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Community News

Volume 4 Issue 1

January 2013



WEBSITE COMMERCIAL



## OC News

## OC Man Sentenced

STAFF REPORTS

**Irvine** – An Irvine man was sentenced last month to 30-months in federal prison for trafficking in counterfeit goods, including counterfeit exercise equipment purporting to be Malibu Pilates, Bowflex, and Ab Circle Pro.

Stanley Kuo Jua Yang,

[see Man Page 6](#)

## IE News

## New HERO Program

STAFF REPORTS

**Riverside** — The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) is proud to partner with Samas Capital in announcing the launch of the WRCOG Commercial HERO Program. Western Riverside County commercial property owners will now have

[see HERO Page 8](#)

## Two Died In Two West Covina Crashes

STAFF REPORTS

**West Covina** – Two people were killed last month in two West Covina car crashes.

The first crash occurred on Dec. 22 at around 2 a.m., when Baldwin Park resident, Andrew Joey Villagran, crashed his car into a pole, according to local

reports.

Villagran, 25, was traveling west in his 1974 Volkswagen Beetle, when his car veered to the left, crossed the eastbound lanes, and jumped the curb, according to the report.

He crashed into a wooden utility pole off 15610 San Bernardino Road and later died at

the USC Medical Center.

The second crash occurred on Dec. 25 at around 9 p.m., when two apparent street racers crashed into a van, killing a 90-year-old woman.

Rialto residents Vincent Lopez, 30, and Victor Hugo Sanchez, 34, were reported to be drinking in a nearby bar an

hour before the incident. Then witnesses had seen them street racing on Lark Ellen Ave. and Merced Ave., where they also ran the corner stop signs, according to local reports.

The men were reported to

[see Crashes Page 7](#)

## Two School Threats And Two Lockdowns

STAFF REPORTS

**LA County** – Last month, there have been reports of two threats towards local schools and two school lockdowns in the local area.

The first incident occurred on Thursday, Dec. 13, when a 14-year-old student at Canyon View Junior High School in San Dimas allegedly threatened to bring a gun to campus and kill

a teacher, according to the LA Times. Sheriff's spokesman Steven Whitmore said to the Times that the investigation is ongoing and no arrests have been made.

The second incident occurred two days after the tragedy of 20 children and 6 adults being killed in Newtown, Connecticut. On Sunday, Dec. 16, a Pomona man was arrested for allegedly making violent threats against

local elementary schools.

Kyle Bangayan, 24, was arrested at around 11:15 a.m. by Los Angeles police officers and FBI agents at his parents' residence in the 1200 block of North New Hampshire Avenue in East Hollywood, according to local reports.

Found at the parents' residence were nine firearms, including rifles, a shotgun, handguns, and ammunition,

officials state. However, it is not known to whom the guns belonged to. Reports state that officials searched Bangayan's Pomona residence and didn't find any weapons or related evidence.

Bangayan's threats were made on Facebook, where he referenced the Newton

[see SCHOOLS Page 6](#)

## Abandoned Baby Found Dead In City Of Industry

BY SARAH ARMIJO

**City of Industry** – A newborn baby was found dead last month at a City of Industry trash collection and recycling facility.

On December 10, 2012 at around 2:20 p.m., a newborn baby girl was found among the Monday trash load at Athens Services trash facility located off the 14000 block of Valley Blvd.

Officials are not sure what

city the baby came from because the company serves cities from all over the San Gabriel Valley, according to local reports.

An autopsy will help determine if the baby was alive when she was left in the trash or if she was a still born baby. However, reports state that the baby looked to be full term and in good health. This is an ongoing investigation.

After the newborn was found, Los Angeles County Supervisor

Don Knabe sent out a news release to remind residents about the County's Safe Surrender program.

The Safe Surrender program was established by Supervisor Knabe in 2001. This program allows a parent or legal guardian to confidentially handover a three day old or younger baby to any hospital emergency room or fire station in Los Angeles.

[see DEAD Page 5](#)



PHOTO COURTESY: BABYSAFE LA.ORG  
We can stop babies from being abandoned with LA County's Safe Surrender Program.

## FEATURED BUSINESS

### Law Offices of Dominic Chacon

STAFF REPORTS

**West Covina** – More often than not, people run into legal problems. The Law Offices of Dominic Chacon can help you with any type of legal issue life may hand you.

Chacon graduated from Southwest University School of Law in 2003 with his Juris Doctorate and has been practicing for years.

When he decided to start his own law office, Chacon decided not to specialize in any one area of law.

"It's a general law practice. We



For help with legal problems, call (626) 839-8852 or e-mail [LDominicChacon@yahoo.com](mailto:LDominicChacon@yahoo.com). Chacon's office is located at 2341 S. Azusa Ave. in West Covina, 91792.

