HAPPY NEW YEAR! Ullerton

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FULLERTON'S ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWS

bserver

The Annual 'Sparkle Balls' and Community Bike Ride

by Jere Greene

Fullerton is full of traditions. One tradition that you will not want to miss is the annual Sparkle Balls bicycle ride coordinated by Tim Johnson from Fullerton Loves. This year, more participants and more neighborhoods plugged in and decorated their streets, keeping this tradition alive and expanding. Here is a little history of how it all began.

In 2002, Don Bales took 50 clear plastic Solo cups, used a small soldering iron, burned holes, and used the melted plastic to connect the adjacent cup. He continued in this fashion to create a plastic ball. Then, using a string of miniature Christmas tree lights, he inserted them from the bottom of each cup to light the ball. When his neighbors saw the new Christmas display, Robert Pillon, along with Jeff Proud, wanted to build some for their homes.

In 2004, Robert and Bill Courtney approached Don, wanting to expand the balls to include the whole street.

See Annual Sparkle Balls page 15







Annual 'Sparkle Balls' and Community Bike Ride 2023 a hit with the whole family. Photos by Gaston Castellanos

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JANUARY, JULY, AND AUGUST

FULLERTON
OBSERVER
PO BOX 7051
FULLERTON CA 92834

OC HEALTH CARE AGENCY ISSUES OCEAN WATER CLOSURE DUE TO RAW SEWAGE SPILL

-OC Health Care Agency Agency

The OC Health Care Agency's (HCA) Environmental Health Division has closed the ocean water from Sleepy Hollow Lane to Cleo Street in the City of Laguna Beach to swimming, surfing, and diving due to a raw sewage spill.

The sewage spill of approximately 600 gallons was caused by a pump failure on a private property.

The affected ocean water area will remain closed to water-contact sports until the results of follow-up water quality monitoring meet acceptable standards.

For information regarding Orange County ocean, bay or harbor postings and closures, please call (714) 433-6400 or visit www.OCBeachInfo.com. To report a sewage spill, please call (714) 433-6419.

Animal Advocates Call for Independent Investigation of OC Animal Care

by Margot Boyer

The fate of hundreds of pet rabbits and rodents from the OC animal shelter is unknown. We need an independent investigation.

In just 20 months, OC Animal Care (OCAC) gave 273 rodents, 200 rabbits, and other small pets to a reptile group. Why a reptile group? Did OCAC even make an effort to find species-appropriate rescues? We don't know. We're worried about what happened to these small pets.

On a recent similar case

involving animals from San Diego, the *Sacramento Bee* reports that: "About 250 'pocket pets' — guinea pigs, rats and mice, hamsters, and rabbits — likely ended up in the hands of a reptile dealer." "Information clearly indicates (the reptile breeder's) intention to use these animals as feed instead of finding them adoptive homes."

Snapshots of email correspondence obtained via Public Record requests show that the *See Animal Advocates page 15*

Mo's Fullerton Music donates St. Catherine's Academy's first electric guitars

by Gaston Castellanos

Mo's Fullerton Music has been in business since 1946, offering private lessons and just about any instrument you might want to play. Roger Palmateer has been running Mo's for the last six years.

Palmateer loves being around music and musicians but doesn't play an instrument himself. He picked out three Peavey Raptor Backstage Packs that include a solid body guitar and amp and donated them to St. Catherine's. "I wanted to make sure the guys have something decent to play with," says Palmateer.

"This is going to have a big impact," says Hernandez Ramos. "New equipment can make all the difference to a student who wants to learn and have fun doing it." Palmateer feels the same way. "There is nothing better than seeing the lights come on in a kid when they get a handle on what they are trying to learn, and you can actually hear it."

See full story online at www.fullertonobserver.com.

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The Early February issue will be distributed on January 29.

Deadline for writers & advertisers is January 22.

Volunteers send resumé to ads@fullertonobserver.com

Apologies for the errors as all proof readers are on vacation. May the New year be everything you need and some of what you want.

Volunteer Positions Available at the Observer!

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

Our purpose is to inform Fullerton residents about the institutions and other societal forces which most impact their lives. This venture is a not-for-profit one.

VOLUNTEER

We are accepting applications for journalists and office workers to join the Observer team. The candidates for this job must live in Fullerton. They must be civicminded and knowledgeable about the different departments that run Fullerton and who the key people are or are ready and willing to learn.

REQUIREMENTS

- Attend civic meetings at least twice monthly in person or zoom the meetings and write reports • Capable of maintaining an ethical and objective standard in reporting.
- · Ability to meet deadlines and accurately fact-check information.
- · Able to contact key players and ask relevant and direct questions while being respectful.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- Accounts manager,
- Advertising sales and creation,
- Distribution,
- Social media manager,
- Communications Coordinator,
- Investigative journalists, and
- File organizing and archiving

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

- Articles published in the paper or online.
- Build journalism portfolio and resume.
- · Letters of recommendation given after three months of volunteering.

APPLY TODAY

To Apply, send resume (with name, number, email, and street address), and availability to: contact@fullertonobserver.com Write your name and Application in the Subject line.

Letter from the Editor



Dear Readers.

My name is Saskia Kennedy. My Grandparents Ralph and Natalie along with a group of their friends started the Observer in 1978. My mother Sharon Kennedy became the editor when her father Ralph died in 1998. In 2020 she retired and Jessie La Tour became the editor. Jessie, Matt Leslie, and I owned the paper together for a short time. I am the owner/editor now.

I grew up traveling in a bus and then living in a small town in Pueblo, Mexico. I visited Fullerton every summer and two weeks in December until I was 18 when I finally moved here. I left and came back a few times.

In between I worked as a hairstylist for a Vidal Sasoon salon, then Super Cuts at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs where I also worked at the Broadmoor as a High Tea attendant to royalty and other dignataries.

I owned a childrens boutique in Carmel. I worked for Pebble Beach Corporation, was an accountant at a lumber company, worked in a design center for people remodeling their homes, managed two restaurants, a coffee house, an art store, drove long haul 18 wheelers, and worked for a detective agency.

I remodeling a 100 year old farm house (thanks to YouTube and This Old House). I built two additional rooms, shored up the foundation, and so much more. Meanwhile, I finally earned an AA and started my own private investigation firm.

I started and stopped college taking psychology, journalism, computer graphics, languages, photography, art, computer science, etc. I love learning and trying new things.

I moved back to Fullerton during the pandemic. Now I run the Fullerton volunteer newspaper. All the revenue from subscribers and advertisers is plowed back into producing, printing, distributing, and mailing the paper.

Our purpose is to inform Fullerton residents about political, economic, and social forces which impact their lives. We hope that this knowledge can empower residents to participate in constructive ways to hold these public and private entities accountable, so they serve Fullerton in lawful, transparent, and socially responsible ways.

We seek to promote a sense of community and an appreciation for the values of diversity with which our country is so blessed.

The importance of Local Media

Over 360 newspapers in the United States have gone out of business since just before the start of the pandemic, according to a new report from Northwestern University's journalism school. That same pace — about two closures per week — was occurring before the pandemic.

In 2020 alone, according to the New York Times, approximately 37,000 employees in the news media sector were laid off, furloughed, or subjected to pay cuts. That represents hundreds of thousands of stories lost in a time as unprecedented as the pandemic.

Despite many people turning to online and social media for their news, the news they trust most comes from T.V., Newspaper, and radio according to a Gallup report, Aug 22, 2019.

"Truth of the matter is, who I elect to the school board affects me much more than who I vote for for president. That's why we've got to get back to rebuilding local news in these struggling communities," said Penelope Muse Abernathy, the author of the report and a visiting professor at Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications.

Become a Citizen Journalist

Citizen journalism is about informing our community about the things that effect our lives. You do not need to have a journalism degree to be a reporter. You just need to report what is happening, what is being said by whom, where, when, why, and how.

Some Ethics to keep in mind from the Society of Professional **Journalists code of ethics**

• Integrity in journalism ensures that

Observer which continues to be an all people and organizations uphold the values of journalism, always strive to do the right thing in all situations, even to their personal or organizational detriment, and put their obligations to the public first.

> •Treat those you deal with in your work with respect and courtesy.

> ·Always identify yourself as a journalist, unless withholding disclosure is essential to uncovering the truth in a matter of public importance.

> •As far as possible, look for opportunities to "show your workings", sharing with the public the underlying information you have gathered.

> •The use of any form of secret information gathering (hidden cameras, secret recording devices, etc.) may be justifiable if it is essential to uncovering the truth in a matter of public importance.

> •Provide anyone accused of misbehavior a reasonable opportunity to respond.

> •Attribute information to its source unless that source needs to be protected to ensure the truth can be uncovered in a matter of public importance. Where a source needs anonymity, provide it.

•Do not plagiarize.

- Speak for yourself and not for all the volunteers at the Fullerton Observer.
- Be accountable. When you commit errors, you must correct them and issue an apology. Invite critique and critisism they help you become a better journalist.
- Act Independently. The highest and primary obligation of ethical journalism is to serve the public. Journalists should: Avoid conflicts of interest and corruption, and resisting the attempts of advertisers and special interests groups to pressure or influence you to write anything other than the truth.
- · Seek Truth and Report It, but Minimize Harm. Ethical journalism treats sources, subjects, colleagues and members of the public as human beings deserving of respect.
- Journalists can influence public perception and therefore it's imperative they practice ethical journalism, by ensuring information is true and accurate.

Do not omit facts that are material to an understanding what you are report-

Context is often critical to accurate reporting. Ensure that adequate context is provided.

Clearly distinguish between fact and assertion or opinion.

FULLERTON'S ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWS

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

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

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

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- ADVERTISING
- City Planning Reporter
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- Infrastructure & Resources Reporter

Send writing sample and resume to: Contact@fullertonobserver.com

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20th Anniversary of the Slick Chicks

by Jo Ann Brannock

It all started twenty years ago when twelve businesswomen decided to network in November of 2003. Why not form a talented group of these women who would support each other in their businesses with the cost of only their lunches? Doreen Eadie-Carbill, in speaking with her mother, decided to create this organization formally.

They would meet once a month at different restaurants and business locations. Doreen named the organization Slick Chicks E.T.C. (Educated, Talented, and Confident). In its 20th year, Slick Chicks has grown from 12 to 75 women.

The purpose is to network. At these get-togethers, there are 30-second commercials for their businesses. Referral slips are filled out when a company or person is interested in the specific service or product presented, and contacts can be effectively made.

The organization is free to its members, and complimentary contributions can be made to offset the cost of these slips or other minor expenses. Membership is through word of mouth



Comedian Jennifer Arundale

and has been handpicked by Doreen to ensure that only two professions are represented to serve each member better.

Meetings are relaxed and enjoyable and an effective way to learn about other businesses. At each meeting, one or two speakers are given about 20 minutes to discuss their business.

At this celebration meeting of the 20th year, the group was given an entertaining presentation by Jennifer Arundale, actor, comedian, and host. She will be appearing soon at the Jimmy Kimmel Comedy Club.

Annual Sparkle Balls

continued from front page

Jeff Proud and Murph Pierce joined Don and began impromptu classes on the construction techniques. Thus began a weekly ritual consisting of watching Monday Night Football and making 'sparkle balls.' The group began to expand with Bobbie McCoy and Jeff Michaels as more and more neighbors began joining in on the fun.

This grew each year and has evolved into an annual display that includes most of the Yale residences. The homeowners each build and/or buy the materials to decorate their homes at whatever level they want. Each contributes \$50 to help obtain a powered high-lift platform from American Rentals in Bellflower. Beginning on Black Friday, Bob Ford coordinates a team of residents to begin the installation. Wires are strung; those on the high lift hang the balls and wrap many of the trees along Yale.

Finally, a power drop is fed to each home to light the display for all to enjoy. People who have heard about the Yale Loop 'Sparkle Ball' display



come from a wide area of Southern California, and yet many who live in Fullerton are surprised when they discover this hidden treasure. Entering north onto Yale at 801 East Chapman, a short left and right turn hides the display from Chapman Avenue.

While this began as a local project for the Yale residents, it has recently been expanding to Princeton Circle and other streets in the surrounding area. Who knows, in years to come, all of Fullerton could, as in Paris, France, become known as 'The City of Lights.'

Dear Observers,

Enclosed is payment for my subscription plus extra to help with your expenses.

Everything I know about Fullerton I learned from reading the *Observer*. I thank everyone whose steady hard work keeps it going.

All the best in 2024!

Caroline *Fullerton*

Dear Mike Ritto,

Thank you for all your support with the passing of our dear friend Tommy. You and the *Observer* with your pictures and articles put tears in my eyes several times.

I/we are beyond grateful to you in honoring Tommy! We miss him terribly!

Love Corrie Fullerton

Gerrymandered?

In a letter in the Mid-December issue, Matt Leslie takes issue with an article by Jack Hutt where Jack states that Jesus Silva was "Gerrymandered" out of District 3 in the 2022 redistricting process. Matt argues that the 2016 districting map with its illogical lines was a Gerrymander (absolutely), but that the 2022 map with its straighter lines is not.

He asks readers to compart the two maps and decide which is the Gerrymander. The correct answer is both: just because the lines do not resemble a salamander, does not mean that the map is not a Gerrymander. With all the sophisticated districting software available today, and in a city with a substantial grid layout, a straight line Gerrymander is not only possible, it is exactly what we got. Rather than draw the District 2 line along Dorothy, the obvious line separating the hills from the flatlands, the consultant/advisory committee dropped it down to Chapman, putting Silva in district two and giving him no place to run when his term ended since the District 2 seat was occupied. It should be noted that "advisory Committee" that approved this map was highly skewed, including only two Democrats (of seven members) in a city with a Democratic plurality.

Leslie further claims that an east/west district 3 running from the eastern border to near downtown would be a Gerrymander (as it clearly was in 2016). I would argue that such a district would make more demographic sense than the strange current north/south District 3 which runs from the northern border all the way south until it runs out of voters, with the only unifying element being the freeway. North of Bastanchury, in hillier part of the district, there are homes that Zillow suggest should sell for over \$2 million. These areas have more in common with District 2. The southern part, with more rentals, and more modest homes, has more in common with the corridor between Dorothy and the tracks. This would not be a Gerrymander, but rather create a district that is more coherent that the current District 3.

Matt Leslie has written excellent articles on the absurdity of the 2016 Popoff/Fitzgerald map (The Bar Owner map). It is not clear why he wishes to defend the current map at this point, which, like the earlier one, was drawn up in such a way that it eliminated the seat of the only Latino on the Council. To have that happen twice in a row suggests more than coincidence.

Vince Buck Fullerton



Tony Bushala Threatens City with a Lawsuit Over Wilshire Road Closure by Saskia Kennedy

Fullerton City Council voted at their August 16, 2022, meeting to establish an outdoor dining "parklet" program on the Walk on Wilshire (WOW) outdoor dining area. The closure sparked much discussion between bicyclists, outdoor dining patrons, and business owners. Several options were put forward, and finally, a compromise was achieved. Council voted 3-1 (Jung "no," Dunlap absent) to approve the new parklet program.

Participants were directed to complete the Standard Outdoor Dining process, including executing an Encroachment Agreement and parklet installation. The 18-month pilot will commence on January 1, 2023, and be brought back to the council sometime in June or July 2024.

However, it seems that some of the businesses owned by Tony, George, and Al Bushala came late to the information and suddenly realized that the new bicycle paint, bollards, and parklets for diners may be permanent. This prompted Tony Bushala to write a letter threatening to sue the city.

Dear Mayor Jung,

We have noticed there appears to be permanent bollards (see attached photos) placed at the west end of Wilshire Ave. at Harbor Blvd. It was our understanding that the street closure at the area near the west end of the 100 W. Wilshire block was done as an "emergency" measure due to the COVID epidemic. Clearly, the justification for that closure is over. Our businesses and residents have been damaged for far too long just to benefit a couple of restaurants. It is time that this comes to an end.

This email puts you on notice that the closure of 100 W. Wilshire Ave. has negatively affected our property values and the good will of our tenant's businesses. We demand the immediate opening of the full width and length of the public right of way or we will commence legal action to enforce our rights. Please let me know ASAP what the schedule is regarding the re-opening of the street?

