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OC News

Chubby Cheeks Bandit

STAFF REPORTS

Santa Ana - The Orange County Bank Robbery Apprehension Team (BRAT) is seeking assistance from the public with information leading to the arrest of a suspect known as the Chubby Cheeks Bandit.

The Chubby Cheeks Bandit is an unidentified female bank robber who robbed a Chase Bank located at 1300 North Main Street in Santa

[see Bandit Page 6](#)

IE News

Gun Buy Back

STAFF REPORTS

San Bernardino County - After the first Countywide Gun Buy Back Program, Sheriff's officials from different areas of San Bernardino County gathered to melt and recycle the firearms that citizens no longer wanted.

On Thursday, June 20, personnel from the Sheriff's Department transported voluntarily surrendered firearms to the Gerdua (formerly known as Tamco) Steel Mill in Rancho Cucamonga to be melted down into reconstructive re-

[see Gun Page 7](#)

Likely To Appoint For Mayor's Seat

STAFF REPORTS

Walnut - At the Walnut City Council meeting on Wed., June 26, the City Council let staff know that they will likely appoint someone to fill Walnut Mayor Tom King's seat, since he recently announced his retirement.

The Council has three options to fill King's seat: have a special

election, appoint someone to his seat, or keep the seat vacant, according to Management Analyst/Public Information Officer Fabiola Huerta.

City Council members expressed their support of appointing someone at this week's City Council meeting. They believed it was a good process and the smartest move out of the three options.

A special election didn't seem like the best choice to the Council members because it would have cost over \$100,000 and wouldn't have occurred until next year, which is when the next City Council election will occur anyways.

King also expressed his sup-

[see Mayor Page 2](#)

Bond Restructuring For Mt. SAC Could Save Taxpayers Millions

BY KIMBERLEY SANDER

Walnut - Mt. San Antonio College, one of California's largest community colleges, is proposing to restructure the existing bonds and sell \$150 million in new Measure RR Bonds. This would help taxpayers save a lot of money by lowering current interest rates.

According to Mt. Sac's website,

the \$221 million Measure R state bond that was approved in 2001 has provided the means to quickly renovate and replace deteriorating facilities, and has built more than a dozen new online, instructional, athletic, infra-structure, and support spaces. In an effort to keep their promise to provide

[see Millions Page 10](#)

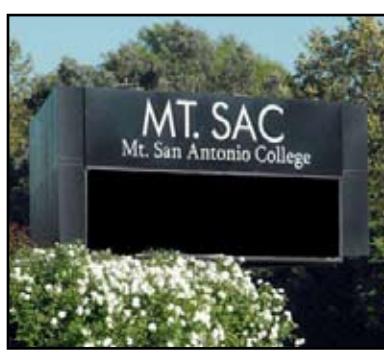


PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

Gender Identity Bill Causes Controversy

BY ANDREW HOOVER

California's recent Assembly Bill 1266 has sparked controversy recently.

AB 1266 is a bill that would allow a student who identifies him or herself to participate in

sex-segregated school programs and activities including athletic teams and competitions, and use facilities consistent with his or her gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the pupil's records. The bill also goes on to state that no students may

be offered vocational or school program guidance to a pupil of one sex that is different from that offered to a pupil of the opposite sex or, in counseling a pupil, dif-

[see Gender Page 6](#)

Help Globally By Donating Locally

BY SARAH ARMIJO



PHOTO COURTESY: BRETT GIBSON
VantagePoint Mission Team member Grey Scott posing with a child in Haiti last year.

Imagine living in a world with poverty, malnourishment, a limited amount of safe drinking water, an unstable political environment, and where 50% of all children die before they reach the age of 15. People in this world are living in this exact environment, the people of Haiti in particular. The question is, how

can we help?

A team from VantagePoint Church, the sister church of Evangelical Free Church in Diamond Bar, has gathered together and committed to travel to Haiti for 10 days to help the Haitian people in any way they can. This VantagePoint Church

[see Donating Page 10](#)

BUSINESS FEATURE

Comfort Suites La Puente Hits The Mark

STAFF REPORTS

La Puente - With a welcoming atmosphere, friendly service and a range of vacation and travel packages, Comfort Suites hits the mark by offering every-

[see Comfort Page 9](#)



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BUSINESS FEATURE

International School Of Montessori

BY CYNTHIA RIBAS-SANTOS

Walnut - The International School of Montessori in Walnut has provided excellent childcare service to the families and children of the Walnut community for over 16 years. The unique Montessori method caters specifically to each



The International School of Montessori is located at 20781 Amar Rd, Unit 1, Walnut, CA 91789 in the Walnut Hills Village Plaza. For more information, call (909) 594-8172.