[see Chacon Page 8](#)

## FEATURED BUSINESS

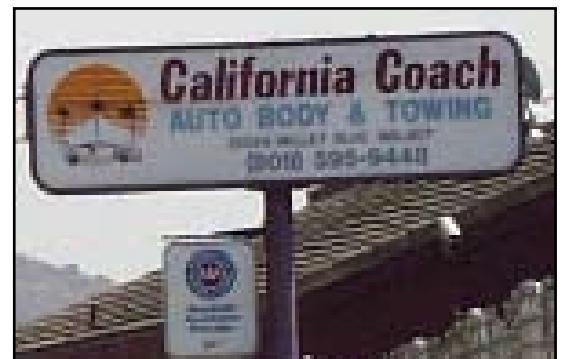
### California Coach Fixes And Tows

STAFF REPORTS

**Walnut** – Sometimes consumers have so many options available that it makes it difficult to choose a company to give your business to.

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## Kaiser Permanente Encourages Students To Pursue Career As A Physician

### STAFF REPORTS

**Baldwin Park** - Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park recently began a new partnership with Baldwin Park High School that evolved from the Hippocrates Circle Program (HCP), which mentors junior high school students from diverse backgrounds who are considering becoming a physician. The new High School HCP is the next step in bridging the gap for students who participated in the junior high program and who will hopefully enroll into college.

The program offers a phased approach: freshman year—students will participate in a Speaker Series provided by physicians; sophomore year—students will have hands-on experiences either in their school labs or as part of a medical center tour; junior year—students will shadow Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park physicians, two days a week for eight weeks; and senior year—students will become mentors to the incoming freshman and together they will put on a health fair for their school. Throughout the pro-

gram, students will complete a journal and classroom assignments related to their experiences in the HCP program.

"We are excited that the HCP program has extended to high school students because it will help ensure that students who are interested in a health care career choice will continue on their path to achieving their goal," says Mimi Cash, Instructor and Co-Coordinator, High School HCP, Baldwin Park High School.

Last month, Philip Mercado, MD, Chief of General Surgery, Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center, kicked off the Speaker Series for nearly 90 students. Dr. Mercado shared about his background, his role as the chief of service for General Surgery, and answered questions from students. He also provided a hands-on demonstration of select surgical equipment.

"I always knew that I wanted to be a doctor, even back in grade school," explains Dr.



PHOTO COURTESY: KAISER PERMANENTE  
Kaiser encourages students to pursue a career as a physician.

Mercado. "My dad was an anesthesiologist and my uncle and grandfather were also physicians. I had a passion to care for others and knew that it was in my control to achieve my goal."

Dr. Mercado acknowledges that support from family, friends, and teachers is very important. "I am honored to participate in this new component of the Hippocrates Circle Program. Having support from others is so important as it will enable students to achieve their dream."

Christine Dennis, Assistant Superintendent, Baldwin Park Unified School District; and other school officials attended the activity.

## Con Man Sought After Failing To Appear For Sentencing

### FBI PRESS RELEASE

**San Gabriel Valley** - A San Gabriel man who was scheduled to be sentenced last month but failed to appear in court is being sought by the FBI, announced Bill Lewis, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office and André Birotte Jr., the United States Attorney in Los Angeles.

David Kaup, 29, was scheduled to be sentenced in United States District Court in Los Angeles. Kaup pled guilty to two counts of wire fraud on April 9, 2012.

According to his plea agreement, Kaup carried out three separate fraud schemes, each of which caused millions in losses to victims. Kaup admitted in his plea agreement that over a period of approximately five years, he defrauded more than 50 families out of more than \$11 million. Many of these victims were working class families who sought Kaup's assistance in refinancing their homes.

Kaup admitted in his plea that he had operated several companies, including Lunden Investments, American Loans and Funding (ALF) and First Mortgage West, each of which was based in Los Angeles. Through Lunden Investments, Kaup convinced investors to give him more than \$9 million, which he said he was going to use for commercial loans. Kaup admitted in his plea, however, that he instead lost approximately \$9 million of the victims' money trading on the

Foreign Currency Exchange Market.

After defrauding these victims, Kaup started a separate scheme to deceive homeowners into sending him money. In his plea, Kaup admitted that through his second company, ALF, he told homeowners that he could refinance their homes at below-market rates, so long as they provided certain funds up front to demonstrate that they financially qualified for the special loan terms. These funds were supposed to be kept safe during the loan process and then returned when the loan was either approved or denied.

Kaup admitted that he never tried to refinance the homeowners' loans, and instead used the victims' money to buy luxury items for himself and to trade on the Foreign Currency Exchange Market.

After this scheme collapsed, Kaup admitted in his plea that he ran the same scheme, along with others, through a third company, FMW. In all, through ALF and FMW, Kaup admits that he defrauded more than 50 families out of approximately \$2 million.

In carrying out these schemes, Kaup used several

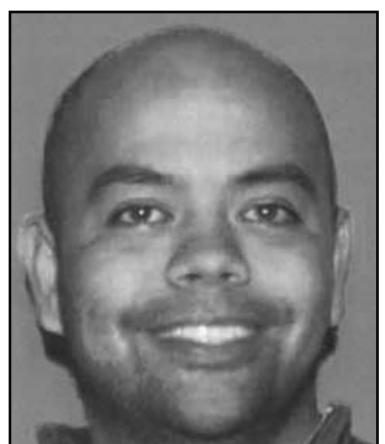


PHOTO COURTESY: FBI  
David Kaup

aliases, including "David Smith" and "David Martinez."

