

Fullerton Observer

FULLERTON'S ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWS

Kindness Matters

Over one hundred people turned out for the 2023 Kindness Matters Walk held on Thanksgiving morning, November 23 at the Juanita Cook Trail in Fullerton. Proceeds from the Walk support brain tumor research at a national level, and leadership development opportunities for young adults locally in the Fullerton area.

To date, the foundation has donated more than \$245,563 to brain cancer research organizations and has awarded more than \$252,620 in scholarships to students for their leadership development! www.kmlegacyfdn.org

PHOTO BY PAM KELLER



Will District 5 Get Mayoral Representation at the City Council Meeting on December 5?

by Jack Hutt

Fullerton has a fair rotation policy for selecting the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem (No. 226 in the Policy and Procedures Manual). The policy states, "The Mayor Pro Tem shall automatically become the Mayor after

serving one year at Mayor Pro Tem..." (Note that this also means the Mayor will serve only one one-year term).

The other significant element in this policy is that selection is based on seniority according to the number of years a member has served consecutively on city council without serving as Mayor. By that standard, at the upcoming December 5 meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitaker should become Mayor, and Councilmember Dr. Ahmad Zahra should be selected as Pro Tem.

In fairness, Zahra should have been Pro Tem and Mayor by now. But, as it turns out, this policy is advisory. Three years ago to almost everyone's surprise, the newly elected Councilmember Fred Jung nominated newly-elected Nick Dunlap to be Pro Tem, bypassing sitting members Zahra and Silva and undoing years of effort to establish a fair, ration, and non-political selection process.

In 2021, when Dunlap showed no

interest in being Mayor, Jung was elected to that position, again bypassing Zahra and Silva; and in what was an unprecedented move in recent years, outgoing Mayor Whitaker was selected as Pro Tem, placing him next in line to become Mayor again.

Despite the best efforts of newly-elected Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles to get the council to follow established policy, the council majority (Jung, Whitaker, and Dunlap) were not having it. She pointed out that now that we have districts, the lack of an orderly rotation process denies not only an individual member the right to be Mayor but an entire district the right to equal representation. She pointed out that while the office is mainly ceremonial, it does have some significant powers like agenda setting.

Unswayed, the majority proceeded to re-elect Jung as Mayor and Whitaker as Pro Tem, unprecedented actions in

See Mayoral Representation on pg 14

GAS RANGE RECALL

by U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

The ZLINE 30-inch, 36-inch and 48-inch RG gas range ovens can emit dangerous levels of carbon monoxide (CO) while in use, posing a serious risk of injury or death from carbon monoxide poisoning. On November 21, 2023 nearly 30,000 ranges were recalled.

These ranges were originally recalled in January 2023, and consumers were offered a repair. ZLINE is expanding the remedies available to consumers to also include a replacement range or a refund. All consumers who have an affected range should immediately stop using the oven compartment, even if they have already had their range repaired as part of the prior recall.

Consumers who have received a repair are being contacted directly by ZLINE with additional information and about the offer of an inspection, a replacement range or a refund. Consumers who have not yet scheduled a repair as part of the recall should contact ZLINE for information regarding available remedies. Consumers may continue to use the range tops which are unaffected by the issue.

Consumers should review Protect Your Family from Carbon Monoxide Poisoning | CPSC.gov for more information about preventing carbon monoxide poisoning.

ZLINE toll-free at 833-226-1400 from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, email at rgrecall@zlinekitchen.com or online at www.zlinekitchen.com/recalls.

Find other recalled items at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls>.

Two Pedestrian Fatalities on Brookhurst Road within days of each other

Fullerton Police Officers were dispatched to the area of S. Brookhurst Rd regarding traffic collisions involving automobiles and pedestrians.

The first accident occurred on November 14, a 67-year-old female pedestrian from Fullerton was found in the roadway with traumatic injuries. Two vehicles were involved in the collision with the pedestrian: a blue Nissan Rogue and a black GMC Sierra. Both drivers remained at the scene and were interviewed by Fullerton Police Officers. Fullerton Fire responded to the collision and pronounced the female deceased at the scene.

The initial investigation indicated that the black GMC Sierra, driven by a 36-year-old male resident from Anaheim, was traveling southbound on Brookhurst Rd. At the same time, a blue Nissan Rogue, driven *See Two Fatalities on pg 14*

Clarification on Community Survey Results Percentages

The *Observer* reported on a Community Survey presented to the Council on November 7. While presented as a "Community Survey on Community Priorities," it was mostly about support for potential taxes.

However, the *Observer* did print a list of "top priorities" for potential projects or provisions facing the city.

It should be noted that the data presented only represented the percentages of respondents who ranked an issue as "Extremely Important."

For instance, the top ranking went to repairing streets and

potholes at 58%. Yet another 36 percent rated the issue as "Very Important" or "Somewhat Important," for a grand total of 94% rating the issue as important.

At the other end of the scale, adding more bike lanes was reported as having only 8% support, which was the percent rating the issue "Extremely Important."

While 50% rated this as important and the majority of support was for more bicycle lanes. Sorry for the confusion.

From the Editor, Saskia Kennedy

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FULLERTON
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FULLERTON CA 92834

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(657) 217-0624

Private Sneakers
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(714) 853-1078

Programme Skate & Sound
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(714) 798-7565

Lost Levels Video Game Shop + Arcade
114 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(657) 217-5810

Black Hole Records
115 S Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 449-1788

East West Bikes
206 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 525-2200

GameStop
126 W Orangethorpe Ave, Fullerton
(714) 449-1525

Games Workshop
1018 E Bastanchury Rd, Fullerton
(714) 255-9801

ModelMania
232 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 992-6194

Jewelry

Gilding The Lily
305 N Harbor Blvd #101, Fullerton
(714) 349-2069

Happy Jewelers
1565 S Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 992-0454

Her, Him, & They

Lace and Luck Women's Boutique
142 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 936-2013

Stitch & Feather
122 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(657) 217-5459

All American Military Surplus
2584 Fender Ave suite d, Fullerton
(714) 871-3210

Past Times Collectibles
The Villa Del Sol
305 N Harbor Blvd #120, Fullerton
(714) 870-8013

Allison's Goods
815 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(657) 248-7316

Blick Art Materials
601 N Placentia Ave, Fullerton
(714) 528-8790

Half Off Books
141 W Wilshire Ave # A, Fullerton
(714) 770-0600

Image One Camera & Video
809 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(657) 255-2881

Mo's Fullerton Music
1109 E Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 871-1805

Animal

Centinela Feed & Pet Supplies
218 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 882-3285

Yummers

International and Specialty Foods

The British Grocer
The Villa Del Sol
305 N Harbor Blvd #124, Fullerton
(714) 738-0229

Little India
3167 Yorba Linda Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 223-5874

Daiso
3228 Yorba Linda Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 646-8130

International India Bazaar
717 S Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 870-1242

La Aguila Market
821 E Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 525-8210

Arirang Supermarket
1701 Orangethorpe Ave, Fullerton
(714) 441-2675

Edible Arrangements
223 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 256-2255

Wine Country Gift Baskets
4225 N Palm St, Fullerton
(800) 394-0394

Let it Brie
117 E Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 519-3094

Gem Gourmet Meat & Produce
3125 Yorba Linda Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 996-3363

Vintage

Le Potager
108 W Brookdale Pl, Fullerton
(714) 680-8864

Bargain Box
Assistance League of Fullerton
233 West Amerige Ave, Fullerton
714-526-5124

The Brick Basement Mall
113 N Harbor Blvd Fullerton
(714) 525-3692

Buffalo Exchange Clothing
215 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 870-6855

Mustard Market
415 S Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 400-9059

Stray Cat Vintage Costumes
115 S Harbor Blvd, Fullerton
(714) 738-5680

George's Antiques
201 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 871-4347

Old Things And Blings
509 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 749-0029

Like Mother Like Daughter
523 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 738-3638

Jones' Mercantile
531 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
(714) 879-3501

Thrifty Infinite Boutique
634-700 E Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton | (714) 561-7798

White Rabbit Records
645 S State College Blvd Unit A, Fullerton | (714) 930-7930

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 enti-

ties accountable, so they serve Fullerton in lawful, transparent, and socially responsible ways. We seek to promote a sense of community and an appreciation for the values of diversity with which our country is so blessed.

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- **HOMELESS REPORTER:** Andrew Williams
- **Movie Review:** Joyce Mason
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- **ROVING REPORTER:** Jere Greene
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- **YOUNG OBSERVERS EDITOR:** Francine Vudoti

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Observer Volunteers

Jere Greene started volunteering for the *Observer* over 20 years ago. He is a roving reporter and photographer. He is best known for his database work for emergency services and preparedness for Red Cross and our city.



Rosie began writing the Pet Adoption and Endangered Species Trivia column for the *Young Observer* page over four years ago. She dreams of being the editor one day.
Read Young Observers on pg. 9



Hi! Just wanted to share this thankful tree that's on the corner of Woods/Amerige. It would be awesome if you could spread the word for neighborhood to see. The more leaves the better! Thank you, Carol Dowling Esler



ArtTrippin': A Transformative Journey Through Art, History, & Culture with Dr. Megan Lorraine Debin

Embark on an exhilarating adventure with ArtTrippin', a captivating edutainment series that transcends the boundaries of traditional art exploration. Hosted by Dr. Megan Lorraine Debin, PhD from UCLA, an Art History Professor at Fullerton College, this series promises to go beyond conventional art exploration, uncovering the hidden stories of art, celebrating marginalized artists, and reviving nearly forgotten media and techniques to uncover the untold histories of art. ArtTrippin' with Dr. Megan Lorraine Debin is set to premiere on YouTube starting Spring 2024.

Get ready for an immersive experience that challenges the norms and invites viewers to explore the rich tapestry of art, history, and culture. Watch Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDPWw4YCjgU>

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for keeping us informed!
Marilyn Carlson *Fullerton*

Thank you for your wonderful newspaper that keeps me informed about my community. We are so blessed to have a community newspaper.
Suzy C *Fullerton*

RE: Business owners in Downtown Call for Wilshire to Re:Open

I'm writing to you today as I'd like to bring awareness to the community and ask for help from the community in an effort to reopen Wilshire to vehicle traffic.

As one of the owners of Ziings, my business is being dramatically effected by the closure along with many of the other businesses. Think of the area like one of your legs, without circulation, it's going to die. That's what is happening to our businesses, we've been cut off. People don't drive into the area, they think it's all closed.

I've spoken with the mayor, Fred Jung, he met with us and informed us that he voted against the closure. I've emailed Mr. Dunlap, who also informed me that he voted against the closure.

I've met with the city's economic development department, who couldn't even give me an idea of what the complete vision was for the closure or how it's going to bring people to the area. There's nothing there. Only one business built out a parklet, and my understanding is that no other business is going to build a parklet.

My suggestion would be to reopen it much like Green Street in Pasadena, or Birch Street in Brea, keep the parklets and the street open, this is so Mulberry Street can keep their parklet and return vehicle circulation to the area. I'm not suggesting anything be taken away from anyone. This is a workable compromise to help return customers to the area for the benefit of everyone.

The northern section of downtown can really use your help, please contact your appropriate council member and express your desire to reopen Wilshire. Help revitalize the area!

-Mike Patrick, *Owner of Ziings*

RE: Korean Gardens

I've been thinking about the Korean Garden project at Hillcrest Park since I checked out your article "Korean Garden Project at Hillcrest Park takes first step" -August 17, 2023.

And then I read the update per City Officials: "The site has many deed restrictions on the property that limit the use of the land, and we are required to maintain the existing drought tolerant landscape and other existing improvements. Based on the language on the attached agreement, we will also need to obtain written approval from the state before we can make any changes to the maintenance of the property. The Korean American Federation of Orange County may not move forward with any maintenance efforts until this Memorandum of Understanding has been approved by the City and the State."

I am very confused. Are the Korean Gardens coming to Fullerton or not? Please write an update, so we know what is going on.

I would really love to see Korean Gardens in Fullerton.

Maggie V *Fullerton*

Dear Observer,
Hello! My name is Maureen Hall-Katz. I am a Medical Speech Language Pathologist practicing for 39 years. I have recently opened up a private practice in Fullerton treating adults with communication, cognitive, voice, and swallowing disorders. I have read the *Fullerton Observer* since we moved to Fullerton almost 30 years ago! It is a local gem!

I am interested in providing a column on a specific topic such as "How to communicate with your loved ones who have Dementia."

Maureen Hall-Katz *Fullerton*

RE: Young Observers

Thanks for the continuing high quality reporting on a variety of interesting Fullerton issues. I have enjoyed seeing your young reporters develop into proficient columnists. Keep the good work going.

Joan Oglevie *Fullerton*

Homeless Who Are Children, Seniors, and Battered Women

"I am tired of standing in the rain, in darkness, knowing that there is absolutely no one to call at that hour, knowing that's either me or darkness ... for the wet family standing in front of me.

I'm tired of trying to "rescue" sweet grandmothers, who really should be sitting in a room with their legs up perhaps even knitting or doing sudoku / crossword puzzles watching the adorable "Christmas is Coming" specials on the Hallmark Channel, from "mistakes" like -- "you shouldn't have taken that \$10/night cheaper hotel room on Beach in Anaheim rather than one in Fullerton, because now you've provided the folks in Fullerton an excuse to not to have to help you anymore."

David Gillanders of Pathways talks of "a delta" between applying for and getting assistance. Can't that "delta" be covered with a hotel stay, or even a place to park one's vehicle legally overnight, while one "waits"

The cost of that hotel stay / parking service could be then the incentive to make that "delta" _small_ (the meter would be running ...).

Providing that hotel stay would also serve to make the "delta" smaller because it's nearly impossible to fill out all the needed paperwork if one has no place to sit down to fill them out. There's also no way to get a phone message if one has no place to charge one's phone.

Let's get this done. Or else at minimum, I'll start video-taping these people's testimonies and start sending them to you.

Again, it's quite annoying to be standing in the rain and knowing that "if it's not you, it will be nobody" to help a family that has no place to turn.

Please look into this matter ASAP:
<https://voiceofoc.org/2023/11/kriz-thirty-two-people-died-without-fixed-abode-in-oc-last-month-and-women-families-remain-at-risk/>

AND ABOVE ALL DECLARE AN EMERGENCY IF YOU HAVE TO AND GET

- (1) Every family with small children,
- (2) Every senior (62+)
- (3) Every woman who's suffered domestic violence OFF OF THE STREET.

Fr. Dennis Kriz. OSM *Fullerton*

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 City Hall is located at 303 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton
Contact Council at (714) 738-6311 or council@cityoffullerton.com

Tuesday, November 21 Meeting

UP TRAIL COUNCIL MAJORITY VS RESIDENTS CONTINUES

All council members were present, and the chambers were about a quarter full, with the great majority of residents there to plead once again for the council majority to change their minds and accept the \$1.78 million grant to build Phase II of the Union Pacific Trail. As each person came up to comment, it was evident that the various "reasons" Jung, Whitaker, and Dunlap put forward in denying the greenspace trail were not persuasive.

Brief Recap: Jung and Whitaker said they were looking for a more "comprehensive" plan, while Dunlap - unaware that the city had applied for the greenspace grant years ago - thought Sacramento shouldn't be sending us money to build stuff we didn't ask for. All three seemed to be under the impression that large multi-million projects are accomplished all at once, as evidenced by each stating a dislike for the piecemeal approach.

