. Fashion monogram
- 42. Musical aptitude
- 43. Six, in Sicily
- 45. Mythical realm watched over by Heimdall
- 49. Billy Crystal, once
- 53. Well-ventilated
- 54. Taken in
- 55. Actually existing: Lat.
- 59. Political monogram
- 60. Food truck fare
- 62. Lady lobster
- 63. Maritime
- 64. Feature of an A-frame roof
- 65. Dr. of rap
- 66. Face-to-face exams
- 67. Jamboree grp.

Down

- 1. The basics
- 2. Cheep joint?
- 3. Word after happy or half
- 4. Antarctic explorer Shackleton
- 5. "Huzzah!"
- 6. Not safe
- 7. "Good ___!"
- 8. 2001 Sean Penn drama
- 9. Insect that dates to the Jurassic era
- 10. Get the pot going
- 11. "___ Blue"
- 13. RBIs and ERAs
- 15. Classified
- 18. Vitamin bottle info
- 22. "You're __ one, Mr. Grinch" 24. Stretchy candy
- 25. Ferber and St. Vincent Millay
- 26. Lotion additive27. soda
- 29. More accurate
- 30. Caesar or Cobb

- 31. Unlike this ans.
- 33. Shade of purple
- 35. 35mm camera type
- 37. Ill-tempered
- 38. "South Park" co-creator Parker
- 44. 1987 Beatty/Hoffman box office flop
- 46. Comic vignette
- 47. Chaps
- 48. "He's ____ nowhere man" (Beatles lyric)
- 49. Autumn drink
- 50. Dunne of "I Remember Mama"
- 51. Caterpillar, for one
- 52. Model
- 53. Adderall target, briefly
- 56. Strike underminer
- 57. Male deliveries
- 58. "¿Cómo ___ usted?"
- 60. ___-cone
- 61. Overhead trains

Rookies Diamondback team at Golden Hills Little League is looking for local business sponsorship

https://form.jotform.com/GoldenHill/2025-ghll-sponsorship-form



Fullerton Sunrise Rotary shows up to assist residents of Truslow to beautifying their neighborhood with a new mural for the community garden.



The Truslow Community Gardens has a new mural at 401 E Truslow Ave.

Truslow Community Garden

by Kristen Groves

Truslow Community Garden spans two blocks along the end of Walnut and E. Truslow Aves. and is maintained by local residents and community members on a semi-daily to weekly basis. The three-to four-feet curb strip presents a long-term solution to unsightly graffiti and dumping. The most prominent plant, in the garden is the Nopales Prickly Pear Cactus, whose arms can be gently removed, peeled, boiled and eaten with eggs. Fresh tomatoes and cilantro from the garden make an excellent accompaniment to this classic dish - a true celebration of Chicano culture.

Gardener Ignacio "Iggy" gladly provides a tour of the two blocks of waisthigh plants nestled in fresh mulch. "There used to be garbage all along here," Iggy says. He comments that graffiti removal has improved from a weekly to a monthly task since the garden now dominates the space. The City has allowed access to water, fresh mulch has been donated for \$15 per truckload, and new plants are being propagated from the current ones making the garden a truly cost-effective solution.

Iggy describes how the community has contributed in many ways, as when the owner of the business behind the



brick wall in the back of the garden lent Iggy two bulldozers to help bring in the fresh mulch. It's early on a Saturday morning and a neighbor, still in his robe, emerges and they celebrate new corn plants that are peeking through the mulch. Down the street, Iggy points out rabbit droppings placed there by a neighbor to enrich the soil. She maintains a patch of grass for her pet rabbit to eat and gives manure back to the project.

In this vibrant community space, residents, homeowners, business owners and city employees are cooperating to take back the street with ownership



Who makes the decisions about California Education?

by Vivien Moreno

With the Trump Administration dismantle threatening to Department of Education, it can be hard to know how its actions could impact local schools. Reviewing where California public school revenue comes from and who gets to decide how that money is spent on student education seems, then, like a good

Federal Level

The Federal Department of Education currently provides approximately 4.4% of Fullerton's elementary and high school districts' budget. Federal funds comprise \$6.7 million of the Fullerton Schools District's (FSD) \$147.7 million budget and a little over \$10 million of Fullerton Joint Union High School District's (FJUHSD) \$232 million budget. When a school district accepts federal money, it promises to abide by federal education laws, which mainly cover special student populations, including students with disabilities, English language learning students, and students with economic challenges.

Federal funds are funneled through programs like Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title I, and IDEA (Individual with Disabilities Education Act). States often align many of their

own education codes with federal mandates

to make school reporting easier; if a state does not accept federal funds, however, they are not under mandate to follow federal regulations. On average, California public schools fund 11% of their budget using federal funding, while other states, like Texas and Kentucky, receive 18% to 20% of their public school funding from the federal government.

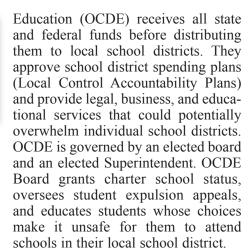
State Level

California tax-payers fund a majority of the state's public education budget through the general fund and property taxes. The governor and the state legislators determine annual education budgets and changes to state education

The governor-appointed State Board Education determines Governor's education policy and budget agenda, while a separate California Department of Education (CDE), led by an elected State Superintendent of Public Education, determines education standards, textbook and curriculum options, implementation of the state education code, testing, and funding accountability.

County Level

The Orange County Department of



Local Level

In Fullerton, the community elects two separate school boards to oversee the elementary and high school districts. Trustees are elected according to district areas but represent all district students and are answerable to all Fullerton families. School Boards approve district budgets, hire and evaluate the Superintendent, set district goals and priorities, and are responsible for district adherence to state and federal education laws. They identify community education priorities, adopt curriculum (how a subject is taught), approve union-negotiated contracts, and oversee district procedures and policies.

As part of their board powers, individual trustees may ask for information from the school administrations but, like any responsible leadership group, they recognize the district's highest priority is to support student education and safety and that the decision to take the Superintendent's time away from that job needs to be taken responsibly and in moderation.

Superintendents oversee implementation of the Board's goals, policies, and practices. They oversee all school administrators and staff, making sure the district complies with state and federal regulations. Superintendents influence spending priorities, curriculum goals, and represent the district to the greater community.