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Likely to appoint for Mayor's seat

MAYOR from page 1

port of appointing someone to fill his seat and even mentioned former council members, commissioners, and candidates as good replacements for him. He also said that the City Council should open the position up to anybody because there are a lot of good people who can fill his position temporary or even permanently.

City staff will be accepting applicants to fill the position and plan to officially announce the appointment next week. They will also hold a special meeting on July 31 to select an appointment. The Council must appoint someone by Aug. 29 and that appointed person will serve until the City's next election on April 8, 2014, according to local

reports.

King recently announced his retirement, effective July 1, at the City Council meeting on Wed., June 12 after he and his wife sold their Walnut home. They decided to move out of town to live in a house that better suites their empty nest and leave their beautiful one-acre property for another family to enjoy.

King has been a huge part of the Walnut community for 16 years. He was first elected to the Walnut City Council in 2002 and served twice as Mayor from July 2005 to September 2006. He was reappointed Mayor by the City Council on November 25th, 2009 for the third time and on April 24, 2013 for his fourth time. From 1999 to 2002 he served on the Planning Commission and served on the Parks and Recreation Commission from

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1993-1999. He also chaired both Commissions prior to his election to the City Council.

At the June 26 Council meeting, King was awarded and recognized for all the hard work he's done in the City of Walnut. This Council meeting was King's last meeting as Mayor, so many community members came out to show their appreciation of King.

Some of the community members that recognized King at the meeting included: the Walnut Council members, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff Capt. Jeff Scroggin, Diamond Bar Mayor Jack Tanaka, Mayor Pro Tem Ron Everett, Councilwoman

Ling-Ling Chang, and representatives from the offices of Sen. Bob Huff, Assemblyman Curt Hagman, and U.S. Ed Royce.

King expressed his appreciation of all the awards, certificates, and gifts that were given to him.



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Walnut Valley Receives Risk Management Award

BY KELLI GILE

Walnut--Walnut Valley Unified School District (WVUSD) received the Risk Management Pays Award from the Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs (ASCP) during the Board Meeting held on June 19.

Selection for the award represents significant efforts and achievements and an ongoing commitment to make the District

a safer environment for students, staff and the public.

Kevin Hobby, ASCIP Senior Risk Services Consultant, presented a certificate of special recognition and a \$6,000 check to Board President Helen Hall during the award presentation.

WVUSD was one of 19 Districts to receive an award for the 2011-2012 program year out of 112 Property and Liability Member Districts.

Awardees are selected

based on the following criteria: an experience modification of less than 1.5 for both general liability and automobile liability; completion of safety, security and cyber-risk audits which are offered periodically; utilization of WeTip and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) Online services; participation in extensive risk management/loss control training seminars; use of on-line training programs; the consistent application of

proactive risk control techniques which may include consulting with ASCIP staff to implement or refine risk transfer mechanisms, or with service providers such as our special education program audit consultant.

"ASCP truly appreciates all your hard work. Equally, we value the partnership that we share with you. Congratulations on your achievement!" said Hobby, in the letter announcing the award.

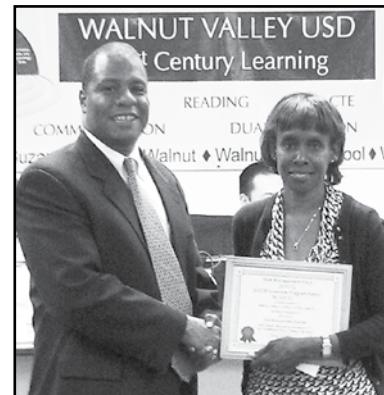


PHOTO COURTESY: KELLI GILE

Kevin Hobby, ASCIP Senior Risk Services Consultant presented a certificate and \$6,000 check to Board President Helen Hall during the award presentation.

