

# Fullerton Observer

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

FULLERTON'S ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWS



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MID-OCTOBER 2023

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## OBSERVER VOLUNTEERS

**Jan Youngman** has a Masters of Social Work and was a social worker for many years in Fullerton. She has covered the Fullerton School Dist Board meetings since 1999.



**Declan** is a writer for the Young Observers. He is a local 8th grade student who likes to write about new science and obscure facts.

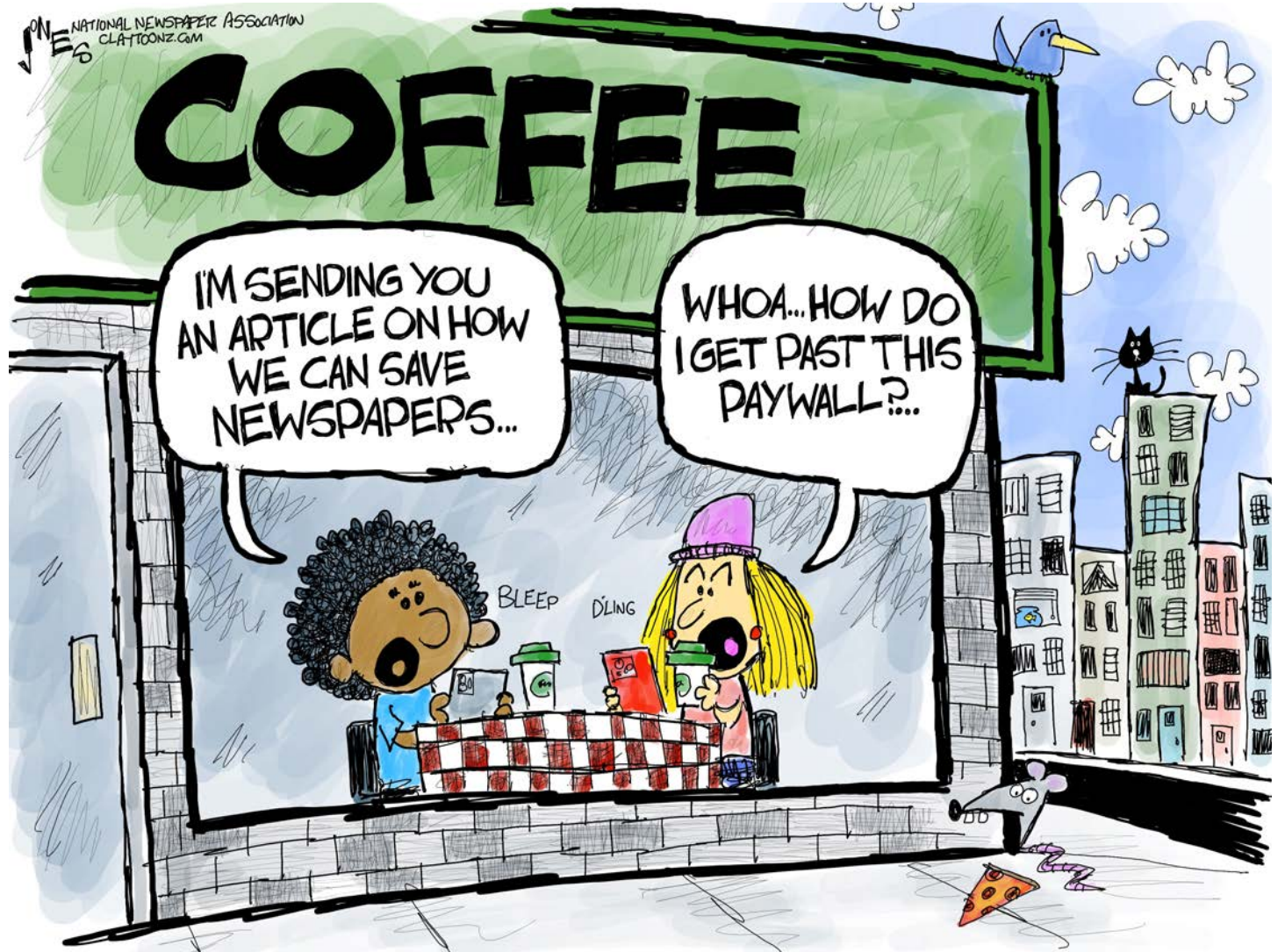


See Young Observers on page 9.

**Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D.** began writing for the Observer in 2021. She is a retired clinical psychologist and taught psychology for 40+ years.



Read Healthy Awareness on pg. 15



The Fullerton Observer believes that everyone should have access to information regardless of economic background. That is why everyone can pick up the paper or read online for free (no paywall). Subscribers and advertisers, like you, keep us printing. Thank you for supporting local journalism. CARTOON BY CLAY JONES FOR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK.

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FULLERTON  
OBSERVER  
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FULLERTON CA 92834

## Woman's Wallet Stolen While Shopping In Brea, Police Seek Suspect

Police have asked for the public's help in identifying a man wanted in connection with a wallet snatching in Brea.

The suspect stole the unidentified woman's wallet and proceeded to charge her credit card hours later police said. The location of the store was not released.

Residents who have any information about the incident are asked to call investigator Aja Tokugawa at: 714-671-3675 or [ajat@cityofbrea.net](mailto:ajat@cityofbrea.net)



Surveillance shot of the suspect

## Is the Pooch Park in the Doghouse?

The City intended to use \$266,093 State grant funds for the Fullerton Pooch Park Relocation project, but the City has now put this project on hold. At the October 17 City Council meeting the staff will request to redirect the grant funds to the Acacia Park renovation project so that the City can use the funds before the performance period ends.

The current Pooch Park began in June 2007 and is now open six days a week from 7 am to 8 pm. It is city-managed and operated by members of the Fullerton Dog Park Foundation. They were asked to relocate as the current site is part of the Hunt Branch Library revitalization plan.

The Brea Dam Park was the preferred site as a central location that was not close to residential housing, as the noise of dogs barking could be a concern. It is also a flat area with an existing parking lot. Lighting expenses are seen as necessary so residents can use the park after school and after work.

On November 2, 2020, City Council approved allocating the State's grant funds for the Fullerton Pooch

See *Is the Pooch Park in the Doghouse?* page 18

## TIME TO RENEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

Dear Subscribers,

October is the month each year that the paper asks subscribers to send in their renewals for continued home delivery by US Mail.

Please send in your subscription check of \$39 along with your address label to Fullerton Observer, PO Box 7051, Fullerton CA 92834, and we will send you another year of of the Fullerton Observer (21 issues).

We also always appreciate your notes and ideas for the paper! And, consider giving the paper as a gift or if you are new in town, now is a good time to sign up!

Please write carefully so we get your name and address correct. You can include your phone number or email address in case we can't read the information. We also have autopay online at [www.fullertonobserver.com](http://www.fullertonobserver.com) or you can support the digital version that is also free with no paywall.

Thank You! The Observer Crew

## CORRECTION

In the article *Project Curiosity* initiative at Orangethorpe Elementary school the word conservatism was supposed to be conservation. (see pg 8, Early October Issue)

Conservatism the political philosophy is not being taught in an art class. Conservation, the prevention of wasteful use of a resource is being taught.

The Observer apologizes for the misspelling and any confusion it may have caused.

Thank you Martin Schwartzman for letting us know.



**Left:** Tim Johnson, Dave Smits, Amanda Rue, Francis Sinatra, Malori Sinatra, and Taylor Wright **Right:** Monica Patricia, wife of Jeff Mayhew the GM of the Charleston with Brian Torres



# 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.

**Distributed on the first and third Monday of every month except only once in January, July & August.**

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## Grand Opening of The Charleston!

Lady Larisa in The Petite Ballroom and Ashley Anne and The Carnations played in the Grand Ballroom at the Grand Opening of The Charleston on Saturday October 7. The Charleston is on the second floor of the historic Williams Building in lovely downtown Fullerton. Built in 1927, this venue has a special charm and the elegance of days gone by. The Charleston is located at 114 E. Commonwealth Ave, across from the Fullerton Train Station.



### Artist Andrew Stirdivant Repairs the Lemon Street Murals

City Councilmember Ahmad Zahra has been raising funds independently to revive and restore the eight separate murals at Lemon Park and the Lemon underpass, one at a time. The first murals to be restored will be the "Car Mural" & "The Town I Live In." There are 11 murals on Lemon Street. According to Zahra some are to be recreated and some that need to be restored.

Local artist Andrew Stirdivant has begun working on them, with consulting by Higgy Vasquez, son of famed local muralist Emigdio Vasquez.

The murals were originally produced with assistance from community youth in the late 1970s. According to Zahra, "We are hoping to have local youth participate [in the restoration] too." The next murals on Lemon Street that Zahra wants to work on are "The Lady of Guadalupe" and the "Mujeres Latinas" mural. He is working on getting the funding for those two murals.

Residents can donate to help restore the murals at <https://donor-box.org/lemon-street-mural>.



### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WITH THE FULLERTON FIRE DEPARTMENT CERT on November 2, 3, 4, & 5

CERT is a 20-hour emergency preparedness class, which is certificated. After completion of the class, participants can then volunteer for the program at events and in the community.

To participate, contact: Kristi Batiste, Emergency Manager Fullerton Fire Department



312 E Commonwealth  
714-681-0890

## Fabulous Fall Jewelry Sale

October 10th 1:00 - 6:00 pm  
October 12th 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
October 14th 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**233 West Amerige Fullerton**

**Hours: Tues, Thurs, & Saturday 10am - 3pm**

The Early November 2023 issue SUBMISSION and AD deadline: October 23. Distributed October 30.

**THE MARKET IS BACK!**  
**OKTOBOOFEST**  
 ART CART, BEER GARDEN  
 LIVE MUSIC & MORE

**FULLERTON MUSEUM CENTER**

**10/26**

"THE STRANGE, THE WEIRD, THE UNUSUAL, THE UNKNOWN..."

**HAUNTED FULLERTON WALKING TOURS**

**SPECIAL HALLOWEEN TOUR**  
**OCTOBER 31 5:00-8:30PM**

\$40 - MUSEUM MEMBERS & \$50 - GENERAL

**FULLERTON MUSEUM CENTER**  
 301 N. Pomona Ave, Fullerton

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS FESTIVAL**

**Now 2ND**  
**4:00PM-8:30PM**  
 FULLERTON MUSEUM CENTER

COMMUNITY ALTAR, BEER GARDEN, LIVE MUSIC, FACE PAINTING, ARTS & CRAFTS, VENDORS



**FULLERTON MUSEUM CENTER**

**Roar Festival at the Downtown Plaza**  
 125 E Wilshire Ave, Fullerton  
 Friday, October 27 thru Sunday, October 29

The first annual Roar Festival is a free 3-day Korean celebration that takes place in Fullerton Downtown Plaza and welcomes all communities. Anticipating thousands of attendees, the festival merges Korean cuisine, artists, performers, and vendors, offering an immersive celebration of Korean heritage.

Presented by Daroo Korean Performing Arts and Culture in collaboration with the City of Fullerton, this event marks a decade of the festival's presence in Los Angeles and introduces the annual Korean culture festival to Fullerton for the first time.

**Mrs. Roper Halloween Parade**  
 Saturday, Oct 28, 6 pm

Join us in downtown Fullerton on Saturday October 28 at 6 pm for our very first ever Life is a Parade Halloween event. Pull out your favorite Kaftan, put on that Mrs Roper wig, and join us.

The first stop will be Back Alley Bar and Grill, followed by three others to be determined. So come on out and get your Roper on.

We will be meeting in front of Mulberry Street Ristorante in the outdoor dining area at 114 W Wilshire Ave, Fullerton



**FULLERTON PD**

**10.27.23**  
**5pm - 8pm**

**TRUNK OR TREAT**

**Fullerton Police Station • 237 W Commonwealth Ave**  
**Enter the Parking Lot on Amerige Ave**

601 E VALENCIA DR  
 92832 FULLERTON CA

**HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL**

**OCTOBER 27TH**

STARTS AT 6:00PM

CARNIVAL GAMES  
 FOOD & DRINKS  
 HAUNTED HOUSE  
 COSTUME CONTEST

FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL:  
 KEVINGARCIA@SOLIDARITYNPO.ORG

## City Council Notes by Leah Han

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](http://www.cityoffullerton.com) City Hall is located at 303 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton | Contact Council at (714) 738-6311 or [council@cityoffullerton.com](mailto:council@cityoffullerton.com)

### October 03 Meeting

#### Presentations

##### THE WORLD KOREAN BUSINESS CONVENTION

Director of Economic Development Sue Thomas announced that the World Korean Business Convention (WKBC) will be hosted at the Anaheim Convention Center from October 11th to the 14th. This conference is unique to the US, let alone the region, as this is the first time the Korean Alliance is holding their event outside South Korea.

In their 21st year, they wanted to take it abroad for the first time to the US. The Korean Chamber of Commerce won the bid for the Convention to be

held here in Orange County. The open bid to host the WKBC was competed for nationally.

Neighboring cities Garden Grove, Orange, Anaheim, and others will host a breakfast. Fullerton will do marketing materials, host a tour of Fullerton, and be a part of the pavilion of networking and learning what type of industries there are that could be a good fit for Fullerton.

In terms of budget, the Economic Development Fund spent around \$11,000.

##### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

MJ Noor, founder of the Parents' Voice USA, said, "Every year, we host an event to promote education in the city. I consider the city of Fullerton as an educational city. I'm here today to tell you that we are putting on an extraordinary event on artificial intelligence related to education. What are we doing about it? How will it be implemented in schools? How far is the advancement?"

The event will be on October 20 at Fullerton College in building 200 on the second floor. The panel will be a superintendent of schools, the Engineering Dean from Fullerton College, a UCI professor with a computer science and education background, and a Ph.D. graduate from Carnegie Mellon with an undergraduate computer degree from Caltech. The panel will answer questions on Friday, October 20, a VIP reception at 5 pm: VIP reception and 6 pm the event.

#### Public Comments

Resident Todd Harrison thanked the Fullerton Police Department for helping to combat thieves at Rancho La Paz mobile home park. He also raised concerns about the dangers of Lemon and Valencia.

Yolanda Harrison seconded the concerns about the dangerous intersection and commented on the inaccessibility of the last city council meeting since the website and Zoom were down. She argued that the city should ensure access to these events.

Maureen Milton explained that she delivered instructions to staff for the city to follow flag protocol better.

Chris, a fire engineer with the Fullerton Fire Department, invited the public to the annual Fill-the-Boot fundraiser for cancer research on October 14th from 9am to noon on Harbor and Orangethorpe.

##### Public Comments about Union Pacific Trail

Council Chambers were full. Two-thirds of the audience were there to urge the council majority to reverse its decision to send back the \$1.78 million grant and use the money as intended - to build Phase 2 of the long-planned greenspace walking and bike trail connecting Union Pacific Park on Truslow near downtown to Independence Park on W. Valencia.

Below are the comments made by people from all districts in Fullerton who spoke about the trail, with many speaking at a council meeting for the first time. No one spoke in opposition.

**Diani:** "I am here so that the \$1.7 million grant for Union Pacific Trail be accepted. My question for the three council members who are against it is, 'What is the reason for you guys not wanting to approve the grant?' I need an answer.

You have abandoned South Fullerton, and the governor has already approved the trail. We are asking about for our families. This trail is alongside Independence Park, which has already seen the removal of four enormous

trees. We also have the pool for the FAST swim team, and by having the trail, we could have more people participating in that.