Principals run the day-to-day operations at a school site, lead school site councils, and implement district policies and procedures. The school principal is usually the person parents contact with their concerns and issues.

Administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and older students form school site councils that develop an annual School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA), which allocates individualized school funds to serve unique student needs on that campus.

Parents and community tax-payers vote to elect school board members, county and state public school superintendents, state and federal legislators, and the governor. Locally elected offices, like school board trustees, wield the legitimate authority on local public education. It would be regrettable to lose federal funds that allow local tax funds to serve all students better, but the impact of Federal Department of Education on TK-12 grade funding is less serious than it initially might appear for our local school districts.

LEGAL INSIGHTS by Kathryn, 8th grade

Plyler v. Doe

In the 1982 case Plyler v. Doe, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on a case involving the public education of children who were not legally admitted into the United States. In May 1975, the Texas Legislature revised its education laws to withhold state funds from local school districts for the education of children who were not "legally admitted" into the United States. The law also denied public school enrollment for these children.

Attorneys representing schoolchildren in Texas who were not legally admitted into the U.S. and risked losing their education sued their Texas school district and won their case. Texas appealed to the Supreme Court, leaving the Supreme Court to consider if the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment allowed Texas to deny undocumented school-age children the free public education it provided to children who were citizens of who were in the U.S. illegally. The the U.S. and legally admitted immigrants.

The Court acknowledged that immigration laws created criminal violations for those who chose to enter the country illegally, but those laws did not apply with the same force on minor children. Those children were not responsible for their circumstances, and it was unjust to hold a child responsible for the actions of their parents.

The Court recognized the challenges illegal immigration poses to public schools but held that these challenges did not justify withholding education from innocent children. The Court emphasized the importance of public education in American society. Public schools are "one of our most vital civic institutions for preserving democracy." Education is vital for individuals to contribute to society and the nation. Denying education also risks creating a class divide, which is against the principles of equal protection.

The Supreme Court reasoned that when the state provides education to some children and denies it to others, it creates class distinctions that violate the Equal Protection Clause. The Court ruled that Texas could not withhold funding and admissions for children Court acknowledged that education is essential for participating in society and contributing to the nation's progress. Despite ongoing challenges related to immigration, this case serves as an important safeguard against denying educational opportunities based on a child's legal status.



Troy High School Students Learn Lifesaving CPR Skills from Fullerton Fire Department

by Kristi Hofstetter Batiste, Fullerton Fire Department Emergency Manager

In recognition of American Heart Month, students from Troy High School's Disaster Preparedness Club took an essential step toward emergency readiness by participating in a CPR training class on February 8, 2025. The class was led by experienced instructors from the Fullerton Fire Department, who provided handson training in life-saving resuscitation (CPR) techniques.

A total of 21 students attended the session, learning both traditional CPR methods and the Hands-Only CPR approach, which can be crucial in emergency situations. The training was conducted by members of Engine 4's crew, Captain Zeller, Engineer Paramedic/Firefighter Mueting, Mayadas, and Paramedic/Firefighter Huckabey.

The session emphasized the importance of staying safe and taking quick action during cardiac emergencies, highlighting how immediate CPR can increase a person's chance of survival. Participating in this training gave students the confidence and skills to act decisively in critical moments.

As American Heart Month continues, the event serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of CPR education. Community members are encouraged to take a CPR class or learn Hands-Only CPR to be prepared in an emergency.

Visit the American Heart Association https://www.heart.org/ or the American Red Cross www.redcross.org to find a class near you.



Stressed out about your child becoming an adolescent? Join us to learn how to navigate the challenges with confidence!



Highlights

- · Why do adolescents rebel?
- · What are strategies for dealing with conflict?
- · How can you stay connected with your teenager?
- How can you help your teenager manage peer pressure and social influences?

February 19, 2025 5:30 - 7 pm

Arborland Hughes Campus, Rm 103 2111 Hughes Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833

RSVP (714)871-3111 or info@arborland.com



Featured Pet by Jules, 7th grade



Meet Sierra

Sierra is a friendly Siberian husky searching for her forever owner and home. A social butterfly, Sierra

always greets humans and other dogs with a wagging tail and playful energy. Enjoying time outside and swimming in the pool, Sierra would be the perfect companion to any family who frequently spends time outdoors. Being a love bug at heart, Sierra enjoys winding down and giving cuddles after a long day of play. If Sierra's enthusiastic personality and caring attributes sound like the perfect canine companion for you, please reach out to OC Animal Care.

If you're interested in adopting or meeting Sierra, please contact OC Animal Care at (714) 935-6848 and reference animal ID: A1866883 or visit their website at ocpetinfo.org.

National Observance by Mateo, 11th grade

National Public Science Day February 17

The principles of science play significant parts in just about every aspect of our daily lives. Each of the activities we partake in on a day-to-day basis, from entering a deep sleep to powering on your vehicle to enjoying a delicious meal, can be attributed to and explained by some sort of scientific process.

Foundational understandings of these processes and how they impact our lives can help us view our surroundings through a different lens and is paramount to our comprehension of the world around us. National Public Science Day, celebrated annually on the 17th of February, works to inspire curiosity in the hearts and minds of the public by shedding light upon the vast amount of natural procedures that allow our world to function the way it

National Public Science Day was established in 1989 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). With the organizational goal to "advance science, engineering and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all" in mind, the event provides students from kindergarten to 12th grade with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the hidden world of science that exists all around them. Through workshops, seminars and projects run by local scientists and engineers within the community, National Public Science Day educates these children about the many processes that make the world go round to kindle a lasting passion for science and technology.

Overall, the event enables the AAAS to get involved in the education of local communities around the globe by teaching children and adults alike to appreciate the often undervalued impact these fields have in our daily lives.

The main portion of the AAAS-sponsored event will take place in Boston this year. But there are still many ways you can participate in the festivities from the comfort of your hometown. The best way to honor National Public Science Day is to educate yourself on scientific topics. You can watch a science documentary, read about the extensive history of science, or visit local exhibitions such as the Fullerton Museum Center or the Discovery Cube. No matter how you do it, absorbing yourself in science can spark a feeling of wonder that will surely last vou a lifetime. Alternatively, if you consider yourself somewhat of a science buff, feel free to spread your knowledge to others by hosting a class for the people of your community to enjoy.