Tony Bushala, Manager, 124 Wilshire, LLC, 110 E. Walnut Ave, *Fullerton*

City Council Notes by Saskia Kennedy

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, December 19 Meeting



ITEM 13: MAYOR ROTATION & WHO CAN ADD ITEMS TO COUNCIL AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jung excused himself before discussion began due to illness. A quarum was still viable with four council memebers still present.

council chambers at the December 19th council meeting. People from every district in town came to oppose item #13 agendized by Mayor Dunlap and Mayor protem Jung proposing dropping of the Fair Rotation policy for selecting Mayor and Mayor-protem and requiring a 3-vote majority to agendize items.

Two things happened before the meeting began.

1) The agenda item summary was revised to say: "If an item has previously been voted on by the City Council that it cannot be agendized for one year unless three council members request it." And "Change the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem policy to a majority vote on both and eliminate rotation part of the policy."

2) Mayor Jung said he was sick, left the chambers and went home.

Mayor Nicholas Dunlap said the gathered public was misinformed. His intention, he said, was to make it so something that had already been agendized and voted on would have to have three votes to re-agendize.

He failed to mention that the first configuration of item #13 had stated that three votes would be required to put any item on the agenda. Though that wording was found to be against

There was standing room only at the law and the item summary was revised - the body of the ordinance was not revised and remains that though any councilmember can request an item be agendized - it requires a majority vote of three to actually agendize an item (with exception that the Mayor and City Manager retain right to agendize items on their own at any time). This if approved by council majority of three would have effectively ended the former tradition of allowing the votes of any two council members to agendize an item.

> Because Jung had gone home before the vote on this issue came up there was not a three vote majority and the item died on the vine. Listen and watch the entire lineup of intelligent commenters by visiting city website www.cityoffullerton.com and clicking on Agendas & Meetings" and then scrolling to City Council Meeting Dec 19, 2023.

> Ninety-five percent of the public commenters on this issue opposed both items. Included in that number was former Mayor Jan Flory who offered each council member her research (see at right) on how other cities handle agendizing items - showing that several of our largest neighboring cities require only one coucilmember's request to agendize an item.

SURVEY OF 10 LARGEST OC CITIES ALL ADJACENT CITIES Placing Item on Agenda

- 1. Anaheim (Districts and Mayor at Large) 343,000 pop. 2 council members or Mayor.
- March 2024) 314,000 pop. Mayor or one councilmember can request.
- 3. Santa Ana (Districts and Mayor at Large) 308,000 pop. Written requeSt by one councilmember and consult w/City Mgr., City Atty and City Clerk.
- **4. Huntington Bch** (No districts) 199,000 pop. One CM must complete a Request for Council Action. Reviewed by City Mgr. Agenda Review Monday B4 council to give Mayor and staff opp to ask questions, make recommendations, etc.
- 5. Garden Grove (Districts and Mayor at Large) 172,000 pop. City Mgr, Mayor or any one CM.
- **6. Fullerton** (Districts, appointed Mayor) 139,000. City Mgr, Mayor, 2 CM.
- 7. Orange (Districts & Mayor at Large) 134,000 pop. No formal protocol. 1 CM.

- 8. Costa Mesa (Districts, Mayor at Large) 112,000. Any CM can submit written request to city clerk. **2. Irvine** (Districts w/be voted on If item is likely to take more than 4 hrs of staff time, majority of council has to approve.
 - 9. Mission Viejo (Districts) 93,000. No protocol. Any CM can place item on agenda.
 - 10. Westminster (Districts/ At Large Mayor) 91,000. Mayor or 2 CMs

Adjacent Cities (Anaheim shown above)

- 11. Buena Park (Districts) 83,000. Flexible; one CM can put item on agenda.
- 12. La Habra (No districts) 62,000. CM has to bring up at cc and majority must pass.
- 13. Placentia (Districts) 51,000. City Mgr, Mayor or 2 CMs.
- **14. Brea** (No Districts) 47,000 . 2

SUMMARY

- 1. 5 cities (Anaheim, Fullerton, Westminster, Placentia and Brea) require two city councilmembers to place an item on the agenda. Most often, in these cities the Mayor and/or City Manager can also place an item on the agenda.
- 2. 8 cities (Irvine, Santa Ana, Huntington Beach, Garden Grove, Orange, Costa Mesa, Mission Viejo, Buena Park) allow one city councilmember to add an item to the agenda. There is some variation in the protocol. For example, Santa Ana requires a form to be completed by the requesting councilmember and consult with City Mgr., City Attorney and City Clerk. In Huntington Beach, all agenda item requests are subject to the Agenda Review Committee on the Monday before council meets so that the Mayor and staff can ask questions, make recommendations, etc. In Costa Mesa, one councilmember can request, but if it is likely that more than 4 hours of staff time will be required to "work up" the item, then the majority of council has
- **3.** Only one city, La Habra, required a majority of the council to approve placing a matter on the agenda. It should be noted that La Habra is a small

CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ANNUAL REVIEW

1. Public Employment Per Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) Title: Chief of Police

Conference with Real Property Negotiator - Per Gov Code Section 54956.8

2. Property: 2515 San Carlos Drive, Fullerton, CA 92831 Agency Negotiator: Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez

Negotiating Parties: Bridge Boxing Club Under Negotiations: Price and Terms 3. Conference with Real Property Negotiator - Per Gov Code Section 54956.8

Property: 1737 West Roberta Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92833 Agency Negotiator: Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez

Negotiating Parties: Higher Ground Under Negotiations: Price and Terms

Conference with Legal Counsel

- Existing Litigation Per Gov Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) 4. Name of Case: Air Combat USA v. City of Fullerton
 - Case Number: OCSC 30-2017-00952643
- 5. Name of Case: Divvakumar Arora v. Anaheim Police, et al.
 - Case Number: OCSC 30-2023-01358961
- 6. Name of Case: Californians for Homeownership, Inc. v. City of Fullerton
- Case Number: OCSC 30-2022-01281840
- 7. Name of Case: Destiny Forcone v. City of Fullerton
- Case Number: OCSC 30-2022-01254741
- 8. Name of Case: Anne Hamilton v. City of Fullerton, et al.

- Case Number: OCSC 30-2022-01254996
- 9. Name of Case: Langenbacher, et al. v. City of Fullerton, Fullerton P.D. Case Number: OCSC 30-2022-01296035
- 10. Name of Case: A.R.L (Amber Leon) by and through her mother, Yakzeny Martinez and Yakzeny Martinez, Individually v. City of Fullerton, et al. Case Number: FDC 8:21-cv-00929-FWS (JDEx)
- 11. Name of Case: Setsuko (Sutsuko) Mori v. City of Fullerton
 - Case Number: OCSC 30-2021-01230299
- 12. Name of Case: Jacob Poozhikala; JP23 Hospitality Co. Inc. v. City of Fullerton, et al.
 - Case Number: OCSC 30-2021-01234852
- 13. Name of Case: Mari Ramirez, Chelsea Ramirez and Deja Ortiz v. City of Fullerton, Grant Morey Minor Client: City of Fullerton Case Number: OCSC 30-2023-01322104
- 14. Name of Case: Elizabeth Herrera Ruiz v. City of Fullerton
- Case Number: OCSC 30-2022-01274613 15. Name of Case: Magdalena Sanchez v. City of Fullerton
 - Case Number: OCSC 30-2022-01263620
- 16. Name of Case: William Serrano III v. City of Fullerton et al.
- Case Number: OCSC 30-2013-01344859
- 17. Name of Case: Estate of Noah Weatherly v. City of Fullerton
- Case Number: OCSC 30-2018-01037224



Vickie Talley (in striped shirt) sits behind Rancho Fullerton Mobilehome Park Manager Andrea West and the owner of the park Susan James. Rancho La Paz Mobilehome park owner John Saunders was not in attendance.

ITEM 14: PROPOSED MORATORIUM ON EXISTING SENIOR-RESTRICTED MOBILE HOME PARKS CHANGES

There are two 55+ Senior-restricted mobile home parks in Fullerton, Rancho La Paz, and Rancho Fullerton, each with over 300 resident homeowners. Several cities faced with the possible loss of affordable senior housing have put moratoriums in place and then decided to create overlay zone districts to protect senior mobile homeowners living within their cities (see list below). The item required a 4/5 vote to pass, so, according to City Attorney Jones, with Jung absent – the vote had to be unanimous, which didn't happen at the December 19 council meeting.

The proposed 45-day moratorium would have given staff enough time to look into the issues surrounding Rancho La Paz Mobilehome Park's notice of conversion from Senior-Only to All-Ages Park. The four councilmembers did agree, after a somewhat confusing discussion (laid out in part below), to direct staff to come back with information on the city's current Tenant Subsidy program for low-income residents of the park and other options if the conversion causes more seniors to lose their homes.

Item 14 was placed on the agenda by Councilmembers Ahmad Zahra and Shana Charles. The resident homeowners of Rancho La Paz (which spans both Fullerton and Anaheim) were given notice on December 9 of a Zoom meeting set for the morning after Christmas – this is for an elderly population where 80% have no computer, cell phone, or internet.

The park owner, John Saunders, called the meeting to present the new 44-page Park Rules and Regulations. The document's first sentence describing Park Status came as news to the senior homeowners, announcing that "Rancho La Paz Mobile Home Park is an All-Age Park with no minimum age requirement for Residents.

After receiving the notice, La Paz homeowner Lupe Ramirez brought the situation to the attention of Fullerton and Anaheim council members - and a few took action. Fullerton's City Manager's office contacted the property owner and received written confirmation that the meeting had been moved to a more reasonable date of January 11 and would take place in person at the park instead of over Zoom.

During the item discussion, public commenter Jane Reifer mentioned what she said was the real health and safety issue. She said she believed that when Senior parks lose that "senior" designation, residents in the park also lose whatever rental assistance programs are in place for a seniors-only park. "Seniors may become homeless."

Fullerton's Director of Community & Economic Development, Sunayana

Thomas, confirmed the loss of current city rental assistance.

Reifer, known for her deep study of issues citywide, also predicted that next year, "the council will be asked to approve sweeping changes that will transform the look and feel of Fullerton. If you don't want overbuilding in Fullerton, you must try to preserve some of our current public housing," she said. "We need to stop the upward pressure for increased rent at Rancho La Paz."

Western Manufactured Housing Communities (WMA) Manufactured Housing Education Trust PAC (have been generous contributors to the campaigns of the majority on both Fullerton and Anaheim councils and were present at the Fullerton meeting to oppose the Moratorium. Both park-owner groups are anti-rent control advocates.

Julie Pauley, representative of WMA, participated over the phone. At the same time, Manufactured Housing Education Trust PAC executive director Vickie Talley sat with Rancho Fullerton park owner Susan James (for the Nicolas Family Trust) and manager Andrea West. James and West were most recently in the news for taking an elderly Korean American couple to eviction court for minor violations after their home remodel completion date was extended due to an injury.

They were present to lobby against placing the Moratorium. Susan James described major improvements at Rancho Fullerton, located on W. Valencia. She claimed the 54-year-old park offers 20-year leases and has no intention of selling or changing it from a senior park. She said she was opposed to a senior overlay zone.

Andrea West - claimed she, as manager, and her team take pride in offering seniors an affordable and healthy community to enjoy. She said that the rent increase for 2024 is \$28, and space rent is \$1,025 - far below what other parks charge. She said the management hosts events and annual holiday dinners. "We're proud of our park and diverse community." She said, "When Rancho La Paz sold in 2019, the fears about rising rents drifted to our park, so we offered long-term leases at 4%."

"If all this was true, mentioned one public commentator, "it is unclear why you are speaking against the moratorium, which wouldn't seem to affect your business at all."

Manufactured Housing Education Trust director Vickie Talley assists mobile home park owners through conversions. She said she "works with cities on mobile home issues." (Among services her group offers park owners is a "rent subsidy" program that has been found lacking by many homeowners trying to get help. MHET also lobbies against rent control of any kind.)

Talley said that Councilmember Zahra had given her a call because of her 41 years of expertise. "It is required by law to hold a meeting to discuss the rule change," said Talley. The owner of Rancho La Paz has announced the intention to change to an All-Age Park. "No action by this council will change that; it will happen," Talley claimed. She put forth the very true idea that families need affordable housing, too. She said that with the change to all-age, the "seniors living at Rancho La Paz now can benefit from a much larger base when putting their homes up for sale when the time comes."

Julie Pauley with the WMA (Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association, which lobbies for mobile home park owners and is a generous contributor to council campaigns and anti-rent control measures, etc.) said they also oppose the Moratorium and consider it a step toward a hostile senior overlay zone. Like Talley, she claimed the city can do nothing about it. She noted that no Rancho Fullerton residents attended the meeting, claiming their absence proved there were no problems. In addition, she threatened the city with lawsuits if an overlay zoning is placed over Rancho Fullerton. "It's terrible that residents run to the media, legislatures, and city officials over simple rule changes, claiming their lives are at stake. Just an example of hysteria," she said. "Parks change from senior to all-age frequently in California with no fanfare." She called the rental assistance at Rancho La Paz "a model" that they hold up to other

Todd Harrison, who lives at Rancho La Paz, said most of what the three Saunders supporters said is wrong. "At the time of Saunders's 60% rent increase four years ago, we came to this council for help and were heard by some people. You did what you could with rent relief help, but it still has killed or caused many seniors to move out. Since Saunders started raising the rents on fixed-income seniors, many have been forced out and forced to sell their homes to him at well below what they bought them for. Then he rents or sells to whoever at twice the rate." Changing the designation definitely affects the rent and the crime rate.

His wife Yolanda continued reading advice from Saunders's lawyer on turning senior parks into all-age park money makers. "It is part of their plan. Raise the rent so seniors have to move out, then change the designation. The rent was \$700. Now, it's \$1,800 - just for the land. Many of us live on our Social Security. Twenty seniors moved out. I am begging - please let us keep our homes. It is a safety issue."

Anjali Tapadia said she was worried about the residents. As a doctor, she treats people on fixed incomes daily and hears about the medications they can't afford, mortgages they can't afford, and more. "I worry about their

ability to stay in their homes or to find new homes if they lose what they have especially seniors with health restrictions. I support the moratorium – it would not preclude the changes but would give the city time to see how these changes will impact this community. I do worry that the motivation behind this change is to raise rents, which would drive many out. I would not like to see people in my community being evicted from their homes and would always choose them over the whims of a business person. That's what a community is," she said.

Karen Loreda said it was an extremely complicated and controversial issue, with the bottom line being the city's legal options. "My recommendation is to put the Moratorium in place to study those options. And I add my voice to Councilmembers Zahra and Charles, residents of the mobile home parks, and residents of Fullerton who support affordable housing opportunities in our city for senior citizens."

Egleth Nuncci pointed out, "We have 145,000 residents in Fullerton and two Senior Mobilehome parks. That is not enough for our senior community. Believe me, I am one who wants affordable housing for everyone, but I think we have to have a heart and compassion for our elderly who need our support." She said the moratorium would stop some owners who just see dollar signs when they look at people. The Moratorium, she said, will give all of us a chance to learn about options. "I have seen Rancho La Paz residents coming here in distress for years. Some have been sick – and some have had heart attacks – how can we allow that in our city? Please give them the 45day Moratorium."

Curtis Gamble supported the Moratorium and pointed out that Rancho La Paz already sits in the SB 2 Overlay Zone for emergency shelters. He noted the park sold a few years ago for \$85 million and suggested the city should partner with Anaheim and buy the park for seniors and low-income. He pointed out that "there are very few places dedicated to seniors, and these seniors worked hard to buy their homes.'

Zee said he was for a two-year moratorium. Noting that there are only two Senior Parks in town, he suggested Saunders make a real estate trade with an existing all-ages park. He talked about caring for his elderly relatives who live on \$1500 a month.

Diane Vena said, "We have all heard from the residents about the constant stresses they have endured over the last two years, with large rent increases affecting their health and some losing their lives and homes. This is an additional threat to their health, lives, and home security. Please allow this moratorium to learn how to help and protect them – this is what the community is for. It is not just about businesses doing what they want."

Bernard thanked Zahra and Charles for bringing this issue to the council and for doing something to help the vulnerable senior community.