The trail will also help with global warming and help people without air conditioning. Please reconsider and approve - it is for all of Fullerton, not just South Fullerton. Even those from other cities will come. It would also benefit the businesses here when people come to visit.

I also want to speak about how abandoned South Fullerton is. If you go to Independence, you will see a lack of bathrooms, water, and lots of trash, and no one is working there. If you go to the parks in the north, you see they are well-kept, and people are working to keep them nice. I commend you for that, but we want the same attention to our parks in South Fullerton.

We are one city - not five, four, three, or two cities - we are one city."

**Molly Chapman:** "I didn't plan on speaking tonight, but I read in the paper that this was happening. I am a person who chose to live in Fullerton because of our green space, parks, and accessibility. I also know that other cities like Brea, next door, also had an abandoned railway, which they turned into a trail.

To me, it just does not make sense that this grant money is being turned away. Understandably, it will need upkeep once it is done, but at the same time, we all know that parks benefit cities, and I also find it kind of ironic that it wasn't that long ago that I attended an opening of the Coyote Hills.

We fought very hard to keep that open space and Mayor Jung, you were there for that. I don't remember you ever really hiking on the trails before or seeing you during our fundraising, but you were there to take thanks for being part of it. I find it ironic you were there promoting open space in that district but not promoting open space in a district that desperately needs it.

She repeated a Greek proverb: "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit."

I hope you will listen, especially to the nearby residents who have told you they want it. I guess if you don't listen, we can take it to the ballot like we did Coyote Hills."

**Maria Ramirez:** "I went walking on the trail, and it is a sad place - and I considered what could be done to make it a nice place for our children and grandchildren by planting trees, landscaping, and pathways they could walk and bicycle on. I see no reason to return the grant when we could create a nice green space."

**Secora Mendosa:** "We don't want the grant to be returned, and we want the trail to be revitalized and become a green, beautiful space for families to enjoy each other's company."

**Monica Moran:** "I am very proud of the residents, for some it's the first time they have spoken before council. The reason we are here is about the grant.

You seem to think we do not deserve the grant; trees provide clean air and water, reduce stress, and positively affect climate change. It is fair for this grant to be used for phase II of the trail, and it should be used for that purpose. We will continue here because we need to work together."

**Pat Shady:** An 80-year-old resident who said she watched the city grow from 13,000 residents to 130,000 today said, "I live in the Friendly Hills part of Fullerton, and we have walking, bike, and horse trails all encompassed as a single type of trail. And everyone respects it. It's all dirt, no lighting, no restrooms, no water fountains, no police patrol - it's just a trail, and we all feel safe. The type of trail requested here mirrors what we have, which was also built on the old train tracks.

District 5 people have very little park, that has been totally neglected - shame on us - all of us. We should have spoken up on their behalf long ago. Anyway, they deserve to have the same amenities that everyone else has.

This grant was on the agenda in 2012, reintroduced in 2020, and approved wholeheartedly by the council, and now the 2023 council is saying no. Saying if we can't use it for opening the park - then give it back?

That's like Santa Claus taking instead of delivering gifts. It's not fair."

**James Dunsmore:** "I agree with the other residents who have spoken so eloquently on the issue of Pacific Union Trail. Returning the grant may negatively impact the city's ability to get grants for any other needs in the city.

There is an item on tonight's agenda about a grant for the complete streets and boulevard - it's an important project. It is hard for the city to ask for a grant when we return one we won unused. The fiscally responsible thing is to use the grant for its intended purpose."

**Isabel Flores:** "It is necessary to keep the grant to better our lives and health, and I don't think it's fair to return it."

**Juliana Nuncci:** "I am here to advocate for the Union Pacific Trail. We residents have the right to a trail and green space. This trail will bring 176 trees, reducing pollution in our neighborhood. As the future generation, we

respectfully ask you to keep the \$1.7 million grant and build the trail."

**Egleth Nuncci:** "I request that the \$1.7 million grant to the Fullerton community be respected. I was part of a panel that spoke to representatives in Sacramento in the request of this grant money - and the reason the grant was awarded is that it is necessary for this area, which is overpopulated and overdeveloped.

We don't have enough green spaces for everybody. I would like you to listen to us here in the council chambers. We will request that from the council members, the county, and the state, and - if we have to - request to the president of the United States, we will do that. We request our right to breathe fresh air purified by the trees. We all need green space - we should all be united in this - it is for everyone in the city.

We will continue to come and ask why this grant hasn't been used in an intelligent manner. We fought so hard to get this grant. Not using it wastes the time of the city workers and the residents here fighting for this grant. We are asking that you please let us be heard - this is for the community.

I would like to thank all the leaders and residents who have come in support and invite anyone listening online to come and have their voices heard because we are one city, and this represents our whole community.

**Anjali Tapadia:** "I think it is a wonderful project and I want to register my support. I think many people in the city share my confusion and lack of understanding of the city council's decision not to proceed with the trail.

The grant money can't be applied to another project because of the stipulations, so, effectively, the grant will be returned to the state. The reasons provided by city council members opposing the trail did not seem to hold water.

From where I stand, the community wants the trail; the trail project will help provide green space for the community, it will provide outdoor space, and it will give families a place to go that they don't currently have to simply be in nature and feel safe. So, I don't really understand why the council majority doesn't support it. I would really appreciate it if you would listen to the community and support this project."

**Saskia Kennedy:** "I live in District 2, and I support the trail. I don't understand why you wouldn't use the grant for its intended purpose. The trail has been in the plans for a long time, and as far as I know, we don't have plans to change the plan - it's been in place since 2012, I believe.

It seems like a no-brainer to use the grant to pay for this portion of the plan. Phase 1 is already done - this is Phase 2, and then we will use other grants for Phase 3 and 4. So it doesn't make sense to send the grant back or divert it somewhere else - which I don't think you can do."

**ZJ Hahn:** "Put public notices in the only newspaper I and my neighbors read, the *Fullerton Observer*."

"It's not the whole council. It's just three council members who have voted against the natural landscape and 176 new trees. They've voted against a community exercise space and a \$1.78 million grant. I'm not confused - someone said they were confused about why you voted no.

I've been in business long enough to

Public Comments *continued*

know that money talks and BS walks. With morals, values, and ethics, be honest, you three - if your campaign donor has property on one or both sides of the Union Pacific Trail just say so. One of the reasons given was the maintenance fee - we have Love Fullerton - and I will pledge to help maintain the trail every year as I am sure many here tonight will do the same.”

He went on to talk about bringing additional revenue to the city through an Auto Mall. “Even a small one would bring in \$5.2 million annually and help pay for our streets and sidewalks.”

He added that sidewalks are needed on Paige St for kids walking to school.

**Karen Lloreda:** “I really appreciate all the people who have stood up tonight to ask you, politely, to reconsider your vote. I will not be that polite. I support courtesy in public speech, but it should never get in the way of plain speech.

Is it a coincidence that the three council members voting against this project, for the community, against using a grant award that would pay for it, are the same three who share a major campaign donor? And does that donor own property in that area? And does that donor have ideas that perhaps he would like to implement in the area?

I am here reporting a lack of transparency in local government, and shame on you.”

**Diane Vena:** “Again, I am asking you to reconsider your decision and use the California Urban Greening Grant that Fullerton received to put nature back into a densely developed area by building the Union Pacific Trail. One of you stated that it was not by design that north Fullerton has most

of the trails; however, your decision is by design, denying the building of this trail in the middle of a densely developed and populated area where one is desperately needed.

You have the opportunity to make something beautiful that a majority of people have told you they need. Whittier did it with its Greenway Trail, which replaced a blighted, abandoned railway corridor with a scenic bikeway and pedestrian path that, according to its website, has an impressively positive impact on the community by promoting alternative transportation, outdoor fitness, and education.

Residents appreciate the safe space to walk or ride bikes with their families and pets. The trail has been recognized with awards for its design, operation, and community benefits. Whittier City Council was delighted to accept the awards for the trail land, which was purchased with regional and state funds, leaving limited city funds to be used on other community priorities.

You have the exact same opportunity to do the same for Fullerton - to create something beautiful that our city and residents need. Please do it - we all need nature.”

**Helen Higgins:** “In support of strategies to reduce the effects of climate change and to reduce the inequity between parks in South Fullerton, I advocate for both parks and trails.” She quoted the results of a university study on Urban Heat Islands, which produce higher temperatures in cities with fewer trees. “It disturbed me greatly that our city would give up a grant that would provide for at least 176 trees that would be planted along the trail. This is quite a regressive action by a

City Council Comments

**City Manager Eric Levitt** said that there will be another safety assessment done for Lemon and Valencia.

**Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles** invited the public to her office hours on Thursdays from 12 pm-2 pm and congratulated staff for a wonderful Day in Fullerton event.

**Councilmember Dr. Ahmad Zahra** also commented on the great event and shared his experience at the CalCities conference with Eric Levitt. He shared that he had met with the Maple Elementary School principal, the city engineer, and the police department about Lemon and Valencia and getting feedback from residents. He commented on the lack of engagement and posting on the city's social media and called for a boost in community engagement from the city. He also asked City Attorney Richard Jones to review the new state law SB1439 known as the Levine Act.

The City Attorney said that the new

state law requires official to recuse themselves from a vote if they received a donation more than \$250 that would create bias.

Zahra explained that a council member had received \$1500 from Falc Mobile Ambulance, three months after which they voted yes to extend the contract. He asked if the new State law terminates that contract decision.

The City Attorney explained that the council would have to redeliberate on the contract. He also explained that contributions before January are valid, but contributions after January 1st would mean that the official has to recuse themselves from related votes for twelve months.

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitaker updated the Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) that will help conserve water safely through stormwater capture.

Councilmember Nicholas Dunlap was absent.

Provecho Market Gas Station Appeal

Provecho Market on 312 N Euclid Street is looking to build a gas station. They qualify for two CEQA exemptions. An appellant spoke against the building of the gas station on behalf of other residents for safety and environmental concerns.

Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles asked what is on the other side of West Chapman, the street where the gas delivery trucks would leave. Dr. Charles received clarification that there were residential properties there and that it is a smaller street without dividers.

The appellant asked Mayor Jung if he could participate without bias and explained that Jung seemed to favor the applicant. The appellant also thanked city staff, especially Taylor and Nick on the second floor, and Ralph Kim, the owner of Provecho Market and the applicant, for bringing business to the plaza. The appellant argued that the Mutual Parking agreement was expired and that the gas station encroaches upon neighboring property owners. He also explained that traffic is already a big problem on that stretch of Euclid and will get more dangerous due to the lack of line of sight.

Ralph Kim, the applicant, explained that the truck will only come at night and that while he owns 75% of the parking lot, he pays for the maintenance and lighting of all of it. Kim also shared that the market is in survival mode and that the gas station is vital to help everyone keep their jobs.

The public comments overwhelmingly supported the appellant, many of the commenters being residents in the neighborhood of Provecho Market. While some argued that many people are turning to electric cars, most commenters argued for safety, traffic, and the price of their homes.

Ralph Kim explained that the cigarette and donut shop owners support the gas station because they think it will help businesses. He also argued that the gas station will be much smaller than others, explaining that they will not offer diesel. Kim said he would like to work with the public and would be willing to move the gas station, adding that he has lived in Fullerton for over 20 years and would like to see the city grow. Councilmember Dr. Zahra asked if a gas station was in the original plan when starting the market, to which Kim explained that it was a backup plan. Dr. Zahra questioned if there was community outreach. Stephen Bise, Public Works Director, answered that a notice was sent to a 300ft radius around the property for the first hearing.

Mayor Jung asked if this was Ralph Kim's first experience with a grocery store. Kim answered that in 1990, his family had a California City Market in a small town, then Ontario Ranch Market in Ontario, and now Provecho Market in Fullerton and Santa Ana. Jung asked for clarification on Kim's willingness to move the gas station, to which Kim answered that he was willing to work with the public. Jung then

asked Public Works Director Stephen Bise if a traffic circulation study was done.

Director Bise answers that fire and traffic engineers have not found any concerns with their studies.

Dr. Charles asked for clarification on the CEQA exemptions since only one was listed, but now there were two.

Director Bise explained that an environmental consultant looked at the CEQA exemptions; both are now listed.

Dr. Charles also asked Bise about the expired parking agreement, to which Bise explained that the one they have on record is unexpired and valid. Charles sympathized with the public about worries over previous oil contaminations and asked if this was a problem with the gas station in discussion.

Director Bise explained that state and federal regulations have changed and are almost foolproof.

Charles clarified that the liquor store already has delivery trucks that use Chapman, and Mr. Kim answered that they are of similar size to the gas trucks.

Charles asked if there would always be an attendant at the gas station, to which Kim answered that there would.

Jung commented that it is unfortunate that his authenticity is being questioned since everyone is trying their best. Jung added that whether you agree or not, they must decide based on CEQA's expertise. Zahra argued that there is no CEQA study and that they shouldn't decide solely based on code and exemptions of code.

Charles explained how to get things on public record by explaining that everything emailed is on public record. Charles also voiced support for going electric and stressed that “Little” Chapman is a small residential street. She explained that she thinks a compromise can be found but does not support the project as it exists now.

Mayor Jung motions to deny the appeal, and Mayor Pro Tem Whitaker seconds.

Jung and Whitaker vote for the gas station. Councilmembers Charles and Zahra voted against the gas station.

Since Councilmember Dunlap was absent, they motioned to continue the public hearing for two weeks when he was present.

That motion passed unanimously.

Reorganization of Parks and Recreation Department

A proposed reorganization of the Parks and Recreation Department was brought to the council to add new full-time positions, including two full-time customer service positions. This motion passed unanimously.

A proposed reorganization of the Administrative Services Department also passed unanimously.

City Council *continued on page 18*

(Tentative) AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 17 CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

- September 2023 Check Register
- Valwood Early Morning Parking
- 2533 Flower ADA Parking Request
- Well #10 & Pipeline Design Services
- The PINES AT SUNRISE VILLAGE Assignment
- West Valencia ADA Parking Request
- Option to change use of

**PARK DWELLING FEES** (For more details read front page article: *Is the Pooch Park in the Doghouse?*)

- **GROUNDSWELL/ previously known as OC Human Relations** Annual Report
- Budget Transfer from **POOCH PARK to ACACIA PARK**
- Committee Activity & Attendance
- Agreement with **FALCK MOBILE HEALTH CORP. for EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES**
- Agreement Amendment for **MAIN PLANT PFAS WATER TREATMENT PLANT SCADA SUPPORT**

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
303 W. COMMONWEALTH, FULLERTON

- **October 16 at 5pm:** Infrastructure and Resources
- **October 17 at 5:30pm:** City Council
- **October 18 at 5pm:** Active Transportation
- **October 25 at 6pm:** Planning Commission



bath/body, and jewelry. They are expanding offerings to include gourmet food, sustainable home and kitchenware, and unique gift items. Most of the products are made right here in Fullerton.

Go to [allisongoods.com](http://allisongoods.com) or call 657-248-7316 for more information.

Sew Fun

Just across the street and a bit to the south, Sew Fun and more has opened at 622 North Harbor. They offer sewing classes for kids as well as art and drawing classes. Find them at [sew-funandmore.com](http://sew-funandmore.com)

Sabori!

This new Peruvian restaurant has opened at 133 W Chapman. They specialize in rotisserie chicken and have several salads and stir fry, including stir fry spaghetti. Wow! It has ice cream, too.

New in town

Allison's Goods

They have moved into the former Farmer's Insurance building at 815 North Harbor and will have a Soft Opening on Sunday, October 29th, from 1 pm to 5 pm.