All in all, National Public Science Day reminds all people of the crucial role science plays in society as we know it today, and it gives everybody an opportunity to unleash their innate urge to continue the search for a more elaborate understanding of the giant rock we live upon. Take some time today to let your curiosity free and engage in the wonders of science on this special occasion.



Health by Tegan, 7th grade

Love Medicine

Valentine's Day is inching near, landing on Friday, February 14. With this date in sight, there is much commotion about buying chocolates, assembling flowers, crafting cards and shopping for gifts. However, it must not be forgotten that the most important aspect is spreading love.

While we typically associate this holiday with presents and romantic gestures, there is growing evidence that love can maintain our physical and mental health.

When humans connect with their loved ones- their spouse, partner, friend, or family member– their brain releases oxytocin, often called the "love hormone." According to an article released by Harvard Health in

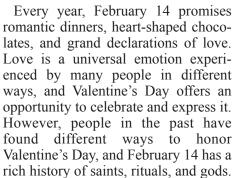
2023, this hormone reduces stress, promotes relaxation and even helps lower blood pres-

sure. The mere act of hugging, holding hands, or being close to someone we love activates these beneficial chemi-

This love potion goes beyond physical health as well. Love nurtures one's mental health and provides a sense of belonging and security. Studies from APN show that people in supportive, loving relationships are more resilient in the face of challenges, with lower rates of anxiety and depression. Thus, this Valentine's Day, remember that love does far more than warm the

History by Yo Yo, 7th grade

Valentine's Day



The story of St. Valentine is cloaked in obscurity. One version of the legend tells that Valentine was a priest who served in Rome in the third century. During this time, Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, and he outlawed marriage for soldiers. Valentine disagreed, so he performed marriages secretly. When discovered Valentine's Claudius actions, he ordered him to be put to

Valentine's Day is often thought to celebrate the anniversary of Saint Valentine's death, but some believe it might

be connected to the ancient Roman festival of Lupercalia, which took place on February 15. Lupercalia was a fertility festival honoring the god Faunus and the founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus. It started with the sacrifice of an animal, and the priests would cut its hide into strips, believed to boost women's fertility.

In addition to these fertility rituals, love was represented by Cupid, the Roman god of love, who was inspired by the Greek god Eros. Eros was known as a handsome immortal who shot golden arrows to create love. It wasn't until later that Cupid became the playful, winged baby we see on Valentine's cards today.

Valentine's Day, originally tied to saints and ancient rituals, has evolved over time. While traditions may change, the essence of celebrating love endures through both grand gestures and simple acts of gratitude.

The Ultimate Debate by Alicia, 7th grade

Pizza vs. Burger

It's dinner time, and you're faced with a tough choice: pizza or burger? Both are delicious and loved by many!

Pizza has great variety, from classic cheese and pepperoni to unique toppings like BBQ chicken. With options cheese, but healthier versions exist. like thin crust and deep dish, there's something for everyone.

Burgers are also customizable. A basic burger starts with a grilled patty, but you can add cheese, bacon, lettuce, and more. There are different types, including beef, chicken, turkey, and plant-based options.

Pizza is perfect for sharing at parties and gatherings, while burgers are great for on-the-go eating as they're easy to hold and

Health-wise, both have their pros and cons. Pizza can be high in carbs and Burgers can be a good protein source, especially with lean meat or plant patties, but can become unhealthy with too many toppings.

In the end, the choice depends on personal preference. Pizza is ideal for sharing and variety, while burgers offer a satisfying and easy meal. Both are tasty, and the best option is whatever you're craving at the moment!

2025 FAST Summer Swim League A fun, introductory swimming experience for ages 7-14!

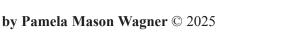
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HITS & MISSES



THE BRUTALIST: A HIT AND A MISS

"The Brutalist"'s running length of 3 hours and 20 minutes (plus a 15minute intermission) is not the only epic thing about this movie. Operatic in scale, dramatically scored, shot on 70mm VistaVision - the 37-year-old director, Brady Corbet, skillfully uses multiple cinematic tools to tell the quasi-fictional, melodramatic story of a mid-century architect and his fraught journey out of the Holocaust and into a new life in America.

From the first images we see – a character moving through a dark, crowded ship's hold into the sunshine of New York Harbor and an upside down view of the Statue of Liberty one realizes this is not your typical biopic. The startling choices made throughout – from the modernist opening credits running on a slant from right to left, to the use of industrial films, cartoons, a speech by JFK, and other contextual clues on the audio track - speak to a self-consciously artistic hand at the helm. Reminiscent of "Oppenheimer," the movie transcends the biopic genre, allowing the filmmakers to explore grown-up artistic themes without being beholden to a factual story or overly protective heirs.

Adrien Brody stars as a fictional architect László Tóth, loosely based on the Hungarian-German architect Marcel Breuer. Unlike Breuer, Tóth is a Holocaust survivor who arrives in the United States with little to his name other than an address for a cousin in Philadelphia. (Breuer left Europe before World War Two and was offered a chair at Harvard.) That Brody was the director's first choice – perhaps only choice - seems obvious. Movie star charisma, a natural warmth, and his own Jewish-Hungarian heritage all contribute to Brody's Oscar-worthy performance. (Brody's parents fled the Hungarian Revolution in 1956 - and have remarked that Brody's accent is nearly identical to his grandfather's.) Brody embodies the character's physical and emotional Jewish European persona, which his cousin's wife, Audrey (Emma Laird), a gentile from Connecticut, ultimately finds distaste-

"I know someone who can do something about your nose," she suggests at their first meeting.

Set in post-World War Two America, live in European-style mansions and

become tycoons of booming suburbs like Doylestown, Pa., the film explores the dialectic between commerce and art. The relationship between the patron and the artist is something many creatives – including the director – can relate to. Who gets the final say? The financier or the creator? The studio or the director?

Initially appalled by Tóth's modernist redesign of his beloved library, when the room attracts the attention of "Look" magazine, Van Buren reconsiders and commissions Tóth to create a community center in honor of his mother. The design and construction of that colossal building occupy the majority of the screen time. Compromises, budget overruns, and a second architect brought in to rein in the first architect will be familiar circumstances to those who've worked on massive creative projects - including movies.

