

Fullerton Observer

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MID-MARCH 2024

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PHOTO BY GASTON CASTELLANOS

Honorees (not in order) were: Veronica Moran, Mary Ramirez, Carime Calixto 4 Carla Aguayo, Alma Vilchis, Blanca Hernandez, Giuliani Nunci, Blanca Hernandez, Paola Robles, Ana Madera, Rosa Altamirano, Gabriela Coronado, Monica Hernandez, Amparo Paz, Egleth Nuncci, Martha Diaz, Socorro Mendoza, Tanya Esquivel, Felipe Perez, Rosalia Ortiz, Lorena Camarillo, Pilar Maldonado, Ruthi Hanchett, Kitty Jaramillo, Adrian Meza, Isabel Flores, Juana Suastegui, Diane Vena, Anjali Tapadia, Alma Chavez, Sonia Garcia, Helen Higgins, Karen Lloreda, Veronica Segura, Dallany Muratalla, Martha Patricia Torres, Gabriela Reyes, Andrea Rios, Todd Harrison, Yolanda Harrison, Z. J. Hahn, Curt Johnston, Curtis Gamble, Bernard Oh, Maureen Milton, and Fullerton Observer readers. Also pictured are State Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, Senators Josh Newman, Fullerton Joint Union High School Trustee Dr. Vicki Calhoun, and City Councilmembers Dr Shana Charles and Dr Ahmad Zahra.

Union Pacific Trail Advocates Receive Recognition for Five Years of Unwavering Dedication and Success

State Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, Senators Josh Newman and Tom Umberg, OC Supervisor Doug Chaffee, and Congressmember Lou Correa, on March 16, presented awards of recognition to the many community members who have advocated for Union Pacific Trail Phase II.

Five years of their determination paid off at the January 16, 2024 council meeting where the audience broke out in applause 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 plan of the project envisions the former dusty railroad right-of-way transforming into the Union Pacific Trail and Bike Path connecting various neighborhoods between Union Pacific and Independence parks.

The trail will include a Class I bike lane, a dedicated pedestrian walkway,

lighting, and landscaping stretching to Independence Park on W. Valencia. The landscaping plan includes the planting of 176 new trees, contributing to beauty and environmental sustainability.

The plan also reserves ten feet on each side of the portion of the trail between Highland and Richman for future redevelopment of adjacent properties.

See Related articles pages 2 & 3

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In-Custody Death Fullerton Police Department Report

Fullerton Police Officers responded to a restaurant located in the 1300 block of S. Brookhurst Rd on March 6 at 3:01 am regarding two males that were standing at the front of the doors, possibly under the influence of drugs. The reporting party, who was the manager of the business, was concerned for the employees' safety as they began to arrive for work.

Officers arrived on the scene and contacted one shirtless male adult, who was uncooperative with officers' commands. The male began swinging a belt at officers as they attempted to contact him.

Additional officers were requested, and once they arrived, they utilized a taser to attempt to subdue the suspect, which was ineffective.

The suspect continued to act erratically and was uncooperative. Officers then

utilized a less lethal kinetic energy projectile and struck the suspect, allowing officers to take him into custody.

At this time in the investigation, it is believed the suspect sustained a significant injury to the chest area as a result of the use of the less lethal kinetic energy projectile.

Officers began life-saving measures until paramedics responded. The suspect was transported to a local trauma center, where he was later pronounced deceased.

As is standard practice in Orange County, the Orange County District Attorney's Office will conduct an independent in-custody death investigation.

The Orange County Coroner will release the deceased suspect's identity at a later date.

Filing Period for Nomination Papers & Candidate Statements for November Election July 15 - August 9, 2024

Candidates for Districts 1, 2, and 4 may pull nomination papers beginning July 15, 2024. Candidates must be registered to vote in their district before the City Clerk will issue paperwork. Candidates must file all nomination paperwork and fees with the City Clerk by 5 pm on August 9, 2024. Candidates must make appointments to meet with the City Clerk to pull and file nomination papers. To make an appointment, contact the city clerk's office at cityclerksoffice@cityoffullerton.com or (714) 738-6350.

City Hall on the Go

Fullerton City Hall is coming to you. On select Saturdays throughout 2024, Fullerton residents can visit a park within your district to get full access to all city department resources.

City Hall on the Go aims to make local government more accessible, efficient, and responsive to the needs of citizens by providing an opportunity for residents to engage with local officials and city staff, share feedback, and learn about upcoming initiatives or projects affecting their neighborhoods.

Next date and location:

Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 10am – 2pm at the Hunt Library located at 201 South Basque Ave.

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Women of the Year Awards

report and photos by Saskia Kennedy

Congratulations to Leanna Forcucci on being awarded Fullerton District 5 Woman of the Year! She has dedicated over twenty years to improving Fullerton. Her small business endeavors have contributed to the spirit of entrepreneurship and evoking a sense of philanthropy in the business community.

She has taken on leadership positions at the Fullerton Collaborative, spearheading initiatives to support non-profits, working on youth development programs and helping deserving teen girls in the community with the Quinceañera Project. Her involvement in many community events, including LOVE Fullerton, homelessness prevention fundraisers and anti-drug awareness events, reflects her empathy-driven approach to service.

In the photo above Forcucci is holding the certificate presented to her by Councilmember Dr. Ahmad Zahra who started the award and is also a Fullerton Museum Boardmember and is joined by past recipients: Elvia Rubalcava, Litzy Galarza, Carime Calixto, Egleth and Julianna Nuncci.

Also at the Women's Festival on March 16, Lupe Ramirez received the State Woman of Distinction Award from Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva. Ramirez was recognized for her groundbreaking leadership toward achieving justice for mobile homeowners. Ramirez credited Quirk-Silva for listening and taking action by writing and getting a bill passed that prevented drastic rent increases of 45-60% which would have endangered many fixed income mobile home owners.



Lupe Ramirez with Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva and the Assemblymember's granddaughter.



Free Bird Houses

Story and Photos by Jere Greene

After retiring as an aerospace engineer, Paul Williams of Yorba Linda took up woodworking. He decided that creating birdhouses would be simple enough to build, not too expensive to make, and something many people would like. With that in mind, Paul went back to work. And back to work, he did! He began making a whole collection of designs to address the various preferences of diverse bird species.

After six years of making his ever-growing collection, word got out that Paul was offering over 300 birdhouses to anyone interested in having one of his creations for free. Those interested flocked to Yorba Linda and swooped down to load armfuls of birdhouses into their cars and take them back to their nests.

Paul, his granddaughter Allie Jones, and her husband Micha kept bringing wheelbarrow loads of additional birdhouses to restock the display tables on the driveway. Everyone was happy and impressed with Paul's generosity. Seeing all those who flew to Yorba Linda to get a birdhouse (or more) from Paul was impressive.



Fullerton Observer

Fullerton's Only Independent Newspaper

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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THE EARLY APRIL ISSUE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON APRIL 01. DEADLINE FOR WRITERS & ADVERTISERS IS MARCH 25.



Left to right: Giulianna and her mother Egleth Nuncci, and Veronica Moran



Francine Vudoti

Fullerton Residents Receive Women of Distinction Awards

by Gaston Castellanos

In honor of Women’s History Month, California Senator Tom Umberg on March 12 recognized accomplished women who have positively contributed to their communities and the State of California. Honorees typically reside or work in the district and exemplify and extend volunteerism, philanthropy, and leadership.

Fullerton resident Egleth Nuncci who works for CSUF Neighborhood Services was one of four awarded for advocacy. Egleth’s work as a communi-

ty advocate and organizer has been instrumental in bringing quality of life achievements and state and local resources to Fullerton’s underserved communities.

Fullerton Observer Youth Editor Francine Vudoti was recognized for her community service. She started writing for the Fullerton Observer when she was 8-years-old and has never missed a deadline. She encouraged other young writers and began the Young Observers page which she edits. She also is the

founder of Young Observers International. Interested in AI and cybersecurity, Francine is an aspiring computer scientist who loves to dance, sing, and play the piano.

The California State Legislature first recognized March as Women’s History Month in 1987 and has since continued the tradition. Each year, members of the State Legislature recognize exceptional women in their district with a celebration commemorating their efforts.



At Left: The sixth grade group with US Chess Federation Elder Dewain Barber who ran the tournament.
Below: Pete Baron giving a first place trophy to a first grade champion.
Below Left: The Fullerton Host Lions Club along with group leaders from Tustin and Santa Ana.



The 50th anniversary of the Morrison Tournament

by Marisol Terrazas

In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Morrison Scholastic Tournament, Fullerton School District Trustee Hilda Sugarman, a long-time supporter of chess activities, recognized Dewain Barber, on behalf of the schoolboard.

For the last 35 years, Barber has single-handedly organized and financed the tournament, a huge contribution to chess in North Orange County. Sugarman also noted that FSD and the Fullerton Lions have co-sponsored this event for the past 15 years and recognized Pete Baron for his contributions and support.

Barber's efforts were in honor of the tournament's founder, Bernard Morrison of Stanton, whose vision brought forth this chess event in 1974.

The 50th Annual Morrison Scholastic Chess Tournament took place on Saturday, February 10, from 9am to 1pm, at Ladera Vista Junior High School in Fullerton. This event was organized by the Fullerton Lions Club and co-sponsored by the Fullerton School District.

The bleachers were 100% filled with parents and supporters, while a dedicated volunteer team of over 14 individuals took on roles such as monitors and fulfilled other essential tasks throughout the day. Leading the event were this year's organizer, Marisol Terrazas, and Tournament Director, Lewis Gerbl. The tournament's success can be attributed to extensive preparation, volunteer training, and support from friends of the tournament.

Ten students from Fullerton did well in their respective grade tournaments:

FIRST PLACE TROPHIES
Arborland Montessori
Kaylie Yao, 1st grade
Covenant Christian Academy
Harvey Sim, 2nd grade
Golden Hill
Eamon Pirraglia, 4th grade
Parks Jr. High
Elijah Kim, 7th grade

SECOND PLACE
Arborland Montessori
Rayan Shah, 2nd grade
Wyatt McLean, 2nd grade
Sophia Kim, 2nd grade
Parks Jr. High
Aaruv Biyani, 8th grade

THIRD PLACE
Arborland Montessori
Evelyn Leo Eo, 2nd grade
Laguna Road
Elin Eo, 4th grade

THE NEXT TOURNAMENT:

17th Fullerton City Scholastic Chess Championship Tournament will be held at Ladera Vista Jr High 1700 E Wilshire Ave., Fullerton

To register visit forms.gle/rbQCjQ8EkRTjVkwU8

For questions, call (714) 875-3847

PROCLAMATION

AMERICAN

RED CROSS MONTH

During the American Red Cross month in March, we recognize the compassion of people in Orange County and reaffirm our commitment to care for one another in times of crisis.

Today, kind-hearted individuals in our community exemplify Barton's commitment as they step up through the American Red Cross of Orange County to provide a beacon of hope for our neighbors in need. Their voluntary and selfless contributions make a lifesaving difference in people's darkest hours, whether delivering shelter, food, and comfort during disasters or providing clear critical. Blood donations for hospital patients, supporting military families, veterans, and caregivers through the unique challenges of service, and saving lives with first aid, CPR, and other skills are delivering aid and reconnecting loved ones separated by global crises. Red Cross Boardmembers Barb Robbie and Ashley Glo accepted the certificate. 1379 S Harbor Blvd · Red Cross blood, platelet and plasma donation center. Schedule an appointment today 1-800-Red CROSS.



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, March 05 Meeting

PRESENTATION

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Conservation, Recycling and Groundwater Recharge

Extreme weather conditions in recent years have presented Southern Californians with an unsettling preview of the challenges ahead – periods of severe and extended drought to record-setting wet seasons. Metropolitan’s Annual Achievement Report, the district’s annual report to the state Legislature of its accomplishments in conservation, recycling, and groundwater recovery, spotlights Southern California's ongoing efforts to address water demands amidst these climate changes.

Facing unpredictability head-on, we detail strategies to adapt to climate challenges and secure our water future.

Weather Conditions

The year started with drought conditions and continued stress on the Metropolitan’s imported water sources for Southern California – the State Water Project from Northern California and the Colorado River.

This resulted in a meager initial 5 percent allocation from the SWP. However, hydrologic conditions markedly improved with the arrival of multiple atmospheric rivers. As a result, the final SWP allocation of the year reached 100 percent — a milestone not achieved since 2006.

Conservation

Everyone plays a role in water reliability. For Metropolitan, this calls for sound conservation messaging. During the 2022/23 fiscal year, Metropolitan provided about \$46 million in rebates, landscape and irrigation classes, research, and outreach to help consumers reduce water use in their homes and businesses.

To add to that success, Metropolitan processed over 31,350 applications for about \$16.6 million in regional rebate funding. Metropolitan was also awarded \$49.5 million in grants from the

Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to support these programs.

Groundwater Recharge

Metropolitan has invested \$198 million to fund 28 groundwater recovery projects, which have produced about 1,124,000 acre-feet of water—enough to serve more than 3 million households.

Metropolitan also partners with local agencies to store imported surface water in groundwater basins for use in times of shortage.

Pure Water Recycling

Pure Water Southern California, the proposed regional water recycling project that is a partnership between the Metropolitan and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, entered the environmental review phase and launched a major public outreach effort to secure community input.

In May 2023, the state of California provided Metropolitan with \$80 million in funding to advance the Pure Water Southern California project. Support for the program continues to grow.

