

Love loves Love

FULLERTON'S ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWS

FullertonObserver



PHOTO BY SASKIA KENNEDY

The City of Fullerton recognizes Real Life Heroes for saving a child who stopped breathing

Those recognized at the January 16 City Council meeting were left to right (front row) EMT Alex Perkins, Bryan Janovic of the Fullerton Fire Dept, Councilmember Dr Ahmad Zahra, Police officer Jordan Dearing, Councilmember Dr Shana Charles, Corporal Lloyd Bouchet, and Sasha Flowers from Chidren's Hospital of OC. (back row) EMT Jackson Manzer, firefighter Zachary Sheerer, firefighter Milo Young, Fullerton Fire Department Captain Brett Farmer, Mayor Nicholas Dunlap, Councilmember Bruce Whitaker, and Mayor Protem Fred Jung.

Chapman Ave Post Office Robbery

On January 23 at about 4:50 pm, officers were dispatched to a robbery in the 1300 block of E Chapman Ave. While officers were responding to the call, a description of a possible suspect vehicle (a black sedan) was provided. Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle matching the description provided by the reporting party. A USPS crate containing hundreds of pieces of mail inside the vehicle was located during the investigation.

All three suspects (Los Angeles residents) were arrested for robbery, mail theft, and assault with a deadly weapon.

Mail theft is a federal crime punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. Investigators with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service have taken up the case.

A video on social media was collected as evidence by detectives at the time of the incident. Cellphone footage of the incident posted to Instagram shows thieves in a dark-colored four-door sedan trying to drive out of the post office parking lot in Fullerton as a female postal worker was standing in their way. The employee from the video sustained minor injuries.

COMMUNITY WINS PHASE II OF THE UNION PACIFIC TRAIL

After several years of long nights of public speakers, the audience broke out in applause on January 16, 2024, as all councilmembers voted to use the \$1.78 million California Urban Greening Grant to construct the updated concept plan for Phase II of Union Pacific Trail. The updated concept plan aligns with the proposed Rail District Specific Plan (RDSP), emphasizing transit-oriented development in the area south of the tracks.

The updated concept plan reserves approximately ten feet on both the north and south sides of the project between Highland and Richman Ave. This reserved space is intended for future redevelopment of adjacent properties, with private developers improving these areas over time at no cost to the City. The plan includes a Class I bike lane, a dedicated pedestrian walkway, lighting infrastructure, and landscaping.

See City Council Notes on page 4

CORRECTION:

IN THE CITY COUNCIL NOTES: Fullerton Ordinance Prevents Homeless Encampments within 25 feet of Critical Infrastructure IN THE JANUARY ISSUE Douglas Cox's quote (see below) was mistakenly attributed to Peter Gambino.

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 services."

In Case You Missed It: International Court Preliminary Ruling on Genocide in Gaza

Eighty percent (1.7 million) Palestinians in Gaza have been displaced from their homes under intensive bombings by Israel, even along routes and in the southern part of Gaza designated as safe. 25,000 Palestinians have been killed and 69,000 wounded.

Infrastructure, including water and sanitation, all universities, most hospitals, schools, and 70% of the homes have been destroyed, creating a population with no access to shelter, clean water, food, fuel, medical supplies, or humanitarian aid.

The International Court of Justice on Friday, January 26, 2023, in a preliminary 15 to 2 ruling (Israel and Uganda, no), that Israel is plausibly carrying out genocide in Gaza against Palestinians.

The Court indicated to Israel that they have to take measures to prevent genocide, to make sure that soldiers are doing the same, to prosecute those

individuals who are inciting, including high government officials, and to ensure that there is effective humanitarian aid. The Court directed Israel to report back in a month with what has been done to comply with the ruling.

South Africa brought the case against Isreal to the court. Facts considered in the charge of genocide included quotes by Israeli leaders and studies of the situation by UN Commissions.

Meanwhile, a lawsuit in federal Court in Oakland, California brought by The Hague Center for Constitutional Rights - in November 2023, seeks to block President Biden, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin from providing any further military funding, arms or diplomatic support to Israel. The US Congress is currently considering \$14 billion in additional military aid for Israel.

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Fullerton City Council Appoints Jon Radus as Permanent Police Chief

The Fullerton City Council proudly announces the permanent appointment of Jon Radus as the Chief of Police, marking a significant moment in the city’s commitment to public safety and community engagement. The decision was reached during the city council meeting on January 16, 2024. Chief Radus, who has been serving as Interim Police Chief since September 8, 2023, will continue to lead the Fullerton Police Department in this permanent capacity.

Having served the Fullerton Police Department for over 20 years, Jon Radus has exhibited unwavering dedication and exceptional leadership throughout his career. Radus, who previously held the position of Captain, has demonstrated his commitment to the community through various roles within the department, including Patrol Officer, Gang and Narcotics Detective, Field Training Officer, Patrol Sergeant,



Community Services Supervisor, Watch Commander, Traffic Bureau Commander, Investigations Bureau Commander, and Public Information Officer.

Mayor Nicholas Dunlap expressed his congratulations, stating, “Jon Radus has served our community for more than two decades as a member of

the Fullerton Police Department. He has proactively built relationships with the community and helped to instill the sense of public trust that is held by the department today. I can think of no one more deserving of the honor to lead our police department than Chief Radus. I congratulate him and wish him the best.”

Chief Jon Radus expressed his gratitude, stating, “I am honored and privileged to continue leading the dedicated men and women of the Fullerton Police Department as the permanent Chief of Police. This appointment reflects the collective efforts of our entire department who relentlessly work to keep our community safe. I am thankful to the Fullerton City Council for their ongoing support, trust, and confidence. Together, we will continue strengthening our community partnerships and enhancing the quality of life for all residents in Fullerton.”

The Fullerton Police Department, consisting of approximately 190 employees, including 130 sworn officers and 60 civilian positions, handles

close to 50,000 calls for service annually. Embracing a community-based policing philosophy, the department believes in the power of communication and cooperation between law enforcement and the community to better serve the community as a whole.

Chief Radus holds a BA in Business and Organizational Management from the University of California-Berkeley, with a minor in City and Regional Planning. He is a graduate of the Cal State Fullerton Leadership Development in Public Agencies Consortium and the LAPD West Point Leadership Program. Chief Radus serves as an instructor in the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Management Course through the Cal State Long Beach Foundation, is a member of the IACP, and serves on the Traffic Safety Committee for the California Police Chief’s Association. Additionally, he is a Board Member for Families Forward, a non-profit with the mission of ending family homelessness. Chief Radus is married and has three children.

Do you have an issue? Talk with an Area Commander

Explaining the new Area Commander model, Police Chief Jon Radus said, “The Fullerton Police Department constantly strives to establish and maintain a level of trust and respect within the community, while also providing a safe environment to live, learn, conduct business, and enjoy all the recreational opportunities that Fullerton has to offer.

“In order to effectively and efficiently utilize our police resources, the City of Fullerton is broken down into three call response areas (Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone 3), and a patrol lieutenant is assigned as the Area Commander for each area.

“The Area Commander model establishes a single point of contact for residents in each Zone who wish to voice their concerns including crime, traffic, and quality of life issues such as homelessness, graffiti, apartment complex conditions, and events that damage community health and safety. Area or zone policing provides our residents with direct contact, professional accountability, and streamlined solutions to the problems or perceived crimes issues that they face.”

Area Commander Zone 1



Lieutenant Tim Kandler
tkandler@fullertonpd.org

Zone 1 is geographically defined by the 91 Freeway on the south (adjacent to the City of Anaheim), the City of Buena Park and Los Angeles County to the west, Imperial Hwy (and the City of La Habra) to the north, and Euclid St to the east. The Fullerton Airport, the communities of Hawks Point, Amerige Heights and Coyote Hills, and Sunny Hills High School all fall within the area of Zone 1.

Area Commander Zone 2



Lieutenant Pedram Gharah
pgharah@fullertonpd.org

Zone 2 is geographically defined by the 91 Freeway on the south (adjacent to the City of Anaheim), Euclid St. to the west, Imperial Hwy. (and the Cities of La Habra and Brea) to the north, and Raymond Ave. to the east. St. Jude Hospital, Fullerton College, Fullerton Union High School, Downtown Fullerton, Fullerton City Hall, Amerige Park, Hillcrest Park, and North Orange County Superior Court all fall within the area of Zone 2.

Area Commander Zone 3



Lieutenant Tony Rios
trios@fullertonpd.org

Zone 3 is geographically defined by the 91 Freeway on the south (adjacent to the City of Anaheim), Raymond Ave. to the west, Imperial Blvd. (and the City of Brea) to the north, and Placentia Ave. (and the City of Placentia) to the east. Cal State University Fullerton, Hope International University, Marshall B. Ketchum School of Optometry, Troy High School, and LaVista/La Sierra High School.

FullertonObserver

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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Fullerton Fire Dept joins Troy High students in emergency preparedness training

by Kristi Hofstetter Batiste, Fullerton Fire Dept. Emergency Manager

The new year kicked off with emergency preparedness by the Fullerton Fire Department in partnership with the Troy High School JROTC Program, and the Troy High School Preparedness Club. Thirty-six students and parents participated in a three-day, twenty-hour Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. While other students were nestled in their beds during winter break, these students were present and ready to learn about local emergencies and dis-

asters, how to prepare, how to respond, and how to bring calm to emergencies and disasters. The Troy High School Preparedness Club was started by Sophomore Student Allen Hsieh under the advisement of Commander Lauper from JROTC. The club meets once per month and provides a forum to host speakers and training related to overall preparedness. Co-hosting teen CERT enabled interested students to immerse themselves in being ready and able to

respond within scope during an emergency. The program gives students an opportunity to learn about various portions of local government and leverage that knowledge and skills obtained to bring calm to a situation. CERT is a collaborative program that includes subject matter experts, in-class instruction, and practical hands-on skills. The training includes overall hazard, fire, and threat awareness, how to use a fire extinguisher, disaster emotional recovery, disaster medical operations, and how to organize a team.

CERT educates residents and businesses about the hazards that may impact the community. Participants learn about basic disaster response skills. When the community has a basic level of readiness and preparedness, our ability to maintain resiliency and recover as a community increases. For more information on CERT and other city readiness programs, contact (714) 446-1454. <https://www.cityoffullerton.com/government/departments/fire/emergency-management/emergency-preparedness>



Grand Opening of Allison's Goods by Mike Ritto

Allison's Goods located at 815 N Harbor was honored by the California Small Business Development Center in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, January 20, 2024. A very supportive crowd showed up and filled the sidewalk, giving this small business owner a lift up. Commendations also came in from the U.S. Small Business Administration, Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, Senator Tom Umberg, O.C. Clerk-Recorders office, and Representative Lou Correa. Fullerton City Councilmember Ahmad Zahra had presented a commendation on behalf of the City of Fullerton days earlier as he was out of town and unable to attend.



WalknTalk


with Assemblymember
Sharon Quirk-Silva

**Saturday,
February 3
8:30a.m.**

Fullerton Downtown Plaza
125 E. Wilshire Ave, Fullerton
RSVP by calling my office at (714) 521-6713




Empty Bowls



Meals on Wheels of Fullerton
Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 11am-1pm
Celebrating 50 years of service

St. Paul Lutheran Church
111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton
Contact emptybowlsfullerton@gmail.com



Empty Bowls is an international grass roots effort to fight hunger. Guests are invited to a simple meal of soup & bread donated by local restaurants for a freewill \$30 donation & keep a local potter handcrafted bowl as a reminder that they have helped feed a low-income homebound Fullerton resident.



Councilmembers Dr. Zahra, Dr. Charles, Mayor Dunlap, and Councilmember Whitaker presented Protém Jung with the certificate he is holding to recognize Korean American Day.

Korean American Day,
January 13th

Mayor Nicholas Dunlap, on behalf of the entire Fullerton City Council and the community of Fullerton, presented to Mayor Protém Fred Jung a certificate for the proclamation of Korean American Day, January 13th, 2024.

The Certificate read: “Whereas the history of Korean immigration to America began as 102 courageous Korean men, women and children ventured across the vast Pacific Ocean aboard the S.S. Gaelic to Hawaii on January 13th, 1903. On January 13th, 2024, the Centennial Committees of Korean Immigration and Korean American Communities throughout the United States will celebrate Korean American Day.”

City Council Notes by Staff

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, January 16 Meeting

APPOINTMENTS

CITY REPRESENTATION -
REGIONAL ADVISORY BODIES
AND WORK GROUPS

Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles was appointed to the Orange County Vector Control Board. Mayor Protém Fred Jung was appointed as the alternate. The term for the Primary and Alternate representatives expired in December 2023. Staff recommends City Council appoint a representative and alternate for the upcoming term and specify whether the appointment has a two- or four-year duration. This agency allows public member appointments.

• Investment Advisory Committee: City Council Members serving on the Investment Advisory Committee serve one-year terms, expiring at the end of December each year. Mayor Jung served as the Primary Member and Mayor Protém Whitaker served as the Alternate Member on the Committee in 2023. Traditionally, the Mayor and Mayor Protém serve as the City representative and alternate to the Fullerton

Investment Advisory Committee. Staff recommends City Council appoint two City Council members to serve as the representative and alternate on the Investment Advisory Committee through December 31, 2024.

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE /
BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Dunlap made the following direct appointment:

• Community Development Citizens’ Committee - unexpired term ending December 31, 2024.

