

A SMALL PLANE CRASHED NEAR FULLERTON AIRPORT, SENDING TWO PEOPLE TO THE HOSPITAL

A single-engine plane crashed near Fullerton Airport on November 25th. The plane descended rapidly, shearing off a fire hydrant before striking a tree. The incident occurred around 2 pm, close to Fullerton Municipal Airport, specifically near Gilbert St and Artesia Ave.

The Fullerton Police Department reported that two men were rescued from the crashed plane and suffered minor to moderate injuries. They were quickly transported to the University of California Irvine Medical Center. There has been no update on their condition as of now.

The plane, a Mooney M20F, is registered in Wilmington, Delaware. Shortly after receiving the all clear to land the pilot began making frantic mayday calls and saying they were making an emergency landing before crashing approximately 150 yards from the airport. The Federal Aviation Administration will be investigating the cause of the crash.



Katherine England is a prolific visual artist who also teaches in schools, in her studio, and at art retreats nationwide. In addition to creating and promoting public works of art, Katherine has taught and has been an activist for art education in the public school system for nearly twenty years. Her art works can be seen throughout Fullerton and is currently featured at the Muckenthaler.

Fullerton Police Department Offers Public Safety Advice

While online shopping is convenient, it often results in packages being left unattended at your doorstep, making them targets for thieves known as porch pirates.

PREVENT PACKAGE THEFT.

- 1. Opt for Signature Confirmation:** Choose shipping options that require a signature for delivery.
- 2. Track Deliveries:** Monitor the delivery status of your purchases online. Some retailers provide text alerts for deliveries.
- 3. Ask a trusted neighbor:** Post a note asking the driver to leave the package with a neighbor.
- 4. Redirect Shipments:** Ship your packages to a location where someone can receive them, such as a P.O. Box store.
- 5. Use Hold for Pickup:** Ask the delivery company to hold your package at their facility for pickup.
- 6. Report Missing Items:** If your shipment is late, confirm with the company. If it was delivered but missing, report it to the retailer, shipping company, and local police.
- 7. Stay Alert:** Watch for suspicious behavior in your neighborhood. Know your neighbors and communicate if you see something unusual.

If you see suspicious activity in your neighborhood, report it. If a crime is in

progress, call 9-1-1. Safely gather descriptive details about the suspect(s) and vehicles, including license plate numbers, to assist the police. Remember to stay safe and do not confront a suspicious person, Let the police do their job.

SAFETY IN THE PARKING LOTS

- Park and walk in well-lit areas.
- Be aware of people around you, and know where you parked.
- Always lock your car doors.
- Have your keys in your hand so you do not linger before entering your car. Check the back seat before you get in.
- Don't leave packages or valuables on the car seats. Keep packages out of sight in the trunk.

SAFETY WHILE SHOPPING

- Pay with checks or credit cards when possible. Do not flash large amounts of cash.
- Don't leave any purchases or your purse unattended while shopping or in a dressing room.
- Only buy what you can carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend with you or ask a store employee to help you carry your packages to the car.
- Never leave your children alone. If your children get separated from you, teach them to find a cashier or a security officer and ask for help.

ART IN FULLERTON

"Individuals can explore their artistic interests through various activities, enhancing their identity, health, and well-being," said Neta Spiro, a researcher working on a project to discover the links between health, economy, and social impact of the arts. She notes that even everyday arts activities, like listening to music or reading, can have significant benefits.

People engage with the arts in two main ways: 'receptive' activities, such as attending films or live performances, and 'active' participation, including acting, playing music, or creating visual art.

Here are a few ways to engage in art in Fullerton. Also, see the calendar section on pages 8 and 9.

- **Art walk** is the first Friday of every month. December art walk features art and craft vendors at the Walk on Wilshire adjacent to Villa Del Sol located at 305 N Harbor Blvd.
- **All the Arts for All the Kids** located at 114 N Harbor Blvd features art gallery, art classes. and events. Open Friday from 6 to 8pm, Sat and Sun 12 to 6pm or by appointment, 714.401.0822, allthearts.org
- **The Art House** located at 1380 S Harbor Blvd has year-round fine art classes for kids and teens wanting to explore sketching, drawing, painting, and design. theartousekids.com
- **Blanquel Popular Art** located at 109 S Harbor Blvd. The gallery store show cases 100% hand-built furniture that are works of art to colorful arts and crafts from specified regions of Mexico.
- **Fullerton College Art Gallery** located at 321 E Chapman Ave, Building 1000 The next show opens January 6 features photographs. Open Monday to Thursday from 10am-12pm and 2pm - 4pm. Fridays by appointment only. 714-992-7131
- **Fullerton Museum Center** located at 301 N. Pomona Ave not only features a year round exhibit of Leo Fender creator of the Fender guitar here in Fullerton, art galleries, gift shop, and art classes, but also has many events from open mic and live concerts to beer gardens. fullertonmuseum.com
- **Maverick Theater** located at 110 E Walnut Ave Unit B offers live performing arts productions and improvisational comedy shows. mavericktheater.com
- **The Muckenthaler Cultural Center** located at 1201 W. Malvern Ave features art, ceramics, art classes, concerts, live theater, and more. 714-738-6595, themuck.org
- **Nouveau Chamber Ballet** located at 1090 W Valencia Dr offers ballet classes from pre-ballet to advanced and stage performances for the public to enjoy. nouveauchamberballet.com
- **XZBT Gallery and Creative Space** located at 151 E Commonwealth Ave has free art workshop every first Friday, 5pm-8pm. Open to all ages. artxzbt.com

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Thank you

Thank you for informing me about so much that’s happening here in Fullerton and beyond. All your writers are interesting and wonderful! I love reading Emerson Little’s detailed articles about enjoyable places to explore near home. Keep it coming.

Caroline Druiff Fullerton

Street Sweeping

I just read the letter to the Editor (Early November 2024) from Dr. Steve Chapin. I am in total agreement with him.

I was ecstatic when I noticed the parking enforcement vehicle following the street sweeper. I live on Jacaranda Place where the leaves from the Jacaranda trees can stop up the flow of the gutter if not controlled by the street sweeper. As well as... I hate to say it, TRASH from people who just don’t seem to care? And just when everyone was getting use to moving their cars for the street sweeper. the parking enforcement vehicle quit following the street sweeper.

As soon as this happened and people started figuring it out. They started leaving their Vehicles out on street sweep day! Now it seems the street sweeper shows up to a street not full of vehicles, but enough that more than half the block doesn’t get swept. So, we pay for street sweeping and it’s a toss up if your house gets swept.

I truly feel this is a necessary maintenance. We are being told to watch out for standing water and the street sweeping was making sure the street gutters were clear and not allowing standing water. And let’s face it, when the street is clear of trash and debris it sure does look great!

GS Fullerton

Dear Mr. Levitt,

The City of Fullerton needs to re-open the Illumination Foundation, Temporary Emergency Cold & Rainy Weather Shelters/Safe RV Parking Program 24/7/365 to serve our homeless families, men, women, senior citizens and veterans

The safest and most convenient location is the Fullerton/OCTA Park & Ride, parking lots 9 & 10. 3000 W Orangethorpe Ave, Fullerton, CA.

The funding and staffing costs can be subtracted from the Illumination Foundation allotted \$1.19 Million a year, at a rate of \$80 per bed/parking space, per night.

Please, let me know if you have any other locations that can be open within 24 hours, that are just as safe and convenient.

Curtis Gamble Fullerton

Additional viewpoints to “Finger Pointing without Reflection” by Jon Dobrer in the Mid-November 2024:

1) **TAX THE RICH.** Kamala Harris’ introductory speech to the nation was going so well, until she shot herself in the foot, and without provocation said she is going to raise taxes on the rich. The next day, the news said that donations from the rich and powerful dropped, and they formed Political Action Committees. But, she persisted with her class war.

2) **BUSSING.** I respected what Harris did as AG in California, like for nursing homes. I never thought about ethnicity. Then, as a Presidential candidate, she published a photo of her with hair in frizzy pom-poms, and said she is in favor of bussing. (Not pre-fab buildings in better schools to accommodate more students, but to send richer children far away from home into dangerous neighborhoods. In 1970, we formed our own school districts, so you would not take them into the unknown.)

Consider the children on the cover of the Fullerton Observer of Early June 2024, with over 30 children in a combined 2nd/3rd grade class, doing kindergarten work – instead of multiplying fractions. What is Harris doing for these children?

3) **GAZA:** *Fullerton Observer* January 2018, page 3, printed my legal opinion on “Palestine and Israel Capital Concerns.” Two months ago, I listened sympathetically to the head of Gaza. Then, he said there can be no

peace without a Palestinian State WITH EAST JERUSALEM AS ITS CAPITAL. (Jerusalem belongs to the UN, as “corporus separatum.”)

How can you say it belongs to the Christians, Jewish, or Muslims? The Qur’an’s chapter 2, verse 4 states that they believe in the Torah and Gospel, like the Christians and Jewish people.

4) **UKRAINE.** I toured the Soviet Union, including Ukraine, in 1986. Two years ago Putin said he would not invade Ukraine, unless it insisted in becoming part of NATO, and putting United States’ military bases in Russia’s backyard.

5) **ONE CHINA.** It has been over a hundred years since China’s civil war, and the United States backed the rich government. It fled to the island of Formosa / Taiwan. In 1986, I toured Mainland China. The two governments are too different. Beijing will never rule Taiwan, and Taipei will never rule the HUGE mainland China. The USA does business with both, separately. WHY? The USA would have to recognize that it lost the war, and there is not “ONE CHINA.”

THEREFORE, I sit here, reading Jon Dobrer’s “Out of My Mind” column. I don’t know what to say.

K. Duncan Fullerton

RESPONSE

Thanks for reading and caring enough to comment.

Jon Dobrer

Dear Observers,

I just wanted to send you a short note about an article that stated that B&B Donuts was celebrating its 40th anniversary.

As a native Fullertonian who has lived here for the past 67 years, I remember when B&B was in a small almost trailer-like building on the opposite side of Harbor in the mid-1970s (well over 40 years ago). It was located in the open space where the Costco shopping center is today.

B&B might be celebrating its 40th anniversary in its current location inside the old Burger Chef, but it’s definitely not the 40th anniversary of the donut shop. Just thought I’d let you know.

Jim Myers Fullerton

RESPONSE

Dear Jim Myers,

Yes, B&B Donuts has a long history. I was acknowledging the current owners 40th anniversary. Thanks.

Mike Ritto

Dear Observers,

Last April I called your office and asked if you had a previous issue that I didn’t get as I was in the hospital. Shortly after that you came to the door and my eldest son answered, it was a member of your team with that issue.

I was sorry that I did not get to the door to meet you. Thank you so much for your kindness in delivering it.

It is wonderful that you are continuing the *Observer* for your grandparents. I knew them in the community.

I enjoy that the paper is great in giving community news. We always picked up the papers at Staters on Euclid and delicious George’s Restaurant on W Commonwealth.

I would like to extend an invitation to you from Wilshire Ave Church at 212 E Wilshire on December 7 at 2pm for an uplifting afternoon filled with music and the spirit of Christmas.

Happy Thanksgiving and Blessed Holiday Season.

Broden Family Fullerton

Fullerton Observer

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

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

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

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All the Arts for All the Kids Foundation Has A New Studio

by Lauralyn Eschner

The All the Arts for All the Kids Foundation is excited to announce the opening of their new studio space. The Foundation’s studio is nestled in the heart of downtown Fullerton at 114 N. Harbor Blvd, and big plans are in place for it to serve as one of our community’s creative hubs.

The Foundation’s ultimate goal is to nurture the creativity in each of us, while providing skills to breathe life into ideas through the language of the arts. The studio’s flexible design welcomes a variety of ways to make this happen. Classes, pop-ups, workshops, field trips, arts events, and exhibitions are all in the works. One of the key features is the beautiful ceramics atelier where classes in hand-building and wheel-throwing will be taught.

Creative Sparks: A Small Group Exhibition is on display through December 22nd and is the first in a series intended to do exactly what the title implies: to provide visual sparks that inspire more creativity. A multitude of arts events are planned between now and the end of the year with a wide variety of arts classes beginning in January. The studio also features a small gift shop with one-stop

shopping for busy parents.

The Foundation’s “soft opening” on November 6 began by awarding nearly \$30,000 in Becky Hall Teacher Art Grants to Fullerton School District teachers. These funds are designated to make classroom teachers’ arts dreams come true activities including bringing students to professional performances as motivation for their own creative endeavors and providing students with art materials not normally available with limited school funds.