The title "The Brutalist" refers to the post-World War Two school of architecture associated with Marcel Breuer and typified by massive slabs of streamlined concrete walls. It may also refer to the sadistic patron Van Buren. Or even to the tormented artist László Tóth, who inflicts his pain on those he loves. Everyone in this film is trauma-

Less successful is the secondary relationship in the film between László and his wife, Erzsebet (Felicity Jones). She doesn't appear until after the intermission -- perhaps to impose upon the audience the longing Tóth feels during the 10 years he struggles to bring her to America. Yet, once she does arrive, her main purpose in the film - to speak truth to power – feels contrived. That Jones is less believable in her period role than Brody also hurts the story of their relationship, which is fraught but never fully engages the audience's sympathy.

A somewhat tacked-on epilogue and a last line that may or may not contradict all that came before also hurt the film. Viewers have even taken to online forums to debate the meaning of that last line, yet the fact that people are discussing the film also speaks to its power. Several moviegoers shared during intermission that they were seeing the film for a second time. Though not for everyone, those who admire where self-made businessmen like "The Brutalist" hope it might lead to Harrison Lee Van Buren (Guy Pearce) more grown-up films for grown-up audiences.

> • Two Hits: Don't Miss it! • A HIT & A MISS: You Might Like it. • Two Misses: Don't Bother.





White Rabbit Red Rabbit The Electric Company Theatre

Theatre Review by Angela Hatcher

"I was born on Azar 19th, 1360, in Tehran. That's December 10, 1981, in Christian calendar years..." And so it begins. There is no set, no director, no music, no sound effects, no fancy projections, and no prepared actor. Everything is unscripted. Each night, a different actor takes on the role and does a cold reading from a completely sealed script. Imagine that! A cold read at every single performance. The actors have no preconceptions, no rehearsals, and no idea what the play is about whether it's dramatic or funny—nor do they know what to expect. In other words, there is no safety net: sink or

The stage is bare except for a ladder, a table, and a chair. On the table are two glasses of water, a small vial, and a spoon. This intriguing and internationally acclaimed play by Iranian writer Nassim Soleimanpour extracts every bit of life from profound tragedy and exasperatingly funny humor while keeping the audience on the edge of their seats.

So, what is this play about? Reviewers are asked not to discuss the storyline, so my lips are as sealed as the undisclosed script. However, I will say that White Rabbit Red Rabbit is a stunning work of theater that is both thought-provoking and wildly amus-

What do we know about the playwright? At twenty-nine, Soleimanpour refused to carry out his compulsory military service, was denied a passport, and was forbidden to leave his country. From this experience, he distilled his own narrative and the story of an entire generation into this unique and unsettling yet provocative play. It emerged from his isolation and has been performed by some of the biggest names in Hollywood and theater, including John Hurt, Nathan Lane, and Whoopi Goldberg, to name a few.

White Rabbit Red Rabbit is more of an audience participation event, where the playwright, the storyline, the actor, and the audience are all encapsulated in this bold and sensational theatrical experiment. As the actor reads the script aloud, both the actor and the viewers discover the story for the first time. Each performance, therefore, is completely unpredictable. The audience plays a significant role in this interplay, and both the performer and

the audience are drawn in by the beginning narrative and the detailed account of the story, which involves floppyeared little rabbits.

Yes, some of the play is silly, and some of it is not. On the evening of this review, it was an honor to be entertained by ECT's Co-Artistic Director and actor, Callie Johnson. She looked apprehensive as she approached the stage but performed like a champ. I believe the entire audience was rooting for her as she opened the script for the

There was silence in the room as she began. Callie is a consummate performer—a wonderful reader, quick, responsive, and eager to entertain. She is instinctive and an obvious rule-follower with a sharp wit. While the play is morally and thematically challenging, I got the impression that she would use all her theatrical training to ensure everyone in the theater had an amazing collective experience. She was ready for whatever the script had in store, serving as the key to unlocking Soleimanpour's creative mind.

Callie brought the themes of control, collusion, and fear to the forefront while maintaining a great sense of humor and awe. Her performance was mesmerizing, and there were moments when I envisioned myself as a student in her master class. What a wonderful teacher she is.

The reiteration of White Rabbit Red Rabbit raises many questions and provokes much thought. Is it a completely different play as each "new" performer takes the stage? We may wonder what Soleimanpour had in mind when he presented his work in such an unconventional way. Did he know it was

White Rabbit Red Rabbit gets a definite "thumbs up" on my unofficial scale. Curious minds may want to know what the next performance is like, and ironically, while we must all remain silent to avoid revealing the secrets of the "Rabbit Tale," there will be much to discuss. The experience is sure to be well worth it.

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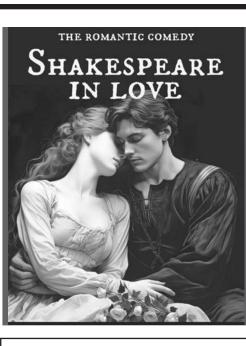


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Democracy

will not

"have died;"

it will

have been

murdered,

not in its

sleep

but in ours.

Humans must

have a stake

in their lives

and livelihoods.

OPINION: Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2025 • Jonathandobrer.substack.com

The Autopsy of American Democracy Not Dead Yet...Monty Python

American democracy isn't dead yet, but is under attack and on life support. Who believed that our guardrails and the spines of so many legislators and businessmen would crumble so fast? Many have pre-surrendered to the chaos, afraid of being audited, primaried or doxed.

If Trump and Musk succeed in their efforts to disorient citizens and destroy institutions, there will someday be an autopsy conducted to establish how our once robust democracy fell ill and died.

Democracy will not "have died," it will have been murdered, not in its sleep but in ours. It will be easy and appropriate to conclude that the fatal shots were fired by Trump, but an autopsy must reveal more. It must show who ordered the gun, made the ammunition and put the weapon into Trump's hand. The shooter carries a lot of the responsibility but so too do the arms dealers.