Mayor Protém Jung made the following direct appointment:

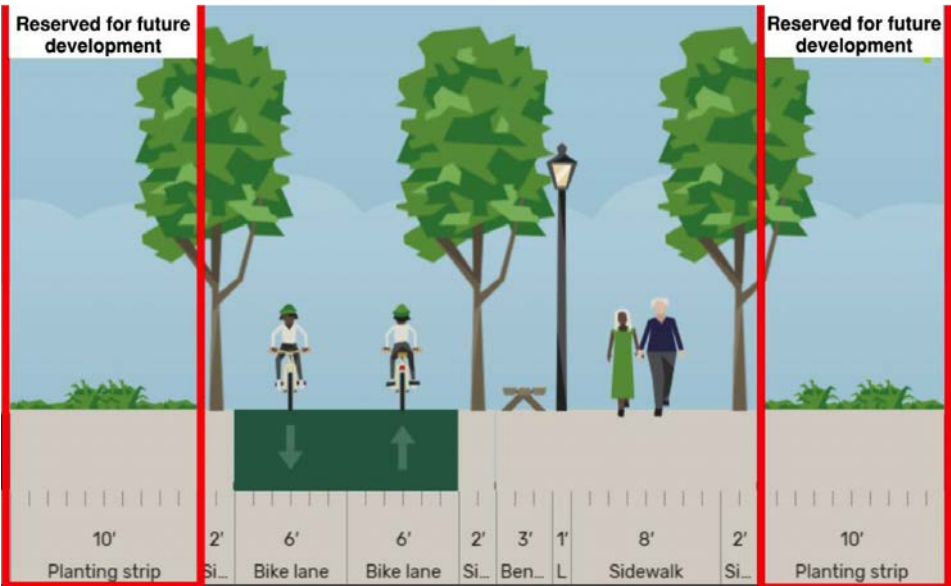
• Library Board of Directors - term ending December 31, 2026.

Council Member Charles make the following direct appointment:

• Library Board of Directors - term ending December 31, 2026.

Council Member Zahra make the following direct appointment:

• Parks and Recreation Commission - unexpired term ending December 31, 2026.



UNION PACIFIC TRAIL PHASE II UPDATED PROPOSAL

Council Member Zahra requested, supported by Council Member Charles, to bring this item back for consideration on December 19, 2023. City Council continued the item from that date to January 16, 2024 after councilmember Bruce Whitaker requested the continuation.

Deputy City Manager Daisy Perez made a presentation on the Phase II Union Pacific Trail project. She showed a chart listing the Grant Deadlines along with what had been provided in meetings over the years. The first performance deadline for the final site design/plans/specifications to be submitted to the state is June 2024. The construction start deadline is August 2024, the Plant Establishment deadline is October 2025, and the Project Closeout package must be submitted by March 2026.

She said that staff, following council (majority) direction, explored alternatives with the state agency of any possibility of moving the grant to open UP Park instead but was told that would result in uncertain funding availability and higher city match due to insufficient space for the 176 trees, and lack of community support.

The revised plan includes the potential to build housing along the Union Pacific Trail. The city Housing Element calls for zoning of up to 13,000 new housing units and includes a Housing Incentive Overlay Zone, giving developers proper zoning in the currently general manufacturing zoned area if 10% of the units are affordable.

The revised Union Pacific Trail would integrate the HIOZ and the Rail District Specific Plan, allowing mixed-

use, 2 & 3-story, and up to 4-story residential between Highland and Richman Ave.

The 50-foot-wide portion of the trail between Highland and Richman has industrial buildings on both sides. It would include a 12-foot Class I dedicated bike lane and an 8-foot pedestrian pathway centered, lighting, trees, and landscaping - and 10 feet of vacant land on each side to provide access to future developments. Private developers would improve these 10-foot-wide portions at no cost to the city as part of future development. Possible uses include outdoor dining.

The portion of the trail between Richman Ave to Independence Park would include a Class I dedicated bike lane and pedestrian path with potential redevelopment on the south side properties.

Two options were presented to the council.

1) Direct CM Levitt to proceed with the updated Union Pacific Phase II plan and appropriate \$330,000 from park dwelling funds.

2) Reaffirm the August 15, 2023, council direction to re-approach the State of California Natural Resources Agency and continue to explore an alternate project.

The council unanimously voted to direct City Manager proceed with updated Union Pacific Trail Phase II concept (presented on January 16, 2024) and appropriate \$330,000 from Park Dwelling (Fund 39) fund balance to Project 54260 Union Pacific Trail Phase II Project in Capital Projects Fund (Fund 74).

PARK DWELLING FEE ALLOCATION
& PROXIMITY REQUIREMENTS FOR FUND EXPENDITURE

City Council requested a review of Park Dwelling Fees and Fund administration and use to consider requiring fees used within a certain distance from the new home construction initiating the fee. Staff presented this item to City Council on October 17, 2023. City Council voted to continue the item to a future meeting.

Recommendation: Direct staff to proceed with one of the following options:

Option 1: Make no changes to the Park Dwelling Fee ordinance to allow the use of funds throughout the City.

Option 2: Direct staff to prepare an ordinance amending Fullerton Municipal Code Section 21.12.040 to require the City use 50% of fees collected from housing development projects

with more than 20 dwelling units within two miles of that housing development project.

Option 3: Direct staff to prepare an ordinance amending Fullerton Municipal Code Section 21.12.040 to require the City allocate 50% of fees collected from housing development projects with more than 20 dwelling units to the park(s) located closest to the development project generating the Park Dwelling Fees. This option would prioritize funding for the parks most impacted by the development project while ensuring flexibility to redirect funds to the next closest park if needed.

Option 1 passed with 3 votes. Charles abstained and Zahra voted No.

How to contact your District Representative	
Mayor/ Chair • District 2: Nick Dunlap (714) 738-6311 nicholas.dunlap@cityoffullerton.com	• District 3: Dr. Shana Charles (714) 738-6311 shana.charles@cityoffullerton.com • District 4: Bruce Whitaker (714) 981-8474 bwwhitaker@live.com
Mayor Protém/Vice Chair • District 1: Fred Jung (714) 738-6311 fred.jung@cityoffullerton.com	• District 5: Dr. Ahmad Zahra (714) 738-6311 ahmadz@cityoffullerton.com



ADOPT-A-PARK VOLUNTEERS HONORED Adoptive-A-Park Program was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on March 8th, 2021, and adopted by the City Council on April 6th, 2021. This program allows community groups, civic organizations, and private businesses to contribute to maintaining and cleaning trails and parks in the City of Fullerton. Participating groups commit to a year of effort conducting cleaning sessions once a month in designated locations. Our Adopt a Park programs encourage groups to pick up litter, maintain picnic pavilions, clean park equipment, and pull weeds. They also

actively report any needs or any needed repairs or instances of graffiti. This is a great way for community groups, civic organizations, and private businesses to get involved. The Adopt A Park program applications are available on the city website at the City of Fullerton Parks and Recreation page. The City recognized the volunteers: The Bastanchury Creek Greenbelt Committee, Wilshire Ave Church, the Fullerton Bears, Fullerton Sunrise Rotary, Christina Gardner, One Arc charity, Call Gift Foundation, Friends of Coyote Hills, the Halo Club, Ocean Subaru, and the National Charity League.



31 YEARS OF SERVICE
Council recognized Ann Gread from Fullerton Heritage for 31 years of service to the City of Fullerton. She is an active board member and now Fullerton Heritage's vice president. Congresswoman Steel also sent a recognition certificate. Other Fullerton Heritage members joined Gread to congratulate her.

CHIEF OF POLICE EMPLOYEMENT AGREEMENT

Jon Radus was appointed interim chief in September 2023 when Chief Robert Dunn left the city to work in Torrance as Assistant Chief of Police. Interim Chief Radus' resume includes over 20 years of law enforcement experience with the City of Fullerton, including approximately three years as a police captain and current service as Interim Chief of Police. He has a Bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley, an Executive Development certificate from California Post, and a leadership certificate from West Point. LAPD leadership program. Key points of his employment agreement include a 5-year term with an optional 3-year extension and a base annual salary of \$249,062 effective January 20th of this year. The agreement also includes a schedule of future salary increases commensurate with the Fullerton Police Management Association. He would receive paid vacation, executive sick leave commensurate with executive employees, and all major benefits. Health insurance CalPERS incentive will be the same as is afforded to members of the Fullerton Police Management Association. He'll also be provided a city vehicle for use and a uniform allowance, and the city does provide him with a weapon. The police chief serves at the pleasure of the City Council, with the daily supervision and management delegated by contract to the city manager. The agreement does include a right of reversion during the first five years of

the agreement, which means if this employment relationship doesn't work out for whatever reason, he retains the right to return to his position as a police captain. The Chief of Police position already has a salary in the budget, so there is no additional fiscal impact for the remainder of this fiscal year. The employment agreement was ratified unanimously. The newly appointed Chief of Police said, "Honestly, never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd be in this position today. And I'm grateful for the opportunity, number one, to the council for the trust and confidence you put in me to serve an organization that I truly deeply care about, love, and a community I'm grateful to be a part of. I'm certainly looking forward to continuing the things that we started with Chief Dunn. He set a great example for what it's like to be a community-based Police Department. I plan on continuing those initiatives to work with our community, with which we've spent a lot of time and effort building trusting relationships, which will undoubtedly continue. The police have two really basic functions: To reduce crime and the fear of crime and all that stuff that we do with the community really speaks to that. And so, I'm grateful for the opportunity. I love the organization, I love the community that we serve, and I look forward to the next five years or more." *See more about Chief Radus on pg 2*



Mayor Nicholas Dunlap presented a recognition certificate to Daniela Borrrel

Daniela Borrrel from Sunny Hills High School was recognized for her achievements. She was the player of the year for tennis singles. She won 2023 Freeway League team championships, Freeway League MVP, CIF girls tennis singles champion for 2023, competed in Division Two, and was a member of the Sunny Hill team who were 2023 Freeway League Champions. She was 58 and 0 overall in CIF. Borrrel was undefeated this year. She's the two-time CIF Girls Tennis

Singles champion for 2021 and 2023. She was a finalist for the CIF Division Three team in 2021, a three-time Freeway League MVP and two-time Freeway League Team champion in 2021 and 2023. OC Register named her Athlete of the Week in 2021 and 2023. She was also Girls Tennis High School Player of the Year for all high schools in California, 2021, and the Sunny Hills Girls Tennis Team Captain, 2023.

Big Loss

Dave Waech was a fixture downtown, in particular at Villa del Sol. If you spent time there during the day, you were sure to see him roaming the courtyard, giving his all to Brownstone Café and other businesses, in particular bringing in sought-after baseball memorabilia in his function as procurer of hard-to-find autographs and other items for Past Times Collectibles.

With Dave, there was always time for great conversation and laughs, oh, the never-ending laughs. He seemed to have a baseball and rock music encyclopedia in his head, quick with answers to just about any question you hit him with. Sadly, Dave recently passed, leaving a hole that cannot be filled. A dedicated Dodger fan, he was really looking forward to the upcoming season, and the day pitchers and catchers reported for Spring Training would be more exciting for him than Christmas.

Some of the 'gang' who always gathered to gab with Dave every afternoon have moved on, but word travels fast, and tributes have poured in from Arizona, Montana, and beyond. Sports fans, music fans, Titan fans, those in need, his friends at the gym, the staff at Del Taco, and many more will all miss you, man.



Love the Glove

Years ago, an Enos Slaughter model baseball glove was purchased at a neighborhood yard sale. Fortunate timing, soon after that, Enos was signing autographs at a local card show. His eyes lit up when he saw the glove; he put it on his hand and pounded the pocket as if he was ready to take the field. Hall of Famer Enos Slaughter was famous for scoring from first base on a single to win the 7th game of the 1946 World Series. He has passed on, but the autographed glove is still around, as you can see.

Dena Bravo-David discovered a baseball glove while going through literally tons of items in a house her brother Rich Bravo purchased to restore. It was a hoarder home on the outskirts of downtown, an older home in need of a lot of work. Every room



was stacked to the ceiling with junk, but there were also quite a few nice items, including a glove with the name David Hickman on it. Dena posted a photo on Facebook, hoping to return it to him, and sure enough, his Mom noticed, and he got his glove back. What are the chances?



Downtown Clocks

Many down towns have a large, historic clock, known as a Street Clock or Post Clock, free-standing, two or four-sided, on top of a post. They seemed to be a 'thing' years ago, symbolizing a sense of community. With the recent January 24th dedication of the newest downtown clock next to the Fullerton Museum Center, we decided to take a look around for more. *See Rotary 100 year celebration Clock Dedication on page 7*

We have a street clock on Harbor that motorists in a rush may have driven by many times, not noticing the time. Hopefully, you have not only noticed but also read about this historic fixture in September of 2022 right here in the *Observer*. That clock has gone in and out of operation over the years but still stands tall, and other evidence of the Clock Man store also remains. Here are the the clocks we found, starting with the most obvious, followed by a few that are best seen while walking or biking. Are there others downtown that we missed? Let us know. There must be a few more. See Photo Quiz.

New In Town

Green House Café at 124 N Euclid has resurfaced as Sister Jipbob, a Korean restaurant. No details are currently available, so we will do a follow-up in the next issue.



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Photo Quiz

Send answer to Mike at AllMedia@sbcglobal.net

This time: ID the location of as many of the clocks as you can. The winner receives a FREE \$25 gift certificate to Allison's Goods. If any downtown business wants to sponsor the next gift certificate, contact us here. See above clocks.