Upcoming events at the All the Arts for All the Kids Foundation Studio include a Family Ukulele Night on December 5, The Art of Journaling on December 8, Kids with Clay on December 28, as well as a very fun Ukulele and Beer evening at the Raymond Avenue Brewery on December 11. In addition to the classes and pop-ups, the Studio is open on weekends from noon until 6pm.

The All the Arts for All the Kids Foundation has been in existence since 1992, has donated more than \$3,000,000 for arts education to the Fullerton School District, and is so happy to expand by including arts experiences for creatives of all ages.



Creative community members with their wonderful projects. Enjoy free art activities for the whole family on weekends through December 22nd!

For more information, please visit All the Arts for All the Kids Foundation on Facebook, Instagram, and allthearts.org.

Parks Junior High Students Celebrate Kimchi Day

Fullerton School District

Delving into a flavorful celebration of one of Korea’s most cherished culinary traditions, students at Parks Junior High in the Fullerton School District celebrated Kimchi Day with a hands-on kimchi-making activity. This immersive experience, made possible by a generous donation of fresh kimchi from Twins Kimchi, offered students a taste of Korean culture in the classroom.

Kimchi Day, originating in South Korea, honors kimchi’s deep historical and cultural significance. It is celebrated annually on the symbolic date of November 22, reflecting the ideal time for making and fermenting kimchi ahead of winter to sustain families through harsh weather. The dish also embodies the spirit of togetherness, as kimchi is made through the traditional practice known as kimjang, which sees families and neighbors coming together to prepare and share food through this shared seasonal ritual.



Parent volunteers familiar with making kimchi helped guide students through this cultural culinary opportunity, enabling students to deepen their knowledge and appreciation of Korean heritage.

In addition to offering Korean language classes at Parks Junior High, Fullerton School District has a Dual Language Academy, with classes beginning as early as kindergarten at Laguna Road Elementary School. To learn more about Fullerton School District’s Korean Dual Language Academy, visit www.fullertonsd.org/DLA. For more facts about Kimchi Day, visit the Korean Cultural Center website at kccart.ca/pages/kimchi-day.

Preparedness in Action: Wayne’s Story

by Allen Hsieh, founder and president of Troy Preparedness Club

In 2018, a brush fire erupted in Chino Hills, consuming two houses and threatening the next door neighbor’s property. Wayne Chien’s home was directly in the path of the fire. With the flames rapidly approaching, Wayne’s preparedness skills and contingency plans were put to the test.

Thanks to his meticulous organization, Wayne quickly evacuated his dogs and gathered essential items like documents, photos, and heirlooms. He turned off the gas valve to mitigate the risk for firefighters and reduce the chance of potential destruction of his home. The police noted his swift and effective response, praising his ability to gather valuables and leave in just ten minutes.

Wayne’s readiness was not by chance. He had previously organized crucial items in a designated cabinet, ensuring that he could grab everything efficiently in an emergency. This proactive approach highlighted the importance of preparedness in mitigating the impact of unexpected disasters.

Wayne’s commitment to preparedness extends beyond personal experience. In 2015,

on a flight over southwest Texas, he responded to a distressing situation when an infant appeared to be choking. Having recently completed a CPR course that included pediatric first aid, Wayne administered a back slap that saved the child’s life, demonstrating how crucial it is to be equipped with lifesaving skills.

His preparedness ethos also shines through in everyday scenarios. Wayne once came across a woman and her children stranded on a highway with a flat tire. Equipped with tools and supplies in his car, he helped them safely change the tire, showcasing the importance of being ready for even common emergencies.

Wayne’s story underscores the vital lesson that preparedness instills confidence, provides peace of mind to loved ones, and equips individuals to handle emergencies effectively. His experiences serve as a reminder that preparedness is not just for specific crises but a mindset that benefits all aspects of life. His advice resonates especially with his scouts, who already embrace the principles of readiness, but it is relevant to everyone who values safety and preparedness.



Photograph of Wayne Chien with his two sons, Edward and Daniel. Personal collection.

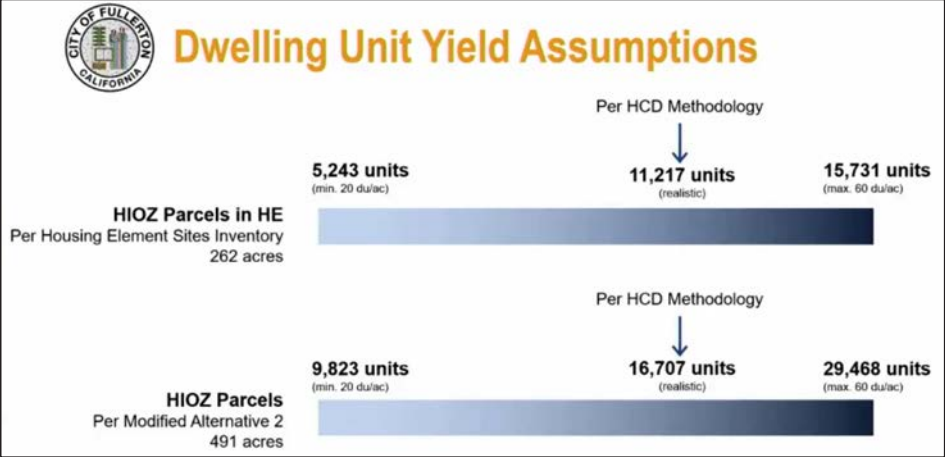
Do you have an experience where disaster preparedness came or could have come into use? Tell us your story! Use this QR code to answer a few questions.



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

Tuesday, November 19 Meeting



6th Cycle Housing Element

NOTE: In Fullerton, California, R-1 is a zoning designation for a single-family residential zone. R-1 zones are intended to be low-density residential districts with one dwelling per lot.

The draft housing element for the 6th cycle was presented at the City Council on November 19 to a packed house. Consultants who had worked with the city over the past few years were on hand to answer questions. Consultants were Dudek, Rincon, and Jones and Mayer.

The preparation of the housing element is a process that every jurisdiction in California must accomplish every eight years. This lays out a road map for every city to determine what housing is needed for all different economic levels and special needs individuals, which covers the regional housing needs assessment cycle for 2021 through 2029 for the City of Fullerton.

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) determined by SCAG (Southern California Association of Governments) allocates the number of housing units needed in each city. That number is 13,209 units for Fullerton [partly because Fullerton has built plenty of high-income housing but failed each year its allocation for housing affordable to low-income]. Each housing element that is created is reviewed and certified by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). While there is no required format for the housing element document, it is required to address the four following subject areas:

Ensure Adequate Housing Capacity: Identify and zone sufficient land to accommodate the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) across all income levels.

Increase Housing Supply and Affordability: Remove barriers to housing production and encourage diverse housing types, including affordable units. Address constraints such as zoning, permitting, and infrastructure challenges.

Promote Sustainable and Resilient Communities: Integrate housing with access to transit, jobs, and amenities

and environmental sustainability goals.

Advance Equity and Fair Housing: Address fair housing disparities to promote inclusive communities and expand access to housing opportunities for all.

The methodology for determining the RHNA number of 13,209 units for Fullerton looks at projected city household growth, mature housing needs for rentals and owners, and city replacement needs.

The city began the housing element update process in 2019 and included about 65 different events. Fifteen of those occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic and were conducted via Zoom as per distancing protocols. These events included outreach to the community, surveys, stakeholder workshops, housing advocate meetings, and study sessions, which were conducted to consider the various approaches to accommodate the RHNA.

Initial discussions centered around up-zoning creation and specific plans. Religious sites, use of surplus city sites, and the possible adoption of an inclusionary housing ordinance either through committee input, City Council direction, or HCD direction. The strategy the city has adopted is the creation of the Housing Incentive Overlay Zone (HIOZ).

The draft housing element, which is appendix H of the general plan is broken into the following chapters:

- State law,
- General plan consistency,
- Needs assessment,
- Resources, and
- Constraints

The housing plan appendices contain much of the technical data and evaluate the areas that are required by HCD include:

- Review of past performance,
- Assessment of Fair Housing,
- Housing at risk analysis,
- Development standards review,

- Residential land inventory, and
- Public participation

The HIOZ is a policy tool that was chosen to accommodate the housing needs of Fullerton. It is the new zoning designation that is placed over selected non-residential properties that are either zoned commercial or industrial. The zoning overlay does not change the existing zoning, and any property owner who has a property with the highest designation does not have to make any changes to the property, nor do they have to build any units at all. It is simply a new option applied to these properties to place residential units on these properties should the owner desire to do so.

The Housing Incentive Overlay Zone (HIOZ) is a policy tool that enables residential development on non-residential parcels within the HIOZ. It is deregulatory in nature. [Deregulation is the process of removing or reducing regulations, typically in the economic sphere. It is the repeal of governmental regulation of the economy.]

- HIOZ does not require development.
- HIOZ does not change the underlying land use, whether commercial or industrial; it adds a layer of use.
- HIOZ does require a 10% affordability component.

Three New Development Standards:

- Require Mixed-Use for Larger Parcels.
- Streamlines Standards and reduces Delays
- Provides necessary capacity to meet HCD figures

In the future, new development standards will be included in the Fullerton Municipal Code and the General Plan, which provide requirements, including setbacks, parking, open space, floor area ratio, and unit affordability requirements.

One thing to note is there's no building height specified in the zone code amendment. However, other standards will limit building height. Additionally, any proposed development on a lot next to the R1 zone will require a 100-foot setback for anything over two stories in height.

During the initial screening of the commercial and industrial properties, a large number of properties were screened out due to various issues, such as being in a wildfire hazard zone or a flood zone, not being close to amenities such as stores, parks, and schools, or other related factors. Sites with a historic designation were also taken out.

From its inception in 2021, the HIOZ concept has gone through several revisions based on community, City Council, and property owner feedback, as well as legal challenges. And the sites have been reduced to 723 parcels.

Additionally, an environmental review of the parcel list was initiated in August of 2023, including a scoping meeting that same year. The analysis conducted for the HIOZ looked at various household yields that the policy might attain in different densities for two different fielding scenarios, which are worst-case and best-case scenarios.

The top graph includes only the 235 HIOZ parcels contained within the housing sites inventory. The expected yield would be about 5,243 units if

every site were built at 20 units to the acre. Conversely, if every site were built at 60 units to the acre, it would generate 15,731 units. If you look at the HCD's methodology, which is a more realistic determination, the yield would be about 11,217 units.

The bottom bar graph of this scenario depicts the build-out of the complete HIOZ parcel list, which is 723 parcels. Looking at the left side of that bar, if you build it out at 20 units to the acre for each of the sites, it would build out to 9,823 units, whereas if you did a complete build-out with every parcel at 60 units to the acre, you would get 29,468 units. And once again, HCD's methodology, which is more realistic, is about 16,707 units. Many people are focused on that 29,468 unit number, but that's for analytical purposes; it's not realistic; it's just part of the analysis of the worst-case, best-case scenarios.

As part of the HIOZ, the Community and Economic Development Department created new development standards for the municipal code. Chapter 15.23 sets provisions, including definitions and procedures. A requirement of 10% of the units is restricted to affordable-level individuals or families [that leaves 90% high-end housing, which contributes to the local rents going up], and all parcels that are greater than an acre shall continue to be commercial or industrial use on the ground floor based on the zoning.

There are replacement ordinances via the supplemental procedures as legal language is now included, which would allow alternatives to the affordability requirement.

Part of this whole process had to meet the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements and state and local agencies to evaluate and consider environmental impacts during the decision-making process. The housing element document, or Appendix H, was determined to be exempt from Government Code Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

The Housing Incentive Overlay Zone (HIOZ) was analyzed under a Program Environmental Impact Report as defined in the CEQA Guidelines. This was available for the mandatory 45-day public review period, which ended on July 15, 2024.

The draft EIR statement of fact and overriding considerations and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program were reviewed by the Planning Commission on September 11, 2024. The Planning Commission recommended that the City Council certify these documents.

Councilmember Ahmad Zahra said, "In the key findings here, you're saying some impacts include air quality, but in the document, it says significant and unavoidable."

City Planner Chris Shaffer responded that the CEQA would be covered under the statement of overriding considerations and statement of fact covered in the document.