CAMP4W

In 2023, Metropolitan launched a Climate Action Plan for Water (CAMP4W), a collaborative effort to create a roadmap for future capital investments and business decisions to prepare for a changing climate and the impact on water reliability. Through the CAMP4W process, Metropolitan is working with its 26 member agencies and involving government officials, environmental and community-based organizations, tribal entities, and the public in our planning process.

The CAMP4W complements the Metropolitan’s existing long-range planning efforts, including the Integrated Water Resources Plan, Energy Sustainability Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Capital Investment Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Albert, a white supremacist Holocaust denier, gave a three-minute speech.

City Attorney Dick Jones said, “By case law, it is determined that this kind of comments are legally allowed under the 1st Amendment.

PARKING

Tanya: The parking is so bad. I appreciate how you fit us into the five-year plan to put the asphalt on our street, but when you did that, you added more red to our street. So there’s less parking on my street.

Sam Elkar: He built an ADU, but his tenants have no overnight parking on his street, and he is finding it to be a major issue. As more and more people build ADUs in the city, parking is going to need to change.

Zee: I want to congratulate parking enforcement and Fullerton and the Fullerton Police Department. For the past 11 weeks, there have been no safety issues at 1301 S Gilbert Ave due to the no parking signage on both sides of the streets being enforced. I have seen no vehicles forced to drive into oncoming traffic, so congratulations.

CITY ON THE GO

Maureen Milton: Loved the Pop-up City Hall event at Hillcrest Park.

SAVE SENIORS

Todd Harrison: My wife Yolanda and I are housing engaged residents of Rancho La Paz in Fullerton. I would like to ask if there’s been further progress on the changes to the TBR rules regarding assistance to seniors who own homes in Fullerton. Mobile

Home Park.

Those changes are now all the more immediately needed. Two months ago, we provided Mr. Saunders, his management company, Star Management, and the managers of Rancho Lapaz with a petition signed by a substantial majority of the residents of Rancho La Paz of notice the fact that both homeowners and rental tenants alike signed the petition objecting to the conversion of Rancho La Paz to an all-ages park.

The regulations gave Mr. Saunders no choice but to delay the implementation of the change by six months. His correspondence states the conversion would be in August of this year. Rancho La Paz is already advertising renting out and permitting the sale of homes to families without any resident age restrictions. In fact, the 1st house was rented to an all-ages family less than a week after the meeting. Like every other statement or promise by Mr. Saunders, the August date was a lie. Functionally, Rancho La Paz is no longer a seniors-only community.

Collectively, the council could have prevented that, or given this or given his disregard for rules and laws, at least made him consider the consequences of defying an emergency ordinance. Those in Fullerton dealing with the unhoused dying on our streets are warned there’s going to be a lot more seniors losing their homes. So please, if there’s a further report on the progress of getting the language of the TBR fine tunes, can it be implemented immediately?

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

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Dr. Shana Charles:

I will start by thanking all the speakers who spoke during public comment. And I say yes, all because even comments that I find to be very difficult, as you know, I am Fullerton's first Jewish Council member, it is important that we understand that anti-Semitism is real. And that was a reminder of that fact [see the first public commentor].

I invite our public and everyone to explore the resources online of the Shoah Foundation, which has collected many first-person stories of the Holocaust. The Museum of Tolerance on Pico Blvd in Los Angeles is an incredibly moving experience. It was a little overwhelming, and I had to take a three-hour break to recover. But I do suggest that you go and learn about the actual history. There's also a Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC, with online resources. And all those things are based on facts and history and truth, which matter. And conspiracy theories, while comforting, and I honestly wish I lived in a world where the Holocaust didn't happen, but that is not real history. The truth is hard, but the truth is important, so I would encourage people to educate themselves about the truth.

American Red Cross Month was wonderful to proclaim, and also Happy Women's History Month. I would like to acknowledge the women who have sat up here on the dias before me. There were nine of them in Fullerton's history, going back to the 1950s.

We will be holding health fairs; we have already held one at Independence Park. There will be an upcoming health fair on April 20th in the Community Center focusing on services for older people, although there will be health services for all and then later this year, possibly sometime in the summer. I will keep you all posted. We will be doing one on the east side of town as well, focusing on family and community services and partnering with folks like Solidarity to ensure we get services there. I will tell you.

My community office hours continue

on Thursdays from Noon to 2pm. I always hold my office hours on Thursday during the first week of the month here in City Hall. And if it's raining, I will also return to City Hall. So that had to happen a couple of times in February. You can find a calendar listing my locations. The city manager has created this flyer in their office. You can you can pick that up. I also post it online on my Facebook and Instagram. Please feel free to reach out. And my newsletter has restarted, so please feel free to e-mail me if you want that every two months. I'm going to be sending that out now.

Councilmember Dr. Ahmad Zahra:

Any form of hate, anti-Semitism, anti-Arab, homophobia, Islamophobia, and Asian hate are rejected here in the city of Fullerton. We are a city of kindness and a city that embraces its diversity. Hate will never be tolerated here.

Now, on a fun note, if you haven't gone to our museum, please stop by; it is wonderful. But it's been a pleasure for the last two years serving on its board representing our city, and we are doing better, but we can always do more, and the museum still needs community support. So please support our staff there, the Volunteers, and the volunteer board; they do an amazing job programming and curating art.

Congratulations to all the little leagues. I got to go with the Mayor to Chapman Park in East Fullerton. It is always fun to see that, and kudos to all the families and the parents who encourage their kids to do the Little League.

Before I end, can we get some questions answered from the public comments? I'd like to know the status of the TBR. And can we reassess the red curbs at South Corona Ave and see if there is additional parking that we can do? Address the overnight parking ordinance and the street sweeping alternate options when these come to the council.

Councilmember Bruce Whittaker:

Our rain season in California starts July 1st and runs through June of the next calendar year. We're about eight months right now into this rainy season. We've already exceeded the annual average. We're pushing. 16 1/2 inches of rain locally. The annual average going back many years is a little under 14 inches a year.

The Army Corps of Engineers is focused on flood control operations at Prado. Since we're at the peak with an outflow of 800 cubic feet per second, the inflow remains at about 750 cubic feet per second. So, what does that mean in terms of capture?

There are efforts in Orange County Water District to capture storm flows, although when they're very strong, it's impossible to capture all of them. So, in addition to what we have at Prado Dam, it looks like another fairly robust year. Last year, we nearly doubled our annual average at almost 26 inches of rain, but as I said, we have four more months in this rainy season to continue. So, if anyone has questions on this, I'm happy to address them or try to get the best available numbers for you.

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jung:

Although he serves on multiple boards, including the OCPA and Metropolitan Water District, he had no comments.

Mayor Nicholas Dunlap:

First, thanks to all the speakers who came out both in chambers and online. I want to echo the sentiments of both Councilmembers Charles and Zahra. Simply put, the beauty of our democracy and our society is that we have the opportunity and privilege to come to a microphone to comment and criticize those in office and policies that may or may not even be related to something the council or body might deal with. But the hateful and hurtful comments that were made tonight in no way, shape, or form represent the City of Fullerton or its residents. And quite frankly, I find it offensive and a waste of everyone's time that people would bring that hatred here. I think that, with many things, it is more a reflection of those individuals than those of us who

are forced to listen to it.

And so, with that, I want to move on to a few more positive things. First, I want to give a big thank you and a big shout-out to our staff, who did a phenomenal job putting together the Pop-up City Hall event at Hillcrest Park. It was a good learning experience for staff because we've also figured out how to better market that event to the community, using next-door utility bills, etc. I think it was a good opportunity for people to get out and ask some of the questions of people that they might not otherwise know how to find here in this building. I don't doubt that our next event will be an even bigger success. It's great to put city resources in neighborhood parks for the community to benefit from.

Opening day ceremonies between Fullerton Hills Softball, Golden Hill Little League, and E Fullerton Little League were excellent. Over 1500 kids are registered to play softball or baseball in those three leagues alone. I had the opportunity to attend all three of the opening days. It was a great event to see all the families and the kids that are so excited about being able to play in the season ahead. I also had the opportunity to throw the first pitch at the Sunny Hills baseball game yesterday.

I also noted two questions: Could we get the city manager to talk about the TBR and the pilot parking plan?

City Manager Eric Levitt:

The TBR is effective now; people can contact the housing office to apply for that program. We're bringing the parking (2 to 5am) back to the council next month. In April, we are making some refinements, including looking at another option. A pilot or short-term program to ensure it works the way we think it will work before fully implementing it. That should be coming back either at the next meeting or the next one. And then red curbs, I can look into that. Red curbs usually have to do with fire restriction, in my experience, so I need to look at the reasoning for the red curbs, and then we can get back to you.



The appeal of major site plan for 801-811 Acacia Ave and 1580 Kimberly Ave was denied

Bob Landell, representing Fullerton Heritage, the applicant for this appeal, said that they were seeking a continuance for a couple of weeks because they met with the developer and had discussions with them to find out if there is a meeting of the minds to save the historic building.

“We brought in our architect to see if they could find a solution that would make both parties agreeable to some compromise. So that’s where we are right now,” said Landell.

The developer said, “We’ve talked with our architect about preserving this portion of the building that Fullerton Heritage would like to preserve. It decreases the size of our building by roughly 20%. To give you a sense of what that is, that’s about 20,000 square feet. The current market rate for UH warehouses in that area is about \$2 a square foot. So if you annualize that, that’s about half a million a year.”

During public comments, several people said the SEQUA analysis was suspicious because they did not know the architect even after a “thorough” check of the site’s historic nature.

Jane Reifer said, “The phase two report is actually in the materials, and it does talk about arsenic, benzene, PC, and other things that have exceeded our levels. It does mean that the environmental documents are not accurate.”

Matthew Leslie said he did not like to see the city make decisions based on missing information. “We are supposed to be a preservation city. I’d like to see us live up to that this time.”

Mayor Dunlap said he wanted to see this go forward tonight because it went through the Planning Commission unanimously.

Councilmember Zahra asked staff why they did not notify and consult with Fullerton Heritage. Staff

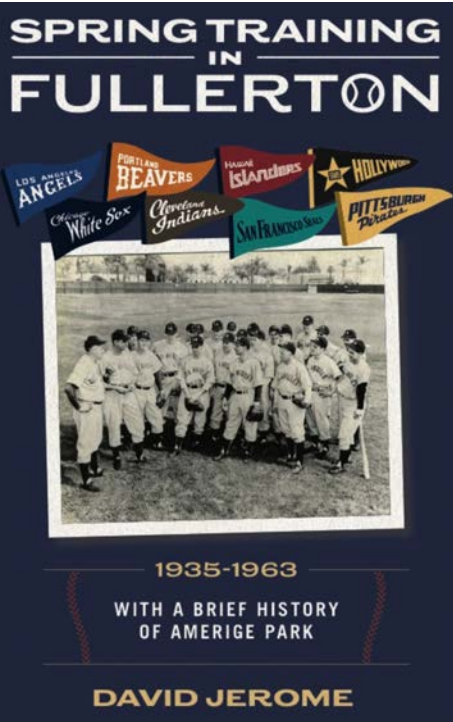
responded that it was not part of their checklist.

Councilmember Charles said Fullerton Heritage is just asking for more time to find a solution that appeases everyone. “I think that is a reasonable request.”

Mayor Pro Tem Jung said the council was tasked as the governing agency in this public hearing to decide the merits of the appeal. While he admires Fullerton Heritage and the work they’ve done in this city and enjoys the modern architecture of Quincy Jones and Frederick Evans on the merits of the appeal, he motioned to deny it. (Architecturally, they’ve built over 5,000 buildings in Southern California.)

The motion to deny the appeal brought forth by Fullerton Heritage passed 3 to 2, with Charles and Zahra casting no votes.

See more Council Notes on page 7

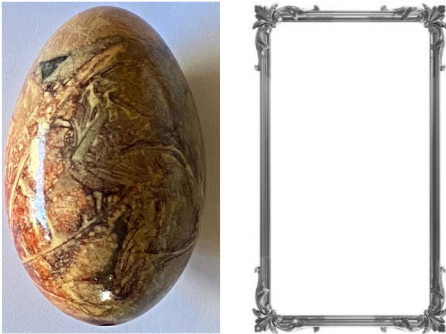


Book Launch

Tom Elliott and David Jerome will host a book launch at Past Times Collectibles on Saturday, March 30th from 11am to 2pm.

Update:

The Ostrich Egg Distillery at 129 W Commonwealth Ave. The lot has been cleared, and the foundation work is being done.



Left: Easter Egg
Right: Only known photo of Harvey

Eggs

If you like fun and food and FREE, this is for you. The fun began when the first Easter egg was hidden in early March and it continues through the end of March with an egg being hidden in a different location in Fullerton every Saturday and Sunday.

It's not the invisible rabbit in the classic movie *Harvey* but the ubiquitous Tim Johnson who hides them, and everyone can find the clues on his Fullerton Loves Food Facebook page. If you find one, you win a \$25 gift certificate from a local restaurant. Good luck and happy hunting.



Library Part II

In the last issue, we encouraged our readers to support the main branch, and now we have great news regarding another branch. On April 13th, the long-abandoned Hunt Library will finally re-open. Has it been 11 years? Actually, it seems like a lot longer to some of us. After extensive renovation, including a new roof, utility improvements, new fencing, and other improvements, this local landmark is ready to shine.

After all of those lonely years, state funding was made possible partly due

to a request for funding by Assemblywoman Sharon Quick-Silva and Arts OC, along with work by Fullerton Heritage, which has made this re-opening possible. Funding had dried up in 2013.