Bark Park Reopens

STAFF REPORTS

Diamond Bar--The Bark Park at Pantera Park in Diamond Bar reopened last week after being closed for a couple of weeks to facilitate the installation of several new amenities aimed at creating a more comfortable setting for dogs and their owners.

The new amenities include doggie drinking fountains within fenced areas, shade structures and additional benches for each fenced area. The Bark Park also comprises two enclosed areas where dogs can play and socialize leash-free, with existing amenities including two drinking fountains with pet bowls, doggie waste bags, trash receptacles, and park benches.

The Bark Park opened in November 2012 and is located

on a 1.35-acre site on the south side of Pantera Park near the basketball courts. It is open a half hour before sunrise and close a half hour after sunset.

For the Bark Park rules, go

to www.ci.diamond-bar.ca.us. For more information regarding the Bark Park, call the Community Services Department at 909.839.7060 or email info@diamondbarca.gov.



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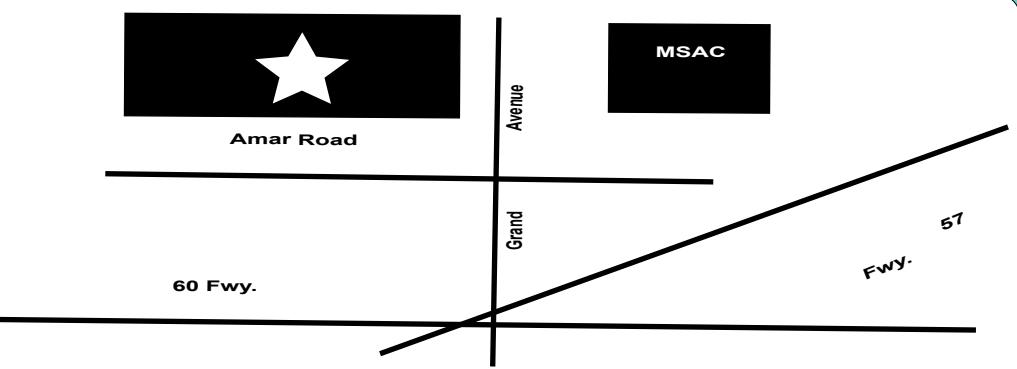
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City Council Meetings Moved

STAFF REPORTS

Diamond Bar – During the months of July through September, Diamond Bar City Council meetings will be held in the Windmill Community Room of City Hall (21810 Copley Drive in Diamond Bar) instead of in

the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) auditorium.

This temporary relocation of meetings is necessary due to a facility-wide audio-visual system upgrade scheduled to get underway this month at the AQMD. Once the upgrade is completed,

City Council meetings will return to being held in the AQMD auditorium.

Due to a lack of infrastructure needed to broadcast live, the meetings that take place at City Hall will not air live on DBTV, nor will they be available online through live video streaming. They will, however be taped and broadcast on DBTV every alter-

nate Tuesday at 8pm, as well as Saturday and Sunday at 9am, and available for streaming on demand at www.diamondbarca.gov/dbtv as early as the Thursday following every meeting.

As a reminder, City Council meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30pm. Agendas are made available for public review

the Friday afternoon prior to every meeting, with posting locations including the City website, City Hall, and Diamond Bar Library.

DBTV – the City's government access channel – is found on Time-Warner Cable Channel 3 and Verizon FiOS Channel 47. For more information, contact the Public Information Division 909.839.7055.

Crime Recap

STAFF REPORTS

Body Found in Trash Can on Brea Canyon Road:

Jose Ramiro Baez Paredes, 46, also known as Ramiro Baez Paredes, was identified as the body found on the side of Brea Canyon Rd. on Friday, June 21. The trash container had been on the side of the road for over a week when a motorist stopped to investigate. Police were contacted immediately and closed off Brea Canyon Rd. from Central Avenue to Tonner Canyon Road to investigate. Sheriff Officials said the cause of death has not yet been determined, but a homicide investigation is pending. Officials say that Paredes last lived in Santa Ana. If you have any further information, please contact Brea Police Detective Rueben Alonso at (714) 990-7637.