Staff recommends approval of the resolutions related to the general plan amendments and the program ER, as well as the ordinance related to the Fullerton Municipal Code updates.

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 303 W. COMMONWEALTH

• December 03 at 5:30pm: City Council	• December 12 at 5pm: Fiscal Sustainability Ad Hoc	• December 17 at 5:30pm: City Council	• January 14 at 5:30pm: Community Development
• December 09 at 6:30pm: Parks and Recreation	• December 16 at 5pm: Infrastructure and Resources	• December 18 at 5:30pm: Active Transportation	• January 16 at 5:30pm: Investment Advisory

APPOINTMENTS

Youth Advisory committee members: Savannah Pruitt from Sunny Hills High; Tran Nguen from Buena Park High; Alissa Hernandez from La Habra High; Alecia Shay from Parks Junior High; Eileen Contraras from Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts; Rhia Gupta from Beechwood Elementary; and Kendal Choi from Fisler Elementary.

Senior Advisory Committee member: Jeanette Reese.

All were unanimously ratified.

ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS
PERTAINING TO TATTOO PARLORS

A public hearing will be heard at the December 03 City Council Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE HOUSING ELEMENT

38 people shared their concerns with the 6th Cycle Housing Element.

Here are a few of the comments. Read the full transcript of the 3 hour meeting online at: www.FullertonObserver.com

Sean Payton: I’m really glad to see there’s a lot of people that showed up, especially the people that showed up about the Chapman corridor overlay, and why it’s a bad idea. I won’t repeat their arguments. They were good arguments. You already heard them. I want to bring up two other points.

The first is the whole idea of going above and beyond the state mandates. All you’re doing is creating more mandates in the future if we add 32 units and those 32 get built. Maybe they won’t, but if they do get built we don’t get an attaboy from the state.

Our mandates for construction are based on existing population. If we have 30,000 people then we now have to add 3,000 additional units for the next overlay 15 years from now. So going above and beyond is just going to create headaches for the children of all the people that are sitting here right now. So don’t do it.

The other thing I wanted to talk about is affordability and I really want to just kind of hit on that the lack of housing in this state is a problem. But the biggest issue is the cost of construction. I’ve got an estimate here.

To build an apartment building in Southern California, 50 units, you’re going to need to come up with \$245,000 per unit.

For a 700-square-foot unit, that’s \$2,600 a month in rent. Just to cover the cost of the building, not to cover the cost of the lien, not to cover the cost of entitlements, not to cover the costs of acquisition, just the building. So the idea that over-building and adding these 10 and 20s of thousands of people in this city is going to make Fullerton more affordable, it’s simply not.

Carime: I’m a longtime resident and I’m here because every time I hear people when they talk about affordable living and affordable housing. And I’m gonna say this because when I went to a meeting, when you guys brought that developer to make those buildings up on Commonwealth, I heard people saying what kind of people are going to live there and I’m here representing those people.

I have three kids. I am the kind of people that needs affordable housing. You need to think about your residents, the residents that come and advocate and do changes in their community. These kind of people need those kind of apartments, not luxurious apartments not sky high.

How much of that is going to be affordable and what’s affordable to you is not affordable to me or for my neighbors. So please people, when you guys

talk about affordable housing, think about your neighbor.

You guys are talking about the Fullerton is that welcome and loving community. Do you guys think about people that need affordable housing? Because that’s not being a Fullertonian and I’ve been here for 35 years and I have three kids and I teach them to be kind and to be thankful and thoughtful about other people and their situations and not judge.

I cannot afford a house with a \$5,000 mortgage or more. So please people when you say affordable it means people like me, like my friends, we are volunteers that go clean apartments, that go clean parks, we did distributions during COVID, we were there for everyone. So before you guys say what kind of people? Think about me.

Mark Freeman: I want to express my concerns about the proposed overlay plan. While I understand the city’s pressure from state housing mandates and support adding more housing, there are critical aspects of the plan I’d like to address.

Firstly, I believe that if this agenda item is approved as is, it will silence public input on developments in the highest zones. Currently, municipal code 15.76.060 requires a public hearing for projects like major site plans. However, the new language in 15.23.050 categorizes HIOZ projects as minor site plans, allowing the Community Development Director to approve them without public hearings.

I urge the City Council to keep the requirement for public hearings, ensuring residents can voice concerns before developments affect our quality of life.

Secondly, I find the proposed building standards questionable. For example, limiting heights to 30 feet within 100 feet of single-family homes, while allowing taller structures beyond that, seems arbitrary. Why set this 100-foot boundary?

A six-story building just beyond it would not be acceptable to many residents. These standards need careful reconsideration to prioritize community needs over developer convenience.

Lastly, I request that the zoning at the southwest corner of State College and Chapman be removed from HIOZ, as it borders single-family homes, including mine. This area is not suitable for hub-style developments that would overshadow residential properties.

My wife and I moved to Fullerton four years ago, believing it was the ideal place to raise our three young children. These developments threaten the city’s charm and identity, and I ask you to reconsider the plan as it stands.

What just happened
in the 2024 election?

by Vince Buck

At the Fullerton Public Library (FPL) on November 18, four local political scientists discussed what happened in the recent election: Matt Jarvis, Robert Robinson, Scott Spitzer from CSUF, and Jodi Balma from FCC (she knows more about politics in OC than almost anyone).

I did not take notes because I was not covering this for the Observer. I went to hear what my former colleagues had to say. They are more knowledgeable about political matters than I am, as that is their profession, while I no longer engage in it. Without notes, what follows is mainly my impression of the evening. The 50 or so people who attended heard about all the major factors that affected the election: the issues, the candidates’ strengths and weaknesses, the mood of the country, the strategies, turnout, etc.

And yet there seemed to be a feeling of uncertainty among some of the panelists about why what just happened just happened. In other words, they knew what elements were at play in the election but were not always sure how to weigh them. Some key questions were: Were issues more important than performance? Were perceptions more important than reality? Why did perceptions diverge from reality?

The simplest answer to what just happened is that it’s complicated. Indeed. And they did a good job of trying to untangle those complications. While they agreed that inflation and immigration were the key issues, they also agreed that there are some things we may never understand:

- How is it that Trump can commit so many indiscretions that would have sunk any candidate a few years ago and still get elected? Have we entered a new era where any candidate can lie, cheat, and steal and still be successful, or is Trump sui generis and not to be judged by the standards of mere mortals?
- Did Trump win, or did Harris lose? Why did Harris get fewer votes in this election than Biden did in 2020? Why was turnout down? Why did Harris have trouble connecting with voters and getting her message across? Would she have done better if she had more time to campaign?
- Why are voters so dissatisfied when, by long-used measures, the

economy is doing well and inflation is subsiding?

These questions were addressed if not resolved. And more: what role did sexism and racism play; would the Democratic Party have done better if there had been a process to select the candidate rather than an uncontested appointment; why didn’t Biden do a better job of selling the many policy successes of his administration; why are so many people so dissatisfied with the state of the nation?

There are no easy answers to some of these questions, but one clear answer was provided by a disgruntled Trump supporter in the audience: he was not happy with the direction the country was headed, and it was Biden’s fault. He additionally felt that Harris got the nomination only because she was Black, not because of her qualifications. More important, he wanted a strong leader to get us back on track.

If nothing else, Trump portrays strength, even if, at times, it is the strength of a bully. He has certainty in his beliefs. He latches onto red-meat issues and has the answers. He, and he alone, can make America great again. And for a couple of years, he dominated the media and the internet, exuding strength and knowing what must be done, while the White House was strangely quiet. And when Harris became the nominee, she was far too tentative about what she thought and what she would do.

Not to simplify things – it is still complicated – but there are many who share the feelings of the Trump supporter in the audience: that the country – or their own lives—are headed in the wrong direction and a strong leader is needed to right the course. Also, there are many who have “Trumpnesia,” forgetting how things were four years ago. Harris did not exude strength, and neither she nor Biden were able to get a positive message across. Abortion and the fear of fascism were not effective issues to counter economic perceptions and the cost of eggs.

It is still complicated, but the panelists at the FPL presented the known facts, and while their interpretations might not be the same as mine, they gave the audience a lot to think about, once again showing the value of our public library in our community.

How to contact
your District
Representative

- **District 2: Nick Dunlap**
- Mayor/ Chair
(714) 738-6311 nicholas.dunlap@cityoffullerton.com
- **District 1: Fred Jung**
Mayor Protem/Vice Chair
(714) 738-6311
fred.jung@cityoffullerton.com
- **District 3: Dr. Shana Charles**
(714) 738-6311
shana.charles@cityoffullerton.com
- **District 4: Bruce Whitaker**
(714) 981-8474
bwhitaker@live.com
- **District 5: Dr. Ahmad Zahra**
(714) 738-6311
ahmadz@cityoffullerton.com

AGENDA
FORECAST (Tentative)

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

- Senior Advisory Committee
- Minimum Wage Increase
- Fiscal Year 2024
 - 25 St Rehabilitation Project
- Chapman Parking Lease
- Climate Action Plan
- Developer Impact Fee Annual Compliance Report for Fiscal Year 2023/24
- M2 Expenditure Report
- Zoning Amendment to Rezone Properties in Wickett Squash Neighborhood

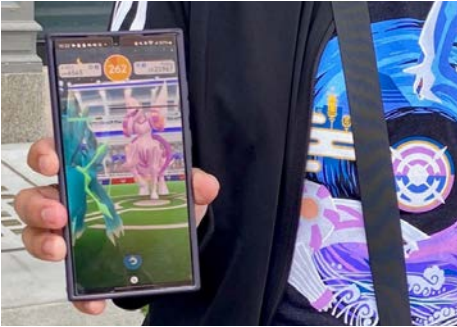
Tuesday, December 19, 2024

- Monthly Committee Activity and Attendance Report
- November 2024 Check Register
- City Council Reorganization



In The Pokey, Mon

Oh, never mind, all the commotion turned out to be 200 plus Pokémon Go players scavenging all over our downtown at about 10:30 on a Saturday morning. The streets were lined with mostly young fans, all obviously having a great time.



Updates

Mamma Mia
Yeah, we keep our promises here, and here are the promised updates. Mamma Mia, two of us dined there, and we treated ourselves to a number of lunch menu items, food, and libations. As others have said, the service, atmosphere, and of course, the main course, the food were all very good. The salads were excellent, and the eggplant sandwich (that stuff is not easy to prepare) was perfect, but everything was as promised. What a friendly place!
It's always nice when they talk to you; thank you for coming in, and make sure you know they want you back, as we will do for the dinner menu. This is not a food critic column, but everyone I have heard from indicates this is going to be a hit, so there is weight in that.
Give it a try, 132 W Commonwealth.

All The Arts
All The Arts is up and running at full speed now, and on November 30, there were three sessions for creating fused glass ornaments. Two of the sessions were for families, and there was one for adults.
On December 5, it's time for Holiday Ukelele, where your family can learn to play a Holiday song on the ukulele. Hot chocolate, cookies, and, of course, ukuleles will be provided.
This info is just a sample of what is happening at the new space located at 114 N Harbor Blvd.
Go to kw.allthearts@gmail.com with questions, or visit the website at www.allthearts.org. Their mission is developing, sustaining, and supporting the arts as an intrinsic part of every child's education.
(Read more about All the Arts for All the Kids on page 3)

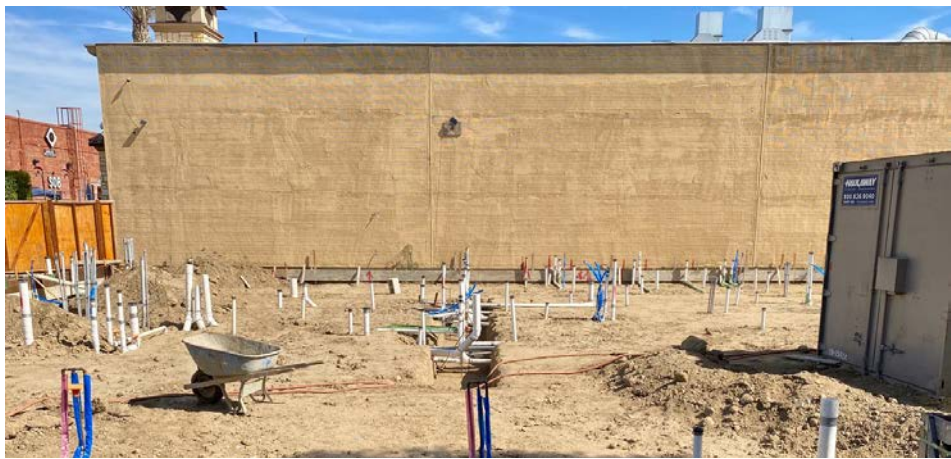
The Year In Review

Pretty sure your eyes glazed over when you read that headline, but let us know if you do want a review, maybe in the next, final 2024 issue. Yeah, you, who never notices the email address at the top of this page and contacts the newspaper directly instead, ha. Now is your chance.
BTW, thanks for the nice messages to the editor and the emails we do get, spurring us on. Fullerton needs a local newspaper, and this one delivers. By mail, that is. Please consider subscribing at www.FullertonObserver.com or mail check with name, phone number (in case we can't read your writing), and address to Fullerton Observer, P.O. Box 7051, Fullerton, CA 92834..