See City Council Notes Continued on page 20

How to contact your District Representative

Mayor/ Chair • District 2: Nick Dunlap

(714) 738-6311

nicholas.dunlap@cityoffullerton.com

Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair • District 1: Fred Jung (714) 738-6311

fred.jung@cityoffullerton.com

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

shana.charles@cityoffullerton.com • District 4: Bruce Whitaker

(714) 981-8474 bwwhitaker@live.com

• District 5: Dr. Ahmad Zahra (714) 738-6311 AhmadZ@cityoffullerton.com



Above: Dashing With Darden traveling concert performs carols on Wilshire. Below: Fanny and The Tremors played classic rock at Back Alley



Wilshire Weekend

The next evening, just a block west of The Museum Center on Wilshire, patrons of Fullerton Brew Company, Mulberry Street, and the newly opened Vangs World Vintage and Collectibles shop were treated to the first stop of the Dashing With Darden traveling concert. The local favorites performed their unique versions of Holiday tunes we may have heard before but never quite like this. Several people in the audience stopped by with kids who

danced in the street, and some of the big kids went on to the next stop at The Twisted Vine, which was not far away.

Right across Wilshire to the south, Fanny and The Tremors played classic rock to an overflowing audience that also filled the outdoor seating. Not wanting to miss out, we kept ducking inside to catch a tune or two, as you see here. And the traveling concert was there later in the evening, too. It was yet another great night of live music and art in our downtown.

The Sho Goes On

Sure, Fullerton is right next to Anaheim, and Angel fans are disappointed that Shohei Ohtani has moved on, but he did not move far. We are only 30 miles from Dodger Stadium, and the press came a callin'. In fact, a Japanese news team checked in with Past Times Collectibles to take the temperature of local baseball fans from the guy who would know more than most, Tom Elliott, who was asked how the local fans feel about his signing with the rival Dodgers. In the next issue, we will have a link to the video, so don't touch that dial.

Photo Quiz

Send answer to Mike at AllMedia@sbcglobal.net



This time: Where was this vintage brick found? If you want this chunk of downtown history, let us know that too, and if more than one does, we will do a drawing. Yeah, start your brick collection today; no Pink Floyd jokes are needed.



Last time: Good call, readers; yes, that tree towers over our Fullerton Arboretum.





The Fender show curators Jim Washburn (pictured at left) and Richard Smith with Elvia Rubalcava the Fullerton Museum Director at the opening.



Leo Rules

The wind blew itself out; the sun went down, the stars arrived, and the bands tuned in and played on. Leo Fender: Fullerton to the World, the newest Fullerton Museum tribute to Leo Fender and his many musical innovations, opened on Saturday, December 9.

Curators Jim Washburn and Richard Smith, along with the always busy Elvia Rubalcava and staff, turned things up a few notches with live music, historic photos, artwork, displays, observations, and, of course, a variety of Fender guitars, amps, and even some surprising pieces that most did not even realize were Fender products.

The new exhibit will be there until March 17, and when you go, make sure you take your time and observe all the intriguing details. We were a



bit rushed and will go back again soon. Also, check out the permanent gallery, Strumming Through the Decades, inside the Museum and view the map of Fender landmarks around Fullerton, plus many local mementos and testimonials by Fullertonians. For hours and other info, please go to www.fullertonmuseum.com



Going, Going, Gone

Driving by the building at 129 W Commonwealth for years and seeing only a large banner on the front announcing the Ostrich Egg Distillery would be hatching soon has given way to a new view.

First, we saw a building without a roof, then without one of the walls, then another. Yes, it will be a complete demo, with the vintage bricks being salvaged for a project in Mexico. Read carefully; yes, there will be a quiz. It's good to know they will have a new life.



We were told that the entire project would take about a year, and the design includes the bottom floor distillery, golf simulators on the second floor, and a rooftop bar. Wow.

Waiting for word, will they offer pickled ostrich eggs?

BTW, we are getting more info on the building of the company that supplied the bricks; early deliveries were done by train, and the company grew quickly until buildings were no longer made of brick. That will be in our next issue, along with renderings of the new business.

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

"My 200TH Puzzle!" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 15)

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ACROSS

- 1. Part of the inn crowd
- 6. "Knives Out" writer/director Johnson
- 10. Start for many Ocean Spray juices
- 14. Dogpatch resident
- 15. Actress McClurg
- 16. Letterman rival
- 17. 200 pounds
- 20. Legal conclusion?
- 21. "Chop, chop!" 22. Blue book filler
- 23. Locks in a barn?
- 25. News article intro
- 27. 200 calories
- 31. JFK and FDR
- 35. It comes from the heart
- 36. One way to listen to music
- 38. Dog doc
- 39. Corporate shuffle, for short
- 40. Fr. holy woman

- 41. Amtrak's bullet train
- 43. Oakland-to-Palo Alto dir.
- 44. URL starter
- 46. Anticipate
- girl!"
- 49. 200 feet
- 51. Gwyneth Paltrow's lifestyle
- 53. Canadian tank filler
- 54. Rand McNally product
- __ you don't!"
- 59. Hawaii's Mauna
- 62. 200 years old
- 66. Lackluster
- 67. Arid
- 68. Diarist Nin
- 69. "Crimes and Misdemeanors"
- 70. Like some history
- 71. "The Balcony" playwright

Down

- 1. More, in Madrid
- Baby" (song from "Hair")
- 3. "Need You Tonight" band
- 4. Last month
- Lanka
- 6. Moses parted it
- 7. Bean sprout?
- 8. Paper vehicle 9. Colo. neighbor
- 10. Out of business
- 11. Suggestions, for short
- 12. "Puppy Love" singer Paul
- 13. Snoopy
- 18. Mary Poppins, e.g.
- Zeppelin
- 24. Bit of pirate-speak 26. Cancel key
- 27. Anklebones 28. Obtain by force
- 29. Great Plains tribe
- 30. Sexist, say

- know that!"
- 33. Honeydew, e.g.
- 34. Smelled awful
- 37. Actors Tim and Tyne
- 40. Travel break
- 42. "Sweet" woman of soft rock
- 45. However, briefly
- 46. Mexican bread
- 48. Hercule's creator
- 50. Boarding site
- Kosh B'gosh
- 54. Palindromic pop group
- 55. Confess
- 56. Its symbol is Pb
- 58. Wife of Zeus
- 60. "Chestnuts roasting open fire"
- 61. End in
- 63. Spanish bear
- 64. Henpeck
- 65. Pres. after FDR

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Vegans and Vegetarians Restaurant Choices by Anjali Tapadia

Orange County is a foodie haven with plenty of amazing options for vegans and vegetarians. For those looking for a new place to try, here is a list of great vegan/vegetarian-friendly eateries in Fullerton and beyond. Happy eating!

IN FULLERTON:

1) Huntington Ramen - This cozy Japanese restaurant near Chapman and Raymond in Fullerton serves ramen, sushi, and other dishes. An extensive vegan menu is available, in addition to a non-vegetarian menu. Excellent service and delicious food. Casual.

1325 E Chapman Ave

2) Chicana (formerly Chicana Vegana) - Innovative Mexican-American restaurant Commonwealth in Fullerton, serving incredibly flavorful vegan tacos, burritos, nachos, and burgers! Casual.

113 E Commonwealth Ave 3) Two Saucy Broads - Celebrated

pizza shop on Commonwealth and Highland in Fullerton, with vegan options for specialty pizzas and sides. Small seating area. Casual.

108 S Highland Ave

4) Spice Social - Indian-American fusion on Commonwealth near Malden in Fullerton. Trendy decor and delicious entrees. Serving street food as well as more elevated entrees, with vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. Hip, classy.

138 W Commonwealth Ave

5) Monkey Business Cafe - Bright. airy diner on Lemon and Amerige in Fullerton. Plenty of flavorful, filling, and fresh options to please vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike. Nonprofit serving Hart Community Homes' group homes. Casual.

301 E Amerige Ave

6) Curry Hut - This small, charming Indian restaurant on Chapman and Raymond in Fullerton serves typical staples as well as street food. Dishes are flavorful and portion sizes are generous. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian items are available. Casual.

1317 E Chapman Ave

7) Crepes Bonaparte - A charming little creperie on Harbor and Santa Fe in Fullerton, serving carefully-crafted crepes with delicious vegan, vegetarian, and non-vegetarian options. In addition, their food truck is often seen at downtown Fullerton events throughout the year. Casual.

115 S Harbor Blvd

8) Mogumogu - This lively restaurant on State College and Valencia in Fullerton serves ramen as well as mazemen - think ramen without broth, but still with a lot of flavor and texture. A small but substantial vegan menu is available. Outstanding service and delicious meals. Casual.

341 S State College Blvd

9) Twin Dragon - A quintessential Chinese-American takeout restaurant, on Placentia and Yorba Linda Blvd in Fullerton. Vegetarian options are plentiful and delicious, ingredients are fresh, and customization is permitted. Casual.

1722 N Placentia Ave

OUTSIDE FULLERTON:

1) Tana Ethiopian Restaurant - A lovely Ethiopian restaurant on La Palma and Magnolia in Anaheim serving home-style and expertly-prepared meals full of flavor. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options are filling and satisfying. Coffee ceremony, with freshly roasted and ground coffee, is also available. Casual.

2622 W La Palma Ave, Anaheim 2) Au Lac - One of Orange County's best-loved vegan Vietnamese restaurants, serving more traditional entrees as well as Western options. A raw food menu is also worth checking out. Service is outstanding. Classy, casual.

16563 Brookhurst St, Fountain Valley 3) Happy Family Restaurant - This is a fully vegan and vegetarian Chinese restaurant with an extensive menu. Dishes are prepared fresh and never

fail to disappoint. In the 99 Ranch complex on Nogales in Rowland Heights. Casual.

1015 Nogales St, Rowland Heights

4) Taste of Beauty - A rare upscale, fully-vegan restaurant on Brookhurst and Ellis in Fountain Valley. Serves elegant dishes in a pan-Asian menu. Tasting menus are also available. An experience unto itself. Upscale, classy. 18420 Brookhurst St, Fountain Valley 5) Kaju Soft Tofu - An Orange County institution for Korean soft tofu soup. Several locations, closest on Orangethorpe near Knott in Buena Park. A vegetarian soup base option is available. Dishes are filling, flavorful, and very comforting. Service primarily

provided by cute robot servers. Casual.

7232 Orangethorpe Ave, Buena Park

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FULLERTON JOUNT UNION HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS & Commentary by Vivien Moreno For more information: (714) 870-2800 or www.fjuhsd.net

December 12 Meeting



All board members stood in a moment of silence for Anthony White. Anthony White passed away on Friday, November 25th after battling a very rare, aggressive form of cancer since April of this year.

Anthony coached from 2010 to 2016 and, under his leadership, turned the

previously struggling Coyotes football program into a perennial winner. As head coach of the Coyotes in his final season, he led his team to attend the record and the Freeway League Championship, the school's first league title in 25 years.

Anthony's career as an educator is equally impressive and successful. In 2014, he was honored as one of Orange County's Top 100 Most Influential People by the *Orange County Register*. He was a finalist for the Buena Park High School Teacher of the Year in both the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 school years. Additionally, Anthony was instrumental in developing, implementing, and teaching the recently introduced and popular Ethnic Studies course.

Anthony's thoughtfulness and generosity surpassed his coaching and teaching accomplishments. Anthony is survived by his wife, Sam, and his children, Anthony Junior and Olivia Grace.

Board Updates

The December 12 FJUHSD organizational board meeting rotated Dr. Chester Jeng in as new Board President and Dr. Vicki Calhoun as next in line for President of the board.

After Student Board Member (SBM) Esmerelda Lozano's absence in November, Sunny Hills High School senior, Katey Sweeney was sworn in as FJUHSD Student Board member and Sonora High School Senior Grace

Nevis as Vice President. Student Board Members are appointed, not elected and the person holding this seat may be replaced at administration or the student's request.

The Trustees and administration took a moment to honor Anthony White, Buena Park High School Head Football Coach and Ethnic Studies/Social Studies teacher who recently passed in late November from cancer. He was greatly respected and is missed by his family, students, colleagues, and administration.

School reports covered holiday celebrations throughout all the high schools and administration celebrated fall CIF and Freeway League champions. The honors can be found in the first 20 minutes of the meeting at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiqt917jQ3s.

Dr. Steve McLaughlin thanked Trustee Joann Fawley for her year of service as Board President and celebrated the 40th anniversary of Trustee Marilyn Buchi's tenure on the FJUHSD Board.

Budget Updates

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Ruben Hernandez presented the first interim report on the budget. The 2023/24 FJUHSD budget stayed at \$247 million which includes the 8.22% COLA (cost of living adjustment) and the large one-time money allocations from the Learning Recovery Grant and the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Grant. The Arts Grant requires a board authorized plan, but so far, the Trustees have not publicly discussed a proposal. Education budgets and COLA are calculated on the prior year's funding and rise of inflation. Mr. Hernandez reported that even with enrollment down to 12,823 from last year's 13,173 students and increased expenditures for supplies and capital project costs, the ending fund balance for FJUHSD stands at \$71 million in reserves even if the district continues to follow the current 2023/24 budget.

The Legislative Analyst Office (LAO), California's nonpartisan economic watchdogs, predict that California's economy will experience another deficit next year due to ongoing higher interest rates and a slowing economy, meaning less funding for

education. The predicted cuts call for planning and conservative fiscal spending, but both the state and our local FJUHSD level reserves are strong, so ongoing programs and personnel should stay stable. Rising Federal interest rates coupled with other factors are slowing down rising inflation, leading to stagnation at the higher price point and interest rates of this past year. The LAO currently predicts a COLA of only 1.27% for the 2024/25 budget reflecting this year's stable (if higher) cost of living. However, Mr. Hernandez supports a fiscally conservative outlook for future spending reflecting the district's regular fiscal protocol.

This ongoing, downward trend in funding makes the Local Control Accountability (LCAP) meetings vital way for parents, students, and teachers to tell the Trustees what programs and personnel are essential to ongoing student learning and wellbeing. If the administration and the trustees remain ignorant of which programs and services lead to student achievement versus what is not effective, when lower budgets determine program and other cuts, the district may remove the most effective recent improvements along with redundant expenses. Now is the time to contact the Trustees and tell them what academic and support programs are helping student success and learning recovery. As the state steadily embraces categorical spending in the form of one-time money grants with expenditure deadlines, districts need focused and detailed LCAPs to guide the trustees to allocate funds where teachers, parents and students communicate as necessary.

Next FJUHSD Board meeting January 9 at 6pm.

Fullerton School District DUAL LANGUAGE ACADEMY 2024 - 2025 NOW ACCEPTING INTENTS! SIGN UP FOR A TOUR! Great Schools, Successful Kids

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 Spanish and English Dual Immersion 90/10 Model
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FULLERTON JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

1051 W. Bastanchury Road, Fullerton, CA 92833 **www.fjuhsd.org**



High School Open Enrollment Option

The Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD) offers an open enrollment option for students who live within the District boundaries. Students have an opportunity to apply for attendance at one high school other than their school of residence.

Applications for the 2024/25 school year must be completed in person at the school of residence, **January 16 through February 2, 2024**. Proof of residence is required (utility bill and rental agreement/mortgage statement).

Application window will be closed on February 2, 2024 at 3:00pm.

Acceptance letters will be mailed by the end of February.

For more information visit www.fjuhsd.org or contact Eileen Lopez at (714) 870-2846 elopez@fjuhsd.org.

FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD

meets at 6pm on the 2nd & 4th Tues of each month at district headquarters, 1401 W Valencia Dr, Fullerton For agenda go to: www.fsd.k12.ca.us or call (714) 447-7400

December 12 Meeting

DREAM CATCHERS STUDENT RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The meeting opened with a presentation and recognition ceremony to announce the 2023 Dream Catchers highlighting students who are taking their learning beyond the calssroom to make an impact on their community.

The students that were selected are:

- Katelyn Cockrell, 5th grade, Acacia
- Sierra Chavez, 6th grade, Beachwood
- Farrah Kim, 5th grade, Robert Fisler
- **Asch Domin**, 7th grade, Ladera Vista Jr High
- Allison Kwan, 5th grade, Laguna Rd
 Gino Garcia,
- 5th grade, Maple
 Juan Javier Duran Vargas,
 8th grade, Nicholas Jr High

- Owen and Willow Lee, 4th graders, Orangethorpe
- Paxton Yee, 4th grade. Sunset Lane
- Richard Renaud, 6th grade, Woodcrest
- Raylan Danger Levy, 4th grade, Hermosa Dr.

Super Intendent Pletka said, "This is an important ceremony. It's an important thing that we do to take time to recognize our students. These are the change makers. They're making a difference in their community right now. They're making a difference in our schools right now. They're having an impact on all of us. They're doing that by having and following those things that are uniquely theirs."

FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT CHANGE MAKERS CHANGE MA



ELECTIONS FOR 2024 BOARD PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, AND CLERK







Hilda Sugarman Vice President



Beverly Berryman Clerk

Leonel Talavera was unanimously voted as President of the Fullerton School Board for 2024.