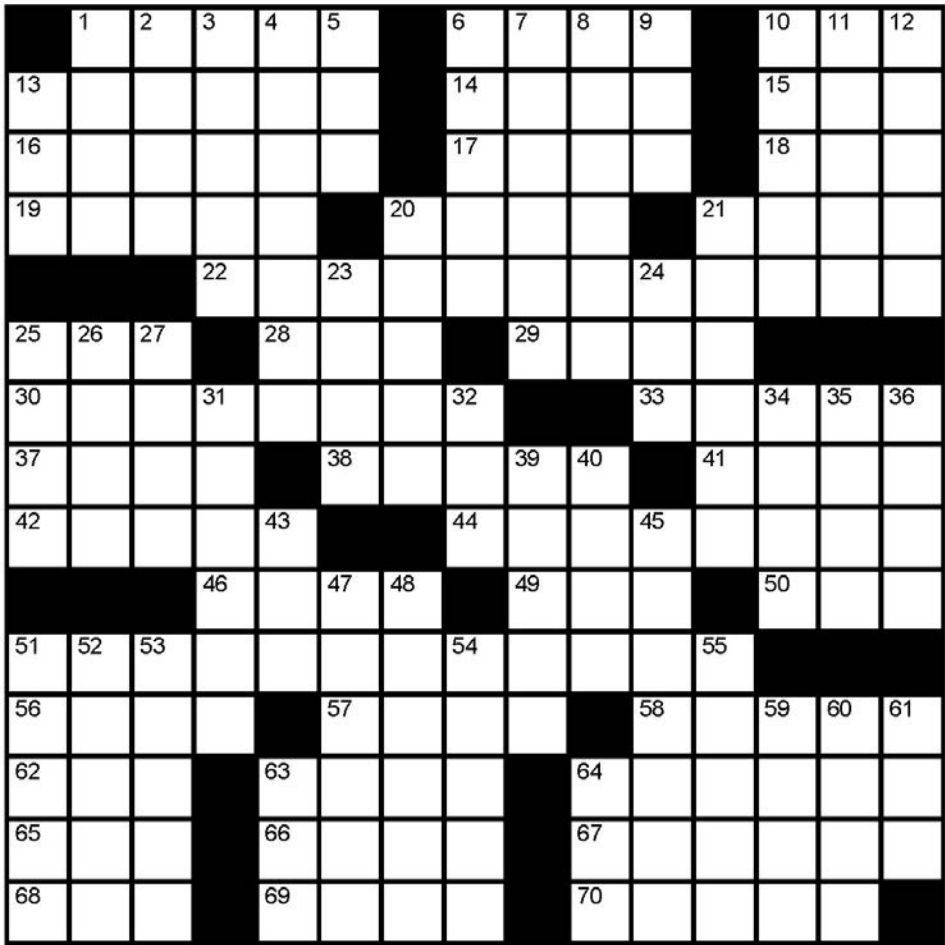


Last time: Made it too easy? Of course, the brick was found at the only downtown building to be demolished in many years, 129 W Commonwealth, where the Ostrich Egg Distillery is being built.



OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

"SUPER BOWL" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 15)



ACROSS

1. Santa Claus feature
6. Org. formed in 1980 to stop traffic fatalities
10. Bowl sound
13. Amy Tan or E.B. White
14. Taiwanese tech giant
15. Ryan's "Love Story" co-star
16. Remington of TV
17. Hannukah coins
18. Archaeology site
19. Kind of rug
20. Morse ____
21. Near, to a poet
22. One of four teams to have never played in the Super Bowl...yet?
25. "Murder, ____ Wrote"
28. Buck's mate
29. Deck material
30. Only player to win the Super Bowl in three different decades
33. City that has hosted the most Super Bowls
37. Grabbing-the-tab words
38. "Irma la ____" (1963 Billy Wilder film)
41. Follow closely
42. Mother-of-____
44. Super Bowl trophy namesake
46. A pop
49. Tell it like it isn't
50. Word with honey or mud
51. Team with the most consecutive Super Bowl appearances
56. Aid in crime
57. He played Obi-Wan
58. Bit of Gothic architecture
62. Lush
63. Verdi opera
64. Florence and Charlotte
65. Tic-____-toe
66. Cyclops and Wolverine, for two
67. Founder of Taoism
68. Biblical verb ending
69. Salinger short-story title girl
70. Queen ____ lace

DOWN

1. "____ digress..."
2. Seine summers
3. Leading
4. Burrito feature?
5. Dr. of rap
6. Nearsighted comic character
7. Crushed the test
8. Edit out
9. "____ & the Women" (2000 Altman film)
10. Part of NPR
11. Adjust
12. Weather report word
13. Braying beast
20. Personal belief system
21. Premier Khrushchev
23. Frog's kid-lit friend
24. On the ____ (fleeing)
25. "Quit it!"
26. Fine-tune
27. Thompson of "Sense and Sensibility"
31. Forlorn
32. Actor Brynner
34. Org. for the over 50 set
35. Calf-length skirt
36. Nastase of 1970s tennis
39. Infant's woe
40. "Ratatouille" rat
43. The Angels, on a scoreboard
45. Like Hercule Poirot
47. Insurance cases
48. Poker variety
51. Moistens, as a turkey
52. German sub
53. "That's so ____!" (line from "Mean Girls")
54. "Moneyball" Billy
55. Held for a more opportune time
59. Take the bait
60. Pulitzer Prize winning novel by Andrew Sean Greer
61. 180° from WNW
63. Let go
64. Mercedes class

“Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.”
— Dalai Lama



Rotary Club past president Bill Mathy gave a speech commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Rotary with a gift of a clock to stand in the downtown plaza.

Rotary Club of Fullerton

commemorates 100 years of service

by dedicating a clock to the City of Fullerton

by Jim Ripley, Rotary Club President 2023-2024

On Wednesday, January 24th, the Rotary Club of Fullerton dedicated and presented as a gift to the City of Fullerton a free standing 13 ft, 4-sided post clock located in the Fullerton Museum Plaza.

The clock commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Fullerton. In attendance were Mayor Nick Dunlap, Mayor Protem Fred Jung, City Manager Eric Levitt, Rotary District 5320 Governor Roy Jefferson, Past District Governor Dan Ouweleen, plus members of both Fullerton Rotary Clubs, friends and guests. The dedication and presentation commenced at 1 pm in the Fullerton Museum Plaza location on Wilshire Ave, next to the Fullerton Museum, 301 N Pomona Ave, Fullerton.

Fullerton Rotary Clubs have been a major participant in assisting and supporting Fullerton's youth, seniors and dozens of local non-profit organizations over the years. We are a part of Rotary International and its 1.4 million members world wide. Our Rotary motto is "Service above Self."

Fullerton needs to build 13,200 more homes

in the next eight years according

to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment

The 2021-2029 Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) shocked member cities by requiring 1.3 million new housing units to be built by 2029 in the six-county region covered by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

The CA Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) calculates the RHNA and hands it off to the various government associations in California. Our area is covered by SCAG, which divides the number of housing units required between the area's counties and cities with input from member cities.

SCAG's RHNA Appeal Board heard objections from Fullerton and forty-three other cities on January 19, 2021, but HCD denied all except two appeals. After SCAG voted not to litigate, the Orange County Council of Governments, which is independent of SCAG, sued, alleging that HCD failed to use the appropriate population forecast, failed to evaluate household overcrowding and cost burden rates appropriately, and used unreasonable vacancy rates. The CA Supreme Court dismissed the case in November 2021, and that ruling was confirmed on July 27, 2023, by the Fourth District Court of Appeals.

A 2022 CA State Audit found errors in the HCD Assessment Needs data, which undercut the number of units required for the three areas audited (Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, and Amador County) and may signal errors elsewhere. The audit did not include

Orange County due to the ongoing litigation against HCD. Data collected included census, finance, and reports from cities, counties, and regions.

Read the entire report at <https://www.auditor.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2021-125.pdf>

Membership on SCAG's 86-member governing board is comprised of local elected officials representing the six counties and 191 cities within the SCAG jurisdiction, including elected representatives from 67 Districts, each consisting of one or more cities in the region with approximately equal population and geographic continuity; an elected representative from each of the six counties within the region; and representatives of the County Transportation Commissions and tribal governments located within the region.

The state allocated a total of 1,341,827 new housing units to be built between the years 2021 to 2029 between counties in the SCAG area: LA 812,060; Orange 183,861; Riverside 167,351; San Bernardino 138,110; Ventura 24,452; and Imperial 15,993.

Housing # by income category:

Garden Grove 19,168 (4,166 very-low, 2,801 low, 3,211 moderate, 8,990 above moderate)

Anaheim 17,453 (3,767 very-low, 2,397 low, 2,945 moderate, 8,344 above moderate)

Fullerton 13,209 (3,198 very-low, 1,989 low, 2,271 moderate, 5,751 above moderate)

Buena Park 8,919 (2,119 very-low, 1,343 low, 1,573 moderate, 3,884 above moderate)

FULLERTON JOINT UNION
HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

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



January 9 Meeting

January was School Board Recognition Month and the FJUHSD Administration started 2024’s first FJUHSD board meeting by honoring the Trustees. Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services, Dr. Karl Zener, presented Board Members with boxes of chocolates and voiced the administration’s appreciation for the Trustees’ service, highlighting Trustee Marilyn Buchi’s 40 years on the board and all the members’ care and common goals to ensure student success.

Facilities Updates

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Dr. Ed Atkinson, introduced Mr. Vince Madsen as the Director of Facilities and Maintenance & Operation, replacing Ted Walstrom, who served as director from April 2022 to November 2023.

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Mr. Ruben Hernandez, reviewed ongoing facility plans to fence in La Habra High School. Architectural maps suggested 6’-0” high fencing wrapping around and between the front and side buildings of La Habra High School along N. Monte Vista St. and Highlander Avenue. The existing chain-link fenced areas along Whittier Blvd. will not currently be affected. After state approval, Mr. Hernandez expects the plans to be ready for an early February board vote.

Using the last of the Bond Measure I

money, Mr. Hernandez showed pictures of October’s Sonora Aquatics Center opening and Fullerton High School’s demolished old pool site, making room for a new Fullerton Aquatics area. LHHS science room improvements were finished in December.

FJUHSD used Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSR III) funds to replace portable school rooms with permanent classrooms at Troy and Sunny Hills High Schools. Mr. Hernandez announced that the Trustees approved utilizing \$1 million of general fund dollars to upgrade the Fullerton Auditorium’s seating, audio, and lighting systems coupled with Wi-fi installation. The first phase of Wurlitzer Pipe Organ upgrades have started and are projected to last most of the school year.

Safety Updates

Director of Safety and Risk Management, Dr. Chris Davis, informed the Trustees that phase two of the new safety plan focuses on training for staff and students. Dr. Davis started his report by emphasizing the necessary administration training to correctly utilize the new “robust” inter-district/site radio system.

Safety teams are standardizing districtwide safety protocols by installing similar Incident Command System (ICS) safety plans, emergency supplies, drill protocols, and terminology.

Dr. Davis emphasized the vital need to use similar vocabulary between district personnel and community partners and within the district itself.

FJUHSD recently invested in additional Automated External Defibrillators (AED), installation of the Bluepoint Notification System (which notifies administration and first responders in case of emergency), and plans to increase cross-training with first responders to round out the updated safety plan’s next phase.

New Courses for 2024/2025

Trustee Buchi requested the administration report on new classes offered for the 2024/25 school year that were tucked into the Consent Calendar. Superintendent Dr. Steve McLaughlin said that Education Services will include information during the showcase planned for later in 2024. Under 7.3.5 in the agenda (fjuhsd.org; board meeting agenda tab; January 9, 2024), the report noted that FJUHSD will not delete any courses next year.

Sonora HS (SOHS) expands its high school dual immersion program by offering a remedial World History and basic Geography class in Spanish. Link Crew Leadership class will count for UC admittance (a-g requirements), focusing on interpersonal communication, social-emotional self-knowledge,

and learning.

Troy HS will expand its Cambridge Advanced Learning program with an A-level Biology course, and SHHS will offer a remedial Business Finance class and an Advanced Journalism Class. The apparent outdated Journalism course outline listed research and fact-checking goals by using newspapers and books, but did not specify any updated categories teaching students to discern false information or AI-generated stories on social media or online.

Career Technical Education expands at Buena Park HS and SOHS, offering a Coding and Gaming concentration and a Visual Communication “capstone” class, providing a G credit while advancing a student’s CTE pathway.

What the FJUHSD Board
January Safety Update Missed

The district motto may be that FJUHSD is the place to be safe, but trustees are not discussing a couple of recent stories that may have students and parents reconsidering the district’s response to safety concerns.

On November 14 and 15, the entire district experienced what turned out to be a ransomware attack that compromised some current and former staff members’ data. Superintendent Dr. Steve McLaughlin noted that some students’ “nonsensitive personal data” were also compromised, according to a letter sent out on January 12, 2024, two months after the breach occurred. The district immediately resolved the data compromise and got most Wi-fi services up by November 16. However, how safe personal information will be going forward is not transparent.

The district provided staff complimentary credit protection for a year, while students were only informed about the data breach. The district did not offer technology safety protocols for students to follow in order to make their information more secure going forward or identify the third-party experts Superintendent McLaughlin referenced in his January 12 letter, so it is difficult to take reassurance that the system is now more secure.

The recent FJUHSD board meeting safety update did not include personal data protection or technology protective updates, with no mention of the ransomware attack nor any questions by the Trustees. By not mentioning the

matter, the district had no official information concerning new updated security measures to protect information in the future.

For a district with one of the nation’s top student cyber security programs, perhaps the district should consult with the students to protect an overwhelmed system. The Sunny Hills High School student newspaper, *The Accolade* (January 12, 2024), interviewed CyberPatriot president, senior Abhijit Sipahimalani, who, along with other CyberPatriot members, was not surprised this data breach occurred, saying that “the (district’s) response was very slow” to inform stakeholders.