They specialize in 100% vegan products, offering soy candles, organic soaps, perfumes, smudge sprays,



Above: Union Bridge last December after a car drove through it. Below: The bridge repairs are going well.



Union Bridge gets a face lift

Union Bridge is no longer falling down. Well, it never really was, but the railing has been a different story. Last December, a driver made the curve on Pomona but missed the left turn to Union, apparently also missing the 10-mile-an-hour warning sign and arrow, went through the vintage concrete railing and ended up nearly sleeping with the fishes. Her passenger was not injured and managed to climb out of the barranca herself, but the driver had to be lifted out on a stretcher and taken to the hospital with minor injuries. (See Mid-December 2022 Observer.)

Workers are placing the hand-crafted wooden concrete forms now, and once the concrete has cured, the railing will be in place and approximate the older look. Everything should be completed by the end of October, yes, this year.

Wilshire Walk Update

This project has been of great interest since it began when virtually all businesses downtown had difficulty surviving due to the COVID crisis. West Wilshire was closed to traffic so that restaurants there could provide safe outdoor dining.

The early photo here was taken on May 22nd, 2020; below that, you see what it was like in April of 2022, and finally, the others are from last week, after the new signage and bike lane paint were completed.

The bike path once again continues without riders needing to go through on foot, and there is enough signage on the street and on poles to ensure everyone passes through safely and easily. If we get enough comments here, there will be a follow-up story since so many have commented in the past throughout the many changes.



Photo Quiz

Send answer to Mike at [AllMedia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:AllMedia@sbcglobal.net)



Last time: The photo was taken on the second-floor balcony at Villa del Sol during one of the early Winterfest celebrations downtown.

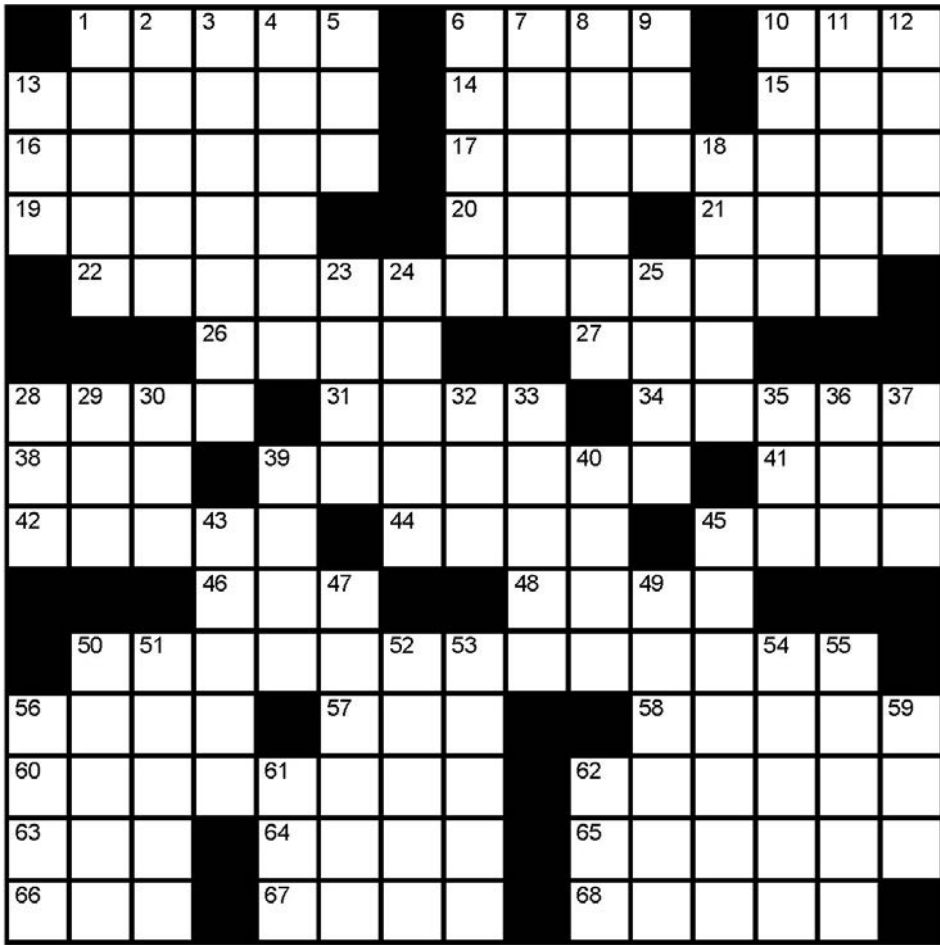


This time: Where is this, and what is happening there?

Advertisement for Jacki O, real estate agent, with contact information and a photo of her.

# OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2023

"HAPPY FALL!" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 19)



**ACROSS**

- 1. Smart guys?
- 6. "Thunderstruck" rock band
- 10. Part of a guffaw
- 13. Puffers
- 14. Kind of chop
- 15. Bowl over
- 16. "Same here!"
- 17. Quote: Part 1
- 19. Life force, in yoga
- 20. Angry music genre
- 21. Three feet
- 22. Quote: Part 2
- 26. In the vicinity
- 27. Vietnam's \_\_\_ Dinh Diem
- 28. Loud noise
- 31. Barn topper
- 34. Tests for aspiring attys.
- 38. Brian of Roxy Music
- 39. Easing of international tensions
- 41. "You're it!"
- 42. "We're off \_\_\_ the wizard..."
- 44. Chows down
- 45. Frequently
- 46. Apprehend
- 48. Rapids transit
- 50. Quote: Part 3
- 56. Den
- 57. Good name for a lawyer?
- 58. Go over like \_\_\_ balloon
- 60. Quote, part 4
- 62. Stimulate
- 63. Alias preceder
- 64. Dos y dos y dos
- 65. Craft
- 66. Spelling Bee publisher, familiarly
- 67. Green Gables girl, and the speaker of the featured quote
- 68. 1950's Ford flop

**DOWN**

- 1. Pitfall! platform
- 2. Sanctioned
- 3. Working hard for
- 4. Split
- 5. Oakland-to-Palo Alto dir.
- 6. Extraterrestrial
- 7. Semicolon's cousin
- 8. Renounce
- 9. Adm. Nimitz, 1945-47
- 10. Prepared in accordance with Muslim law
- 11. Oscar or Tony
- 12. Foxx of "Sanford and Son"
- 13. Nurse
- 18. Sandwiches with tzatziki
- 23. Roof overhang
- 24. Furious
- 25. Look like a creep
- 28. Wager
- 29. "Wheel of Fortune" buy
- 30. Dissenting votes
- 32. PBS benefactor
- 33. \_\_\_ nous
- 35. The Braves, on scoreboards
- 36. 2000 film "The \_\_\_ of Steve"
- 37. Abbr. that can follow master or staff
- 39. Cherished
- 40. Ivan or Nicholas
- 43. January, in Jalisco
- 45. Puzzled
- 47. Get noticed
- 49. Dreaded
- 50. Screwball
- 51. Try to punch
- 52. Shroud city
- 53. "Siddhartha" author
- 54. Waste reduction strategy
- 55. Oil supporter
- 56. Item of interest?
- 59. Joe Biden's st.
- 61. Troop grp.
- 62. Chapman or Commonwealth

## New Management of OC Power Authority is building Public Trust in Renewable Energy



Joe Mosca Interim CEO of OCPA

"I believe that climate change is the biggest challenge facing our communities and the communities around the world. I am committed to acting locally to reduce the devastating impacts of a changing climate." (Joe Mosca /San Diego County News interview 2021)

After a troubled year of scathing audits, the OCPA board terminated its former CEO and in June appointed Joe Mosca as Interim CEO. Under his leadership the agency has made all the changes detailed in the recent audits, said Mosca, who gave an update on OCPA operations during the September 19th Fullerton City Council meeting.

"There have been lots of reports over the agency's past year of existence, and I want you to know we put in place a 24-point improvement plan that has been completed, correcting every one of the concerns on every audit," Mosca said. The improvements, sent to all the auditing agencies, have achieved County of Orange approval and are a third through the process of validation at the California State Auditor's Office. "Though I wouldn't wish an audit on anyone, they have been extraordinarily helpful," Mosca said.

The OCPA currently serves 200,000 residential and 40,000 commercial customers with 71% of them enrolled at the 100% renewable energy choice level. He said more that 709 Million tons of CO2 emissions have been reduced through OCPA procurement of renewable energy - the equivalent of removing 71,565 gas-powered vehicles off the road or equivalent to carbon sequestered by planting more than 5.3 million tree seedlings grown for 10 years.

Specifically, in the City of Fullerton, 39,395 residential and 6,374 commer-

cial customers are participating - an 84% participation rate resulting in a reduction of over 102 million pounds of CO2 emissions, equivalent to removing 10,348 gas-powered vehicles off the road.

The 2023-24 OCPA budget is balanced with \$329 million in net revenues and \$288 million in total operating and non-operating expenses creating a reserve account of \$41 million (with projected growth to \$88 million in the Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund by June 30, 2024).

Factors contributing to positive outlook and financial strength include affordable rates; competitive Net Energy Metering with Net Surplus Compensation for excess solar production at 10% above SCE; and clean procurement strategies. He also presented several community programs including all those provided through SCE and a pending grant that will provide EV charging stations in Fullerton.

Before joining the agency as Communications Director in December 2022, Joe Mosca was founding member and served as chair of the board for San Diego Community Power, the second largest CCA in California. He is former deputy mayor of Encinitas and previously worked for San Diego Gas & Electric and Southern California Gas Company. Mosca holds a Juris Doctorate from Quinnipiac University School of Law and is a 24-year member of the state bar. He is married to a doctor and they have two teenage sons.

For More information visit [www.ocpower.org](http://www.ocpower.org)



**Fall Offerings include**  
**Adult Lap Swim, Indoor Family Fun Swim,**  
**Swim Lessons, Water Aerobics, Classes**  
**for Lifeguarding/CPR/AED**



**Follow us on Instagram**  
**@FULLERTONSWIMHERE**  
 for more Info and updates

*Sign up here!*

**Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney**  
*For Assets and Medical Decisions*



**Paul H. Miller**  
*Attorney with 43 years Experience*

**Certified Specialist for 29 years in**  
**Estate Planning, Probate & Trust Law**  
 by the State Bar of California  
 Board of Legal Specialization  
**One of 4 certified specialists in**  
**North Orange County**

Zoom & Courtyard Conferences

**(714) 441-4019**  
 1235 N. Harbor Blvd., Ste. 200, Fullerton, CA 92832-1349  
 (On the 2nd Floor of the Chase Bank building across from Hillcrest Park)

**"Dreams Begin with Crayons"**

Started by local businessman Ahmad Zahra in 2017, Ahmad's School Drive is an ongoing effort to provide much needed school supplies to Title 1 schools in Fullerton. We've collected thousands of dollars' worth of supplies thanks to the generosity of many individuals and businesses in the community and through a special partnership with the Fullerton Education Foundation.

For sponsorships and partners contact:  
[ahmadsschooldrive@gmail.com](mailto:ahmadsschooldrive@gmail.com)





*Above: Trustee Aaruni Thakur, Superintendent Dr. Bob Pletka, Trustee Bev Berryman, Director of SEL and Family Support Rossana Fonseca, and Trustee Ruthi Hanchett at the Grand Opening of The Hub.*

## The Hub Grand Opening by Vivien Moreno

Fullerton School District (K-8 grade) announced the opening of its newest community resource project, The Hub. The Hub's main goal is to be an effective one-stop location welcoming families in need with respect and dignity in a confidential setting.

Located adjacent to Valencia Park Elementary School, the Hub is currently accepting donations and is open to make appointments for families with children attending Fullerton School District in need of different support services.

Social services include food and housing assistance, family clothing, basic hygiene products, and school supplies. Headed by the FSD Director of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Family Supports, Rossana Fonseca, The Hub is where families shop the boutique for clothing while meeting with social service liaisons to get signed up for assistance conducted in the language that they feel most comfortable using. Each confidential, individual family meeting with district liaisons lasts approximately 30 minutes.

Superintendent Dr. Bob Pletka recognized that parents utilize their best efforts to care for their families. He stated the district is continually "focused on meeting families and students where they are in their emotional

and physical needs." Director of Administrative Services, Dr. Helene Morris, added that a foundational goal of the district is to provide multiple opportunities to offer a hand-up for our families.

The Hub reflects another FSD community partnership with sponsors such as St. Jude Providence and the Orange County Department of Education. The district's maintenance and SEL support staff used money from the American Rescue Plan's Homeless Children and Youth Funds to convert the old kindergarten bungalows into meeting rooms and a clothing boutique.

The remaining funds will supply household items for families identified as housing-challenged under the McKinney Vento Act. Still, most clothing, diapers, hygiene products, and school supplies will come from community cash and item donations.

Opening The Hub reflects FSD Trustees, Administration, and staff working together to support Fullerton families facing challenges with respect and dignity and to connect to multiple support services.

To make an appointment to donate items or money to the Hub, email Community Liaison Paola Gomez and [paola\\_gomez@myfsd.org](mailto:paola_gomez@myfsd.org) or call 714)447-7576 and leave a message.



### HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

**HIGHLIGHTS & Commentary by Vivien Moreno**  
The Fullerton Joint Union High School District Board  
More information: (714) 870-2800 or [www.fjuhsd.net](http://www.fjuhsd.net)

## September & October FJUHSB Updates

FJUHSB Board President Joanne Fawley announced that Todd Butcher, the Executive Director of Facilities and Construction, recently passed away after retiring in May 2022.

### 2023 Golden Bell Award

La Vista/La Sierra High School Principal Sandi Layana announced that The California State Board Association awarded LV/LSHS's Academy program a 2023 Golden Bell, the third Golden Bell awarded to FJUHSB's alternative and continuation high schools.

### Coordinated Safety Plan Presentation

Director of Safety and Risk Management, Dr. Christopher Davis, presented the district's updated physical safety response plan. The new protocol implements best practices in planning continuity, partners in implementation, resources, drills, and communication with FJUHSB's families and students.

Planning continuity creates a central incident command center and districtwide standardization of safety protocols, common jargon used by internal and external partners, safety supplies, and drill protocols with students. Teachers and support staff can access physical resources to deal with various emergencies ranging from earthquakes and fire, allergic reactions, drug overdoses, and active violent aggressors. Updated safety drills will culminate in a March 2024 mock disaster drill that includes external campus emergency personnel. Communication updates include:

- The existing Raptor program scans visitors on school sites.
- Increased campus signage.
- Enforcing ID lanyards throughout the district.

Staff will have a universal ID, allowing easy movement within all district sites. A new radio frequency system allows personnel to communicate

between district sites when cell phone access is compromised.

Schools will implement the Bluepoint Alarm Notification System, a monitored system allowing subscribers to call police and medical assistance to a needed site instantly. Strobing blue lights and an optional message will play if triggered, allowing authorities to pinpoint when and where it was pulled to notify the administration of an activation.

FJUHSB Trustees authorized \$71,000 for an architectural "strategic fencing" design enclosing access into La Habra High School. Fullerton and Buena Park high schools are to follow. The fences close off community access to the open areas of the schools and feed visitors to the main office check-in points.

The trustees were pleased with the plans, with Trustee Dr. Calhoun asking about clear reunification process communication for parents and students. The administration believes parents know to first contact the school's front office in an emergency or wait for a message from the district's Parent Square App. Trustee Buchi gently pointed out that students are the first to inform their peers and parents in any emergency.