Kaup is described as follows: DOB: 1/26/83 Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Height: 5'11" Weight: 190 Last Known City of Residence: San Gabriel, CA.

Kaup has been known to work as a disc jockey in the Los Angeles and Las Vegas areas and has used the moniker, "New Age Dave."

Anyone with information as to the whereabouts of Kaup is urged to call the FBI at 1 (888) CANT-HIDE (1 888 226-8443).

The fraud case against Kaup and others was investigated by the FBI. Kaup is being prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office in Los Angeles.



# Facebook Giveaway Winner!

## STAFF REPORTS

Congratulations to RENEE WILLIAMS PATTERSON for winning a \$100 gift basket made by Gift Baskets by Rita!! All she had to do was "Like" our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/theweekly-news](http://www.facebook.com/theweekly-news)) and "Join" our event and she won a free Holiday Gift Basket!

The winner was picked and announced in a video message on Facebook and published in The Weekly News, the Eastvale Community News and the Community News.

Gift Baskets by Rita has been in business for over 10 years because of the quality ingredients in each basket. Some

contain fine chocolates, gourmet crackers and meats, name brand apple ciders, fine wines, and many other superior items. These items are all placed into sturdy, higher grade baskets. She uses these sturdy more expensive baskets that way your client or family member knows you care enough to get a handmade item instead of an assembly line product.

Gift Baskets by Rita has been making gift baskets for companies including major banks and high end real estate companies, but she's always serving the small business owner with affordable prom-



PHOTO BY SARAH ARMIVO

*The winner of this \$100 gift basket was announced.*

ises. For more information on Gift Baskets by Rita or to order one of her baskets, call (909) 643-6928.

For more information about our Facebook Giveaways, check out our Facebook page ([facebook.com/theweekly-news](http://facebook.com/theweekly-news)) or call (909) 464-1200.

## Dec. 12 Declared Michael Miyamoto Day

BY SARAH ARMIVO

**Walnut** – The Walnut City Council presented a proclamation declaring December 12 to be "Michael Miyamoto Day", which is the day the teen would have celebrated his 19th birthday.

Walnut teen, Michael Miyamoto, passed away Nov. 1 after battling leukemia for the fourth time. He was first diagnosed with Acute lymphoblastic leukemia when he was 7-years-old and had beaten the disease three times with the support of family, friends, and members of the community.

One of Michael's best friends, Katherine Chung, said he was the bravest person she's ever met and that there wasn't anything he wouldn't do or any challenge he wouldn't face.

"He fought his battle against leukemia with the best attitude and with a heart of a lion. Michael did defeat his cancer time and time again because his disease could never inhibit or restrict all the hope, inspiration, and joy he brought to our city," said Chung. She added, "Even death - no matter how unfair or sad - has failed to stop the love that is Michael's life."

Michael was well known throughout the entire community by participating in both the Diamond Bar and Walnut Relay for Life events. He graduated from Walnut High School in June 2012 and was involved in basketball and golf at school and in the community. He was active in the fight against cancer, and his cheerful personality encouraged others to have a positive outlook on life no matter what they were going through.

Pasqual Gutierrez, another close friend of Michael's, said that Michael was an inspiration to him and to everyone that knew him.

"His legacy is one that cannot be surmounted in a few sentences. It is something that has touched an entire community in an indescribable way. He is by far the strongest individual I have known, and I will continue to look up to him," said Gutierrez.

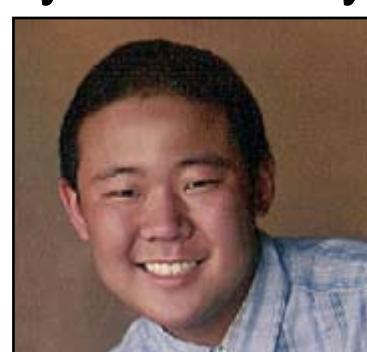
Gutierrez added, "It has truly been a privilege to get to know this young man over the years, and I am thankful for each moment I spent

with him. Michael will live forever in my heart and my mind."

At the City Council Meeting on Dec. 12, Mayor Mary Su read a poem in Michael's honor. She too talked about how much Michael impacted the community. She said that he demonstrated and showed the community how to live a rich life.

At the meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Tom King read the proclamation that honored Michael. He said that Michael was a bright and amazing young man who had a strength and courage of an army.

Michael continued to inspire many people to persevere through their own difficult



Michael Miyamoto

times, reminding us to live every single day with a purpose and to make every minute worthwhile," said King.

He ended with, "He will forever be a beloved son of the City of Walnut."



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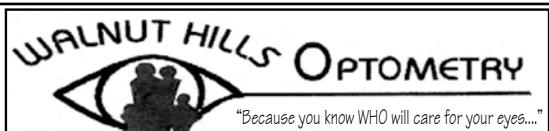
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# Walnut Taco Factory Closes

By ERIKA AGUILAR AND MICHAEL ARMJO

**Walnut** – One of Walnut's iconic restaurants, Taco Factory on Lemon Avenue and La Puente, has closed because the landlord refused to renew the lease, said owner Raquel Guillen. The Walnut Taco Factory had been there for over 26 years.