Superintendent Pletka said a few parting words about out going President Aruni Thakur, "Each year we recognize the incoming president, but also the sacrifice and the service of the outgoing president. Aruni embraced his role as president and brought a joy with him as he connected with our community. If we look back to the beginning, when a Aruni first got here, we didn't have a mental health department. Right now we have counselors, we have mental health therapists as well as social worker. As an expansion of a mental health staff and experts in large part due to the whole board, but in part to the leadership. And the voice that Aruni gave to this area, we are in the best position we have ever been to meet the needs of our kids social and emotional wellbeing. Aruni is deeply rooted in this community. And it was clear in his entire leadership over the year that he was trying to bring people together and to kind of create synergy across organizations with the city, with nonprofits, and the community."

Hilda Sugarman was voted in as Vice President and Beverly Berryman was voted in as clerk.

ESTABLISH REGULAR MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Tuesday, January 16, 6pm Tuesday, February 20, 6pm Tuesday, March 12, 6pm Tuesday, April 16, 6pm Tuesday, May 21, 6pm

*Tuesday, June 11 & June 18, 6pm Tuesday, July 30, 6pm Tuesday, August 20, 6pm *Tuesday, August 27 Special Board Meeting Superintendent Evaluation, 5 pm

Tuesday, September 17, 6pm Tuesday, October 15, 6pm Tuesday, November 19, 6pm Monday December 16, 6pm Organizational Meeting

REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE OC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Ruthi Hanchett was voted in to represent Fullerton at the Political Action Committee. Beverly Berryman was voted in as the alternate. The OCSBA addresses issues of mutual concerns, provides updates on legislature activity, sponsors topical speakers to enhance OCSBA objectives and recognizes meritorious service on behalf of public education and our youth.



Ruthi Hanchett

REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION FOR THE 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

The nominee is responsible for filling in the ballot voting for who should be president of the Orange County School Board Association Committee. The position is also a rotating position. This will continue to be controversial because the Orange County School Board wants to take it over and disband committees entirely. President Talavera was voted in for this responsibility and trustee Berryman was voted to be the alternate.

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Young Observer Editor Francine Vudoti (front, center) and her team of volunteer contributors at the 5th Annual Conference held December 22, 2023. From Left to right: Front row: Erin, Francine, Tegan. Middle row: Marecella, Jules, Back row: Irene and Mateo. Photo by F. Bilangel

Young Observer Celebrates 5 Years by Francine

How time flies! I was only eight when I first heard about the *Fullerton Observer* from my mom. I had written an opinion about babysitters and my mom thought my view was quite bold and amusing. She suggested that I mail it to the editor of our city newspaper. I did and this opened up an opportunity of a lifetime for me.

The editor, Sharon Kennedy, liked my little piece of writing and asked me to write more. I created my column, "Kids Rule." Soon, readers started following my column, and I discovered the joy and fulfillment of community service

through my volunteer work as a kid columnist.

When I turned twelve, I created the youth section with the approval of the editor and I named it *Young Observer*. I recruited volunteer writers who seem to have found the same joy and fulfillment that I did because they stick with the paper from the time they signed up, with some of them writing for as long as 4 or 5 years, right from the first publication of the youth section.

Read on to find out what being a *Young Observer* means to all of these dedicated volunteers and contributors.



for the
Observer
in 2014.
At right:
Editor
of the
Young
Observers,
Francine
in 2023.

At left: Francine first wrote

Francine Vudoti, 12th grade (2014 to 2023, 9 years as a columnist; 5 years as Youth Editor)

I practically grew up with the paper having written my first article when I was eight through this year at seventeen and about to go to college next fall. To me, being a Young Observer means being proactive. When we see the need for something, we say or do something. When I was eight, I saw the need to share my voice. Had I not done it, I would have missed this rare opportunity to connect with and serve our community. Without a doubt, being proactive can be empowering. It can help shape our lives.





Irene, 12th grade (since 2018) Young Observer Top Volunteer 5-year Milestone Award

To be a Young Observer means to be an advocate. As young students, we often grapple with the misconception that our voices hold little value in our community. The *Fullerton Observer* newspaper and the Young Observers page, however, have effectively dismantled this belief and have inspired me to become an advocate within my community.

Exploring columns spanning from youth representation in politics to the phenomenon of Techno-Orientalism, having a platform to express my often complex perspectives has proved incredibly empowering.

The Young Observers page celebrates diversity in thought and hosts journalists of all different backgrounds. As a contributor, I have the honor of sharing that space with my peers — a privilege accompanied by a responsibility to educate and enrich the Fullerton community. The beauty of storytelling and community engagement has inspired me to continue this extensive, five-year journey with the Young Observers page.

As a resident of Fullerton, my involvement in this publication has fostered a sense of civic responsibility and a personal connection with the city. I recognize the power of writing and the value of my own stories, which has motivated me to continue my contributions to the paper.





Mateo, 10th grade (since 2019, 4 years of service). Young Observer Top Volunteer Award

Being a Young Observer means a lot to me. It gives me a voice in the community and allows me to express my ideas and thoughts through the articles I write. It offers me a foundation from which I can influence and inspire the community to change for the better.

All in all, being a Young Observer keeps me connected to the Fullerton community and makes me feel like a valued member of that community.

It allows me to hone my writing skills outside of school. One of the fields I am considering pursuing for the future is sports journalism, and writing for the *Observer* is a great way for me to practice the skills I need for that field (although I do not write about sports in particular).

Most importantly, the *Observer* allows me to learn about the world around me. I would not be as knowledgeable about the community and other topics if it were not for the *Observer*.

The opinion that started the Young Observers was published in 2014 No Babysitters!

I was walking with my mom in Downtown Fullerton when I saw only parents in the restau- rants. I asked my mom, "Why are those parents by themselves instead of having their children with them?" Mom said that perhaps they left their kids with babysitters.

I think it is not fair that parents go to fancy restaurants and leave their children behind. The children feel very sad without the parents. They imagine how much fun they are having while the miserable child has a bad time with the babysitter. If you leave your child with the babysitter, your family is broken.

Francine V., 8-years-old, *Fullerton*

What does being a volunteer writer mean to you?

Erin, 9th grade (since 2019, 4 years of service)

It means that I get to write and explore ideas about my community as well as topics that pique my interest. At the same time, I love how I

can share my interests with readers who can also learn something new.

Contributing articles to the newspaper is a rare opportunity that allows me to improve my writing

skills. Not only that but when I receive comments and letters about how I impacted people, I gain motivation from the realization that I'm making a difference.

Tegan Yoo, 5th grade (since 2020, 3 years of service)

t means having the privilege and responsibility to communicate with our community through writing. As a voice for the youth, I share valuable ideas and thoughts that can benefit others like those I have shared for my column "Life Hacks." This volunteer work requires dedication and consistency.



It means being committed to sharing ideas regularly and making a positive impact on the readers. This commitment is what has allowed me to become a long-time member. Moreover, being surrounded by like-minded individuals who share similar interests has been another factor in my longevity as a Young Observer. Collaborating with other young writers who are passionate about making a difference has given me a sense of belonging and has further fueled my motivation to keep contributing.

Edyn, 10th Grade (since 2023)

It means uplifting the young community of Fullerton. I have fallen in love with the publication since my first article saw print, leading me to be a part of the Young Observer team.

The most pivotal moment for me was the writing assignment for the Nicholas Jr. High tiny home project event. I met so many great people who provided me with a variety of outlooks, from students to district administrators.

I am so excited to see where this year will take me now that I will have more time on my hands to write. Additionally, the community has been so welcoming, even though I could not attend the annual conference last month due to some unfortunate last-minute circumstances.



Rosie, 7th grade (since 2020, 3 years of service)

It's encouraging and delightful to know that my words are making an impact in this community and that real people read my column, even if I don't always receive feedback.



real people read my column, even if
I don't always receive feedback.
What made me stay with this column is partly the fact
I enjoy writing and partly the dopamine rush I get when
I see my column and my face on the paper at the
library. I love how flexible the commitment is and how



Declan Yoo, 8th grade (since 2021, 2 years of service)

I can encourage people to adopt the pets I write about.

This rare opportunity presented to a few benefits me and the newspaper audience. I express my opinion on medical topics and the prevention of environmental changes that can impact the majority of the human population. Not only can I use this extracurricular activity in a college application, but it also sharpens my writing skills and improves my vocabulary when researching.



Jules, 7th grade (since 2023)

It means being that young voice in the community, writing about the things I love, and being able to share my insight or information on local events. Personally, it is truly an amazing opportunity to share my comics and articles with people in my community. I'm excited to see what the New Year brings for my column and the future of the Young Observers.



Marcella, 7th grade (since 2023)

It is a big opportunity to share with my community what I think, it also is a great way to connect with other writers. Especially when I attended the Young Observers Annual Conference for the first time last month. I was pumped to write more and make more time for this volunteer work.





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To Foster A Pet Email
OCACPROGRAMS@OCCR.OCGOV.COM



The Muckenthaler Cultural Center 1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton 714-738-6595 • *info@themuck.org*

Julia Keefe Thurs, January 25, 7:30pm

Julia Keefe is a nationally acclaimed Native American Jazz vocalist, actor, activist, and educator currently based in New York City.

Her life's work is the revival and honoring of the legendary Coeur d'Alene jazz musician Mildred Bailey and is leading the campaign for Bailey's induction into the Jazz Hall of Fame at Lincoln Center.

\$35 Non-Member; \$20 Member

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 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. 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.



Fullerton Arboretum

CSUF Campus 1900 Associated Rd fullertonarboretum.org

Hours: Monday-Sunday 9am-4pm Bring a picnic and enjoy self guided stroll through the 26-acre historic gardens. Free but \$5 donation appreciated. Parking is \$4 an hour (free on week-ends)

Wednesday Certified Farmer's Market

8:30am - 12:30pm **Fullerton Community Center** 340 W. Commonwealth Ave

The Farmers' Market offers fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, honey, plants, orchids, nuts, and bread. It is operated by the nonprofit Fullerton Certified Farmers' Market Board.

Fiddler on the Roof

Feb 12th - Mar 6th Showtimes, dates and tickets at electriccompanytheatre.org Experience a Fiddler like no other, under the trees of the Muckenthaler Cultural Center, with a production that is intimate in its power to bring you directly into the "circle of our little village" of Anatevka. Electric Company Theatre is the resident theatre company of The Muckenthaler Cultural Cntr 1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton

714-738-6595 • *info@themuck.org*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 06

North OC Boardgamers Game Day Join us on the first Saturday of every month in the FPL Conference Center from 10am to 4:30pm for North OC Boardgamers Game Day. This is a free event for both experienced and new players, with a raffle for a free game at 12:00 noon. Fullerton Public Library W Commonwealth

Fullerton(714) 738-6326

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Rayford Bros @ 4pm

rock Vintage style band. Rockabilly/Country/Blues/Surf. rayfordbros.com

HIGH HORSE SALOON 102 N Harbor Blvd, Fullerton

Fullerton Friends of Music presents

Italian Saxophone Quartet

Saturday February 10, 2024 at 3:30 pm

Fullerton First United Methodist Church

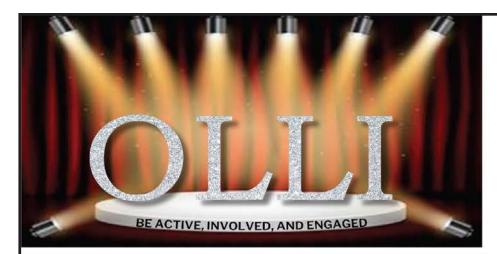
114 N. Pomona Ave, Fullerton

All concerts are free.

For more information, visit our website:

FullertonFriendsofMusic.org, or call (714) 447-8364





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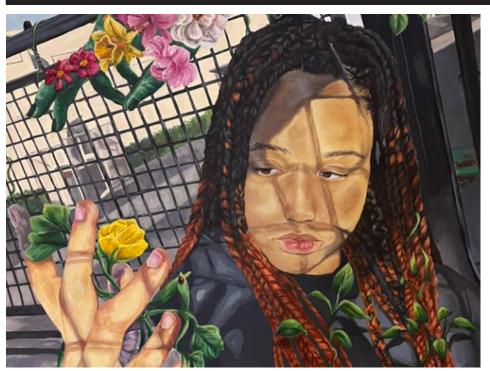
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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Ruby Gerontology Center California State University, Fullerton olli.fullerton.edu (657) 278-4012

- Free parking
- Free admission
- Free refreshments
- Meet OLLI members
- Discover our classes & activities



OLLI-CSUF 45th Anniversary 1979 - 2024



FJUHSD Student Art Show

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 10am through February 9, 2024 4pm On view in the Main & North Gallery The Muckenthaler Cultural Center at 1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton • 714-738-6595 • info@themuck.org This annual exhibition features the work of 100 talented high school students from La Habra, Fullerton, Troy, Sunny Hills, Sonora, Buena Park, La Vista and

The collection is judged by their own art teachers and is comprised of a variety of mediums: painting, photography, sculpture, ceramics, etc.

Who will be the next Pablo Picasso or Florence Arnold?

Muckenthaler's 2023 Artist in Residence: Jac Alva

Jac Alva graduated Summa Cum Laude honors with her MA in Modern Art History, Theory, and Criticism from Azusa Pacific University in 2021.

Her research focuses on modern food-oriented media in fine and commercial art, including packaging, design, and marketing. Jac's interests in this field derive from her years of experience as a food/beverage hospitality worker.

Her exposure to unsavory aspects of the U.S. food system have compelled her to explore the relationship between popular consumption and today's unprecedented levels of food waste as well as its impact on the environment.

Through her investigation of these issues, Jac has unearthed connections between modern art's role in propagating overindulgence within the fields of media, representation, and food culture. Furthermore, from both an academic and creative stance, she explores the art world's innovative solutions to reducing and reusing food waste, thereby aligning her scholastic interests with her artistic endeavors.



Jac's portfolio includes mixed media designs, specifically, food-themed trash art. In addition, as a multi-passionate creative, she has experience curating themed art exhibitions for Low Key Gallery and has built a network of opportunities for artists to share and display their artwork and brands. Currently, Jac serves as an art instructor for The Muckenthaler Cultural Center while administering her own teaching brand, Healing He(art) with Jac Alva Art.

Over the Moon Gallery is an online art gallery featuring works from a variety of artists. Artists Currently Featured in Over the Moon Gallery: Denise Marshall, Jenifer Hernandez, John Sollom, Lauralyn Eschner, Jane Ouweleen, E.E. Jacks, Teri Gammalo, Shaney Watters, Marie Lavallee, Steffi Moéllers, Bob Hogue, Leslie Lambert, and Kate Jarvik Birch.

Art Talk with Over the Moon

by Jane Ouweleen and Carol Van Ahlers of OverTheMoonGallerv.com

Make 2024 a Year Full of Art

or guidelines for which you haven't mation about artists. mustered the energy or enthusiasm in

Why not choose something fun and easy? Consider adding more art to your life this coming year. That's not a resolution - it is an adventure! We have some ideas:

Plan a day trip where you visit an art museum or galleries. We're lucky that So Cal has many art museums to explore, and there are art districts in Orange and L.A. Counties with numerous galleries that are open to the public. Learn more about art and, in viewing, discover what appeals to your own interests.

Attend an ArtWalk. These events usually occur monthly and feature local art. In smaller venues, you'll sometimes have the chance to meet artists and learn more about their art. Fullerton's Artwalk is the first Friday of each month.

View and explore art conveniently

Thinking about New Year's resolu- from home. There are numerous online tions can get old fast. Part of the reason galleries that showcase a variety of artis that many resolutions are strict rules work with excellent graphics and infor-

> Find books about art and artists. You can delve into the art world through books and discover what you like. HalfOff Books on Wilshire in downtown Fullerton is a great place to explore art books. The Fullerton Public Library is another great place to spend a leisurely day.

> One of the best ways to explore your own artistic creativity is to enroll in an art class or workshop. Immerse yourself! There are many options, from a 1/2 day class to a destination trip with instructor guides. Seeing what you can create with a little instruction may inspire you to pursue more artistic adventures.

> We've compiled a list of places locally that offer one-day or multiple-week classes to spark your interest. Most already have their schedules online for the new year, and if not, check back for opportunities that may be added.