Sunny Hills High School is also the focus on social media concerning an alleged sexual assault that occurred in mid-December to a student in the Special Education Program.

The student’s mother went on social media to express her frustration with the lack of response by the school administration. *The Korean Daily* newspaper picked up the story (January 24, 2024) and speculated through anti-dotes that this is tied to gender-neutral bathrooms and gender-affirming policies.

There is no evidence that the assault has anything to do with gender-affirming policies.

The situation graphically outlined by the mother’s post tells of a bullying and predatory incident that has not been corroborated at this time. Sergeant R. O’Neil of the Fullerton Police Department reported that the onsite

Student Resource Officer conducted a “thorough investigation” and filed a report claiming a lack of evidence made it difficult to confirm the crime had been committed.

Even if the district cannot comment specifically concerning this incident to protect student privacy (even if the mother posted the story on social media, under law, the school district must maintain the privacy of all student identities), the episode underlined the need for the district’s new safety program to cover additional issues other than preparing for statistically rare active shooter incidents and all

city emergency drills.

The district needs to walk a tightrope of transparency that admits that bad things sometimes happen at school so that useful staff and student training concerning these uncomfortable subjects may protect students from the actual hazards confronting them and prepare them for knowing who to contact, what to share, how long to wait for responses, and what forms to fill out immediately, instead of finding out about how to handle a situation when it may be too late to get any productive response.

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.



Book Review by Tegan, 6th grade

Swiss Family Robinson

Swiss Family Robinson, a captivating classic by Johann David Wyss, takes readers on an unforgettable journey with the Robinson family. Through Wyss’ timeless narrative style, the story unfolds as an exciting adventure full of wonder and survival.

The book focuses on the father, William, the mother, Elizabeth, and their three sons: Fritz, Ernst, and Jack. Each character brings a unique perspective to the story, with William’s resourcefulness and leadership,

Elizabeth’s nurturing spirit, and the boys’ youthful curiosity and bravery.

As the family is shipwrecked on a deserted island, they face countless challenges, from building a treehouse home to discovering new wildlife and natural resources. *Swiss Family Robinson* is a heartwarming tale that not only showcases the resilience of the human spirit, but also the importance of family bonds, courage, and determination. This beloved classic deserves a solid rating of 4.6/5 stars.



National Observances by Mateo, 10th grade

National Bubble Wrap Day
January 29

Imagine opening a package under the roof of your comfy home on a pleasant Friday afternoon. Slicing open the box with your keys and unfolding its flaps, you excitedly prepare to uncover the item that you spent your hard-earned money on, stored safely inside. As you reach in to finally grab that item, you feel a sticky, bubbly sheet latching onto your fingers, and your excitement grows even more. Before you know it, you swiftly forget about the item inside the box and begin to pop away at the small, plentiful bubbles plastered all over the protective sheet of bubble wrap.

The history of bubble wrap is quite strange and unique, and its journey to becoming the standard for package protection was an unprecedented one. In fact, bubble wrap took multiple failed attempts to market it as a useful product before being used to safeguard items in boxes. The adventure started in 1957 when American engineers Alfred Fielding and Marc Chavannes tried to seal two shower curtains together and sell them as textured wallpaper. These curtains trapped air bubbles in, giving them a unique 3D texture, but unfortunately, the product was not as popular as the two engineers had envisioned. They then moved on from wallpaper and began to market the product as greenhouse insulation, but that was not very popular with the public either.

Despite the first two failures, Fielding and Chavannes refused to give up on the product. Three years

after its initial creation, they founded a new corporation called Sealed Air built specifically around bubble wrap, and one of their marketers realized that it would do an excellent job protecting the contents of packages during shipping. One of the most innovative developments at the time was IBM’s brand-new computer, and the tech giant constantly shipped them out left and right due to their high demand. After Sealed Air demonstrated how bubble wrap essentially guaranteed the safety of the new computers while on their journeys across the world, IBM began using it in all of their packages. Not long after, bubble wrap expanded to protect other products as well, and it finally gained the popularity and usefulness that its creators had desired many years prior.

Nowadays, bubble wrap comes in all different forms, from small pouches to rolls of bubble wrap sheets to entire envelopes insulated with bubble wrap. Sealed Air is now the leading corporation in sustainable protective packaging and sells around \$400 million worth of bubble wrap yearly. In 2001, to celebrate the incredible history of the product, a radio station located in Indiana unofficially established an annual National Bubble Wrap Day, which now commences on the last Monday of January. So, the next time you experience the satisfying crack of those air bubbles popping on a large sheet of bubble wrap, take time to consider the contributions it made to the enhancement of package protection.



Featured Pet by Jules, 8th grade

Meet Cali

Say hi to Cali, a sweet medium size pup who loves humans. She is a calm dog who enjoys being in nature and taking relaxing strolls which makes her great for any active humans. Cali is crate-trained, potty-trained, and easy to leash making her a good addition to a family with small children.

If you want to bring Cali to her forever home please contact OC Animal Care at (714) 935-6848 and state Animal ID A1825870 or visit their website at ocpetinfo.org.



Valentine Science by Erin, 9th grade



Love is the universal language that connects us all, even animals! How do these bonds even begin? Although there is a lot we don’t understand about love, a major factor seems to be chemicals that the brain releases. For example, when you give or are given forms of affection, the “cuddle or love hormone” called oxytocin, is released.

When you are in love, with your family, pet, or friends, you form one of the types of love called “attachment.” A good example of attachment is imprinting. When an animal opens its eyes for the first time, it forms an automatic attachment to the first thing it sees, whether it be its mother or a human. Attachment releases oxytocin and vasopressin.

Romantic love is a different case — this type of love is called “attraction.” This releases different types of chemicals, such as norepinephrine and sero-

tonin, compared to attachment. There is also dopamine, which is a chemical that has a similar feeling to when a person is on drugs. Being in love makes you feel good and want more as if it is a reward. Norepinephrine improves attentiveness, while serotonin improves your mood and acts like hormones that create a lasting feeling of happiness.

However, when you have a crush on someone, chemicals such as testosterone and estrogen are released. This stage of love is also known as lust. Lust is more temporary than attraction because attraction is more about caring for another emotionally and mentally than just physically.

For singles on Valentine’s Day, you are still in luck. Munching on candy not only satisfies a sweet tooth but also releases serotonin and dopamine - just like in love!



What’s Trending? by Irene, 12th grade

Rethinking Humor

“Oppenheimer” is based on the 721-page Pulitzer Prize-winning book about the Manhattan Project — and *Barbie* is about a plastic doll with big boobies.”

During the 81st annual Golden Globe Awards, host and stand-up comedian Jo Koy left the audience unimpressed with his dull and rather offensive jokes. Camera shots captured clips of Ryan Gosling’s unresponsive attitude and Taylor Swift’s uncomfortable demeanor. Recognizing the guests’ disinterest, the comedian made a measly attempt at saving face by using his writers as a scapegoat for his poor performance.

“I got the gig 10 days ago,” Koy said. “You want a perfect monologue? Yo, shut up. You’re kidding me, right? Slow down. I wrote some of these, and they’re the ones you’re laughing at.”

According to *The Washington Post*, Koy is the first Asian American man to host the Golden Globes. Although I give the comedian credit for the milestone he has reached within a historically under diverse industry and his performance prepared on short notice, it’s never funny to objectify women,

even more so when blaming writers for your skimpy delivery amid the 2023 Writers Guild of America strike.

“I’m telling a joke — what happened to society where we can’t even joke with each other anymore,” Koy said in a Jan. 11 interview with the *Los Angeles Times*, just four days after the event.

“I bought the movie. I supported the movie.” Despite facing intense online backlash following his performance at the award ceremony, the failure to reflect on his harmful gags highlights a more pressing societal issue — the normalization of women becoming the target of debasing jokes. Demeaning comments about *Barbie* and plastic boobs undermine the film’s core message about womanhood and female empowerment amid our patriarchal world. And even on a stage with the industry’s most cultured celebrities, the comedian’s remarks serve as a reminder that women are never safe.

Although Koy’s Golden Globes performance ended with some nervous laughs and a defensive outburst, it calls for a much-needed makeover of the comedy genre to move away from themes of boobs and cellulite.

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HITS & MISSES

by Joyce Mason © 2024





THE BOYS IN THE BOAT: Two Hits

Based on the 2013 book by Daniel James Brown, "The Boys in the Boat" tells the story of the remarkable rowing team that brought glory to the University of Washington during the darkest days of the Great Depression. We immediately know the economic challenge faced by the young men as we see some of them carefully folding newspaper pages to fit the inside of their shoes in order to cover the holes in the leather soles.

Among the most financially challenged, Joe Rantz (Callum Turner) has been told by the school's financial office that he will be dropped unless he can pay the university's tuition. Tall and muscular, Joe had worked part-time since he was thirteen when his father deserted him after the death of his mother. But even part-time jobs have disappeared, so when Joe hears that if he can make the university's rowing team, his tuition will be covered, he immediately goes to the try-outs.

U of W's crew coach, Al Ulbrickson (Joel Edgerton), warns the dozens of young men competing for the eight seats on the boat that "crewing was the most difficult sport in the world." It not only requires muscular strength but also "twice the lung capacity of the normal person." Lastly, he tells them that crew members are no longer eight separate individuals but "eight separate parts of the same racehorse." We follow the eight men who are chosen, plus the coxswain and one substitute, throughout their training.

George Clooney directed this film, and Martin Ruhe photographed it. The two seem to have worked seamlessly because the many long shots of the boat and crew gliding through the coastal waters add calm and elegance

to several scenes. We don't get to know each of the eight men well, but we do witness the pain, challenges, and joys of our protagonist. In lighter moments, we see that Joe has attracted the attention of Joyce (Hadley Robinson), who claims that he had a crush on her in elementary school. He does not remember this, but he enjoys the flirtation she provides.

Painful for Joe is a chance encounter with his father, who has returned to Seattle but has not cared to seek him out. With the total absence of a father in his life, Joe finds himself spending spare moments in the company of George Pocock (Peter Guinness), who creates the racing boats called shells. George senses Joe's need for some kind of a father substitute, and the two find camaraderie as they sand and varnish the craft while striving for perfection.

With a screenplay by Mark I. Smith, "The Boys in the Boat" covers the glory that this Depression Era team of rowers brings not only to the University of Washington but to the entire country. Much is made over their success since previously Ivy League schools had won all of the nationwide competitions. Now, the stage is even larger because the year is 1936, and the summer Olympics are to be in Berlin with Adolf Hitler eager to show off his German athletes.

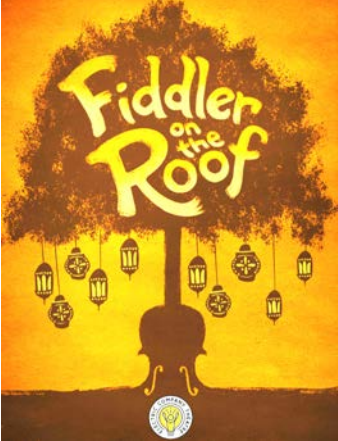
Although Smith closely follows Brown's book, he does omit a concept explored early in the book. Most of the young men who made the team with no previous rowing experience had worked as teenagers in the lumber industry, and the theory posited by Brown was that the muscles developed by lumberjacks were the neck and shoulder muscles needed for success in rowing.

Electric Company Theatre Opens 2024 Season with site-specific Fiddler on the Roof

Electric Company Theatre will kick off the 2024 season with an outdoor, site-specific production of the beloved classic *Fiddler on the Roof*, directed by Co-Artistic Director Brian Johnson. Taking place under a small grove of oak trees on the west side of the Muckenthaler Cultural Center ("The Muck") property, this *Fiddler* will immerse the audience in the action of the play as the actors and musicians sit together with the audience under the trees. For a traditionally large cast show, this company consists of only twenty actors and musicians, most of whom play multiple roles or an instrument and acting role.

"This is the kind of site-sympathetic work we love to do," says Johnson, "where the show is responding to the environment we are in. One of our goals in our residency at The Muck is to use the beautiful space as it is and allow our productions to highlight the space." Using the trees as both scenic design and light sources, the audience will be transported into the story using the natural environment of The Muck.

The cast includes Brian Johnson as Tevye, Renee Curtis as Golde, Bobby Gonzalez as the Rabbi and Constable, Wesley Chavez as Lazar Wolf and Fruma Sarah, Michael Reehl as Mordcha and Bottle Dancer, Rayanne Krueger as Yente (2/12-2/21), Karen Rymar as Yente (2/26-3/6), Ron Gutterman as Motel and Boris, Miles

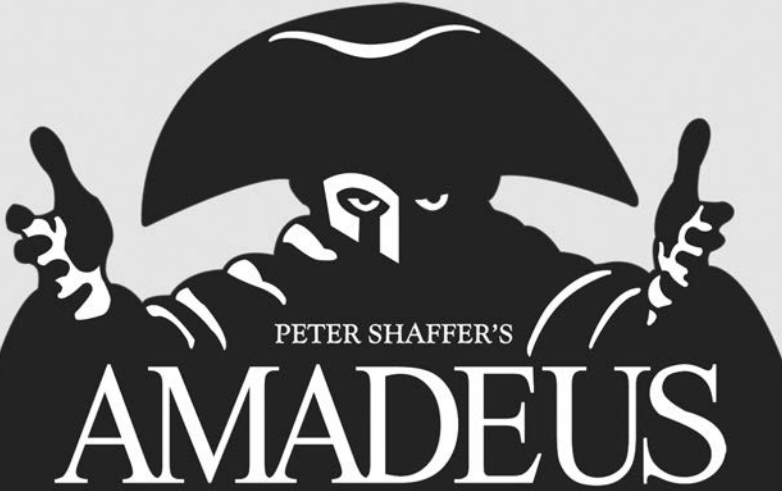


Henry as Perchik and Nachum, Wyatt Logan as Fyedka and ensemble, Gavin Hamze as Mendel and Sasha, Andrea Dodson Ewing as Tzeitel and Grandma Tzeitel, Lindsay Van Gerpen as Hodel and ensemble, Aimee Ordaz as Chava and ensemble, Camille Vargas as Shprintze and Bottle Dancer, Natalie Oga as Bielke and Bottle Dancer, Mel Domingo plays Shandel and Cello, Christian Chinchilla plays Yussel and Violin, David Hamann plays Accordion and ensemble, Julian Rymar (Orchestra Director) plays Clarinet and Avram, and Rebecca McBride plays the violin and The Fiddler.