The Taco Factory previously had nine locations in Los Angeles County, Orange County, and San Bernardino County, until a few weeks ago when Guillen was notified by her landlord that her very first location in Walnut was shutting down.

"The landlord did not renew my lease and it took me by surprise," Guillen said, "I've been at that location for over 26 years and never had an issue with the leasing renewal." She also added that she had great relationships with her prior two landlords and that closing down her very first store came as a shock. "This is what can happens when you don't own

your own building," she said. Guillen and her staff recently cleared out all of the equipment from the Taco Factory. Holding back tears, she shared, "I had an emotional attachment to that restaurant."

Several calls to The Weekly News by residents felt it was discrimination, that the landlord wanted to place an Asian food based restaurant in that spot. But calls to the landlord by The Weekly News and by the former tenant Guillen were not answered.

"Losing my first store in Walnut was a tough lesson I learned. I am curious to see what kind of food will be sold there now," said Guillen. But she is relentless and unwilling to yield to the recent events that have occurred. "I am trying to find a new location in Walnut because that is where I started," she said. She has already met with a new landlord and is trying to reopen another location.

She indicated that she had eight employees working at the Walnut restaurant location

and that she did not want to let them go.

"We're making arrangements to relocate our employees to the other locations," she said. But still the question remains, "Why did they not renew her lease?" She recalled, "I remember we ran out of meat, beans, rice, and everything the first day we opened in Walnut."

"I ran a bridal shop in Pico Rivera for eight years and decided to open up my own restaurant in Walnut when I moved and bought a house in that city," she said.

The City of Walnut only had a pizza place, a bank, and a supermarket located in that shopping center back in the 1980s. Guillen said she always passed by Lemon Avenue and La Puente Road and believed that she could run a successful restaurant business at that location, so that working parents like her could purchase authentic Mexican food at a low cost to feed their children.

"I was a working, single

mom at the age of 24 and I didn't want to cook when I got off work. I felt that the city needed more local restaurants to pick up food for their kids on the way home, and since the restaurant business was familiar to me, I followed my dream," she said.

Reminiscing back to the days of her childhood when she would hear the clinking sounds of pot and pans in her parents' restaurant kitchen, and the aroma of fresh homemade corn and flour tortillas, Raquel Guillen pursued the "American dream" of opening her first restaurant. It began in 1984 at a small, 600 foot square leasing space in Walnut, California.

Guillen expressed that her late son, George, designed her first restaurant logo when he was in junior high school. It was a drawing of a man wearing a hat, known as a sombrero in Spanish, taking a nap while homemade tortillas were falling into a pot off the machine line.

She explained that she redesigned the logo in 2006, after she witnessed a Cal Poly Pomona Chicano Stud-

ies Professor explain to his students at the Diamond Bar Taco Factory that the old logo misrepresented Latinos as being lazy and always making tortillas. She revealed, "Chicomecōatl" also known as "Xently," was her choice for the new Taco Factory logo. The logo represents the "goddess of corn" and the "maize deity" of Aztec/Mexican history in 15th-16th century.

"It is very important to me because she is a woman and represents corn," Guillen conveyed.

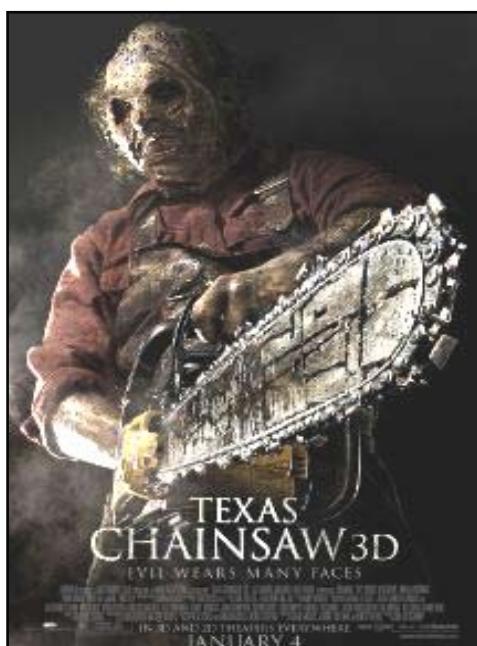
With determination and respect for the residents of the City of Walnut, she has pride for her clientele and everything that they have done for her and her family. Guillen said that the residents of Walnut are even driving to the Taco Factory location in Diamond Bar.

Guillen owns and runs other restaurant locations in Claremont, Chino Hills, Fontana, Irvine, Rancho Cucamonga, and Upland and two locations in Irvine.

"This wasn't something I was expecting, but we'll see what happens in the near future," she said.