Bowers Museum

Located at 2002 N Main St, Santa Ana. the Bowers Museum offers several interesting exhibits, and it also hosts art workshops. Seniors over 62 can enjoy the classes for free; general admission is \$7 for most classes. Upcoming soon are 'Watercolor Tangle Painting,' 'Silk Fan Painting', and a 'Memory Box' workshop. More information call (714) 567-3600 or go to www.bowers.org.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Commonly referred to as OLLI, the institute is affiliated with Cal State Fullerton and offers courses for retired or semi-retired individuals. Art-related classes in this session include:

- Ceramics
- Drawing for the Fun of It,
- Introduction to Watercolor Painting
- Watercolor Workshop

OLLI also offers Art Appreciation courses. To participate, you must register and pay a semester fee, which enables you to take as many classes as you desire. Learn more at: www.olli.fullerton.edu.

The Muckenthaler Cultural Center

Our local cultural treasure, the Muck, offers art classes throughout the year. The new list of classes is now available. Most classes begin on January 8, so it is best to check the schedule online now. Expected offerings include ceramic classes for all levels, including teens and children, Digital Art, Animation, Comic Making, and Introspective Art. Located at 1201 W. Malvern Ave, Fullerton. For more information call 714-738-6595 or visit the website at: www.themuck.org

The Potting Shed

This boutique garden store on the Circle in downtown Orange offers "Workshops on the Plaza." Scheduled for January are two watercolor classes, a pressed flower, and a candle-making workshop.

And for a twist, in January and February, they have three Charcuterie creation workshops, adding some flavor to the art! They will be adding even more workshops to the schedule in the coming days. Private workshops may also be scheduled.

Visit the Potting Shed's website at tpshomeandgarden.com. Located at 10 Plaza Square Suite 102, Orange. For more information call (714) 468-5154.

Brea Gallery

Located in the Brea Civic Cultural Center at 1 Civic Center Cir, Brea. Brea Gallery does not yet have its workshop schedule up for the new

In speaking with the gallery staff, they are planning to host several artist workshops. This is a great way to meet local artists and speak with them while they are creating new works. Keep checking their website at www.breaartgallery.com for workshop dates or call (714) 990-7731.

If you tackle a new art medium in 2024, be kind to yourself. The skilled artists leading the class have hundreds or thousands of hours under their belt. While they can share their techniques with you, it takes time to develop skills and create your own style. Enjoy the process, and have fun!







MAESTRO:

Two Hits

The movie's title refers to Leonard Bernstein, America's first native-born conductor to achieve international fame. He also achieved enormous stature as a composer, his most famous production being "West Side Story," a contemporary adaptation Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" set in New York's Harlem. "Candide," Fancy-Free," and "On the Town" also provide memorable theater experi-

But a true genius can be a difficult human being to live with, and the personal side of Bernstein's life is the focus of "Maestro," which is directed, co-written, and starring Bradley Cooper. Some of Cooper's filming technique choices may seem odd to audiences; for example, the first third of the movie is filmed in black and white, with color appearing when the film reaches the 1960s. Also, there are many scenes in which Felicia Montealegre (Carrie Mulligan), Bernstein's wife and a successful actress in her own right, involves most of the audience's attention.

"Maestro" opens with a morning phone call that awakens twenty-fiveyear-old Leonard, telling him that Bruno Walter, the New York Philharmonic Orchestra conductor, is ill and asking Leonard to take his place in Carnegie Hall that afternoon with no time for a rehearsal. The exultant Leonard lets out a whoop and joyfully pats the buttocks of the young man in his bed. The unrehearsed performance that day was reviewed by every major newspaper and received glowing critiques. Thus, Bernstein's career is off to a glorious start.

Gradually, Bernstein became famous not only for his conducting skills but also for his success as a composer. He creates his own unique style by organically bridging pop culture and serious classical music. If Bernstein had setbacks in his career, this movie certainly does not show them, as we, in the audience, see only a progression of successful achievements. The tension in the movie arises from his personal

In that first scene, we see that he is bedding another man. But the time is remains closeted. Today, we would Cathedral.



probably describe Leonard as bisexual. At a party with attractive and sophisticated show-business people in attendance, Leonard is introduced to the beautiful and charming Felicia Montealegre (Carey Mulligan), a Chilean actress appearing as an understudy in a Broadway production. After showing him the theater, the stage, and the backstage where she performs, Felicia turns to him, and the two embrace in a passionate kiss.

Leonard falls in love with Felicia, and they marry. She continues her acting career, but his professional success far overshadows hers. Soon, they are living in a lovely home outside the city and have eventually become the proud parents of three daughters. Did Felicia know Leonard was also interested in men when she married him? The movie does not make this clear. But as the years pass, she does observe him holding other men's hands and embracing them.

A woman of intelligence and compassion, Felicia finally confronts her husband about his behavior and reminds him that he needs her in his life even more than she needs him. Leonard never doubts the truth of this claim, nor does he doubt his deep love for his wife and their three children. A workable stasis is reached, but tragedy does lie ahead.

Although "Maestro" is not a perfect movie, it is well worth viewing. The acting is superb, especially Mulligan's, which is very likely to get an Academy Award nomination. It is also worth viewing in a theater with a good sound system that can display the grandeur of Bernstein conducting the London Symphony Orchestra in Mahler's the 1940s, and homosexuality is sel- Resurrection Symphony with choir and dom openly displayed and frequently soloists performed in Britain's Ely

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

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Fullerton Union High School's Production of "A Monster Calls" **Wins Top Honors** at Prestigious Theatre Festival

by Michael Despars, Fullerton Union High School Theatre Director

Fullerton Union High School's theatre program is thrilled to announce the outstanding success of its production of "A Monster Calls" at the 2023 California Educational Theatre Association's (CETA) High School Theatre Festival. The production has earned the prestigious top honors, showcasing the incredible talent and dedication of the FUHS Theatre and B.E.A.S.T. programs.

The CETA High School Theatre Festival is a highly competitive event that brings together the best high school theatre programs from across the state. Fullerton Union High School's production of "A Monster Calls" stood out among the submissions, capturing the hearts of the audience and judges alike.

Under the direction of theatre director MIchael Despars, the cast and crew of "A Monster Calls" demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to excellence in the performing arts. "I am so proud of all of the actors, technicians and students who worked together seamlessly to create one of the most memorable productions I have ever had the chance to collaborate on," said Despars. The production showcased the emotional depth, artistic creativity, and technical prowess of the students involved, creating a powerful and memorable experience for all who attended.

"We are immensely proud of our students and their incredible achievement at the CETA High School Theatre Festival," said Dr. Laura Rubio, Principal of Fullerton Union High School. "This accomplishment reflects the hard work, passion, and talent that our students bring to the stage. It is a testament to the exceptional quality of our theatre program and the dedication of our educators."

"A Monster Calls" is a profoundly moving stage adaptation based on the award-winning novel by Patrick Ness. The play explores themes of love, loss, and the power of storytelling, offering audiences a thought-provoking and emotionally resonant experience.

The recognition at the CETA High School Theatre Festival is a testament to Fullerton Union High School's commitment to fostering a vibrant and inspiring environment for students to explore and excel in the performing arts. This is the fourth win from FUHS in six years including "Secret in the Wings" in 2018, "The Foreigner" in 2020, and "The Little Prince" in 2021.

"Winning CETA is surreal for me because I did not have a lot of access to theatre growing up," said Connor Udhus, FUHS senior and lead of "A Monster Calls". "The support and education at FUHS has enabled me to soar in a theatre environment and has shown me how much I can grow as a person and an artist."

Fullerton Union High School extends its gratitude to the CETA for providing a platform to showcase the talent and creativity of high school theatre programs statewide. The school also expresses appreciation for the support of parents, staff, and the community, whose encouragement and enthusiasm have played a crucial role in the success of "A Monster Calls."

Fullerton will host this year's festival in the Historic Fullerton Auditorium and will open the festival with their production of "A Monster Calls" Friday, January 12th, 2024 at 7pm

What We Learned From Our EV Vacation

by Saskia and Sharon Kennedy

We rented an electric car (Bolt) for our holiday trip to visit our northern relatives. We reserved the car through our AAA insurance at a discount and picked it up at the Hertz office on Harbor.

I went in ahead of time to check out the procedure and witnessed Hertz employee Nat juggling three groups of customers all by himself. This would have been a stressful task for anyone - and maybe he was stressed, but he didn't show it. Even when one customer was very disappointed and one was rude, he kept his cool and figured out the best solution.

I left with some good tips - like if you want your car present when you come on pick-up day at the small office, remind the attendant you will need the car the day before. This is because if anyone of several people in the network drop the ball you may have to visit other Hertz offices before finding your particular car. This happened to one of the customers mentioned above and he was not too happy about having to drive elsewhere.

We called ahead and on pickup day we breezed in and our car was ready for us. As first-time EV drivers, Nat, Leo, and Reyna gave us some good tips: Reyna told us to try out the feel of accelerating and braking in the parking lot before hitting the road because both are much more sensitive than in a gaspowered car. Nat told us about downloading the Electrify America App which would direct us to the nearest available charger and we could pay through the App. And Leo explained why there was no converter available that would make us able to charge at the faster and more numerous Tesla stations. Teslas has dedicated chargers, but need an adapter to be able to use regular charge stations.

Off we went noticing how pleasantly quiet EVs are. It wasn't until our first charge stop that we realized there may be a problem with our arrival times visiting friends along the way and we had to rearrange our estimated arrival times by hours. Due to poor charge station infrastructure, there just aren't as many as needed and we had to wait for sometimes up to a couple hours for our turn.

Once it was our turn at each station we plugged in and went for a 45-minute coffee or walk. Upon our return to one station an angry man pointed to the screen and told us it was extreemly rude to charge above 80%. Well, we didn't want to be rude so we unplugged and got to the back of the line for another round. Later we learned that the system charges fast to 80% and slow after that. And that charging all the way to 100% isn't really good for the battery life anyway. Also we found our brand vehicle to be a slower charging version.

EV People are a kind of club and it was fun chatting with others along the route. Sometimes we would recognize each other at a stop farther towards our destination. At one of these stops a fellow charger told us that the electricity used at charge stations is coal and nuclear generated. That totally ruined our idea that we were helping save the planet by driving electric.

However, we later learned that though he was right about the source of power in the beginning, as of August 2023 the company's first huge solar farm "Solar Glow" in San Bernardino County began operations and is expected to generate 75 MW (compa-



Exploring Paso Robles while waiting for the EV to charge

rable to power drawn by 500 EVs charging at once). Total annual production is projected at 225 Gigawatt-hours (GWh).

Before that plant came online Electrify America charging stations had already changed to 100% renewables via renewable energy certificates. In 2022 Electrify America delivered 173 GWh to over 5-million customers avoiding 21-million gallons of gas.

In addition the company has invested in over 150 battery energy storage sites and are installing solar canopies for chargers.

Happily overall - we had a fun road trip with no disasters.

A few fun facts:

Solar is half as expensive as it was ten years ago.

• "Nuclear power is the most expensive form of generation, except for gas peaking plants" 2.4 GW of net new nuclear generation capacity came online last year compared to 98 GW of solar." World Industry Status Report 2020

•Solar panels increase appraisal value of your home by 4.1% on average according to a 2023 Zillow study.

•Renewables are the cheapest form of power according to a 2022 report from the International Renewable Energy Agency. Renewables: Cheapest form of power - the United Nations *un.org*

•Acres of Solar Panels Required to Power the entire US: Four petawatt hours yearly are enough to power the country, translating to 13,600,000 (13.6 million) acres of solar panels. (The US has 2.43 billion acres of land). Oct 27, 2023 8billiontrees.com

• Solar farms require about 4 to 5 acres to generate 1 megawatt (MW), depending on the panels and how much buffer land your local regulations require.

• One megawatt (1 million watts or 1,000 kilowatts) is enough electricity for the instantaneous demand of 750 homes at once. The typical American home uses about 840 kWh per month. Understanding electricity - California ISO

•Profit margin per acre of a solar plant between \$21,250 - \$42,500 per acre each year. The rates can be lower or higher than this after factoring in some variables.

8billiontrees.com Oct 26, 2023

•A one megawatt solar farm could cost \$1 million. Comparatively, home solar systems cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 on average, and that price can drop to less than \$10,000 with solar incentives like the federal tax credit.

Dec 22, 2023 marketwatch.com

Animal Advocates continued from front page

OC shelter typically offered many small pets at once. The reptile group then took rodents and rabbits in bulk without asking for precise numbers and types of animals. That's highly unusual.

Correspondence from Supervisor Doug Chaffee, August 8, 2023 (BOS Agenda #28):

"[...] my office did a cat and rabbit adoption event. [...] I was there about a month before, and they had about two dozen white rats. And I asked, how are you going to deal with these rats? And we came back, and they were all gone by Saturday. They found homes."

Correspondence to Supervisor Chaffee from Boyer, We hope these pets are doing fine, but there's room for doubt. San Diego small pets sent to a "rescue" earlier this year were used as snake food. You and the rest of the Board must appoint an independent investigator to document the fate of the small pets that OC Animal Care sent to a reptile group.

OC Animal Care made this reptile group its primary destination for small pets. From 2023 to mid-September, the shelter found adoptive homes for only 58 rodents - but gave 89 rodents to the reptile group. That's pretty lopsided. The reptile group did not promote these small pets on its social media. It has produced no documents or other hard evidence

about where these small pets ended up. In the past, it has advertised the availability of "feeder" rodents, including live ones.

San Diego Humane hired an independent investigator when its small pets were not fully accounted for. Its partner, Southern Arizona Humane, fired its CEO over the lost animals. In contrast, OCAC and OC Community Resources (OCCR) insist that everything is fine... while refusing to provide documentation on what happened to these pets. A reputable rescue should have animal-by-animal records. Given the large number of animals involved, OC should have asked for details before publicly exposing its negligence.

Is this another facet of the mismanagement of the OC shelter (currently directed by Monica Schmidt) and the lack of oversight by OC Community Resources (directed by Dylan Wright and Cymantha Atkinson)? Managerial dysfunction and poor leadership were documented in a Grand Jury report. Line staff are hard-working and conscientious, but bad policies, insufficient training, and no strategic plan stymie them.

An independent outside investigator must be appointed directly by the Board of Supervisors to get a verifiable paper trail for every animal the OC shel-



Norman



Fredstone



Clara



Coco Cherry

ter handed over to the reptile group. We cannot trust OCAC/OCCR to be judge and jury on their negligence. They have a record of misinforming the public. Contact county supervisors and other elected officials and ask for accountability.

[If you surrendered a small pet to OC, submit an OC Public Record request. Give basic information about the animal (such as name, ID, intake date, or just a photo of relevant paperwork) and ask for all of the animal's paperwork, including adoption or transfer documents.]



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President Avenues Preservation Zone Protects Fullerton History

neighborhoods in Fullerton, but not too many have streets named after U.S. presidents, feature a Minimal Traditional architectural style, and have residences originally built for defense workers during World War II. In central Fullerton, six blocks west of the downtown area, along the north and south sides of West Chapman Avenue, also known as little Chapman, there is the Presidents' Historic District, a cohesive group of 61 onestory single-family residences, which was recently designated as a preservation zone through a collaboration between Fullerton Heritage, the city, and a group of homeowners.

"We had a homeowner in the neighborhood approach us and said she would like to see what it takes to become a preservation zone," said Ernie Kelsey, President of Fullerton Heritage. "So, we walked her through the process. She did all the door-to-door work. She was very persistent in engaging the interest of the neighborhood, and then, ultimately, on October 3rd, it passed. It was about an almost two-year project for her, and then we helped kind of shepherd it through the city and bureaucracy that it takes to get a preservation zone approved."

According to the preliminary survey of the Presidents' Historic District, this neighborhood is known by local residents as the Gaslamp District because of the distinctive streetlights added in the 1980s. It's made up exclusively of single-family homes on North Adams Avenue, North Jefferson Avenue, Contractors who were instrumental in building houses in Fullerton. Some of the district residences were part of the city's first housing development for defense workers who had moved to Fullerton

"The houses are a great collection of

There happen to be a lot of historic Kelsey. "The government wanted to fund housing, but they didn't want anything too elaborate. It's why we have something called Minimal Traditional, which made its first appearance in the early 1920s and became an affordable response to the Depression era because they could be economically construct-

> I learned from Fullerton Heritage member Deb Richey that this particular architectural style skyrocketed in the 1930s as a response to the need for affordable, efficient residences that could be quickly mass-produced through loans from the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), established in 1934. According to Richey, the modest Minimal Traditional became known as the "little house that could" during the Depression and World War II years. This was in part because these homes could be built quickly to accommodate millions of relocated World War II defense plant workers. During World War II, Minimal Traditional became the predominant architectural style in Fullerton in order to meet the pressing demand for housing to accommodate the onslaught of war workers who had relocated to Orange County. Vacant lots in older tracts, such as those on North Adams Avenue, were filled in with Minimal Traditional housing, and new tracts of homes were quickly built in the 1940s.