Later, near the end of the meeting, the 2020 Rail District Specific Plan -

which was commissioned by the city and paid for with a \$200,000 SCAG grant several years ago but never ratified by the council - blew the excuse of having no "comprehensive plan" out of the water. The plan clearly shows the UP Trail. (See item 17 below)

*Especially compelling among the commentators was high school student Juliana Nuncci, who asked the council to please think of the health and well-being of her generation and the generations to come when making decisions for the town. She thanked "all the residents who have come over and over to support the creation of Union Pacific Trail that will help unite our city." That theme was picked up by another resident who conceded that it would take a while for the 176 trees to grow to maturity but that it was important to think of future residents and start now.

Read more of the 17 comments transcribed online at www.fullertonobserver.com.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON OTHER ISSUES

***VETERANS Day:** American Legion Post 142 Commander Marilyn Harris thanked a long list of Fullerton police, fire, and city staff members headed by Jerome Juaquin for their help in getting this year's Veterans Day Celebration together at Hillcrest Park. This year was especially tough due to the high schools dropping out of the parade and ceremony and the death of member and primary event organizer Ed Paul.

Brookhurst accidents: Several residents spoke about two more pedestrians being hit by cars and killed on Brookhurst between Valencia and Orangethorpe.

Curt Johnson said he thought the energy-saving lights were too dim and unsafe. He added that trees around Hunt Library need trimming.

Anjali Tapadia, pointing to various other traffic/pedestrian deaths around town, urged the city to prevent future deaths by investigating why traffic calming measures are needed, why crosswalks are too far apart, not well marked, etc. She said the new road safety policy is critical, "these are not unavoidable accidents - they are infrastructure failures. Our traffic engineers need more support and consistent direction." Speaking of UP Trail, she pointed out that many urban residents don't have front and backyards to play in - so green spaces are even more needed. She asked the council to think about the legacy they were creating and to keep the grant for UP Trail. (Alluding to the prevailing thought that a local developer and campaign donor is swaying the three trail deniers - she said, "We will remember.")

***ACCOUNTING FOR FUNDING For HOMELESS:** Chief among the constant commentators is veteran and former OCTA bus driver Curtis Gamble - a homeless advocate - who, informed by his experience of being homeless for several years - asks for an accounting of the millions of dollars in funding that has been allocated by city,

county, state and federal governments to solve the local homeless problem. He asked to set up tiny homes, set aside a safe overnight parking area, and provide restrooms. He reminds everyone that there are 300 homeless people in Fullerton. He asked how many millions does it take to help that many people? He points out that helping homeless people also helps relieve housed residents and businesses.

(Curtis Gamble and James Mayfield, both homeless at the time, won a 2016 lawsuit against the City of Fullerton for its failure to provide adequate shelters. The Bridges homeless shelter, built with funding from Fullerton and Anaheim, and later the Recuperative Care Shelter operated by Illumination Foundation on Commonwealth, both benefited from the settlement, which required the city to open up zoning for areas where shelters could be located. The city paid a \$475,000 settlement to the Legal Aid Society OC and Western Center on Poverty Law and \$20,000 to each plaintiff.)

***PEDESTRIAN SAFETY & THE TRAIL:** Mr and Mrs Harrison frequently comment on pedestrian accessibility issues. Mr. Harrison railed on the council majority for contemplating a development spanning many years over completing a portion that could be enjoyed immediately and still enhance and be part of a more comprehensive plan. Way to kill a project, just say, "More study needed," - but no more study is needed here.

(The Harrisons live in the notorious Rancho La Paz purchased by mobile home park "investor" John Saunders. Also, a large donor to the campaigns of the council majority, Saunders bought the 55+ mobile home park and raised the space rent so much that many elderly living there had to sell their homes at a loss and move out. Now, there is a constant sign at the entrance to the park advertising homes for rent several times over the once-affordable space rent.)

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Eric Levitt said that the Police Dept and Public Works are studying the accidents on Brookhurst and will be implementing a new grant program called "Safe Streets for All," which is part of the federal government's Vision Zero for that area and around the city.

CM Levitt also gave an update about the UP Park Grant and the council majority's decision to see if the state agency would allow the city to use the grant elsewhere. "We talked with the state. The switch of the money from the trail to the park was not accepted because it is an environmental grant for clean air to plant 176 trees, and the park is not large enough. Moving to other areas in town also doesn't work due to the criteria requiring use in disadvantaged communities.

Jung asked about a recent conversation about approaching the state with the idea of using a portion of the money to open the park and plant the trees that won't fit in the park along the proposed trail. CM Levitt said, "We haven't had an opportunity to do that yet."

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

• **Dr. Shana Charles**, who said she wasn't feeling well (and later tested positive for COVID), thanked all who came to speak. She congratulated the City of Fullerton on accomplishing \$4 Million in energy-saving measures through citywide solar panels, electric car chargers, and more. Charles invited residents to the city's tree and Menorah lighting ceremony at the Downtown plaza on Dec 2 and encouraged people to shop in Fullerton. She thanked Public Works for adding crosswalk flashing lights and asked that red light stop lights controlled by pedestrians (used successfully in LA) be considered for problem areas in towns such as Brookhurst. She asked to agendize a gun safety storage ordinance that Moms Demand Action and 76% of gun owners support - Ahmad Zahra agreed. She noted that a new Fullerton Community Foundation accepts donations to help with local causes. Charles brought up that two police officers were hit by a drunk driver on the 57 and are in hospital in critical condition. She offered condolences to Pam Keller and her family on the sudden passing of her husband, John.

(Pam Keller, as a council member years ago, was prevented by then fellow members from her turn as Mayor. The fair rotation system was devised after that, in which each elected council member received a turn to serve in the honorary position of Mayor. Unfortunately, the current council majority has disregarded fair rotation twice so far).

• **Nick Dunlap** thanked those who came to speak and then talked about the UC Bruins vs. UC Trojans game he took his two daughters to and explained to them how important the game was.

• **Dr. Ahmad Zahra** thanked everyone who came to the council to speak. It takes a lot to get up and speak. We were at the Veterans Day Ceremony. Those veterans fought for this privilege of free speech, which is unavailable in many countries. He gave a shout-out to

the high school student Juliana Nuncci for speaking up. "This is the next generation of leaders in our country and should be encouraged." As an immigrant from a country that does not allow dissent, he said, "We have to be better than that."

Zahra asked that the UP Trail be again agendized "because there has been a lot of behind-the-scenes back and forth that needs to come out into the open. We should be listening to the community and not searching for loopholes." His motion to agendize was seconded by Charles and applauded by the audience in chambers.

He also spoke about current grant opportunities for energy savings and micro-bus mobility programs and asked that it be agendized for early 2024. "CSUF is a willing partner in better public transportation." Charles seconded the motion. He asked when the park dwelling fee issue would return to the council. He thanked Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez and Library Director Judy Booth for a tour of the Hunt Library and said it was amazing. He invited everyone to Sunrise Rotary Park clean up at Truslow Park on Dec 9.

Zahra also asked that "the meeting be closed with a moment of silence in honor of John Keller, a wonderful human being."

• **Bruce Whitaker** asked Director Bise why there is a recurring problem on westbound Orangethorpe involving a wavy strip of asphalt with deep impressions. Director Bise said it was the first time he had heard of that and he would take a look.

A second concern involved a public commentator of Korean descent who charged Whitaker with making a racist statement. (The statement - made by Whitaker several meetings ago during a discussion of the rise in AAPI hate crimes - was that "Asians are good at math and science and raise scholastic averages."). Fred Jung told Whitaker, "I'm pretty sure that was commentary towards me, not you."

How to contact your District Representative

• District 5: Dr. Ahmad Zahra
(714) 738-6311

AhmadZ@cityoffullerton.com

• District 2: Nick Dunlap
(714) 738-6311

nicholas.dunlap@cityoffullerton.com

• District 3: Dr. Shana Charles
(714) 738-6311

shana.charles@cityoffullerton.com

Mayor

• District 1: Fred Jung
(714) 738-6311

fred.jung@cityoffullerton.com

Mayor Pro Tem

• District 4: Bruce Whitaker
(714) 981-8474

bwhitaker@live.com

PUBLIC HEARINGS ITEMS 16 AND 19

Item 16: Agreement with Falck Mobile Health Corp for Emergency Ambulance Services

Mayor Jung left to the back room saying he had to recuse himself. Councilmember Zahra asked Jung to explain the reason for the recusal. He said that he had received a campaign contribution from Falck in December (too close to the first vote on this item according to the new campaign rules that prohibit a candidate from voting on an issue within three months of a contribution). Thus, the item was returned for a second vote. Jung removed himself from the dais.

Fire Deputy Mike Meecham presented and recommended Falck, the new company that took over Care Ambulance -partnered with the city for the last 20 years. The new three-year contract with Falck includes re-branding the ambulances with the City of Fullerton name and City Seal and adding a fourth ambulance, which is expected to improve response times by 12% on average.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEM 16

Zee and Jane Rands questioned how the ambulance service generates \$9 million annually in profit, as shown on one presentation slide. "Is that coming out of our pocket?"

Curtis Gamble said that while he was homeless for 7 years, he called the paramedics often, but now that he has had a home for 7 years, he hasn't called them once. His point, which appeared to be lost on Mayor Protem Whitaker, who hurried him along, was that calls would go down if the city could house its 300-person homeless population in a centralized location. The strain and expense on the paramedic services would be less.

City Analyst Andrew Yang said that you are billed for the services if you are transported to the hospital. Most

billing (60%) goes through medical, medicare, or Medicaid, with the rest through personal insurance. The \$9.6 million is over two years. The current maximum rate for ambulance transport is \$1,932. Ambulance transportation is not part of the paramedic subscription fee residents pay annually on their water bill (or separately if they don't pay the annual fee but use the paramedics).

CM Levitt clarified that the County of Orange set the ambulance charge for all the cities.

Passed (4-1 Jung, recused)

Item 17: Rail District Specific Plan Update was received and filed.

Director Sue Thomas presented the update on the 35-acre area south of the tracks from Harbor to Independence Park, between Truslow and Walnut. The plan intended to transform the industrial area into a new mixed-use residential and commercial with ground-floor retail, restaurants, marketplaces, low to medium-density housing, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the Rail Right of Way and Union Pacific Trail. The plan was completed but not adopted and is being looked at again.

In true "Who's on First" fashion, both Whitaker and Dunlap seemed to think that this comprehensive plan was proof that there was no comprehensive plan and that allowing UP Trail to go forward would put a wrench in the plan even though the plan included UP Trail.

(Possibly connected is that months after the plan was completed, in early 2021, the city council majority of Jung, Whitaker, and Dunlap fired experienced City Manager Ken Domer without reason and hired Steve Danley, who, with zero experience or qualifications, proved to be a disaster and set off the grand exodus of experienced qualified employees with institutional knowledge).

Item 18: Street Light Pilot Program Update was received & filed

Public Works Director Steven Bise gave a presentation on the good, bad, and ugly of the city's dated street lighting system. He laid out three options -

1) SCE takes ownership - installs wood poles with overhead wiring or concrete pole pilot program expansion;

2) The city replaces the entire system at about \$35 million;

3) Install solar fixtures on existing poles. (Noting that trees could be an issue in many areas). Several pilot solar light programs have operated well for the past 4 years at the post office on Chapman Ave, in the Baker area, and more recently in the Rolling Hills area, where solar fixtures were installed on 25 poles in 2022.

Funding options for replacing and/or converting old systems include:

•Dept of Energy grants (\$180,000 recently awarded).

•Bond financing provides \$10-\$12 Million and requires a 12-15 year repayment plan.

•SCE LS-1 Option E program to replace 600 SCE-owned HPS (high-pressure sodium) luminaries with LED luminaries.

Questions from the council clarified that the historic Hillcrest neighborhood light fixtures are not being replaced, that the temperature, color, and light produced by the newer LED are equivalent to old HPS, and that the current Richman and Woodcrest outages have been remedied.

The Orangethorpe outage is still being worked on, and SCE is waiting on its new transformer, which has an unknown completion date. A webpage is available for updates on the Public Works section of the city website. Director Bise said the SCE conversion with zero cost to the city is beneficial. As companies discontinue transformers for the older systems, we expect it will become a larger problem. It does

come down to funding. There is no rating system similar to roads.

"We do tackle the most problematical areas first," Bise said.

Item 19: Union Pacific Park Plan

Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez presented the design of the UP Park, which was created by staff based on surveys and approval of a task force of neighbors and representatives selected by each council member in 2021. She presented a short history of the park, which included the extensive clean-up ordered by the CA Department of Toxic Substance Control completed in 2014. The park has been closed to the public behind a chainlink fence ever since.

The new design includes playground equipment, community gardens, a picnic area, outdoor exercise equipment, pickle balls, and basketball courts. The courts would be fenced off and closed to the public during certain hours to lessen the impact of noise levels. Parking areas surround the park. No restrooms or drinking fountains are included in the design.

The cost to complete the improvements ranges between \$3.5 to \$4.5 Million. The Parks & Rec Committee approved the design concept. Funding options include grants (though the recent attempt to switch the UP Trail Grant to the park was unsuccessful). Approved 4-1 (Whitaker, abstained)

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS 303 W. COMMONWEALTH

- December 04 at 4pm: Transportation & Circulation
December 05 at 5:30pm: City Council
December 06 at 6:30pm: Planning Commission
December 11 at 6:30pm: Parks & Rec Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items are grouped and passed in one vote unless pulled.

Charles pulled Items 5, Zahra pulled Items 8 & 9 for more discussion, and Item 13 was pulled by Dunlap and Whitaker to register their No votes on a \$58,500 agreement with the Lew Edwards Group for services to gather community interest in a ballot measure for a general or special purpose sales tax.

Item 5: Opioid Litigation Settlement Distribution: Charles asked staff how the \$3.1 million (over 18 years) was to be used. The next installment of \$158,508 will be transferred in January 2024 from county control to city control. Staff explained that, at present, there are no programs in place.

Charles suggested several that could be implemented, such as Naloxone education, and CSUF has programs in place. More settlements are coming and can only be used for opioid prevention, education, abatement, and treatment.

Item 8: Outdoor Equity Grants Program: Zahra said the public should be informed that there is a round two of grant funding to enable underserved Fullerton youth to participate in outdoor experiences at state parks and other public lands for up to three years.

Richman Park was selected for the first round grant of \$204,555 which runs thru March 2027. Lemon Park has been selected for the second round grant. Item 8 ensures that the city will apply and, if awarded, will run the program, which requires no city matching funds.

Item 9: Caltrans Clean California Transit Grant Award: Zahra said residents should hear the good news that staff applied for and received a \$799,000 grant to rehab and beautify the Fullerton Transit Station area.

Economic Director Sunaya Thomas made a short presentation on the impact expected. The Fullerton Station scored highest on the OCTA maintenance and repair needs among all stations in the county. The station is one of the busiest in the region, served 13,300 more Amtrak riders in 2023 than Anaheim's ARTIC Train Station, and had over 300,000 Metrolink boardings.

How the grant money will be used:

- \$68,500 for bike lane re-stripping and racks
\$135,905 for green space landscaping and art including a Fullerton history mural
\$251,450 for Depot & Pedestrian bridge rehab
\$343,175 for signage and branding including a focus on directing visitors to points of interest around town.