How shall we trace the small missteps that will have added up to the destruction our democracy? We can see its origins in the conservative pushback, really counter-revolution, to FDR's New Deal. With Goldwater as the "bad cop" and Ronald Reagan as the "good cop," political power began to shift. The Democratic segregationist south began its journey to the Republicans. This was the first defection of working people from the FDR coalition. It might have seemed a papercut on the body politic, but it grew into a hemorrhage that left the intended appointment of Merrick

Democratic Party anemic and enfeebled. Today the blue-collar workers are all but gone and so too are Black and Hispanic males.

Perhaps the first cause of death was the utter failure of Democrats to speak to the condition of their old constituents. I know they got more votes (until this cycle) but they lost their base.

This might have been reversable had it not been for three other major factors

1. Citizens United in 2010, where the Supreme Court found that money was speech and efforts to limit spending were an abridgement of the rights of rich White people. Okay, those were not their exact words. Now poor and middle-class people also had the theoretical right to spend millions supporting (buying or renting) politicians. That didn't work. The rich could buy newspapers, radio stations and give

money to politicians without any significant legal restraints. Between Rupert Murdoch, an unapologetic partisan, and today's versions of Jeff Bezos and Mark Zuckerberg, we're drifting from democracy to plutocratic oligarchy. Since it's largely male, it's really a Broligarchy.

Unlimited money undermined the system and enticed potentially honorable people to surrender to their funders.

2. Our downfall continued with the innocent appearing and innocent

> Garland as Attorney General by President Biden. Whether out of caution or cowardice, misjudgment or sloth, he sat on Trump's January 6 Insurrection. Making Prince Hamlet seem the very model of resolution, he stalled, dallied, cogitated and let a year pass before beginning an investigation. Trump was able to run out the shortened clock. As Edmund Burke is quoted: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of

that didn't seem epoch defining at the evil is for good men to do nothing." Garland didn't do the necessary in a timely manner. Trump regained the presidency.

> This brings us to this moment when our democracy is bleeding out on the table, and there is nothing left in our medical bag to staunch the exsanguination.

> 3. Le coup de grâce was administered again by the Supreme Court with its legally inconceivable finding of presidential immunity. With the presi-

dent having immunity from prosecution for presidential acts, we no longer have three branches of government, and the president can order his underlings to do anything and both promise and deliver them pardons. Only Trump could invert and pervert justice by pardoning convicted felons and then say that the felons, who assaulted the Capitol and the police, were the ones who "were actually assaulted by our government." Shameless. Shameful.

Why is this a fatal coup de grâce? When the courts are ignored, Trump can't be held responsible for his orders. His underlings who carry out his policies and orders can be tried, jailed or fined. But that option is meaningless. If Trump pardons violent felons, then certainly he'll pardon members of his team carrying out his crimes.

There are legal remedies. Impeachment. But that can't happen. He could be impeached but with a Republican majority in the House, he won't be. But were he to be, the Senate (again with a cowed and spineless Republican majority) would never be able to vote a conviction by a twothirds majority. The last safety valve is the 25th Amendment which makes it possible to remove a President who is incapacitated by illness or madness. Neither the Senate nor the Cabinet will do this.

So, we'll watch our democracy, our traditions, our precious legacy undergo an autopsy. We'll come to understand, but we won't be able to reanimate the corpse. Is it too late? No. Not yet. But soon. We must not be the "Good people who let evil triumph by our silence and inaction."

OPINION: AT HOME WITH THE HOMELESS

by Andrew Williams © 2025

Why not just give up?

I thought about giving up today.

I try not to make this column about me, but this week I am going to indulge myself because I can, and because I know many people feel as hopeless as I do. We see the federal government collapsing, with unelected billionaires taking information that doesn't belong to them and threatening career civil servants with unemployment unless they sign loyalty oaths to Trump, while Congress sits on its hands without even a protest vote. Not one Congressperson voted against Marco Rubio's nomination-NOT ONE. And now he's threatening the Panamanian government, at the president's behest. Meanwhile, the president is threatening our closest allies—pier of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. But

Mexico and Canada-with tariffs, not because of anything they've done, but simply because he can.

Against all this chaos and impending destruction, what hope can an aging, unemployed,

homeless writer have? Ronald Even when Reagan and George W. Bush were in office, I had some hope of sanity returning, knowing that eventualthe majority Americans would tire of

being told that 2 plus 2 equals 5, that the same old thing and expecting difthere were government officials who understood that their duty was to the country—to the people—not to the occu-

now that stability is being eroded daily by sociopathic men and women without conscience, who seek profit above service, who don't care if people sicken and die because of their actions. Through the ballot, we have given these creatures control of our 'govern-

So, no. No column this week about Housing First or UBI or

which cities are cleaning up their streets by bulldozing the homeless and their belongings. That's going to continue no matter what anyone says, because no one in power is interested in novel solutions, just the continuing insanity of doing

ferent results.

What's to stop me giving up? Or anyone?

I'll be brutally honest: if I had an ON/OFF switch, I'd have switched it to OFF already. If that upsets you, think of how reality is being turned upside down on a daily basis and how differently you might feel if you didn't have food, clothing and shelter that you were paying for with your labor. If you think it's enough to have these basics, then I invite you to live in a shelter for a month. I guarantee your morale and resolve will weaken, and you will find yourself prone to depression and illness.

Existence is not enough. Survival is not enough. Humans must have a stake in their lives and livelihoods. And that is being taken from us, piece by piece, by sociopaths and psychopaths who were elected despite numerous warnings.

There are only two things keeping me alive:

1) my love for Jennifer and wanting a

place for us to live our lives together;

2) my desire to live in spite of Trump and his minions. I refuse to give him the satisfaction of seeing me lie down and die.

Now what?

We turn to the wisdom of the ages, in this case Bob Dylan:

"He not busy being born, is busy

Stagnation is not a lifestyle. It's barely even a way of life. And for people with active minds and bodies, it's anathema. So, yes, we must go on living-in spite of everything.

One thing this week did cheer me up: Adam Mockler calling for Elon Musk to be deported. For someone with as many online followers as Adam has, that takes guts-especially when you go up against the richest person in the world. In the days and weeks to come, we need more of this.

We need men and women of influence to call for an end to this current madness. We need to proclaim from every corner that the emperor has no clothes, that just because you can do something doesn't mean you should, and saying "No" to everything Trump wants is foursquare in the interest of preserving and restoring democracy.