The Cellar Anniversary

Back when monthly Fullerton Downtown Business Association meetings were held, Ernest Zingg would occasionally invite all to come by afterward and share some extraordinary bottles of wine. His wine cellar was on a par with any on the entire west coast, and he even stocked some bottles that were over \$1,000, mostly for foreign travelers who expected to find them at The Cellar, and likely, only at the Cellar.
Since his office was right next door for many years, we got to know each other well, and there were times when he and I would head upstairs to share wine and fine stogies. When the law was passed making smoking indoors illegal, it put an end to that and pretty much wiped out his clientele coming in from Japan and they were the big

spenders demanding those old vintage wines.
His son was not a US citizen and had an impossible time trying to become one, so Ernest knew if his son could not take over the restaurant, he would need to find someone who could. Enter Ryan Dudley. Yes, it's time to honor another of our most cherished restaurants since Ryan purchased The Cellar 20 years ago.
There was a recent celebration with family and friends closest to Ryan and his wife Brianne at the spectacular Charleston on Commonwealth. Ernest was on hand, celebrating both the 20-year mark and the 55th Anniversary of the restaurant. Congratulations on making sure a downtown institution, which is one of our very finest, stayed true to its roots.



New In Town

The long-awaited Rio Do Brazil Steak House is under construction right next door to neighbor Lagos Mexican Cuisine. If the owners accomplish anything near what they did in constructing Lagos, it will also be spectacular. Looks like it will be quite a while before it opens but the good news is we can now see progress is being made.

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Photo Quiz

Send answer to Mike at AllMedia@sbcglobal.net



This time:
Name this downtown building

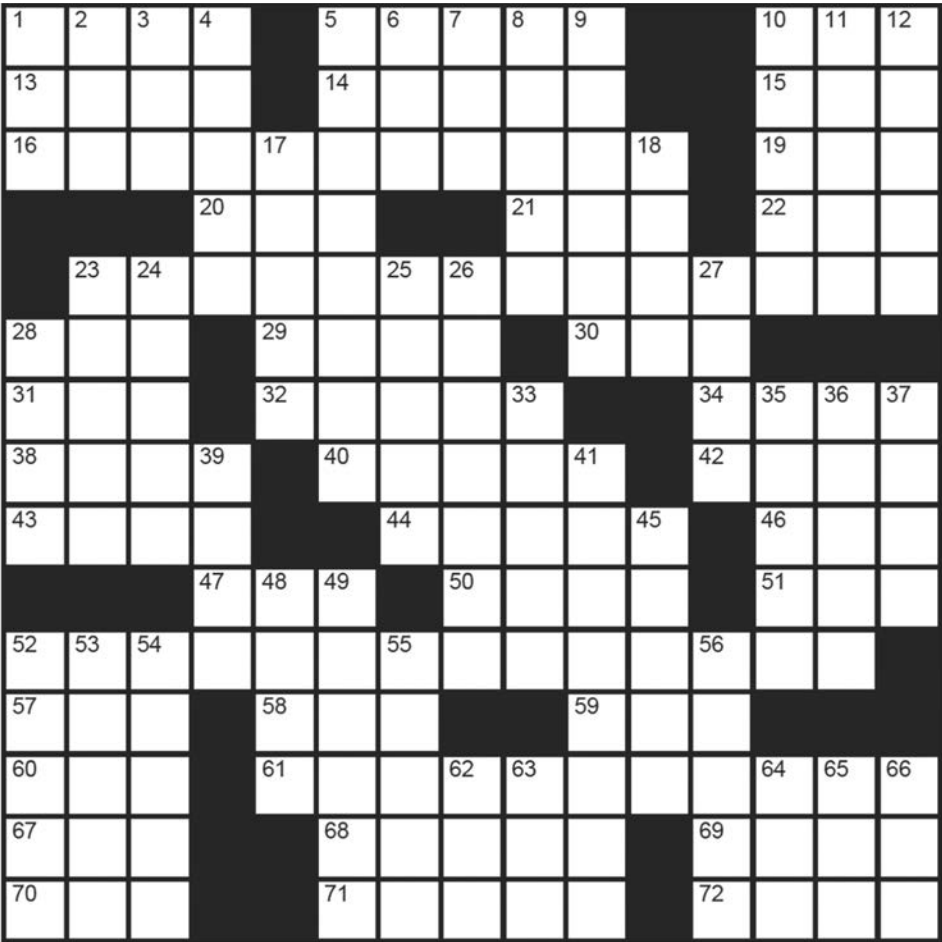


Last time:
Too easy, the answer was in the story, hmm.

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD

© 2024

"PASSABLE" by Valerie Brickey (answer key on page 15)



ACROSS

1. Mideast money

5. ___ and error

10. Lincoln or Ford

13. ___ chamber

14. ___ Wip, dessert topping

15. Peach or plum

16. Leave a job in finance, say

19. Fingers in a lineup

20. Cycle starter

21. Fair-hiring inits.

22. Comic strip boy with a giant squid pal

23. Charming home, say

28. "Spy vs. Spy" magazine

29. Plug-in vehicle, briefly

30. Note after fa

31. Conclude

32. Long-maned model of romance cover fame

34. Somewhat

38. You might bounce it off a buddy

40. Perch

42. Pro or con
43. Buster?

44. Autumn color

46. Whopper

47. Org. for 43-Across

50. Bread end

51. Long, long time

52. Bagel to go, say

57. Chapel Hill sch.

58. Fed. auditing agency

59. Folks

60. Bay Area airport code

61. Russell Wilson and Jared Goff, familiarly, and an apt title for this puzzle

67. Final album in the Green Day trilogy that includes "¡Uno!" and "¡Dos!"

68. Cosmetics Lauder

69. Continental currency

70. Lead characters in "Mork & Mindy"?

71. Plant parts

72. Revolutionary Trotsky

DOWN

1. Mandatory coll. course

2. Post-E.R. area

3. Yellowfin tuna

4. Led Zeppelin's "Whole ___ Love"

5. Sleeper or caboose

6. Stimpy's cartoon pal

7. Texter's "Beats me"

8. It may be bid

9. Tablecloths and such

10. "The Big ___" (1983 Lawrence Kasdan film)

11. Hearing aid?

12. Plant again

17. Succinct

18. ___ boots

23. Lecture follow-up

24. Milk dispenser

25. No-no

26. Buttery bun

27. "Woe is me!"

28. Words after count or deal

33. Rapper Ice Cube's first name

35. Most decorated gymnast of all time

36. Fool

37. "Tiger Beat" reader
39. "Thunderstruck" group

41. Starfleet costume wearers

45. Spritelike

48. Heart charts, for short

49. Lets up

52. Price estimate

53. Take a piece from

54. F.D.R.'s Interior Secretary, and character in "Annie"

55. ___ beef

56. Anaheim athlete

62. 66, e.g.

63. President pro ___

64. "What?," in Oaxaca

65. "My man!"

66. Kiefer, to Donald

Hawaiian Punch murals by Mike Tauber on the Citrea Apartments at 336 E. Santa Fe, the former site of the Hawaiian Punch factory.
PHOTO BY
JESSE LA TOUR



Hawaiian Punch

Started in Fullerton!

The following is from a work-in-progress about the history of Fullerton
by Jesse La Tour

You can follow ongoing research at www.fullertonhistory.com. Like most medium-sized American cities, Fullerton has spawned a few companies over the years that have risen to national prominence and become household names. Fender Guitars is probably the most well-known. But a close second is Hawaiian Punch.

Hawaiian Punch was originally created as a drink base for juice stands and also as an ice cream flavoring in the mid-1930s by A.W. Leo in a converted garage in Fullerton at 120 W. Amerige. Leo’s company was called Pacific Citrus Products.

There has been some debate/confusion as to where Hawaiian Punch was actually created. A 2007 Orange County Register article tells of a plaque placed on a residential garage at 1321 Frances Ave. stating that the formula for Hawaiian Punch was created there in 1934.

However, according to records in the Fullerton History Room of the Fullerton Public Library, A.W. Leo did not live there in 1934. He moved there in 1936.

Further, in a 1968 interview for the CSUF Oral History Program, Rueben Paul Hughes, former president of Pacific Citrus Products, said, “The predecessor for Pacific Hawaiian Products was Pacific Citrus Products. The original plant was located at 120 W. Amerige in a former garage. The plant slowly expanded from there.”

It is thus much more likely that the “garage” where Hawaiian Punch was created was at the 120 W. Amerige site, which eventually was expanded into their first plant. Today, this is the parking lot of Ace Hardware.

In Leo’s laboratory, he concocted various “fruit juices and extracts to perfect formulae for sherbet bases, flavoring extracts and hot weather drinks.”

By 1940, the company had expanded to sell throughout the United States. In addition to Hawaiian Punch, the company manufactured bar mixers, fruit concentrates, crushed fruits, citrus oils, sherbert bases, fountain syrups, extracts, emulsions, and specialty flavors.

While it was popular as a wholesale juice and ice cream concentrate, Hawaiian Punch became more popular as a pre-mixed juice sold directly to customers.

“In 1949, we decided to mix it for them, so to speak, into a ready to drink product in the big 46-ounce juice can,” Hughes said, “This was probably the smartest thing we ever did.”

Hawaiian Punch began to be shipped outside of California, first to midwest markets, and then all over the country.

And then in 1950, tragedy struck. According to a 1950 Fullerton News Tribune article, “An early morning fire, believed to be the worst in the history of the city and probably the worst in Northern Orange County, totally destroyed an automobile agency and garage, a citrus products plant, a 58-room hotel, and damaged a hardware store...Destroyed were the McCoy and Mills Ford agency and garage at 125 W. Commonwealth, and the Pacific Products plant across the alley at 120 W. Amerige Avenue.”

Unofficial estimates placed the damage at over half a million dollars. “The juice plant went up in a hurry as citrus oils and alcohol caught fire and an early morning breeze fanned the flames,” the Tribune stated. “As the citrus plant burned and bottles and cans exploded, syrup concentrate ran ankle deep in the gutters. The smell of scorched syrup filled the air.”

After this tragedy, the company temporarily moved into the Chapman packinghouse before building a much larger new plant at 336 E. Santa Fe Avenue, made out of concrete and steel, not wood. It was also located along the railroad tracks, which was better for shipping purposes.

This plant is now the Citrea Apartments. When this new apartment complex was built in 2019, artist Mike Tauber painted a series of Hawaiian Punch murals facing the train tracks.

By the 1950s, Hawaiian Punch was a national brand advertised in newspapers, television, radio, and magazines. It had become a multi-million dollar company. Because of the overwhelming success of Hawaiian Punch, the company was re-named Pacific Hawaiian Products.

In 1960, Pacific Hawaiian Products moved into a new 5-acre, 63,000 square foot headquarters, production and warehousing building at Acacia and Ross Aves.

In 1961, the Atherton-Privett ad agency created a 20-second commercial to advertise Hawaiian Punch drink, which introduced the world to Punchy, the popular mascot.

In 1963, the company was acquired by R.J. Reynolds, the tobacco company, as part of their entrance into the food and beverage industry. By 1967, Hawaiian Punch was sold in 230,000 grocery stores and was the best-selling fruit punch in the world.

In 1981, RJ Reynolds transferred Hawaiian Punch to another of its major food subsidiaries, Del Monte. In 1990 Proctor and Gambled acquired Hawaiian Punch. Today, Hawaiian Punch is operated by the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, and is no longer located in Fullerton (except at your local grocery store).