### Updated 2023/24 Budget

The district's Unaudited Actual General Fund began the 2023/24 school year with \$78.4 million, including a one-time \$6.67 million Art, Music, and Instructional Materials Block Grant. This state money must be spent by 2025/26 and requires a trustee-approved district plan. Contact your area trustee ([www.fjuhsd.org/domain/334](http://www.fjuhsd.org/domain/334)) to ensure it is utilized for visual and performing arts, otherwise, it may be allocated to other instructional programs.

### Consent Calendar

Trustees approved a \$50,000 allocation to hire True North's data research firm to poll probable voters to approve another FJUHSB facilities bond in 2024. The district utilized True North services for the successful 2014 Bond Measure I.

After nine years and spending the \$145 million bond, FJUHSB boasts new sports stadiums, aquatic Facilities, gymnasiums, theaters, overall updated infrastructure, and science rooms. The Fullerton community is extremely supportive of education and financing upgraded technology infrastructure for every student.

Fullerton families are served by two separate school districts, allowing parents and administration to focus on children's different but equally important needs at different stages in their educational journey. The Fullerton School District (FSD) serves preschool and TK through 8th grade children and receives no funding from FJUHSB bonds. The last FSD voter-approved facilities bond was in 2002 for \$49 million. FJUHSB and FSD tried to pass facilities bonds in 2020, which the pandemic defeated.

The Fullerton School District currently works with aging infrastructure issues that the high schools faced a decade ago and requires a bond infusion of funds for upgrades. For FJUHSB trustees to explore another high school facilities bond with all its new fenced-off sports facilities seems to lack vision. Equitably financing facility upgrades in both districts allows the elementary district to get the needed infusion of resources to support a new generation of incoming high school students to achieve even greater things and contribute to the ongoing health of the Fullerton community.

New projects and upgrades to support high school student education are necessary. But FJUHSB should acknowledge that the Fullerton community shoulders enough ongoing debt without losing sight that helping younger children experience safe and updated facilities will serve them better than financing another sports project in the next five years.

**The next regular scheduled meeting is November 14**

## SWIM LESSONS

THE AUSTRALIAN SWIM SCHOOL OFFERS:

- Year round indoor pools
    - OPEN 7 DAYS
    - 3 months to adult
  - Baby-Preschool specialist
- SAVING LIVES SINCE 1977**



(855) SWIM2DAY  
**AUSTRALIAN SWIM SCHOOL**  
(inside Meridian Health Club)  
1535 Deerpark Dr. Fullerton CA 92831  
[www.australianswimschool.com](http://www.australianswimschool.com)





**Did You Know?** by Francine, 12th grade**FJUSD Offers FREE Programs to Raise Happiness and Success Index of Students and their Families**

Pandemic or not, we all go through periods of stress, anxiety, and even depression. Some also find themselves in difficult situations like substance abuse or unhealthy relationships. As a Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHS) student, I feel grateful that the district has a wide array of FREE programs designed to ensure we are happy and successful in school. Unfortunately, not many people may even be aware of these programs that are valued at thousands of dollars if availed of privately but are FREE to FJUHS students.

As FJUHS designates October as Mental Health Awareness Month with this year's theme of "FJUHS is the Place to be Supported," the district shines a spotlight on the first time in the history of FJUHS that a Dedicated Mental Health Specialist for each school site has been hired in addition to the counseling teams.

According to Mental Health District Coordinator Carlos Alcantara ([www.fjuhsd.org/Page/4013](http://www.fjuhsd.org/Page/4013)), the specialists' job descriptions include coordinating schoolwide campaigns such as the "suicide prevention month" this October, conducting classroom presentations and parent workshops, and providing school-based wellness resources.

FJUHS has partnered with local agencies to bring in these specialists entrusted with providing support to students and their families.

**Here they are and what they do:****Kelsey Rosales, Resiliency Coach from TTC for Success**

-specializes in homeless and foster youth and those dealing with substance abuse; provides individual counseling, tutoring, and overall emotional support to help the student engage better in school, which should result in improved attendance, grades, and overall emotional well-being.

**Katherine Womack, Clinical Supervisor at Phoenix House California**

-provides one-on-one therapy to students and their families to help address issues at home that impact the student's performance in school; also helps manage anxieties for those who are overwhelmed with their new environment or dealing with the uncertainties of life after high school.

**Jessi Brucki, Marriage and Family Therapist at Congruent Lives**

-helps students in special education overcome the challenges of meeting their individualized education programs and works on keeping them integrated in school virtually or onsite.

**Adriana Guerrero & Brenda Godinez, School Therapists at Vista Community Clinic**

-help students manage emotional disturbances such as anxiety, anger, and depression.

**Lauren Waltermire & Angelica Ramirez, Program Supervisors at Seneca**

-help students improve attendance, complete tasks, stay motivated, and overcome anxiety and depression; also provide individual or family counseling.

If you are a parent or student needing any of these specialists, you may reach out to your teacher, counselor, or school administrator.

For students who may want to incorporate healthy habits or a daily dose of fun and relaxation into their lives, FJUHS has a virtual calming room on the district website, which is accessible to anyone (FJUHS Virtual Calming Room ([google.com](http://google.com))). What makes this calming room so valuable is the carefully curated and extensive assortment of apps that quickly let you engage in your preferred activity and are available in English, Spanish, and Korean languages, saving you the time to browse the internet to put them all in one place. I have checked them out and found them very useful and enjoyable.

**The assortment includes:**

- 1) Exercise videos
- 2) Yoga videos
- 3) Live animal cam (example: puppies and kittens playing around)
- 4) Visual relaxation (example: relaxing oceanscapes including the sound of waves)
- 5) Sound of Music (example: bird songs)
- 6) Puzzles and Word Search
- 7) Coloring
- 8) Journaling
- 9) Guided Meditations

As mental health becomes a priority in our high schools, student leaders find ways to promote this through spirit days, such as dressing up in green (the representative color of mental health awareness) to start the month strong on World Mental Health Day. The Student Advisory Board on Education has also created action plans for better mental health. It even succeeded in passing student-written bill AB 748, which brought mental health posters into school bathrooms and lockers. Even school clubs focusing more on mental health have been started at our high schools.

While our high schools are making great efforts to promote mental health awareness, they may still have to take yet another step to achieve complete success. Knowing how crucial it is for teens to be mentally and emotionally fit to thrive in school, it might help for schools to take a more proactive approach, such as including a few minutes of class each day (10 or 15 minutes, maybe?) dedicated to learning about mental and emotional health through inspiring TED Talks and to letting the students try the apps in the virtual calming room. Ten or fifteen minutes of class each day might be a worthy investment because this will help students adopt emotional and mental health best practices as a way of life.

What do you think?

[contact@fullertonobserver.com](mailto:contact@fullertonobserver.com)

**Kids Rule** by Jules, 7th grade**Coming Up . . .****Viewpoint** by Irene, 12th grade**Gen Z is Taking Over**

With a social media presence of over 90,000 followers on her TikTok account @cheyennehuntca, 25-year-old attorney Cheyenne Hunt is running as a candidate for California's 45th Congressional District, which includes parts of the city of Fullerton. Although Rep. Michele Steel has occupied the seat for her second term, Hunt, if elected, would become the first Gen Z woman to serve in Congress. Building a campaign platform based on progressive policies, the Democrat has promised her commitment to advancing climate change legislation, social justice, infrastructure, and equity in economic policy, according to Cision PR Newswire.

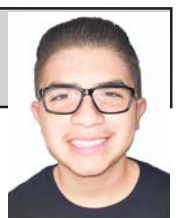
But Hunt isn't the first, nor will she be the last. Representing Florida's 10th Congressional District, Rep. Maxwell Frost became the first Gen Z congressman following the November 2022

midterm elections. This upward trend of increased young adult representation in politics is looking promising for our generation and sets a healthy precedent for the future of America's government. "I think that there's a lot that our generation has to offer and a lot of things that we are angry about and we're passionate about, and we think that inaction is immoral," Hunt said in a May 2023 interview with Politico.

Our generation has proved the power of the youth's voice, actively engaging in discussions across party lines and advocating for our country's most pressing issues. To better advance the rights of the people, we need the youth to play their part in politics, and with trailblazers like Frost and Hunt leading the way, it's safe to assume that Gen Z will soon be taking over.

**International Observance**

by Mateo, 10th grade

**World Food Day October 16**

Food is one of the most important aspects of our everyday lives, and not just because we need it to survive. Food connects us with family and friends. It embodies our cultures and beliefs and showcases our distinct personalities. One can learn a great deal of information about a person just by what they eat. In fact, when studying ancient civilizations, archaeologists study the food sources and diets to obtain a better understanding of their cultures and ways of living.

Many of us take food for granted because it is so commonplace in our lives. The typical day consists of three meals at various times, and these meals typically contain a variety of different foods to enjoy. Thus, it can be easy to overlook the fact that, although there is plenty of food in our homes, around 828 million people fall asleep every night with little to no food in their stomachs.

World Food Day, recognized annually on October 16th, is both a celebration and a call to action. On this day, people celebrate the various ways in which food represents them, their family, and their culture, while simultane-

ously working to end world hunger and establish a network of food security throughout the globe. World Food Day not only promotes the wide diversity of food in different cultures and communities but also the raising of awareness about those who do not have the privilege of eating three meals a day.

In 1945, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), an agency of the United Nations, established World Food Day. However, the UN would not officially recognize the day as an official holiday until 1979, 34 years after its creation. Nowadays, over 150 countries worldwide observe and actively participate in this special day by supporting the ideas of feeding the world and ending poverty.

There are many different ways you can support World Food Day. If you would like to donate or know someone in need, there are many churches and organizations around Fullerton that host food banks and distribute free food. You may click this link for more information on free food sources in our community.



Maverick Theater's original stage adaptation of Night of the Living Dead

**MAVERICK THEATER**  
 110 E Walnut Ave, Unit B, Fullerton  
 (714) 526-7070  
[www.mavericktheater.com](http://www.mavericktheater.com)

**NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD**

Maverick Theater's original stage adaptation of Night of the Living Dead is back! For 18 years audiences have made this show part of their Halloween tradition, returning year after year. Adapted to the stage by director and theater founder, Brian Newell, from the screenplay by George Romero and John Russo, Night of the Living Dead is a thrilling night of theater.

A group of panicked survivors are barricaded in a deserted farmhouse while a horde of flesh-eating zombies hovers outside their door. In the climatic final scene, a full size truck smashes into the farmhouse, zombies begin to

pour into the room as the survivors grab anything they can to defend themselves. The Maverick's Night of the Living Dead is a unique production that captures the feel of cinema and the in-your-face excitement of live theater. With strong performances and plenty of creepy zombies, this action packed Halloween adventure is good clean fun for anyone over the age of 13.

Night of the Living Dead opens Oct 6th and runs thru Oct 29th.

Performances are Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 7pm & 9pm, Sundays at 7pm. Tickets are \$30



**CHANCE THEATER**

On the Cripe Stage  
 5522 E La Palma Ave, Anaheim  
 (888) 455-4212 | [chancetheater.com](http://chancetheater.com)

**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**

Sept 22 thru Oct 22 at 8 and 7pm

Meet Christopher Francis Boone, a brilliant and neurodivergent 15-year-old boy standing in his neighbor Mrs. Shears' backyard in the middle of the night. She is screaming at Christopher because he is standing over the body of Wellington, her sweet dog who has been speared with a garden fork. When Christopher vows to find the murderer, he doesn't realize that there is more than one mystery to solve and he will be forced to take a perilous journey that will upend his world. Based on

Mark Haddon's best-selling novel, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is a thrilling and heart-warming adventure story featuring an unforgettable young hero.

**Please Note:** This production contains some moments of sensory intensity — including lighting, video, and sound effects — reflecting the content of the novel. There is also strong language, violent behavior and domestic violence, and smoke/haze effects.



**California Hotel & Villa Del Sol Centenary Celebration**

Join us for an unforgettable night of music, dancing, and delectable bites.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023**  
**5:00 PM – 11:00 PM**

305 North Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92832

**EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:**

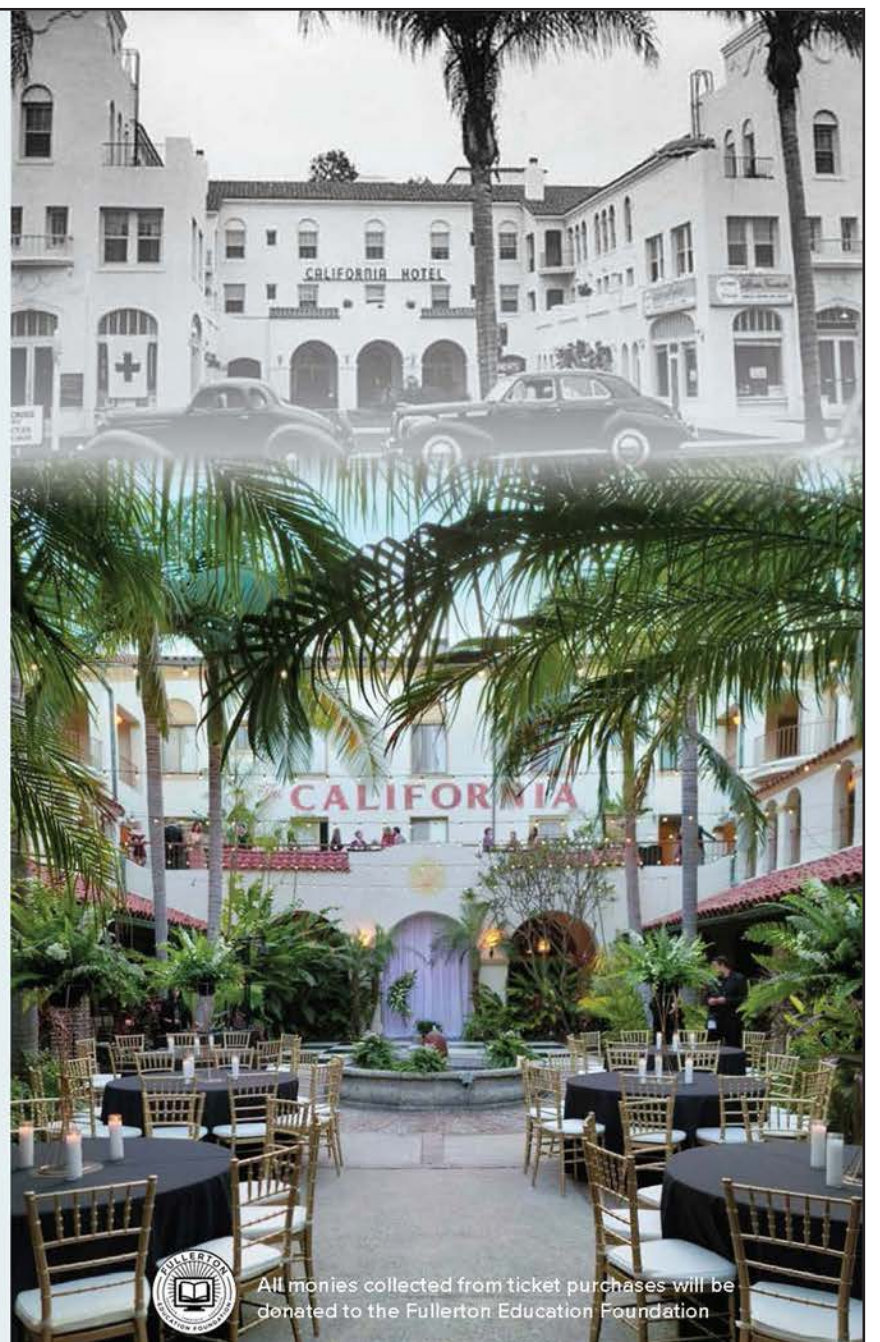
- Tray passed appetizers all night
- Includes 1 non-alcoholic drink; no hosted bar
- Live performances by 4 bands covering music from the '20s to today:  
 Mike Vacari (Frank Sinatra tribute), Janet Klein and Her Parlor Boys, Kid Ramos Blues Band, & James Intveld and his Swing Sinners

**TICKET DETAILS:**

- Seating Limited to 200 Seats. Secure your spot today!
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Contact: Celina Moralez, Phone: 714.454.7723, Email: [vdsfullerton@gmail.com](mailto:vdsfullerton@gmail.com)

— CATERED BY —



All monies collected from ticket purchases will be donated to the Fullerton Education Foundation

**FULLERTON COLLEGE**

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(714) 992-7150

**Concert Choir & Chamber Singers:  
October 25, 7:30pm**

The Fullerton College Concert Choir is a large auditioned ensemble with both a regional and national reputation. The choir usually consists of about 85 members. They perform a classical repertoire that spans across all musical styles and time periods.