Many local individuals also fought to save the Mid-Century Modern property and keep it public, plus many responded to the survey shown above. Time to celebrate, and check out some books. "You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them." Ray Bradbury.



Feedback

It's always good to hear from you. One thing that seems to be happening over and over is when one of you sees the photo question and knows where it is; you don't reply because you think others have already ID'd the photo, but it's always good to hear from you so don't let that stop you. The bicycle article from the late February issue generated many responses and ideas, especially from avid bike riders. Here are just a few.

It's really the car drivers who are legally required to give space to those on bikes, and they need to learn how to drive more safely- I can't disagree with that. We need more bike infrastructure like protected bike lanes, off-street bike paths, and more painted bike lanes.

Since Fullerton has been around for so long, many of our streets are narrow, so some of these issues are a real challenge. With the passage of the HLA, the City of Los Angeles appears ready to reshape its roads in a big way by widening sidewalks, adding bicycle lanes, and slowing traffic to increase safety for both pedestrians and bike riders. Less reliance on cars is becoming a trend.

The idea of adding more bike racks is to encourage riders to get out of their cars more and to spend time in various places downtown. If riders have a safe place to lock their bikes, that will help, and some told us that the bike racks shown are not the most efficient. Creative designs also need to be highly functional to make this work. Thanks to all of you who responded.



Day of Music 2015

Live Music Updates

Since Christmas ornaments now go on sale in August, is March too early for sponsors, musicians, and music lovers to start thinking about the first day of Summer, June 21st? Heck no!

Because this is a leap year, our annual Day of Music leaps forward from Wednesday last year to Friday this year. Hmmm, that sounds like a great opportunity for a three-day weekend, so plan ahead. "Hey, boss, I asked for the day off months ago. See you on Monday." We will keep you informed and let you know how to get involved.

Speaking of music, you can catch live music at Roscoe's every Friday and Saturday from 9pm to Midnight, and yeah, it's FREE. The Back Alley continues their live music schedule every Saturday and Sunday from 6pm-9pm, and then a DJ takes over. High Horse Saloon has Saddle Up Sundays from 4pm-7pm, and solo acoustic music on Wednesdays from 6pm- 9pm and The Bowery has music on Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 9:30pm. If you have a downtown venue and have info, my email is always included on this page.



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Photo Quiz

Send answer to Mike at AllMedia@sbcglobal.net



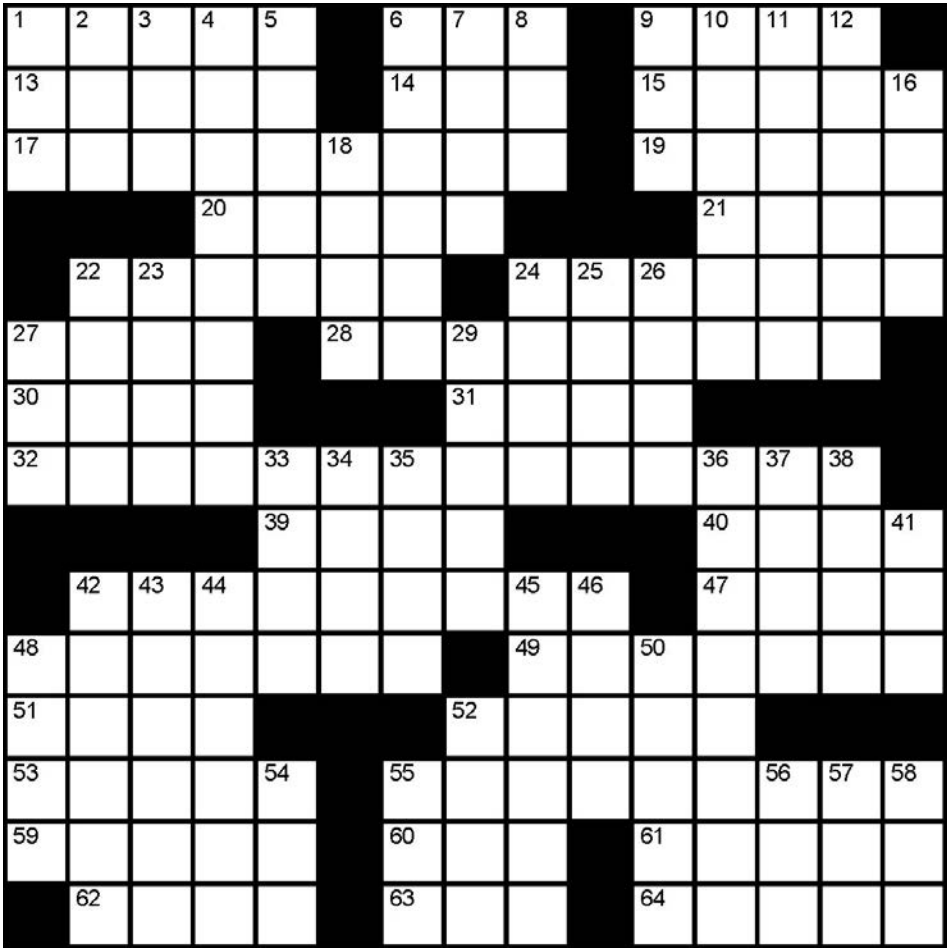
Last time: Too easy? Yes, it was the vintage brick building that houses Domino's Pizza on Commonwealth. It once appeared in a national Domino's TV commercial.



This time: Name this location

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

"JUST KEEP SOLVING" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 18)



ACROSS

1. Plays a round

6. Mature

9. Priestly garb

13. Pertaining to bees

14. Kanga's kid

15. 66, for example

17. *Former Angels outfielder

19. Courtroom event

20. Sneaker pattern

21. Shade trees

22. Legendary

24. Kettles of film, e.g.

27. Tamale dough

28. *Mayor of Los Angeles

30. Sir ____ Guinness

31. "Night" author Wiesel

32. *American painter known for his "drip technique"
39. "Aquarius" musical

40. "Here comes trouble!"

42. *Current Angels outfielder

47. Goodyear product

48. Real blankety-blank

49. Mocking wit

51. U2 lead guitarist, with "the"

52. Window sticker

53. Aired again

55. Swerves back and forth, as a car's rear end, and a feature of the answers to the starred clues
59. One of the Corleones

60. ____ de toilette

61. "This ____ a drill!"

62. Robin's residence

63. Medium claim

64. 2013 film "August: ____ County"

DOWN

1. Gangster's gun

2. Nail polish brand with the color Teal the Cows Come Home

3. Max. or min.

4. Volkswagon Type 3 style

5. Growl

6. Fleet of 1588

7. "____ Morning America"

8. Long, long time

9. 1994 Yasmina Reza play

10. Ochoa in the World Golf Hall of Fame

11. Puts together, as LEGO sets

12. Postage

16. "Frozen" queen

18. Onion relative

22. "Deck the Halls" refrain

23. "Hold on ____!"

24. Dramatic opening?

25. Indigo plant

26. Second son

27. Capt.'s superior
29. Not an original, informally

33. Outbuilding

34. Quaker ____

35. Actor Robert de ____

36. Be better than in every way

37. Seed or pet

38. Michael of fashion

41. Skirt's edge

42. Up-to-date

43. "No argument here"

44. Works with dough

45. Depletes

46. Dash gauge

48. Lowly worker

50. 4:1, e.g.

52. "Buenos ____"

54. "____ on my watch!"

55. Service charge

56. "Barefoot Contessa" Garten

57. Journal

58. Fr. holy woman

Council Notes *continued from page 5*

Illumination Foundation and The Navigation Center

City Manager Eric Levitt gave a brief update of two agreements:

1) The purchase of 3535 was Commonwealth using legislative money that was an earmark for about \$9.5 million was approved by the City Council.

2) An operating agreement with Illumination Foundation. Who operates and is a current tenant of the navigation. The Navigation Center operating agreement has to be approved before the tentatively scheduled to take place by the end of this week. Some key financial aspects of the operating agreement is that the operating agreement would have the city paying for 40 beds at \$80 per bed, which would be approximately 1.19 million per year for the city. The cost would be offset by approximately \$390,000 a year in rent from the Illumination Foundation. So that would be an offset credit which would be a cost to the city of about \$800,000 a year in operating this facility for those 40 beds. It would also guarantee 40 beds per day, per night for the city.

"As you're aware, when someone goes into a bed, they may be in there for a long term. That would be one of the 40 beds that we continue to operate would use our HMO's and our community development department to continue to monitor and make sure that we had those beds available," said Levitt.

Public Comments

Curtis Gamble said, "Overall I think it's a good contract. I'm very happy to see a Navigation Center shelter in Fullerton. We have about 14 shelters throughout the Orange County. First of all it should be a walk up facility. It should be on the basis of first come, first serve. We also need more beds. Now that Senate Bill 4 passed we have churches right around the block from the navigation Center that want to put have beds in and there are 30 plus churches that we have in Fullerton. Those churches should be along on this contract and it would give all the churches an opportunity to see how to do things properly. I noticed that \$80.00 per bed per night that could go to some of the churches who have beds available, who want to participate. We can expand that again to the churches also so that our 300 homeless people will have a place to stay. And we all work together.

Motion passed unanimously, Mayor Pro Tem Jung was absent.

See more Council Notes on page 15

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We would like to know and encourage you to report it.

There are 4 ways to report:

• Fill out an online form — <https://hatecrime.211oc.org/>

• Email any information you know about what happened/where/when/to whom to ochateactivity@211oc.org

• Call to talk to someone anytime – Dial 2-1-1 and press #6

• Text OCHATEACTIVITY to 898211 to receive a direct link to report



Mucio Vidales, teacher at Nicolas Junior High School, has been recognized as the California League of Educators 2024 Middle School Teacher of the Year. In the photo Mucio is accompanied by his wife.

PHOTO BY JOSE VARELA

Nicolas Junior High School Teacher Awarded California League of Educators Middle School Teacher of the Year

Mucio Vidales, the teacher at Nicolas Junior High School, was awarded the California League of Educators 2024 Middle School Teacher of the Year. Mr. Vidales was nominated for his educational excellence and his transformational moment as an educator.

This award is granted to a teacher who exemplifies educational excellence and has made significant efforts to implement elements of educational reform. The California League of Educators Educator of the Year award is given annually to California elementary, middle, and high school educators who exemplify educational excellence. As the nominee selected to represent Region 11, which includes Los Angeles and Orange Counties, Mr. Vidales was honored at the California League of Educators Conference held in Monterey, California, earlier this month.

To achieve the top spot, Mr. Vidales shared his teaching experience, including elementary to middle school, and in subjects ranging from ELA, Social Studies, Spanish, and Theater to Woodworking. The woodworking class gave Mr. Vidales his ‘aha’ moment in teaching. He spoke about the transformational moment when he

witnessed a student with destructive behavior become sparked and engaged during a field trip to the Carpenters Union Training Facility.

The moment transformed Mr. Vidales so much that he now teaches five Wood I classes and one Wood II class. The Wood II students are learning carpentry skills to build a tiny house. As part of this Tiny House Project, the students are learning construction trades and becoming agents of change as the tiny home will be a shelter for a family in need. This tiny house will provide a safe place for Fullerton School District elementary school students and their families to sleep and do homework. Mr. Vidales spoke passionately about his immense pride in his students, the amazing growth in their confidence, and the student’s ability to thrive in new experiences such as news agency interviews.

“Knight Nation is proud of Mr. Vidales for Mr. Vidales being named California League of Schools Middle School Teacher of the Year. Thank you for all the great work you do with our students,” shared Jose Varela, Principal, Nicolas Junior High School.



Family Literacy Night-Booknic by Pam Keller

Orangethorpe Elementary recently hosted a Family “Booknic” for Read Across America Week! The families arrived with their picnic dinners and enjoyed the company of others while listening to strolling VIP Readers, a photo booth, a book fair, free books, art projects, reading with the dogs, and hot chocolate.

Fire Chief Loeser brought a crew that included Captain Brown, our highest-ranking female in the Fullerton Fire Department. Perfect for the first week of Women’s History Month. They were very popular in their turnouts while handing out fire helmets as party favors.

The Fullerton Police Department, led by Lt. Gharah and Sgt. Bridges also handed out badge stickers while reading some of their favorite books. We met one of our newest police officers, who had been on the job for only a week. He is starting his service to the community well.

Reading with the Dogs is always a huge hit. Salsa brought her favorite person, Diana, and Lucky came with her favorite person, Lori. Children and

adults alike enjoyed snuggling and reading with these two furry friends.

Everyone gobbled the hot chocolate and cookies quickly as the night brought a sudden downpour.

Orangethorpe’s Media Center provided free books for a book giveaway, and the PTA hosted a book fair where families could purchase the latest titles in their favorite series. Books were flying off the shelves to be enjoyed later at home.

Senator Josh Newman and staff, Mayor Jung, Councilmember Zahra, Community Member Kitty Jaramillo, and Field Rep Cisneros from Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk Silva’s office were all out in force! The Orangethorpe Orcas are always so thankful to have so much support from the surrounding community.

The National Education Association leads Read Across America Week every March. The week celebrates students’ ability to read, learn, grow, and dream. Many schools across the country celebrate with a week full of books, activities, and reading.

Fullerton School District Preschool Program

Free Part Day & * Full Day Preschool

Children who have their birthdays between 12/02/2019 and 12/01/2021 may be enrolled in the California State Preschool Program.