Crash 60 Freeway, Injures One:

Early Friday, June 21, at around 2:10 a.m., a crash was reported on the Eastbound 60 freeway, west of Phillips Ranch Road. The crash injured at least one person who was transported to the hospital, after the vehicle overturned and blocked the carpool and left lanes. Two vehicles were involved and towed from the scene.

Man Killed in Shooting During a Traffic Stop in La Puente:

Cesar J. Mendoza, 24, of La Puente was shot and killed around 9:45 p.m. on Saturday, June 22, near Loukelton Street and North Ballista Avenue in La Puente. The suspect was stopped for running a stop sign and was fired upon when he fled his vehicle. Mendoza reached for a silver handgun tucked into

his waistband repeatedly, according to Sheriff's Deputies.

Man Suspected in Three Gas Station Robberies in Walnut and Diamond Bar:

Edward Anthony Sanders, 31, was arrested on June 23 on suspicion of robbing three gas stations in Walnut and Diamond Bar. Sanders faces one count of kidnapping to commit another crime, three counts of second degree robbery, three counts of possession of a firearm by a felon, one count of carrying a loaded, stolen firearm, and one count of receiving stolen property, according to local reports. He was booked into the county jail and his bail has been set at \$1 million. He is expected to be arraigned in Pomona Superior Court on July 15.

Ringleader Caught in Macy's Gift Card Scheme:

A suspect, who has eluded authorities since 2012, was

extradited from Nevada last

Wednesday and booked into LA County Sheriff's Department's Walnut-Diamond Bar Station. Richard Reyes Duenas was the alleged ring leader of a group of criminals who produced fraudulent gift cards valued at \$218,000 from Macy's stores throughout California.

According to authorities, Duenas and his group would allegedly get Macy's gift card account numbers and pin numbers and use them to forge gift cards by using inactive gift cards that had been stolen from local Macy's Stores. In 2012, Duenas was charged with one count of grand theft, one count of conspiracy to commit fraud, nine counts of access card forgery and three counts of acquiring access to card account information to commit grand theft. His case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Commercial Crimes Bureau. Duenas' associates, who sold the cards on the street, used the cards to buy Apple

products.

The associates consisted of four individuals who were all arrested in May of 2012 and prosecuted. Justin Delgadillo was charged with one count of grand theft, one count of conspiracy to commit fraud, and ten counts of access card forgery. Noemi Fuentefria was charged with one count of grand theft, one count of conspiracy to commit fraud, seven counts of access card forgery, and one count of access card sales. Geovani Vega was charged with one count grand theft, one count conspiracy, four counts access card forgery and one count of acquiring access card account information to commit grand theft. Daniel Alvarez was charged with one count grand theft and one count conspiracy.

Duenas had been living in Las Vegas until a tip alerted the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and he was arrested. Duenas is being held on \$218,000 bail at the Walnut Sheriff's Station.

DB Man Sentenced to Over 12 Years

STAFF REPORTS

Diamond Bar – The CEO and co-owner of a Diamond Bar investment company was sentenced this week to over 12 years in federal prison for enticing investors to put \$49 million into his bogus day-trading venture as part of a Ponzi scheme that caused more than \$30 million in losses.

Syed Qaisar Madad, 66, of Diamond Bar, was sentenced by United States District Judge Percy Anderson. During the sentencing hearing, Judge Anderson said that Madad, who had emigrated from Pakistan to the United States in 1972, had squandered the "priceless treasure" of becoming a lawful resident of this country by not fulfilling his "obligation and responsibility to respect the rule of law," according to Public Affairs Officer, Thom Mrozek.

Mrozek also said that Judge Anderson will hold a restitution hearing on August 12 to establish the amount Madad should repay his victims, a figure prosecutors believe should be approximately \$32.7 million.

Madad pleaded guilty in February to wire fraud and tax fraud, admitting in court that investors lost more than \$30 million when his scheme collapsed in March 2011.

Starting in 2005, Madad collected money from investors who believed he generated consistent, substantial profits, and that their money would be safe and available upon request. During the 5½-year life of the scheme, Madad received more than \$49 million from investors.

Madad ran his scheme through

a company called Technology for Telecommunication and Multimedia, Inc. and portrayed himself as a successful investor who had not lost money in a single day of trading, except one day in 2006. Madad, who was profiled and interviewed in media serving the Pakistani-American community, told reporters and potential investors that he had developed a day-trading technique that was always profitable.