## Entertainment: Movies

### Must See Upcoming Films



**TEXAS CHAINSAW 3D**  
Release Date: Jan 04, 2013  
Rated: R

Genre: Horror

Terror comes ripping right through the silver screen in this sequel that picks up exactly where Tobe Hooper's shocking 1974 classic left off. For decades, people in Newt, Texas, had been vanishing into thin air. When a horrified young girl escaped from the Sawyer house after seeing her friends butchered like cattle, the townspeople's worst fears about the reclusive clan were confirmed. Enraged, the locals formed a mob, burned down the blood-soaked abattoir, and methodically killed every member of the family. But in the blazing chaos of that fateful night, one of the Sawyers slipped away into the darkness. For decades it seemed as if the nightmare had ended. But when a young woman named Heather Miller (Alexandra Daddario) receives word that her distant grandmother has passed away, willing her a secluded Victorian mansion in the Texas desert,

the discovery of a dark secret hidden deep in the cellar reveals the Sawyer's legacy of evil lives on. ~ Jason Buchanan, Rovi



**BROKEN CITY**  
Release Date: Jan 18, 2013  
Rated: R

Genres: Suspense/Thriller

The mayor of New York City hires a disgraced ex-cop to identify his wife's lover, setting into motion a scandalous series of events in this post-noir thriller from director Albert Hughes (From Hell, The Book of Eli). Billy Taggart (Mark Wahlberg) was on his way to becoming one of the Big Apple's top cops when a high-profile shooting cut his promising career short. His reputation destroyed in the flash of a muzzle, Billy gets a break when the city's popular mayor (Russell Crowe) pulls some strings to ensure he doesn't serve time. Meanwhile, Billy puts his investigative skills to work as a private detective. When the mayor offers Billy \$50,000 to expose his wife's infidelities,

the offer is too good to pass up. But by the time the mayor reveals his true intentions, Billy is already in too deep. Now, with his freedom -- and quite possibly his life -- on the line, Billy will risk it all in a desperate bid to expose the truth, and seek redemption in a city where second chances don't come cheap. Catherine Zeta-Jones, Jeffrey Wright, and Barry Pepper co-star. ~ Jason Buchanan, Rovi



**MAMA**  
Release Date: Jan 18, 2013  
Rated: PG-13

Genre: Horror

A loving couple learns that their two adopted nieces have brought a dark secret into their home in this foreboding domestic thriller from executive producer Guillermo del Toro (Pan's Labyrinth), and director Andy Muschietti. Victoria and Lilly were just little girls when their father murdered their mother. In the aftermath of that tragedy, both girls disappeared without a trace. Desperate, their Uncle Lucas (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) and his girlfriend Annabel (Jessica Chastain) searched everywhere for the missing girls. Five years later, Victoria and Lilly are both found living in a derelict cabin deep in the woods. Incredibly, they've managed to survive on their own, though years of isolation have left them both in a feral state, and unable to communicate. Without hesitation, Lucas and Annabel welcome the two frightened girls into their home, and work hard to make them feel comfortable. But when a series of ominous events lead Lucas and Annabel to

suspect that Victoria and Lilly share ties to an evil beyond human comprehension, the couple must discern whether the two young girls are merely dealing with the emotional aftershocks of a life-altering tragedy, or have attracted a force that could destroy their family all over again. ~ Jason Buchanan, Rovi



**HANSEL & GRETEL**  
Release Date: Jan 25, 2013

Rated: N/A

Genres: Sci-Fi/Fantasy

Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton reimagine Hansel and Gretel grown-up as bounty hunters in this Paramount Pictures offering. Will Ferrell's Gary Sanchez Productions produces, with Dead Snow's Tommy Wirkola directing. Famke Janssen and Peter Stormare co-star. ~ Jeremy Wheeler, Rovi

# WVUSD Superintendent Announces Retirement

BY SARAH ARMijo

**Walnut**—Walnut Valley Unified Superintendent Dr. Dean Conklin announced his retirement, which will be in effect June 30, 2013.

Conklin sent out a letter regarding his decision to the district staff and Board of Trustees last week. He states that he announced his retirement six months early to provide the Board of Trustees time to find the next superintendent and ensure a smooth transition.

In the letter to his staff, he explained that he is not retiring because he is frustrated or disenchanted with his job. He says he loves his job and every job he's had in the past.

## Abandoned baby found dead in Industry

**DEAD** from page 1

geles County, according to the news release. As long as the baby has not been abused or neglected, the person may surrender the baby without fear of arrest or prosecution for child abandonment.

"Heartbreaking tragedies like what occurred in the city of Industry are a reminder to mothers that there is always an option for their baby," said Supervisor Knabe. "The Safe Surrender program was created to give a Mother, no matter

what the situation, a safe, secure and anonymous way to get her child into safe hands and to protect a baby from abandonment: No shame, No blame, and No names. Though 101 lives have been saved by the Safe Surrender program, this tragedy

"My decision is all about the quality of life, and the quality of my life is very good. That being said, I have been touched by the fact that I do have friends and mentors who are dealing with health issues; a reminder that life is precious, and not to be taken for granted. This reality has definitely had a place in the decision I have made," says Conklin.