Children who turn 3 after December 1 of the current school may be enrolled on or after their third birthday.

REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Complete the Intent to Register Form by scanning the QR Code

Complete the registration packet - found on the Fullerton School District website or you may pick up a hard copy at the Preschool Office: 1401 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833

Schedule an appointment with the Preschool Office Staff to turn in your completed registration packet.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Part Day (3 hours): Based on family size and income


Full Day/Full Year: Based on family size, income and need

* Monthly charges may apply to families in the Full Day Program

To show need, each parent **must** meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Employed • Seeking employment • Engaged in an educational program
- Seeking permanent housing for family stability; • Incapacitated.

For more information contact the Preschool Office at 714-447-7499



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National Observances by Mateo, 10th grade

National Supreme Sacrifice Day
March 18th

Every day, the courageous, valiant personnel who make up our city’s police force and fire brigade, as well as the roughly one million brave soldiers who comprise our nation’s military, put their own lives at risk to protect the lives of others. Unfortunately, their selfless decision to guard their communities often leads to tragic consequences. In 2022 alone, the most recent year for which accurate data is available, around 94 firefighters, 118 police officers, and 844 military personnel tragically passed away while serving their country in the line of duty. To honor these strong, generous, self-sacrificing heroes, we observe and celebrate National Supreme Sacrifice Day each year on March 18th.

This celebration also honors the paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) who are also first responders just like police officers and firefighters, placing themselves in danger to save the lives of people in emergencies. Regular civilians just like me and you also sacrifice our lives occasionally when we need to protect others in risky situations. We have heard

of ordinary citizens saving young children from a burning house or shielding innocent people from an armed threat with nothing but their own bodies. What makes these people different from the first responders is that they are not expected to rescue people. Their desire to help despite the risk further demonstrates their extraordinary character.

People who risk their lives for the benefit of the public on a daily basis also risk their mental health. Many first responders called upon to act in emergencies may witness blood-curdling scenes and capture abhorrent mental images that their minds retain for the rest of their lives. This is even more common in the military, where raging wars, bloody fights, and wounded comrades can psychologically scar soldiers to the point that they can no longer live life normally. Despite knowing these risks, our heroes still choose to report for duty every day.

Take some time on National Supreme Sacrifice Day to honor these heroes, and express our gratitude and appreciation for them.



Library Employees Recognized
for Over Four Decades of Service

Adult Services Librarian Melinda Willeford-West was honored for an astounding 40 years of public service with the City, and Children’s Services Librarian June McIntire for a truly awesome 45 years of service.

Showing no signs of slowing down, Melinda can be found working every day answering reference questions at the Library’s Ask Here Desk or working diligently behind the scenes to maintain FPL’s Fiction collection. June does the same at the Children’s Desk while also creating wonderful displays and crafts, reading and singing to rapt storytime attendees, and acting as the unofficial historian of the Children’s Library. Congrats!



School Viewpoint by Marcella, 6th grade

Too Much Homework

Some teachers give a lot of homework making it hard for students to engage in after-school activities. After sitting in class most of the day, the last thing we want is more schoolwork that takes over our precious weekends. While it is known to be a staple of traditional schooling, homework has also become a controversial topic. Some feel that homework is a necessary part of school, while oth-

ers believe that the time spent on homework could be better invested elsewhere. It seems that there are standards to be met in each grade and the homework helps students meet them. But when there is too much of them, the students tend to rush through the homework to get it out of the way. If teachers give less homework, students will likely put more effort and learn more.



What’s Trending by Irene, 12th grade

“Who TF did I marry?”

TikTok’s algorithm curates content unique to a user’s interests and social media activity. Enhanced and personalized feeds have, thus, led to the rise of dedicated spaces for bookworms, movie fanatics, and most recently, a community of followers bound by a shared interest in Reesa Teesa’s (@reesamteesa) messy relationship with a man she believes to be a “pathological liar.”

In a sheer two weeks, Atlanta-based content creator Reesa Teesa has built a dedicated 3.5 million following by posting her 50-part “Who Tf Did I Marry” series. Each 10-minute video recounts her wild experience with her

ex-husband, nicknamed “Legion,” as she uncovers his alleged fabricated past and extensive history of infidelity and crimes. In light of popular demand from the millions of viewers engrossed in her riveting content, the creator has extended the series through a live stream, which has also been uploaded on her account.

The public’s interest in the narrative has prompted many to speculate that it may be adapted into a formal movie or show, much like the 2020 film Zola, which originated from a viral 2015 Twitter thread. Beating out counterpart TikTok trends related to music, food, or beauty, the “Who Tf Did I Marry” series reminds the Internet of the enduring allure of gossip.



Featured Pet by Jules, 7th grade

Meet Morgan

Morgan is a sweet seven-year-old Pittie who loves taking long walks and spending quality time with the family. Morgan loves humans and enjoys greeting them with cuddles after a long workday.

To put the cherry on top, she’s also potty trained and an excellent guard dog. As much as Morgan loves playing with humans, she fits better in homes with no other pets.

Morgan is currently with a foster family. Please contact the foster team at Foster@occr.ocgov.com for more information.

If you want to bring Morgan to her forever home, please contact OC Animal Care at (714) 935-6848 and state Animal ID: A1837999 or visit their website at ocpetinfo.org.



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Visit our giving resources page for information about the ways you can support the library right now!

www.fullertonlibrary.org/support

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HITS & MISSES

by Joyce Mason © 2024



FALLEN LEAVES: Two Hits

Written and directed by Finnish filmmaker Aki Kaurismäki, "Fallen Leaves" won a major jury prize at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival. Although unknown in the U.S., Kaurismäki has made at least forty films and is popular with European audiences. He has a distinctive talent for achieving verisimilitude, which he attributes to his insistence that his actors learn their lines but rehearse with each other as little as possible. As a result, most of the scenes are shot in one take, a practice he feels leads to spontaneity and authenticity.

The film is set in Helsinki, where Ansa (Alma Poysti) works in a grocery store stocking shelves. Her job also includes throwing away food that is past its expiration date. So, she generously allows fellow workers to take food that has already expired. One day, the manager inspects her purse as she leaves, finds a package of expired food, tells her she has stolen it, and peremptorily fires her. We next see her washing glasses in a rundown bar. For diversion, Ansa frequently spends evenings at a karaoke bar.

Another steady customer at the karaoke bar is Holappa (Jussi Vatanen), whom we have seen as a sheet metal worker at his job. Nice looking and hard-working, he nevertheless loses his job when he is given a breathalyzer test and found to have been drinking. Both Holappa and Ansa recognize each other when they meet on the street; he invites her for a coffee, and they go to a movie together. When he offers to walk her home, Ansa declines and instead gives him her phone number.

Although categorized as a "rom-com" at the film festival, to Americans, the category seems odd because the tone of "Fallen Leaves" is bleak, and few scenes are joyful or playful. The film never leaves the city, and the sun never seems to shine in Helsinki. The movie also creates a mood of possible menace from without. Although the characters do not voice concern for their country's safety, a radio plays frequently in the background. The news is always about Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a country that, like Finland,



shares a long and vulnerable border with Russia.

Kaurismäki also has an eye for the composition of his scenes. Often, an individual is seated alone in a public setting that is reminiscent of an Edward Hopper painting. We hope that the loneliness of our two protagonists will not last forever and that they will somehow find a way to work around the issues that keep them separated. However, one obstacle after another seems to work against this possibility.

Some impediments are minor, such as a lost phone number. Others are major, involving an accident that could have been fatal.

However, Kaurismäki's carefully written screenplay, his minimalist direction, and his skilled actors work a kind of magic that invites audiences to invest in the story he is telling.

"Fallen Leaves" is in Finnish with English subtitles and is currently streaming on Prime.

Two Hits: Don't Miss it!

A Hit & A Miss: You Might Like it.

Two Misses: Don't Bother.

CSUF Devised Theatre Production
"Accidentally on Purpose"

Offers a Noir-Inspired Story of Seduction and Betrayal

The Cal State Fullerton Department of Theatre & Dance Season is proud to present "Accidentally on Purpose," beginning March 13 and running through March 30 in the Hallberg Theatre on campus. "Accidentally on Purpose" follows members of a fictional fledgling theater company, Studio 212, as they set out to produce a devised theater work based on Billy Wilder's 1943 noir film, "Double Indemnity." Will the inclination to change the world through art cause irreparable damage to the very artists making it?

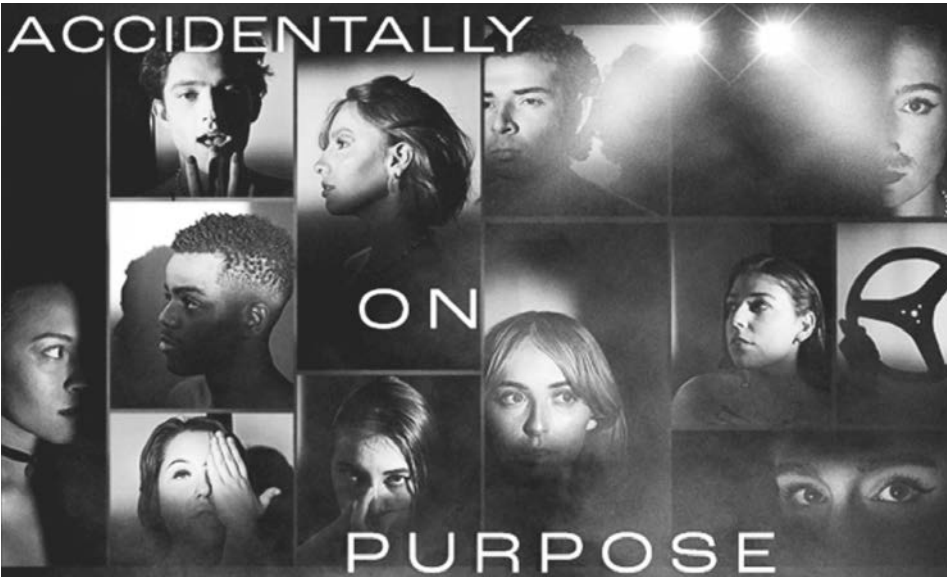
Want to know who murdered my theatre company? Me.
Seduction? Check.
Betrayal? Check.
No checks? Check.
The desire for the femme fatale and inclusive ambitions?
All of that. I killed it.
And I'm going to tell you how.
With support from ASI/IRA funds, "Accidentally on Purpose" will travel to Scotland this summer to present the production at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

"Accidentally on Purpose" was conceived and written by students in

Cal State Fullerton's innovative B.F.A. in devised performance/physical theatre program, along with design and technical theatre students in the B.A. and M.F.A. theatre programs. Guest artist Peter Howard served as creative consultant, facilitating conversation and student writing that created the story of "Accidentally on Purpose."

The cast of "Accidentally on Purpose" includes Priscilla Briggs, Heather Buckler, Christian de la Torre, Owen DiSciullo, Keasha Fuller, Hannah Hart, Jose Hernandez, Aaron Lister, Paige Ragan, Alex Rubio, and Madison Shuck. With set design by Elin Ruden; media & projections design by Omar Ramos; costume design by Carson Julian; hair/makeup design by Jennifer Prichard; lighting design by Samera Abdelrhman; associate lighting design by Connor Huch; sound design by Diego Izeta; prop design by Drea Little; and intimacy coaching and fight choreography by Michael Polak

"Accidentally on Purpose" plays March 22-30, 2024, in the Hallberg Theatre of Clays Performing Arts Center. In person performances on Thursdays and Fridays at 8 pm, and Saturdays at 2 pm and 8 pm. Talkback



on April 11 following the 8 pm performance. General Admission tickets are \$14/ (\$12 Titan Discount) and are available by calling (657) 278-3371, 12-4 pm, Tuesday through Friday, at the Clays Performing Arts Center Box Office or online. CSUF students receive one free ticket per performing arts production.

Next, Cal State Fullerton presents "Urinetown the Musical." Winner of three Tony Awards, three Outer Critics Circle Awards, two Lucille Lortel Awards, and two Obie Awards, "Urinetown" is an irreverent satire that skewers politics, social irresponsibility, and even musicals themselves.

The production runs April 12-27, 2024, in the Young Theatre on the campus of Cal State Fullerton.


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Sunday, March 24, 3pm

BRIGHTWORK NEW MUSIC QUARTET
FEATURING CSUF STUDENT AWARD-WINNING WORK
Stacey Fraser, soprano; Aron Kallay, piano; Brian Walsh, clarinet, and Nick Terry, percussion
Tuesday, March 26, 8pm

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

KAT TREVINO - HEAD IN THE CLOUDS
Main Gallery • Through April 14 • 10 am to 5 pm
Gallery Admission: \$5 - Includes access to all current exhibitions
Kat Trevino returns to The Muck with a solo gallery show: The ever-changing clouds move with our emotions. From the view through the eyes of a child or an elder we all look up seeking for clarity and vision.

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

BUGS, BEES, AND BUTTERFLIES DAY
Wednesday, March 20, 10am-3pm
Join us Free for Bugs, Bees, and Butterflies Day and learn about the benefits of bugs in the garden!

- Arts and crafts activities
- Artist Marketplace
- Environmentally focused artwork
- Children's book fair
- Book donation collection

BRENDA CARSEY
Thursday, March 21 • 7:30 to 9:30 pm
• Admission: \$35
Brenda Carsey is a Los Angeles-based vocalist, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and producer. Carsey delivers an engaging, energetic show with a diverse setlist of both favorite covers and originals peppered with stories both silly and profound.