**CURTIS THEATRE**

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(714) 990-7722

**Orchestra Collective of OC:  
Chiaroscuro: October 28 - 29,  
Saturday 7pm · Sunday 3pm**

Featuring works by: Samuel Barber, Edward Elgar, Jordan Jinosko, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, and more  
A symphonic journey from darkness to light, from struggle to peace, from the depths to the transcendent. Join us for an exploration of music that finds a way to express the inexpressible.

**FULLERTON MUSEUM**

301 N. Pomona Ave, Fullerton  
(714) 519-4461  
[info@fullertonmuseum.com](mailto:info@fullertonmuseum.com)  
Hours: Wednesday thru Sunday,  
12 - 4pm

**Fullerton Art Town: What Feels Like Home: Thru November 12:**  
This show features 52 local artists expressing and defining home. This interactive exhibit will pose the question back to you and help see yourself and your story reflected in others.

**The Leo Fender Exhibit:**

**Year round:** The father of the modern solid-body electric guitar was a life-long Fullerton resident, and his most important designs and products were manufactured in shops and factories located in Fullerton, CA.

**Mad Marion Cartoons: thru November 30:** Mad Marion Cartoons were created by artist Sharon Kennedy in the late seventies/early eighties when she traveled, with her children in tow, around the western states in a converted school bus caravan. Curated by Fullerton College Art Gallery museum studies senior intern Grace Yoo. FREE in the new RANii Gallery.

**MUCKENTHALER CULTURAL CENTER**

1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton  
(714) 738-6595 | [info@themuck.org](mailto:info@themuck.org)  
Hours vary, Call in advance



**Pensar Y Poder - Jimmy Centeno:  
thru Nov 26:**

Pensar y Poder is a playful and serious exhibition inspired by La Escuela de Sur (The School of The South) where by means of rescued objects a language of self-determination arises in the process of giving shape to sculptures, assemblages and mixed-media art pieces.

**Opening Gallery Reception: Dave Webb - the grateful chair: Thurs Oct 5 | 6:00-7:30pm**

Part love note, part meditation on mortality and part unsolicited advice, the grateful chair is an artist's response to his spouse's terminal cancer diagnosis; in 2018, she was declared cancer-free. This narrative exhibit creates a place to consider love and loss.

**MUCKENTHALER CULTURAL CENTER**

1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton  
(714) 738-6595 | [info@themuck.org](mailto:info@themuck.org)

**7:30pm-9:30pm • outdoor stage (\$35/general)**

**Peter Brandon: October 19:** One of Fullerton's favorite sons returns to The Muck!

Known for his smooth brand of patriotic country music, he has shared the stage with Brad Paisley, Blake Shelton, Glen Campbell, and Asleep at the Wheel.

**Grupo Bella: October 26:** Join us for a Dia de los Muertos celebration with music on the amphitheater stage with Grupo Bella! This concert will also include family activities from our Education Department, vendors, and a community ofrenda.

**Twelfth Night**

**October 20–November 4 • \$14**  
Clayes Performing Arts Center, CSUF  
800 N State College Blvd, Fullerton  
(657) 278-3371 | [fullerton.edu/arts/theatre/](http://fullerton.edu/arts/theatre/)



quited love, mistaken identity, love triangles and music in this 1920's Jazz Age imagining of this classic rom-com. Aristocratic twins Viola and Sebastian are separated in a violent shipwreck only to find themselves washed ashore in Illyria where Duke Orsino is attempting to woo the lovely Lady Olivia. Will the lovers' knots ever be untied, twins reunited and sanity restored? Only time will tell.

Box Office Information  
Tue–Friday: 12 pm to 4 pm  
The Box Office is also open one hour prior to scheduled ticketed performances (sales are limited exclusively to that day's performances only).  
Twelfth Night overflows with unre-



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General Admission: \$50

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PATHWAYS OF HOPE

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**OC UNITED**

[ocunited.org/events/run/](http://ocunited.org/events/run/)

**PUMPKIN RUN 5K & Bike Tour: Saturday, October 28:** Juanita Cooke Greenbelt Trail, 1275 N Berkeley Ave, Fullerton, Meet at Parking Lot behind North Justice Center  
Family-friendly, costumed 5K in Fullerton benefiting children & families in our local elementary schools! NEW this year, BIKE routes!

**SCHEDULE**

**7:30am** – 25-mile bike route begins  
**7:30am** – Runner Check-In, Coffee, Breakfast  
**8:00am** – 11-mile mountain bike & 10-mile street route begin  
**8:00am** – Runner Warm up  
**8:30am** – 5k Race Start  
**9:30am** – Awards for Top Runners & Best Costumes  
**11:00am** – Community Fair Closes

**Art Walk on the first Friday of every month, in Downtown Fullerton.**

...you see My Mother started the business in La Habra in 1978 as a Thrift Shop. She called it "My Mother's". It was the first time Dad was teaching me how to shop and we were in 50¢ bins. I quickly we kicked Mom out because we were going to be such great grand stars in the profitable world of Models. Yeah, I know, I use you see we still got all those models. We still have them like fine old wine. And yes, they are worth a fortune in the fashion world. *My Mother's* is a place where memories.

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# OCPA: A Troubled Beginning

Fullerton's CCA (see article on next page), the Orange County Power Authority (OCPA), got off to a rocky start after being founded in November 2020; joining in partnership with Irvine (which did the original legwork and provided beginning funding) were the cities of Fullerton, Huntington Beach, Buena Park, and Lake Forest. The board members of the group were council members of the participating cities. On January 12, 2021, the board hired the first CEO, Brian Probolsky, and COO Antonia Castro-Graham. However, these actions were questioned because, although Castro Graham had extensive education experience with government positions, and CCA's, Probolsky had none.

The OC Power Authority Board selected Probolsky as CEO at an annual base pay of \$239,000, with only a high school level education, no qualifications, and no experience in clean energy, electricity utility, or the energy industry. Probolsky, the former Chief of Staff for OC Supervisors Andrew Do and Pat Bates, was presented as the only candidate for the position by OCPA General Counsel Best Best & Kreiger. Similar to Fullerton's disastrous "acting city manager" Steve Danley, Probolsky came through a board member's recommendation rather than an official search.

Castro-Graham was hired as COO at a base pay of \$189,000. Her qualifications included a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in Public Finance and a Master's degree in Sustainability. She previously served as Fullerton Deputy City Manager under Ken Domer. Before her work in Fullerton, Castro-Graham was assistant to the city manager of Huntington Beach, in charge of managing energy and sustainability projects. She helped set up the beginnings of the power authority in 2017.

Lake Forest dropped out of the partnership in February 2021, leaving just four cities involved until the OC Board of Supervisors signed on in December 2021 for the unincorporated parts of the county.

Castro-Graham, who had characterized her new position as her dream job,

resigned in December 2021 after reports of conflicts with Probolsky. (She is now Regulatory Affairs Manager of the California Choice Energy Authority, establishing CCA programs statewide.)

OCPA began providing power to commercial customers in April 2022. The following month, the June 2022 Grand Jury report "Orange County Power Authority: Come Clean" laid out significant leadership and transparency concerns, including that the CEO had "virtually no employment experience with CCEs or energy purchase and trading before joining OCPA," and yet he oversees a \$34 million budget, with "significant signing authority, little meaningful oversight, and no OCPA governing bylaws." The report concluded that if the issues were fixed, the OCPA could be successful.

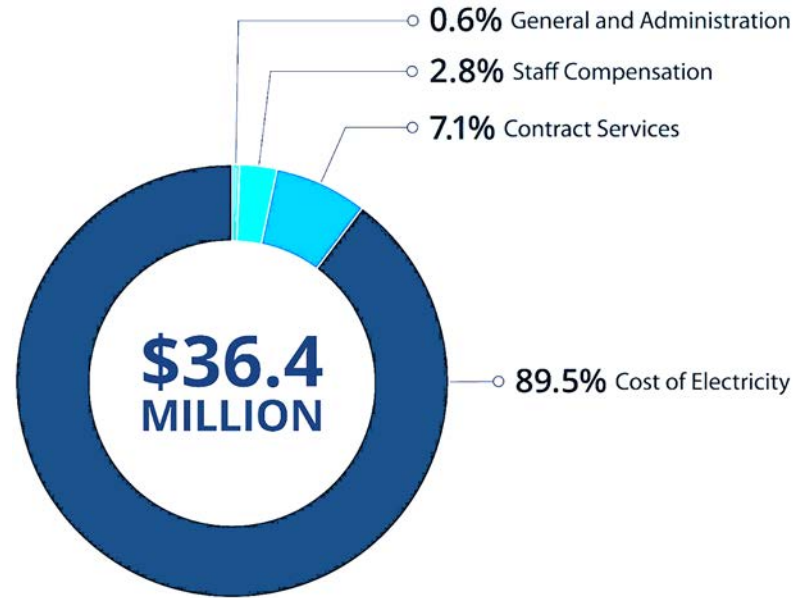
The City of Irvine ordered an audit in June with some of the same issues included in the Grand Jury report.

In October 2022, OCPA services to residential customers began.

After the County of Orange completed two audits in December 2022, the county dropped out of the partnership, and several other cities considered doing the same.

The State of California Audit noted customer opt-out rates were higher than expected. OCPA participation rates for residential registered at 77% and for commercial customers at 88%. "This is below rates of participation of other CCAs and could hamper the ability to provide power for the lowest price," stated the report, which laid out problems and solutions. OCPA is required to update the CA Auditor on its progress toward implementing its recommendations. Read the full report at [www.auditor.ca.gov/reports](http://www.auditor.ca.gov/reports).

The February 28, 2023, state audit found a pattern of deception and mismanagement, including suspicious contracts and lack of accountability, lack of staff with sufficient experience to oversee the consultant that manages its power procurement, and insufficient oversight by the board. A list of recommendations included following policy that all new contracts of over \$50,000 be reported at the next board meeting



and contracts of more than \$125,000 be brought to the board; requiring documentation and following competitive bidding processes; evaluating contractor performance; providing quarterly reports showing dollar amounts for each service, contractor, and any unpaid amount owed, and more.

The CA Public Utilities fined OCPA \$1.96 million in April 2023 for failing to purchase adequate electricity to avoid service interruption during the summer of 2022. Also in April, following months of complaints from environmental groups, four failed audits, a critical OC Grand Jury report, and the threat of Irvine pulling its major participation in the agency, the OCPA board terminated CEO Probolsky's contract in a 3-1 vote (Jung abstaining).

According to Probolsky's contract with the agency, in the event of termination "without cause," he was due six months of severance plus vacation and benefits, but received \$450,000 after the board unanimously approved a

May 2023 agreement. The final deal between the OCPA and Probolsky includes a clause of no admission of liability on either side and has each promising, not to sue, to release all claims, and to keep confidentiality and non-disparagement obligations.

### Conclusion: Upward & Onward

The board appointed OCPA Communications Director Joe Mosca as Interim CEO in June.

Things are already beginning to look up as OCPA works to correct the issues discussed in the various audits and reports. Hopefully, the agency's mishaps have been lessons learned, ushering in a new era where all four participating cities can help make a dent in climate change by encouraging renewable energy on a larger scale while bringing less expensive electricity to residents.

For more information [www.ocpa.org](http://www.ocpa.org)  
SEE RELATED ARTICLES ON PAGE 7 & 13

## The Dental Corner by Eric Kim, DMD

In March, I took over for Dr. Paul Nelson, whom patients loved. Our office, now in its sixth decade of service, is on the corner of Chapman and Cornell Ave. Dr. Nelson previously wrote a regular column, sharing helpful tidbits about dentistry. As a local grad (Troy High School, '06), I want to resume that tradition.



There are instances when a problem and its solution are apparent, and immediate treatment is needed. But issues like receding gums, cracks, and worn-out fillings are problematic to varying degrees. In these instances, recommendations are

How do we develop a healthy patient-provider relationship? Apologies for stating the obvious, but communication and time are essential. A mentor once told me that patients are most likely to receive treatment recommendations as new patients after changing offices. Why? As natural problem-solvers, dentists are trained to look for things they can fix. When a dentist is unfamiliar with a patient's mouth, they may recommend fixing an issue that a previous dentist was monitoring. Rather than a matter of right or wrong, it's usually a difference of opinion or history with the patient.

nuanced and influenced by the dentist's experiences, feedback from their hygienists (who often know your teeth more intimately), and their understanding of patients' goals.

Here's the thing about good communication (and trust) - they develop over time. Surprising, I know! It's okay to ask whether treatment should be done immediately or if it can be addressed later. Share your concerns and relevant experiences. Good communication is a two-way street that can have its hiccups, but giving it time leads to a more satisfying outcome for both parties.

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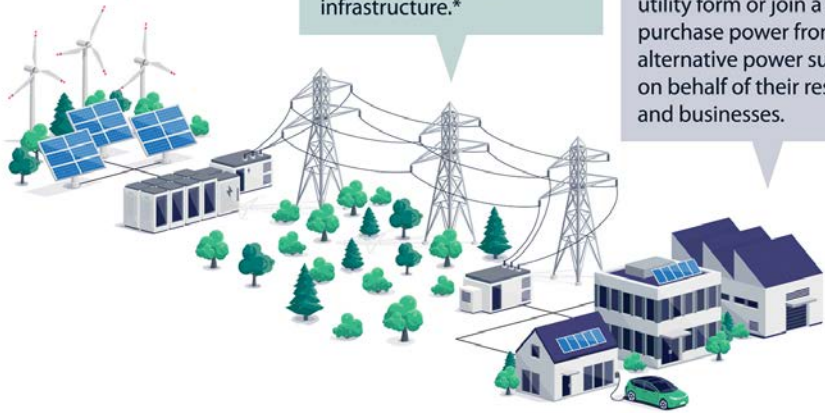
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The CCA procures power for its member communities—participating local governments such as cities and counties—and by aggregating demand, it gains leverage to negotiate better rates.

The default utility continues to deliver power to the member communities through its infrastructure. The CCA pays the default utility a fee for its use of this infrastructure.\*

Communities within the service area of a default utility form or join a CCA to purchase power from an alternative power supplier on behalf of their residents and businesses.



# WHAT IS A CCA AND HOW IS OURS DOING?

In 2002, the California Legislature enacted a law authorizing the formation of community choice aggregations (CCA), which are non-profit agencies that allow local governments to vote to join together to procure electrical power directly from alternative power suppliers. By law, the CCA-provided power is delivered to customers using the existing utility infrastructure responsible for providing electricity in that area; in our area, that's SoCal Edison (SCE).