According to Richey, there was defense worker housing both inside and outside the President's historic district. In early 1942, Fullerton, Buena North Roosevelt Avenue, and North Park, Huntington Beach, and Santa Truman Avenue. Most were built in the Ana were named "critical defense 1940s by Richard and William Jewett areas" in Orange County by the FHA, of Jewett Bros., Inc., Building giving the cities a high priority rating for home financing and construction. Each city had a housing quota. The federal government provided part of the funds needed to build homes for the thousands of defense workers migrating to Orange County, but the house plans needed to be approved in Washington, D.C.



The president streets are north/south streets only a block long right behind Christy's Donuts and the new Provecho store.

At the time, the Fullerton City Council had already established a 12-member committee to provide homes for defense workers and to bring a part of the new population into the city. Committee members selected an area west of downtown Fullerton between Commonwealth and Chapman Avenues for the new houses. In April 1942, the Jewett Brothers announced that they would be building 39 new homes for defense workers on West Amerige Avenue, North Adams Avenue, and N. Woods Avenue. All homes would be completed in 1943. These two-bedroom Minimal Traditional residences would be the first homes in Fullerton built to support the WWII effort.

"While some new defense workers were hired by Fullerton plants, such as Engineering the Kohlenberg Corporation and Val Vita Food Products (later Hunt Foods, Inc.), there were no large factories in Orange County during the war," said Kelsey. "But at the time, there were a number of smaller "feeder plants" which often produced single, smaller items (like gauges and instruments), which were

shipped to factories in Los Angeles County. What Orange County did have was a number of new military bases, and many Fullerton residents would be employed as civilian workers at those facilities. There were also 'feeder' offices in Fullerton that facilitated the hiring of Fullerton residents for work in defense plants. Because of gas rationing, Fullerton defense workers were usually bused Monday through Saturday to defense plants in Los Angeles County, such as the McDonnell Douglas Corporation. Fullerton really looked forward to it, applied for the grant through the federal government, and was able to get some housing built. The people that lived in those houses had to work in the defense industry."

If anyone currently lives in a historic neighborhood and is interested in preserving their neighborhood, all they have to do is send a two-line letter to info@fullertonheritage.org and say, "I am interested in my neighborhood becoming a preservation zone," and Fullerton Heritage will help from that point forward, working with the city and homeowners.





Salvation Army: Center for Hope

by Jo Ann Brannock

In 1865, William Booth walked the streets of London and preached to the poor, the homeless, the hungry, thieves, prostitutes, gamblers, and drunkards. In 1878, he penned the name Salvation Army, which is the basis of the foundation today.

The motto, "Sharing is Caring," describes its partnership with the community, as does its slogan "Drug-Free, Back to Work, and Serving Others."

Services today include:

- 1) food, shelter, clothing, and financial assistance;
- 2) programs for music, athletics, arts and crafts, camping, and family counseling;
- 3) assisting the needs of older adults with its Silvercrest centers;
- 4) Army officers and staff focused on public policy in Washington, D.C., such as advocacy and provision of services for international crime victims; and
- 5) release job training and employment opportunities for over 400 prisoners in cooperation with parole personnel for Orange County.

The Salvation Army's Adult Men Rehabilitation Center includes:

- 1) shelter
- 2) educational classes about alcoholism and drug abuse,
- 3) daily work therapy in a skill-centered atmosphere;
- 4) individual and group counseling;
- 5) personalized rehabilitation plans;
- 6) family reunification and reentry into the workforce;
- 7) worship and recreation opportunities; and
- Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous Meetings.

Emergency homeless shelters, longterm housing, and transitional living centers help combat homelessness, for which the Salvation Army nationally provides more than eight million

nights of lodging annually.

Here in Orange County, the Anaheim Emergency Shelter, which opened in 2019, has served more than 1,300 people since its opening. The facility has a capacity of 325 people at any one time and is part of the Center of Hope. The shelter is open 24 hours a day. The rooms are like a dormitory with fourfoot-high walls for privacy. The facilities have a daily cleaning team, but clients are responsible for their cubi-

Medical services are provided through the Orange County Health Department. If a client is mentally unstable and of potential harm to themself or others, they are referred to the Orange County Health Department. Pets are allowed since they provide emotional support, and non-profit veterinarian services are offered twice weekly. Illegal drugs are forbidden in the facility.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration (SMAHA) estimates that roughly 38% of the homeless population suffer from an alcohol dependency while 26% abused drugs. The Salvation Army meets this need through an Adult Rehabilitation Center, ARC, which can treat up to 175 people at a time with a six-month program.

The ribbon cutting for the new Center of Hope in Anaheim for permanent housing was on October 9th. This \$38 million project has 72 permanent housing apartments homeless. The criteria for admission are chronic health problems, verified by a doctor, and the length of time they are homeless. The Salvation Army will manage this facility and, when at total capacity, it will have eight full-time permanent navigators on board.

The units are completely furnished, including a kitchenette and wall televi-



sion. Each has a bathroom, with many having an accessible shower, and a fitness center is in the building. Leases are signed, and rent is based on thirty percent of the occupants' income, including disability payments. It took six years to get to the point of finishing the Center of Hope. There is already a waiting list of 4,000 across Orange County for these units, demonstrating the need for more of these facilities.

The \$20 million Salvation Army Center for Applied Research and Innovation, CARI, will start building in 2024. CARI will be a working social science research and program design center dedicated to finding large-scale solutions to more significant social problems. Its mission is to end homelessness, has already helped decrease the homeless population in Anaheim by 17% over the past two years.

Funding comes from the City of Anaheim, Orange County Housing Finance Trust, the State of California grants (\$14 million), the Federal Housing Trust (70%), Cal Optima, private foundations, and individuals.

Housing alone is not the answer to homelessness. It is essential to provide mental health support, drug addiction

treatment, psychological and physical health, and life skills for the homeless.

Billions of dollars have been spent on the homeless, so why waste a lot of money and time on programs that do not work? The success rate of becoming drug-free and being employed at Salvation Army is 30% compared to 8 to 11 % nationally. The emphasis is also on a collaborative effort among different agencies working together to be effective. I vote for the Salvation Army Model!

If you know of people who are homeless, they may contact the Salvation Army by

I thank Benjamin Hurst, executive director of the Center of Applied Research and Innovation. Ben gave me and my neighbor Richard Berk a tour of the Center and a description of the Salvation Army programs November 6th. Benjamin is finishing his doctorate in social work, emphasizing ending homelessness, at the University of Southern California. He has been with the Salvation Army for ten years.

CARI – Center of Hope 1445 S Salvation Place, Anaheim www.carioc.com

How a Local Nonprofit Agency Combats Hate Through Data Tracking, Education Community Collaboration, and Restorative Justice by Helia Daigeau, Sr. Human Relations Specialist at Groundswell

For the last 32 years, the nonprofit agency Groundswell, formerly the OC Human Relations Council, has been dedicated to working towards a hatefree Orange County by bringing diverse people together to build a more equitable future. The agency focuses on hate prevention through a variety of programs, including training offerings, schools and youth services, mediation services, general anti-hate work, including the creation of the annual Hate Crimes Report for the County of Orange, and providing staff support for the Orange County Human Relations Commission to fulfill their mission to eliminate prejudice, intolerance, and discrimination.

Groundswell understands that hate truly hurts us all, which is why the organization has focused on hate prevention, especially as it relates to hate crimes and incidents. But what do we mean when we talk about hate, and how do we track, respond to, and prevent hate from occurring?

For this article and the work done by Groundswell, we will talk about hate crimes and incidents in the context of bias-motivation, which is a preexisting negative attitude toward actual or perceived characteristic categories, including disability, gender, race/ethnicity/national origin, religion, or sexual orientation.

In that context, a hate crime, defined

crime against a person, group, or prop- reported, Groundswell relies on input erty motivated by the victim's real or perceived protected social group. Examples of hate crimes

include graffiti or vandalization of private property, phys- Groundswell sible. ical violence against another individual, and criminal threats of violence against an individual or a group.

A hate incident, as defined by the California Attorney General, is an action or behavior motivated by bias-motivated hate but which, for one or more reasons, is not a crime. It is important to note that the

First Amendment of the US Constitution allows for hate speech if it does not interfere with the civil rights

Examples of hate incidents include name-calling, insults, displaying hate material on your property, posting hate material that does not result in property damage, and distribution of materials with hate messages in public places.

Groundswell tracks both hate crimes and incidents that occur within Orange County in an annual hate activity report. Documenting and analyzing incidences of hate helps us all understand the scope and nature of these offenses, identify trends, and develop strategies to prevent and address them.

by the California Attorney General, is a Since the data collected is voluntarily from all facets of the community, from elected officials to law enforcement to

residents, to ensure that their report is as up-to-date as pos-

has been Please report all hate activity by filling out an online dedicated to working https://hatecrime.211oc.org/, towards sending an email to *ochateac*a hate-free tivity@211oc.org, dialing 2-1-1 and pressing #6, or by tex-Orange

ting OCHATEACTIVITY to County. 898211. All reports are fully confidential, and Groundswell is here to support you and assist in submitting a report of hate activity. If you would like assistance,

please call 714-480-6577.

Groundswell, along with other community partners, is available to offer support in the way of mediation services, support in communicating with the police, the court, and other authorities, translation services for non-English speakers, information resources, and referrals in crisis intervention and counseling, orientation to the criminal justice system, and (perhaps most importantly) a safe space to talk to a human relations professional wellversed in restorative justice practices.

Groundswell has been preventing hate since 1991. For more information on the services offered by Groundswell and their partner organizations, resources on combatting hate, and ways to get connected, please visit website their at www.wearegroundswell.org

After hate activity is reported,

Shaping Tomorrow Series: Deescalating Conflict

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 from 6 to 7 pm Register at https://wearegroundswell.org

BRINGING DIVERSE PEOPLE TOGETHER TO BUILD A MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE



Contact Alison Edwards 714-480-6570 • info@wearegroundswell.org

How Are Housing Costs Affecting Health? -OC Health Care Agency Agency

safety, stability, and shelter and not a place of stress, strain, or insecurity. When people struggle to afford a place to live, that financial strain makes it harder to make other healthy choices, like access to fresh foods or seeing a doctor when you're sick. Moreover, disruptive events, such as suddenly losing your home, can lead to a snowball of negative impacts on health, such as mental health challenges.

Spending more than 30% of one's household income on rent can create financial hardship, especially for lowerincome renters. With a limited income, paying a high rent may not leave enough money for other expenses, such as food,

Housing should represent a place of transportation and medical. Moreover, high rent reduces the proportion of income a household can allocate to savings, which is necessary for financial stability. As indicated below, more than 56% of Orange County residents spend more than a third of their income on rent, a percentage much higher than the State and National averages.

> Those in the 15-24 age group were most likely to spend 30.0% or more on rent. Older adults were also significantly more likely to spend a significant portion of their income on rent. Both of these age groups are particularly vulnerable as they represent the youngest and oldest citizens in Orange County.

Percentage of Renters in	Median Household
Orange County Who	Income
Spend More Than 30% of	\$100,485
Their Income on Rent	Orange County
56.6%	\$84,097
Orange County	California
54.8%	\$69,021
California	The United States of America

Source: American Community Survey, 2017-2021

AS WINTER VIRUS CASES INCREASE, THE OC HEALTH CARE AGENCY REMINDS RESIDENTS TO GET VACCINATED AND TAKE PRECAUTIONS

reported respiratory virus activity in Orange County (OC), the OC Health Care Agency (HCA) Public Health Services recommends residents get vaccinated and be vigilant about preventive measures to reduce the spread of winter viruses.

Reported cases of COVID-19, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and influenza disease are all rising, based on the percentage of positive test results reported to the HCA over the past six weeks. According to the HCA's Communicable Disease Control Division, these patterns are in line with the regular seasonal epidemiology of these viruses.

Vaccines are available for the prevention of disease caused by all three of these viruses, and are especially important for people at higher risk of severe illness. This season's influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are recom-

To address the recent increase in mended for those 6-months of age and older, while RSV vaccine or preventive antibody is recommended for select populations including infants and young children, pregnant people, and adults 60 years and older (visit www.ochealthinfo.com/flu www.ochealthinfo.com/rsv). People should talk their health care provider, or local pharmacy, about getting vaccinated. For those who do not have a provider, are uninsured, or underinsured, call the HCA's Health Referral Line (800) 564-8448 [TDD: (800) 801-7100] about accessing services.

> "Getting vaccinated against COVID-19, influenza and RSV and practicing preventive measures can help minimize the spread and severity of these viruses and help reduce the burden on our local hospitals," said Dr. Regina Chinsio-Kwong, County Health Officer and the HCA's Chief Medical Officer. "All three vaccines may be

administered during the same visit for those eligible for all and getting vaccinated now can still provide protection against severe illness throughout the winter respiratory virus season."

The United States of America

To help mitigate the spread of respiratory illnesses during the winter surge, the HCA encourages residents to follow preventive measures, including:

Stay home when you are sick and symptomatic.

Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your upper shirt sleeve (elbow).

Mask when in large group settings. Wash your hands frequently, especially before and after eating and using the restroom.

Additionally, as families and communities gather to celebrate the holidays, the HCA encourages residents to review the following information should you experience COVID-19 symptoms or are exposed:

Testing before gatherings will help mitigate the spread. Free test kits can be ordered by visiting COVID Home Tests | USPS, or for additional options, visit No-Cost COVID-19 Testing (cdc.gov).

Act fast to seek COVID-19 treatment if confirmed positive, as treatment must begin within 5-7 days of when symptoms start. Effective treatments are now widely available for COVID-19. Treatments such as the Paxlovid

pill are safe and effective for preventing COVID-19 illness from becoming serious and may lower the risk of long COVID. Visit COVID-19 Test to Treat Locator English (arcgis.com) for helping finding treatment options.

Follow Isolation and Quarantine Recommendations issued by the California Department of Public Health if you test positive or are exposed to a close contact who has tested positive. See guidance.

Visit www.ochealthinfo.com/covid for current information on Orange County COVID-19 testing positivity and hospitalization levels.

Vaccines will remain available.

Access to COVID-19 vaccines will generally not be affected for now. The U.S. government is currently distributing free COVID-19 vaccines for all adults and children. To help keep communities safe from COVID-19, HHS remains committed to maximizing continued access to COVID-19 vac-

Treatments will remain available.

Medication to prevent severe COVID-19, such as Paxlovid, will remain available for free while supplies last. After that, the price will be determined by the medication manufacturer and your health insurance coverage. Check with your healthcare provider if you need early treatment to prevent severe COVID-19.

INDIVIDUAL & COUPLES THERAPY



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The Dental Corner: Better Oral Health

Rough Molars and **Dental Sealants!**

Cavities commonly occur on the "top" of a tooth due to the natural crevices and "bumps" that are present on the chewing surfaces of teeth, especially for molars (way in the back).

Some people have smoother chewing surfaces (think of tile flooring). These teeth are easier to clean and less prone to getting cavities.

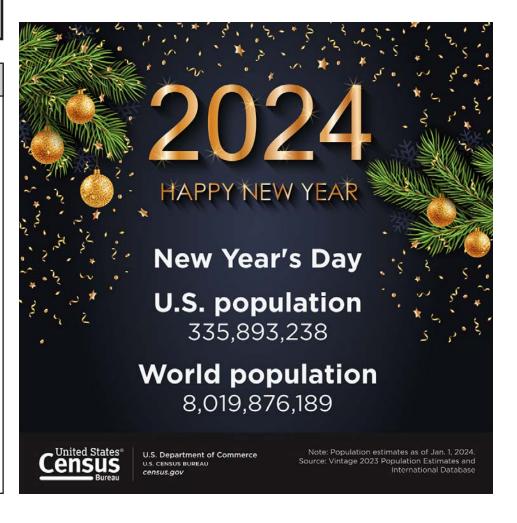
Others will have rougher textures with deep crevices (imagine a popcorn ceiling found in homes), where food debris and plaque easily get stuck. These surfaces are harder to clean and require excellent oral

hygiene habits to maintain! For this reason, dental sealants can be beneficial, especially at an early age. When your dentist observes rougher chewing surfaces, they can gently clean them and place a thin filling material over them. This

preventive procedure is done without any numbing (pain-free), resulting in a smooth chewing surface that is easier to keep clean!