Over the course of the scheme, Madad sent victims monthly account statements that always showed gains in their accounts, and some victims gave Madad additional funds based solely on these account statements. Madad admitted today that the balances shown on these statements were false, and that, in fact, he lost more than \$15 million in unsuccessful trading.

While Madad promised that he would not take any fees or compensation for managing the invested funds, Madad admitted today that he spent well over \$15 million of investors' money on personal expenses, including

Prior to and following Madad's arrest in October 2012, pursuant to court-authorized warrants, the government seized a Mercedes-Benz, 68 pieces of jewelry, and other luxury items, including silk and wool handmade oriental carpets. Madad also agreed to pay the IRS approximately \$5 million in unpaid taxes for tax years 2006 through 2010.

The case against Madad is the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and IRS Criminal Investigation.

Although Madad returned approximately \$17.7 million to investors, many of the payments he made were Ponzi payments, meaning that the money came from funds entrusted to him by other investors, rather than from profits or interest he had earned.

Madad's scheme originally came to light two years ago when he was sued by one of his investors.

Dr. Carmela Larino, O.D.

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Madad ran his scheme through

real estate, jewelry for his wife and daughters, vehicles and cash disbursements to himself and family members.

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Chubby cheeks bandit

BANDIT from page 1

Ana at 4:30p.m. on June 17, 2013. During the robbery, the suspect demanded cash from a victim teller, exclaiming, "Give

me your money. I need money."

The suspect is described as a white female in her late 20's, 5'3" tall, 170 lbs., with what witnesses described as chubby cheeks. During the robbery on June 17th, the suspect wore a checkered shirt,

light jeans, a hat, and sunglasses.

If you have any information on the whereabouts of this suspect, please contact the Santa Ana FBI at (714) 939-8699.

Video of the June 17th robbery is available in person only at the FBI's Orange County office and is not available via e-mail.



PHOTO COURTESY: FBI

Gender identity bill causes controversy

GENDER from page 1

ferentiate career, vocational, or higher education opportunities on the basis of the sex of the pupil counseled. Any school personnel acting in a career counseling or course selection capacity to a pupil shall affirmatively explore with the pupil the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers, that are nontraditional for that pupil's sex.

This bill has caused State Assemblyman Curt Hagman of Chino Hills to speak out on his website

"For me, this issue is not about athletics. I support every student's right to participate in school sports, but what I find disturbing is that a student can use restrooms, showers, and locker rooms that are opposite their biological gender," said Hagman. "The overwhelming majority of students are not confused or questioning their gender identity.

These students and their parents have the reasonable expectation that they would not be forced to share intimate spaces with the opposite sex. Yet Assembly Bill 1266 violates their privacy."

Hagman goes on to say, "This would be allowable under the "facilities" portion of the law. Most disturbing to me is that the law would apply to K - 12th grades."

Hagman also points out the bill's shortcoming which is that it does not have a standard to prove the truthfulness of a student's gender identity claim.

Another bill hoping to stop gender discrimination has also been written. The bill known as Senate Bill 323 states that any nonprofit youth organizations that receive special state tax privileges comply with California's nondiscrimination laws.

Specifically, this bill revokes the special tax status rewarded to nonprofit youth organizations should they violate our state's

nondiscrimination laws. This includes boy scouts, religious facilities including churches and schools, private schools, little league, and any other nonprofit group that receives tax exemptions.

What this would mean is that any of these organizations that do not allow children or leaders to be hired due to gender, race, sexuality, etc. will no longer receive tax exemptions from the state and all money they receive through donations or any other means would then become taxable. The bill has passed the senate floor and is now on to the assembly.

The Orange County BRAT team is seeking assistance in locating the Chubby Cheeks bandit, shown above.



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Gun buy back

GUN from page 1

bar. The rebar will be utilized in the construction of buildings, freeways, parking garages and other concrete structures as part of Project Isaiah. This unique recycling program is named "Project Isaiah" after the biblical passage in the Book of Isaiah, 58:12.