No matching grant was required. Dec. 2024 is the deadline for all improvements.



Los Angeles to Anaheim Project Section HSR Intermediate Station Option Fullerton Information Session December 14, 2023

Join us at the upcoming In-Person Information Session

Thursday, December 14, 2023 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will be conducted in English, Spanish, Korean, Tagalog and American Sign Language (ASL).



The California High-Speed Rail Authority's (Authority) Los Angeles to Anaheim (LA-A) Project Section is reaching a new milestone in the environmental process and is moving closer to connecting Los Angeles and Anaheim to the Central Valley and San Francisco with a one-seat high-speed train ride. The Authority is committed to environmentally clearing the LA-A Project Section by late 2025.

This approximately 33-mile section connects Los Angeles Union Station (LAUS) to the Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center (ARTIC) using the existing passenger and freight rail corridor. The Authority recently released a Supplemental Alternatives Analysis (SAA) identifying a new build alternative, the Shared Passenger Track Alternative to be studied within the environmental document. This alternative is largely similar to the 2018 High-Speed Rail (HSR) Project Alternative but includes some changes, such as a potential reduction in train operating frequency, and considering either one or no intermediate HSR stations in Fullerton.

For more information and to access the SAA, please visit the LA-A Project Section web page at https://bit.ly/3tRDPnk.

Join us at the upcoming in-person information session to learn more about the possible intermediate HSR station option being evaluated in Fullerton and provide input.

Thursday, December 14, 2023 | 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Fullerton Community Center, Grand Hall | 340 W. Commonwealth Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832

LANGUAGES AND OTHER NEEDS

All requests for reasonable accommodations and/or language services must be made three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date by calling (877) 669-0494.

Todas las solicitudes de adaptaciones razonables y/o servicios lingüísticos deben realizarse tres días hábiles (72 horas) antes de la fecha programada para la reunión llamando al (877) 669-0494.

所有合理住宿和/或语言服务的请求必须在预定会议日期前三个工作日(72小时)致电(877) 669-0494提出。

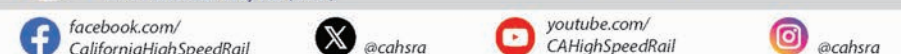
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Tất cả các yêu cầu cho các tiện nghi hợp lý và/hoặc dịch vụ ngôn ngữ phải được thực hiện trước ba ngày làm việc (72 giờ) trước ngày họp đã được sắp xếp bằng cách gọi số (877) 669-0494.

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The environmental review, consultation and other actions required by the applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being or have been carried out by the State of California pursuant to 23 U.S. Code 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated July 23, 2019 and executed by the Federal Railroad Administration and the State of California. Under that MOU, the Authority is the project's lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).





The Charleston

The very tall gentleman with flowing white hair and a cowboy hat was taking in the room. He looked overwhelmed, so I went over and asked him what was up. This would be our first "Imperial Ball," a NAMM Convention industry party sponsored by Duesenberg Guitars. It seemed the right name since it was dubbed the Imperial Ballroom, above the upscale Commonwealth. The cowpoke told me he just realized he had been in the ballroom long ago. The band he played in needed some electric guitars, so they came to see Leo Fender. Leo said he could help them, but they needed to play some songs, so they obliged. The band was Buddy Holly and the Crickets.

We finally got the chance to check out the complete transformation in person during "An Evening At The Charleston" event on Friday, November 17th. Summer was the tour

host, and it was obvious how excited she, Larry, John, and the various staff members were to show the place off for several Fullerton Loves Food fans. If you still don't know about it, that Facebook page is inhabited by locals who have discovered a new place or dish or want to tell everyone about a great experience they just had at their favorite Fullerton restaurant. You can go there and ask where to get a particular food item, too, and there are always several replies to guide you.

After seeing the transformation, it was hard to imagine this was the same place where our event had occurred every January for many years. We mentioned that Kenny Loggins played one of our events (yes, of course, he did "Footloose"), and everyone on the tour also learned that Fats Domino played the ballroom.



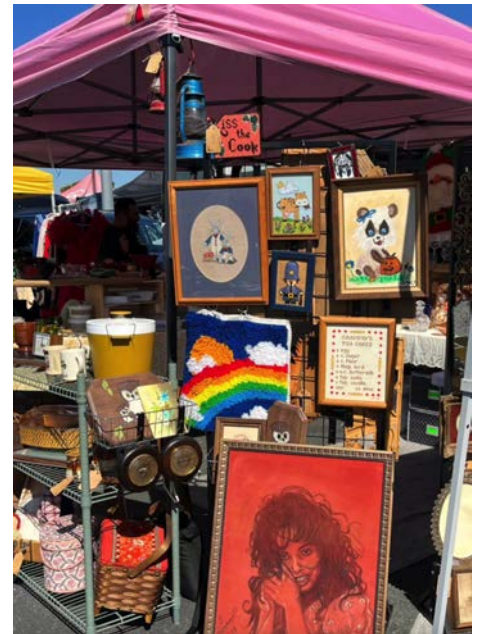
Darri, Pat, and Nancy get festive at the Charleston



It's All Here

A certain phrase oft-mentioned here means everything this holiday shopping season as many of our small businesses are still struggling to recover from the down COVID years coupled with the high rents mentioned in our last issue, plus intense competition from easy online shopping. If we don't make a point of supporting our local merchants, they will fade away. That's why Small Business Saturdays are crucial for our town and all other towns that think the in-person shopping experience is worth the effort. It's even fun, and you get to see actual humans in person.

On Saturday, November 25th, things also kicked off with the "Fullerton Flea," and many of our local shops had a good first round of Holiday shoppers. By now, you have caught on- SHOP FULLERTON FIRST. It's good for everyone, including you, and why not purchase something for yourself while you rediscover the many shops downtown and all over Fullerton?



Downtown in a Pickle?

Development of the Union Pacific Park was outlined in the early November Observer. Updated info regarding design elements included a playground, swings, a walking trail, a community garden, outdoor exercise equipment, and basketball and pickleball courts. Over 3 million American enthusiasts are estimated to have picked up the fastest-growing sport today. So, will the pickleball courts be excised?

There are eight places to play in Fullerton, including the Community Center, Community Park on West Wilshire, and the Sports Complex. Some other parks also have courts, but with so many local players, it seemed



another park to have fun with friends while getting some exercise was a no-brainer. It's an inexpensive all-ages sport; one does not have to be a super athlete to try their hand at something that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping pong- games almost all of us have played at one time or another. Why would there be an issue at Union Pacific Park on Truslow?

At the Tuesday City Council meeting, we found out that the park plan passed 4 to 1 (Whitaker abstained).

Photo Quiz

Send answer to Mike at AllMedia@sbcglobal.net



This time: Where is this, and what the heck is going on?



Last time: Steve was the first to recognize the screen at Amerige Park that keeps baseballs from leaving the park

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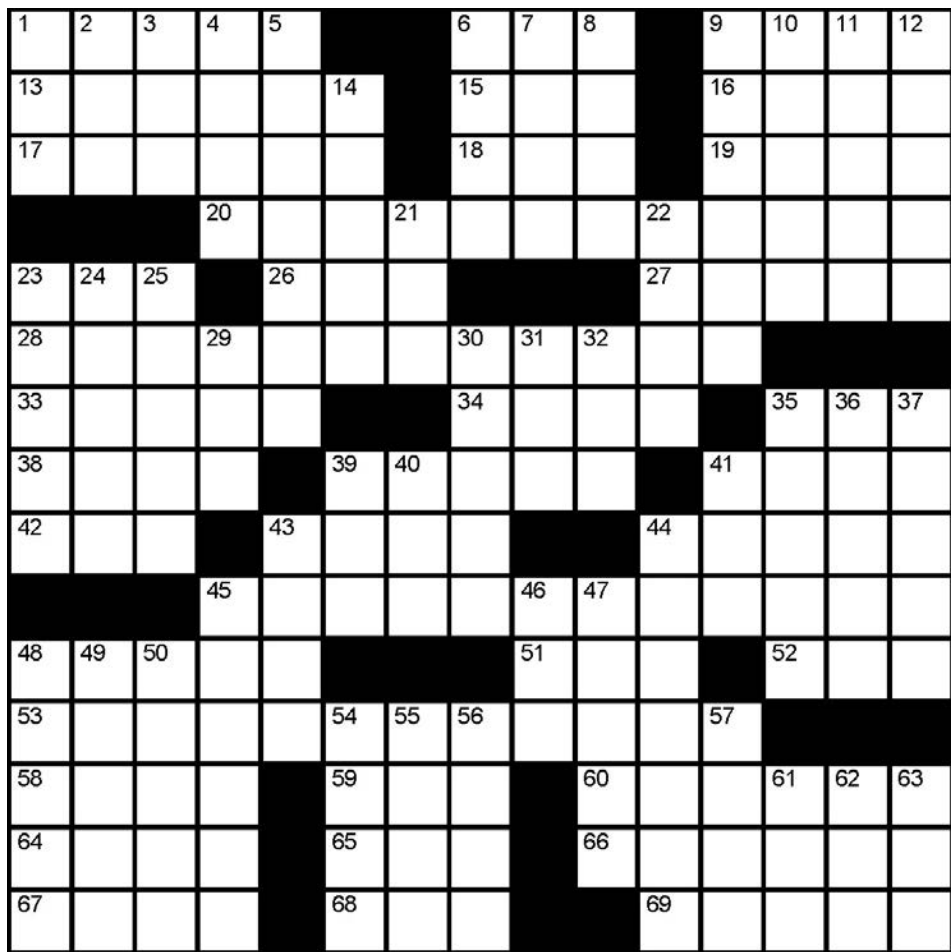
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OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2023

"OUCH" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 19)



ACROSS

- 1. Pried (into)
- 6. King topper
- 9. Moves like a bunny
- 13. Proverbial blushers
- 15. Buddy
- 16. Basic util.
- 17. Sudden
- 18. "Girls" singer Rita
- 19. Water barrier
- 20. *1942 hit for trumpeter Harry James
- 23. Poseidon's domain
- 26. Western treaty grp.
- 27. Under attack
- 28. *Pleading gaze
- 33. Saudis, e.g.
- 34. Ron Darling was one
- 35. F.B.I. employee: Abbr.
- 38. Atmospheric pressure unit
- 39. Pig ____
- 41. Miss ____ (err onstage)
- 42. "C' ____ la vie!"
- 43. First-class
- 44. Chef Ducasse
- 45. *Ford models until 2005
- 48. Sitcom set in a H.S. science class
- 51. ____ Grande
- 52. Sandra of "Gidget"
- 53. Bruised, and words that can start the ends of the starred answers
- 58. Kennel cry
- 59. ____ tai
- 60. Scoundrels
- 64. About, on a memo
- 65. 007 creator Fleming
- 66. Unpopular Fords of the late 1950s
- 67. Dawn direction
- 68. Brian of Roxy Music
- 69. ____ motion (begin)

DOWN

- 1. Lakers' org.
- 2. Sun or moon
- 3. "Aaron Burr, ____" (song from "Hamilton")
- 4. Univ. endings, electronically
- 5. Positions (troops)
- 6. Per person
- 7. Actor Grant
- 8. Airline to Tel Aviv
- 9. Plays it safe, with 22-Down
- 10. Hodgepodes
- 11. Twinings product
- 12. Bloodhound's trail
- 14. Lieu
- 21. Pamplona pronoun
- 22. See 9-Down
- 23. Outpouring
- 24. Capital of France
- 25. Not together
- 29. Brew with hipster cred
- 30. Like some communities
- 31. Brit. record label
- 32. Hankering
- 35. "Pick ____" (magician's command)
- 36. Lead
- 37. It may be imperfect
- 39. Baseball's Brock
- 40. Raggedy doll
- 41. "When We Were Kings" subject
- 43. "Oh, I got it now"
- 44. Teems
- 45. ____ to Ride (board game)
- 46. Tarzan creator's monogram
- 47. Poet Rainer Maria ____
- 48. Hoffman of the Chicago Seven
- 49. Something to try first
- 50. Actress Roseanne and Attorney General William
- 54. Bordeaux bestie
- 55. Indian bread
- 56. The Flintstones' pet
- 57. Alleviate
- 61. Nov. honoree
- 62. Inventor Whitney
- 63. "Last four digits" ID

THANK YOU!

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The Mid-December issue will be on stands December 11.

Deadline for writers & ad submissions is December 04.

Volunteers send resumé to ads@fullertonobserver.com



Over the Moon Gallery is an online art gallery featuring works from a variety of artists. Some featured artists E. E. Jacks, Teri Gammalo, Marie Lavallee, Leslie Lambert, Shaney Watters, Lauralyn Eschner, Kate Jarvik Birch, Bob Hogue

Art Talk with Over the Moon

by Jane Ouweleen and Carol Van Ahlers of OverTheMoonGallery.com

Gift Art for the Holidays

"Art is a personal gift that changes the recipient.

The medium doesn't matter. The intent does." - Seth Godin, author/educator.

Here come the holidays! Many cultures honor this time of year with celebrations that include exchanging gifts, and gift-giving is sometimes seen as an expression of how much we value our relationships with family and friends.

For some of us, a bit of gift-giving anxiety comes as a result. The effort to select a distinctive and heartfelt present can be difficult. We live in a commercial world filled with mass-produced 'stuff,' so where do we look for a one-of-a-kind gift?

Here's a suggestion to solve your dilemma. Find an original piece of art. Even for the person who has everything, artwork makes a fantastic gift. It's personal and shows you've put thought into your choice.

Purchasing original art can be pleasurable and satisfying. You may be surprised at your skill as a curator. How often have you seen a piece of art and thought, "How perfect for...?" Few gifts are more memorable, and choosing art for someone special is a beautiful way to show how much they mean to you.

There are other benefits to gifting art. When you purchase original art for someone special, you offer a gift to the recipient and the artist whose work you've supported. Being a working artist and producing original art in a competitive world is challenging. Purchasing their art allows them to continue creating and sharing their talent for all of us to enjoy.

We are fortunate to have a strong art community in Fullerton. There are plenty of opportunities to seek out a diverse selection of art. Where do you start? Here are a few ideas.

Artwalks - There are opportunities before the end of the year for artwalks. Fullerton's art walk is on the first Friday of each month (Dec 1) from 6-9

pm. Several venues participate; a list and map can be found at the Fullerton Museum. Permanent Art Walk participants are • Blanquel's Popular Art -109 S Harbor Blvd; • Fullerton Museum - 301 N Pomona Ave; • Modelmania - 232 W Commonwealth Ave.

Santa Ana's art walk will be on Saturday, Dec 2. Check online for other art walks in the Orange County area.

Museum Stores - The Fullerton Museum store has an excellent selection of art. The gift store is free and open to the public. Other Art Museum gift shops: • Brea Civic and Cultural Center -1 Civic Center Cir, Brea, (714) 990-7731 • Bowers Museum in Santa Ana -2002 N Main St, Santa Ana; •Children's Museum -301 S. Euclid St, La Habra, (562) 905-9793 • Laguna Art Museum -307 Cliff Dr, Laguna Beach, (949) 494-8971; • OCMA - 3333 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa, (714) 780-2130; • Pretend City -29 Hubble, Irvine, (949) 428-3900

Community Art Fairs - Orange County has several upcoming holiday shows and exhibits. They advertise online and locally.