CARO AND GRECCO
Thursday, March 28 • 7:30 - 9:30 pm
Admission: \$35
As a husband-and-wife team they have written, produced and recorded over 70 songs together. Soothing Bossa Rhythms and storytelling, they share their life experiences and devotion to the healing power of music.

HUTCHINS CONSORT
Thursday, April 4 • 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm • Admission: \$35
Now in their 25th Season, The Hutchins Consort is an innovative violin chamber ensemble which performs on the rare and beautiful Hutchins violins. The distinctive lineup of eight meticulously designed, scientifically-tested violins were crafted by Dr Carleen Hutchins whose contributions made an indelible mark on science, music, and women's history.

Over the Moon Gallery presents
Renaissance of Color
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March 15 - April 30, 2024
www.overthemoongallery.com



Fullerton Friends of Music presents
Neave Piano Trio
Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 3:30 pm
Fullerton First United Methodist Church
114 N. Pomona Ave, Fullerton

All concerts are free.

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



Veggiepalooza at Fullerton Arboretum
1900 Associated Rd. Fullerton


Our annual Veggiepalooza is almost here! Get ready to shop over 200 varieties of fresh vegetables and herbs grown at the Arboretum. Visit our website to view the plants and start making your wishlist.
Thursday-Friday, April 18-19, 12-4pm
Saturday, April 20, 9am-3pm
Members receive a 10% discount and can preorder their plants starting April 12 at 8am to April 16 at 5pm. Make sure to purchase or renew your Arboretum membership so you don't miss these benefits.


Fullerton Museum Center
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(714) 519-4461 • info@fullertonmuseum.com

Artists & Crafts Thursday, March 21th & 28th • 5 - 8:30pm
Vendors, Art Activities, Beer Garden
Beer Garden + Farmers' Market
Thursday April 4th • 4 - 8:30 pm
Join us every Thursday for fun vibes and drinks at our Beer & Wine Garden. All proceeds benefit the Fullerton Museum Center.
ARTWALK & OPEN MIC Friday April 5th • 5 - 9:30 pm
every first Friday of the month
Artwalk & open mic with free gallery admission.

Senior Citizens Club of Fullerton Presents its Annual
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April 4
3 to 6 pm
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Left:
Diane
Siegfried
and
Bobbie
Cooper



Right:
A
Day
of
Authors
2023



VIDEO OBSERVER

by Emerson Little © 2024

See videos on YouTube @emersonlittle1901

The Women Who Book ALPHA's Annual A Day of Authors

This year, the Fullerton Chapter of the Assistance League Professional Humanitarian Auxiliary (ALPHA) will host its 31st Annual A Day of Authors (ADOA) event on April 6th. Recently, I had a chance to interview ALPHA Co-Chairs of Philanthropy, Diane Siegfried and Bobbie Cooper, who are the Author Selection Chair for A Day of Authors and in charge of invitations and programs, about their memories from years past and how they became involved with planning and organizing the non-profit organization's spring fundraiser.

ALPHA has been hosting A Day of Authors, in which proceeds from the event go toward the organization's many philanthropies since 1993. According to Bobbie Cooper, it started with one of ALPHA's earliest members.

"I'm not sure if she had heard about a similar event or if she had just kind of pulled it out of her fertile brain, but there was her and a small group of people that thought this would be an interesting fundraiser," said Cooper. "Back then, we were it. We were the pioneers. Since then, there have been at least three or four [of these types of events] going on during the year by other organizations. But for years and years, we had a hold on it because we were the ones who started it, and I think other people heard through the grapevine or maybe attended our event and brought that back to their organizations. I don't think they ever realized how hard it is."

Cooper has been working with ALPHA on the event since she joined in 2002. She had come to A Day of Authors as a guest for several years, and wanted to be a part of the organization behind it. "So I think the first

year, I had menial tasks, like walking around and asking for money for our raffle baskets," said Cooper. "Then, at some point, fairly early on, I was Resource Chair (Resource Development is the committee board position in charge of A Day of Authors), so I did that for two different years."

Diane Siegfried had a similar story. She joined ALPHA in 2011 and had attended ADOA five or six times over the prior eight years as a friend's guest. "I thought it was one of the coolest events, and it was a little unknown. You'd walk into a room and find hundreds of booklovers and readers in front of fabulous authors; it was a pretty special day," said Siegfried.

"You'd hear about ALPHA and what they were doing in the community," she added. "So finally, when I partially retired, I had a few more hours on my hand, and I joined ALPHA. Like Bobbie, I started with pretty menial tasks. I was in charge of books at the back of the room, making sure that they didn't disappear and that they got autographed as they were headed for authors, who would sign them and put personal notes inside. Then, I progressed and had a philanthropy role, putting together pictures on display for philanthropy. But pretty soon, I was tapped to be the head of Resource, and I, too, have done this two or three times. We did end up in a situation where people didn't want

to do this by themselves, so now we have co-chairs."

Siegfried explained that their author selection process has been evolving over the years. ALPHA likes to represent a wide range of genres, from mystery and thriller to historical fiction, romance, nonfiction, children's literature, and young adult fiction. She said they always make sure to include literary fiction because they want to attract finer authors, such as Pulitzer Prize winners, to their fundraiser. So, they start selecting by genre and then move on to their wishlists, contacting publicists and publishers. Siegfried works closely with the authors' agents to get them to participate in ALPHA's yearly event. She also researches and looks to see whether an author will have a book released in time for their spring event.

"We're looking for 'well-received from a critical perspective' authors. We do kind of aim for the stars, then adjust, but we do get high-caliber authors," said Siegfried.

"More than specific people, we look for authors who are popular currently that are good speakers," added Cooper. "We really do a lot of work interviewing them and listening to how they speak on YouTube and other interviews online because part

of it is that they are entertainers. They need to come and hold the interests of our attendees. Even if there are authors that people haven't necessarily heard of, some of the more popular ones have been really entertaining speakers that people remember for years afterward."

Siegfried noted that authors who attend their spring fundraiser are sometimes surprised at how excited people are to meet them because they tend to lead a bit of a solitary life. Cooper added that the authors are usually really excited to meet each other and impressed when they have a chance to chat with fellow authors. They love the event and go to other authors' breakout sessions because they want to hear what they're saying. Cooper said the writers hang out together at lunch from what she's observed.

Cooper added, "The cool thing is that the authors that have been with us invariably say, and they write back to Diane, since she's the one who makes the first contacts, that this is the most professional, well-run of all the events they've ever been to, and that really makes us feel good."


This event is also quite popular with the 400+ guests who attend each year

to hear authors share their passion for storytelling through their writing. Cooper and Siegfried both agreed that ALPHA's A Day of Authors is different from other events of this kind because usually when authors go to a speaking event, they are the only speakers. They step up to a podium, get a few questions from the audience, sit at a table, and sign books. But because ADOA is a full-day event, they're at a breakfast table with a bunch of readers in the morning, and then they go to their breakout sessions to speak to individual audiences before signing books. They return at lunchtime, and there's mingling. Afterward, they have another signing session, so there's a chance for them to meet many more readers than they would elsewhere, and they get an opportunity to talk to each other as well.

"They're just very sweet with one another because we allow this to be an opportunity for them to spend time with one another. I think all of us are in awe of authors, whether they're world-famous or local authors we've got ahold of because the ability to put words on a page can connect with people and actually sell your books to those who want to read them," said Cooper. "To me, there's no greater skill that anybody can have than to be able to do that."

Keynote speakers for the 2024 A Day of Authors are New York Times bestselling author Robert Dugoni, who writes the acclaimed Tracy Crosswhite police series, and New York Times bestselling author and Edgar award-winning author Lee Goldberg, known for both his novels and for producing and writing many TV shows, including Diagnosis Murder and Monk. This year, breakout authors, from whom attendees choose two, include Lian Dolan, writer and producer/host of the Satellite Sisters podcast; Shilpi Somaya Gowda, a New York Times bestselling fiction author; Sarah James, international bestselling "twisty" historical fiction writer; Autumn Krause, a Fullerton-based young adult author, and Andrea Lankford, former National Park Service Ranger and nonfiction writer, whose recent book just made the New York Times bestseller list.

ALPHA's 31st A Day of Authors event will take place on Saturday, April 6th, at Cal State Fullerton in the Titan Student Center. After breakfast, breakout author presentations, and book signings, guests will enjoy a delicious sit-down lunch followed by an afternoon keynote speaker. This special event concludes with a basket raffle and two \$500 opportunity ticket drawings. New this year is that the books can be ordered in advance online and picked up at the event.




ALPHA of Fullerton

Save the Date!

Saturday, April 6, 2024

A Day of Authors

at CSUF



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Robert Dugoni Lee Goldberg

BREAK-OUT AUTHORS:

Lian Dolan Shilpi Somaya Gowda

Sarah James Autumn Krause Andrea Lankford

New this year: Books can be ordered in advance and picked up at A Day of Authors. Details to follow.

www adayofauthors.com EIN 95-6054959 email: alpha.fullerton@yahoo.com

UPDATE ON JP23 AND THE SAMANTHA VELASQUEZ TRIAL

After three years, the court case between JP23 and Samantha Velasquez is set for July 2024. Here are the facts.

August 1, 2021: Samantha Velasquez claimed that she was drugged at JP23 Urban Kitchen restaurant/bar and later raped and left in a parking structure. The story went viral on social media, reaching over 500,000 people in just a few days. As a result, more women and men came forward, sharing similar stories of being drugged at the same bar, and protests began.

August 2, 2021: Velasquez located her missing phone in a vehicle in the City yard but did not locate her missing fanny pack.

August 27, 2021: Chief Dunn held a remedy hearing for JP23 at the Fullerton

police department, which resulted in a restriction on the hours of operation. Other changes included removing the window tinting, removing the fishbowl (six-person drink) from the menu, and placing a small poster (letter size) in the women’s bathroom that tells women how to be safe with their drinks.

August 31, 2021: Videos from the night in question show that Velasquez consumed eight drinks in three hours.

December 17, 2021: A special hearing at Fullerton City Hall was held to determine if JP23 had complied with all the requirements for maintaining its entertainment license.

February 25, 2022: Poozhikala filed lawsuits against Samantha Velasquez and Justine Flores. Both suits are libel suits in which Poozhikala alleges the women made false accusations that economically hurt his business. Employees of JP23 were harassed and accused of being rapists. By the summer of 2022, JP23 was forced to shut its doors due to the verbal and sometimes physical public harassment.

High Speed Rail in Southern California

by David Spargur

When the California High-Speed Rail Authority was established in the 1990s, the requirement was a two-hour and 40-minute travel time from LA to downtown San Francisco for a nonstop train with a peak speed of around 220 mph. That promised a substantial improvement over the six-and-a-half hours minimum required to drive or the hassle of getting to LAX or John Wayne Airport, flying to SFO, and taking ground transport to San Francisco. It also had the benefit of running on 100% renewable energy. But now it’s 2024. What has happened since then?

Most notably, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CA HSR) received \$3.1 billion in funding in December of 2023 from Biden’s Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Also, \$3 billion was awarded to the Brightline West project to build a high-speed rail from Rancho Cucamonga to Las Vegas. The CA HSR is looking for ways to connect with Brightline West HSR.

Where is the project now?

In summary, the California High-Speed Rail will offer high-speed transportation between downtown San Francisco and the Anaheim “ARTIC” station. Stations along the way will be at Millbrae/SFO airport, San Jose, Gilroy, Madera, Fresno, Kings/Tulare, Bakersfield, Palmdale, Burbank, Los Angeles, and Anaheim. There is also an option for an additional station at Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs or Fullerton.

According to California High Speed Rail Authority CEO Bryan Kelly, the

goal is for electrified operation to happen between 2030 and 2033.

The system is being completed in phases. The phase currently in progress is mainly the section from Merced to Bakersfield, which aims to be ready for testing in 2029 and will temporarily be the high-speed “Backbone” for California rail service, with existing Amtrak service providing links to San Francisco and Anaheim until those high-speed rail sections are completed in future phases.

The current activity nearest to Fullerton is a grade separation at Rosecrans and Marquardt to be completed in early 2025. This will separate car and train traffic to prevent driving congestion and reduce noise (train horns) and pollution from idling cars. The track between Anaheim and Los Angeles must also be improved.

In Fullerton, the tracks must be electrified and otherwise aligned or modified. No significant grade or elevation change to the tracks going through Fullerton is anticipated. In addition to the underpass planned for Rosecrans and Marquardt, a new automobile underpass may be approved near Katella and State College.

According to Jim Patrick, Communications Manager for the California High-Speed Rail Authority, once the Environmental Impact Report is completed, the study will decide whether to build a High-Speed Rail station in Norwalk, Fullerton (or none). If the option to put an HSR terminal at Fullerton is selected, more construction will be required.



Rendering and map courtesy of the California High-Speed Rail Authority



COMING SOONER: Brightline West: LA to Vegas

The “Brightline West” is a private project to build and operate a High Speed Train from Ranch Cucamonga to Las Vegas. It is slated for operation in time for the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. The estimated travel time is 2 hours and 10 minutes. The California High Speed Rail intends to connect with Brightline West, but details are not final yet. Brightline already has an operational train from Miami to Orlando running at up to 125 mph. Round trip tickets start at \$49.