Sheriff John McMahon along with Chief Mark Garcia - Redlands Police Department; Chief Robert Handy - San Bernardino Police Department, Chief William "Tony" Farrar - Rialto Police Department; Chief Mike deMoe - Montclair Police Department; Chief Rod Jones - Fontana Police Department and Chief Eric Hopley - Ontario Police Department were also at the location to witness the gun melting process.

On Saturday, June 1, 2013, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department in partnership with Barstow, Chino, Colton, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino and Upland Police Departments held the first countywide Gun Buy Back Program. A total of 1,424 firearms were voluntarily surrendered

as a result of this program. 23 of those firearms were determined to be assault rifles. During the process of conducting a record check of the firearms, nine firearms were identified as having been previously reported stolen and two were found to have been reported lost. Law enforcement officials are now diligently work-

ing to return those weapons to their rightful owners.

The Gun Buy Back Program offered an opportunity for residents throughout San Bernardino County to voluntarily surrender firearms they no longer wanted to possess. Deputies found that several citizens had inherited firearms from family members or they had purchased them several years ago and

no longer wanted them in their home. Citizens expressed their gratitude for the program and the opportunity to safely dispose of unwanted firearms.

Funding for the Gun Buy Back Program was provided by California State, Proposition 30 – Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act of 2012.

The program allowed citizens the opportunity to voluntarily sur-

render unwanted, unnecessary firearms in a safe environment," stated Sheriff John McMahon in a news release. "This was an opportunity to reduce the potential for firearms to be stolen by criminals and used during the commission of violent crimes," he added.

If you have any questions regarding this program, contact the Sheriff's Public Affairs Division at (909) 387-3700.



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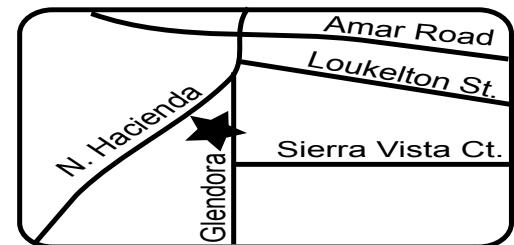
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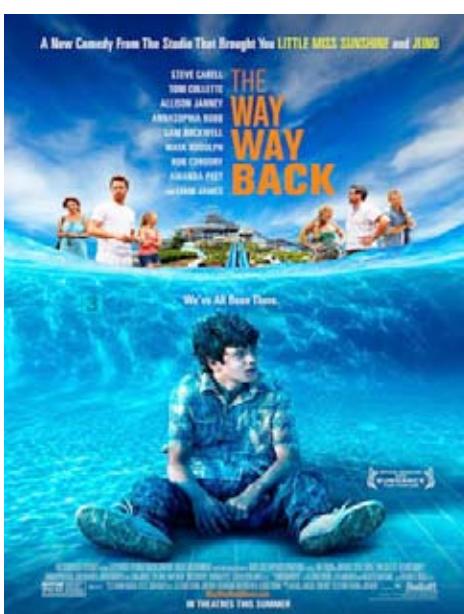
Despicable Me 2
Release Date: July 03, 2013
Rated: PG
Genre: Comedy

Now that Gru (Steve Carell) has forsaken a life of crime to raise Margo, Agnes and Edith, he's trying to figure out how to provide for his new family. As he struggles with his responsibilities as a father, the Anti-Villain League -- an organization dedicated to fighting evil -- comes calling. The AVL sends Gru on a mission to capture the perpetrator of a spectacular heist, for who would be better than the world's greatest ex-villain to capture the individual who seeks to usurp his power.



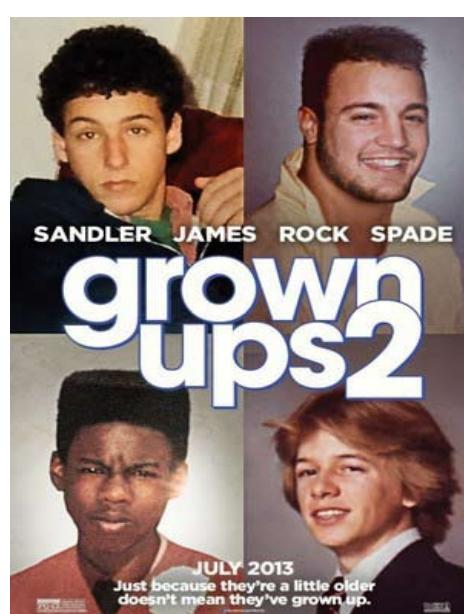
The Lone Ranger
Release Date: July 03, 2013
Rated: PG-13
Genres: Adventure