Just say "No." No to the dismantling of government agencies, especially those concerned with public health and welfare. No to all of his appointees. No appeasement. No compromise. Just a straight "No" vote down the line. We must do as Gunter Eich advised citizens in fascist states to do:

"Be sand, not oil, in the machinery of the world." Be Charlie Chaplin throwing a monkey wrench into the works. Be Peter Finch yelling, "I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore!" It's the only way we'll save democracy. And ourselves.

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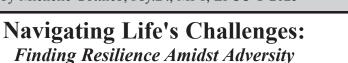
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Balance & Change

by Michelle Gottlieb, Psy.D., MFT, LPCC © 2025



There are many things happening in the world that we have no control over. For example, no matter where you are living, the weather and other natural disasters cause grievous havoc, including the loss of our homes or even our lives. These types of events can feel overwhelming. We feel powerless.

When this happens, depression can set in. We stop trying. We wither and wilt. We stop. It is not easy when a tragedy has befallen us, whether manmade, nature-made, an illness, or an accident. But the reality is that life goes on, so we must also find a way to.

First step: Notice that you are alive and breathing. So, take a deep breath in and let it go. You are still here and must find a way to move forward.

Second step: Find your community. We need people to lean on. If that means a support group for people going through the same thing, your neighbors, your family, your friends, lean on them. We are stronger together!

Step three: Get some power back. This is crucial. When we feel powerless, we often stop trying. It can be a small thing like I chose to get out of bed this morning. That was my choice. My ability to make that choice was not taken away. Sometimes, the choices that we have in front of us are bigger and more profound. But with every choice comes the knowledge that since we have the power to make the choice, we have power!

For many people, the next step is their spiritual beliefs. If that is a part of your life, it can be very comforting. If an organized religion does not work for you, please spend some time in nature. It can quite literally ground you, which helps you deal with all that life is bringing you.

Sometimes, the most important thing to remember is simply this:

This too shall pass.

So, until it does, be sure to take care of yourself.

The Dental Corner: Better Oral Health

Should I get rid of my old silver fillings?

Many people have a negative view of amalgam fillings, commonly referred to as silver fillings. And although they aren't as commonly used today, most of us have had silver fillings in our mouths at one point in our lives.

Aesthetically, it's quite obvious they aren't ideal. Even if the filling itself is not directly in view when you speak or smile, it can cause the tooth to have a darkened appearance. This is one of the biggest reasons silver fillings have fallen out of favor over the years, especially as tooth-colored composite fillings have improved in quality.

However, unless there is a cosmetic issue that bothers a patient, I always recommend patients to leave their old silver fillings in place, as long as they are still in good condition. A well-placed silver fill-

ing that is kept clean with good brushing and flossing can last an unbelievably long time! Not to mention that any dental work can cause temporary sensitivity.

Personally, I will keep my silver fillings for as long as I can!

Eric Kim, DMD: Family Dentistry 501 N Cornell Ave • 714-992-0092 www.erickimdental.com



Healthy Awareness by Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D. © 2025



A Sucessful Aproach to Homelessness

Difference" by Gerald G. Jampolsky, M.D., discusses how ordinary people do extraordinary things: "More and more people are hearing an 'inner calling,' a voice from within stating that the way to make a difference in the world is to be helpful to others."

What can three men who met volunteering at the local St. Vincent de Paul in Port Townsend, Wash. do about homelessness, one of whom was a for-Fullerton resident, Vince Verneuil? They saw a real need to help the homeless and together created the non-profit, Bayside Housing Services, in 2014. On July 1st of that year Bayside contracted with Jefferson County and the lower level of the American Legion Post #26 building in downtown Port Townsend to operate the Jefferson County Emergency Shelter (JCES). JCES is a year-round "night-by-night" shelter.

By 2015 they pooled their funds, and the Old Alcohol Plant and the adjacent building were bought by Inn Properties. An inn and restaurant were opened on the property, which provides funding for the homeless proj-

In 2016-17 the first six rooms for housing opened and the partnership with therapeutic courts was launched. The first family was housed in 2018. and a meal program was created. Rooms were modified for families and the number of housing units rose to over 20 in 2019-20.

Combining the Pat's Place and Peter's Place shelters created Bayside's first Tiny Shelter Community in Port Hadlock. This project includes 24 transitional housing units, a computer lab, a kitchen facility, ADA accessible sanitation units, community gardens, and a case manager/meeting room. The city and county along with a series of partners, including churches, has made this project possible.

Bayside Housing and Services bought the Hadlock Motel which became Woodley Place providing permanent housing for seventeen homeless with disabilities.

Early in 2024 the State of Oregon's

"One Person Can Make A Department of Commerce Housing Trust Fund awarded \$8.7 million to fund Vince's Village, a project providing permanent housing and community for some of the most vulnerable. It comprises three stories of 40 housing units of 1-,2- and 3- bedrooms for tenant households for different populations: people who are chronically homeless, have a qualified disability and earn 30% or less of the area's median income, and tenant households earning 31-50% of the area's median income.

What does Bayside Housing and Service contribute to their success? Bayside has as its focus to end homelessness. It is based on a Model of Trauma-Informed Care to:

- 1) provide a safe place for healing;
- 2) maintain a non-judgmental method of help:
- 3) empower people to become stable;
- 4) listen to and support the homeless. To provide for this there are:
- 1) computer labs at four housing locations;
- 2) a skill center for vocational training and to build employment prospects; and
- 3) access to healthcare, primary care and mental health support in a clinic setting.

Bayside and its staff understand that homeless persons live in a constant state of uncertainty, are unprotected, and art trying to survive day-to-day; they are vulnerable to violence, rape and crime; and experience being socially outcast.

There is a long list of reasons why people become homeless including childhood abuse and neglect, drugaddicted parents, violence within the home, loss of job and income, mental illness and drug addiction.

Today, Bayside has grown from the original 3 directors to 27 staff members and 10 board members. Bayside is proving what works for the homeless, through its unique approach of caring and planning, and with the support of many community organizations and individual donors.

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Rufus Whitehurst Jr 1947-2025

Rufus Whitehurst Jr., age 77, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 29, 2025.

He was born on June 16, 1947, to Rufus Whitehurst, Sr. and Mary Trammell-Jackson, in Shreveport, Louisiana.