Toastmasters International

The leading nonprofit dedicated to effective oral communication and leadership development. In the last 99 years there have been 4 million members. Members meet to deliver and evaluate prepared and impromptu speeches in an effort to improve as speakers and leaders. Mid-Day club generally meets the first and third Saturdays at 7am to 8am Pacific Time, and the second and fourth Tuesdays at 8:30 am to 9:30 am Pacific Time. Guests are always welcome.

Mid-Day Toastmasters meets for 1 hour on
- Saturdays April 6 and April 20 at 7 to 8 am.
- Tuesdays April 9 and April 23 at 8:30 to 9:30 am.

The meetings will stream
<https://tinyurl.com/zoomwithmidday> and
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9239283290>



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Healthy Awareness

by Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D. © 2024

What You Are is Where You Were When

We are divided as a nation and do not communicate, which means that we do not talk to each other and especially listen to each other just because we have different opinions. I want to introduce a concept I was first exposed to some 45 years ago but still prevalent today. The phrase, "What You Are is Where You Were When," was formulated by Morris Massey. Massey stated that our values are formed by age ten and locked in by 20 years of age. These values can only be changed through a traumatic life experience. An example of this experience could be a long-held prejudice against black people, which can be changed with an incident such as a black person saving your child from drowning.

Let us look at the range of years in which a person was born and the corresponding years when they were ten years of age, along with the events that were occurring.

So, how do these historical events affect a ten-year-old? Think about how their values are formed. See when you were born and ask yourself, how was I affected? Then look at your parents and grandparents. See the differences that can be accountable to when they were born and what was happening in the United States and the world then.

You may find that these events did not affect you, and I must agree that 100% of individuals do not fit into these categories. That is why we must also consider factors such as family, friends, religion, textbooks, the media, and prejudice, among others.

Influences such as the family play a key role, whether one grows up in a

wealthy family or a low-income family and the type of parenting style. Were the parents permissive with letting their child have their way without any restriction or strict where rules were to be followed without questioning? Punishment would be the result if one broke a rule.

Friends matter, particularly during the teen years, when one could be popular or bullied. And the type of peers one associates with, such as a nerd, druggie, or being a party person, can influence values and behavior. Religion also plays a role where some religions feel that their beliefs are the only right way and murder of people of other religions is validated while other religions are compassionate and accepting of others. Depending on the media, what one reads, what television shows one watches or the type of music one listens to also results in certain beliefs and behaviors. I would add trauma in childhood as a major deciding factor in values and behavior. People are not locked into behaviors, for they can change.

In conclusion, to better communicate with others and truly try to understand them, we need to determine where that person was in time in their first ten years of life in addition to other factors such as family, friends, religion, the media, textbooks, prejudices, music, etc. We need to listen to others and not try to change them based on our opinions and beliefs. Hopefully, this will help you communicate your opinion and listen to the other person to better understand where they might be coming from.

YEAR BORN / AGE TEN MAJOR EVENTS AT AGE TEN	
1920's / 1930's	World War II in Europe; Prohibition ends; Great Depression with poverty & hardship; F.D.R. Roosevelt New Deal/WPA & Social Security Act
1930's / 1940's	WWII U.S. enters with the bombing of Pearl Harbor; patriotism; rationing; women join workforce; family decay; atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki; GI Bill; patriotism & winning; United Nations
1940's / 1950's	Cold War between Russia & U.S.; Korean War; Permissive Parenting; Dr. Spock; long hair; Rock 'n Roll; Baby Boom; affluence; indulgent kids; GI Bill; television; bomb drills
1950's / 1960's	Space Program; Civil Rights movement; Assassination of Martin Luther King and J.F. Kennedy; Head Start; Sesame Street; Mr. Rogers Neighborhood; Bad Guy Heroes; credit cards
1960's / 1970's	Nixon's Watergate; Jimmy Carter's Peace Talks between Palestine & Israel; Environmental Earth Day & Greenpeace; Women's Movement; unpopular Vietnam War
1970's / 1980's	Ted Turner's CNN (24-hour news); Jane Fonda's fitness videos; personal computers; cell phones; AID's Epidemic; Video Games, Decline of newspapers
1980's / 1990's	Gates Foundations; Gulf War; LA race riots; 1st World Trade Center and Oklahoma City bombings; Clarence Thomas & Anita Hill sexual harassment; Clinton-Lewinsky & Impeachment; RAP music; Starbuck's
1990's / 2000's	Wikipedia; No Child Left Behind Act; George W. Bush president; Al Gore environment warming; 78 million Baby Boomers (1946-64) heading to retirement; 9/11 terrorist attacks on World Trade Center and Pentagon, Space Shuttle Columbia disaster; same sex marriages legalized; Pelosi 1st female speaker of the House of Representatives; Barack Obama 1st black President;
2000's / 2010's	Al Qaeda and Muammar Gaddafi killed; Greek debts crisis; Israel launched Operation Pillar of Défense against Palestinian-governed Gaza Strip killing Hamas military chief, Ahmed Jabari; oxytocin crisis
2010's / 2020's	Artificial Intelligence; fentanyl crisis; homeless crisis; Roe vs Wade overturned; Trump became president; 25,00 tech workers laid off; mass shootings; Covid- pandemic; Russian invasion of Ukraine

I could not list all the major events due to the limitation of space, but I want to add the following labels of generations you might be familiar with: The G.I. Generation (1900-1924); The Silent Generation (1925-1940); The Baby Boomers (1946-1964); Generation X (1965-1979); the Millennials or Generation Y (1980-2000) and Generation Alpha (2012 up to 2025).

The Dental Corner: Better Oral Health

The Important Role of Dental Specialists

If you've ever needed root canal therapy, you may have been referred to a specialist. Or perhaps your general dentist was able to treat you. Why is that?

General dentists provide a range of services depending on their continued training. For example, I enjoy providing implant services. Over the past five years, I've dedicated myself to implant training domestically and internationally.

Currently, I'm participating in a year-long fellowship to learn how to straighten teeth with clear aligners. In dentistry, the pursuit of excel-



lence never ends.

Still, it is vital for me to have a network of trusted specialists, each of whom provides expertise in a specific field of dentistry. When patients require treatment beyond my skill set, I know exactly where to send them.

Sometimes, a patient's situation is complex, and it's difficult to communicate over a written note. That's why I prioritize having a relationship with each of my specialists so that we can easily discuss what's best for our patients.

We all work together as a TEAM to provide you with the best care possible!

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BALANCE & CHANGE

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

How to be a good friend

When we list our positive attributes, many of us say we are a good friend. Each of us has our definition of what that means. But do you know what it takes to be a good friend?

We tend to give what would make us feel better, but that may not be what your friend wants. Do not assume that you know. Also, please do not assume your friend will tell you what they need. People often feel they have no right to ask for anything, even during hard times.

When I am trying to be a good friend to someone going through a hard time, the first thing I do is ask that person how I can best support them. There are many ways to support your friends.

They may want a daily text sending a virtual hug. A phone call a few times a week. Meet for coffee regularly. You

could go with them if they have a tough appointment. Or hang out with them after. Make a home-cooked meal (or send a meal to them). There are literally hundreds upon hundreds of ways to help. Ask what works best for your friend.

Something to keep in mind is that if the hard time lasts a long time, the answer at the beginning of the trauma will probably not be the same as time goes on. So please remember to check in from time to time. Ask if what you are doing is still what that person needs.

So, be a good friend and ask. Then, show up, even if the hard times are lasting. And then, when it is your turn to go through hard times, ask for what you need.

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Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2024 • JonDobrer@mac.com

I Killed Christ

I killed Christ, although I don't remember doing it. Nor can I think of either a motive or an opportunity. However, for two millennia Christians have asserted that not just "the Jews" killed Christ but all Jews are responsible and are subject to inherited guilt. For two millennia we have been shouted at, stoned, persecuted, killed and endured attempts to annihilate us.

So, while still being accused and convicted of killing Christ, today I am, along with the rest of "the Jews," being accused of killing Gazans. Why else would self-righteous college students and even high schoolers be harassing anyone identifiably Jewish on our campuses and in our streets?

Jews are being bullied, intimidated and marginalized. Our academic events are being picketed, speakers shouted down, walls graffitied and windows shattered. Kristallnacht is happening every night and day.

We know how this could end. We've seen it before. If Jews inherit guilt, what about Christians and Muslims who have long histories of perpetrating atrocities against the Jewish People?

Just for clarity, yes, Jews have done better under Muslims than Christians. It was, however, never paradise. The "Golden Age" in Spain was largely fool's gold with Jews persecuted, subject to a special tax (the Jizya) and slaughtered when Muslims needed a scapegoat or our property. Yes, there

was Jewish Vizier in Granada. However, he was crucified, and the Jewish quarter was destroyed. In the 17th Century there was an order to destroy all synagogues, and deadly pogroms spread across North Africa and into the Middle East.

Do I hold every Christian responsible for the persecution of my people? No. Do I hold every German and Pole guilty of the Holocaust. Also no. Have living Arabs and Muslims inherited the sins of their fathers and grandfathers? Of course not. Why then are Jews the exclusive repositories of inherited guilt? The simple answer is: TRADITION!

Today, suffering is shared. Humanity cannot ignore the suffering of the people of Gaza. I understand and feel the pain, the fear, the loss of life and the loss of hope.

I do not support Netanyahu and his cruel and doomed to failure policies. By any metric, except body count, Israel is losing this war. The Israeli Defense Force can either try to kill the leadership of Hamas or the government can have a "humanitarian pause" and negotiate for the hostages. It can't do both simultaneously.

Women, children and young people who had fear of but little sympathy for

Hamas, today bare scars that will not go away in our lifetime. And Hamas' status has increased in Gaza and the West Bank.

Meanwhile, Israelis feel isolated, abandoned and betrayed. The pain of October 7 was acknowledged by the world for almost three full days, before it was denied, called a hoax and blamed on crisis actors. Sexual violence, rape, torture? Either it was not real, or Israelis deserved it for just being on Palestinian land. Strangely, but unsurprisingly, the local Arabs who were slaughtered, raped or kidnapped by Hamas are not covered by our western media nor by Aljazeera.

Israel cannot bomb Gazans into peace and reconciliation, nor can Hamas slaughter Jews and believe it moves them towards a state. The Palestinian people deserve their own state. The Jewish people deserve our own state.

In today's toxic culture, academic petri dishes bubble with rapidly replicating viruses of hate directed at Jewish individuals and the Jewish people. Zionism is not seen as simply the political position that Jews dis-

serve a homeland but carries the assumption that all Jews, the world over, are actively committing atrocities against Gazans and West Bank Palestinians.

Whether Americans who have never set foot in Israel or Israeli citizens, the accusations and presumptions of guilt replicate the "Jews killed Christ" charge.

I am both a Jew and a Zionist. I believe in a Jewish state and have inherited not my ancestor's alleged guilt but their dream of two peoples living together and working together with respect, tolerance and even love.

I believe that up till the present it has been the Palestinian leadership that has failed its people and not been able to say yes to a state and to peace. The maximalists would not accept anything except "Palestine free from the river to the sea." Now maximalists on the Israeli far right chant the same hateful and futile mantra, "Israel free from the river to the sea."

As an American, I could love my country and protest its politics and policies. I could write and rally against President Johnson and the Vietnam War. I could march and picket to overturn racist laws. I could condemn our support of political monsters all over the world. These acts did not make me a traitor.

As a Zionist and a Jew, I can love Israel and support its existence while rejecting the policies of Netanyahu, Smotritch and Ben Gvir. I can want Israel to survive and still denounce Netanyahu's futile and cruel tactics employed in Gaza.

Finally, my lede is misleading. I did not kill Christ, nor am I currently killing Gazans. We are each responsible for our own acts. Shouting epithets and intimidation will not bring us either justice or peace. Our efforts need to be towards empathy and feeling the pain and sense of betrayal of both Israelis and Gazans. Till we can weep together and learn to comfort each other, we doom ourselves to isolation, enmity and violence.

AT HOME
WITH THE HOMELESS

by Andrew Williams © 2024

THE END OF DEMOCRACY!

Mercy, mercy me—Trump's plans for the unhoused

Now that Trump is the GOP candidate for POTUS—when you can't even win your state, the state where you were Governor, you are officially toast—time to find out what Trump has planned for us, the non-MAGAS, the people with common sense, logic, and empathy. Time to revisit Project 2025.

Here's a selection of reforms that "Sleepy Ben" Carson intends to take to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. All of this is quoted directly from Chapter 16 of Mandate for Leadership, the Project 2025 handbook, the chapter written (more likely dictated) by Dr. Ben Carson.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) political leadership should immediately assign all delegated powers to politically appointed Public Development Authorities (PDAS), Department of Administration Services (DAS), and

other office leadership positions; change any current career leadership positions into political and non-career appointment positions, and use Senior Executive Service (SES) transfers to install motivated and aligned leadership.

The President should issue an executive order making the HUD Secretary a member of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S., which will gain broader oversight authorities to address foreign threats, particularly from China, which oversees foreign ownership of real estate in both rental and ownership markets of single-family and multifamily housing, with trillions worth of real estate secured across HUD's portfolio.

The Secretary should initiate a HUD task force consisting of politically appointed personnel to identify and reverse all actions the Biden

Administration took to advance progressive ideology.

The Office of the Secretary or the leadership in the Office of General Counsel should conduct a thorough review of all sub-regulatory guidance that has been instituted outside of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

Additionally, departmental leadership should:

1. Immediately end the Biden Administration's Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity (PAVE) policies and reverse any Biden Administration actions that threaten to undermine the integrity of real estate appraisals.
2. Repeal climate change initiatives and spending in the department's budget request.
3. Repeal the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) regulation reinstituted under the Biden Administration and any other uses of special-purpose credit authorities to further equity.
4. Eliminate the new Housing Supply Fund.