I encourage you to ask your dentist if your chewing surfaces are prone to trapping debris. Later, we'll discuss prevention for cavities that occur on the "sides" of teeth, where teeth touch.

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





Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2024 • JonDobrer@mac.com

Year End Column (Revised): Maybe it's Not So Bad

I wrote a perfectly good year end column that reviewed the big stories, mostly about our human foibles and follies e.g. political corruption, homophobia, racism, abortion and our horrible dehumanizing and demonizing of each other. I found only slight comic relief in George Santos and his incarnation of the lies, frauds and shamelessness that seem to pervade our society. It was all true and, if I may say so, well expressed with anger, anguish and some slight seasoning of levity.

However, I'm tearing it up because I fell for the common media trap of only covering the plane crash and not the thousands of safe landings, the insults hurled at innocent victims and not the outpouring of help given to strangers through charities and private donations. I covered the anger, hate and incivility that are all true, but I failed to acknowledge the good, the kind, the generous, the loving and our progress and our enumerable virtues as a nation.

We are in so many ways a better country than the one I was born and grew up in. Yes, we had relative peace following WWII and Korea. Yes, we built massive public works projects—roads, highways and dams. Inflation was low—but we forget that taxes

were high topping out at 92%! Dads worked and moms stayed home. Kids said, "Yes Sir" and "Yes Mam." "Bad boys" combed ducktails and "Bad girls," weren't acknowledged

girls," weren't acknowledged (though they were pursued by "Bad Boys," and yes, even "Good Boys.")

The greatest threat to our way of life was the USSR with its nukes and Elvis with his hips. Happy Days!

Really? They were pretty good if you were White. Not so good if you were African American, Hispanic or Asian. They were pretty good if you were male. You could work, get paid better than women or minorities. You could take out a bank loan and open a credit account—things denied to many women in the 50s. It was a pretty good time

if you were not what now is called LGBTQA+. If you were, you had the Hobson's Choice of living in fear in a closet or living in fear of extreme consequences of losing your job, your freedom and even your life.

Back then if you were the "wrong" color you couldn't vote or date or

marry across the racial divide or live in any neighborhood you wanted. There were both folkways against race mixing and laws. Back then a "mixed marriage" meant a Roman Catholic and a Protestant. Sometimes it even meant a Missouri Synod Lutheran and an American Synod Lutheran attempting to marry. Mixed marriages of both race and religion were rare in number and rarely accepted.

Look how far we have come. Today a mixed marriage is a male and female. Inter-racial couples don't turn heads or

Every

advance

begets

a counter

revolution,

and we're

experiencing

that now.

Yet, I believe

in our

resiliency.

Services can only

be improved

if feedback is heard

and acted on.

provoke hate stares. While we do not have either equal rights in the law or in practice for women, we have indeed come a very long way. More than half the people studying for clergy are women (Excepting, of course, the Catholic priesthood). Our law schools and law offices and our medical schools have a great representation of women. Parity has not yet been achieved in either wages or numbers, but the glass ceiling is indeed cracked, really shattered.

Look how far we have come on access and mobility for people with physical lim-

itations since the 50s. If you were in a wheelchair, there were no ramps mandated in public facilities, no traffic signals with sound, no toilets that could accommodate a wheelchair. Schools did not adjust to the visually impaired and sign language was embarrassingly rare. Neurodiversity was either ignored

or persecuted and bullying and mockery were somehow acceptable. No more!

When I grew up—and even as an adult—my Synagogue looked like me and my immediate family. The Synagogue of our kids and grandchildren looks like America! Both through "mixed" marriages and adoptions, all races, ethnicities and colors are present. Most families in my circle of friends and acquaintances have family members who are Asian, Hispanic, African American, who are gay or transgender and the big story is that this is no longer a big story.

One of the greatest stories never told was the near decade when our Supreme Court did not have a Protestant on it. It was all Roman Catholic and Jewish. This once impossible idea or fantasy became a reality without us taking notice or pride in its achievement. No, I don't think it is worse because it now has WASPs. The story was again that it wasn't a story.

No, we have not reached a Promised Land. There is still racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism. Every advance begets a counter revolution, and we're experiencing that now. Yet I believe in our resiliency. We are not a perfect union, but we are a more perfect union. And while, in the words of Oscar Brown Jr's Work Song, "We still got so terrible long to go," I have both my faith and Lincoln's that this great nation of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish—despite the appearances and fears to the contrary.

AT HOME WITH THE HOMELESS





What would the ideal homeless shelter look like?

"Humans are allergic to change.

They love to say, 'We've always done it this way.' I try to fight that.

That's why I have a clock on my wall that runs counterclockwise."

-Adm. Grace Hopper, computer pioneer

It's one thing for an engineer or an architect to design a building. But the humans who use it will tell you if it works if form follows function. Feedback is invaluable in every profession. It allows for continual product improvement. Those companies and corporations who understand this value feedback seek it out and use it to improve their services. Those who don't tend to fall by the wayside because their products don't improve and change with users' changing needs.

When you want to know how to improve homeless shelters, it is a logical first step to ask those who live there. They can tell you down to the smallest detail about problems that need fixing: lights that come on too brightly and too early in the morning, faucets that keep running even after you're done washing your hands, shower heads that only dispense water for ninety seconds at a time at such velocity that it feels like needles puncturing your skin, housing navigators who don't notify clients of appointments in a timely manner, but after the fact.

But what do you do when the organization running the shelter claims to

want feedback to improve services and then does nothing with it? What's the point of having a grievance procedure

if those grievances are not addressed?

Homeless shelters are not for profit and, therefore, are not as answerable to their clients as a standard business would be. Any criticism of serv-

ices can be dismissed with a simple "This is the way we do things" or "You should be glad to have what you've got." Suppose you're a consumer, and you don't like the way a company is doing business. In that case, you can refuse to buy the product and organize a boycott to let other people know that Corporation X is acting in a slipshod or unethical manner.

By writing this, am I biting the hands that feed me? Am I, as my mother would say, "cruising for a bruising?" You could say that. But that would be a simplistic way of looking at the situation. Much ado has been made of the phrase, "See something, say something." Not "See something, ignore it," or "See something, say nothing." Services can only be improved if feed-

back is heard and acted on. And as any businessman will tell you, companies that welcome feedback and use it to improve services will succeed. The barometer of success for shelters is calibrated differently from, say, a restaurant, but the mechanism is the same.

(Do I repeat myself? Very well then, I repeat myself. I have always believed in the dictum, as expressed by the great French writer Andre Gide, that "Everything that can be said has been said, but we have to say it again because no one was listening." Feedback, as requested, has been given. Time will show if it is acted on or not.)

Back to the original question. What would the ideal homeless shelter look

like? It would look like a place where people live rather than being warehoused. It would have enough light and space so that its residents could spread out, thus cutting down on the transmission of disease. It

would be energy-efficient, with systems in place (automatic or manual) to adjust light, heat, and airflow as needed. It would have rooms where a per-

son could go if they are hypersensitive to loud noises or strong lighting. It would have rules of conduct that are administered fairly, not arbitrarily. It would have efficient state-of-the-art computers and a sufficiently strong WiFi signal to allow for maximum data speeds. It would have cooks capable of preparing nutritious, healthy food once a day.

Based on what I've seen, heard, and read, most shelters in Orange County do some but not all of these things. And even for those shelters that do almost all of them, there is always room for improvement. We're not asking for perfection—just an indication that our voices are being heard and feedback is being put to use. No one wants to learn that the effort they've put into filing a grievance has gone to waste and that their work has ended up unread in the trash. (Or, one would hope, paper recycling.)

In closing, the shelters in our county are doing, overall, a pretty good job. There are criticisms that could be addressed specifically to individual shelters, but that would run afoul of libel laws. All we ask—again—is that our voices be heard, taken seriously, and, if warranted, result in positive actions. Further, deponent sayeth not.



One of the oldest Democratic clubs in the county,

the Democrats of North Orange County invite you to become a member!

Join like-minded neighbors to:

Discuss local, state, & national politics; Elect Democratic candidates; Advocate for your values

We meet on the first Thursday of every month at 7pm.

Although typically held at the Fullerton Sizzler, our meetings have gone virtual due to COVID.

Learn more about us and become a member at DNOC.ORG,

or contact us at INFO@DNOC.ORG.

Council Discussion for ITEM 14 continued from page 5

Several public speakers and Councilmember Charles asked if rents went up after losing the "Senior" designation. And was told generally yes.

Talley said mobile home parks are not low-income. Typically, when mobile homes are sold, rents go up anyway. There may be people who don't want to sign on to the conversion, but she said it will happen in six months anyway.

According to Director Thomas, the city's TBR assistance enacted in 2019 is only open to residents of senior-only parks. She said the city's HUD policy could be amended, but that would take time. The moratorium could give time for the council to decide if the city wants to restrict the park to seniors further only through an overlay zone.

Mayor Dunlap asked Mr Harrison to add a last comment.

Ranch La Paz Home Owners Association Representative Mr Todd Harrison said he was elected to represent all Fullerton residents of Rancho La Paz. "Yes, rents will go up. As a fixed-income person myself – the rent increase is a problem. Even if I sell my home, it does not give me the ability to find a place to live elsewhere. The alternative to losing a home in a senior park is homelessness. You are out in the street. Vickie [Talley] said that a few people may object to the Conversion - that is wrong," said Harrison. "Every homeowner at our HOA meeting objects. The new rule change document is 44 pages and still going through our lawyer."

Zahra said the issue was brought up because of Saunders's notice of the meeting being held over Zoom and the morning after Christmas. I am happy it has changed to an in-person meeting on January 11. He said he was happy that Rancho Fullerton is not changing to all-age or asking for unreasonable rate hikes but didn't feel a moratorium would hurt the park. 'Because we now find that residents at Rancho La Paz may lose their rental assistance, I think

we need time to discover the impacts of that and what can be done to help mitigate the negative consequences. So I will support the moratorium."

City Attorney Dick Jones said that the city's only role is through land use which may be complicated by half the park being in Anaheim, but for the short term, a moratorium was the council's only tool. Or you could direct staff to find a solution to help the affected population without enacting a moratorium.

Whitaker said he was reluctant to put regulations on businesses and that he believed in property rights. He said, "I am against rent control through an overlay zone. We are trying to provide time to assist the people affected."

Charles said she was in favor of buying time to provide rental assistance to the seniors who will be affected by

Dunlap said he agreed with points from both sides and thanked everyone for acting in a civil manner, even in disagreement. "The city could be putting itself in the position of being sued, so I can't support the moratorium, but I can support offering an additional assistance program through the CBG program," he said.

Zahra asked if Dunlap would agree to adgendize the discussion about the rental assistance options for the next meeting. Dunlap agreed to the first week in February.

Director Thomas said the current Tenant-based Subsidy assistance program info could be brought to the council faster, while long-term analysis would take more time.

Charles asked if the program could be expanded for those possibly in danger of becoming homeless because the land is becoming too expensive to rent, which could also be included in the information brought back. City Manager Levitt said the HUD lowincome guidelines would still have to



MORATORIUM:

Here is a list of cities that have instituted Moratoriums and/or Senior Overlay Zones and what Fullerton can do to preserve affordable housing for seniors.

Discussing the same situation as Fullerton's Rancho La Paz homeowners are faced with now – the Yucca Valley Town Council met in a special urgency session on December 1, 2023. After hearing public comments, the council voted unanimously for a 45-day moratorium preventing the new owner of the 55+ Senioronly mobile home park from converting to an All-Ages designation. The pause allows the council time to study the issues involved, including the city's responsibility to preserve existing affordable housing and perhaps the creation of a permanent zone ordinance for special needs groups like seniors.

Fullerton City Council could follow Yucca Valley's example in listening to and acting on the needs of its community. It should be noted that John Saunders and affiliates are generous donors to the campaigns of Fullerton and Anaheim's council members. Because the park straddles both cities, both councils regulate and permit changes at the park. The only council members not accepting campaign contributions from Saunders or his affiliates are Councilmembers Ahmad Zahra and Shana Charles in Fullerton and Jose Moreno in Anaheim (Moreno no longer sits on the Anaheim council).

SENIOR MOBILEHOME PARK OVERLAY **DISTRICT ORDINANCE:**

A number of cities that Fullerton could learn from have successfully put an ordinance in place that preserves the Senior-Only status, including:

•Petaluma voted unanimously to lock in a Senior-Only Overlay Zone for its five mobile home parks in October 2023.

•Thousand Oaks City Council was cheered by residents after voting unanimously in September 2023 – to keep its five mobile home parks designated for

• Yucaipa successfully prevented the Conversion from Senior to All Age by winning in the Ninth Circuit in 2012 when the court ruled that creating an overlay zone restricted to age 55 and above did not discriminate because the senior housing exemption applied. A previous California Attorney General Opinion agreed.

•Huntington Beach added a Senior Residential Overlay District amendment to its zoning ordinance in 2014.

•San Juan Capistrano amended its municipal code by adding a Senior Mobilehome Park Overlay District in September 2017.

NOTE: Fullerton needs to show in its Housing Element that it provides affordable housing to all income levels as required by the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. Fullerton was sued many years ago for failing to provide very low-income category housing, resulting in a settlement construction of the SRO on Commonwealth, and is again at risk in the new lawsuit Californians for Homeownership v. City of Fullerton, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2022-01281840-CU-WM-CJC. Copies of the filings are available at *caforhomes.org/housingelements*.

Although the residents own their mobile homes and are responsible for utilities, upkeep, property taxes, and insurance, they rent or lease the space their homes sit on. Until recently, those rents were affordable. Currently, and for several years – the skyrocketing profits possible in owning mobile home parks have caught the attention of corporate investor groups. Buying cheap, raising space rents, pushing out senior homeowners on fixed incomes in favor of renting to younger working families at double the per month rent has been the norm.

ITEM 15: FULLERTON ORDINANCE PREVENTS HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS WITHIN 25 FEET OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

around town, a proposed ordinance was introduced in a presentation given by Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez at the December 19, 2023, Fullerton City Council meeting. She said the ordinance balances addressing threats to public safety, public access to services, and protection of critical infrastructure while showing compassion.

ordinance amends Sec. 7.105.020 of the city no-camping ordinance by adding a chapter that designates certain parcels and structures as critical infrastructure and safeguards them from unauthorized activities posing damage or interference. In addition, clear regulations for removing persons and property in or near critical infrastructure are established while not creating a total ban on encampments in the city to stay within applicable state and federal law concerning unsheltered individuals.

"Critical infrastructure may include,

Addressing public concerns about but is not limited to, government buildincreased homeless encampments ings, such as fire stations, police stations, jails, or courthouses; hospitals; structures, such as antennas, bridges, roads, train tracks, train stations, parking structures, or drainage systems; or systems, such as computer networks, public utilities, electrical wires, natural gas pipes, telecommunication centers, or water sources."

> Analysis of police calls to various city-owned locations over a two-year period from October 2021 to October 2023 showed incidents that have, or have the potential to damage or disrupt critical city structures or public access to services.

Community Center: 161

76 disturbances (73 transient-related)

14 suspicious activity

49 alarm calls

6 medical check

3 theft

2 assault/battery

2 drug/narcotic

Independence Park: 148

54 disturbances (38 transient-related)

43 suspicious activity

9 alarm calls

9 medical check

8 assault/battery

6 burglary

4 theft

2 drug/narcotic 1 indecent sex offense

Public Library: 127

69 disturbances (63 transient-related)

23 alarm calls

21 suspicious activity

7 medical check

Woodcrest Park: 119

64 disturbances (49 transient-related)

17 suspicious activity

8 ordinance violation

7 drug/narcotics

7 medical check 3 motor vehicle theft

2 weapons

Richman Park: 106

67 disturbances (54 transient-related) 17 suspicious activity

6 drug/narcotic

5 ordinance violation

2 medical check

1 indecent sex offense

City Hall: 48

30 disturbances (29 transient-related)

10 suspicious activity

3 medical check

1 indecent sex offense

Amerige Park: 35

21 disturbances (19 transient-related) 5 suspicious activity

2 assault/battery

2 drug/narcotic

2 medical check

1 weapon

1 robbery

Brea Dam: 70 24 disturbances (14 transient-related)

18 ordinance violation

12 suspicious activity

6 drug/narcotic

3 vandalism

2 fireworks

2 burglary

Council Questions & Answers for Item 15

Councilmember Dr. Ahmad Zahra asked, "What's the and there is not always one [shelter] available." difference between our current no-camping ordinance and the new one, and would this ordinance address encampments on non-city-owned CalTrans infrastruc-

Assistant City Attorney Baron Bettenhausen said that ordinances like this have passed in other cities to keep critical infrastructure safe. The current ordinance said camping out in parks, streets, parking lots, and parking structures was unlawful. This ordinance adds a list of critical structures.