At age 57, Conklin has served 33 years in public education, including seven years as superintendent. He has been working in the Walnut Valley District for 15 years now and says he will miss the students, Cabinet, administrators, teachers, staff members and the Board of Trustees.

"Walnut Valley Unified is an extraordinary place, and I have

been truly honored to serve in the capacity of superintendent. You are a very professional staff, and totally dedicated to the District. Your commitment is the major reason that this District enjoys the reputation it does," says Conklin. He adds, "The years I have spent in the Walnut Valley Unified School District have been a remarkable experience, and I have been blessed."

Conklin ends his letter with letting his staff know that he will be committed to finish the task at hand over the next six months. He says he will help build consensus in the WVUSD district and renew dedication

to keeping the educational programs vibrant and effective. He also says that he will help resolve WVUSD's current financial problems during these last six months as superintendent.

"I believe that the solutions to our financial challenges are within our grasp."



PHOTO COURTESY: WALNUT VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

WVUSD Superintendent, Dr. Dean Conklin, announced his retirement last week.

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Restrictions apply on these holidays: Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day & 4th Of July

# California Coach fixes and tows

**COACH** from page 1

Coach over 20 years ago.

"We sold our house and went out on limb," Linda said. "We pulled all of our money together

and started it when there was nothing in Walnut."

The love for cars and auto repair came from Andy's father. The two used to work together on cars, Linda said.

The family aspect of the busi-

ness has continued with their son Andrew working as an estimator for the business.

Besides the outstanding services and benefits that California Coach offers, such as 24-hour towing, frame and auto repair,

free pickup and delivery, and rental cars, Linda said they stay very active in community issues.

"We are very involved in our ministry at our church, St. Paul The Apostle Catholic in Chino Hills," Linda said. Andy also volunteers for inmate services with the County of Los Angeles.

"We take social justice very seriously," Linda said.

California Coach also does exclusive collision repair for Diamond Honda of Puente Hills, in the City of Industry.

For more info, call (909) 595-9448 or visit them at 22064 Valley Blvd. in Walnut.

# OC man sentenced

**MAN** from page 1

36, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge R. Gary Klausner, who remanded Yang into custody at the conclusion of the sentencing hearing.

In the summer of 2009, Yang

imported 40-foot containers with the counterfeit exercise equipment. On September 22, 2010, federal agents served a search warrant at Yang's Fountain Valley business and discovered additional counterfeit exercise equipment. The agents found complete machines, parts, manuals and stickers, as well as

thousands of counterfeit Zumba and Core Rhythm exercise DVDs, more than 10,000 counterfeit Silhouette slim pants, and hundreds of counterfeit BMW navigation DVDs.

The value of the counterfeit goods was approximately \$900,000.

The case against Yang is one of a series of criminal prosecu-

tions in this district addressing the piracy of intellectual property and, specifically, counterfeit exercise equipment. In 2010, a Chino woman was sentenced to 41-months in prison for importing nearly \$600,000 worth of counterfeit exercise equipment and paying a cash bribe to a person she thought was a United States Customs official. In 2011, a Los

Angeles man was sentenced to 30-months imprisonment, also for importation of approximately a quarter million dollars worth of counterfeit exercise equipment.

The case against Yang is the product of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

# Two school threats and two lockdowns

**SCHOOLS** from page 1

shooting. Local reports state that Bangayan was booked on suspicion of making criminal threats and held on \$500,000 bail. However, prosecutors declined to file charges against Bangayan on Dec. 17 because he did not target specific schools and apparently claimed

the post to be a joke.

The first lockdown that occurred was on Dec. 17 at approximately 9:45 a.m., when Diamond Bar High School went on lockdown due to a suspicious man in the area. According to a post by Principal Catherine Real on the DBHS website, Diamond Bar High School was notified by the Walnut Sheriff's Department that a

suspicious individual was in the vicinity. Local reports state that the man was carrying a duffel bag and acting suspiciously.

In the interest of the students' and staff's safety, DBHS immediately went into their lockdown procedure.

At approximately 10:05 a.m., the Sheriff's Department notified the school that the man was in question, detained and was in police custody. Local reports state that the man was a Diamond Bar resident and not a threat. The lockdown was over and the school went back to their normal bell schedule.

Real ended the post to DBHS parents saying, "Please know that your child's safety is our number one priority and once that safety was secured and verified, parents were notified as quickly as possible."

The last lockdown occurred on Dec. 21, when Diamond Ranch High School went on lockdown due to an alleged

threatening call from a student.

The Pomona Unified School District posted online at around 10:30 a.m. that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department had directed Diamond Ranch High School to be placed on lockdown as a precautionary measure to a matter they were investigating. The post stated that all students were safe in class and parents would be notified as soon as the lockdown was lifted.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's responded to the school campus and didn't find any evidence of any threat on campus. However, the Sheriff's brought up additional resources to aid in sweeping the entire campus and surrounding area and the situation was named precautionary.

A post at around 1:30 p.m. stated that the lockdown was lifted. Classes remained in session until 2:20 p.m., as scheduled. Parents were sent to the gym to pick up their children and

the school followed emergency release protocols, meaning that only those listed on the students emergency release card were able to pick up students and picture identification was required. All school activities were cancelled for that day and arrangements were made for students to take finals in January, when students returned to school after Winter Break.