In short, eliminate any programs that have made a dent in the housing crisis, repeal initiatives designed to reduce homeowners' carbon footprints, and become a political force to engage China in reducing their fiscal involvement in our infrastructure. Let's be clear: this is, first and foremost, an ideological agenda.

Ideologies don't care if the current system is working and working well; their job is to replace it. "If it ain't broke, fix it." It's the reason why Ronald Reagan had all those solar panels ripped off the roof of the White House when he took over. He didn't care if they were working or not; he didn't want them there because a Democrat—Jimmy Carter—had had

them put in. It was a typical, petty, partisan gesture from the GOP. And they haven't improved—in fact, that sort of behavior has metastasized.

"Welcome to the end of democracy," Jack Posobiec, one of the speakers at CPAC 2024, crowed. When asked what would replace it, he didn't need words: he simply raised his clenched left fist. Even the Illiterati recognized that fist as a symbol of Fascism. It's right there on YouTube: Steve Bannon: "MAGA will rule for 50 years." Trump: "There are people out there who think I'm not leaving. Can you believe it? Hey, maybe that is a good idea."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JSFzAvHC_4

"It'll never happen," you scoff. "He'll be in prison by then." Well, let's say that's a lock. Then what's to stop some Trump-approved stooge from rallying MAGA with the aim of implementing his Fascist agenda? Indeed, why would being in prison end Trump's campaign? As I've pointed out before, Eugene Debs won nearly a million votes in the 1920 Presidential election on the Socialist ticket while in prison, without the help of radio, TV, and the Internet—none of which existed—and little or no help from the nation's newspapers; many of which, in major markets, were owned by William Randolph Hearst, a fervent opponent of socialism.

"I love my country, but I fear my government." If Trump and his minions get back into the White House next year, this phrase will take on fresh and frightening new dimensions. If you aren't doing something about this, get started. If you need ideas, ask someone.

Ask me: wandrew1963@gmail.com.

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Work loc: Brea, CA. \$68848/yr.
Mail CV to: Attn: D. George, 911 Mariner St. Brea, CA, 92821

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OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "JUST KEEP SOLVING" 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>

Police Behavioral Health Clinician II

Full Time: \$79,643 - 101,649 Annually
Department: PoliceDevelopment
Job Number: 2024-PBHC II
This recruitment will remain open until filled. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as this recruitment may close at any time, without notice, once a sufficient number of qualified applications have been received.
The City of Fullerton is seeking behavioral health clinicians to join this newly established program designed to include clinicians on calls involving

mental health crisis, domestic violence or juvenile delinquency. While teaming up with law enforcement, incumbents will assist in identifying the needs of a community member in crisis, using appropriate assessment, intervention, and crisis response techniques, and working with the community member and their family in connecting them to resources, programs and /or treatment options. This is a two-year pilot program funded by Orange County Supervisor Doug Chaffee's office.

Air Conditioning Mechanic

Full Time: \$4,982 - \$6,358 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.

Additionally, the city oversees a general aviation airport, a library, and a variety of recreational buildings, facilities, and activities. We are a mid-sized organization providing a variety of services with a workforce dedicated to the future of Fullerton.

Electrician

Full Time: \$4,982 - \$6,358 Mo
Department: Public Works
Job Number: 2023-ELTRC-Con
The City of Fullerton is currently seeking an experienced, highly skilled, and detail-oriented Electrician. The eligibility list established by this recruitment will be good for one year and may be used to fill future vacan-

cies as they occur.
Under general supervision, performs journey-level work in the installation, troubleshooting, repair, and maintenance of a variety of electrical wiring systems and equipment including HVAC equipment, 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 Srvc 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 Srvc 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.

Fire Department Utility Worker I/II

Full Time: \$16.50 - \$17.50 Hourly
Department: Fire Department
Job Number: 22-FD Utility Wkr (Cont)
Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis. Any combination of training and experience, which would

provide the required knowledge, skills and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required qualifications would be graduation from high school

Library Page I

Full Time: \$15.50 - \$16 Hourly
Department: Library
Job Number: 2023-00009
Under varying levels of supervision performs a wide variety of routine, non-technical library duties and performs related work as required.
The knowledge and abilities which

are required to perform the duties and responsibilities of this series are as follows:
• Basic library or office functions and practices.
• English usage and spelling.
• Computer applications related to area assigned.

Homeless Outreach Case Manager (Consultant/Specialist)

Full Time: \$30 - \$33 Hourly
Department: Community & Economic Development
Job Number: 2024 -Homeless Outreach
The increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness continues to be a local issue that affects the health, safety and welfare of all those who reside in the City of Fullerton. To address the need to provide outreach and case management to individuals deemed homeless, the City of Fullerton has established this new position within the Community and Economic Development Department.
Under general supervision, the Homeless Outreach Case Manager performs outreach and case management to individuals deemed homeless resi-

dents of the city of Fullerton; provides intervention services; assists in obtaining resources from community organizations in conjunction with local government agencies, law enforcement, and community stakeholders and performs related work as required.
This position is offered on a limited term basis determined by available funding. An appointee will be considered non-regular (temporary/at-will) and will be provided limited benefits to include enrollment in the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS), eligibility for enrollment in the City's Minimum Value Plan health insurance, and sick leave.
Incumbents will be expected to work 36-40 hours per week.

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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.

Sean N Bryant 1967 - 2024

Sean N. Bryant, passed away January 28, 2024.

He was born in Laguna Beach, CA, on February 28, 1967.

No matter what, he was always smiling. He loved his family, NASCAR, and playing video games. He was greatly loved and will be greatly missed.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Keith Hills Bryant, and Donna (Burgum) Bryant, his brothers, Gregory and Jeffery, his sister, Rosemary, and niece, Rachel.

He is survived by his son, Jamie, his brothers Richard (Paula) and Timothy (Wendy), his sister, Laura (Randy), nephew, Nathanael (Myla), nieces, Kymberly, Nicole, and Danielle, great nephews, Matthew and Daniel, and great niece, Gemma.

Wesley Eldon Warden 1936 - 2024

Wes was born in Fullerton at Cottage Hospital on December 28, 1936. Wes's parents were Hugh and Anne Warden respectively from Oklahoma and Nebraska. Wes had a brother Marvin who predeceases him. Hugh started Service Roofing in 1926 in Fullerton which grew into a major roofing company in Southern California under Wes's leadership. Wes continued to operate the business until his passing.

He spent his entire life in Fullerton, attending Ford Elementary school, Wilshire Junior High School and Fullerton High



School. He attended Northern Arizona University and joined the Naval Reserve upon graduation. Wes got married in Fullerton to Janet Warden and have one son, Tim.

Wes was very active in Fullerton with the Fullerton Boys & Girls Club, Fullerton Elks, Fullerton Rotary and Fullerton College. He was extremely generous in the community and financially assisted in all of these organizations.

Wes was a real train buff. He has traveled on every major train corridor in the US, except 2. He often traveled in his friend's private rail

car around the country. Almost every year he had an expedition to Del Mar Racetrack to spend a day with the horses. Many of you reading this probably joined him.

Wes was a friend to many folks in the City and will be remembered as a great person by all.

Wes is survived by son Tim; grandchildren Maggie and Alice; great granddaughter June and Kim, his life partner of many years.

A funeral service for Wesley will be held Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 12:00 PM at McAulay & Wallace Mortuary, 902 N. Harbor Blvd, Fullerton, CA.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Fullerton Boys & Girls Club, Fullerton Elks or Fullerton Rotary Club.

Joanna Ducey Lawton 1937 - 2024

Joanna Ducey Lawton, beloved wife, mother, and friend, departed this world on Tuesday, January 23, 2024. She was 86 years old. Joanna suffered an extended illness related to a cerebral hemorrhage. Her robust health (she was an avid aerobic dancer) kept her with us for four months. Though we were sad to see her suffering, her longevity proved a mixed blessing, as it allowed her friends and family to spend time with her before she left us.

Joanna is preceded in death by her parents, John and Connie, her sisters, Veronica and Connie, and her son, Jerry. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Joe; their sons, Ted, Tony, Rich, and Dan; seven grandchildren-Julia, Payton, Sarah, Ryan, Joe, Jordan, and Declan; and her adopted "daughters" Sue, Michael, Kelly, and Murph.



Joanna was born in Park Ridge, Illinois, on October 8, 1937. She was the daughter of Constance and John Ducey and the older sister of the late Connie Coleman. A third sister, Veronica, died in childbirth. As a teenager, Joanna enjoyed dancing and listening to the music of *The Crew Cuts*, *Frank Sinatra*, and *Elvis Presley*. In 1955, after graduating from high school, she attended Duchesne College in Omaha, Nebraska, on a full-merit scholarship where she graduated in 1959 with honors and a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology with minors in philosophy, English, and history. Along the way, she served in multiple student-body leadership roles.

Joanna met her future husband, Joseph Lawton, at a fraternity dance in Omaha in 1958. Neither got to attend the other's graduation ceremony because both took place on the same day – June 3, 1959. Afterward, Joe and Joanna drove to Chicago, where they were married three days later in her family's parish church. From there, the newly married couple drove to California on U.S. Route 66. There, Joe began his medical residen-



cy at LA County Medical Center, and Joanna worked for American Airlines and the LA County Medical Center as a social worker.

The couple rented a small apartment in Los Angeles, where they lived until moving to Fullerton in 1961. The couple's first son, Jerry, was born in Los Angeles in 1960. He died when he was 11 months old as a result of a congenital heart defect. From 1961 to 1968, the couple welcomed four more sons, Dan, Richard, Tony, and Ted. All four boys attended school at the St. Mary's Parish Elementary school in Fullerton, where she served as a teaching assistant in remedial reading.

Joanna devoted all her waking hours to her young and growing family: attending their athletic contests, driving them to and from school and practice, planning epic and memorable family vacations, organizing and producing beautiful Christmas, Easter, Halloween, and birthday celebrations, and tirelessly supporting Joe and their sons in all their endeavors big and small.

Joanna cultivated many strong and enduring friendships and enjoyed hosting regular bridge games with family friends for over sixty years. She was an accomplished and passionate gardener who loved giving to her friends all the fruits and veggies she grew in her most productive garden at Fern Drive.

Joanna was a disciplined fitness enthusiast and athlete who played girls' basketball in high school. She started doing Jazzercise aerobics workouts during the 1970s and never stopped doing them. She was doing one of those very workouts when she was stricken with a subarachnoid hemorrhage at home on September 18, 2023.

Joanna was a wonderful storyteller with an encyclopedic memory, a lover of parties, jokes, wordplay, and games of all kinds. Her vivacious personality lit up the room wherever she was. For several decades, she painstakingly created an annual calendar that included new family photos and care-

fully noted the ever-expanding list of birthdays and wedding anniversaries in her family and mailed it to her sons and grandchildren soon after the first day of the New Year. This was one of the many ways in which Joanna served as the glue that held her family together as the years passed. She was also an indefatigable and loyal wife, mother, grandmother, and friend who never forgot a birthday. For several years, she was a daily communicant at St. Mary's Church, which is still the family parish, over sixty years after she and Joe moved to Fullerton.

Joanna was an advocate for social justice and change. She was an avid reader and devoured the novels and stories of *Arthur Conan Doyle*, *Agatha Christie*, and other writers. She was a fan of *BBC radio*, *PBS*, *60 Minutes*, and a *Jeopardy* enthusiast who would routinely "wow" us with her breadth and depth of knowledge. She read three newspapers every day and unfailingly completed *The New York Times* crossword puzzle and Wordle daily for many years. She was a friendly and good neighbor to all who knew her on Fern Drive and Valley View in Fullerton.