Art Galleries - Traditional galleries are another source of original art. •Hanks Gallery -2501 E Chapman Ave, Ste 235, Fullerton, (310)430-2313

Online Galleries - Online purchasing of art has recently become a familiar experience to many. Online galleries provide curated art with descriptions of the art, genre, and artist accompanied by clear and detailed photographs.

Have fun selecting your gifts! When your friend or family member displays their new art piece, they'll be reminded of you each time they see it. Art can symbolize the bond you share and a gift that lasts well beyond the life of a fruitcake!

Over the Moon Gallery

Gift Art for the Holidays

We are an online gallery featuring

Original art - Local artists

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Special 10% discount
with code **HOLIDAY10**



Clay

by Morgan Faith, high school student

Malverice Academy had been officially closed for thirteen days, and the following morning, it would finally be reopened. Hugo Reymond was the only student at Malverice who was eager for the weeks of systematic and prolonged school days to return.

He'd spent winter break doing the opposite of what it was intended for. Instead of unwinding his chaotic and messy adolescent consciousness, he did his very best to pick up any part-time job willing to hire him and use whatever currency he made to pay for his dorm, feed his three Persian cats, and print out awareness fliers for the journalism club he ran.

Even as the last hours of break began slipping away, he found himself marching up and past Malverice's open gates towards the three-storied structure where he'd applied for the last job he'd take before school began. Halfway through his walk down the courtyard, it began to sprinkle, and by the time he'd reached the Academy entrance, he was dripping wet. Water rolled down his back to a puddle around his nice dress shoes.

"Honestly! Did it have to start raining now?," he whispered, rustling moisture from his loose curls. Rain spilled down the sharp bridge of his nose and across his high cheekbones.

He, unwillingly, hadn't entered the academy in two weeks. Students had been instructed not to step foot on the grounds, so they couldn't muddle up any remodeling, gardening, or painting the school may have done. But this was an exception.

Hugo stuffed a hand into his pocket and pulled a neatly folded paper free. He opened it. 'Art models needed! Payment will be rewarded accordingly!' was written at the top, and under that, 'Malverice Academy Students only.'

His heart skipped a beat as a shadow began painting itself across the flier he held. His eyes snapped upwards and instantly fell on a woman waiting on the other side of the glass door. He stepped backward, nearly tripping down the stairs.

The woman wore the typical Malverice professor uniform, except she wore an apron over hers, streaked

with what looked to be dried paint. She looked to Hugo with squinted sage-green eyes as though unable to see him properly through the glass.

Hugo exhaled the sudden fright away and quickly stepped up to the doors, raising the flier for her to observe.

"I have an appointment for today for the model opportunity! I'm here so the artist who made this flier can paint me?"

The woman behind the glass nodded, and a giant smile broke across her mouth. A key was brought from her apron and pushed into the door's lock. A moment later, Hugo was welcomed inside.

Hugo finished making himself presentable and turned to the lady. She seemed to be in her early thirties, with fair skin that appeared to shimmer against her brow of fire-red locks.

"You must be the new art club professor! During winter break, I heard they had hired someone to take over Miss Dahlia's position after she unexpectedly resigned."

The woman smiled again, her face faded by the shadow of the spontaneous stormy weather outside.

"Yes, I'm the art professor. I made the..." She paused, gesturing to the flier Hugo still held in his hand. "I made the flier so I could make art of some students for the club members."

Hugo smiled, nodding his head and outstretching a hand.

"That sounds like a good idea. I'm Hugo Reymond. I run the journalism club, am captain of the finance committee, and lead spokesperson on the student body board."

Nothing made Hugo happier than getting the opportunity to introduce himself to a new professor at Malverice. It was an appropriate excuse to list his many outstanding achievements without seeming boastful. Not that being cocky was his intention so much as wishing for what respect he felt he deserved.

"This way. I will take you to my classroom."

Hugo stood staring with his hand still outstretched. He chuckled awkwardly, sliding the uneasy hand through his hair before dashing after the woman who was already halfway up the stair.

"Do you like art?" She asked, her sharp face looking down upon Hugo as

he attempted to reach the landing she'd managed to achieve so quickly.

"I suppose," He replied, huffing shallowly. "I'll admit I'm primarily here for the payment rather than the chance to make my debut in modeling."

The woman's sweet smile fell slowly, her brows becoming furrowed as she started up another staircase.

At last, the classroom in question came into sight. Its door was littered with fliers, much like the one Hugo had received, except these had names written along the side with a single check mark following. It seemed as though he wasn't the first to take the job.

"After you." The woman gave him a pleasant smile, held the door, and gestured for him to enter the room.

As he did, he instantly took to inspecting the space. It was absolutely buried in sculptures: gray, black, gold, and beige, all in various poses and stances. And each one was delicately designed and posted in the room so that they all complimented the next like a cohesive puzzle. If you were to look from a bird's eye view, he was sure it'd look like one perfect painting with only a handful of barren spaces for future work.

"Miss, this is incredible!" Hugo had to admit the impressiveness as he entered the room further to inspect the pieces of work more closely. He was awed by the attention to detail reflecting such realism.

Hugo smiled wide. Was he going to be the latest piece of this collection? Would his face be the next gorgeous product of the woman's artistic hands? He'd never been so excited to complete a job; he may not even accept the payment she offered him.

"I must say I'm looking forward to this!" Hugo grinned, resting a hand on the nearest art piece to feel the rough stone.

"I'm very excited to make you into one of these as well," The woman's voice sang from somewhere within the maze of sculptures. "Where should we begin?"

"How about my face?" Hugo smiled, clasping readied hands together in glee.

"I couldn't agree more," the woman said. At last she came into sight as she held a small towel up to Hugo's face.



Sometime later . . .

Sun bloomed between the pleasant clouds above Malverice Learning Center. It was a warm afternoon, and her students were finally filtering through the narrow doorway of her art history class, one by one entering the space and going about their way to find the most adequate of seating options.

"Hurry, students!" She called, gesturing for them to quicken their pleasant paces and settle down.

"I'm glad everyone made it this morning because we have a very exciting announcement!" She said with broad outstretched hands, luminous red hair rolling past her shoulders.

"The art club has finally reopened their application opportunity for students to model for them! This hasn't happened in quite some time, so let's give them a huge applause!"

The room erupted with cheers and enthusiastic chatter. The adolescents always looked forward to the opportunity to make their faces permanent. It was thrilling to picture the idea of going down in time as a stone figure the art club chose as their representative model. He should know.

He'd been the same way and paid for it by sitting on the classroom's shelf as no more than a concrete bust for decades, forced to spectate each time the 'art club' reopened, and kids began to go missing. He had to watch his creator, in her red crown of glory, smile at her future prey under the guise of a modest school teacher.

So Hugo Reymond remains on the classroom's shelves forever, stone-glazed eyes keeping watch over every student who obliviously roamed past the classroom doors as he had so foolishly done many years ago.

Would his face be the next gorgeous product of the woman's artistic hands?

The Dental Corner: Better Oral Health

Here's one of the best tools for better oral health: water!

Water reduces the accumulation of sticky plaque that builds up over the course of a day. Reducing plaque helps avoid cavities and gum disease.

After a meal, there is always leftover food residue (sugars and starchy carbs, especially). Bacteria consume those leftovers and create sticky plaque. By evening, our teeth no longer feel nice and smooth.

So, how can water help? After a meal, vigorous swishing with water can expel a lot of those pesky leftovers. It's especially helpful earlier in the day and a simple habit anyone can do!



Drinking and rinsing with water immediately after consuming any beverage is also helpful. Most beverages are sugary or acidic (or both). Water dilutes the amount of leftover sugar and the level of acidity in your mouth. As a bonus, it can also slow down the staining effects of coffee and tea.

Lastly, we want to maintain a good salivary flow. When our mouths dry out, plaque accumulates more quickly, and their effects become pronounced. Proper hydration helps keep our mouths moist, which helps protect our oral health. Water is your ally, so stay hydrated, folks!

Eric Kim, DMD: Family Dentistry
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Join the Fullerton School District Before & After School Programs for 2023/24

Educational Services is pleased to offer two expanded learning programs within Fullerton School District that provide quality expanded learning opportunities for the Fullerton community and surrounding areas.

Encore: ASES is an afterschool program that is grant-funded by the CA Department of Education, Expanded Learning Division, and is at no cost to families. We focus on providing enrichment experiences to students while also following the guidelines of the After-School Education and Safety Expanded Learning Program (ASES).

Offered to the following school sites: Commonwealth, Ladera Vista, Maple, Nicolas, Orangethorpe, Pacific Drive, Raymond, Richman, Valencia Park, and Woodcrest.

For more information, please call the Child Development Services office at 714-447-7477.

The LAB Before and After School Program is a fee-based program, which charges monthly tuition, offered by the Child Development Services Department at the following sites: Acacia, Beechwood, Fern Drive, Fisler, Golden Hill, Hermosa, Laguna Road, Rolling Hills, and Sunset Lane.

For more information please call the Child Development Services office at 714-447-7477.



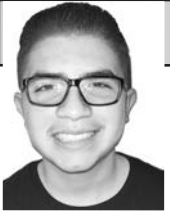
What's Trending? by Irene, 12th grade

Inside Out 2: An Emotional Rollercoaster

According to *Variety* magazine, Pixar announced its upcoming film, *Inside Out 2*, in a November 9 teaser, which has since gained over 157 million views, making it the biggest animated trailer launch in Disney history. Ahead of its June 14, 2024, theater debut, the internet's obsession with the film proves promising and hints at a bright future for the movie's success. Unique to the 2015 prequel, the next film installment of the *Inside Out* consists of new emotions, including Anxiety, Envy, Embarrassment, and Ennui. With a particular focus on Anxiety — voiced by actress and singer-songwriter Maya

Hawke — fans anticipate the film's exploration of now-13-year-old Riley's struggles with navigating adolescence.

As a teenager myself, I'm curious to see how Pixar and Disney will harness shared human emotions and the struggles of identity and transition — all too familiar experiences. Beyond their undeniable excellence in animation, if there's one thing that these entertainment powerhouses have mastered, they can unpack coming-of-age themes. The cultural impact of the *Inside Out* series, coupled with its massive online presence, sets lofty expectations for the upcoming film.



National Observance by Mateo, 10th grade

Cyber Monday: What's the Deal?

As technology advances in our society, it continues to impress us with its seemingly endless capabilities and futuristic developments that significantly improve our quality of life. The shopping industry is one of the industries most impacted by such technological advancements. Instead of driving to the grocery store to pick up the dinner ingredients or walking to your local Macy's in search of new clothes, you can have anything delivered straight to your front door with the click of a button. This innovation significantly changed the standard for shopping, as proven by the 1.6 million packages delivered to homes around the world by Amazon per day. To promote the usefulness of online shopping, Americans from all parts of the country celebrate Cyber Monday each year on the first Monday after Thanksgiving, which just so happens to be November 27.

The online equivalent of Black Friday, Cyber Monday is a shopper's paradise as many online stores and websites sell their products at incredibly cheap prices on their web pages. The event was originally conceived in 2005 by the National Retail Federation (NRF) senior vice president, Ellen Davis. The NRF conducted a study revealing that one of the largest shopping days for Americans was the Monday after Thanksgiving. As a result, the NRF created this observance to add to the many sales and profits made on this day.

Due to the slow internet back in the mid-2000s, Cyber Monday took a while to grow in popularity. Online shopping was intriguing at the time, but it was not preferred over in-store shopping just yet due to the slow connection of the underdeveloped web at the time. However, cyber Monday sales skyrocketed once internet speeds became more convenient for online shopping and other online resources. Last year, Americans spent over \$11 billion on online retailers during Cyber Monday, making it the biggest spending day in U.S. history. Cyber Monday has truly transformed the shopping industry by promoting a more efficient way to shop.

What can you do to celebrate Cyber Monday? Take advantage of the fresh new deals, of course! Most retailers will put most, if not all, of their products on sale at absurdly low prices for the day, so make sure to pounce on these deals before they disappear. Remember to be responsible with your money and be mindful of what you purchase. It can be easy to lose yourself in the vast ocean of deals and sales, so it is important to stay aware of how you spend your hard-earned money. Finally, take some time to admire and appreciate the complex technology that allows you to shop online. This unique benefit of technology has greatly impacted our lives for the better, and Cyber Monday is the perfect time to express your gratitude for this incredible development.



College Preparation

by Francine, 12th grade

Now is the Time to Apply to Free Pre-College Summer Programs

As a high school junior last year, I envisioned experiencing college life through a pre-college summer program. It would be a good addition to my college preparation. One thing I have learned about summer programs is that the application typically opens around fall with most application deadlines due after the new year and throughout winter. If you only start searching for summer programs by March or May, that would be too late because most applications have closed by then.

Before I could start checking out summer programs, I received an invite in October last year from Stanford University to submit an Early Decision application to their 8-week pre-college summer residential program due Nov 1st. I got the invite because I once attended their online summer course Introduction to Computer Science during the COVID lockdown and submitted my score in AP Computer Science Principles a year later.

I received their offer of admission by Dec 15th, but the tuition was way beyond what I could afford, so I had to decline the offer. I also received an invitation from Yale University to apply to their two-week Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS) summer academic residential program. I don't know how my contact information landed on their mailing list, but I was happy to apply. The cost of attendance was cheaper at around \$7,000, but they offer need-based scholarships. I applied and got accepted.

The experience of living in a dorm of a prestigious, historical university, eating in dining halls that reminded me of Harry Potter's Hogwarts school, having access to the colleges through my electronic ID, attending lectures, and working on a capstone project with students from around the globe, was exhilarating.

I have built memories that will stay with me for a long time. But, once I was back home, the opportunity to experience university life thousands of miles away gave me a solid grounding on the academic program I plan to pursue, the campus culture that resonates with my personality, and the geographic and climate factors I am accustomed to. It truly added a valuable layer to my college preparation. If you are looking to avail of free 2024 summer programs, some of them are below:

Yale Young Global Scholars
2 weeks, June 2024,
application deadline Jan 10, 2024
Free need-based scholarship
<https://globalscholars.yale.edu/>

USC Bovard Scholars
3 weeks, July 2024,
application deadline Jan 12, 2024
<https://bovardscholars.usc.edu/our-scholars/>

Princeton's Summer Journalism Program
10 days, dates will be available
December 1st week,
application deadline end-February
<https://psjp.princeton.edu/>

MIT Introduction to Technology, Engineering & Science Summer
6 weeks, June 2024,
application deadline Feb 1, 2024
<https://mites.mit.edu/discover-mites/mites-summer/>

Carnegie Mellon Summer Academy for Math & Science
6 weeks, June 2024,
application deadline March 1, 2024
<https://www.cmu.edu/pre-college/academic-programs/sams.html>



Featured Pet by Rosie, 7th grade

Meet the Dynamic Duo: Tanka and Teemu

Tonka and Teemu are a dynamic duo who are in search of a place to crash at... permanently. Paw in paw, these charming pups ventured into the shelter and are hoping to find together a home as soon as possible. These strong and playful dogs love roaming the yard, playing ball, and socializing with both people and fellow dogs. So, to no one's surprise, they were stars during "Pooches on the Patio," OC Animal Care's newest meet-and-greet and adoption event for future adopters. With palpable love and an unbreakable bond, these two are the model dynamite duo, and they'll give you their "best smiles" and the warmest hugs.