The CCA pays SCE for delivery, metering, billing, and customer service. Benefits of well-operated CCAs include a higher amount of renewable power offered at lower or competitive pricing than that offered by the utility. Under state law, utility customers in a participating service area are automatically enrolled in the CCA unless they opt out. Anyone opting out receives power purchased by SCE only.

Any two or more cities can form a CCA. As more cities and customers join, demand for clean power increases, allowing the CCA to negotiate more competitive rates, which can bring energy prices down. As of January 2023, 25 registered CCAs were serving more than 14 million customers in over 200 cities and counties in California.

The OC Power Authority, the CCA in our area, was formed in November 2020 and currently has four member cities: Fullerton, Buena Park, Huntington Beach, and Irvine. Service to commercial customers began in April 2022 and to residential customers in October 2022.

Below are price and renewable comparisons between SCE and OCPA pricing as of May 31, 2023, showing an average monthly bill of a household using 569 kWh and including all fees:

**SCE Basic Rate** (33.2% renewable) is \$210 —compared to— **OCPA Basic Choice** (62.3% renewable) is \$208

**SCE Green Rate** (50% renewable) is \$195 —compared to— **OCPA Smart Choice** (100% renewable) is \$214

**SCE Green Rate** (100% renewable) is \$180 —compared to— **OCPA Smart Choice** (100% renewable) is \$217

Note that the SCE Basic rate is slightly more expensive and provides a lesser renewable energy mix than the OCPA Basic rate. Although SCE Green rates seem a bit lower than OCPA rates, a note on SCE's website (see below) informs the public that the 50% and 100% tiers are not currently available, and those wanting that level of renewable energy can sign up on the waiting list in place since January 2023.

"The volume of interest for the 50% and 100% Green Rate programs has exceeded the capacity available from approved Green Rate resources. In the 4th Quarter of 2022, SCE launched a new request for offers for additional generation to support the increasing interest in the Green Rate program. Until new Green Rate resources are contracted, otherwise ordered, or authorized by the Commission, SCE will maintain a waitlist of customers interested in participating in the Green Rate program. As capacity becomes available, SCE will enroll customers onto the Green Rate on a first-come, first-served basis."

For more information or to be added to the waitlist, email [greenrate@sce.com](mailto:greenrate@sce.com). SEE RELATED ARTICLES ON PAGE 7 & 12

Grantees	Funding Award
Anaheim Housing Authority	\$3,878,420
C&C Development	\$8,000,000
City of Anaheim – Housing and Community Development Department	\$1,500,000
City of Brea	\$6,028,492
City of Yorba Linda	\$3,100,000
Community Development Partners	\$8,000,000
Families Forward	\$2,500,000
Illumination Foundation	\$3,000,000
Jamboree Housing Corp.	\$4,721,241
Kingdom Causes dba City Net	\$1,337,170
Mercy Housing California	\$1,500,000
National Community Renaissance of California	\$1,334,677
Shelter Providers of Orange County Inc. dba HomeAid Orange County	\$1,400,000
The Eli Home	\$5,000,000
WISEplace	\$1,000,000
<b>Grant Total</b>	<b>\$52,300,000</b>

## CalOptima Health Awards \$52.3 Million to Build 706 Permanent Housing Units for the Unhoused

Reflecting CalOptima Health's ongoing commitment to Orange County's vulnerable population of people experiencing homelessness, the Board of Directors approved awarding \$52.3 million in grants to accelerate the creation of affordable and permanent supportive housing units. Fifteen organizations were selected to receive funds that will be used to acquire, construct and upgrade a total of 706 housing units.

CalOptima Health's grants are tied to participation in the Department of Health Care Services' Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP), which allows the health plan to fund affordable and permanent supportive housing. HHIP aims to prevent and address housing insecurity for Medi-Cal members by ensuring those experiencing homelessness have a clear path into housing and can access the services needed to remain housed.

"Our partnership with community organizations dedicated to expanding housing resources will transform the lives of thousands of Orange County residents," said Michael Hunn, CEO of CalOptima Health. "Having a home provides the security and peace of mind people need so they can strengthen their health and wellness. Housing is health."

"Awarding more than \$52 million to support Orange County's response to homelessness is a laudable investment by a health plan," said Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Executive Director of Medi-Cal/CalAIM at CalOptima Health.

"This housing will have a generational impact on hundreds of families, giving them hope and better access to the neighborhoods that have the resources needed to build a healthy life." Bruno-Nelson is leading the team spearheading these efforts in support of whole-person health.

By proposing a variety of project types, the grantees represent diverse communities and geographies across Orange County. For example, the Anaheim Housing Authority was awarded \$3.8 million to convert 89

units at a former Motel 6 site into permanent supportive housing. "In Anaheim, we know what works," said Ashleigh Aitken, Anaheim Mayor. "A place to call home with help and support brings belonging, stability, and dignity for those overcoming the challenge of homelessness. This help from CalOptima Health will allow us to continue changing lives in Anaheim."

Jamboree Housing Corp. will use its \$4.7 million award to convert an existing motel in Santa Ana into 89 units for veterans and other people experiencing homelessness. Jamboree Housing President and CEO Laura Archuleta said:

"We're immensely grateful for the groundbreaking partnership with CalOptima Health, whose commitment to funding innovations to address the housing needs of our unhoused population marks a pivotal moment in their healthcare leadership. At Jamboree, we firmly believe that housing is health care, and this collaboration exemplifies that principle. Together, we are changing lives, one home at a time, and we are excited about the possibilities this alliance holds for the future."

Families Forward was awarded \$2.5 million to build up to eight affordable housing units in Tustin for families with minor children. All residents will have access to Families Forward's comprehensive supportive services to build economic mobility and create a healthy, nurturing environment for their children.

"Families Forward is thrilled to be a recipient of this grant from CalOptima Health to further our joint efforts to prevent and end family homelessness," said Madelynn Hirneise, CEO of Families Forward.

"Every night, there are thousands of Orange County children without a safe place to call home, and this funding will allow us to build new affordable housing for families experiencing homelessness, ensuring they have a roof over their head, access to wrap-around services, and the opportunity to thrive."

**Grant funding awarded to 15 organizations will add affordable and permanent supportive housing units to serve low-income families across Orange County.**



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- **CalOptima Health Customer Service:**  
▪ **Phone: 1-888-587-8088**
- **County of Orange Social Services Agency (SSA):**  
▪ **Phone: 1-800-281-9799**  
▪ **Online: [BenefitsCal.com](https://BenefitsCal.com)**

**AT HOME WITH THE HOMELESS**

by Andrew Williams © 2023



**Narcs Scare II: The Return of J. Edgar Hoover**

His testimony at *kevinmd.com* reads like something written during the height of McCarthyism or COINTEL-PRO. But it was earlier this year—July 25th—and Dr. L. Joseph Parker, research scientist and pain care specialist, is looking at a 20 year sentence for dispensing appropriately prescribed pain medications. The meds in question are opioids, which our society has decided are verboten and the people who prescribe them should stop—or go directly to prison. And the federal government agencies which deal with substances and their issues (DEA/FBI/DOJ) have landed on these physicians with all the ungodly force Uncle Sam can bring to bear.

Dr. Parker’s ordeal began last year when he received a call from a fellow pain care specialist (PCS). She told him the state medical boards had complained that she was prescribing opiates to some patients at 90 MDE (maximum daily exposure or intake), which they claimed was excessive. She pointed out that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) clearly meant those guidelines to apply to primary care physicians, not pain care specialists. The board responded by suspending her license.

Dr. Parker discovered the reason that this happened to his colleague was that the DEA was quoting morphine dose/milligram equivalents, leaving the press and the public with the impression that these were individual pills rather than the maximum dosage taken per day in aggregate. He wrote a letter to the paper trying to correct

these misstatements but no correction was made. This would not be the first or last time that the Fourth Estate aided and abetted law enforcement in this matter.

Then another colleague was arrested for prescribing Xanax to a patient in crisis. The scene of the “crime”: a McDonald’s parking lot. Yes, that raised some eyebrows, but the nature of crises is that we have no control over where or when they occur. Under intense questioning by Federal agents, the doctor panicked and claimed she hadn’t written the prescription. Interestingly, at sentencing, the government did not ask for prison time, but the presiding judge, wishing to “make an example” of her, sentenced her to three years. Three years for a momentary lapse of reason.

Dr. Parker then found himself a victim of this witch hunt: a sheriff’s deputy arrived at his office with a temporary letter of suspension from his medical board. A former employee had called an insurance company, pretending to be a patient of Parker’s, and complained that he was “treating addicts.”

As Parker explains, “The insurance investigated and found that some patients had died within thirty days of being treated by us...It turns out that any patient that dies while taking opiates is listed as an “opiate-associated” death, even if they die in hospice or by suicide. I even had a patient who died in police custody, twenty hours after taking his medications and after being denied proper medical care. The jail

told his family he had died of an overdose, despite the coroner’s autopsy finding that he died from a cardiac condition.” (Emphases mine.)

As the result of shoddy math and data conflation, local and federal authorities could make the case to a jury that a legitimate pain care specialist was a “pill mill” doc out for the bucks. But Dr. Parker is not a pill mill doc. In fact, he took hundreds of hours of CME (continuing medical education) in pain management and addiction and joined both the American Academy of Pain Medicine and the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

I’ll let Dr. Parker describe what happened next: “The insurance company investigation found that our treatment had been reasonable but felt they had to notify the medical board. The medical board felt they had to issue an emergency order of suspension without giving me a chance to defend my practice. When I finally went in front of them, the suspension of my license was lifted, and I thought the ordeal was over. Instead, law enforcement officers went on the news to say that the board had been too easy on me, and I was

indicted that same day. I did not plead guilty but took it to trial.

The government wanted to give me twenty to life for the patient who died in police custody. I took the stand in my defense and tried to help the jury understand the complications of medical practice and the risks and benefits of opiate therapy. I explained that I was certified to treat addiction, and that while my patients on opiate therapy did not have addiction, even if they did, the benefits of treatment could outweigh the risks. The government’s expert testified that MRIs were not objective, that a veteran treated with methadone for pain meant he had addiction, that a man with a hand crushed so badly that a finger was pulled off did not have “real” pain and should not have been treated.

The fact that I had cut him back from three opiates to two and from two benzodiazepines to one on that first visit went right over the jury’s heads, as well as the fact that I had reduced his opiates sixty days and his benzodiazepines thirty days before his death.” (Emphases mine.)

As of this writing, Dr. Parker does not know his fate.

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## Healthy Awareness

by Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D. © 2023

### The answer, my friends, is blowing in the wind

Sunday, the first of October, I watched the 6 a.m. Sunday Morning Show with Jane Pauley. Joan Baez was one of the featured figures. Many of you will remember her in the 1960s as a political activist for the Civil Rights Movement headed by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I went to *Wikipedia* as a source and found that she and her family were Quakers, a religion that advocates peace. Joan Baez was dedicated to important human causes and protests related to peace. In the process, she has built a meaningful legacy.

As I review Dr. Emily Teipe's chapter in her women's history book, I see that much was happening besides the Civil Rights Movement. Native Americans organized the American Indian Movement, AIM, to raise the plight of the first people in the United States. Young Latinos initiated the Chicano Movement to combat racism and empower the plight of young Latinos with the leadership of Cesar Chavez. So much was happening at that time. And Bob Dylan's song, *Blowin' in the Wind*, symbolized these times.

Joan Baez dedicated sixty years of her life to justice, especially related to the Vietnam War, the Innocence Project, LGBT rights, the peaceful protests by the Iranian people, the U.S. invasion of Iraq, landmines, and encouraging young people to vote for

candidates who advocated peace. The list of her music as a singer, songwriter, and activist is long, with exceeding credits in films. How impressive!

I was always interested in just the melody of songs; however, my late husband enjoyed the lyrics to music and would get so much meaning from it. The song, *Blowin' in the Wind* by Bob Dylan has so much meaning in its words as it depicts those turbulent times.

Today, like those times in our past, we feel the turbulence and question what is going on in politics, the war in Ukraine and Israel, the world upsets, what we will leave our children and grandchildren, and life in general. I find a sense of peace and solace that there is an answer to all these struggles, which lies somewhere in the "wind."

Take a moment and read the words aloud to the song, *Blowin' in the Wind*, and see what you feel about your concerns about what is happening in the world today. And yes, *We Shall Overcome*, too.

As an 82-year-old, Joan Baez's life today is to recognize that she does not have to solve everyone's problems. She enjoys writing, painting, and singing, but now in a lower key due to aging. She still is involved in a lot of world problems and supports these. I found peace in her interview.

—  
**Joan Baez was dedicated to important human causes and protests related to peace.**  
—

## Safe Shopping Tips

by Investigator Aja Takugawa

**Do not** put your purse in the child seat area of your shopping cart while shopping or sling your purse on your seat back when out at a restaurant

**Always** wear your purse and keep it closed  
**Be aware** of your surroundings and your personal space

**Do not** carry a lot of cash or all of your credit cards



## BALANCE & CHANGE

by Michelle Gottlieb, Psy.D., MFT, LPCC © 2023

### Good, Bad, or Indifferent Everything Changes

Today, at this moment, life may be very difficult. I get that. We all have gone through times when life has been challenging. But do you remember what life was like a year ago? Two years ago? I bet it was different. It might have been better; it might have been worse. But it was definitely different.

That is what is important to remember: whatever you are facing now will be changing. It does not matter if life is wonderful and rosy or horrible and scary right now. It will change. You can count on it.

If you're at a part of your life full of love, please hold it tight and appreciate where you are. Enjoy every minute. Please do not take it for granted. If life is hard, remember that it will not last forever.

The other important piece you must remember is how quickly time passes. At the beginning, I asked you if you remembered what life was like a year ago. Do you also remember how recent a year ago seems?

It is currently the beginning of October as I write this. It will be the holiday season in a blink of an eye. Summer will be here before you know it. And once again, we will be ready to start the holidays. Time, indeed, does fly.

Whatever you are in the middle of, it will change. Time will pass, and you will be in a very different place. Appreciate now and look forward to the future. And always, always enjoy the journey!

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## Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2023 • [JonDobrer@mac.com](mailto:JonDobrer@mac.com)

### Israel: This War is Different

We have already lost people, and more are in peril. My heart is aching from all the killing, suffering, and barbarism. This is different from the “normal” 4-5-year cycle of violence between Israel and Gaza. Hamas’s ferocity isn’t casual but planned: Kill old people, kill young people, then take survivors hostage and hold them for ransom, humiliation, and execution.

Targeting and slaughtering over 300 young people at a dance and kidnapping or killing old people is not war. It’s a pogrom, like Kishinev at the turn of the 19th and 20th century, or Metz at the start of the Crusades, or indeed the Holocaust. It’s wonton and barbaric cruelty based on hatred of Jews.

The tragic absurdity is that this won’t bring either Israelis or Palestinians closer to peace. This won’t serve any greater good. It all fits into a path and pattern: Any step towards peace is met by violence. Guns and bombs wielded by radicals veto of any peace process.

Israel is distracted by internal conflicts and the largely peaceful protests over Netanyahu’s “reforming” (vitiating) of the judiciary. He’s now blaming the protestors for not supporting the state and, therefore, responsible for diminishing Israel’s preparedness. Maybe. Though, note that Netanyahu’s attention wasn’t on Israel’s security but his own. But the greater scandal isn’t political. It’s the utter failure of Israeli intelligence. They didn’t see this coming. How?

Israel has people on the ground in Gaza—both Palestinians and undercover Israelis. Israel has satellites, fences, drones, and seismic sensors to detect tunneling.