Joanna actively participated in family activities at home and away. She regularly hosted famous Thanksgiving feasts for her extended family. She planned for and traveled with her family extensively, including a legendary driving trip around the U.S. with her four boys and husband, summer ranch trips to Oregon, and ski trips in winter. After she and Joe became empty nesters, Joanna organized trips for the two of them to Ireland, Scotland, France, Holland, China, and Indonesia. She was a fixture on the sidelines of

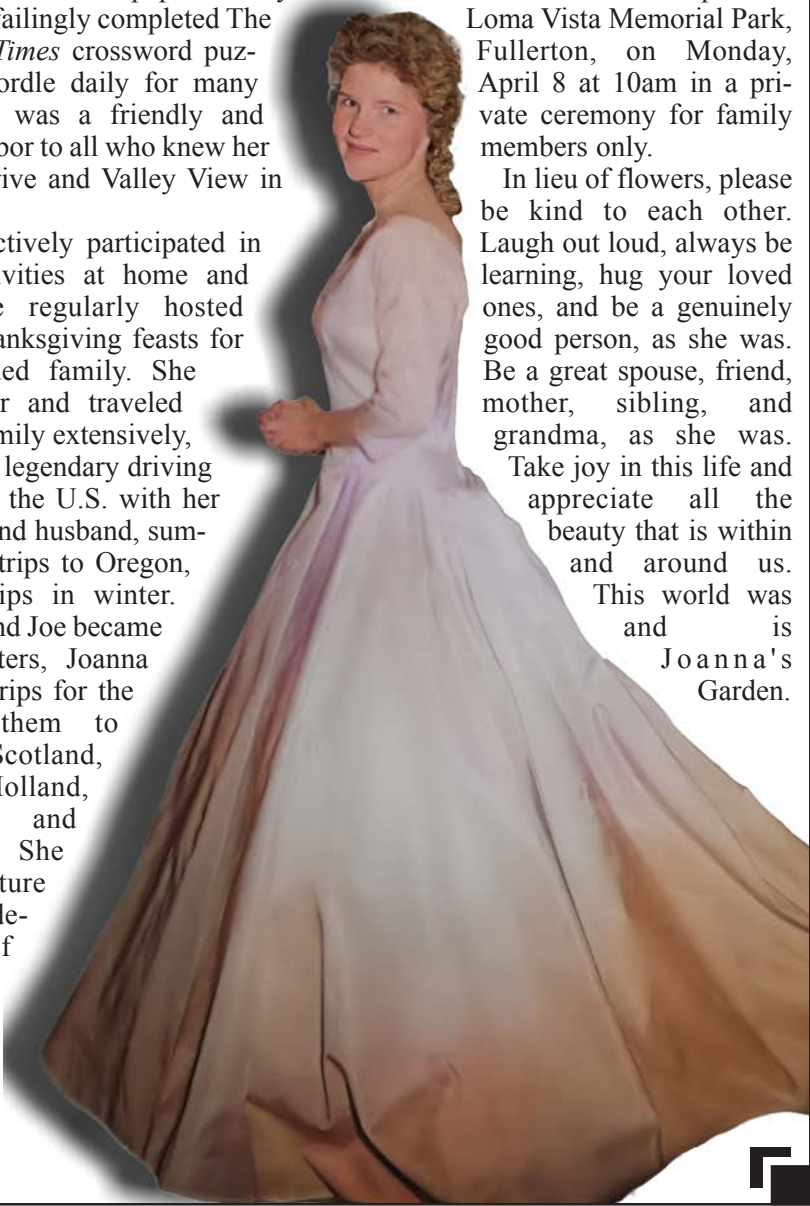
sports played by her sons and grandchildren. She also enjoyed multi-generational family trips to Philadelphia and Durango and cruises to the Panama Canal, the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, and Mexico. She loved hosting Joe's weekly jazz concerts on the front lawn outside their home, something they started during the COVID shutdown but continued long after COVID passed. She would hand out wine and her famous pretzels while conversing with the friends gathered at 601 W. Fern Dr.

Funeral services will take place at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fullerton, on Saturday, April 6, at 10am and will be celebrated by Father Manuel Chavira. A reception and celebration of life will take place following this service at the Erickson Educational Center at St. Jude Medical Center. All are welcome. Parking is free and available. Lunch will be served.

Inurnment will take place at Loma Vista Memorial Park, Fullerton, on Monday, April 8 at 10am in a private ceremony for family members only.

In lieu of flowers, please be kind to each other. Laugh out loud, always be learning, hug your loved ones, and be a genuinely good person, as she was. Be a great spouse, friend, mother, sibling, and grandma, as she was. Take joy in this life and appreciate all the beauty that is within and around us.

This world was and is Joanna's Garden.



Theodore (Ted) Philip Schraff Jr 1939 - 2024

Born the middle of three boys January 8, 1939 in Germantown, PA. Raised in the same Altoona house that his beloved mother Dorothy (Folk) Schraff was born, Theodore (Ted) Philip Schraff Junior was named after his father Theodore Philip Schraff Senior. His childhood nickname was Smilely!



Fullerton California which was prompted by securing a new career with AeroJet Ordinance.

Retirement in the 1990s allowed for travels to Hawaii with his lovely wife Becky so many times they lost count. He was an avid kayaker, road cyclist and owned a Harley Davidson with a side car and somehow always had a faithful dog around to care and love. Dad could often be found dinking around with something in the garage.

Later in life Ted found new purpose and enjoyment actively participating in the lives of his grandchildren Connor and Cole Hopkins. Ted was devoted to his faith, helping the parish in a variety of ways which included managing the books for St Vincent de Paul's food pantry program until 2 months before he passed.. The three generations would often gather on camping trips, beaches, holidays, his birthday parties and even more trips to Hawaii! Ted relished recently celebrating 63 years of marriage with Becky.

His light shines on with the lives he touched and the people he loved. Come join Ted's family and friends to celebrate his well-lived life and funeral mass on March 23 at 10am at St. Mary's Church on Commonwealth in Fullerton.

Spending his youth walking the woods and swimming the quarries he came of age in the glory of the 1950s. He married a hometown gal Frances Rebecca (Becky) Shaner September 19, 1960 when only recently enlisted in the United States Air Force. They found love and joy while growing up along side their children Kesa Marie, Theodore P III, Patricia Ann and Joseph William. Dad often worked two jobs to help pay for all he could for his growing children. Ted enrolled in night classes to finally obtain a Bachelors of Science and rose to Senior Master Sargent in the Air Force for nearly 25 years.

Ohio, Japan, Northern California, Texas, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Southern California and Florida is where he took his brood and explored the new environs of each new Air Force base under new assignment. Retiring from the Air Force the last of the moving boxes was wrapped up so Ted, Becky and Joey settled summer of 1984 in

Mike DeLeon Sambrano 1934 - 2024

Long-time Fullerton resident Mike DeLeon Sambrano was born on October 08, 1934, in a small town outside of Trinidad, Co, called Delagua. He was the sixth child born to Natalia DeLeon and Refugio Sambrano.



Mike was a hard-working man who enjoyed working as much as he enjoyed his outside activities, which included water skiing, fishing, boating, hunting, and camping. He also enjoyed his many trips to the casino. Mike took pleasure in introducing the love of outdoor

sports to his family. Mike entered heaven on February 24, 2024, joining his daughter Kim, his parents, brothers and sisters, and many family and friends who have gone before him. He leaves behind his beloved partner of 25 years, Helen Evora, who transformed Mike's life with endless love. Also, his sons, brothers and sisters, grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews, who all carry wonderful memories with Mike. Mike is now enjoying fishing in heaven.

Robert H. Restor 1949 - 2024

Robert "Rusty" was born in Newport, RI.

Rusty is survived by his wife Debbie, children Melissa, Deviney Reams (Dave), David (Michelle), Justin (Shiela-Marie), and Timothy (Jordan), his brothers Paul and Edilberto, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.



will be remembered fondly by all who knew him. If you needed a helping hand, Rusty was always there, ready to volunteer. His family and friends, who were more like his family, will deeply feel his absence. Rusty's dedication to his loved ones was unwavering, and his presence brought a sense of warmth and closeness to all who knew him.

He was a resident of Fullerton for 42 years. Rusty proudly served in the United States Marine Corps as a helicopter crew chief for 7 ½ years. After military service, he was a coach operator at OCTA for 42 years.

Rusty's fun-loving sense of humor was a constant source of joy for those who knew him. He took pride in passing on this gift to his children, and his humor was a cherished part of their lives. Rusty's ability to bring laughter and light to any situation

Rusty's services will be on Wednesday, March 27, at St. Philip Benizi, 235 S. Pine Dr., Fullerton. His Rosary will be at 9:30am. The Funeral Mass will take place at 10am. Internment will be at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, plot location: Altar C/200. Donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

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Wednesday Testimony Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Reading Room: Monday thru Saturday from 10 a.m.–1 p.m.



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Office (714) 525-4062 Reading Room (714) 525-2649
christiansciencefullerton.com csfullerton@sbcglobal.net

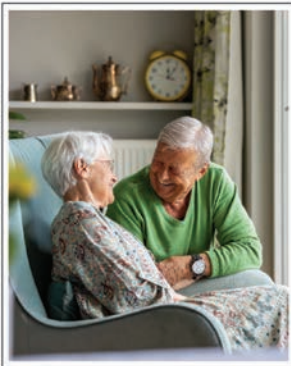
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Maple Student Council, Advisors, Principal, FSD Trustees and Superintendent - Back Row: Board of Trustees President Leonel Talavera, Board of Trustees Vice President Hilda Sugarman, Jake Zepeda, Melanie Rodriguez, Ella Chavoya, Gino Garcia, Darlet Ruiz Rios, Destiny Munguia Lozano, Amari Sarmiento, Valeria Garcia, Chloe Carden, Superintendent Dr. Bob Pletka, Principal Anthony Abney, Adviser Josh Render
Front Row: Jas'zlyn Anderson, Rosie Sanchez, Amiya Leflore, Ethan Taruc, Victoria German, Alina Torres, Elise Dorado, Adviser Sandra Seibert, Adviser Karla Ruiz 2006 Maple Principal and PTA Leaders

Maple School Celebrates 100 Years!

by Roberto Melendez

Part Four: Maple School Reopens and Moves Forward with Environmental Sciences

Maple School – the heart of the Maple Area Community, was resuscitated in a celebratory reopening on September 3, 1996, after 24 years of closure and 30 years of bussing. It reopened with kindergarten. Glenda Thompson, an educator with a bilingual/bi-cultural educational background, was appointed principal - and according to former Maple PTA parent Gloria McClain, "She was the right principal at the right time."

Maple Area families had become more recent immigrants and had limited English since the 1972 closure. Nonetheless, Maple's parents expected a full elementary school for their children; however, the FSD did not commit to it beyond third grade. What they lacked in English proficiency was made up by determination—Si se puede. The parents' goals were to prevent further bussing of their children by pressing the expansion of Maple to grade. They faced two hurdles. One - Maple lacked property for a full school; and, two – the Trustees seemed focused on reopening Beechwood School, which closed in the 1980s. Beechwood would reopen in 1999.

Maple Parents Mobilize:

Maria Mendoza, a parent during the reopening and former Maple PTA President - 1998-2005, remembers, "We kept hearing 'no room for a full school because the City owned the field.'" She also stated, "We (parents) felt overlooked by the Board's attention to reopen Beechwood School and bussing our children to help their attendance." Ms. Mendoza said the parents were concerned and approached Principal Thompson for advice. Ms. Mendoza stated, "Glenda said the Board of Trustees meetings are the place to voice your concerns." The parents attended several board meetings voicing their concerns, according to Ms. Mendoza.

Maple Lacks Property for a Full School – Or Does It?

In 1994, an article by Jackie Brown titled Maple School Decision Near, North Orange County News on March 17, 1994, reported FSD Trustee Robert Fisler stating in a board meeting, "In addition to money, the Maple site, over two acres, is not large enough to reopen an elementary school...."

Maple parent Gloria McClain took the initiative to research Maple School's property lines after the reopening. Her discovery would significantly contribute to the expansion of Maple to 6th grade. She recalled, "My husband and I were in real estate, and on a fluke – we accessed the Plat Map, which provided property profiles and discovered Maple School had more land than what we were told." Her discovery moved the needle forward to the expansion of Maple to sixth grade through an effort of cooperation and funding from the FSD, City of Fullerton, Redevelopment Agency, and state resources to construct two classroom buildings, a library, and a multi-purpose room. (Ms. McClain's discovery was the acquisition land deal by the FSD and the City of Fullerton in 1946, described in Part One: "A New Southside School.")

Former Maple Students Giving Back:

My Maple buddies and I, who were bussed in 1966, began yearly family picnics in 1983 to stay connected. The picnics evolved into annual fundraising dances for Maple, which led to the creation of the Maple Alumni Committee (MAC) from 1999 to 2015. MAC raised over \$50,000 for the Maple School PTA. Former chairperson Kitty Jaramillo stated, "It was an opportunity for Maple alumni to get together, reminisce, and dance while raising funds for our school." MAC also helped coordinate annual Career Days by inviting alumni to inspire Maple students.

The Leon Owens Foundation (LOF), whose family members also attended Maple, subsidized field trips, provided new shoes for the students, and secured guest speakers to encourage the Mustang Ladies Club. Dorothy "Dot" Owens Whitehurst stated "Our foundation initially subsidized field trips for Maple students, by requesting they write essays. In the process, we noticed the need for new shoes." Therefore, she continued, "We secured funds from individuals and bought shoes for the entire student body. But the most rewarding part was the surprise and smiles on the student's faces." LOF would replicate the New Shoe Program to other schools in the FSD.



Maple School Moving Forward:

Mr. Anthony Abney, Maple School Principal, provided a vision for Maple School moving forward. He stated, "Maple School's sub-name is Environmental Sciences & Experiential Learning, and the school should be at the forefront of environmental literacy and justice." To accentuate the school's environmental curriculum, the interior campus was decorated with six colorful murals depicting the earth's various biomes. The curriculum is taught in each grade level and includes some practical training.

The Historic Celebration Ceremony:

Mr. Abney said the school plans an on-campus centennial celebration on April 24, 2024. There will be a 30-minute ceremony featuring dignitaries, alumni, and past principals. Then, the entire community can visit the school museum, which displays taped interviews by alumni, school artifacts, and historical photos.

In Conclusion:

The venerable school building is more than bricks and mortar. It remains a special place of memories and experiences for multitudes of current and former students, teachers, and administrators. It has withstood earthquakes,



The parent leaders who successfully lobbied the school board to expand Maple to 6th grade, with principal Glenda Thompson (at left), are Maria Mendoza, Crescencia Galvan, Claudia Casillas and Rosa Galvan.

endured decades of bussing, and overcame an unwanted closure to reopen and become a thriving elementary school with a bright future.

The series is dedicated to Ricky Jaimes, Shirley Owens McClanahan, Howard Perkins, and Eddie Froelich. Special thanks to Cheri Pape at the Local History Room, Fullerton Public Library for research assistance, and to Pam Keller for suggesting the series.