If you want to adopt these two, call OC Animal Care at (714) 935-6848 and mention Animal ID A1818654 & A1818653 or visit www.ocpetinfo.com



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

Doctor Acupuncture in Korean Medicine 한의원

2720 N Harbor Blvd ste 120, Fullerton
(714) 519-3775





HITS & MISSES

by Joyce Mason © 2023



THE HOLDOVERS: Two Hits

Director Alexander Payne does not make blockbuster movies. Instead, his films mostly portray interactions between characters, often flawed individuals. Tightly written and carefully cast, Payne's movies have won audience loyalty for a couple of decades. Especially popular with audiences, "Sideways" still brings a smile to those who recall two guys on a road trip through the wineries of Central California.

In a recent interview, Payne said that his most critically acclaimed movie has been "Election," which also made a star of Reese Witherspoon. The two of them are thinking about creating a sequel. Born in Omaha, Payne said his personal favorite of his films is also the well-received "Nebraska." Payne works with his scriptwriters by giving them the concept and outline for what he wants and then making revisions when needed. For "The Holdovers," he worked with writer David Hemingson.

"The Holdovers" is set in a prestigious boys' prep school in Massachusetts during the last weeks of 1970. Paul Hunham (Paul Giamatti), a pedant and a grouch, teaches Ancient History to restless teenage boys eager to leave for the Christmas holidays. He admonishes them for doing poorly on their last exam and sends homework for them to do over the holidays.

Occasionally, some students are unable to go home due to long distances or family problems. Six boys need to stay on campus over the two-week holiday, and the young Headmaster (Andrew Garman), upset with Hunham for having failed the son of their State's Senator, assigns the on-campus two-week duty to Hunham. The only other remaining staff are the custodian and the cook, Mary (Da'Vine Joy Randolph), whose strength while grieving the death of her son Curtis, a recent casualty of the Vietnam War, overshadows any complaints on the part of Hunham.

Five of the students get the surprise treat of a ski trip, but one remaining student, Angus Tully (Dominic Sessa), has a mother who cannot be reached for permission for him to join the ski trip party, so he must stay at Barton Academy. Although Hunham refers to his students as "philistines" and "snarling Visigoths," the most outspokenly hostile student is Angus, who doesn't hesitate to remind Hunham that



he is the most disliked teacher at Barton.

Only good acting, a tightly written script, and a gifted director could make the two confined weeks engaging and often riveting for viewers. Some of what occurs is predictable, but several developments are not foreseen, and each character evolves with insights and coping mechanisms not available to him at the beginning. No one plays gruff and slightly out-of-tune characters better than Giamatti, and viewers will see a promising young actor in Sessa.

During an in-depth interview, Payne explains with some pride that he had been disappointed with the young actors who had originally auditioned for the role of Angus. So he contacted some high schools with active drama departments and asked their teachers if they had spotted a talent among their students that could handle this demanding role. Among the several that Payne auditioned, Dominic Sessa created an immediate on-screen presence that nailed the cheeky, complaining teenager Payne had in mind.

Besides the fine acting in "The Holdovers," audiences will sense the authenticity of the scenes. Payne is proud of the fact that he seldom, if ever, sets his scenes on a sound stage, preferring always to use authentic locations. Most of this movie was filmed at a prep school in Massachusetts, with a few scenes in Boston.

TWO HITS: Don't Miss it!
A HIT & A MISS: You Might Like it.
TWO MISSES: Don't Bother.

FULLERTON MUSEUM

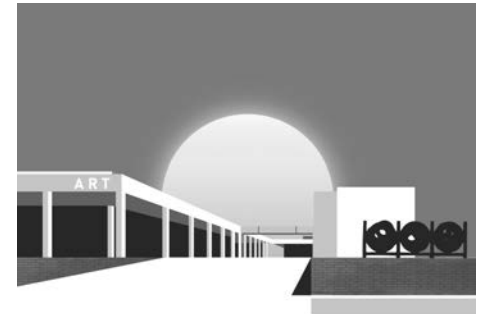
301 N. Pomona Ave, Fullerton
 (714) 519-4461
 info@fullertonmuseum.com
 Hours: Wednesday thru Sunday,
 12 - 4pm

Fullerton To The World December 9th, 2023 thru March 17th, 2024

Clarence Leo Fender was born in a barn on August 10, 1909, so far on the outskirts of Fullerton that electrical wiring hadn't yet reached his family home. Fullerton itself had only been incorporated for a couple of years, with a population of some 1,700 people. Despite Fender's youth in a decidedly non-cosmopolitan hometown, he found more than sufficient inspiration here: his amplifiers, electric guitars, basses and other innovations have reached across the world, and continue to be a major force in music some seven decades after their invention.

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.

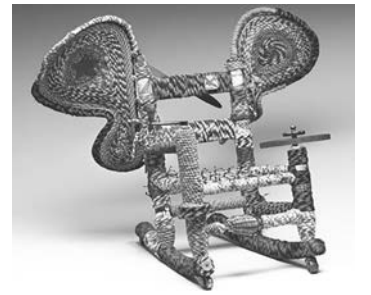


CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY FULLERTON BEGOVICH GALLERY

800 N. State College Blvd, Fullerton
 (657) 278-3471 |
 artdept@fullerton.edu
 Hours vary, Call in advance

PAST FORWARD: thru March 22, 2024:

The iconic and boundary-pushing design led by architect Thornton M. Abell (1906-1984)



BREA GALLERY

1 Civic Center Circle, Brea
 (714) 990-7722

Open: Wed - Sunday 12 - 5pm

Threads That Bind: thru Dec 8th
 The world of "women's work" has always included textiles. Spanning centuries and continents, women have spun, woven, knitted, embroidered and quilted, creating useful items for their households while giving free rein to their creativity.

Domestic Detritus:

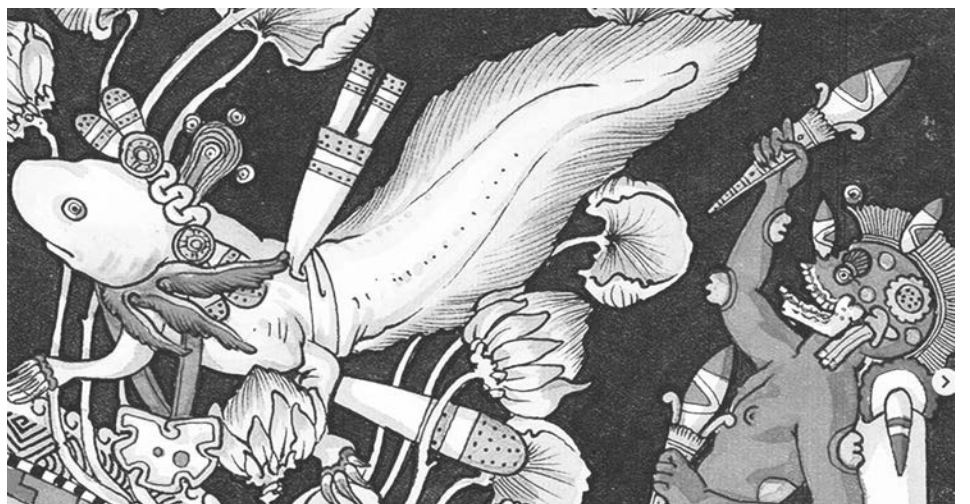
January 28 to March 24, 2023

This exhibit features works exploring ideas of memory, ruin, and the vestiges of domesticity, in an effort to delve into contemporary social dynamics, shifting gender roles, assaults on womanhood and human rights currently happening in our country. Sculpture, painting, video, and installation are all included in this multimedia, multi-sensory exhibition - culminating in a strong voice of resistance and empowerment.



Mad Marion Cartoons: thru

December 02: 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.



FULLERTON COLLEGE

Art Bldg 1000 Rm 104 • 315 E Wilshire Ave, Fullerton • (714) 992-7150
 Last Day Wednesday, November 29, Hours: 10am-12noon & 2pm-4pm

None of This Ever Went Away

The artists in this show have roots in Central and South America, and currently live in Mexico City, New York City, and Los Angeles. The common thread among these artists is the use of traditional indigenous visual iconography from the Aztec, Maya, and Inca civilizations. The resulting artwork explores themes of history and memory, ancestry and spirituality, globalism and decolonization. These contemporary artists, depicting ancient rituals and symbols, speak to our current moment in a visual language that is timeless. As Amatlapalli puts it, these are "new visions of ancient wisdom." The exhibition features paintings, drawings, sculpture, and even neon; a diverse range of artwork that resonates in ways that are visually and emotionally powerful, creating a complex effect that is expansive and empowering. Featuring the artists Chicome Itzcuintli Amatlapalli, Christina Barrera, Jaime Chavez, Carlos Rittner, and Roberto Tostado.

art can comfort the afflicted, and afflict the comfortable.

MODELMANIA DON KINDA

232 W COMMONWEALTH • 92832

6-9pm FRIDAY

DEC 1

with DJ: JHFAETH/SoundScapes Industrial/Soul/Music and Steve Metzger

modelmaniafullerton.com

The Wonder of Christmas
 Fullerton Community Band Christmas Concert
 Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30pm
 Wilshire Avenue Community Church
 212 E Wilshire Ave, Fullerton

FREE

Fullerton Friends of Music presents
Musicians of the Orchestra Collective of Orange County
 with guitarist Steve Thachuk
 Saturday, Dec 16 at 3:30 pm

All concerts are free.

Fullerton First United Methodist Church
 114 N. Pomona Ave, Fullerton

For more information, visit our website:
FullertonFriendsofMusic.org, or call (714) 447-8364




Nouveau Chamber Ballet presents The Nutcracker

Nouveau Chamber Ballet presents a new one-hour narrated version of the renowned holiday tradition of The Nutcracker that tells the story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince. The shorter length appeals to children and includes an abbreviated first act plus the iconic Waltz of the Dancing Snowflakes and all the favorites from the second act including Spanish chocolate, Chinese tea, Arabian coffee, Russian Trepak as well as Scottish, Mother Ginger, Waltz of the Flowers, and the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier.

The Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier will be danced by guest artists, Amanda Beasley and Eduard Sargsyan. Mr. Sargsyan received his dance training in Yerevan, Armenia

and was a principal dancer at the Armenian National Ballet. He is also an accomplished ballroom dance winning many awards in multiple dance competitions. Ms. Beasley is a professional freelance ballerina originally hailing from Phoenix, Arizona and now performs in Los Angeles and around the country.

The Nutcracker will be presented 2 pm on Saturday, December 16 and Sunday, December 17 Fullerton College Campus Theatre 321 E Chapman Ave, Fullerton Tickets: \$30 & \$20 reserved seating. Tickets can be purchased online at nouveauchamberballet.com go to upcoming-events

MUCK
Upcoming Education
 Camps, classes, workshops!

CLASSES
 NOV 20 - DEC 22

| | |
|--|---|
| Kids Clay Ages 7-12 Wednesdays 5-6pm Thursdays 5-6 | Animation Ages 13-17 Mondays 4:00-6:00 |
| Open Studio Adults Fridays: 5pm-8pm | Comic Making Ages 6-12 Wednesdays 1:00-2:00 |
| Freestyle Design Ages 13-17 Mondays: 4:30-5:30pm Ages 6-12 Thursdays: 3pm-4pm | Digital Art Ages 10-15 Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 |
| Ceramic Sculpture Adults Mondays: 4:30pm-5:30pm Thursdays: 5:30-7:30pm | Intropective Art Ages 13-17 Wednesdays 4:00-6:00 |

WORKSHOPS

| |
|---|
| Parent and Me Ceramics November 19, December 3 10:00-12:00 |
| Two Day Ceramics Intensive November 6-8, December 9-10 10:00-1:00 |
| Family Art Workshop Holiday Edition Saturday November 18 10:00-12:00 |

BOOK NOW
THEMUCK.ORG



NOUVEAU CHAMBER BALLET
 with Lois Elynn Ballet Studio - Sheree King, Artistic Director

THE NUTCRACKER
 A beautiful and magical holiday tradition



Saturday, December 16th, 2:00 PM & Sunday, December 17th, 2:00 PM
 Fullerton College Campus Theatre: 321 E Chapman Ave, Fullerton, CA 92832

A one-hour performance specially made for children of all ages. Celebrate the season with Clara, the Nutcracker and the Sugar Plum Fairy as they journey to the Kingdom of Sweets. Reserved Seating \$20 - \$30

For more information: (714) 526-3862 or nouveauchamberballet.com



SCAN FOR TICKETS

Come and enjoy classic airplanes and maybe even ride a plane or helicopter. This event is free and open to all ages at Fullerton Airport.

ANTIQUA AIRCRAFT DISPLAY DAY

Every 2nd Sunday of every month • 10am to 1pm
 Vehicles may park in designated parking areas in the front lot of Wings Cafe. Free Admission. Helicopter and plane rides have a separate fee and may not be available.




Mulberry Street
 RISTORANTE

DINNER: 7 days a week! 5pm to 10pm • Fri & Sat to 11pm
LUNCH: Mon through Sat 11am to 3pm

HAPPY HOUR
 Monday through Friday from 4pm to 6pm

RESERVATIONS • 714.525.1056
 114 W. WILSHIRE AVE • DOWNTOWN FULLERTON



Downtown Fullerton Art Walk

First Friday of Every Month
6 to 9pm (hrs may vary by venue)
 With multiple venues around downtown Fullerton the best place to start is the Fullerton Museum Plaza at 301 N Pomona. There you can get a map of participating venues. Participating venues and galleries each display original art and may have entertainment, food, drinks, and vendors. Some of the participating vendors are located at Villa Del Sol on Harbor, Blanquel Popular Art, and Modelmania.

Winter Movie Night
Friday, Dec 1 @ 5pm
Community Center

340 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton
How the Grinch Stole Christmas
 This is an outdoor family festive community movie night so dress warmly. Blankets and food are welcome. Games, snacks, and more will be available. \$5 Admission.
 Call (714)738-6575 to register.

Fourth Planet
A new play by Dano Madden
Fullerton College
 315 E Wilshire Ave • (714) 992-7150
Last nights Dec 1 & 2
@ 7:30pm

City of Fullerton's Annual Tree and Menorah Lighting Ceremony
Saturday, Dec 2 @ 4:30pm
Downtown Plaza

The event will coincide with the Fullerton Museum Center's Annual Winter Market, which will run from 2 pm to 6 pm.
 The Tree and Menorah Lighting Ceremony promises to be a magical evening for the entire community, featuring dazzling lights, live music, and a joyful atmosphere that captures the spirit of the season.

Beautiful:
The Carole King Musical
La Mirada Theatre
for the Performing Arts
 14900 La Mirada Blvd, La Mirada
 (562) 944-9801
Thurs, Nov 30 at 7:30pm
Fri, Dec 1 at 8pm
Sat, Dec 2 at 2pm & 8pm
Sun, Dec 3 at 1:30pm & 6:30pm

Follow the inspiring true story of Carole King's remarkable rise to stardom. \$51 Admission.