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HITS & MISSES

by Joyce Mason © 2024





WICKED: A HIT AND A MISS

Derivative of its several predecessors, “Wicked” struggles to break new ground. It has been almost one hundred years since Frank Baum’s novel “The Wizard of Oz,” followed by the 1939 film with Judy Garland’s memorable performance and the creative use of Technicolor. The twenty-first century brought us the Broadway musical “Wicked” based on Gregory Maguire’s 1995 novel “The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West.”

Director John Chu (“Crazy Rich Asians,” “In the Heights”) casts “Wicked” with several excellent performers, but he chooses to rely heavily on loud and distracting special effects rather than providing more dialogue for his cast.

We first meet Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West, who has a back story that evokes some sympathy. She was disliked by her father because she was born with green skin. She now wears eyeglasses with seashell-shaped frames that add to her appearance outside the norm. Elphaba is played by a scene-stealing Cynthia Erivo, who brings some complexity to the role as she evokes more sympathy than disdain.

Elphaba, now of an age to attend college, enters Shiz University, where her roommate is the Good Witch Glinda (Ariana Grande), who later settles for the name Glinda. Blond

and beautiful with creamy skin, Grande creates a character who serves as the antithesis of Elphaba. At first, the two young women appear poorly matched roommates, but eventually, they develop an understanding and affection for one another. Grande enriches her role with her beautiful singing voice.

Adding to the quirkiness of the movie, Elphaba and Glinda attend a college lecture class where the professor is literally “an old goat,” voiced by Peter Dinklage.


Elphaba’s talent for magic is noticed by one of her instructors, Madame Morrible (Michelle Yeoh), who encourages her to visit the Land of Oz.

The two roommates magically go to Oz, where the Wizard is played by actor Jeff Goldblum. The girls share with him their concern about the plight of caged animals, which they feel should be set free.

The more tuneful songs in “Wicked” are “Popular” and “Defying Gravity.” However, the music throughout the film takes second place due to the grandiose quality of the visual special effects.

The movie “Wicked” lasts for two hours and 40 minutes, ending where Act I ends in the stage production. This movie is billed as Part I because Part 2, now under production, will be in theaters next fall.

- Two HITS: Don’t Miss it!
- A HIT & A MISS: You Might Like it.
- Two MISSES: Don’t Bother.



Fullerton Museum Center

exhibit runs through Jan 5, 2025
(714) 519-4461 • info@fullertonmuseum.com

June Wayne: The Art of Everything

The Art and Science of June Wayne exhibition showcases the influential work of artist June Wayne (1918-2011), known for her exploration of the connection between art and science.



The MistleTones
Runs December 2 through December 18

Join us as The Mistle Tones ring in the Christmas season with their own brand of hilarious holiday fun. Featured on Access Hollywood, Disney’s California Adventure, Downtown Disney, Knott’s Berry Farm, and the Staples Center, The Mistle Tones have been bringing laughter to the holidays for 20 years using their blend of Christmas parodies, handbells, and traditional tunes. With crowd favorites like “We Will Flock You”, “MmmShop” and “Can’t Wrap This”, and new songs for 2024, you’ll want to make this your tradition every year!

MAVERICK THEATER
110 E. Walnut Ave, Unit B
(714) 526-7070 • mavericktheater.com

Women’s Club of Fullerton

Celebrating 20 Years:
This annual event recognizes the achievements of Women in and around the Fullerton Community. Check out our non-profit vendor tables, and you may even go home winning one of the lovely prizes.

2024 Honorees



Jodi Balma
Leadership
in Education



Rosalina Camacho
Leadership
in Veteran
Advocacy



Barbara Johnson
Lifetime
Leadership



Judith Kaluzny
The Warrior
Award



Egleth Nuncci
Leadership
in Community
Engagement

When:
December 4th
from 5 to 8pm

Where:
Coyote Hills Golf Course
1440 East Bastanchury Rd, Fullerton

The Women’s Leadership Forum is a FREE community event, Hosted by former Fullerton City Councilmember Pam Keller, Woman’s Club of Fullerton, and event founder, CA Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

Fullerton Friends of Music presents

Duo Turgeon (Piano Duo)

Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 3:30pm

“The husband-and-wife team of Duo Turgeon play with hypnotic intensity”
—American Record Guide

Fullerton First United
Methodist Church
114 N. Pomona Ave
All concerts are free.

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



Your Guide to the Holidays in Fullerton by Daphne Ruiz

The Woman’s Club
of Fullerton Holiday Party:

Dec 9 from 6 - 8 pm.
Madero Cantina y Cocina
111 N Harbor Blvd,
Celebrate with The Woman’s Club of Fullerton with a white elephant gift exchange game and more merriment with all the best women in town. Register here: <https://wcof.club/calendar-of-events/>

Electric Company Theatre
Holiday Concert:

December 12 at 7:30 pm.
Muckenthaler Cultural Center
1201 W. Malvern Ave
A holiday concert like no other! Acoustic covers of traditional holiday tunes, drinking songs, and some hilarious story telling from your favorite ECT performers. Come pass a pint with us! Tickets at: electriccompanytheatre.org

Family Movie Night:

December 13 from 6 - 9pm.
Fullerton Community Center:
340 W Commonwealth Ave
Bring your family, friends, and blankets or lawn chairs to watch “The Nightmare Before Christmas” at the Fullerton Community Center for their indoor movie night. Feel free to bring snacks!
For more info call 714-738-6575

Holidays
at Fullerton College:

December 13 from 7:30 - 9:30 pm.
The nationally-recognized Fullerton College Music Department presents a concert of holiday music which will feature Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Men's Chorale, Women's Chorale and the Symphonic Winds. Tickets at Campus Theatre Box Office. Call 714-992-7150

Darden Christmas Concert:

December 19 from 7:30 - 9:30 pm.
Muckenthaler Cultural Center
1201 W. Malvern Ave
Get into the holiday spirit with the Dardens in this magical concert. The Dardens will perform classic Christmas yuletide carols and contemporary holiday songs.
Tickets at: themuck.org

Holiday Festival:

December 22 from 12 - 4 pm.
Muckenthaler Cultural Center
1201 W. Malvern Ave
Celebrate the holiday season with free family-friendly activities, live music, food and drinks, art workshops for kids, and an arts and crafts sale. More info at: <https://themuck.org>



Sparkle Ball Lane

Evenings in December
Enter north on to Yale at 801 East Chapman, a short left and right turn hides the display from Chapman Ave. The neighborhood with the best holiday lights in Orange County is right here in Fullerton! Families visit this unique destination known for its handmade “sparkle balls” that surround the streets.

Winter Craft Night:

December 4 from 5 - 6:30 pm.
Main Library: 353 W Commonwealth Ave, in the Osborne Auditorium
Craft spectacular snowflakes and holiday stars to transform your home into a Winter Wonderland! All materials will be provided.
Reservation Required.
Adults and Teens 16+
RSVP at:
<https://fullertonlibrary.libcal.com/>

The Mistle Tones:

December 2 - December 18
Mon, Tues, Wed at 7:30 pm.
Maverick Theater:
110 E. Walnut Ave., Unit B
Join in on some holiday fun with The MistleTones with their blend of Christmas parodies, handbells, and traditional tunes. It’s a show the whole family can enjoy.
Tickets at:
<https://mavericktheater.com>

Family Holiday
Ukulele Night:

December 5 from 6 - 7:30 pm.
All the Arts for All the Kids
Foundation Studio:
114 North Harbor Blvd.
Join us for a ukulele lesson, hot chocolate, snacks and lots of fun provided by the All the Arts for All the Kids Foundation Studio. Ukuleles will be provided. All kids must be accompanied by an adult. Limited Space, registration is available now.. Register here: <https://www.givsum.com/opportunities/family-holiday-ukulele-night-cfa7ef928>

Light the Mic:

December 6 from 5 - 9:30 pm.
Fullerton Museum Center:
301 N. Pomona Ave
Fullerton’s Art Walk and open mic takes a holiday spin with free gallery admissions and holiday goodies. Visit: <https://www.fullertonmuseum.com/events>

Magical Holiday Ball:

December 7th from 11:30 am. - 3pm.
Fullerton Public Library
- Library Conference Center:
353 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Games, facepainting, movies, and more? The Magical Holiday Ball is full of fun activities for the whole family. RSVP is not required.
More information here: <https://fullertonlibrary.libcal.com/event/13434878>

Winter Market:

December 7 from 2 - 6 pm.
Downtown Fullerton Plaza:
301 N. Pomona Ave
Get into the holiday spirit with this artisan craft market which will feature unique vendors, pictures with Santa, adult and kids’ activities, performances, food trucks, and a beer and wine garden inside the plaza. Free parking in parking structures at Wilshire (enter from Harbor); Lemon St and Chapman Ave; and in the Transportation Center on Pomona and Santa Fe Ave.
More infor here: <https://www.fullertonmuseum.com/events/Js0q4eYDccHRXrKVtygq>

Plein Air Workshop
with Michaela Moffett:

December 7 from 9 am. - 12:30 pm
Muckenthaler Cultural Center
1201 W. Malvern Ave
Learn to accurately capture the beauty of the landscape as you develop foundational plein air painting skills and create a painting on an 8” x 10” canvas. All necessary tools and materials included Beginner students welcome! Register here: <https://themuck.org/program/2024-12-22-hf>

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



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New education laws for California Schools

by Vivien Moreno

During each 2-year California state legislature cycle, elected officials introduce bills, examine their merits in committees, and either send them to the governor for signing into law or they expire for that session.

The 2022-24 legislative session introduced over 2000 bills impacting California student education, ultimately sending 1200 to the governor to review. Governor Newsom vetoed around 195, or 16%, leaving 1000 new laws that will impact students, some beginning January 2025.

Here are a few of the new laws identified by “AB” (assembly bill) or “SB” (senate bill), the number which indicates the order in which it was filed, and the main sponsor or author in parenthesis.

A few new laws affecting Fullerton elementary and high school students focus on safety.

AB 2429 (Alvarez) modifies the California Healthy Kids Act mandating all health courses include the danger of fentanyl use instruction.

SB 997 (Portantino) allows students in grades 7-12 to carry naloxone (Narcan) and fentanyl test strips on their person during the school day.

AB 2053 (Mathis) requires all health instruction (grades 7-12) to include a unit identifying signs of and resources to remove from abusive and/or violent adolescent relationships as a component in sex education. All health courses must define stalking and include local and national intimate partner violence prevention resources where students can get support.

AB 1858 (Ward) prohibits high-intensity active shooter drills and bans all simulated shooting, staged gore, or pretend victims.

The California Department of Education (CDE) must provide guidelines by July 2025 that will use trauma-informed research to monitor and control the current unregulated school active school shooting drills.

Some of these staged events incited documented depression, trauma, and anxiety in both students and staff. Students, parents, and staff must be informed the week prior to the drill, and parents will be notified the day of the drill once it is completed.

SB 1063 (Grove) requires suicide prevention resources to be printed on all student ID cards. SB 1504 allows victims of cyberbullying and school administrators to civilly sue social media platforms for violations and allows for greater penalties to be awarded.

SB 976 (Skinner) prohibits social media platforms from sending notifications to minors during school hours or late at night.

SB 483 (Cortese) bans all use of prone restraints towards any minor at every school by any law enforcement or school administrator.

On the instructional side:

AB 2927 (McCarty) and AB 1871 (Alanis) add the personal financial literacy class that parents have requested for the last decade. Required for the graduating class of 2031, by 2027/28, all public schools and charters that utilize public school funds will provide a one-semester, standalone class in grades 9-12 covering basic understanding of credit cards, budgeting, and loan liability. This will be a graduation requirement and count toward a student’s required social science units.

AB 1805 (Ta), AB 1821 (Ramos), and SB 1277 (Stern) expand high school social studies requirements to include instruction of Mendez vs. the School District of Westminster, California, indigenous people perspectives during the Spanish conquest, and genocides and the Holocaust as required topics by 2028 for all high school graduates.

AB 2074 (Muratsuchi) requires all public school districts and charter schools receiving state money to report to the CDE annual progress following an updated CDE English Literacy Roadmap Policy mandated in 2017 to provide all students a research-based, consistent policy to attain their English literacy requirements. It is currently not regulated, spotty, and inconsistent under the Local Control Policy.

AB 2999 (Schiavo) requires the CDE to create a healthy homework framework for all students grades TK-12 for districts to use as a guideline by the school year 2027/28.

Laws that will influence the school environment include:

AB 1865 (Muratsuchi), which prohibits book bans in public and school libraries of any age-appropriate books.