America had depended on Israel’s intelligence assets throughout the Arab World and in Iran, where we have next to nobody on the ground. Beyond the unbearable human pain of loss and hostages in peril, this is a blow to Israel’s intelligence bona fides. This is a massive failure of preparedness, intelligence, and imagination.

This war began on the anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, on October 6, 1973. There should have been increased readiness. Terrorist attacks disproportionately begin on the anniversaries of previous battles, regardless of whether they commemorate defeats or victories. On 9-11 in 2012, anti-American riots in Libya killed our Ambassador, Christopher Stevens, along with other Embassy, Counselor, and CIA staff. On 9-11 in 1683, the Muslim Turks were defeated at the siege of Vienna, and the Muslim tide in Europe was turned back. They remember, even if we don’t. It’s political and strategic malpractice not to be on high alert on such anniversaries.

Netanyahu blames the protestors. Some Republicans blame Biden for releasing money to Iran, which supports Hezbollah directly and Hamas

indirectly. Israeli hawks also blame “selfish, unpatriotic” protestors for focusing on LGBTQ+ people, women and secularism.

Nearly everyone blames the entire Arab World. This is wrong. True, some Arabs were dancing in celebration. However, the vast majority of Arabs were not dancing, and in Gaza, they were bracing for Israeli reprisals.

It’s true that too many in the Arab World celebrate the deaths of their enemies with parades and dancing. This is largely absent from Jewish tradition. The Talmud teaches in Megilla 10:

“The Egyptians were drowning in the sea. At the same time, the angels wanted to sing before God, and the Lord God said to them: ‘My creations are drowning, and you are singing before me?’”

Most Palestinians don’t want either to dance or this endless war. Most Israelis don’t want this endless war. But radicals do. Radicals, Israeli and Arab, agree on the absolutist slogan, “One state from the Jordan to the Sea.” For the radical Arabs, this would be without Jews. For many Jewish religious nationalists, the Arabs would be deported. Since neither outcome is likely, repeating this failed pattern is madness.

The challenge is what to do that wouldn’t compound this tragedy. Israel can’t ignore attacks from Gaza, Lebanon, or the West Bank. Ignoring violent attacks, as with domestic violence, inevitably leads to escalation and can’t be tolerated. However, overreaction by massive escalation only hardens the forces of radicalism.

What could *overreaction* mean in the face of this savagery? That’s a fair question. My response is that I’m making a pragmatic point, looking not for justice but for peace. Mahatma Gandhi wrote, “An eye for an eye and soon the whole world is blind.” We can all become blinded with rage and pain in our righteous desire for justice in the form of revenge.

Let’s ask the critical question: Who benefits from this horror? I don’t believe that Netanyahu saw this coming and did nothing for some political advantage. I believe that Hamas, which is responsible, empowers Netanyahu and weakens those protesting for the judiciary, democracy, and peace.

For all the criticisms of Netanyahu (including mine), there is one salient fact: Hamas doesn’t want peace. Hamas doesn’t want a two-state solution. Hamas doesn’t want a better life for Palestinians in the West Bank or Gaza.

Hamas knows that it can’t win a war against Israel and that it poses no threat



*Hamas: \*The terrorist organization and not the people of Gaza, just as Proud Boys don't represent Americans.*

to Israel’s existence. It does pose a threat to Israel’s soul. Hamas benefits very little from dead Israelis—except to the extent that it causes Israeli reprisals that kill Palestinians. Every dead Palestinian is a shame on Israel and a benefit to Hamas. Each dead Gazan re-affirms Hamas’s status as the prime defender of Palestinians. Such is their immoral calculus.

Aside from the date, why did this war begin now? Some charge Israel with provoking the Gazans by limiting access to the Al Aqsa Mosque and expanding “settlements” on the West Bank. Though Israeli policies are often not helpful, it’s bracing to remember that in 1929, 133 Jews were killed while worshipping at The Western Wall, and 67 Jews were slaughtered in Hebron because they planned on visiting Jerusalem. In the same year, 18 Jews were butchered in Safed for, well, just being Jews. There was no

Israel. There was no occupation of the West Bank or Western Jerusalem. There was, from some, a complete rejection of Jews living in what became Israel 20 years later.

We still search for peace, but radicals veto it with violence. With the Abraham Accords growing firmer and threatening to include Saudi Arabia, Hamas fears fading into irrelevancy. There is no peace benefit for radicals. They need war to survive as a political force.

Many more Israelis will die trying to rescue hostages. More innocent Gazans will die due to reprisals. Hamas will grow stronger with every Israeli raid, and despite the massive failure of intelligence, Netanyahu and the far-right nationalists will also grow stronger. What grotesque and perverse bedfellows.

I feel ill from this futile folly that does nothing to advance peace. This war is a failure from conception to conclusion—a conclusion that will not actually conclude any of the real issues but only be a timeout to prepare for the next tragic round.

**The tragic absurdity is that this won't bring either Israelis or Palestinians closer to peace. This won't serve any greater good.**

## The Future of Artificial Intelligence The Possibilities and the Problems

7:00 P.M. Wednesday, October 18, 2023  
Conference Center Fullerton Public Library  
353 W. Commonwealth Ave. Fullerton, CA 93832



The Fullerton Public Library Foundation is hosting a panel discussion on the possibilities and problems of artificial intelligence.

The panel includes CSUF professors:  
• Engineering and Computer Science, Dr. Mira Kim and Dr. Michael Shafae  
• Communications, Dr. Roslyn Du.

**Join the discussion:**

*The future of AI in today's World*

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.



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contact@fullertonobserver.com or mail to: Fullerton Observer PO Box 7051 Fullerton CA 92834



## Follow the Money: Is there a link between No votes and campaign contributions

Did campaign contributions to the three voting no on the UP trail have something to do with this?

**Jung:** On 11/09/2022, George and Tony Bushala each gave \$4,900 to the Fred Jung campaign.

It's odd since Jung is not up for re-election until 2024.

Their PAC (Political Action Committee) Fullerton Taxpayers for Reform (FTR) (major donor Tony Bushala) also supported Jung's initial 2020 campaign with \$12,630 worth of "independent" phone bank, postcard mailers, and robocalls supporting Jung – and spent \$45,757 in mailers, phone banks, robocalls, lawn signs, and

Facebook ads opposing Jung's opponent in the District 1 campaign.

**Whitaker:** District 4 Councilmember Bruce Whitaker was supported by the FTR PAC in his 2020 election with \$6,078 worth of mailers and phone banks while spending \$21,114 against his opponent. (This is down from the \$67,447 the PAC spent supporting Whitaker in his 2012 election.)

**Dunlap:** George Bushala contributed \$ 2,000, and Tony Bushala contributed \$ 4,000 to newcomer Dunlap's first election in 2020. He is up for re-election in 2024.

**Zahra and Charles:** In contrast

Councilmembers Zahra and Charles have.

### Beware of PACs

PAC money will be something to watch for in the 2024 election as the new 1439 amendment states that officials must recuse themselves from voting on issues connected to any direct donor contributing \$250 or more within a year after the contribution was made (unfortunately, this new law only covers contributions beginning from Jan 2023.)

PACs, however, are still unregulated. So, in the upcoming election, watch out for robocalls, mailers, including slate mailers, internet ads, and even

yard signs. Don't be fooled again. Be aware of who is putting the information out and whether it is false. Many groups putting out such material have tricky names meant to deceive voters.

### Where to find the information

All this info and more come from required 460, 461, 496, & 497 reports and are available online on the city website: [cityoffullerton.com](http://cityoffullerton.com)

Click on Government then Departments then City Clerk then Elections then Campaign then Campaign Disclosure Statements.

**Compiled from required campaign financial disclosures.**

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 - President of SCALA Symphony Orchestra  
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<https://www.instagram.com/jcfullerton>

## No consequences for the misuse of the City seal

by Saskia Kennedy

Mayor Jung created titles for people, who are not city employees, and allowed them to use the city seal on their business cards. This was discovered at a meeting with Mayor Jung when his associate Daniel Yoon Jae Park arrived and handed out business cards that said he was the Mayor's Cultural Arts Counselor.

According to Ordinance 2543, it is unlawful for any person to make or use the seal of the City, or reproduction thereof, for any purpose other than for the official business of the City, its Council, officers, or departments. The City Clerk of the City shall be the official custodian of the official seal of the City. (Ord. 2543 (part), 1985).

It may be illegal, but the City Ordinance does not say what, if any, consequences there are. Addressing

such issues before a controversy can indeed be a good strategy. It avoids "calling out" someone who may have concluded that the lack of a policy means that "anything goes."

When asked if he knew that the use of the City seal with out authorization was illegal he said, "It is not illegal, it is just frowned upon. I have let them know they can not use the seal."

Another consideration weighing in favor of having an agency policy is that technology makes it easier for anyone to access aspects of an agency's official identity. Web browsers and scanners can capture or copy agency seals, logos, letterhead, and similar items.

Restrictions on using an agency's seal are common, but without consequences, the City seal and logo seem to be all fair game for anyone's use.

## The Council Majority that Represents Industry Over Residents

by Saskia Kennedy

The role of the city council  
 1) to be a liaison between the city government and the residents and work together for the common good of the entire city based on the will of residents

2) keep an eye on the management of the city & seek proper backup to verify operations are in order

3) to make decisions within city resources to solve issues for the common good that individual residents cannot accomplish independently.

As soon as Fred Jung and Nick Dunlap were sworn in, they, along with Bruce Whitaker, when they decided to forego the Fair Rotation Policy they set a precedent for what the public could expect : a disregard for rules, the needs of their constituents, and staff, and a penchant for ignorance, disrespect, and power trips on record. ("They" refers to the council majority for the remainder of this article).

The council majority has voted against community voices in a number of recent decisions, outlined below, and calls the community members, who unite in a cause, "Special Interest Groups."

### Sunrise Village Development

The council majority voted against the District 1 community members who wanted to keep their shopping center zoning at Sunrise Village. Instead, they voted on the side of Shopoff Realty Investments. In a recent article by *Voice of OC* detailing the corruption concerning Shopoff and the City Council in Anaheim, "a Fullerton redevelopment project by Shopoff Realty – a developer detailed in Anaheim's corruption scandal – is making some in the city question the

relationship between developers and elected officials."

In a *Fullerton Observer Community Voices article*, Who Makes Decisions for the City? Developers, Special Interest Groups, or the Voters of Fullerton?, "Shopoff has used every tactic available to get what they want.

1. Shopoff has given numerous and undisclosed amounts of money to organizations and city events throughout Fullerton. We question when a gift or donation becomes a bribe.

2. Shopoff representatives damaged the reputation of a Korean American business owner by publicly stating confidential information about them.

3. Shopoff misrepresented to city council the extent of their public outreach. Most of the neighbors found out about the proposed development from other neighbors and business owners, not developer outreach.

4. Shopoff has publicly challenged the validity of our over 2,600 legal and legitimate signatures on our Save Sunrise Village petitions.

5. Korean American immigrant small business owners felt pressured and even intimidated to close or leave their businesses by Shopoff's tactics. These business owners may not have understood their protections under our legal system.

### New standardized conditional use permit

The City requested all businesses to come under the new standardized conditional use permit (CUP) to make enforcing codes easier for the police and city code enforcement dept. When 120 Club on Wilshire complied and exceeded all the requirements to come under the new CUP, which would

allow them to open for lunch, Tony Bushala appealed because, according to him, the club exceeded the sound ordinance, which, according to staff, the club did not.

Even though the sound ordinance was entirely different, they denied the CUP, meaning the old CUP allowed them to stay open only as a nightclub was still in place. This act gave the green light to all businesses that they could keep their current CUP.

### Associated Road Project

They voted against wider sidewalks, safer biking lanes, and fewer lanes on Associated Rd despite 163 community members signing a petition in favor of the project.

### Union Pacific Trail Project

They voted to ask if the \$1.78M grant could be used for "something else" instead of its intended purpose, phase II of the Union Pacific Trail, demonstrating sheer ignorance of how much work goes into grant writing. Council disregarded the Parks & Rec Commission's unanimous vote favoring the Trail Only option. Council's ignored the efforts of an underserved portion of our city.

Tony Bushala, the local real estate developer, called it the path to nowhere, and all three council majority reiterated those exact words before voting against it. But the plan for the trail will connect North Fullerton with the Hunt Library in the South. When completed, it will be a safe bike path that will link up with other cities doing the same rails-to-trails conversion.

### Gas Station in Provecho Market Complex

They voted against the community in favor of an ill-placed gas station that the neighbors do not want. Ralph Kim opened the high-end Provecho Market grocery across from the Stater Bros on Euclid. His grocery store is failing, and he says that he has to put in a gas station to survive.

Conservatively speaking, the total time it takes to construct a gas station from the ground up ranges from six months to one year. Opening a gas station is a capital-intensive project and on the average in the United States, it will cost you a minimum of \$250,000 to open a small gas station. Maybe he should have invested in advertising and PR as most new businesses do.

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Left top the Pooch Park at its current location at the Hunt Library.



Bottom left Acacia Park awaits the installation of new playground.



Top right Independence Park chained off to public, has no bathrooms, water fountain.



Bottom right Union Pacific Park chained off to the public since 2009.

### Is the Pooch Park in the Doghouse?

*continued from front page*

Park Relocation project by adopting Resolution No. 2020-96. The State's program is a non-competitive grant that provides funding to all cities with an amount based on each City's population for park improvements and acquisition. The City of Fullerton received and allocated the grant funds to the Pooch Park Relocation project, which planned to relocate the City dog park from Hunt Branch Park to the Brea Dam Park.

The new Pooch Park design required accessible walkways, expensive upgraded steel chain link fencing, solar lighting, and shade structures costing \$765,696. Replacement of the existing bridge will add an additional \$166,874. Parks and Rec Commissioners Wehn stated that he had voted to proceed with the original estimate of \$250,000-\$300,000 with a grant from ARPA but was concerned about cost increases as proposed.

On March 21, 2023, the City Council directed staff to review and potentially modify the scope of the Pooch Park Relocation project to reduce costs and finalize approvals with the US Army Corps of Engineers. But the delay meant the City would not complete the Pooch Park project within the grant performance period. The City needs to allocate grant funds to a park project planned for completion within the required performance period.

At the City Council meeting on October 17, 2023, the staff intends to request approval to transfer the grant funds from the Pooch Park Relocation project to the Acacia Park Renovation project, which the City will be able to complete within the grant performance period as the park is already under construction and has the play equipment

waiting for installation. It is projected to be complete by August 2024.

The Acacia Park renovation project includes playground replacement, walkway replacements to meet ADA requirements, irrigation modifications, turf repair, site lighting, plumbing improvements for a new drinking fountain, and planting new trees.

Meanwhile in the South part of town, Independence and Union Pacific Park have been fenced off to the public for years. Why did the Parks and Recreation Department choose to divert funds to Acacia Park when other parks are still closed to the public?

The grant funds would replace an equivalent amount of Park Dwelling funds, which the City would return to the Park Dwelling fund balance for other projects. Will the Park Dwelling funds be used for the Pooch Park relocation, or will the City use them for the proposed renovations at Independence Park, or possibly the reopening of the Union Pacific Park that has remained closed to the public since 2009?

According to the city website, Fullerton has 53 parks, including nature preserves and open space, 13 park facilities and 30 miles of trails. Most parks and trails are north of Commonwealth. Many areas south of Commonwealth are considered disadvantaged communities and park poor. There are only 15 parks and one trail south of Commonwealth with an average of 1.3-acres of park land per 1,000 people as opposed to over six-acres of park land per 1,000 people and 29 of the 30 miles of trails north of Commonwealth.