HOLIDAYS AT FULLERTON COLLEGE

A collage concert of holiday choral and band favorites
 Directed by David Lopez, Directed by Nicola Dedmon
Recital Hall
 315 E Wilshire Ave, Fullerton • (714) 992-7150
Friday, December 8th, 2023 at 7:30pm
 Adult \$10, Child \$5, Student and Senior 55+ \$7
 Fullerton College Music Department will present a concert of Holiday Music featuring Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Men's Chorale, Women's Chorale and the Symphonic Winds.

MUCKENTHALER CULTURAL CENTER

1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton • (714) 738-6595 • info@themuck.org

Darden Christmas Concert:
Dec 14 @7:30pm:

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Share your holidays with the Dardens enjoying an evening of fun and folly as they perform classic Christmas yuletide carols and contemporary holiday songs. Darden may frost the night with a few original Christmas tunes. Here's to a merry and magical season as we celebrate Christmas together!



TBTOC.ORG

SAVE *the* DATE

CHANUKAH

- **Friday, December 8:**
Rabbi Mati Chanukah Lunch Learn 12 - 1pm
- **Friday, December 8:**
Bring your own Chanukiyah - Candle lighting (children's choir shabbat)
- **Tuesday, December 12:**
Latkes & Vodkas Karaoke with Erev Cantor Gabrielle 6pm
- **Wednesday, December 13:**
Teens White Elephant Gift Exchange



MAVERICK THEATER
 110 E Walnut Ave, Unit B, Fullerton • (714) 526-7070
www.mavericktheater.com
SANTA CLAUS CONQUERS THE MARTIANS
Through December 23

Santa Claus kidnapped by Martians! Will the children on Earth have no toys on Christmas day? This holiday season join Santa on a madcap adventure in outer space! This show is restricted to ages 5+. Performances are Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 7pm & 9pm, Sundays at 7pm. Tickets are \$30

Fullerton Museum Center presents the

WINTER MARKET

at the
DOWNTOWN FULLERTON PLAZA

HOT FOOD

FREE Admission

DEC. 2ND

Saturday 2:00-6:00pm

FULLERTON MUSEUM CENTER

PICTURES WITH SANTA

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES

KID'S ARTS & CRAFT AREA

BEER GARDEN

FOOD TRUCKS

CRAFT VENDORS

SWEET TREATS

301 N Pomona Ave, Fullerton
 (714)519-4461 info@fullertonmuseum.com

MUCKENTHALER CULTURAL CENTER

1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton • (714) 738-6595 • info@themuck.org

Holiday Festival

Sunday, December 17, 12-4pm

Free Entry / Free Parking

Celebrate the holiday season with free family-friendly activities, live music, food and drinks, art workshops for kids, and an arts and crafts sale.

Hawaiian Christmas Concert with Jim Kimo West

Dec 21 @7:30pm \$35

Grammy winner Jim Kimo West is recognized as one of the world's top "slack key" guitarists and brings his own unique musical perspective to this great acoustic guitar tradition.

Join Kimo and special guests for a night of soothing Hawaiian slack key Christmas songs and hula!

Let Kimo's "nahenahe" sound be the soundtrack for your holidays!



Help Solidarity spread love and holiday cheer to all neighbors

Solidarity's Christmas Festival is our biggest event of the year. Everyone eats, plays games, and raffles off prizes at the festival. While that is happening, the parents in our neighborhoods get to choose the gifts they believe their children would love to open on Christmas morning. But before they leave, we ensure every gift is wrapped and ready to be placed under the Christmas tree.

Christmas Festival is about elevating the community and the dignity of Solidarity's families. We bring together two neighborhoods (Garnet & Maple) in Fullerton for a fun event to build relationships and promote trust and safety. We invite partners, civic leaders, and local church/business partners to build a greater community in Fullerton.

Solidarity also made intentional decisions for our Christmas Store that promote the dignity of parents. Solidarity recognizes the value of parents handpicking and purchasing (at a 90% discount) toys with their child's interest in mind. They are not receiving handouts to pass along to their child, but instead are shopping intentionally for their children.

Purchase a toy or Target gift card for a family or volunteer with Solidarity.

Please purchase a NEW unwrapped toy for children under 18 years old. Check out our Amazon List or purchase your own toys. All gifts and Target gift cards must be purchased and dropped off between November 8th and December 14th. Drop off your toy anytime Monday – Friday between 9 – 4 PM at Maple 601 Community Center, (601 E. Valencia Dr. Fullerton, CA).

Our Goals:

- 500 NEW unwrapped toys • \$3,000 in Target gift cards
- 375 children receive gifts • 125 families are impacted.
- Every parent "buys" 2 gifts for each child.

Extra Supplies Needed:

- Wrapping Paper • Gift bags • Bows • Tape • Plates
- Silverware • Paper towels • Disinfectant wipes

If you are interested in donating supplies, email partner@solidarityNPO.org.

Volunteers Needed:

To pull this event off, we need Santa's little helpers. If you would like to volunteer go to www.solidaritynpo.org/christmas.

FOX THEATER Winter Solstice Party

510 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton

December 21, 2023 • 7 to 10pm

Join us for a lovely, casual evening of music and refreshments as we wrap up the year and say one last THANK YOU to our Day of Music sponsors and volunteers. FREE



ROARING INTO 2024 AT THE CHARLESTON!

114 East Commonwealth Avenue, Fullerton

New Years Bash: Dec 31 @8:30pm to 1am • \$150:

This all inclusive, all in one price event is going to dazzle your senses.

Let's set the stage:The 1920's and 1980's will collide when guests don old Hollywood glitz and glamour and dance the night away to Flashpants and DJs spinning the hottest tunes all while sipping cocktails and indulging at gourmet food stations.

Picture if you will, beautifully appointed art deco surroundings, Great Gatsby inspired extravagance, paired with non stop fun! Bubbles will be served upon arrival and fun surprises await you. from the beginning until the end of the night.

General admission includes complimentary food and drink throughout the evening. Upgrades are also available to enhance the experience.

No matter what, you'll be sure to have an unforgettable night of celebration.

Let's bring in 2024 in the most spectacular way!

Purchase your ticket(s) at IG: TheCharlestonOC, email: Lary@Charlestonoc.com, call: (714) 686-2254 or use the QR.

*The venue is handicapped accessible via elevator in the back foyer of The Bowery.



- Mo's Fullerton Music- GRAND OPENING

Live Music
Giveaways
Sweet Deals
Family fun

December 16th
10 A.M - 6 P.M



Discounts
Free food
Repairs
And More!

1109 E. Commonwealth

(714)871-1805

The City of Fullerton Presents

**HOT FOODS
KIDS LANE
LIVE MUSIC**



**DEC. 31st
7 PM**

FREE ADMISSION



Left to right: Fullerton Fire Chief, Adam Loeser; Fire Prevention Specialist I, Jose Alarcon, and Deputy Fire Chief of Prevention and Administration, Jon Fugitt.

Congratulations to Jose Alarcon, for completing his probationary year.

FPS Alarcon is an excellent addition to the Fullerton Fire Department Family. In addition to his day-to-day responsibilities, he is enthusiastic and supports public education and engagement in the community. Recently, he trained as a bilingual trainer for LISTOS, a Basic Emergency Preparedness program. As a Fire Prevention Specialist, he is responsible for promoting public awareness of fire and life safety and enforcing the California Fire Code, the California Code of Regulations, and the California Health and Safety Code.

USPS Operation Santa Letter Adoption

Instructions for Letter Adopters

Visit USPSOperationSanta.com, register, and have your identity verified. Suppose potential adopters are unable to complete their ID verification online. In that case, they will be provided with a code and instructions on completing verification in person at a local Post Office. Once verified, the adopter will receive a welcome email with detailed information on how to participate in the program. Potential adopters can read letters and choose one or more to fulfill. Once a letter is chosen, adopters must follow the directions they were sent in their welcome email to ship gifts. Packages must be shipped via Priority Mail service, but gifts do not need to be in Priority Mail-branded boxes. Letter adopters are responsible for postage fees to ship the gift packages.

Two Fatalities *continued from front page*

by a 65-year-old female resident of Fullerton, was traveling northbound. The female pedestrian crossed eastbound from the intersection's southwest corner across Brookhurst Rd. The GMC Sierra was able to yield to the pedestrian, but she was ultimately struck by the Nissan Rogue traveling northbound on Brookhurst Rd. The collision with the Nissan Rogue threw the pedestrian into the GMC Sierra and into the intersection.

The second accident occurred on November 17, officers located Timothy Frank Okabe in the roadway with traumatic injuries from a black Dodge 3500 truck. The driver remained at the scene of the collision. Fullerton Fire responded and pronounced the male deceased at the scene.

Initial investigation indicates that the Dodge truck, driven by a 78-year-old male resident from Whittier, was trav-

eling southbound on Brookhurst Rd. The male pedestrian, who was crossing the street westbound, was believed to be utilizing the crosswalk. The pedestrian crossed the street in front of oncoming southbound traffic, and the Dodge truck could not yield before colliding with him. See page 19 to help the family with funeral arrangements.

Accident Investigators seek further information from anyone who might have witnessed these collision.

Any witnesses with information about this fatal traffic collision are encouraged to contact Fullerton Police Traffic Accident Investigator Manes at (714) 738-6815 or via email at jmanes@fullertonpd.org.

Those wishing to provide information anonymously can call the Orange County Crime Stoppers at 1(855) TIP-OCCS or visit their website at occrimestoppers.org.

Mayoral Representation *continued from the front page*

recent years. Charles and Zahra strongly dissented. But, arguing in favor of ignoring policy, Dunlap spoke to the importance of collegiality before acting in the most uncollegial way possible. He also said, in effect, that the Council should elect someone they respect and that respect has to be earned. He gave no example of why Zahra had not earned his respect.

One has to wonder what happened in closed sessions that made councilmembers Jung, Whitaker, and Dunlap publicly disrespect Zahra. Will the councilmembers ever tell the public the reasons? Or is it so petty or phobic that it can not be uttered?

Whitaker was more candid; he dwelt on perceived past injustices, saying that while he initially favored fixed rotation, the first time that the current policy was violated was when he was due to be Mayor Pro Tem several years ago, and that while the current situation was not his preference it is "... where we are right now."

Jung never joined the discussion nor offered any reason why he wanted to be Mayor again or deserved to be. No mention was made of accomplishments or what he hoped the Council would achieve in the next year.

The City has not been in a good position during the last couple of years, losing several valued senior staff with institutional knowledge. There is a lack of continuity. Most of the new staff

have historical reference amnesia.

Zahra is one of the most visible Councilmembers, widely available to his constituents and other residents. He also survived a vicious negative campaign funded by Tony Bushala. Both Charles and Zahra defeated candidates supported by the Mayor, showing that they had reliable support in their respective districts. Also showing that the Mayor may not be viewed positively citywide and does not have much influence outside his district.

One of the constants of politics is that "what goes around, comes around." That has worked to Whitaker's benefit and against Zahra (he made some rookie mistakes in his first years and should have anticipated some payback). But in 2024, the seats of the current majority will all be up for re-election.

Whitaker is termed out in a heavily Latino district. Jung does not have any competition in District 1 yet. And although Dunlap often appears more interested in sports than the interests of his District 2 constituents, he is running again. Jesus Silva, who was Gerrymandered out of District 3, now lives in District 2, and although this district is marginally Republican, it is competitive, and he would be a formidable candidate. And there are other possibilities, but those who want to see a change in the Council must identify strong candidates and start supporting them now.

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Healthy Awareness

by Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D. © 2023

12 Steps for Lasting Happiness

I saved an article published by the Fullerton College Foundation in 2015 of a 1969 speech to the graduating class of 1969 former president, H. Lynn Sheller. It had a copyright, which I was released to publish on November 17, 2023, by Fullerton College Interim Director of Communication Pepe Barton. I want to quote most of his speech because it applies today.

In a day when some say that the values of the past are no longer applicable to life, here are a few didactic preachments for your consideration:

1) Commit your life to something bigger and more important than yourself, the welfare of your neighbors, your community, your country, your church, the unfortunate or disadvantaged-wherever you think there is the greatest need. Be generous with your time, money, and concern for others.

2) Try to do your best and search continuously for the best that can be known. In searching, remember that the wisdom and institutions that evolved over the centuries are not to be dismissed without reason and broad popular consent: also, the old is not necessarily good or bad because of its newness.

3) Know yourself and recognize, especially, your strengths. It would help if you realized that you have tremendous possibilities and that people more often have too low an opinion of their ability than too high.

4) Be honest with yourself and others. Lies are for weaklings and people with a feeling of personal inadequacy.

5) Live a clean, healthful life, avoiding those habits of escape and self-indulgence that enslave the will, weaken the body, and shorten life.

6) Learn to enjoy work and know that no work is demeaning and that it performs a worthwhile service.

7) Learn to be happy with simple things and avoid status-seeking, which expresses itself in luxurious living and in acquiring an assortment of things that impoverish you mentally and spiritually and that handicap, if not ruin, your children. What sense does it make to put a bankrupt mind and soul in a luxurious automobile or a palatial house?

8) Cultivate a sensitivity to the feelings of others and a genuine concern for their welfare. This goes for cultural groups as well as for individuals. Accord them the same courtesy, respect, dignity, and understanding you have for yourself.

9) Don't allow yourself to become cynical of people. Remember that there is much nobility and greatness in humanity and that people generally will reflect toward you the same attitudes that you have toward them.

10) Avoid cluttering your mind with trash- the trash of T-V, of cheap movies, of worthless books and magazines, of low conversation; rather, consistently taste worthwhile things and occupy your mind with the good, the true, the just, and the beautiful.

11) In all your activities, conduct yourself so that you can be proud of yourself so that your children of a later time can be proud of you.

12) Finally, cultivate a sense of wonder, humility, and reverence before the mystery of the universe and the inexplicable miracle of conscious existence.

Interestingly, these morals apply today after 54 years and will, in all probability, apply 54 years from now. Be happy. I could not have said it better, Dr. Sheller.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Fullerton

Schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App by visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-733-2767.

See RedCrossBlood.org for hours

- 12/2/2023: 8am - 2pm, St Mary's Catholic Church, 400 W. Commonwealth
- 12/4/2023: 9am - 3:30pm, CalState Central Quad, 800 N State College Blvd
- 12/5/2023: 9am - 3:30pm, CalState U Central Quad, 800 N State College Blvd
- 12/5/2023: 11am - 5pm, TNG Real Estate Consultants, 2830 N Brea Blvd

BALANCE & CHANGE

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

Life, Death, and the Holidays

As the holidays come around, it can be a time of joy but also a time of sadness. As you look around the table, there may be missing faces. Each year, we gain new people in our lives, but we also lose people that have always been there.

I often have clients talk about how hard the holidays are because their parents, spouse, friend, or child are no longer with them. We then have discussions about how to cope. I am a big fan of not avoiding memories and feelings of loss. Sometimes, the best way that we can honor the death of our loved ones is to talk about them, not pretend that there is nothing different this year.

Depending on your tradition, you may light a candle. You may hang a stocking with their name on it. You may give a donation in their name. But most importantly, talk about them!

Tell those stories about them! Joke about how they would react to what is going on now. Laugh and cry over what you are missing about them. It is helpful and healthy to keep those memories alive. Pretending there is no loss will not help you.