AB 3216 (Hoover) requires schools to carry out phone-free school environments by July 1, 2026. Both Fullerton elementary and high school districts currently prohibit smartphone use during class time; however, only the elementary school district board and administration currently consistently enforce the policy at site locations.

SB 1137 (Weber) prohibits any public or charter school that receives state funds from enacting any prohibitive dress code policy that includes hair texture or banning culturally protective hairstyles.

SB 1445 (Cortese) expands the role of student board members, allowing them, with the permission of the student and parents or guardians, to be able to review a student’s expulsion case and recommend restorative justice actions. The student board members and student restorative justice boards would not attend closed board sessions or have any vote on the matter of the expulsion itself but would be privy to limited case information to provide recommendations.

SB 760 (Newman) requires all schools to have a working, unobstructed, and fully stocked, un-gendered bathroom available for all grades by July 1, 2026. If a school is unable to accommodate this requirement due to funding, they can access state funds under the Greene Act, which provides facilities funding for school districts with high populations of low-income and housing-challenged students.

LEGAL INSIGHTS:
by Kate, 8th grade



Brown v. Board of Education

Racial segregation in schools is considered unequal and unconstitutional today. However, this was not the case before May 17th, 1954, when one of the most famous Supreme Court cases in history set a legal precedent in the ruling stating that separating children in public schools based on race was unconstitutional. This milestone, symbolizing the end of legalized racial segregation, was a leap closer to equality.

Not only was the practice of racial segregation in schools morally unjust, but legally as well. The central argument brought up in the Brown v. Board of Education case was that separate school systems for black and white students were inherently unequal and violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment, which states that “no state can deny equal protection of the laws to any person within its jurisdiction.”

This clause required that every person within a state must be treated equally under the law, which racial segregation in schools failed to accomplish.


Once the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the main plaintiff, Oliver Brown, many changes occurred in the public school system.

One of these changes was that the Supreme Court overturned the “separate but equal” doctrine and allowed children of different ethnicities to get the same education and attend the same schools in the public school system. It declared that racial segregation in public schools was unconstitutional, ending legal segregation and mandating this decision throughout public schools in the United States.

The case began on December 9th, 1952. Although it took roughly 1 year and 5 months to reach a verdict, this Supreme Court ruling forever changed the school system as we know it today.

The time and perseverance taken to fight for equal rights resulted in a verdict that shapes our society and ensures greater equality today.

National Observance by Mateo, 11th grade



World Computer Literacy Day - December 2nd

As innovative technology continues to develop and expand its reach throughout the world, it is gradually becoming more and more necessary for people to possess sufficient digital literacy skills. However, many American adults struggle to adjust to a world more dependent than ever on tech.

A recent study by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development reveals that about one-third of the American workforce does not have the digital skills needed to efficiently navigate the modern world, which will be problematic if the projection that 90% of occupations in the U.S. will require adequate digital skills by 2030 holds true.

World Computer Literacy Day works to provide people throughout the globe with the knowledge they need to be successful in this new age by spreading awareness of the importance of digital literacy and mitigating the effects of the digital divide.

World Computer Literacy Day was introduced in 2001 by the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT), a computer company based in India, as a celebration of its 20th anniversary. The organization recognized a growing worldwide digital divide between those who were digitally literate and those who were not, and they wanted to dedicate some of their time and resources towards lessening its impact. During World Computer Literacy Day, the NIIT encourages people to help promote the spread of digital knowledge through several means, such as providing everyone with readily available computer access, offering computer education and tech tips to others and stressing the importance of having digital skills in today’s technology-dominated society.

There are many ways that you can contribute to this year’s World Computer Literacy Day. For one, you can donate any old devices you may have. Many people improperly dispose of old electronics because they are unaware that it can be recycled and repurposed. There are many organizations out there that will transform your unwanted electronics into brand-new devices that can help other people obtain critical technological skills. In addition, if you or someone you know has advanced technological skills, you can host a community course to educate others on computer literacy topics.

Many public facilities such as libraries or community centers are often looking for volunteers to come in and share their wealth of knowledge on technology with the community in hopes of making more people digitally literate. However, despite these effective methods, the fastest and easiest way to join the cause is by spreading awareness about World Computer Literacy Day to those around you so they can get in on the action as well.

In an era so reliant on technology, knowing how to efficiently utilize digital devices for your work and how to stay safe while utilizing them is pivotal for prosperity in today’s society. By supporting World Computer Literacy Day, you can help integrate all generations of people into our increasingly digital world, leading to a more knowledgeable and informed society.



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Happy Holidays by Tegan, 7th grade

Christmas Harmonies

Buddy the Elf once said, "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear." As the holiday season approaches, the air turning crisp with magic, there is no better way to get into the festive spirit than with a playlist full of classic Christmas songs. Whether you're ornamenting the iconic, green tree, baking cookies with your family, or ice skating with your friends, the sound of upbeat holiday tunes creates a magical atmosphere. Christmas music is an essential part of what makes the season so memorable.

Following are some of the most famous and memorable Christmas songs that you should consider for your Christmas Spotify playlist: "Jingle Bells," "Silent Night," "Deck the Halls," "Rockin' Around the Christmas

Tree," "Santa Tell Me", "Santa Baby," "Last Christmas," "All I Want for Christmas is You," "White Christmas," "The Christmas Song," and "Feliz Navidad."

These songs have become staples of Christmas playlists worldwide, each bringing its personality and charm to the gatherings. The most streamed of these songs, according to AZ Big Media's article in 2023, is "All I Want for Christmas Is You." This classic, written and performed by Mariah Carey, was released in 1994 and has since become one of the most enduring modern Christmas songs. Its upbeat, joyful tone and catchy melody have made it a holiday favorite for new generations.



Fun Events by Taliha, 7th grade

What to do for the Holidays!

If you are anything like me, the holidays are your favorite time of the year. From the frosty air in the morning to the crisp, clean smell throughout the city, I just love the holidays in Fullerton! Now, if you want to make the most of the holidays this year, here are some fun events to do this winter!

First, on December 7th, there will be a winter market in the Downtown Fullerton Plaza. There will be food trucks, pictures with Santa, special holiday performances and so much more! If you are looking for a fun, yet unforgettable weekend with friends or family, this is the event for you. And the best part is, you won't have to drive too far to find it either!

Next, also in Fullerton, The Muckenthaler Cultural Center is hosting its Holiday Festival. This event is on Dec. 22, from 12-4 pm, with everything you need to make it a perfect day for celebrating the holiday season, with arts and crafts, live music and many other fun activities! The holiday festival is perfect for people of all ages, and I can guarantee that everyone is sure to love this event, it will let everyone get into the holiday spirit!

Finally, if you are looking for a tropical holiday festival, Winter in the Grove is a perfect holiday spot. In Garden Grove, there is a holiday event that is focused on providing holiday magic for youth! The event includes performances from local schools and performers, holiday crafts and inflatable activities for children of all ages, and a holiday craft boutique featuring handmade gifts from local vendors. You will not regret attending the celebration, even if it requires a little bit of a drive. The event takes place on Dec. 7, from 3-7 pm, in The Village Green/Clock Tower at the Corner of Euclid and Main.

These events are just a few locally, but the best way to spend the holidays is with people you love. Whether it be spending time with neighbors, friends or family, the holidays are a time to reflect on people we love the most, and make sure they are aware of how much you care about them. I hope you all enjoy your holiday season this year, and are able to make unforgettable memories!



Holidays Are Here by Alicia, 7th grade

Last-Minute Gift Ideas

As the holiday season approaches, it's easy to find yourself in a last-minute hurry to complete your gift list. Whether it's for a friend or a family member, there are plenty of thoughtful and ingenious gifts that don't require weeks of preparation. With a little creativity, you can spread holiday cheer without the stress.

One of the easiest and most versatile last-minute gifts is a gift card. While it may seem impersonal initially, selecting a card for a specific store, coffee shop, or online service the recipient loves shows you've considered their preferences. Many stores offer festive packaging for gift cards, and you can add a personal touch by pairing it with a handwritten note or a small treat like a bar of chocolate or a mini candle.

Subscription services are another excellent option for those who are short on time. From streaming platforms and audiobook memberships to meal kits and self-care boxes, subscriptions offer a gift that keeps giving. You can often purchase and send these gifts online in just a few minutes, making them ideal for last-minute shoppers. A bonus is that many services allow you to tailor the subscription to the recipient's interests, ensuring a personalized touch.

If you're feeling crafty, homemade gifts can save the day. Whipping up a batch of cookies, brownies, or holiday bark takes only a few hours but delivers maximum effect. Package the treats in a decorative container or cellophane bag

with a festive ribbon for an extra-special display. For non-food options, consider assembling a DIY photo frame or ornament using supplies you already have at home. These heartfelt creations are both cost-effective and meaningful.

Another quick option is assembling a Christmas-themed gift basket. Include cozy socks, Christmas-themed treats, or red and green decorations. Many of these items can be found at local stores or convenience shops. Arrange them in a simple basket or reusable tote, and you'll have a present that looks far from last-minute.

For a sentimental touch, consider writing a heartfelt letter or creating a "memory jar." Fill a small jar with notes recounting your favorite memories with the recipient or listing reasons you appreciate them. While simple, this gesture can be heartwarming and will surely bring a smile to their face.

If all else fails, think of experiences rather than items. A promise to take someone out for lunch, go on a hike, or spend a day exploring a new activity together can be more memorable than a wrapped present. Simply write your promise on a festive holiday card.

With these ideas in mind, last-minute holiday shopping doesn't have to be a stressful experience. The key is focusing on thoughtfulness and creativity, ensuring your gift leaves a lasting impression.



Traditions by Yoyo, 7th grade

The Great Tree Debate: Real or Artificial?

For many families, the holidays just wouldn't be the same without the annual tradition of decorating the Christmas tree together, with ornaments passed down through generations. However, picking the perfect Christmas tree is difficult and can become a yearly dilemma in many homes. Some people appreciate the no-hassle, long-lasting appeal of an artificial tree, while others swear by the fresh scent and authenticity of a real tree. Whether you are a seasoned decorator or a first-time holiday homeowner, choosing between a plastic tree and a live pine is a big decision.

Artificial trees are often favored because of their convenience. In addition to the fact that they can be put up and taken down with ease, you won't have to deal with any messes caused by fallen pine needles or sap stains. Furthermore, artificial trees offer a lot in terms of versatility. With an abundance of styles and colors to choose from, you can easily find the perfect fit for your home.

While there are many who love artificial trees for these reasons, a contrasting viewpoint suggests that they can actually be harmful to the environment. Artificial trees are not recyclable or biodegradable, which means that they contribute to waste accumulation and pollution. According to the Carbon Trust, a two-meter artificial tree has a carbon footprint of about

forty kilograms, which is more than ten times greater than that of a real evergreen.

On the other hand, real trees are thought to be better for the environment because they are both recyclable and biodegradable. Although this is true, the environmental impact of a tree depends largely on the way it is disposed of. Most people take the easy route after the holidays by chucking their trees into landfills, where they rot and emit harmful greenhouse gasses. If you decide to get a real tree, it is important to ensure it is properly recycled to minimize any unnecessary environmental damage.

Not only do these trees require proper disposal, but the price of purchasing a fresh evergreen every year can add up, especially with growing costs for production and transportation. However, some would say that the experience of getting a real tree is worth the steep price. For many households, going to the tree farm and picking out a real Christmas tree is a beloved family tradition.

The decision between choosing an artificial or real Christmas tree depends on many factors, including convenience, environmental impact, and cost. Ultimately, the most suitable option is the one that aligns with your values, whether that is the long-lasting practicality of an artificial tree or the seasonal spirit of a real one!



Nouveau Chamber Ballet presents:
The Nutcracker Ballet

Every October you will find Tom Bozigian and Sheree King deep in rehearsals for their upcoming Nutcracker production. This will be their third Nutcracker since taking the helm of Nouveau Chamber Ballet and the Lois Ellyn Ballet Studio after the death of their mentor and friend, Lois Ellyn, in 2021.

Tom will be creating new choreography for the Russian dance working with the company dancers. Sheree has created several new choreographies to add to the original choreography of Lois Ellyn, who was a professional

ballet dancer with the New York City Ballet.

Each year they try to expand the production adding new costumes, sets and dancers. Their aim is to create an abridged Nutcracker for children of all ages.