Directed by Brian Johnson, cultural consulting by Rabbi Miriam Van Raalte, choreography by Emily Taylor, stage managed by Jordan Jones, lighting design by Matt Mankiewicz and costume design by Tana Carmichael.

Fiddler on the Roof will be performed at 7pm Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings from February 12 through March 6 at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center: 1201 N Malvern Ave, Fullerton. Tickets are limited and available for purchase for \$35 plus fees at electriccompanytheatre.org. Please note: This event will be outdoors, on the grass on the west side of The Muck property. The terrain may be slightly uneven on the walk to your seat. In the event of rain, this production will move indoors to The Muck Gallery.

MAVERICK THEATER



PETER SHAFFER'S

AMADEUS

FEBRUARY 16 - MARCH 23

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mavericktheater.com

The Maverick Theater begins its 2024 season with Peter Shaffer's "Amadeus," directed by Brian Newell. "Amadeus" is a gripping drama and a wonderful celebration of the music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

When your hard-earned fame has been surpassed by a brilliantly gifted, potty-mouthed golden boy, what else can you do but smile to his face while secretly plotting his downfall? "Amadeus", winner of seven Tony Awards □ including Best Play □ and the Academy Award® for Best Picture, depicts the flamboyant genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart as seen through the eyes of his desperately jealous contemporary, composer Antonio Salieri.

The story unveils through the narration of an old Antonio Salieri flashing

back to 1781 when he was the court composer to Emperor Joseph II. When Mozart arrives, Salieri is horrified to discover that the godlike musical gifts he desires for himself have been bestowed on a bawdy, impish jokester. Mad with envy, Salieri plots to destroy Mozart by any means-perhaps, even by murder.

"Amadeus" opens February 16th and runs through March 23rd. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m., Sundays at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30 general, \$15 for students with a current I.D.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.mavericktheater.com or by calling 714-526-7070. The Maverick Theater is located at 110 E. Walnut, Fullerton, across from the Amtrak station in historic Downtown Fullerton.

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


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The Ron Kobayashi Trio

On a crisp Saturday night in Fullerton, many people warmed themselves under heat lamps in the outdoor area of Les Amis to listen to the jazz stylings of The Ron Kobayashi Trio. The Trio regularly plays in this intimate setting in downtown Fullerton at a place locals call the Walk on Wilshire.

The Trio consists of composer and pianist Ron Kobayashi, bassist Baba Elefante, and drummer Steve Dixon, all accomplished musicians in their own right. All three also give private lessons.

The Ron Kobayashi Trio has been performing together consistently for nearly 30 years. Each musician brings with him years of diverse musical experiences. Ron Kobayashi has performed with Mel Torme, Margaret Whiting, Kenny Burrell, Peter White, Tom Scott, and Peter Frampton. He was a featured performer on the "Johnny Yune" television show, the TVONE series "Life After" with actress Jackee, the 2002 Jerry Lewis Telethon on the CBS Evening News with Dan Rather, and the Netflix Series

"Brother's Sun" airing in 2024. In 1992, Ron performed for President Bill Clinton.

Bassist and composer Baba Elefante was voted one of the nation's top bass players in a Bass Player Magazine poll. He also performed on the 1995 Universal movie "The Hunted," with jazz trumpeter Roy Hargrove, saxophonists Tom Scott and Justo Almario, rocker Frank Stallone, and "Kansas" lead vocalist John Elefante.

Drummer Steve Dixon has done numerous recording sessions as a drummer and percussionist. He has worked with "War" harmonica legend Lee Oskar, saxophonists Tom Scott and Richie Cole, trombonist Bill Watrous, vocalist Tierney Sutton, and Warner Brothers recording artists "The Untouchables."

The Trio has played numerous music festivals and concert halls, including the Playboy Jazz Festival in Pasadena, The Long Beach Jazz Festival, the San Bernardino Music Festival, the Orange County Art and Jazz Festival, Dana Point Jazz Festival, Yorba Linda Arts Festival, Mission Viejo Music Festival,

the Yuma, Arizona Jazz Series, the Cerritos Performing Arts Center, the Segerstrom Center of the Arts, the Barclay Theater in Irvine and at the Colorado Belle in Laughlin, Nevada.

The musicians have worked throughout California, in New York, Florida, Arizona, and Nevada, sharing the stage with such notable artists as David Benoit, Eddie Palmieri, Cirque Du Soleil, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, and the Pacific Symphony. The Trio has been the house band for the Annual Hollywood Diversity Awards, where such stars as Chris Rock, Rosario Dawson, and George Lopez were honored.

The Los Angeles Times says the Trio are "superb jazz stylists." The Ron Kobayashi Trio's latest CD, "No Preservatives" (Carpet Cat Records), was described as a "five-star session

from three of the Southland's finest..." by the LA Jazz Scene. The Orange County Register wrote: "If you define jazz, at least partly, as spontaneity, emotional expression and communication among musicians, you won't find anything better than "No Preservatives."" You can also read a great review in the online magazine All About Jazz by Dave Nathan.

The trio's CDs have been played on nearly 100 stations throughout the U.S. and Canada and reached the "Top 10 Playlist" on KAWC in Arizona. The motion picture "Sam and Janet," starring Gary Busey, uses several cuts. In 2012, the Trio was voted "Best Jazz" at the Orange County Music Awards.

See more at
<http://rkobamusic.wix.com/ron-kobayashi>

*"I think music in itself is healing.
It's an explosive expression of humanity.
It's something we are all touched by.
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-Billy Joel*

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Inside the CSUF Begovich Gallery's *Past Forward* exhibition. PHOTOS BY EMERSON LITTLE



VIDEO *OBSERVER*
by Emerson Little © 2024

See videos on YouTube @emersonlittle1901

PAST FORWARD Exhibition Examines
History of CSUF Visual Arts Complex

Because a large portion of Cal State Fullerton’s College of the Arts was and still is under construction, Marie-Andrée Chinchilla and Enrique Del Rivero, curatorial assistants at CSUF’s Nicholas & Lee Begovich Gallery, were curious to learn more about the midcentury modern buildings that were being demolished and wanted to pay homage to the architecture itself.

Working as part of a team for about six months, they researched the history of the university’s visual arts complex, investigating historic photographs, videos, and layout plans at the university’s library and outside institutions in order to design, install and curate the exhibition, *PAST FORWARD: Early Images of the Visual Arts Complex at CSU Fullerton*, which is located on the 3rd floor of the CSUF College Park building at 2600 Nutwood Avenue in the College of the Arts – Office of the Dean.

“Looking at the campus itself, there’s a very Sixties aesthetic to the architecture of all the buildings,” said Del Rivero. “The research process was like a treasure hunt. It involved talking to faculty and staff; just trying to get to know the school better and where things were before, compared to now. With the archive department at the Pollak library, it was great; the archivists were really happy to work with us. We worked together to look through boxes of untouched files, and tons of film pictures, trying to find

anything that connects or that could tell us more about everything that’s gone on here.”

“It was definitely a labor of love,” added Chinchilla. “The archivists were super helpful. Since not everything has been digitized, there’s tons of boxes of files that haven’t been touched in decades. We would go through hundreds of files and scan everything. Then, we would look at each individual piece and zoom into all of it and look at every detail we could find. That’s how the main process kind of started because it was initially going to be sort of a chronological, linear story. Because of the files we were looking at, we found a copy of a black and white architectural rendering in our university’s archive: an 8x10 copy of it on a regular sheet of paper.”

On the computer, Chinchilla zoomed in on the building rendering and found the architect’s name: Thornton M. Abell. Once the team was further along in their research, they discovered a connection to (the) Julius Shulman (Photography Archive) at the Getty Research Institute. “That was a big surprise for both of us,” added Del Rivero. “That research process kind of developed this whole exhibition, and that’s what we worked off of.”

*It took the
team of curatorial
assistants months
to figure out
how they wanted
to install the
exhibit and present
the material.*



Photo of Marie-Andrée Chinchilla and Enrique Del Rivero, curators of *PAST FORWARD: Early Images of the Visual Arts Complex at CSU Fullerton*.

“I think that was the most interesting thing to find: a whole suite of Shulman photographs at the Getty,” said Chinchilla. “I initially thought, since this is Cal State Fullerton’s architecture, there’s probably some photos taken by student historians in the Seventies, but it was Julius Shulman, a really prominent architectural photographer in Southern California. It was a big deal, going from there, being able to show that there’s this legacy.”

It took the team of curatorial assistants months to figure out how they wanted to install the exhibit and present the material. They were initially going to have the exhibition in the Begovich Gallery’s temporary office space, a windowless room in McCarthy Hall (which Del Rivero thought needed “a comprehensive facelift”), but ended up moving the exhibit to the temporary College of the Arts Dean’s Office across Nutwood Avenue.

“This definitely took a huge chunk of our time: Enrique doing design, and then doing the actual printing of the digital files, and bringing them over and figuring out where everything was going to go in terms of installation design and preparation,” said Chinchilla. “This new space worked out really well because then we could do the actual show, then have a room showcasing the department’s Modernization Project, and showcase Enrique’s designs in the conference room.”

Past Forward is made up of three rooms. The first room contains a wide

array of black and white photographic prints visually showcasing in great detail what CSUF’s Visual Arts Complex looked like through the years. This room also features Thornton Abell’s ephemera, including his original statement for the project and architectural renderings, which were acquired from UC Santa Barbara’s Architectural and Design Collections.

A video mounted on the wall contains original voice-over audio of Abell thoroughly discussing his project on the CSUF campus. This video gave Chinchilla and Del Rivero an idea of the thought process that went into developing this area of the campus.

Another room looks to the future, and features artifacts from the groundbreaking of the campus’ construction along with an interactive, full-scale model of the Visual Arts Modernization Project. A device pinpoints different buildings, and prominently projects the interior designs of each building onto one wall within the room. The conference room features Del Rivero’s designs and a few more images from the past.

Open until March 22nd, and organized by CSUF’s Begovich Gallery, *PAST FORWARD* reflects on the enduring legacy of the University’s architectural and design blueprint and its possibilities for the future. An appointment is required to view the exhibition.

Visiting hours are between the hours of 10am and 4pm by appointment only. For an appointment, please contact jfrias@fullerton.edu. It’s important to note that your visit request is not complete until you receive email confirmation from the gallery staff. Please visit arts.fullerton.edu/begovichgallery for further information.

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Art Talk with Over the Moon

by Jane Ouweleen and Carol Van Ahlers of *OverTheMoonGallery.com*

Who is an Artist?

Our definition is someone who has chosen to create through an artistic medium and to craft a lifestyle. Today's artists must be entrepreneurs and wear multiple hats - creators, marketers, managers, and businesspeople. Only a few artists reach the point of selling enough art to provide a steady income.

Art brings us joy, inspires us, and fosters our creativity. It's worth considering the challenges in sustaining work and artistic passion. Artists/creators can be taken for granted and not always supported in their efforts. Learning more about what it takes for artists to share their creative talents can increase our appreciation of their work.

Artist Shaney Watters, a member of Over the Moon Gallery and Quorum Gallery in Laguna Beach, explained that being a working artist takes a lot of balancing between making art in her studio and wearing her selling art hat.

"It's work to keep all the pieces together from social media, doing shows, creating inventory lists, maintaining gallery relationships, and even bookkeeping and tax time," said Watters. "It's an amorphous career, and it isn't 9 to 5. Some days, I'll go into the studio for hours and not succeed. I may hate what I did and start over the next time. I always learn something, but that doesn't mean I get closer to finishing, and those hours are gone. It's what I love about creating, but it makes it hard."

While many artists would feel it a luxury to be able to paint/sculpt/build/draw, more must be done to garner success. They often must choose what to create. The work they find personally fulfilling isn't always the same as what their buyers purchase.

Watters believes this is one of the many challenges of working artists. "I have decided not to alter what I paint to increase my sales. It must be me first. I don't feel comfortable selling something that isn't good in my eyes. When things don't sell, this can be disheartening, but I'm willing to accept the rejections and failures to be true to my art."

For their art to be discovered, artists must promote, including having and maintaining a website, creating content, posting regularly on social media, attending art fairs, and networking with galleries.

Watters turns to art shows to help promote her work. She participates in several a year, looking for events that bring art lovers rather than just the general public. Doing shows can be costly in terms of time and money, but she sees their value.

"I consider shows a long game as far as selling my work. I may do a show, meet the customers, and sell nothing. If



The Other Half of My Orange, by Shaney Watters.

I have a good crowd and lots of interactions, I consider it a success, even if my sales are not great," said Watters. "Many times, I'll hear from a customer months down the road regarding a particular piece or even a commission."