Zahra was concerned that persons at a bus shelter with all their gear could be arrested under the new ordinance, and that might open the city to lawsuits. "Maybe we should reach out to some of the agencies that have sued us in the past and work something out that does not infringe on civil rights," he suggested.

Sgt Thayer, who oversees the city homeless liaison program, said, "When liaison officers come upon an encampment, we try to follow our mission to assist the people. We wouldn't make an arrest of someone at a bus bench with several bags. If we have a legitimate camp and they are not coming into compliance – by law, we can only make an arrest if there is a shelter bed available [and the person is unwilling to take shelter]-

He said there is generally a lot of property left behind, and he has found that others quickly take over the encampment and add to it. "We are required to give a 72-hour abatement notice to the site. With the new ordinance, we will be able to remove the encampment within 24 hours," he said.

Sgt Thayer clarified, "We are talking about critical infrastructure. I am not talking about an individual who just curled up peacefully sleeping. I am talking about numerous individuals by the elevator who pull up a trash can and set it on fire within the elevator or, in another instance, hazardous substances like mercury being spilled."

Zahra pointed out that those are already arrestable

"Yes, they are," agreed Sgt Thayer, "but I am talking about a tool allowing us to act before the fire is start-

City Public Works Director Bise added, "This is a tool to focus on a list of specific locations- not to create a prohibition throughout the entire city."

Police Chief Radus said the penalty is "a citation similar to camping." City Attorney Jones added the more specific language is more enforceable.



Mayor Nicholas Dunlap listening to public comments

Public comments for Item 15

Yolanda Harrison said she had been homeless more than once. "I want you to think beyond the box. My idea is to tell them where they can camp. And then send medical help, social workers, people to help them, give them bathrooms and showers and places to dispose of needles – because I know there is drug use. Give them a place where they can safely be, and maybe you can start to affect the homeless problem."

Todd Harrison talked about mission creep and what would happen if the list gets longer under a different administration and shelter resources dwindle.

Elisa Miranda said, "We have allowed the homeless population to get out of control – especially the drug use. We called the police, but they could do nothing. As citizens, we are tired of seeing this type of behavior. I am not talking about families who cannot afford the rent – but the drug addicts at Woodcrest. I stand with the police. We need this type of regulation.'

Kurt Johnston said there are different types of homeless. Would the parking structure at SOCO qualify as critical infrastructure? Sometimes, a homeless person just wants to get out of the rain, and there aren't enough shelter beds. An ordinance is good but should be used with discretion. At the train station, there is a sign that says, "No people without a ticket allowed on the platform." They never enforce that, but every now and again, when there is a problem, it is helpful to have an ordi-

Curtis Gamble said he supports the ordinance but suggested critical infrastructure like tiny homes and housing at churches would be a better solution. Let's not have another.

Zee said he supports continuing the issue until a later date after the city can ensure that a lawsuit won't be filed.

Douglas Cox said he used to work for former OC Supervisor Chris Norby on homeless issues back in 2007. "The county does a better job than cities dealing with the homeless problem. We had a budget of \$1.1 billion - it was massive. Talk about mission creep - who would have thought that the homeless would be able to defecate in public and have nothing done to them? They are all over. Most of them are drug addicts, and most have mental problems. I still have a card with all services available - not one of them has taken me up on it – these people want to live on the streets. I was second lieutenant at the Armory – we had to pat people down for weapons and drugs before they came in. Gaven Newsom just signed bill SB43 in October that expanded forced medical treatment. Starts by arresting severely ill homeless people to get them into the system where they can get mental serv-

Andrew Lenhan, a District 4 resident living next to the Armory, said, "Take handcuffs off the police so they can do their jobs. My wife and I used to go to Hunt Library, which the council closed down under the guise that it was too dangerous with homeless living nearby. And the moment they closed it, they rented it to that church next door for a dollar. I want there to be a place for the homeless to go, but I don't want it to be next to my house, defecating next to my trash cans. Don't want drug addicts breaking into my house."

Jane Reifer said she hoped that the definition of "critical infrastructure" does not include places like the Hunt Library. She added that Fullerton lacks bus shelters. "Please make sure that the bus benches and shelters can be used by those using public transportation."

Jane Rands said she appreciated the Harrisons comments. "I feel this is overly broad. She said, "We would do better to put this energy into looking at ways to provide affordable housing – a solution to apartments that are overpriced that remain empty because that meets the economic model – what we need is truly affordable housing and rent control. It's not a homeless problem, it's not a drug problem, not a policing problem, it's not a risky infrastructure problem. The problem is that housing is too damn high. And until we are willing to be honest about the cause - overpriced housing and underpaid wages - and stop trying to finagle the laws and see if we can get away with moving people from one place to another because we don't want to look at them, smell them, see them. And I am sympathetic to the man who lived next to the Armory and has seen more than his fair share of the down and out - empathy can wear thin. But even if this is implemented, it's not going to solve the problem he experienced. It's not going to provide housing."

Councilmember Bruce Whitaker -"During COVID, the sidewalk on Gilbert was lined with the tents of homeless people. LA is using 10% on homeless solutions. I see an urgency to

pass this.

Councilmember Zahra – "In 2019, we had homeless people taking baths in the complex pool – so I am aware of the problems. My concern is that our city keeps getting sued. I don't want to pay lawyers lots of money because we haven't vetted it properly. If everyone else wants to pass this, could we add an amendment to vet after it is passed?

Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles asked the city attorney if the ordinance had been vetted. He said he thought it would be defensible in court.

She asked Sgt Thayer what happens to the belongings of homeless people who are arrested. "Are belongings given back?

Sgt Thayer said, "It depends - sometimes belongings are so dirty and insect-ridden they cannot be stored in our evidence lockers, so they are destroyed. Generally, we itemize and return property that can be stored until the person is released." Dr. Charles seconded Whitaker's motion to move the ordinance forward.

Attorney Bettenhausen added, "Under the current ordinance when there are no shelter beds available, the ordinance is not enforced. In the new critical infrastructure ordinance, that condition is removed from those areas only."

Chief of Police Radus said that staff looked at what other cities had done and created a list that is very specific.

Deputy CM Perez clarified the language that she said staff had worked on over the past year, that the ordinance is

very specific to public works infrastructure utilities – water, sewer, public safety facilities, transportation, etc. public buildings like the library, community center, and the Hunt are not on the list. "This really is for public health and safety," she said.

Mayor Nicholas Dunlap said, "Polls taken, meetings, and just conversations with people around town shows that homeless issues are always top the list along with roads and infrastructure. I think we should support our police department, and I support it."

Zahra asked if the motion could be amended to include another passthrough by the attorneys - "because I really want to support this."

Charles said that since it had already been vetted by the attorney who said it was defensible and it was amended based on their comments, she would support it.

Zahra said, "Well "defensible" sounds like it is still headed for court." Attorney Bettenhausen said, "That is a professional hazard. As an attorney, I can never say you are totally fine."

Zahra said he would "appreciate a written opinion for our records," and with that reservation, said he would support it.

Passed 4-0 (Jung absent)

After the vote, Councilmember Zahra asked that the police department provide a notice that the HOPE Center could pass out so that folks on the street could be aware of the changes and avoid being arrested. Chief Radus said, "Yes, that can be done."



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Patricia Hund -2023

As hard as it may be to believe, Patricia Hund passed away December 11, 2023. We are pretty sure this was not in her plans for the holidays since as far as we know she had planned to spend Christmas with her family. I would hate to be St. Peter at the pearly gates if he has to tell her that it was a mistake.

Pat was strong willed and independent. She loved to travel and planned a family vacation for the past 30 plus years. Although the arthritis slowed her down, it could

not keep her from the annual beach week with the family.

She joins her beloved husband Gil and youngest son Russell in the eternal beach week.

Pat is survived by her daughter Laurie and husband Dave, son John and wife Martha, grandchildren Chris, Amanda, Kyle, and Sylvan, and great grandchildren Penny, Eli, Griffin, Theo, and Russell.

She will be sorely missed by those fortunate enough to have known her.

Phil Lopez Montano 1925 - 2023

Phil Lopez Montano 98yrs. old, passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 10, 2023, surrounded by his family at his son's home. Phil was born in Placentia, CA raised Native American in Glendale, AZ.

He joined the U.S. Navy in 1943 and served in the South Pacific Theater. A true self-made man in every sense of the word. In 2019 he received his High School diploma from Valencia High School, through the efforts of his grandson, PJ Montano.

He was a welder for over 40yrs he rose up to become plant manager for Westinghouse Corporation. He retired two different time with the final retirement from St. Joseph's Hospital, Orange, Ca at the age of 88.

He is survived by his children Peggy Montano Peery, Phil Montano Jr., Susan Montano, and Mark Montano; Grandchildren Jim Peery, Keith Peery, PJ Montano, Damien Montano, Carla Montano, Shawn Montano and eight greatgrandchildren.



This proud Indigenous WW II veteran and self-made man moved on nine days before his 99th birthday and we will always remember and celebrate your birthday and death.

Papa, your family is your legacy, you touched so many lives-mostly ours. The MONTANO FAMILY would like to express our sincere and heartfelt thank you to all that extended their condolences, prayers and help in this trying time. Peace.

"YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS, AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN." Matthew 5

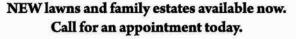
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Linda Duran Murphy 1923 - 2023

We are sad to announce the death of Linda Duran Murphy in Fullerton on December 14th.

Linda was born on October 16, 1923 in Placentia, California to Lucy and Antonio Duran. She passed two months after her 100th birthday.

She is survived by her three children and their spouses: Cindy and Stan Johnson, Dennis and Karen Murphy, and Terry and Karen Murphy. She is also survived by two brothers, Ed Duran and Ricardo Duran.

Linda will be laid to rest beside her husband of 59 years, James Michael Murphy, who preceded her in death.

Linda graduated from Fullerton Union High School. She became one of the famous "Rosie the Riveters" who worked during World War II at Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach, California. She was a "bucker", someone who crawled inside the wing of an airplane and held a bar to keep the rivets flat.

She met Jim at a train stop while handing out free oranges to troops on their way to being shipped overseas. They fell in love through the mail;



and when Jim returned, they were married on Nov 11, 1945. Their favorite pastimes were traveling in a camper and later in a motorhome all over the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Linda was an honorary service recipient at Maple School and served at

many volunteer jobs at St Philips Church in Fullerton. She was a member of the Red Hat Society. Her favorite pastimes included cheering for the Angels, reading, visiting with her brothers: Bert, Henry, Ed, Ernie, and Ricardo over breakfast once a month and helping family and friends.

She was an important part in the lives of her six grandchildren: Deanna Brake, Sevren Murphy, Ryan Murphy, Jeff Murphy, Lindsey Wade and Edmund Johnson. She was also loved by nine great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews who will miss Aunty Linda.

Services will be held at noon on Wednesday, January 10th, at Loma Vista Memorial Park.

www.lomavistamemorialpark.com

Our Brothers and Sisters who died in OC "Without Fixed Abode" (Homeless) during the Month of December 2023

(source: OC Coroner's Office)

Anaheim

Walfre POZGONZALEZ
Michael CADAVAS
Jesus RENTERIA
Nikki GILL
Ricardo ACEVEDO
Alan LEWIS

Alberto OCHOA, JR Juan MARTINEZ RAMOS

Buena Park

Debra DENNY Juan MENDOZA RODRIGUEZ Alejandro AGUILAR

Costa Mesa

Arturo MORALES Kristopher MOORE

Vance JONES **Fountain Valley**

Jason HASTINGS Robert ADAMS JR

Erroll SMITH

Juan OROZCO Fullerton

Robert ALLEN

Garden Grove

Vinh CAO Christopher DAVIS

Robert SAUL Joseph GHOSOPH

Huntington Beach

Shane ROBBINS Christian LEON James MIZE

Joseph ERICKSON

Mission Viejo Elizabeth MAIDEN

Newport Beach

Patrick LAVERY

Jason OLSON **Orange**

David CAHOON

Ryan GRAJEDA

Prince MUTABAZI

Santa Ana

Jesus MURRIETA CEBREROS

Michelle HALL

Chad NELLS

Jesus CAUDILLO

Oscar GONZALEZ

Bryan PEREZ

James BOWLING, JR Mitchell JACKLEY

Robert RODEN

Allen LAMOREAU

San Clemente

Hotai GASTON San Juan Capistrano

Adam KNAPP

Westminster Amy CARPENTER

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ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "MY 200TH PUZZLE!" on pg 7:



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

VER RET TO TUZZLE WIY 200TH TUZZLE: OII pg 7.															
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Software Developer

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Mail resume to MIKS&T, INC., 261 E. Imperial Highway Suite 520, Fullerton, CA 92835

Electrical Engineer

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Send resume to GigaTera –Attn: Jaiwon Jung

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\$7,950

2021/22

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MEDIAN HOME PRICE¹² AND RENTAL RATE



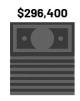


HOURLY WAGE MINIMUM INCOME NEEDED TO PURCHASE A MEDIAN-INCOME HOME¹⁷ \$42.25



\$3,448

Needed hourly wage to afford 2-bedroom hourly average fair market rent¹⁵ renter wage¹⁶



2023

\$22.8 M awarded to OC Health Care Agency's Office of Population Health and Equity 3 focus areas Housing is Health, Health and Healing, and Food as Medicine 170+ local partners funded

The 29th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in **OC**

studies four interdependent focus areas: Good Health, Economic Well-Being, Educational Achievement, and Safe Homes and Communities. Each focus area highlights recent data that indicate improving or worsening trends over a 10-year period.

The Conditions of Children Report has closely documented the impacts of the novel coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) over the last three editions. While disruptions in data collection impacted several indicators, the report captured the challenges faced by children and families. The next crucial step is to assess the longer-term impacts and the underlying inequities that were exposed.

This year's report reflects positive improvements in health insurance access, early prenatal care, and reduced child poverty and high school dropout rates. The percentage of Orange County high school graduates considered ready for college also increased.

At the same time, several indicators showed negative movement, suggesting areas for continued focus to improve children's outcomes. These include:

- There has been a 4.3% decrease in the percentage of third-grade students meeting English Language, Arts, and Math standards since 2019.
- A 12.1% increase in the chronic school absenteeism rate from 2021 to 2022.
- An 8.5% increase in the percentage of eleventhgrade students experiencing depression-related feelings, with students who identified as lesbian, gay, or

bisexual (LGB) being over 1.5 times more likely to experience these feelings.

• Lastly, suicide is now the leading cause of death among 10-to-14-year-old children.

The Orange County community has and will continue to create community-led solutions to address the issues facing children and families. Several such solutions are explored further in the next section, "Local Solutions To Advance Equity In Orange County."





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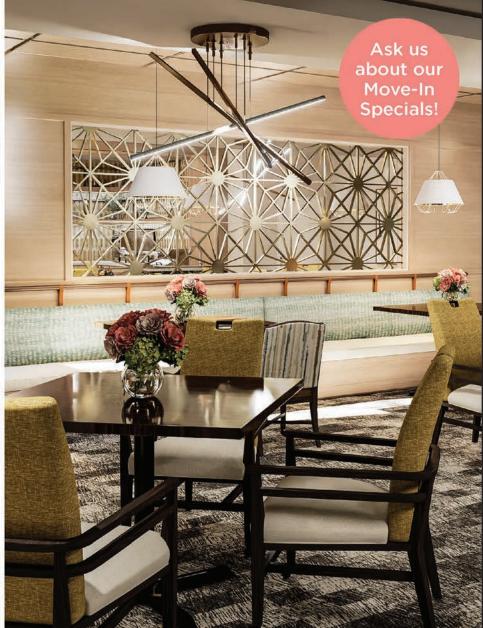
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