The City has approximately \$343,000 in unallocated Park Dwelling funds and projects additional revenue

in the next two fiscal years when new housing developments start construction. Funding for capital projects from Fiscal Year 2021-22 to 2023-24 totaled approximately \$40.4 million. Of that, \$6.2 million came from Park Dwelling Funds and \$32.7 million came from grant funds with the remaining \$1.58 million in other funds (Brea Dam, ARPA, donations). The City used most of the grant funding for the acquisition of West Coyote Hills. The following table lists projects with their funding sources:

Project	Fund	FY 2022 Budget	FY 2023 Budget	FY 2024 Budget	Total All Funds
Rolling Hills Park	Park Dwelling	56,141			56,141
UP Park Construct.	Park Dwelling	9,751	32,767		42,518
Woodcrest Park Improv.	Park Dwelling	7,728			231,796
	Grant	224,068			
Pearl Lot Acquisition	Grant	740,277	730,735		1,471,012
Pacific Drive Park	Park Dwelling	950,640	110,799		1,311,439
	CDBG	250,000			
West Coyote Hills Acquisition	Park Dwelling	59,858			27,178,386
	Grant	18,016,872	9,101,656		
FCC Pool Acid Room	Park Dwelling	4,000			4,000
Acacia and Greenbelt	Park Dwelling	100,000	464,943		831,036
	Grant	266,093			
Citywide Trail Improvement	Park Dwelling	1,091			1,091
Park Lighting Improvement	Park Dwelling	53,701			53,701
Laguna Lake ADA	Developer	2,945	10,703		13,648
Juanita Cooke Trail	Developer	363,862			363,862
Emery Play Area	Park Dwelling		500,000		500,000
Bastanchury Greenbelt	Park Dwelling		100,000		100,000
Muckenthaler Stage Repair	Park Dwelling	29,450			58,900
	Facilities Fund	29,450			
Independence Pool Fence	Park Dwelling		300,000		300,000
Amerige Netting	Park Dwelling		450,000		450,000
Fullerton Golf RR	Brea Dam		500,000		500,000
Gilbert Access. Improvements	CDBG		250,000		250,000
FCC Generator	ARPA		600,000		600,000
Chapman RR	Park Dwelling		100,000		100,000
Fullerton Community Center	Park Dwelling	619,656			619,656
UP Trail II	Grant	1,780,000			1,780,000
Playgrounds Replacement	Park Dwelling		400,000	400,000	800,000
	Grant				
Pooch Park Relocation	Park Dwelling	150,000			416,093
	Grant	266,093			
Park Facilities Improvements	Park Dwelling	335,079	175,000	175,000	685,079
	Developer	18,040			
	Grant	22,750			
Hillcrest Park Rehabilitation	Developer	50,000			359,495
	Park Dwelling	62,899	246,596		
Valencia Park Improvements	CDBG			350,000	450,000
	Park Dwelling			100,000	
Hillcrest Exercise Equip	Park Dwelling			100,000	100,000
Indy Park Improvements	Park Dwelling			60,000	60,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>24,470,444</b>	<b>14,073,199</b>	<b>1,185,000</b>	<b>39,728,643</b>

### City Council Notes by Leah Han *Continued from page 5*

#### Changes in Animal Keeping Rules

More people can have chickens now due to the minimum lot requirements has been reduced. The rules on potbelly pigs has changed due to complaints from residents. Councilmember Zahra asked if the complaints about potbelly pigs were included in the hearing. The staff answered that they did not have complaints. Zahra asked staff to simplify these changes to ensure they are accessible for residents. The motion unanimously passed.

#### Grant for Bicycle Mobility

The council must vote on accepting a Trans Active grant of \$7.1 million for bicycle mobility. This grant aligns with the Fullerton Bike Connector plan and connects to the Cal State Fullerton bike plan. Mayor Jung asked if this impacts the Nutwood Bridge, and Director Bise answered that the bridge does not qualify for the grant. Anjali Tapadia supported the grant, and Jane Reifer stressed the importance of considering bus stops when planning. The motion passed unanimously.

#### President Avenue Zone Amendment

There was a hearing for a new historical site on President Ave. This designation does not bring any added taxes but does bring a higher level of review for future projects. There is overwhelming support from residents in the area. Ernie Kelsey, the president of Fullerton Heritage, explained that this neighborhood was built as World War 2 defense worker housing. Passing this motion would mean creating a preservation zone, but residents can still paint their homes and change certain things. All council members thanked everyone who worked on the project and shared appreciation for Fullerton's history. The motion unanimously passed.

“I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.” Psalm 91:2



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The *Fullerton Observer* is a volunteer and community-written newspaper that was established in 1978. We are comprised of students, educators, professionals, and residents who love Fullerton, want to ignite community activism, and spark social change.

Our purpose is to inform Fullerton residents about the institutions and other societal forces that most impact their lives, so that they may be empowered to participate in constructive ways to keep and make private and public entities serve all residents in lawful, open, just, 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.

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

**Volunteer**

We are on the lookout for a passionate Journalist to join the *Observer* team. The candidates for this position should possess talent and enthusiasm for digging out the real stories and uncovering the truth. They must be civic minded and knowledgeable with the different departments that run Fullerton and who the key people are.

To excel in this role, you should be friendly, self-motivated, and have exceptional written and verbal communication skills.

**Responsibilities**

- Ensure that you meet all regular and recurring deadlines.

- Review and edit work for editorial approval.
- Use all your findings to prepare clean, concise, and factual articles.
- Adhere to the ethical code of the profession.
- Keep records of all notes, interviews, and audio files.
- Keep up-to-date on the latest news developments by attending meetings
- Collect, verify, and decipher data.

**Requirements**

- Capable of maintaining an ethical and objective standard in reporting.
- Ability to meet deadlines and accurately fact-check information.
- Attend civic meetings at least two times per month in person and write reports.
- Excellent observation and judgment skills.
- Superb communication and networking skills, along with an aptitude to effectively extract information.

**Positions available:**

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- OC Water District
- Planning Commission
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- Transportation
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**To Apply:** Send writing sample, resume (with name, number, email, and street address), and availability to [contact@fullertonobserver.com](mailto:contact@fullertonobserver.com)

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**Fullerton Community Center**  
 Salary: \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 01 - Community Ctr.  
 Department: Parks and Recreation  
 Applications accepted until filled

**Park and Trail**  
 Salary: \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 01 - Park and Trail  
 Department: Parks and Recreation  
 Applications accepted until filled

**Youth Services Division**  
 Salary: \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 01 - Youth Srves Div  
 Department: Parks and Recreation  
 Applications accepted until filled

**Community Cntr Specialist**  
 Salary: \$16.50 - \$17.50 Hourly  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 02 - Community Ctr.  
 Department: Parks and Recreation  
 Applications accepted continuously

**Park and Trail Specialist**  
 Salary: \$16.50 - \$17.50 Hourly  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 02 - Park and Trail  
 Department: Parks and Recreation  
 Applications accepted continuously

**Fire Dept. Utility Worker I/II**  
 Salary: \$15.50 - \$16.50 Hourly  
 Location: Fullerton Fire Dept  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 2023-00009  
 Applications accepted continuously

**Library Page I**  
 Salary: \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly  
 Location: Fullerton Public Library  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 22 - FD Utility Wkr  
 Department: Fire Dept  
 Applications accepted continuously

**Police Cadet**  
 Salary: \$15.50 - \$16.75 Hourly  
 Location: Fullerton Police Dept  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 05  
 Position Limited to 25 Hrs Weekly  
 Applications accepted continuously

**Police Dispatcher (on call)**  
 Salary: \$26.32 - \$33.59 Hourly  
 Location: Fullerton Police Dept  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 2022-00133  
 To be considered for this position, you must be a P.O.S.T. certified dispatcher.

**Police Officer Lateral /Academy Trained**  
 Salary: \$6,620 - \$9,094 Monthly  
 Location: Fullerton Police Dept  
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 Salary: \$18.00 - \$20.50 Hourly  
 Job Type: At Will/Non-Benefited  
 Job Number: 2021-00053  
 Department: Parks and Recreation  
 Applications accepted continuously

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ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "HAPPY FALL!" on page 7:



PUZZLE MASTER Valerie Brickey

was born in Fullerton and returned to raise her family here. She has been contributing puzzles since 2014.

A	L	E	C	S	A	C	D	C	H	A	R		
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**VIDEO OBSERVER**

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## Original Fullerton College Buildings Recognized as Historic District

Recently, I learned from Fullerton Heritage President Ernie Kelsey that a portion of Fullerton College has now been designated as a historic district. It encompasses the core of the college, with multi-level buildings centered on a central green space known as the Quad.

It's important to note that a historic district is a group of buildings that have a unique history together. Laid out and constructed using New Deal funding, this historic district was the most ambitious PWA/WPA building project in Fullerton's history, and the only college constructed using federal relief funds in Orange County. I had a chance to take a historic tour of the campus with Ernie Kelsey, who explained in detail how the campus core stands as a legacy of New Deal programs and serves as an excellent example of collegiate resources made possible by public work projects.

The Fullerton College Historic District is made up of four buildings: the Commerce/Business Education Building (1936); the Administration and Social Science Building (1938); the Technical Trades Building (1938); and a U-shaped building constructed in three phases that contains the Locker Room (1939), Student Union (1940), and The Hive (1941), a student eatery and hang-out.

"The college was part of the high school for years," said Kelsey. "So, in 1907, they created the College Department at the high school. This was something they did throughout the state because there was a law passed in 1907 that allowed high schools to set up colleges. Fullerton was the sixth city to do this after Fresno, Santa Barbara, Hollywood, Los Angeles, and Bakersfield."

Carleton Winslow was the architect for the school district, and one of his assistants was a man named Harry K. Vaughn. To save money and provide hands-on experience, Vaughn used high school students to make wrought iron fixtures and terracotta and ceramic tiles in the high school's technical trades classes. The beauty of it is that if you go to the high school, a lot of the wrought iron work is from the school foundry, and a lot of the work on the original community college buildings was made either at the high school or at the college's technical trade building.

"The Depression hit, and the government started introducing programs. All of the historic buildings were funded using Depression era relief funds first obtained from the Public Works Administration (PWA), then the Work Projects Administration (WPA)," said Kelsey.

"Once the City realized that they had a college, they moved Vaughn from the high school, and he was appointed resident architect of Fullerton College. He hired college students to produce architectural elements for the new buildings. Initially, college students used the same high school facilities to produce wrought iron features employed in the new high school campus buildings."

One of the first things workers did was grade the land. They built tunnels which were constructed to make it eas-

ier to get back and forth between the two parts of the school.

Master landscape architect Ralph D. Cornell developed the formal college campus layout following Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia plan, with the historic core of the campus consisting of rectangular-shaped classrooms and administrative buildings arranged in axial fashion around an inverse T-shaped central library. When designing the college, Vaughn wanted an architectural style different from the Spanish Colonial Revival high school, and he combined Spanish elements with Moorish features to create a Hispano Moresque style unique to Fullerton.

From 1911 until the Thirties, if you were a college student, you went to the high school. Back then, college students would have to share classroom spaces, the library, and study halls with high school students. The college student newspaper, the Weekly Torch, frequently published editorials calling for the end of "high schoolism" on the college campus. They were clamoring in the Thirties for a university, and they didn't really get that until the Fifties.

"In the Thirties, the school starts applying for money from the government to build this campus," explained Ernie.

"So the City was kind of smart enough and saw what was coming and bought the property that the college is on now with surplus money. It was originally an orange and a walnut grove. So they laid out the campus based on Cornell's plans, graded, planned out the tunnels, and opened with a groundbreaking of building 300, which is Commerce and Business Education. The campus buildings are named according to their use and identified by the college with three- or four-digit numbers. In March 1936, hundreds of students, teachers and administrators led by the Fullerton College Band left the old campus for the new one for the groundbreaking ceremony of this building."

The college's first building also had a working bank, the only institution of its kind in the U.S., run by students under the direction of the Board of Trustees. I learned that the bank distributed monthly checks to the 200 students enrolled in the National Youth Administration (NYA), a New Deal agency that focused on providing work and education for Americans between the ages of 16 and 25. Enrollment ranged between fifteen and twenty percent of the student body, with NYA students working as laboratory, shop, clerical, and library assistants. Others worked on the campus grounds and assisted in the construction of campus buildings.

Although students and instructors alike wanted the Science Building to be the next one constructed, the trustees selected the Administration



*Above: Fullerton Heritage President Ernie Kelsey in front of Fullerton College Building 300*

and Social Science building instead, because they thought it would attract a large number of students to the new campus and would "better symbolize a separate and individual institution."

It housed the administrative offices of the college on the main floor, with the second floor containing large classrooms and connecting hallways. More importantly, the first floor contained 2 large student-study and lounge rooms. Radios were added to the lounges in February 1939 and a terracotta paved area outside the lounges served as the first dance space on campus starting in March 1939.

***From 1911 until the Thirties, if you were a college student, you went to the high school. Back then, college students would have to share classroom spaces, the library, and study halls with high school students.***

The third campus building was the Technical Trade (600) building. Construction provided jobs for 206 skilled and unskilled laborers. Of the same size and general exterior appearance as the Commerce/Business Education Building, the Technical Trades Building contained a print shop, drafting room, welding room, a mill and cabinet workroom, an ornamental iron shop, and a machine shop.

The college students no longer wanted to share the library on the high school campus, so the second floor housed a temporary library. Some of the industrial and manual arts work done in the building was later moved to the Industrial Arts/Shop Building completed three years later.

In July 1938, the PWA approved its last building on the Fullerton College campus, a U-shaped structure constructed in three phases, beginning with the Locker Room, and ending with the Student Union and the Hive. When grass lawns and seating were added to the Quad and Patio area in front of the Student Union in the 1940s, use of these social areas increased.

A major architectural element of Fullerton College's original buildings is the lavish and unique use of colorful Tunisian/Moorish ceramic tiles that

decorate both the interior and exterior of the facilities, including domed cupolas, archways, doorways, and floors. The noteworthy tile, which dramatically contrasts with the buildings' simple white textured walls, adds a decidedly Moorish style to the college structures.

The colorful tiles were produced by D. and M. Tile in Los Angeles, owned by Welshman John Luther "Jack" Davies and John H. McDonald. The tiles, which have a watercolor appearance, were part of the Tunisian and Moorish lines produced by D. and M. Tile, and range in size from small mosaic tiles to 8-inch square tiles. Predominant colors are blue, green, mauve, yellow, orange, and tan. Collectively, the original Hispano Moresque buildings are united by architectural elements such as these polychromatic Tunisian/Moorish tiles.

"This place was becoming even more and more of a known institution," said Kelsey.

"So the school's always been at the center of the community. When you think about the original township, which is Raymond to Richman, Commonwealth to Chapman, we're kind of situated right in the center, and that's what the Amerige Brothers wanted. They wanted a college, and they wanted it to be in the middle of the city. At that point the campus was about 437 acres; the Quad was about 7 acres, and that's the historic district. But what really makes it unique is that these buildings were partially paid for by the federal government. So, we got PWA/WPA funds, and basically, the government paid for half of each building; the City bought the land. So what we're standing on is really a testament to the New Deal and the ability for the government to help educational facilities."

This Fullerton College Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 10, 2023. When Fullerton College opened in 1913, its student body was composed entirely of Fullerton and nearby town residents. Today, the college now serves students from around Orange County, California, and the United States, as well as a large contingent of international students.