Creating and selling art requires an ability to navigate the art market. This includes knowledge of pricing, negotiating, managing inventory, and sales. All this takes away precious time from creating art.

Fortunately, many artists find ways around these challenges and still make art for us through collaboration with others, staying resilient, and prioritizing time to create and hone their work. This is done through dedication and hard work.

Hats off to our artists! We acknowledge and appreciate them for the value they bring to our lives.

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Saturday, April 13, 2024

Details to Follow...



Healthy Awareness

by Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D. © 2024

What I Learned from Barbie

I was not going to see the movie Barbie because I thought it was for teenagers, which I am not. After hearing a presentation at Fullerton College, however, I decided that I had to see this movie because of the real-life issues it raised.

The Barbie doll replaced Mattel's "Baby Dolls" in the late 1950s to keep up with the times, since not all girls wanted to be primarily mothers, and many also wanted the ability to have a career.

Barbie lived in Barbie Land, a fantasy land where females could be anything they wanted. However, challenged by Evil Barbie to go to the real world, Barbie soon discovers that men dominate it. Women were limited to feminine jobs, such as being a secretary for Mattel.

I can relate to career discrimination. When I was graduating from high school in 1957, I was considering a music career. I wanted to play in an orchestra eventually but was told by my teacher at Peabody Conservatory that only men played in orchestras.

What else could I take as a major in college? I excelled in math and chemistry, so why not major in chemical engineering? After registering at the university, I soon discovered I was the only woman in engineering, and most faculty and students did not want me

there. After I married my husband, he persuaded me to become a psychologist although it was extremely rare to be married and a mother in graduate school in the 1970s. Another obstacle, but one that I overcame!

Lessons in Chemistry, a book and film series, takes place in the 1950's. The main character, Elizabeth, has a master's degree in chemistry from a prestigious university, but the trauma of being raped by her professor prevents her from entering the doctorate program. She works in a lab with only men and is considered inferior to them because she is a woman, even though she is smarter than most. As a woman, she is designated to make coffee daily for the group.

Later, Elizabeth has an affair with a prized doctorate researcher who values her intelligence. She is an independent woman who does not fit the feminine prototype and refuses to marry him. After his accidental death, she finds out that she is pregnant with his child and is fired because women could not be pregnant and work in the 1950s. I know what this is like because I was fired in the early 1960s because I was pregnant.

Changes were starting to happen in the late 1960's and 1970's. Greg, a single dad, and my husband were among the men who were examples of father-

ing independent women. Both stressed athletics for their daughters. Greg's daughter played on a boys' Little League baseball team and refused to wear dresses. Our daughter loved to build go-carts and tree houses and had an erector set that the boys in the neighborhood were in awe of!

Today, the pendulum has swung further to the right; women, however, still do not have the same pay as their male counterparts in many fields. Also, some men are taking on the role of "stay-at-home" parents as their wives are the breadwinners in the family. In a discussion with a mother with two daughters in college, there is still a dilemma for them. Her daughters have decided to major in careers where they can still be mothers if they choose to. And back to Barbie, will she become a mother because she is going to see a gynecologist at the end of the movie?

One last thought: Barbie Land was not always a happy place like Disneyland because you had to fit the mode of being skinny, have the perfect body with no cellulite, and, of course, never grow old and eventually die. Here in the real world, Barbie sees a change in attitude towards aging as she witnesses a beautiful woman with gray hair sitting on a bench. We must be reminded of this moment because aging people are beautiful – we are all on this journey together and must celebrate life's journey as a natural path.

That concludes my thoughts, but I could not help but include this photo of Solon Shaw and me, models for the aging Ken and Barbie!



Solon and me in the Barbie car

BALANCE & CHANGE

by Michelle Gottlieb, Psy.D., MFT, LPCC © 2024

What Makes a Good Partner?

The other day, I had an interesting conversation with a young woman contemplating marriage to her boyfriend. She asked me how someone knows if they have found the right partner and what makes a good partnership.

There are many facets to this answer. One part is a very personal, individual answer. But let's look at some more general answers. One of the first ones to look at is cultural issues.

We all grew up within certain cultures that have given us some expectations of what a romantic partnership is supposed to be. We are often unaware of the cultural pieces that form a significant part of what we seek in a partner. Be sure to take some time to understand how this may show up for you.

But there is obviously more than that to picking a life partner. I have had some people talk about their physical type. Be careful of that; people change! If the only reason you chose someone was their waist size, you may not have a long partnership!

One of the most essential things in a relationship is trust. Can you trust your partner? Are you trustworthy?

It is necessary to feel safe to have a long-term healthy relationship. Another thing to be aware of is how clear the communication is. This can be worked on, but is your prospective partner willing to work on it? Are you? Do you like your partner? Is this person your friend? Do you enjoy hanging out?

Notice that I have not mentioned love. It is important, but so hard (impossible, really) to honestly describe what love is. You have to decide on that one for yourself. Sexual compatibility is another piece that can be worked on. So, if there is no "chemistry" initially, it may develop as you learn to trust them and really know who they are.

So, what makes a good partner? Someone whom you can see yourself laughing with, working beside, building things with, and lying next to every day, year after year. Someone you can build a life with! Enjoy the journey!


"Love is everywhere, but if our eyes aren't open to see it, we miss out. Who among us hasn't missed out on love because we were looking for it in one package and it came in another? Our problem is rarely a lack of love so much as a mental block to our awareness of its presence." — Marianne Williamson, *The Gift of Change: Spiritual Guidance for Living Your Best Life*

The Dental Corner: Better Oral Health

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If you need a recommendation for a trusted orthodontist, please call us. We will perform a thorough exam to ensure that your child is ready, and we will work closely with the orthodontist to oversee your child's treatment. Until next time!

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Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2024 • JonDobrer@mac.com



We Are at War: Iran & the Three H Axis of Resistance

We are at war with Iran. Unlike the “Phoney War,” from 1939 to 1940 between England and Germany, when war was declared but not fully engaged, today we no longer declare war but just begin fighting. We hope the various conflicts don’t escalate or connect with each other. “Hope,” however, is not a policy. It is somewhere between naiveté and denial. The conflicts are connected.

The Houthis are launching missiles and drones at our ships, international commercial shipping and Israel, while effectively closing the Suez Canal. We must assign responsibility to Iran. Iran arms, trains and advises the Houthis who are both a Shiite tribe, originating in the town of Houth, and a larger militant group. They represent under 20% of the Yemenite population but rule most of Yemen. With Iran’s aid they endured a years-long war with Saudi Arabia, survived and even flourished.

We cannot understand the Hamas attack on Israel without acknowledging Iran’s part in arming and supporting Hamas for the purpose of provoking and punishing Israel. Though Hamas is Sunni Muslim and Iran is Shiite, it serves Iran to give Hamas the means of fighting and dying for Iranian interests. Iran’s top priority is the destruction of Israel.

Nor can we contextualize the instability in Lebanon and the murderous barbarism of Syria’s Bashar al-Assad and Hezbollah without seeing all these as extensions of Iranian foreign policy.

We cannot appreciate the Three Hs of Hamas, Houthis and Hezbollah without seeing them as related and sourced from Iran. They are all proxies for Iran’s very effective policy goals. They have encircled Israel with Hezbollah to the north, Gaza to the west and the Houthis in Yemen to the south. Meanwhile, Iran is trying to destabilize Saudi Arabia and Jordan—both Sunni Arab nations.

There is the temptation to see the Houthi violent engagement in the Red Sea in isolation and to accept their cover story that they are doing this for the Gazans and Palestinians. No. They are doing this for Iran, just as Hamas is being used by Iran. They are neither pro-Palestinian nor pro-Gazan. They are enrolled in trying to destroy Israel and weaken all the Sunni Arab nations.

This is the larger war that seems invisible to our media (but I hope not to our government). Shiite Iran is at war not just with Israel but also with

most of the Sunni Arab World—Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt and some of the Gulf States.

This gets complicated because there are some Sunni majority states ruled by Shiites and some Shiite majority states ruled by Sunnis. Syria is Sunni majority, but Assad is part of a minority sect (the Alawi) within Shia Islam. Iraq was ruled by Saddam, a Sunni, but the population is largely Shiite. The Gulf is even more complicated.

Suffice it to say, Iran is attempting to spread its religious view and its ethnic identity as non-Arab Persians. Thus, there are both religious and ethnic aspects to the Iranian ambition to wear the mantle of leadership for all Islam.

Hamas’ attack on Israel was timed to stop Israel and Saudi Arabia from taking a step closer to mutual recognition and regularizing their diplomatic relations. As has happened so often in the past, those with guns and bombs exercise veto power over even the possibility of peace.

Iran is the originator of modern chess, and they play the chess game of foreign policy better than any other nation. With a weak economy and social unrest at home, they punch far above their weight in the international arena. They operate their proxies and sell oil to China while also arming Russia in its war against Ukraine.

Iran’s nuclear ambitions are troubling but not because I fear a nuclear attack on Israel. I don’t. Iran has plenty of radioactive fuel rods and nuclear

waste with which to build dirty bombs and poison Tel Aviv, Beersheba or Haifa. They have missiles that could pierce the dome of Israel’s nuclear reactor in Dimona. They haven’t done any of these things because they know Israel’s response would be overwhelming. It would be MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction).

Iranian nuclear ambition is not focused directly on Israel. Iran noticed that Saddam did not have nukes and was hanged. They saw that Gadhafi gave up his nuclear program and was sodomized and literally torn apart. They understand that as much as the West, and even China, may dislike Kim Jong Un of North Korea, he seems safe from attack because he has nuclear bombs and missiles. That is Iran’s nuclear ambition. They want to be attack-proof.

Iran is conducting the most effective foreign policy of any nation in the 21st century. They spend money to project power throughout the Middle East and let their proxies do the fighting and dying for them. They are indeed good at chess.

Meanwhile, we in the West play neither chess nor even checkers. We play whack-a-mole, reacting to each challenge and crisis as if it were isolated and not a part of a pattern of not-so-subtle inter-related moves.

Let me be clear, I am not advocating a hot war with Iran or a pre-emptive strike. I am asserting that we cannot develop a coherent policy without understanding the ambitions and motives behind these clearly-related hot spots. We need to put down the wooden mallet and learn chess.

Let me be clear,
I am not
advocating a
hot war with
Iran or a pre-
emptive strike.

AT HOME WITH THE HOMELESS

by Andrew Williams © 2024



The State of the Homeless Address

For the past month, our shelter has been undergoing an epidemic of “shelter cough:” no fever, nausea or symptoms other than nasal congestion and loud coughing with expulsion of phlegm. When mentioned to staff and/or medical authorities on-site, the response is “Oh, yeah, it’s going around.” (No surprise, given such close sleeping quarters.) The complainant is usually given cough syrup and antibiotics and told to report back if symptoms abate or continue. No talk of quarantine. Why? Because there are so many COVID cases that any on/off-site quarantining would be quickly overwhelmed. So hit whatever it is with pills and syrup. No testing, no lung X-rays, no sputum cultures to find out what bug(s) is/are responsible. But if it was COVID –well, then you’d see some action.

What with the “shelter cough,” plus the viral trifecta of COVID, RSV and influenza on the rampage, and the lights on 24/7 “for your protection,” it’s not a joy-joy existence for your own correspondent and his fellow shelter denizens. Proving that 24-hour lighting is cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment has enough obstacles if you’re dealing with a prison environment; it’s never been case-tested in a voluntary environment like a shelter, probably because the response would be “If you don’t like it, you can leave.” So you’re given the Hobson’s Choice between sleeping outdoors in dicey conditions at best, or sleeping in an environment where the

lights are never off, raising Hell with everyone’s circadian rhythms and doing Godknowswhat to people’s mental equilibrium. Life as a guinea pig. What prizes do we have for our vectors, Johnny?

In the usual spirit of giving credit where it’s due, this needs to be said: when the COVID epidemic hit, the CA Department of Social Services quickly recognized that homeless shelters were going to become primary transmission sites for the virus unless decisive action was taken immediately. So in March 2020 they began Project Roomkey, described in a press release “as part of the state response to the COVID-19 pandemic...to provide non-congregate shelter options, such as hotels and motels, for people experiencing homelessness, to protect human life, and to minimize strain on health care system capacity.”

Later that year, Project Roomkey was expanded and renamed Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy. Again quoting from the press release: “This new phase of the program built on existing emergency shelter efforts while also supporting permanent transitions to safe and stable housing to ensure homelessness is non-recurring.” Sounds like a prudent and timely response to keeping unhoused persons as safe and healthy as possible during a global pandemic, while also transitioning them to more permanent housing.

So why hasn’t your own correspondent mentioned this program before? For the simple reason that until he did

a Google search on transitional housing in Orange County on January 1, 2024—as part of research for this column—he had no idea the program existed. No housing navigator had mentioned it. No social services worker had vouchsafed its existence.

That’s one of the biggest frustrations of being homeless: there are programs out there that can be a big help, but unless you talk to the right person at the right time in the right office, or you get lucky on a Google search, you probably won’t ever learn that they exist. Yours truly may not be the fastest gun on the prairie, but he does eventually get the information. It mainly requires persistence, persistence and persistence. Also a working phone and strong WiFi. But mostly persistence.

As anyone with a debilitating physical or mental illness will tell you, time and energy are not resources we have in abundance.. Which makes reliance on navigators and case managers all the more critical, since we must hope that their working knowledge of the social services maze is greater than ours. If it isn’t, much of our limited energies can be wasted in wild goose chases for programs that a) no longer exist, b) exist but are closed to new subscribers or c) never existed. It is no

exaggeration to say that looking for housing, like looking for work, is a full-time job. The irony would be amusing if it wasn’t literally sickening.