The post ended with: "We thank you for your patience during this incident. We appreciated the commitment of our local law enforcement officers in keeping our students and staff members safe."

Both the LA County Police Department and Sheriff's Department have recently announced that they will increase daily patrols around local schools to protect against potential threats. The LA County Sheriff Department posted a news release after the Newtown tragedy regarding school safety, tips for parents, teachers, and schools, and new notification systems available to the community. Read this news release at <http://nixle.us/84K5H>. For more information, go to <http://sheriff.lacounty.gov>.



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## Two died in two West Covina crashes

### CRASHES from page 1

have crashed into a van driven by Jaime Ochoa, who was driving home his mother, Cilia La Torre, 90. La Torre had just been released from Queen of the Valley Hospital and was seated in a wheelchair se-

cured in the van when the crash occurred. However, the impact of the collision caused her to be thrown from the van and pronounced dead at the scene.

Ochoa was taken to USC Medical Center to be treated for head trauma. Lopez was taken to the Queen of Valley Hospital for leg injuries.

Lopez and Sanchez were booked for suspicion of felony drunken driving and may face other charges for the death, according to reports.

If anyone has information regarding either of these crashes, please contact the West Covina Police Department at (626) 939-8500.

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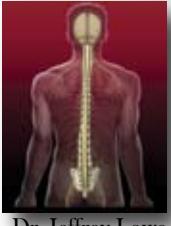
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### 4th Quarter Construction Update – 2012

## Southern California Edison's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project – Segments 6-9, 11

**Project Update** — Southern California Edison (SCE) contractors are continuing construction-related activities along portions of Segments 4-11 of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP). Upon completion, the project will provide renewable generated electricity and help meet California's renewable energy goals.

**Construction Activities** — Upgrades to the electrical system for the next 3 months will include the following: (Please note construction schedule is tentative and may change depending on weather and other factors)

#### Improvements to structure site access roads:

##### ■ Segment 7

**Duarte:** Adjacent to Van Tassel Motorway and also northeast of the northern end of Las Lomas Rd in northern Duarte

##### ■ Segment 8

**In the Tonner Canyon area east of the Orange Fwy (57) and southeast of Diamond Bar**

**West of the San Gabriel River Fwy (605) in the southern portion of the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area**

**La Habra Heights:** East and west of Hacienda Blvd

#### Installation of new foundations and electrical transmission structures:

##### ■ Segment 6

**Duarte and the southern portion of Angeles National Forest**

##### ■ Segment 8

**Whittier Narrows Recreation Area:** South of Durfee Ave and west of the San Gabriel River

**Pico Rivera:** East of the San Gabriel River Trail and west of the San Gabriel River Fwy (605)

**City of Industry:** East of the San Gabriel River Fwy (605) and west of Peck Rd

**Hacienda Heights:** South of Punta Del Este Dr and a site south of Cabo Blanco Dr, Pozo Dr, El Greco Crt and Gotera Dr

**La Habra Heights:** In the Powder Canyon area northwest of Fullerton Rd

**Rowland Heights:** East of Fullerton Rd and north of Pathfinder Rd

**Additional areas of unincorporated Los Angeles County:** In the northern and eastern portions of the Rose Hills area and adjacent to Turnbull Canyon

#### Installation of new electrical transmission wires:

##### ■ Segment 7

**Irwindale:** West of the San Gabriel River Fwy (605) between Arrow Hwy and the Foothill Fwy (210)

**Whittier Narrows Recreation Area:** South of the Pomona Fwy (60) and east of Rosemead Blvd, both north and south of Durfee Ave