So, enjoy the holidays, but with all your memories and stories, remember to include everything, even the tears. That is the best way to celebrate the holiday and the memories! May your holidays this year bring you joy and meaning!

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Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2023 • JonDobrer@mac.com

Thank Goodness for George Santos

I'm grateful for Congressman George Santos. Were I of a conventional religious faith, I'd be down on my knees offering prayers of thanksgiving. No, I don't admire him or endorse him, but I sure as hell appreciate the comic relief he inserts into our otherwise grim, crises-driven and often tragic world.

I spend my professional life following the news, teaching about the news and commenting on the news in my newspaper column, Out of My Mind. Be assured that the news can drive one (me!) out of my mind. The wars and loss of life, civilian and military, are tragic. The politics and spin are painfully deceptive. The hate that spews out of the mouths of both young and old is disheartening. The righteous certainty and passion of young people and the cynicism of many older folks make me want to turn off the TV and run screaming into the streets. I can't end the pain by either turning off the media or turning my back on the world and its over-abundant suffering.

From Ukraine to Gaza, all loss of innocent life is tragic. The slaughtered, tortured and kidnapped Kibbutzniks in

Israel who were the closest allies to the Gazans, indicate our tragic human capacity for inhumanity and make me question God's glib characterization of his own work in Genesis (1:31), "and it was good." That's the best You could do, really? If we're the "image of God, God's image could use a makeover.

Our attention deficit disorder and selective outrage discourage me. Israel v Hamas takes Ukraine out of the news. The killing of Black Africans by ethnic Arabs in Darfur is not newsworthy here. The slaughter of Muslims by Buddhists (going against the world's stereotype of both Muslims and Buddhists) is virtually nonexistent on our TV or in our societal consciousness.

Our news answers the age-old question, "If a tree falls in the forest and nobody is there to hear it, does it make a sound?" Our answer is NO! If there is war, starvation and disease and no cameras, then nothing really happened.

Just when I'm getting to the breaking point, when my impulse is to flee the immersive realities and distortions of

the news, enters George Santos the one and only piece of comic relief. The fool who does not speak truth to power but speaks lies to everyone.

But his lies and/or delusions aren't appropriate in these serious times, I hear you objecting. I disagree. The darkest tragedies need moments of relief. After all, even King Lear had his Fool. And it's immaterial to me whether Santos plays the fool or is a genuine fool. Yes, it's ironic and jarring to use Santos and genuine in the same sentence.

The darkest tragedies need moments of relief.

Again, I hear you objecting that Santos embodies all that's wrong in our politics. He's a liar, a thief, a fraudster. He cheats veterans and makes up a résumé crediting himself with being a star volleyball player at a school he never attended. His fabulist résumé asserts that he produced movies and Broadway plays but modestly fails to brag about the Nobel Peace Prize he didn't receive.

Yes, I know that lies are the common currency of political speech, and every word of every politician should be taken with a heaping tablespoon of salt—as your doctor might allow. Santos combines everything that's wrong with such reckless disregard for the truth as to become the Platonic form of a crooked politician, while, at the same time, elevating his

naked deceptions above mere lies into farce. He's a performance artist completely lost in the part he is playing. Yes, in an age of pain, mendacity and complicated issues oversimplified by partisans, he brings us together in feigned, but bi-partisan, indignation.

Normal politicians merely deceive: FDR hid his mistress as did Eisenhower (Though they were, I believe, different mistresses) Nixon was said to "lie when the truth would serve him better, just to keep in practice." JFK was a family man with family values and, uh, Mafia Family connections through at least one of his mistresses. There's an adage that if any man received a telegram saying, "All is known. Flee!" He'd be out the door without packing his bags. Yes, lies and deceptions abound, but Santos's compulsive lies and misappropriations transcend ordinary sins. He has not packed his ill-gotten Hermes bag.

He's a human train wreck that we can ogle without guilt. Maybe I lack compassion since he's so clearly diagnosable with character disorders and delusions, but I feel no guilt. I'll truly miss him when he's gone, and I'll only have the real and dangerous liars, fraudsters and crooks. Normal scares me, but Santos entertains me and takes my mind away from the real pain, deceptions, and tragedies of our world. Every tragedy needs a fool and George Santos is a fool for the ages.

AT HOME WITH THE HOMELESS

by Andrew Williams © 2023



A Prayer of Thanksgiving

In the spirit of the holiday season and memorial of William S. Burroughs, one of the greatest writers of the 20th century, I offer up this prayer of thanks for the following:

Thanks to the police who routinely inflate charges against suspects and mistakenly turn off body cams while beating and shooting black people, queer people, trans people, and the mentally ill to death.

Thanks to the district attorneys for reminding us that their job is to secure convictions, not justice, in obeisance to the powerful voters and fundraisers in their jurisdiction. "The law is the law."--Tautologus. "The law is an ass."--Dickens.

Thanks to groups like Moms for Liberty, and their legions of grim, hateful, mean Christian women clutching their cherry-picked Bibles to their breasts, condemning those with moles in their eyes while selectively ignoring the planks sticking out of theirs, doing the never-ending work of white-washing American history while flushing black history, brown history, queer history, and trans history down the memory hole.

Thanks to a government that's never found a subsidy or campaign donation it doesn't like, who threatens to make deep cuts to human services while spending billions on military boondoggles, who fights wars against nations and drugs alike with last century's tools of armament and punishment. "You must be the anvil or the hammer."--Goethe

Thanks to a former resident of the White House for exposing so many of democracy's loopholes and exploiting them while elevating nepotism to deism and fooling just enough of the

people just enough of the time to nearly get away with the biggest grift in our nation's history. May he not only end up in prison, but under prison.

Thanks to the nation's merchants, who managed to restrain themselves until just after All Hallows' Eve to bombard us with all the Christmas hullabaloo at their command. A special thanks to Mariah Carey for her perennial wassail—whether sung live or lip-synched.

Thanks to local newscasters, who daily elevate education to a new level for being so selectively tone-deaf that a solemn tribute to a deceased leader is followed hard on by a look at what celebrity was seen with what other celebrity.

Thanks to our corporate overlords, who know what we want and deserve and are willing and eager to give it to us, good and hard.

Thanks to the alt-right, their relentless pursuit of alternative truths and alternative facts, and their tacit willingness to fiddle while the world burns.

Thanks for an economy that requires everyone young and old to work multiple jobs just to keep up in the Red Queen's race.

Thanks to Hamas for reviving the hoary ghost of Roman senator Cato the Elder. "Israel delenda est!"

Thanks to the pharma-industrial complex for bringing us opioids more potent and more addictive than heroin and morphine combined.

Thanks for public schools where education has been so defunded, dilut-

ed and defanged that they do more indoctrinating than educating—teaching what to think instead of how to think—and all while still paying hard working teachers a pittance. Won't somebody please think of the children?

Thanks to social media for further shortening attention spans and elevating confirmation bias to a science, in the process, short-circuiting critical analysis and opening the door to the enemies of democracy.

Thanks to tech companies for being modern Pandoras and unleashing AI on a woefully unprepared and insufficiently wary public. Were you not watching the same movies we were?

SO...now that my spleen has been vented, it'd be churlish of me not to acknowledge some good things.

Thanks for access to good food, adequate clothing, and shelter and to the social services agencies who have too much to do with too little, who nevertheless get up every day and give as many people food, clothing, and

shelter as they can. They make a difference in unhoused people's lives—often the difference between life and death. The base of Maslow's pyramid is the

foundation on which lives can be rebuilt.

Thanks to the hardworking editors and writers who strive to give the American public the information necessary to make good decisions and struggle daily with the promulgators of alternative facts and realities.

Thanks to public libraries and the librarians who staff them. For every person who can't afford higher education, libraries provide a means to achieve that education and stand foursquare for freedom of speech and print—no matter how much Tiffany Justice and her kind may howl and rend their garments.

Thanks to those who can understand that not all Israelis support Netanyahu and not all Palestinians support Hamas. These are critical distinctions that cannot be ignored if there is to be peace in the Middle East.

Thanks to teachers, especially those who do not "teach to the test" or blindly follow school board dictates but give their students the critical tools they desperately need to be citizens of the world. They understand too well the words of Mark Twain: "God made the idiot for practice, and then He made School Boards."

Thanks to the workers working overtime to restore basic services, repair freeways, and respond to emergencies. They are among our everyday heroes.

Thanks to social media for further shortening attention spans and elevating confirmation bias to a science.

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Planning Commission Reports by Leah Han

November 8 Meeting

Commissioner Patricia Tutor was delayed and unable to make the meeting. Commissioner Gambino had an excused absence. Commissioner Douglas Cox, Arnel Dino, and Chairman Mansuri were present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Curtis Gamble asked about the Hunt Library plan.

COMMUNICATION DISCLOSURE

Commissioner Douglas Cox disclosed that he had spoken to several residents and business owners about Item 2, a Short-Term Rental permit proposal by Sundance and Dawn Smith.

Commissioner Arnel Dino disclosed that he had spoken to many people about Items 2 and 3. Item 3 is amendments to the Fullerton Municipal Code pertaining to noise standards and regulation. Chairman Mansuri had nothing to disclose.

AGENDA ITEMS

Item 2: Public hearing on Short Term Rental was moved to January 10, 2024.

Items 3: Fullerton Municipal Code regarding the regulation of noise standards in the City was moved to November 22.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS &

REVIEW OF CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Commissioner Dino confirmed that the Provecho Market gas station proposal is being returned to the Planning Commission by the City Council without action. There is no specific date for the decision.

COMMISSION'S QUESTIONS

Commissioner Dino confirmed that the Provecho Market gas station proposal is being returned to the Planning Commission by the City Council without action. There is no specific date for the decision.

Planning Manager Chris Schaefer explained that there will be the warehouse building proposal for the former Fullerton Hotel site on December 2 and a proposal for a Mills Act revision on December 6. Schaefer explained that the revision is being worked on in collaboration with Fullerton Heritage to make it more appealing to applicants. He explained that the proposal for the Streetlights Plan is also being worked on.

Commissioner Dino asked where the Hunt Library progress was at. Staff responded that it was the council's decision to reprogram the site.

Commissioner Cox clarified that the

council was not able to appeal the gas station because the Planning Commission has the final say. Deputy City Attorney Baron Bettenhausen explained that the Planning Commission is the final deciding body, but there was discussion on changing that in the municipal code. Staff explained that the council had requested that the appeal process be consistent with everything else in the code. This means that it can be appealed to the City Council for consideration.

A staff member explained that amendments to the code will be brought to the Planning Commission by the end of the year. Commissioner Dino wanted to know if this meant the Provecho Market gas station proposal could be appealed every time the Planning Commission denied it. Deputy City Attorney Bettenhausen answered that there will have to be a resolution and that if there is another appeal, it would be based on the council's discretion.

Commissioner Dino requested an update on housing information. Planning Manager Schaefer replied that consultants had been making significant progress, with the entire draft finished. Schaefer encouraged watching analyst Taylor Samuelson's video for information and explained that he is trying to post the documents on the Fullerton website to keep the public updated.

Schaefer told the commission that the environmental study is being drafted.

Commissioner Cox inquired if the 250 feet rule is on anyone's radar regarding the city's municipal code. A staff member answered that it is on the radar and is probably being brought up at the beginning of next year. Cox responded that he knows it is not a big thing but that it means a lot to small proprietors. He stressed that the Hunt Library is the Planning Commission's responsibility since it is a landmark that represents Fullerton.

Commissioner Cox ended by reading a personal account from his time serving in Afghanistan to commemorate Veteran's Day. Cox shared the challenges he faced from being away from people he loved. Chairman Mansuri thanked Cox and Curtis Gamble for their service since they are both veterans.



Union Pacific Park proposed design posted on the City of Fullerton Facebook

Parks and Recreation Report: November 13

by Christina Garner

Commissioners Present: Adrian Meza, Kathy Lira, Angela Lindstrom, Erik Wehn, and Susan Rhie

Department Updates:

- First Night Fullerton will return this year from 7 pm to midnight on New Year's Eve

- Annual Tree Lighting will be held at the downtown Winter Market.

- In December, the city will host family events such as a "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" screening, a one-day holiday camp for children on December 22, and Camp Hillcrest during the two-week Winter Break.

At the Senior Center

- Music Thursdays led by Aimee Aul, featuring drum circles and singalongs, have been popular.

- Seniors can currently access free taxi rides around town, a service that will be funded until February 1. (although the Fullerton Observer has received multiple complaints that the taxi cab program is not always working the way it is purported to function).

- Youth sports field allocation for spring has begun.

- Special town events were successful, including St. Mary's annual carnival, the Korean cultural festival, and a Resource and Health fair at Independence Park.

- The renovation of Acacia Park is almost complete, and a ribbon cutting will be held in December.

- Meanwhile, Hunt Library will reopen on April 6, 2024, after site improvements, including repaving of Basque, during Spring Break.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Several officers of the Dog Park Foundation spoke, expressing frustration at the lack of communication from the city about ongoing plans for the location and use of Pooch Park. In the last interaction, officers saw plans for a site at Brea Dam and were told that work would be done by December, but they remain in the dark about the project's status. There has been a lack of communication between the city and the Dog Park Foundation members, who request transparency and updates from city staff and more input into the ongoing planning. Staff responded that the Army Corps of Engineers has requested revisions in the original plan for a dog park by Brea Dam and that the plans have been re-submitted.

PROPOSED DESIGN FOR UNION PACIFIC PARK

Parks and Rec staff presented the proposed design for Union Pacific Park on Truslow. The plan includes a community garden, which could be used by nearby condo dwellers, playgrounds, pickleball, and basketball courts, and a fitness area. Commissioners were concerned about loud noise associated with pickleball events and the potential effect on the

adjacent community.

Staff reports that they had checked with neighbors who expressed that their main priority was that the park be in constant use throughout the day, not that there might be noise during daylight hours. Staff asserts there will be sufficient parking for the public on neighborhood streets.

Costs for the proposed park would be \$2.3 million, paid by two grants, 50 percent from a federal Land and Water Conservation grant and the other half from a Clean California grant, which has already been submitted. If grants are not approved, the Park dwelling fund will be tapped. The construction of Hub student housing near CSUF will contribute more to the Park Dwelling Funds soon.

Local pickleball players were enthusiastic about having more access to pickleball courts and strongly urged the inclusion of outdoor courts in the design. The commissioners voted 3-2 to accept the park design in its current form.

INDEPENDENCE PARK UPDATE:

A proposed redesign for the 10 acres of Independence Park was shown to commissioners but has not yet been submitted for community input.

It contains ten pickleball courts, as well as an adaptive playground. The existing racketball courts and skate park have been removed. The skatepark has been redesigned, above ground, larger, and closer to the street to assist with PD patrols. A new restroom must be built as the current one is not ADA-compliant, and the gym must be restored.

The cost would be \$2 to 3 million for the gym alone and \$4 to 5 million for the whole park. Staff is busy applying for grants. It was suggested that EV chargers be installed on the premises as well. In public comments, Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles from District 3 recommended that this design be packaged as a comprehensive plan, including Independence Park, Union Pacific Trail, and Union Pacific Park, since council members who have voted no on recent trail plans have asserted that this vision was lacking.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF PARKS AND REC

Finally, there has been a re-organization of Parks and Rec, with new staff members coming on board, which should alleviate problems due to lean staffing experienced in recent years. Commissioner Lindstrom urged the future use of a planning tool, www.parkserve.org, which identifies the parts of the city that are park-poor and asks that more thought be given to park access in the southwest and southeast sectors of the city.