The Lone Ranger rides again with this big-budget Walt Disney Pictures production starring Johnny Depp as Tonto and Armie Hammer as the famed gunman. The story centers on Tonto's recollection of the adventures that found lawman John Reid transformed into The Lone Ranger, legendary hero of the Old West. Gore Verbinski directs from a script by Justin Haythe, Ted Elliott, and Terry Rossio. ~ Jeremy Wheeler, Rovi



The Way, Way Back
Release Date: July 05, 2013
Rated: PG-13
Genre: Comedy Drama

An awkward yet intelligent young boy begins to make his transition into adulthood over the course of one transformative summer in this bittersweet coming-of-age comedy-drama. Sensing that he's drifting away from his mother Pam during a summer vacation with her, her domineering boyfriend Trent, and Trent's daughter Steph, 14-year-old Duncan (Liam James) gets a job at a water park, and gains some much-needed self confidence under the guidance of happy-go-lucky park employee Owen, who approaches life from a fresh new perspective. Steve Carell, Toni Collette, Allison Janney, and Sam Rockwell co-star. ~ Jason Buchanan, Rovi



Grown Ups 2
Release Date: July 12, 2013
Rated: PG-13
Genres: Comedy

This second gathering of childhood friends finds Lenny (Adam Sandler) moving his family back to the same small town where he grew up. Now, the adults (Sandler, Kevin James, Chris Rock, and David Spade) are the ones learning from their kids as the last day of school and its antics and surprises take center stage. Dennis Dugan returns to direct. ~ Jeremy Wheeler, Rovi

Love Your Country

By MARK HOPPER

According to the Webster's dictionary, Patriotism means a "love and devotion for one's country". A "patriot" is someone who is proud of and thankful for their homeland. They are willing to serve, support and even sacrifice their life for their country.

I don't hear a lot about patrio-



tism in our nation these days. Certainly there are men and women in our military service who support and even sacrifice their lives for our nation's freedom. But I'm not sure I hear that patriotism is promoted in our public schools or public media.

I think that sometimes patriotism gets confused with politics. People think that if you are promoting patriotism you are promoting a particular political party or agenda.

I'm not talking politics. I am talking about being thankful for our nation. I am talking about

teaching our children to respect our flag and to value those who have served to keep our country free.

Our parents and grandparents understood this much more than we do. Today, the emphasis is on individual rights and individual freedom. I think we have lost the idea that we might need to sacrifice some of my rights and freedoms if it will benefit our nation.

The pledge of allegiance includes these words: "One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all". I'm not sure if students recite the pledge in school any more.

I think we have lost the sense of patriotism that has been so vital to the unity and destiny of our nation. I wonder what it will take to rekindle that spirit?

I love history and love reading about the American Revolutionary War. No one likes war. Many people on both the American and British side lost their lives in that historic conflict. But the outcome was a new nation. Our nation. The United States of America.

Our country is not perfect and our nation's leaders are not perfect. But, there are not many nations that enjoy the freedom and prosperity that our nation

does.

I hope that you will express your patriotic spirit this 4th of July. Talk with your children and grandchildren about the history and heritage of our nation. Share with them why you are proud and thankful to be an American. Take a moment to give thanks to God for this remarkable country we share.

Pastor Mark Hopper
Evangelical Free Church of Diamond Bar, 3255 South Diamond Bar Blvd. (909) 594-7604.

Sunday Services: 9:00 & 10:45 AM Special Patriotic Service – June 30th – 10:00 AM; markh@efreldb.org.

The Importance of Family

By NANCY STOOPS

I honestly don't know where I would be without my family and all their love and support. I think that family is the foundation for the rest of our world. We have lost sight on how very important the role of a strong family can be for the members of a family. The way a family



interacts with each other acts as a model for how the children will deal with their family and their relationships as they start to grow up.

Families can be loving and supportive, but families can also be very harmful and damaging to each other. Children don't ask to be born, so they deserve the very best that this world has to offer. It is the responsibility of the adults in the family to repair damaged relationships with other family members. When children get in a fight with one

another, we ask them to be forgiving. Shouldn't we model forgiveness as well?