He is survived by his loving wife Dorothy Owens-Whitehurst, daughter Staci Whitehurst-Boakye and son Kelle Whitehurst, son-in-law Ernest Boakye, and grandson Myles Cole Boakye.

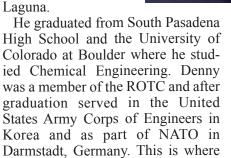
A visitation for Rufus will be held Friday, March 7, 2025 from 5 to 7 pm at McAulay & Wallace Mortuary, 902 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92832.



A funeral service will take place on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 10 am at Second Baptist Church, 4300 Westminster Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92703.

Denison Willams York (Denny) 1931-2024

Denny was born to Willard and Margaret at Seaside York Hospital in Long Beach, CA on November 5, 1931. His childhood was spent having adventures with his older brother, Van, and cousins, Bruce and Marilyn, which included camping in La Canada and spending time at the beach in



he met the woman with whom he would spend the next 63 years, Audrey Whittick, who was working as a reporter for the "Stars and Stripes". Denny and Audrey were married on October 8, 1960, near Kingston on Thames, England.

Once he and Audrey returned home to Southern California, Denny worked as an

engineer at various companies before founding Claymore Engineering. He was registered in chemical, mechanical, and safety engineering and specialized in air pollution control. He worked closely with the California Air Quality Management District to clean pollutants out of the air, making it safer for all of us to breathe.

When Denny retired, he decided to start doing more of the things he always wanted to do. This included writing short stories, crewing for a hot air balloon, traveling with Audrey, chasing total solar eclipses,



and hiking and backpacking with daughters in the local mountains. He was an avid reader and lifetime lover of books.

Denny was a devoted sports fan and loved watching college football, professional football, and going to Dodgers and Angels games with his son. Denny also loved swimming in his pool

and spending time with his family. Denny was the father of four chil-

dren, Catherine, Robert, Clare, and Jean, and a grandfather to two grandsons, Robin and Grant.

Those left to cherish his memory are his spouse, Audrey York; hisdaughters Catherine York, Jean Metter (Adrian Metter), and Clare

> York (Aaron Peets); his son, Robert York (Cassie York); grandchildren, Robin Metter and Grant Metter; and niece his Patti Wall (John Wall), along with numerous friends and a large extended family.

> Family and friends will dearly miss our dad. His family was his pride and joy and his greatest role in his life was being a loving hus-

band, father, and grandfather. He will be fondly remembered for his intelligence, wonderful and witty dry sense of humor, and always being a person you could count on who did not hesitate to help those in need.

The family wishes to extend sincere thanks to the staff at Sunnycrest Senior Living for the care they showed our dad during his final

At the request of his family all services will be private.

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" "... Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Matthew



Sunday Service & Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Testimony Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Reading Room: Monday thru Saturday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist 1300 N. Raymond Avenue, Fullerton 92831 Office (714) 525-4062 Reading Room (714) 525-2649 csfullerton@sbcglobal.net christiansciencefullerton.com

Betty Mae Baker 1926-2024

Betty Mae Baker, 98, of Fullerton, California, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2025.

Betty was born on April 23, 1926, to Holgar and Mabel Scott in Fresno, California. Betty graduated from Fresno High School in 1944.

Betty attended college for a short

because, in her words, "there were no boys around any longer."

Betty had met Lyman Irving Baker in high school. After Lyman returned from the war, and after a short courtship, Betty and Lyman were married in Fresno in 1946.

Betty and Lyman went on to have two children, Linda Susan Baker and Kathy Christine Baker, both born in Fresno, California.

California. Betty would continue to call Fullerton her home until her death in 2025.

In 1974, Betty and Lyman were blessed with the birth of their first grandchild, Christopher Edward



On August 30, 1977, Betty's hus-Lyman, passed away. His loss was felt deeply, but Betty remained strong for her family.

Fortunately, on time but left after the outbreak of January 28, 1981, Betty joyfully wel-World War II. She left college comed her third grandchild, Karen Christine Gardner. Then, on July 25, 1986, she celebrated the birth of another grandchild, Eric Grant Gardner.

Betty is survived by her two daughters, Linda Gardner of Fullerton and Kathy Collett of Austintown, Ohio, as well as her four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held at First Christian Church of Fullerton on In 1959, Betty, Lyman, and their February 9, 2025, with interment at two children moved to Fullerton, Loma Vista Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association, an organization that supports dementia research.

https://www.alz.org

"You will lose someone you can't live without, and your heart will be badly broken, and the bad news is that you never completely get over the loss of your beloved.

But this is also the good news. They live forever in your broken heart that doesn't seal back up. And you come through. It's like having a broken leg that never heals perfectly - that still hurts when the weather gets cold, but you learn to dance with the limp." -Anne Lamott

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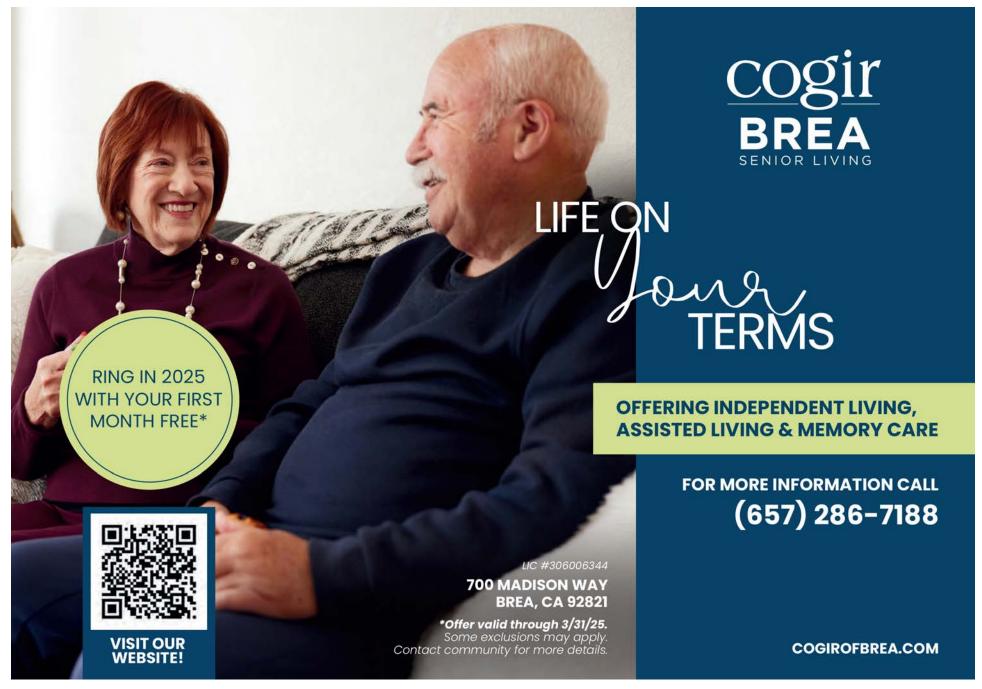
ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "YOU'RE GETTING CLOSER" on pg 7:



Puzzle Master Valerie Brickey was born in Fullerton and returned to raise her family here. She has contributed puzzles since 2014.