So what is the status of Project Roomkey and (Re)housing Strategy?

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority terminated the program in LA on September 30, 2022, leaving more than 10,000 unhoused persons without housing. LAHSA announced in November 2022 that “Project Roomkey led to more than 4,800 permanent housing placements since the program began in 2020.” Project participant Daniel Dickerson summed it up like this: “I can’t live anywhere... What audacity too, think(ing) I should be allowed to live somewhere. I guess I should just go die somewhere. That’s what they want.”

Statewide, the California Department of Social Service announced that “Project Roomkey is in the process of determining the appropriate ramp down schedule. The dates for site closures will vary based on local needs and are made in consultation with local emergency managers and public health departments.”

So, basically, the program is dead. Someone forgot to tell the COVID virus.

Shaping Tomorrow Series:
Deescalating Conflict
Wednesday, January 31, 2024 from 6 to 7 pm
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Maple School Celebrates 100 Years!

Part One: The Historic Journey

by Roberto Melendez

Maple School is turning 100 this year. An on-campus celebration is planned for April 24, 2024. This is a four-part series on the history of Maple School to the present. Built in rural Fullerton when citrus groves dominated the landscape and the city’s population was under 6,000, the school has withstood earthquakes and restoration, student demographic changes and an unpopular school closure in 1972. Maple School reopened in 1996 after decades of desegregation busing. However, a full elementary school expansion was uncertain because, apparently - it lacked sufficient acres. But, through parents’ advocacy and the discovery of additional property, the full expansion was possible. Today, it’s a vibrant school, emphasizing and moving unto the forefront of environmental science.

A New Southside School
Maple School is the oldest school in the Fullerton School District (FSD). There were others before Maple, but they no longer exist. Orangethorpe School, built in 1890, is the oldest in the area - but not in the FSD. Orangethorpe opened in the former township of Orangethorpe on the northeast corner of Nicolas (now Euclid) and Orangethorpe Avenue, but the FSD established Orangethorpe in 1949 on its present site on Orangethorpe and Brookhurst. (Sources: OC Register by Lou Ponsi, Jan. 22, 2015 & Fullerton Observer, Terry Galvin, Sept. 2018.)

Maple School was built on the corners of Harvard (Lemon Street) and Maple Avenue (Valencia Drive), hence the school’s name. It was built as a two-story structure on a little over 3 acres. It opened with a racially integrated student population serving southside Fullerton.

The Beginning
Several articles during 1923 in the now defunct Fullerton News Tribune reported a critical need for another grammar school to alleviate crowded conditions at Chapman and Ford Schools. The following are excerpts:
• May 3, 1923, “the new building will serve the students east of the Spadra Road (Harbor Blvd.) and south of the Santa Fe Tracks...”
• July 13, 1923, “New School is

Declared As Great Need: More Facilities to Care for Increasing Population Said to be Urgent Necessity.”

School Bond Approved
The construction of a new school required funds and the process in 1920s rural Fullerton was voting for a school construction bond. The bond passed on July 1923. The Fullerton News Tribune reported on July 26, 1923, “A \$125,000 school construction bond was approved by electors.”

The FSD Board of Trustees immediately approved \$16,000 to purchase a little over 3 acres from landowner Harry Burdoff, whose craftsman house remains on the corner of Valencia Dr. and Lemon. The FSD set aside \$85,000 to build a two-story school structure and the remaining funds to pave streets, procure classroom furniture and setup playground equipment.. The Trustees selected renowned Fullerton architect, Frank K. Benchley, a prominent architect in early Fullerton, to design a 12 room, two-story school. Mr. Benchley also designed the Masonic Temple and the California Hotel (Villa Del Sol) amongst others in Fullerton.

Maple School opened in September 1924. The first principal was Helena K. Smith.

1933 Earthquake and Maple School Reconstruction
The 1933 Long Beach Earthquake damaged the school’s second story. There was a two-phase response to the damage, as reported in Fullerton News Tribune articles from 1934 to 1935. The first phase, was removing the second story and the busing out of students using the second floor. The Fullerton News Tribune reported on September 9, 1934, “The board moved to act on Maple Avenue school by ordering the removal of the second story.” “The two classes which have been using these rooms will be transferred to Ford School...” It also wrote “It is expected that the work will be possible without serious interference with classroom schedules.” The issue of busing out Maple students will be a reoccurring theme in the school’s history.
The second phase required retro-



Top: Two story Maple School 1927
Center: Maple School Teachers 1924-25
Front row, far right is Principal Helena K. Smith

Below: Maple School Boys 1936
Back Row Standing L-R: Frank "Kiko" Munoz, Ralph Simmons, Ernest Johnson, Eddie Montoya and Willie Garcia. L-R Front Row: Shunio Nomoro, Ray Reyes, Billy Burdorf, Everett Simpson and Jimmy Goodwin.



fitting and reconstructing, including the adding of two classrooms. The Fullerton News Tribune reported on December 11, 1935 that the “Contract for reconstruction and rehabilitation of Maple Ave.. grammar school was signed by the Fullerton elementary school....” The article continued, “The 200 children now attending Maple School will be transferred to Ford Ave.. School....” The federal “New Deal” program provided manpower for the Maple reconstruction, as well as for other schools in the FSD, according to A Historical Study of the FSD 1889-1966, page 42, Local History Room, Fullerton Public Library.

Additional Acreage Added to Maple Property
Maple School’s property increased beyond three acres in 1946. The Fullerton News Tribune reported on

March 29, 1946, “An agreement between the FSD & the City of Fullerton to add five acres south of Maple School to be developed for school grounds and recreational purposes.” It continued by stating “The City will get about 3 ½ acres (creating Lemon Park) and Maple School will get remaining 1 ½ acres.” The deal increased the school’s property to about 4 ½ acres. The deal proved significant fifty years later Maple School’s expansion to a full K- 6th grade school after the reopening in 1966.
Read Mid-February *Observer* for Part Two: Maple School: Integrated to Segregated in 1958, which sheds light on how racially integrated Maple School became segregated, which led to its closure in 1972 to fulfill desegregation laws.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

covering our local congressional representatives

The *Fullerton Observer* does a great job of covering city politics, but I think you could do a little bit better job covering our local congressional representatives. The *OC Register*, *LA Times* and TV news media do not bother to cover local representatives at all, and I think it would be helpful to voters if you shined a light on some of the actions taken by these office holders. Especially Michelle Steel, who ran on being a practical problem solver willing to work across the aisle, but who has acted while in office like a hard-core Trump cultist.

Abandoning all principles, unlike her former colleague and true conservative Liz Cheney, Steel offered cover to serial liar George Santos and refused to denounce Rep. Elise Stefanik for referring to the criminals convicted by a jury of their peers for attempting to overthrow the government as "hostages." Yet she voted to censure Rep. Adam Schiff because he partici-

pated in the lawful impeachment trial of Donald Trump. She also voted to open an impeachment inquiry against President Biden based on ... nothing.

When it came time to vote for a replacement House speaker for Kevin McCarthy, Steel did not support a Republican representative who recognized the legitimacy of the 2020 election, but fell in line behind first Jim Jordan, then Mike Johnson, both of whom supported Donald Trump's treasonous attempted coup. Both Jordan and Johnson are fighting for a nationwide abortion ban, so I assume Steel supports that, too.

The *Observer* needs to cover the votes and actions taken by this very dangerous woman. Michelle Steel's slogan in 2022 was, "My English is broken but my heart is full." Her new slogan should be, "My English is broken and my heart is full, but my morals and ethics are nonexistent."

Sincerely, Don Long, *Fullerton*

“The sharpest criticism often goes hand in hand with the deepest idealism and love of country.”
—Robert F. Kennedy

New Year, Same Tom by Bulmaro Vicente

As we enter a new legislative cycle, it is essential to hold certain legislators – like Senator Tom Umberg – accountable for making every win an uphill battle. One critical victory was Senate Bill 567 (SB 567), the Homelessness Prevention Act (HPA), passed last year, but not without a fight and several amendments that weakened the bill.

In response to the escalating homelessness crisis and widespread displacement across the state, the California state legislature passed the Tenant Protection Act (TPA AB 1482) in 2019. While the TPA provided critical protections for some California renters, like capping annual rent increases throughout the state and requiring that landlords have a "just cause" for evicting tenants, it failed to shield many tenants from rent increases beyond their means and to address loopholes that left renters vulnerable to evictions, even when compliant with their leases.

The HPA aimed to address these gaps by offering permanent protections that would close loopholes in the TPA routinely exploited by unscrupulous landlords. Under the bill, landlords must provide evidence of substantial renovations before pursuing evictions. Additionally, the bill provides some new protections from immediate moves-in from the owner or family members of the owner of a rental property. Additionally, the legislation introduced a private right of action, empowering tenants to sue if landlords fail to comply with the HPA. These reforms are crucial in combating fraudulent eviction practices. The HPA also ambitiously included a 5% rent cap, lowering it from the 10% cap of current law.

However, the legislative process to pass the HPA became a tug-of-war, during which California tenants lost crucial protections due to the regressive efforts of Senator Tom Umberg and other landlord-friendly legislators who supported his actions. The biggest loss was the HPA's rent cap, which Umberg gutted entirely. Umberg led

others in further amending the statute so that it would not take effect until April of this year – depriving tenants of four months of protection. While Umberg and his allies fought for merely political stakes, for California renters this legislative battle determined whether they could remain in their homes or join the unhoused despite living in one of the wealthiest economies in the country.

The HPA fills critical gaps in the tenant protection landscape — but leaves many still in place. Many of our communities still grapple with soaring rent increases, and a 5% rent cap would have kept tenants in their homes. The blame for the loss of this protection rests solely with legislators like Senator Umberg. The hardships of the housing crisis are what motivated Orange County organizations, tenants, and community members to lobby for the HPA in the first place. Senator Umberg, representing central Orange County, home to Santa Ana, Anaheim, Fullerton, and Buena Park, should be a champion for working-class communities. In weakening tenant protections, he has failed. The constituents of central Orange County deserve a representative who actively works to secure their homes, not one who undermines efforts to do so.

As the new legislative session commences, we expect representatives like Tom Umberg to do the bare minimum and get out of the way of legislation aimed at preventing evictions and making California a better place to live. Senator Umberg faces the end of this term in 2026, and it's unclear whether he has higher aspirations. If he does, voters should remember his obstructionism and its impact on tenants' rights. In 2026, voters must reflect on the qualities they truly want in a new representative and avoid another anti-tenant politico like Umberg. We need a representative committed to keeping Southern Californians in their homes.

Observers Around the World



“We took the Observer to France in December, where we were visiting my daughter who teaches English in Rochefort. This is Phil, my husband, in front of the Eiffel Tower!”
PHOTO BY VALERIE BRICKEY
Congratulations Valerie on your 200th crossword puzzle from The Observer!

California Presidential Primary

All registered California voters will receive a mail-in ballot in this year’s California Presidential Primary Election. Voters can choose to return it by regular mail or by using a Drop Box from February 5th to March 5th (find locations more information at ocvote.gov/options). Voters can also choose to vote in-person between Feb 24 and March 5 by visiting a polling place (visit ocvote.gov/vote-center for locations and hours). Check the address page of your information guide for your nearest drop-box or in-person polling place address.

Voters with questions can call the OC Registrar of Voters Help-Line at 888-628-6837 or 714-567-7600 from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday.

If you have moved, changed your name or need to change your party preference you must reregister. You can register online at ocvote.gov/register or by calling 714-567-7600 and requesting a registration form before February 20. You can check your voter registration status at ocvote.gov/verify

Non-partisan information on local races for statewide candidates and ballot measures can be found at:

- **Ballotpedia**
https://ballotpedia.org/Primaries_in_California, 2024
A great site (if you don’t mind pop-up ads) that gives information on each candidates voting record if they have held office previously, campaign money and more.
- **League of Women Voters**
<https://www.vote411.org>
Once there enter your address. On the next screen scroll to “Know Your Ballot” and hit “Save & View” The next screen will show you all the races on your ballot.
- **League of Women Voters Easy Voting Guide on Prop 1** available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese
<https://easyvoterguide.org/>
- **Fair Political Practices Commission -**
<https://www.fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors/mar-24-primary.html>

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Dan Nava 1946 - 2024

Dan Nava, long-time Fullerton resident, died peacefully at his home of 50 years, on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Dan was 78 years old.

Dan was born in Los Angeles and lived in Boyle Heights until his family moved to Buena Park. He was in the first graduating class of Western High School.

He proudly served in the U.S. Air Force. Dan served as Post Commander of the American Legion 354 where he initiated many programs serving local residents and veterans. Dan retired from Cypress College, where he started the first public safety department, after over



three decades of service. After retirement, you could find him having coffee at the Fullerton train station with friends, traveling with his wife, and supporting local causes on behalf of veterans.

Dan had a love of all things cars, having been a funny car race driver in his younger days. He was an avid NASCAR lover, loved drawing, and the Rams.

Dan is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jessie, his daughter, Danielle, his sons-in-law, Reinaldo and George, his four grandchildren, Vincent, Marisa, Mia, and Michael, and great-grandson, Zeke.

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Patricia Louise Vance Hopping 1930 - 2024

Patricia Louise Vance Hopping, 93, passed away in Fullerton, California on February 22, 2024 with her husband Richard by her side. Born on March 17, 1930, to parents Gladys Irene Hale Vance and Jesse Ross Vance, in Dayton, Ohio, she joined 4 older sisters.