This year professional dancers, Eduard Sargyan and Natalie Palmgren, will dance the Cavalier and Sugar Plum fairy roles. Eduard danced with the Armenian State Ballet Company and Natalie dances with Hollywood Ballet and the Pacific Ballet Dance Theatre.

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Out of My Mind

by Jon Dobrer © 2024 • JonDobrer@mac.com

Mike Tyson and the Problems with Identity Politics

I was rooting for Mike Tyson during that farce of a fraud of a mockery of boxing on Netflix. This made for TV—or actually made for money—event was successful. It drew people and made money. As a sports event, it was a clear flop. However, for me, its redeeming social value was in the form first of a question and then an epiphany.

The question was “Why am I rooting for him?” He is not my idol or role model. We don’t seem, at first glance, to share a tribe. He’s African American. I’m not (though my DNA shows .08% Nigerian). He’s a thug. I never was. He’s done time for rape. Again, No, not me. He is, or was, a gifted boxer. Ok, I boxed in college but was hardly gifted. Truthfully, I was a punching bag. He’s a multi-millionaire. Me? Uh no. So, what was my connection, I wondered?

Then it came to me. I was rooting for the old guy against the 27-year-old White guy. For the limited purposes of this fight, my tribe was based on age

and not ethnicity, class, or any other societally defined tribe.

That’s the epiphany. We are all “intersectional,” and are made up of various identities—some clear, some vague, some ephemeral. Class, education, wealth, religion and politics can all be changed. Even race or ethnicity are usually complex and subject to change and redefining. Ethnically/racially, as a mostly Ashkenazi Jew, in this era I am White. In the past, no. In the future? Who knows?

Most of us are made up of a variety of tribes, affiliations and identities. They can all be real, and they can come into conflict with each other. My language with my Golfing Tribe is differ-

Most of us are made up of a variety of tribes, affiliations and identities. They can all be real, and they can come into conflict with each other.

ent from my language with my Religious Tribe. My Education Tribe is different from my Baseball Tribe (Rabid Dodgers Tribe). My Sports Tribes sometimes come into conflict with my Pro-LGBTQA+ Tribe. My Liberal Tribe is, at this very moment, in a painful struggle with my Israeli Tribe.

Even my Education Tribe is complex and open to shifting understandings and emphases. My International Relations degree, with an emphasis on Sino-Soviet Nuclear Strategy, conflicts with my Philosophy degree, which conflicts with my graduate degree in Comparative Religion.

Sometimes one affiliation waxes and sometimes wanes. My identities are not locked, set in stone and immutable. They shift. Sometimes I will “fail” a litmus test demanded by one of my many tribes. Sometimes I will “betray” one of my tribal identities. My identities often flow and intersect. No single Tribe defines me.

So, when political parties attempt to play “identity politics,” they will

inevitably get it wrong. Get me wrong. Get us wrong. When they want to understand the male vote or express disappointment that the female vote didn’t turn out for Harris, or that Hispanic males underperformed for the Dems, they should not be surprised that their categories failed to see the complex factors in personal identity. Sure, I might vote as a male, or a Jew, or a Liberal, or along with my economic and educational class—or NOT! I might vote because of character or physical attraction. A lot of political choices or more pheromone-driven than ideology-driven. Hell, I might vote for age. And even that’s complex. Will I vote for someone of my age and generation, or will the age issue drive me, out of nostalgia for JFK and Camelot, to “pass the torch to a new generation?”

The one sure thing I knew about the recently passed (and much lamented by most of my Tribes) is that the polls would get it wrong and then explain how they really got it right. This has come to pass. However, the chief reason they got it wrong, and they did get it wrong, is their terrible oversimplification of how to identify who we are.

It is complicated, and we are complicated. Still, one clear message must be: Dear Mike, It’s time that we acknowledge that we cannot keep up with “Time’s winged chariot.”

AT HOME WITH THE HOMELESS

by Andrew Williams © 2024

“Better the Devil you know than the Devil you don’t know.”

What a Hell of a way to mark the second anniversary of this column, with the re-election of Donald Trump by 51 percent of American citizens who voted. That is not reflective of the number of registered voters, and certainly not reflective of the current US population, many of whom, once again, chose to sit this one out.

As to those who voted for Orange Julius, the cliché quoted above is the second-best explanation I’ve found as to why anyone with a functioning brain would vote for a convicted felon, avowed fascist, rapist, con man, pathological liar and malignant narcissist. The best statement that applies comes from the Bard of Baltimore, the unrepentant cynic who was known as Henry Louis Mencken: “No one in this world...has ever lost money by underestimating the intelligence of the great masses of the plain people. Nor has anyone ever lost public office thereby.”

I’m not being too hard on the vox populi; in fact, I’ve been too soft on them. With the backs of me and my fellow unhoused against the proverbial wall, this is not the time to make nice on the people who voted to keep us there because they wanted cheap gas and groceries instead of justice, com-

passion and unity. Now is the time to call them what they are: Ignorant. Gaslit. Self-absorbed. Racist.

Why do I write with such an intemperate tone? Because, dear reader, as a homeless, unemployed, mentally disordered individual, I have nothing to lose. I have lost everything except the freedom to use the mind that Yahweh allegedly gifted me to express my disgust with those who literally sold out their countrymen and women for cheap goods (which, if Rump implements those threatened tariffs, won’t be).

“But what about Kamala’s fluffs on the campaign trail, like her vague explanations for her changes in position regarding fracking? What about Biden’s refusal to step down until 107 days before the election? What about the Democrats’ decision not to hold a primary?” I refuse to engage in whataboutism. The choice was clear-cut: Unity or division. The majority of American voters who voted in this election voted for the latter. And if they were thinking to salve them-

“Life is in the present, not the past or the future. Do what you can, with what you have, where you are,”
AS THEODORE ROOSEVELT SAID.

selves by voting for a ballot measure that gave their state’s female citizens the right to their bodies, that was a delusion of the first water.

For those of you as horrified by the election results as I was, I stand with you. I search with you to find explanations for the seemingly inexplicable. This much is clear:

First of all, it ain’t our fault. You can’t fix stupid, you can only take advantage of it. We voted, and we did our best to inform others how to make an informed choice. We’re not responsible for other people’s poorly made choices.

Second, don’t blame anyone. Don’t blame Kamala Harris, or Tim Walz, or Joe Biden, or whoever the media pundits are telling you is at fault. Mistakes were made. We’re human beings; it’s in our nature to screw up, even when we know better. Playing the blame game wastes time and strengthens the energy while Republicans’ hand.

Third, when you’re ready, get involved. Life is in the present, not the past or the future. Do what you can, with what you have, where you are, as Theodore Roosevelt said. But also remember what John Brunner said: Do what needs doing, but only what you feel like doing. Anything else is going to feel like duty, and obligation, which

creates resentment and half-hearted effort. And if you’re prone to depression and hopelessness, find someone worse off than you and do what you can to help them.

Fourth, please take care of yourselves. Eat food that is good for you and makes you feel good. Talk to your friends, a therapist, or a priest if and when you need to. Learn to meditate, to achieve calm mind even in the midst of roiling chaos. Make sure to go out and look at the sky during the day, and the stars at night. Think of all that light shining upon you—upon all of us. If you decide to go ‘no contact’ with friends and relatives who voted for Trump, feel free to do so. Public and private shaming is perfectly legal, and will remind those individuals that, as happy as they might be that their boy got back into the White House, there are people who will suffer because of it. And if they have any shred of conscience, that will gnaw at them.

Fifth, find out what businesses and organizations supported Trump and boycott them if you haven’t already. They won’t feel it in the short term, but if enough of us do that, they will feel it in the long term—even after Trump is gone.

I wish things had turned out differently. We would have had less uphill work to do, and more time to concentrate on fixing our own lives. But that’s not the hand we drew. You fight with the resources you have, not the resources you wish you had. And may the odds ever be in our favor.

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BALANCE & CHANGE

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

How to be Grateful

This is the season to give thanks. Sometimes life can feel overwhelming and that there is nothing to give thanks for. That is totally understandable.

If you are having financial issues, relationship struggles, health problems, etc. it can be difficult to be thankful for anything. And now you are reading an article that it is time to be thankful? It can feel like too much!

So, let's start small. Stand in the sun for two minutes. Feel the rays warming you. Be thankful for being able to feel that warmth. While you are outside, notice a bird and listen to his song. See the flowers or trees and take in their beauty. Be thankful for nature. If you are housed, be thankful that you have a place to rest your head tonight. If you have food in the house, be thankful that you can eat today.

These are all small and easily found things or moments for which to be thankful, but they are profoundly important. When we feel overwhelmed, it is these small things that allow us to continue on when it is hard. Every time we notice the small things, it is like making a deposit that we can draw on during the hard times!

I am thankful for all who read this. By taking this and applying it, you are making the world a better place. Thank you!

Healthy Awareness

by Jo Ann Brannock, Ph.D. © 2024



Appreciation and Love

I grew up in a family with high expectations of us. There was no praise, reward, or appreciation for achieving what was expected of us as kids. Perhaps it was a generational era where being humble and anonymous for our achievements was the norm, but I especially felt it in my family. We learn lessons from our parents about what works and what does not. As a mother, I made a special effort to reward my kids' above-average performance and show "alarm" for the ones that were below average!

With today's kids, I see situations, especially in sports, where every kid gets a trophy whether they win or not. What is the significance of awarding everyone? So how meaningful are trophies? Are we not giving the message that one gets a trophy no matter how they performed? Are we preparing our kids for life where failure occurs? Failure is a way to learn from our mistakes. Today's psychologists consider failure to be a way to learn how to become successful. When we fail, we can try again with the knowledge of what not to do and to try something new that might work.

Rewards can be approached from the standpoint of appreciation. When was the last time you showed your appreciation for something that someone did for you and that you were grateful? Thanksgiving just passed. Did you acknowledge the person who cooked the meal? Did you write a note to thank him/her for their kindness? Verbally stating appreciation in everyday situations to show your gratitude can make the recipient feel valued for their actions.

Appreciation can set one's mood for the day, a form of mindfulness. My daughter wakes up each morning and says, "What am I grateful for today?" She even mentions the little things in life, such as the beautiful sunrise. This starts off her day with a positive attitude.

I grew up in a generation where psychologist J.B. Watson believed that you should not hug or kiss your child, but if you must, kiss them on the cheek and be quick about it. My parents followed this approach to parenting, and I do not remember my parents or others saying that they loved their kids during this time. I asked a friend who also confirmed that there were no hugs in her family. I, however, make sure I say I love you to my children at the end of every telephone call and hug them when I see them. Saying and doing this makes me feel warm inside. However, I need to work on giving multiple hugs to others.

One of the statements I heard as a practicing clinical psychologist was when someone close died, the person wished they had said that they loved them. Life does not last forever. Express those positive feelings to others while they are here.

Health by Declan, 9th grade

Fevers Should be Favored



Many of us have struggled with falling ill and having to suffer the excruciating pains brought by a fever. Although many take painkillers and fever suppressant pills like Tylenol thinking that it will help when experiencing a virus, these medications can actually make the infection worse as fevers are a crucial defense in the immune system and should be utilized to a certain extent.

As humans, we take being warm-blooded animals for granted. With our bodies able to regulate a temperature around 37 degrees Celsius or 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit, we are immune and resistant to many pathogens like fungi. Sustaining this temperature in most environmental circumstances requires extra energy but initiates fever temperatures when we are ill anywhere at any time where cold-blooded animals need to move to a warmer environment which is why fish migrate to warmer waters when battling infections.

Fevers occur when pattern receptors detect a viral component, triggering an abundance of immune responses like the production of pyrogen chemicals in the bloodstream. The pyrogens then bind to the gland that regulates body temperature in the brain, the hypothalamus, which causes the blood temperature to increase. The blood vessels closest to our skin and skeletal muscles throughout our body begin to contract, preventing heat from escaping while generating a large amount of heat in our core through shivering. The heat increase enhances the defensive abilities, quickens the production and increases the efficiency of immune cells and attack proteins to locate pathogens and infected cells. Pathogens in the body, being already stressed in need of resources to multiply, experience greater stress when a fever is initiated. In addition to being hunted by attack proteins and immune cells, our internal environment becomes unbearable for the pathogens with the intense heat breaking their organs, membranes, and DNA.