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VIDEO OBSERVER by Emerson Little © 2025

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Fascinating Fossil Collections on Display at Ralph B. Clark **Regional Park's Interpretive Center**

The park's

nature center

houses roughly

three hundred

fossils,

ranging from

marine fossils

from

up to 80 million

years ago,

to local

land-roaming

mammals

from

tens of thousands

of years ago.

Since 1988, the Interpretive Center, located within Ralph B. Clark Regional Park (off Rosecrans Avenue), has featured fossils for children, teens, and adults to enjoy. With displays devoted to Orange County's rich geological past, the park's nature center was originally established by the county to showcase fossils found during the development of the Emery Borrow Pit, land which the regional park now sits on top of. Since the late '80s, the Interpretive Center has expanded its educational programs and facility to become a nationally recognized home to one of the most significant fossil museums in Southern California.

When I was in elementary school, I remember visiting the regional park's center, and seeing really unique fossilized mammal skeletons in glass display cases, including a giant grand sloth and a ringtailed cat. Recently, I reached out via email to interview OC**Parks** Resource Specialist Sarah Hoemke about what it's like working at the nature center, how the park's impressive fossil collection was originally discovered, and how the Interpretive Center has evolved over the years to include educational programs for everyone to

"I am an OC Parks Resource Specialist and Certified Interpretive Guide assigned to Ralph B. Clark Regional Park," said Hoemke via email. "I wear many hats here, creating and delivering public programs and school field trips, giving public tours, and coordinating volunteers inside and outside the Interpretive Center. The best part of my job is seeing the spark of awe in our visitors' eves when they learn about the animals that have lived here through all the changes Orange County has experienced over millions of years."

According to Hoemke, the park's nature center houses roughly three hundred fossils, ranging from marine fossils from up to 80 million years ago, to local land-roaming mammals from tens of thousands of years ago. She explained that since the start of Orange County's Paleontology Archaeology collection in the 1970s, approximately 1 million fossils have been collected.

"Since taking over management of the collection, OC Parks is working

through a multi-decade backlog of stored materials that are awaiting or in the process of careful uncovering, identification and cataloging," said

I learned from her that the park's rich fossil beds were first discovered when the California Division of Highways excavated sand and gravel from the site during construction of the I-5 and SR-91 Freeways from 1956 to 1973. She explained that at that time, the site the park now sits on was known as the Emery Borrow Pit. According to the regional park's map and brochure, the County of Orange acquired the property in 1974 and Los Coyotes Regional

Park opened in 1981. "The significance of the site led to public demand that it be preserved," said Hoemke.

Over the years, the park's Interpretive Center has gone through different renovations "to expand areas for storage and display," according Hoemke. She explained that in 2023, the Interpretive Center reopened after "undergoing a year-long renovation to repair roof panels, windows and structural beams."

"The improvements will help preserve the integrity of the building and the unique fossil collections inside," said Hoemke. "The repairs are part of our

continued upkeep of the facility and commitment to improving and preserving the Interpretive Center for future generations to enjoy."

The nature center museum is now home to the largest display of fossils from Orange County, including those recovered within Ralph B. Clark Regional Park, Coyote Hills, and other surrounding areas. I learned from firsthand experience that it also contains a fishbowl lab where visitors can view how fossils are prepared for research

Hoemke said, "The center offers visitors of all ages an opportunity to enjoy and learn about Orange County's prehistory and local paleontology...We have several popular exhibits displaying fossils from the late Cretaceous Epoch through the Pleistocene Epoch. One of the exhibits that stands out is 'Joaquin,' a 9-million-year-old, 26foot-long baleen whale discovered during construction of the San Joaquin Hills transportation corridor in Laguna Niguel. Due to its size, the fossilized



View through megaladon teeth at Ralph B. Clark Interpretive Center

skeleton was separated into three sections so it could be supported and transported to the Interpretive Center in 1993 using a crane and a flatbed truck. Joaquin was excavated from a site containing fossil-rich sediments that accumulated between 4.5 and 9 million years ago. These fossils tell us about the ocean environment in Orange County during the Miocene Epoch."

According to Hoemke, OC Parks runs monthly public programs aimed at both adults and children, with the goal of educating and inspiring individuals to learn about Orange County's past, and teaching them to protect shared natural and cultural resources. She clarified that all programs at Ralph B. Clark Regional Park are offered free of charge.

OC Parks has been delivering programs that include tours of the fossil bed hillside for decades. On Saturday, February 15, 2025, park rangers are hosting an event called, "Explore!

Fossils of the Ancient Sea Floor," a guided tour of the Clark Regional hillside fossil bed, followed by a trip to the Interpretive Center. Advanced registration is required for both this and upcoming events, including: "Preschool Paleontology: Art and Storytime" on Thursday, February 20 from 10 am to 11 am; "Jr. Ranger Time Scale Adventure at Clark Park" on Friday, February 21 from 3:30 pm to 5 pm; "Native Garden Restoration at Clark Park" on Saturday, February 22 from 8 am to 10 am; and "Explore! Fossils of the Ancient Sea Floor" on Saturday, March 15 from 8 am to 10 am. Additional information for each be event can found www.ocparks.com/clarkpark.

Ralph B. Clark Regional Park is located at 8800 Rosecrans Avenue. Parking fees are \$3 per vehicle entry Monday through Friday; \$5 Saturday through Sunday. Fees are higher for some holidays and events.







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