#### Removal of existing electrical transmission foundations:

##### ■ Segment 6

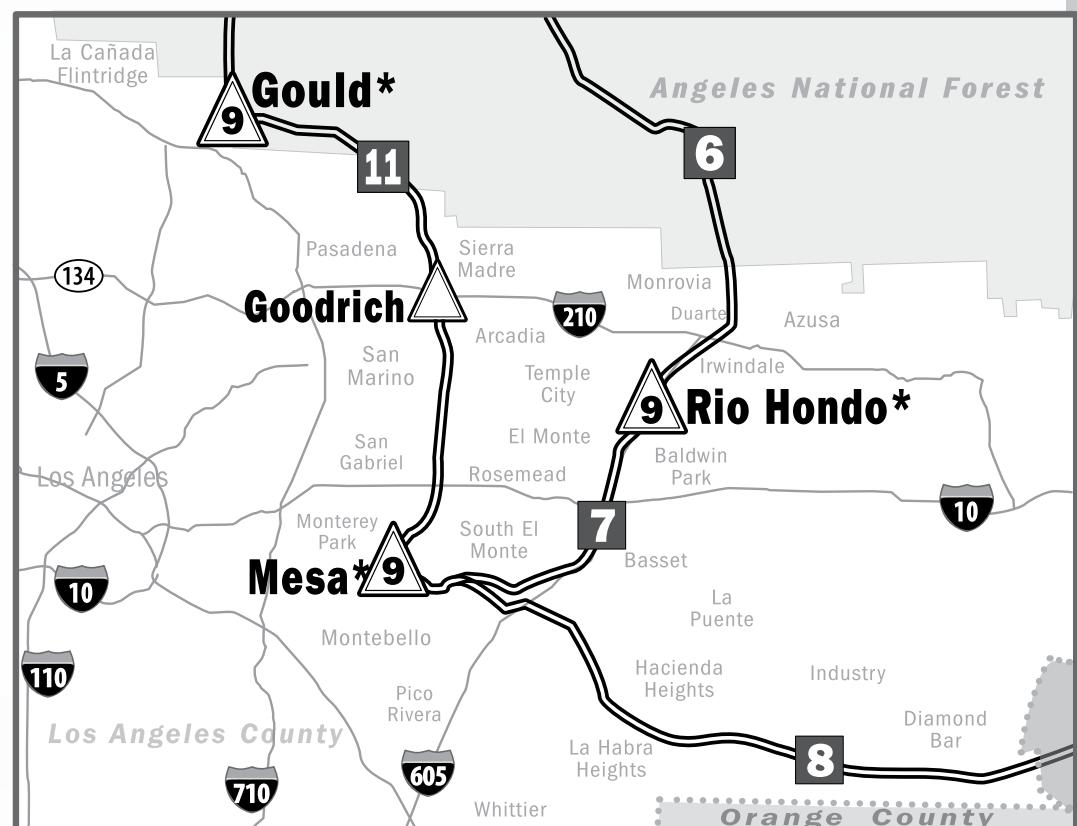
**Duarte and the southern portion of Angeles National Forest**

**Every effort will be made** to reduce the amount of noise generated by activities related to construction. SCE understands that construction may be inconvenient to local residents. We greatly appreciate your patience as we move to complete construction as quickly and safely as possible.

### Questions?

The 'Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project' has a new web site address for easier access!

[www.sce.com/trtp](http://www.sce.com/trtp) or call our toll-free line (877)795-8787



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# New HERO Program

## HERO from page 1

the ability to finance energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation measures using a new law called Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE).

Essentially, PACE allows commercial property owners to finance energy improve-

ment measures with little-to-no upfront costs and if they sell the property at any time, the remaining balance of the financing transfers to the next property owner. The financing is repaid through an assessment on the property tax bill and can be repaid for up to 20 years.

This is a great opportunity to hedge against rising utility

costs by saving on energy consumption with fixed payments. The Program can increase property values and the property's net operating income. Additionally, WRCOG's Commercial HERO will address the requirement to keep up with evolving state and federal laws for energy performance standards.

Samas Capital will be making an initial commitment of \$200 million to the WRCOG

Commercial HERO Program. WRCOG expects this Program to create over 2,000 jobs in the next few years.

WRCOG's Residential HERO Program, initiated this year, has already seen more than 2,500 application approvals totaling \$75 million.

For more information about the Program, please visit the <http://wrcog.herocommercial.com> or contact Barbara Spoonhour, WRCOG Director

of Energy and Environmental Programs, at (951) 955-8313. You can also email Barbara or at [Spoonhour@wrcog.cog.ca.us](mailto:Barbara.Spoonhour@wrcog.cog.ca.us).

For more information about the Western Riverside Council of Governments and the various programs administered by the Agency please visit [www.wrcog.cog.ca.us](http://www.wrcog.cog.ca.us). For additional information about Samas Capital, please visit [www.samascapital.com](http://www.samascapital.com).

# Law offices of Dominic Chacon

## CHACON from page 1

wanted to appeal to a broad range of people," he said. "We wanted to be a one-stop shop."

Chacon cited that people often have legal trouble with businesses or get involved in a divorce, and he wanted to be able to help with all of those

problems.

"We want to be able to help with all of life's legal problems," he said. "By opening a general practice, we are able to establish and maintain quality and familiarity."

With the recent economic downturn, many small businesses have had to file for bankruptcy and hiring a lawyer like Chacon can ensure that all the options are considered and

the best route is taken.

Chacon's office has also made the services his office provides more affordable by working with clients on a case-by-case basis and working within clients' budgets.

"We've made ourselves more available and cost affordable," he said.

Clients within the Pomona, Rancho Cucamonga and Los

Angeles court jurisdiction all qualify for the discounts offered. The Law Offices of Dominic Chacon also offer special discounts to clients who mention Armijo News as a reference.

He feels that his office's diligence, energy and responsiveness are their best aspects. Keeping his clients up-to-date is also an asset that Chacon feels is essential to his company.

"When you walk out, you're

definitely informed as to the direction your suit will go," he said. "We can't predict everything of course, but we use the words 'I don't know' effectively. And what we don't know, we find out about."

For help with legal problems, call (626) 839-8852 or e-mail [Ldominicchacon@yahoo.com](mailto:Ldominicchacon@yahoo.com). Chacon's office is located at 2341 S. Azusa Ave. in West Covina, 91792.

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