However, fevers also worsen the function of healthy cells, organs, and systems (except the immune system) within the body. Dangerously high temperatures starting at 105.8 degrees Fahrenheit for adults will cause organs and systems in the body to malfunction and possibly even fail. Temperatures above 102 degrees Fahrenheit may suggest the treatment of fevers with over the counter or prescribed medications.

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As we age, routine dental care becomes even more essential. It's not just about keeping your teeth healthy; it's about ensuring you can continue enjoying the foods you love, maintaining good nutrition, and smiling confidently. Many seniors experience dry mouth, which can lead to cavities and gum issues. Regular visits help us manage these problems, and we can offer guidance on adjusting your oral hygiene routine to make brushing and flossing easier, especially if hand coordination becomes more challenging.

Over time, fillings and crowns can wear down. Replacing them before cavities form around them is crucial for preventing more serious dental issues.

A healthy mouth is vital for a good quality of life, boosting our confidence and social connections. If it's been a while since your last checkup, give us a call—we're here to help!



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George Ichiro Tsuda 1924-2024

George Ichiro Tsuda passed away on Sunday, September 15, at 99 years old.

Born in 1924 in Castroville, California, George spent his childhood in central California until the Tsuda family returned to Japan in 1938 amid pre-World War II tensions. He attended the Kobe Naval Academy and worked as an interpreter for occupying Allied forces following the end of World War II. The US Military recruited him in the Korean War, where he served some years before developing pleurisy and was eventually sent to Colorado Springs, CO, to recover.

Following his recovery, he moved to Chicago to attend the University of Illinois-Champaign Urbana. While there, he earned a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. Upon degree completion, he was offered a technical staff position at Hughes Aircraft Company in Culver City, CA, where he moved with his first wife, Susan (née Hoff). Early in his Hughes Aircraft career, he pursued his Master's degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Southern California. Seven years after starting at Culver City, he transferred to the Fullerton facility and became department head and then lab manager before retiring in 1992.

During his 37-year tenure at Hughes, he pioneered innovative communication system technologies, earning over 20 patents that were significant contributors to the satellite and communications industries.



One of these developments enabled the first international live satellite telecast of the 1964 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.

In 1988, then Vice-President George H. W. Bush visited the Hughes facility in Fullerton and was briefed on advanced equipment created by George and his team. Over his career, he received many group and division patent awards, including the Hughes Lawrence A. Hyland Patent Award, the company's most prestigious recognition for inventors.

Aside from his engineering career, George taught Japanese language and culture classes in the evening. After his retirement, he was a cornerstone of the Fullerton community, volunteering with the Fullerton Senior Center, where he was awarded a Lifetime membership for his service and contributions.

He was President of the Senior Center in 1994, worked in the travel club from 1992 to 2000, and became Treasurer in 2002.

In addition, he helped senior citizens with tax preparation and homeowners' and renters' assistance programs. He also led the Fullerton Sister City engagement with Fukui, Japan, fostering an exchange of ideas, customs, and travel.

He enjoyed deep-sea fishing and kept a vegetable garden. His family and friends remember him for his intellect, generosity, and wry wit. He lived a very long and good life.

He is survived by his wife, Sachiko "Jeanie" Tsuda; his children, Ken (Lynne Tsuda), Kesa (Steve Lust), and Naomi (Paul Irving); and his grandchildren, Carly Tsuda and David Tsuda.

James Lowell Armstrong 1932-2024

James Lowell Armstrong, affectionately known as "Lucky Jim," passed away on October 22, 2024, following a fall while returning to his cherished home, Hope Springs, in Placentia.

He was a man of enduring optimism, boundless curiosity, and unshakable humor.

Born in Colo, Iowa, on October 22, 1932 and raised in Minnesota, Jim moved to California in 1964 to join the English Department at Fullerton Junior College, where he taught for 32 years, retiring in 1996.

A gifted teacher and storyteller, Jim was known for his quick wit, profound insights, and ability to inspire students to think beyond the surface.

Whether sharing the power of a perfectly crafted sentence or delighting in a well-timed pun, Jim's impact on his students and colleagues was immeasurable.

Jim approached life with gratitude and a belief in the good in people. To honor his spirit, his family encourages a moment of kindness—whether through a donation, a shared story, or simply giving a dog a friendly pat.

A champion of the natural world, Jim valued the preservation of public lands and equal access to green spaces.

Jim is survived by his four children: Rebecca Stanwyck, Susan Armstrong, Patty Armstrong, and Tom Armstrong—his four stepchildren, 12 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wives: Lynette Corson Armstrong, Jane Roy Armstrong, and Ruth Gross Armstrong.

Following his wishes, Jim will be cremated, and his ashes scattered in the ocean, the cradle of life he so revered.

A celebration of his life will be held in spring 2025, with details to follow.

In lieu of flowers his family asks that donations be made to The Trust for Public Land (www.tpl.org), honoring his lifelong passion for nature.



*"People touch our lives if only for a moment,
And yet we're not the same from that moment on.
The time is not important. The moment is forever."*
—Fern Bork

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. Psalms

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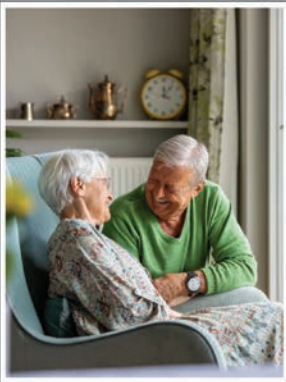
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Why Everyone Should Support Local Farmers Markets:

Consumers Gouged. Farmers Ripped Off by Jim Hightower's Lowdown

Most of us have noticed that the basic Thanksgiving Dinner has become a much pricier spread this year. Yet, while supermarket prices are up, few Americans realized the shockingly low prices that food monopolies are paying for each item on the table

Here's an itemization that the National Farmers Union (NFU) just released, showing typical prices paid by us consumers, contrasted to the price farmers receive:

- BUTTERBALL TURKEY:
Consumers pay \$2.42 per pound. Farmers get: 6 cents per pound.
 - FRESH CRANBERRIES:
Consumers pay \$2.99 for 12 oz package. Farmers get: 86 cents.
 - BONELESS HAM:
Consumers pay \$15.98 for 2 pounds. Farmers get: \$1.28.
 - SWEET CORN:
Consumers pay \$2.99 for 16 oz. Farmers get: 34 cents.
 - DINNER ROLLS:
Consumers pay \$3.99 for 18 oz package. Farmers get: 10 cents.
 - GREEN BEANS:
Consumers pay \$5 for 20 oz. Farmers get: 98 cents.
 - CANNED PUMPKIN:
Consumers pay \$4.29 for 15 oz. Farmers get: 14 cents.
- Join the NFU's Fairness for Farmers campaign here: nfu.org, and check out resources and support for family farmers from Farm Aid here: farmaid.org.

OUR TOWN CROSSWORD © 2024

ANSWER KEY TO PUZZLE "PASSABLE" 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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Fixing Up the Fox Fullerton

Over the summer, I was curious to see what the inside of the Fox Fullerton Theater looked like after recent renovations. In August, I reached out to the Fullerton Historic Theater Foundation to photograph the interior of the former movie palace for the Fullerton Public Library’s Local History Room. The Foundation’s Vice President, Bob Winkelmann, responded and allowed me access inside the Theater. In November, I followed up with Winkelmann to interview him about the progress the Foundation has made in their current restoration efforts and how they’re preparing for the Theater’s 100th anniversary in 2025.

The Fox Fullerton was closed in 1987, then purchased in 2005 by a local non-profit organization known as the Fullerton Historic Theater Foundation. They have been slowly repairing the historic landmark over the years.

On Tuesday, November 12th, I met Winkelmann for an interview inside the first floor hallway-lobby area. He pointed me to torch-like mockups of the lighting that a subcontractor from Disney is creating for the Theater.

“All of this comes from an original photograph of the Grand Opening that was sent to us online by someone in the Midwest,” said Winkelmann. “So, we didn’t have any pictures at all of what the lobby looked like. All we had before that was exploration of what had been done on the ceiling, and someone sent us an original photo of the lobby. From that, we have been able to recreate these torchiers.”

The photo that much of their lobby restoration efforts are based on came to them unsolicited. It is part of a booklet put out by the motion picture industry about new theaters that were being built and their modern accommodations. Winkelmann said that someone from the Midwest contacted the Fullerton Historic Theater Foundation, explained that they had discovered a magazine about the Fox Fullerton and its opening in 1925, and asked if the Foundation would be interested in seeing it. Of course they said “yes.” When it arrived, the magazine contained photos of the theater with information that was unknown to them at the time. It provided images of the smoking lobby upstairs on the second floor balcony, as well as a photo of the first floor lobby.

Of course, since this was a magazine from 1925, all the photos were in black

and white. The Historic Theater Foundation sent these photos out to be blown up, and computer-colored them using the palette that had been established by a company called Evergreen. The Foundation shipped that palette off to digital illustrators, who were then able to colorize the photos for them.

“All of this stuff was unknown,” said Winkelmann. “We suspected that these torchiers existed because the electrical connection was at the bottom at each one of these positions. But the idea that the floors were covered in oriental rugs, that art and tapestries hung on the wall, and how dominant the frescos that crossed the lobby’s ceiling were was all new information for us. It was really, really exciting and it was just somebody’s goodwill that created it.”

He explained that this is the first time in 30 years that the lobby has had restored restrooms, particularly ADA restrooms. According to him, this will enable the Foundation to start opening the Fox for events beginning in spring 2025, which will coincide with the theater’s 100th anniversary.

Currently, they are fine-tuning work on the torchiers in the lobby. Winkelmann said, “They are being created from whole cloth; it’s not like you can go and order a 100-year-old torchier out of a catalog. The other thing we’re working on is we have a group of craftspeople (artistic finish painters) who are coming in and helping us to paint the whole lobby and restoring the original finishes...We won’t have the murals on the ceiling restored, but we’ll have all the finishes on the walls restored, including the torchiers, which we think are going to be really impressive when you come in.”

In the last two restoration phases, the Foundation has completed a lot of “the ugly stuff” that nobody sees, according to Winkelmann. Earthquake retrofitting, fire suppression work, rudimentary electrical work has all been finished, and a new roof has been put on the building. According to a postcard highlighting the Fox Theater Construction Progress, in Phase 1 of restoration, new elevator shafts, second floor supports, balcony support, and a new courtyard were added along with restored windows and eaves. According to the non-profit’s website, Phase 2 of restoration is nearly complete, a new HVAC Air system was added and the lobby area and rest-



Above: some of the historic photos that helped the Fullerton Historic Theatre Foundation with restoration efforts at the Fox.
Left: shows a portion of the restored lobby with mockups of torchières.



rooms were restored. However, there is still a lot of repair work left, especially when it comes to the seating in the second floor balcony area.

“What we have left to do is mostly related to cosmetics. In the short term, and under this budget, we’re going to be receiving a curtain. For the first time in years and years, the theater will have a curtain. We’ll be installing the torchiers and painting the lobby, and we’ll be able to have functions here without the requirement of having the city involved and having the fire department here to do fire suppression,” said Winkelmann. “Porta Potties used to be necessary for us to do events. We had no normal restrooms, and because of the situation with fire suppression, we had to bring in paid personnel from the Fullerton Fire Department. to supervise the event. None of that will be necessary as we move forward into the spring.”

When I photographed the interior of the Fox during the summer, I noticed that there were many seats in disrepair in the theater’s second-story balcony area, where work lights had been set up and electrical cords were scattered. In fact, with a flashlight, I could even see some of the springs in torn sections of the seats.

I asked if they’ve started restoring

the balcony area and Winkelmann said that they have not, although earthquake work has been done on the balcony and it has been supported. Eventually, they plan to modify an open area of the second floor hallway. Part of the area will be a snack bar, while the other portion of it will be lighting for the stage.

He said, “That area will be enclosed at some point in the future and that will go along with restoration of the seats. The next project that we’re looking forward to is the restoration of the organ lofts and the torchières. So, we’re working right now with a company to recreate what was originally there based on the photos that we discovered and to recreate the plaster work on both sides of the theater proscenium.”

For the theater’s 100th anniversary in 2025, there will be a slate of events scheduled throughout the year. The Fox will not be completely restored or completely functional at that time. “We certainly have the ability to entertain people in the property, which is a great accomplishment. Obviously you’ve been at events where we’ve had our hardhats. We’re no longer in that space,” said Winkelmann. “But we’re not finished yet. We have a long way to go.” For more information and updates visit: foxfullerton.org

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