Planning Commission November 22 Meeting

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Request for a Major Site Plan to demolish existing on-site structures and develop a new 138,419-square-foot industrial building for warehousing/distribution uses on property located at 1500 South Raymond Avenue (southeast portion of Fullerton, east of South Raymond Avenue and north of State Route 91).

Motion was to adopt resolution PC. 2023-27 and zoning conditions are zoning application Z ON2022-097. The applicant is responsible for obtaining the necessary permits from BNSF and Orange County Flood Control if necessary and to remove the large sign pole adjacent to the freeway in its entirety. Passed Unanimously.

NOISE STANDARDS AMENDED

The Planning Commission considered and made a recommendation to the City Council regarding amendments to Titles 3 and 15 of the Fullerton Municipal Code regarding the regulation of Noise Standards in the City. (Categorically exempt under Section 15061(b)(3) of State CEQA Guidelines) Staff Planner Edgardo Caldera recommended that the commission approves new noise standards to City Council.

ON THE AGENDA

FOR THE NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 6:

Item 1: Time extension for the Street Lights project. The project was sold to another developer who is requesting a time extension of up to two years, although they're moving forward with the project.

Item 2: Staff has been working with Fullerton Heritage to amend the Mills Act policies.

John Michael Keller 1963 - 2023

John Michael Keller was born at St. Jude Hospital, Fullerton, on March 14, 1963, to parents John and Maxine Keller. His older sister Kathy was thrilled to have a baby brother.

He attended Raymond, Wilshire, and Fullerton High School, where he graduated in 1981. As a kid, he explored and became a self-taught computer expert at the youth science center. At FUHS, he met his wife, Pamela (Rich) Keller.

They were married in 1989. After they married, John returned to Fullerton College, earning an AA, was recognized as a Man of Distinction in Math and Computer Sciences, and spoke at his graduation. Their three sons, Christopher, Dakota, and Alexander, were his pride and joy.

He has worked at Boeing as a system design and integration specialist for the past decade. Often referred to as a "mad scientist," he was an entrepreneur, an artist, a designer, an inventor, and a thinker. One friend expressed that John was the "closest person I knew to a true Renaissance man."

On November 8, 2023, his heart exploded into a million pieces like a mini Big Bang, and we lost him forever.

A celebration of life will be held on December 2 at 10 am in the FUHS Auditorium. All are welcome.



John and Pam met in Mr. Broemling's Social Studies Class at FUHS when they were both 15 years old. Now at 60, they have three grown sons, have been married for 34 years, and were planning for the next chapter of their lives.

If you know Pam Keller's husband, you know he was brilliant. Everyone knew it except Jonny. He would say that he knew things because he took the time to think and figure it out. His mantra was to find at least four solutions for every problem. With his huge knowledge bank, the world feels less innovative and creative without him here.

He loved his family with all of his heart. He always said how proud he was

of his three sons (Yes, even when they drove him crazy) and how their little family saved him and made him whole.

"I don't know anyone more intelligent, creative, or innovative than my husband, and it worries me to think how we will function without his insight," said Pam. "Our hearts, like his, have burst into a million pieces. We are so thankful for our friends and family who have wrapped themselves around us to share this pain. We could not be surviving right now without you. I love you, John Michael Keller, aka Johnny Woo. Thank you for 34 crazy years- the ups and downs, the bumps in the road, the thrills and excitement -all of it."

Robert "Bob" Edward Pearce 1944 - 2023 and Teri Jean Pearce 1944 - 2023

Robert "Bob" Edward Pearce died on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at his home in Waseca, Minnesota, surrounded by his family.

Bob was born in Santa Monica, California, on May 12, 1944, to Gene Edward and Jeanne Ellen (Halsey) Pearce.

Teri Jean Pearce died on November 9, at St. Mary's Campus of Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, surrounded by her family.

Teri was born in Owatonna, Minnesota, on September 3, 1944, to Toivo Emil and Martha Eileen (Lageson) Harinen.

Bob and Teri graduated from John H. Frances Polytechnic High School in Sun Valley, California, where they were sweethearts. Following high school, Bob attended Stanford University. He left Stanford early to enlist in the Coast Guard and later finished undergraduate and graduate studies. Teri graduated from California Lutheran College.

On March 9, 1967, Bob and Teri were united in marriage in San Francisco, California. They began their married life together in Hawaii, where Bob was first stationed. They



moved to different locations around the nation as part of his Coast Guard service before making Minnesota their home in 1996.

On May 23, 1966, Bob enlisted in the United States Coast Guard and was quickly promoted to Chief Electronics Technician. During his twenty-one years of military service, he was awarded the Coast Guard Medal for Heroism before being honorably discharged as a Commander in 1987.

In Bob's civilian life, he taught seventh-grade math at Parks Junior High, taught engineering at California State Polytechnic University Pomona, and

worked as a Technician at Onan and a Test Engineer for Itron. After retiring, Bob enjoyed volunteering for Waseca Public Schools, was a talented Skywarn storm spotter for over fifteen years, and volunteered for the Red Cross, traveling worldwide to help provide relief.

Teri was an elementary school teacher in various schools around the country. She was Teacher of the Year in 1995 at Laguna Road School in Fullerton, California. Her last teaching position was at North Intermediate School in St. Peter, Minnesota. Teri enjoyed sewing and reading. She also directed the Bell Choir at Christ Community Church.

Bob and Teri were both devoted followers of Jesus Christ. They were long-time active members of Christ Community Church in Waseca, where they enjoyed involvement with Bible study and volunteering in the sound booth.

Their three sons survive Bob and Teri: Gregory (Smruti) Pearce of Los Angeles, CA, Jonathan (Jodi) Pearce of Waseca, MN, and Mark (Jennifer) Pearce of Waseca, MN; four granddaughters, Mikayla (Casey) Cayer, Eleanor Pearce, Esme Pearce, and

Cordelia Pearce; two grandsons: Raahi Pearce and August Pearce; Teri's two siblings: Andrea Juhl of Pittsburgh, PA, and Mark (Judy) Harinen of Waseca; and seven nephews.

They are preceded in death by both of their parents and Bob's younger brother, James Pearce.

Visitation was held from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, November 17, 2023, at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca, MN, and will continue for one hour before the service at the church on Saturday.

Funeral Services for Bob and Teri was at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 18, 2023, at Christ Community Church in Waseca, MN, with Pastor Rick Wulf officiating. Luncheon to follow service. A private family graveside service will take place at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Bob and Teri's memory may be directed to the Red Cross, the US Coast Guard Foundation, and the American Cancer Society.

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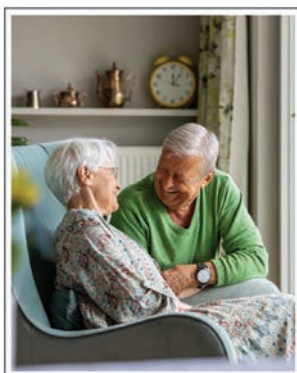
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Stuart Evan Glickman

1937 - 2023

Long time Fullerton resident, Stuart Evan Glickman was born on November 2, 1937 and passed away on October 30, 2023. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and a loyal friend.

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2023

ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "OUCH" 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.

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Timothy Frank Okabe

1997 - 2023



Timothy Frank Okabe was fatally struck by a vehicle while crossing the pedestrian crosswalk at Brookhurst St. and Southgate Ave. Timothy had just finished his shift at Little Caesar's Pizza and began his two-mile walk home. While using the crosswalk directly in front of his work, a Dodge 3500 truck collided with him at a speed that led to his tragic passing. He was 26 years old. Timothy was only steps away from reaching the curb.

Anyone who knew Timothy remembers his infectious smile. He had the kindest heart and most joyful spirit. Timothy was the caregiver for his grandmother, who raised him, and now has dementia and is in hospice.

The profound loss weighs heavily on his family. The family is requesting help to ensure Timothy receives a proper burial. GoFundMe: Timothy Frank Okabe

Timothy's absence will be felt indefinitely.

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself." Luke 10:27

Sunday Service & Sunday school at 10:00 a.m.
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Traversing West Coyote Hills Initial Trails

New pathways in West Coyote Hills opened up to the public back in May. Maintained by the City of Fullerton Parks & Recreation Department, the Initial Trails in the Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve now allow Fullerton residents access to areas that local conservationists have been working to protect for years. I didn't have a chance to check the trails out until recently, so I decided to take a hike with family and write about my experience navigating the new network of paths in the preserve.

The West Coyote Hills trail system traverses hundreds of acres of willow scrub, southern cactus scrub, and coastal sage scrub, according to a sign posted at the Euclid Street trailhead. The main West Coyote Hills trail welcomes pedestrians, bikes, equestrians, and dogs in the newly opened part of the preserve; three pedestrian-only trails branch off the main trail: the Basque Trail, the Cactus Wren Trail, and the Gnatcatcher Trail (horses, bikes, and dogs are not allowed).

There are conflicting signs posted. For example, the welcome sign listing the rules and regulations for the park says explicitly, "Do not bring dogs, bicycles, or horses into the Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve." However, farther down the same trail, there's a sign telling bicyclists to slow down.

Parking at the equestrian center (near Laguna Lake) at Lakeview and Euclid, my family walked on a section of the Bud Turner Trail, which led us to Laguna Road. Before starting, we made sure to bring water bottles, hats, and sunglasses with us, as well as walking sticks. It's also important to wear comfortable hiking shoes or sneakers with good tread for navigating up and down trails. Crossing at the intersection of Euclid and Laguna Rd., we made our way to the Euclid Street entrance, where a sign welcomed us to West Coyote Hills with a map of the open trails. Reading the signs, I learned that the trails are open from dawn to dusk.

The West Coyote Hills trail switchback led up a hill and was surrounded on both sides by wooden fences. The sounds of passing cars on Euclid gradually faded as we made our way up the hill. At some of the higher elevations

farther along, there were points where we could look out over Orange County. I'm sure on a non-smog-filled day, visitors could see out to Catalina Island toward the west and the Chino Hills and Santa Ana Mountains to the east.

We encountered dry pine trees and cacti as the path turned around a curve and continued up a hill. At specific points, metal gates block pathways into the preserve that are not yet open. Red signs on each gate read, "No Public Access - Violators Will Be Prosecuted." More informative signs along the trail provided details about the life histories of local plants and wildlife while celebrating stories about the land and people.

I learned about coastal sage scrub, a dominant plant community within the nature preserve, from one sign. When fog rolls into the area, some plants, such as coyote brush, can capture the fog's water droplets and direct them to shallow roots. I learned that when there are dryer, warmer conditions, plants like white sage will produce smaller leaves to retain what little water they have. Others, such as California sagebrush, drop their leaves entirely and wait for rain. My family spotted quite a number of these plants throughout our hike.

West Coyote Hills' natural open space also supports a population of gnatcatchers. According to signage, the California gnatcatcher likes to search the scrub floor for insects, spiders, and berries, with coastal sage scrub as their home. So, if visitors hear kitten-like mews on their hike, they might be hearing the gnatcatcher's song.

The Basque trail splits off the West Coyote Hills trail, and my family decided to take this route. We hiked down a short stretch of trail and, as it curved, saw what looked like a silhouetted human with a dog in the distance. It was an art installation of an immigrant sheep rancher from the Basque region of Europe. According to a nearby sign posted by the city's Parks & Recreation Department, "By the 1890s, farms and then oil wells replaced Coyote Hills' sheep herds."

Further along, the Basque trail sloped downhill into a small canyon, where a ton of prickly pear cacti lined the hillside. In these hills, hikers, could smell



California sagebrush and white sage. There's also an area where the flat dirt trail becomes more of a flagstone walkway, most likely to protect it from erosion since it seems to be in the path of the hills' natural waterway.

Hiking around another bend in the Basque trail, we encountered a cliffside where the hills' three main plant communities overlapped. Moving uphill, we reached a split in the trail, where the Cactus Wren Trail intersected with the Basque trail. Interestingly, there seemed to be a lot of bird activity on the Cactus Wren trail. Named after the coastal cactus wren, the path looped around a hill before connecting back to the main West Coyote Hills trail. An eucalyptus tree marked the turnoff between these two pathways.

There weren't many visitors on this portion of the main path. At a certain point, the West Coyote Hills trail hit a crossroad, where two pathways (leading deeper into the preserve in two different directions) were blocked by gates with signs warning visitors that these areas were not open for public access. The only way forward was to

the left, where the Gnatcatcher Trail hit West Coyote Hills Trail. A rock ditch had been made on the right side of the trail to most likely divert water runoff down the hill.

My family heard a "canyon symphony" of bird calls on the Gnatcatcher trail. Many birds seem to sing in the morning or later in the evening. According to signage, cactus wrens, gnatcatchers, wrentits, and quail are the most vocal residents of this scrubland, and they announce their presence often. After climbing uphill and looking down at the trails we were just on, we finally came across a single wooden bench and rested momentarily. Continuing on, the Gnatcatcher trail turned a corner and led us between two cliffs to a clearing where it reached a dead-end. So, we had to turn around and return the same way we came in. If access is ever allowed beyond this point, it appears the trail will connect to the Nora Kuttner Trail. According to the city's website, these Initial Trails "will provide a long-lasting public benefit by offering natural recreation while protecting the habitat."

Friends of Coyote Hills Continues to Advocate for Open Space for Everyone to Enjoy

More than a million people live within a 7 mile radius of West Coyote Hills.

Saving Coyote Hills as a park and preserve will provide:

- ◆ a recreation hub in an undeserved, 10-city area
- ◆ educational resource for the community and students of all ages
- ◆ unique ecological values in the region

The last remaining wild areas in the Coyote Hills contain an incredible collection of plants and animals, many of which are rapidly declining as urban sprawl has swallowed up all surrounding land at an alarming rate.

More than 130 species of wildlife live in West Coyote Hills, including

48+ pairs of federally protected California gnatcatchers. Coastal sage scrub, one of the five most endangered plant ecosystems in Southern California, is found in West Coyote Hills in amazing health and coverage. Only three percent of this ecosystem still exists in the world.

Some of the resident wildlife of these hills, such as the endangered California gnatcatcher, are making their final stand here and in other islands of nature among the vast sea of suburbia. Large areas of open space are needed to support this ecosystem.

For more information or to join Friends of Coyote Hills go to:

www.coyotehills.org



Friends of Coyote Hills Nature Walk Saturday, December 9, 2023

Please join us for a Nature Walk on the new trails of the Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve in Fullerton's West Coyote Hills. Meet at 9 am at the equestrian center of Laguna Lake Park, on Lakeview Dr. just east of Euclid St. Bring water to drink and wear comfortable shoes. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.

Friends of Coyote Hills Adopt-A-Park Saturday, December 16, 2023

Please join us and help clean up a special part of Fullerton - the Nora Kuttner Trail and Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve trails. Meet at 9 am in the lower parking lot of Sunny Hills Church of Christ, 2255 N. Euclid St. Bring water, and "trash grabbers" if you have them. Wearing sunscreen and comfortable shoes is recommended. In the event of rain, the clean up will be cancelled.