Her life was characterized by her commitment, leadership, service, hospitality, and generosity. Her noteworthy accomplishments and cherished memories leave a legacy for her family and all privileged to know her.

Pat attended schools in Dayton, graduating with high honors from Stivers High School. She then received a teaching certificate from Bowling Green State University. In 1951, she married Richard Lee Hopping and moved to Memphis, Tennessee where he completed his optometry degree. While Richard began his practice in Dayton, Pat began serving her community at all levels.

Even with her commitments, she was a dedicated mother to Ronald, Debra, and Jerrold. She was very involved in their schools, scouting and the church.

Pat devoted herself to educational advancement. She was active on the Dayton Council on World Affairs, created A Taste Around the World Cookbook, staged the first International Festival, and twice chaired the "World of Flair" fashion show to raise money to promote understanding among nations.

She served as President of the Greater Dayton Area League of Women Voters, organizing candidate forums and voter service projects and initiated the Dayton newspapers printing comparative candidate information.

Pat was the Founder President of the Dayton View Opti-Mrs. Club and worked with the Salvation Army to provide camper scholarships for underserved girls. She co-chaired a successful Dayton School Bond Levy.

Most of all, Pat worked tirelessly to support her husband's profession of Optometry. She served on the Board of Directors and as President of the Auxiliary to the Miami Valley Society and the Ohio Optometric Association. She spoke at The Ohio State University to spouses on their role in the community. She was a

Delegate to the first Drivers Licensing Colloquium at Michigan State University. She initiated the distribution of thousands of safety pamphlets to driver-education classes throughout the country. She organized vision screening programs including the Head Start program.

Appointed to the Governor's Committee on Traffic Safety, she was a crusader for eye exams as a requirement prior to receiving a driver's license. Pat received the highest national tribute, the Distinguished Appreciation Award, from the American Foundation for Vision Awareness.

In 1971, Richard became President of the American Optometric Association and Pat served as first lady with charm, grace, and beauty. Their national and international travel promoted vision awareness and friendship within the vision care community. They were asked by the US State Dept. to lead a People to People delegation of Optometrists to China and Japan for an international exchange on eye care.

Richard became President of the Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO) in Fullerton, California in 1972. Moving to California, Pat continued serving the profession, and the community with wisdom, organizational skills, and hospitality.

For 24 years, Pat was the advisor to the Student Spouse Association, encouraging spouses to have a positive impact through involvement and leadership. Pat served as a legislative Keyperson for the California Optometric Council and enjoyed introducing young people to the legislative processes.

Always gracious, Pat organized and hosted many events at her and Richard's home. She welcomed college faculty, students, and staff as well as national and international leaders.

As a member of the Fullerton Assistance League, she established a

vision screening project in the schools. She was a hands-on volunteer in their Bargain Box thrift store. She later served as President and on a national committee. Pat wrote guidelines for the Assistance League to provide vision screenings jointly with SCCO.

Appointed by the City to the Fullerton Arboretum Commission, Pat served as Commissioner for 12 years, including 3 as President. Not only has the Fullerton Arboretum become a beautiful and peaceful oasis for the community, it also provides educational programs for thousands of schoolchildren.

During her Presidency, the Arboretum lost its part-time director, so Pat recruited a full-time director and raised funds for an educational facility, securing a half-million-dollar grant. The Friends of the Fullerton Arboretum bestowed the Golden Oak Award on Pat for her dedicated service.

Believing in access to good health care, Pat was a Board Member and President of the Damas de Caridad to provide support to St. Jude Medical Center. Twice she was chosen as a "Headdress Mannequin" for their Bal Masque Gala. She received the St. Jude Medical President's Commendation.

At age 65, she enrolled in Pacific Christian College and earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Organizational Management. The students and professors loved to hear her first-hand stories from the organizations she had led.

Recognizing her effective altruism, she was named Humanitarian of the Year by the North Orange County Family YMCA; she received the California State University, Fullerton Community Recognition Award; and was named Woman of the Year by the Fullerton Chamber of Commerce.

Pat was the first non-optometrist to receive the Distinguished Service Award from SCCO. Both Pat and



Richard were honored upon their retirement from SCCO. The Academic Building was named after Richard, and the beautiful green space in the center of campus was named The Patricia Hopping Commons. It is a fitting tribute to her dedication, her love for the students and the school, and her appreciation of the beauty of gardens. She envisioned it as a vibrant place for fellowship and gathering.

Her family cherishes her memory and will deeply miss her. She is preceded in death by her parents and her sisters: Helen Hild, Mary Hockett, Alice Davis, and June Anderson, their husbands and several nieces and nephews. She is survived by husband of 72 years, Richard Lee Hopping, O.D. and their three children: Ronald Lee Hopping, O.D. (Desiree, O.D.), Debra Lynn Hopping Davis (Tom), and Jerrold Alan Hopping (Rennie), 9 grandchildren (Reed, Grant, Brett, Tricia, Julie, Lauren, Tyler, Austin, Morgan), 17 great-grandchildren, niece Sharon Fitzharris (Joe) and family, and her nephew Corky Davis and family.

Services will be held Saturday, February 3, 2024 at McCauley-Wallace Mortuary, Fullerton, California at 2:00 pm. There will be a private interment earlier.

If so inclined, gifts may be made in her memory to the Fullerton Arboretum, the Southern California College of Optometry MBKU, the Fullerton Assistance League, or a charity of your choice.

Recognizing her effective altruism, she was named Humanitarian of the Year by the North Orange County Family YMCA; she received the California State University Fullerton Community Recognition Award.

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "SUPER BOWL" on pg 7:



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

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City of Fullerton Employment

303 W. Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton, CA 92832
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/fullerton>

Administrative Assistant

Full Time: \$4,502.51 - \$5,746.35 Mo
Department: Multiple Departments
Job Number: 2023-ADASSTCN
The City of Fullerton is currently seeking an experienced administrative support professional to fill current vacancies within our Organization.
Under general supervision performs a wide variety of responsible, complex, and sensitive administrative duties in support of a department and department director and managers; screens, prioritizes, and directs callers, visitors, and communications; coordinates calendars and meetings; performs a variety of specialized and departmental specific duties of substantial difficulty and related work as required.

Air Conditioning Mechanic

Full Time: \$4,982.00 - \$6,358.00 Mo
Department: Public Works
Job Number: 2023-ACMEC-Con
The City of Fullerton is currently seeking an experienced, highly skilled, and detail-oriented Air Conditioning Mechanic. Under general supervision, determines the cause and extent of operational problems in a variety of air conditioning, refrigeration, and heating units, performs maintenance and repair tasks on air conditioning, refrigeration, and heating units and performs related work as required.

Community Services Leader Series

Community Center

Non-Regular: (At Will/Non-Benefited)
- \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly
Department: Parks and Recreation
Job Number: CSL-CC-2023
Duties include preparing various facilities and event spaces for recreational classes and private events, interfacing with members of the general public and responding to their various needs and requests, and developing effective communication methods to ensure the deliverance of the highest quality service and programs the City has to offer. Staff will assist with senior programming, health & wellness programming, contract classes, and rentals.

Park and Trail

Non-Regular: (At Will/Non-Benefited)
- \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly
Department: Parks and Recreation
Job Number: CSL-PT-2023
Park and Trail staff may work at the front counter. Duties may include taking reservations, selling concessions, answering inquiries, and making sure facilities are clean and operational. Supportive service duties may include opening and closing park facilities, equipment transport and set-up, sports field or court preparation, minor repairs, and inspections. The position may require driving a city vehicle. Hours worked per week may vary.

Youth Services Division

Non-Regular: (At Will/Non-Benefited)
- \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly
Department: Parks and Recreation
Job Number: 01 - Youth Svcs Div
Applicants selected for the Youth Services Division will have exciting opportunities to make a significant impact in the lives of children and families participating in the City's many after-school, teen, and summer programs. Duties in this division cover a broad range of experience, and may include a lead role in planning and implementing special events, creating marketing publications and social media posts, coordinating donations, planning and supervising youth and teen programming, data collection and analysis, and coordinating the work of City volunteers.

Specialist Series

Community Center

Non-Regular: (At Will/Non-Benefited)
- \$15.50 - \$16.00 Hourly
Department: Parks and Recreation
Job Number: 01 - Youth Svcs Div
Staff will assist with senior programming, health & wellness programming, contract classes, and rentals. Additional responsibilities may include administrative work, data collection, and developing marketing strategies. Hours worked per week may vary.

Deputy Director of Administrative Services

Full Time: \$109,274 - \$163,912 Annually
Category: Accounting and Finance / Management / Executive Management
Department: Administrative Services
Job Number: 2023-DDASD
Under administrative direction and in collaboration with the Director of Administrative Services, plans, directs, manages, supervises, and coordinates assigned activities and operations of the Administrative Services Department, including accounting, fiscal operations, revenue operations including cashing, contract management, cash management, treasury, and financial reporting; performs complex financial analysis and other professional accounting work; develops recommendations on various financial, accounting and investment matters; coordinates assigned activities with other divisions, departments and outside agencies; provides highly responsible and complex administrative support to the Director of Administrative Services; and performs related work as required.

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Employment ads are for LOCAL BUSINESSES ONLY.
Send business physical address, phone number, email, and contact name.
All ads will be verified. Any ad that can not be verified will not be printed.

Happy 100th Birthday to Eugenia “Jenny” Vigiletti!



Eugenia "Jenny" Vigiletti was born on January 13, 1924 in Plati in the Province of Calabria, Italy. She is one of 8 children. At age 7 her family relocated to New York and eventually Dearborn, Michigan.

While working in the glass plant at Ford Motor Co she met her future husband, Silvio Vigiletti. The two wed in September 1948 and moved to Norwalk, California shortly thereafter. The two remained together for 50 years until Silvio's passing in 1998. They have two children, Carolina and Loreto.

Today she remains strong and very independent as she enters her second century of life. Eugenia “Jenny” Vigiletti has lived at Oakmont Senior Living since the summer of 2021. She is fiery as ever but loves everyone and everyone loves her.

Happy 100th Birthday to Marjorie (Marge) Mirwald!



Marjorie (Marge) Mirwald celebrated her 100th birthday on January 23 with friends and family!

Marge still lives at the home she shared with her husband Walter with her beloved dog companion Misty and her eldest grandson as caretaker. Her son is a constant visitor tending to the extensive gardens. With family, neighbors and friends visiting regularly, she gets lots of attention and feels very fortunate and grateful that she’s lived this long. She jokes that she’s not trying to outdo her mother who passed at 105!

There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age. —Sophia Loren



This is the Wednesday Book Club at their meeting enjoying their 90th Anniversary in 2024.

Fullerton's Wednesday Book Club Turns 90 Years Old

by Bobbie Cooper, WBC member

We live in a rapidly changing world where new ideas, trends, and inventions are born at a dizzying pace. So it is lovely and comforting that a club of women readers founded in 1934 is still going strong, marking nine decades of reporting on their favorite books.

For 90 years, members of the Fullerton Wednesday Book Club (WBC) have read, learned, and celebrated the wonders of books. Purportedly the oldest, continuously operating book club in Orange County, and possibly throughout California and the country, the WBC was founded by Fullerton local Edith Bullis with the lofty goal of "striving for the enrichment of personality and mutual loaning of minds on the subjects of books, current topics, music, and art." Membership—then and now—is limited to 24.

Bullis reasoned that members would be better served if they chose their books to review. In most other clubs, everyone reads and discusses the same book. The WBC was the only place

where an individual member's book choice was introduced, reported on, and appreciated by the rest of the group. If others in the group were so inclined, they too could read the book after hearing about it. But no pressure!

The meeting format has changed little since 1934. Eighteen times a year, members gather to hear two twenty-minute reports and four five-minute reviews (the times were recently shortened from thirty minutes to twenty and lengthened from five minutes to ten); there is one break for refreshments and member interaction. One member (the "historian") chooses a particular meeting from past years and reports on some of the books that were reviewed. Considering that the club was born before World War II, society and culture—and the books that have reflected the enormous changes in our country and the world – would be fascinating to review. The club also holds three "social" events during the 18 weeks each year: a welcome-back luncheon, a holiday party, and a spring event.

Another important element has never varied: Wednesday Book Club members are voracious readers who appreciate a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books and love to share them. The Wednesday Book Club is such a local treasure that all its 90 years of minutes (including all books read since the club's inception) are housed in the Fullerton Public Library.

Let's peek at just a few reported books over these 90 years.

One of the earliest books reported on was John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*. Another favorite was Margret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind*. The 50s, an era of growth and optimism in Orange County, found the book club hearing about Norman Vincent Peale's *The Power of Positive Thinking*. Today's reports cover the gamut of fiction and non-fiction with titles such as *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, *The Boys in the Boat*, *Where the Crawdads Sing*, and *A Man Called Ove*. Club members are exposed to

144 books each year!

A few quotes from one of the earliest members to a current member reflect that the benefits and value of WBC have not changed. Notes Lavinia Knight, at 93, one of WBC's earliest and oldest members:

"As a child, I didn't have access to libraries. There were none in the lower grades. Finally, we had one in the eighth grade and could borrow one book a week!" Clearly, her exposure to so many books through WBC was a treasure.

Notes current member Jan Flory: "Being part of the Wednesday Book Club has been a joy, (being able) to 'play' with women from different backgrounds, and who all love books. We get a curated description of six books every two weeks on subjects that we might never have thought of exploring..."

In honor of WBC's historic 90th birthday, the Fullerton Library will run a special exhibit in February with photos and other historic memorabilia.