Families aren't perfect and neither are any of us. But, a strong family background can really make a huge difference. It makes a difference for everybody in that family. We all want to feel connected to something larger than ourselves. We all want to feel safe, secure, and wanted. We all need to feel important and valued. Our families are our first interaction with the world as we are learning

about it. Sometimes our families can be very dysfunctional and we need to work together to make the dysfunctional patterns within our families functional and healthy.

There are good times and bad times within families. Sometimes we all agree and sometimes we disagree, but love each other no matter what. I attribute my success as a human being and a therapist to my family, especially my mother and father.

For more information about any of these services, feel free to page Nancy at (626) 935-3818, or e-mail her at stoopsshester@earthlink.net. You may purchase Nancy's new book, *Live, Heal and Grow*, at www.RoseDogBookstore.com or at Amazon.com. You may also visit Nancy's website at www.nancystoopsmft.com for tips and advice on living fully, healing and growing into who you are intended to be.

Straight Talk With Danice

DEAR DANICE,

I am an extremely hard worker. I am on call 24 hours a day and I hold a very high profile position in the company. I earn a good living, but I feel constantly unappreciated for my efforts. I'm not looking for a pat on the back, but a little appreciation would go a long way with me.



Frustrated Covina

Hello, What I'm about to tell you is very simple. It works for a highly paid career person, just as well as it works for those who are just be-

ginning to enter the work force.

When someone hires you, they do not automatically become your friend or loved one. Unless you work in a very special organization, the company is not your family. You may have coworkers who are like family and become good friends, but 'the company' has hired you for your particular skill set. To put it simply... You are rental education...rental skills... It would be nice to be appreciated, and polite people usually say thank you, but your pay check is most likely how your company thanks and appreciates you.

If you are looking to be deeply cared about on a personal level, it's not appropriate to look to your employer to provide that for you. Disappointment is almost automatic with this expectation. Expanding your personal life

might be the best idea in this circumstance.

Sincerely,
Danice Akiyoshi, ND
Danice Akiyoshi is a Naturopathic Doctor and the head of Candid Coaching Service. She has a great passion for alternative healing and has over 20 years of experience in this field. She provides a form of energy psychology called The Emotion Code, where she helps people literally get rid of their emotional baggage. She also offers personal coaching services relating to all types of issues and concerns. This is a letter she received from an anonymous reader. To send a question to Danice, email her at straight-talk@candidcoachingservices.com. You can also visit her website at www.candidcoachingservices.com.

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Comfort Suites La Puente hits the mark

COMFORT from page 1

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AAA is one of the most widely respected information sources for travelers throughout the United States and recommends hotels on a 1 – 4 scale.

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as all rooms are suites. One of the great things about Comfort Suites is that you can stay in one of their suites for the price of a regular room.

Some of the amenities that guests will find at Comfort Suites in La Puente are free Wi-Fi, cable/satellite TV, a flat screen/plasma TV, a fitness center and a 100% smoke free hotel. Every guest will also receive a hot breakfast every morning.

While staying at Comfort Suites, visitors of every age and interest will find a whole list of fun things to do, as La Puente is in the center of many fun activities.

So whether you're into theme parks, racing, hiking, history tours, or shopping, you'll find plenty of things to do at attractions near La Puente.

Comfort Suites also offers

specials throughout the year and is now offering 10% off with their ad on page 7 in the Weekly News.

Prospective customers can also view photos of the La Puente hotel by visiting www.industryhillshotel.com to get a

glimpse of what Comfort Suites has to offer.

Comfort Suites, La Puente, is located at 753 Glendora Avenue, La Puente, CA 91744 and can be reached at (626) 330-0030. Check out their ad on page 7 for more information.

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Restructuring could save taxpayers millions

MILLIONS from page 1

the technology and environment that cultivates innovative instruction and learning, a Measure RR extension bond, anticipated to generate \$353 million in bond

funding, and up to \$132 million in state matching funds, has been overwhelmingly approved by voters, the website said.

Reports state that the bond sale would be possible because the area has received a property value assessment increase, and

a lower interest rate would be passed along to those taxpayers, whose annual property taxes pay the bond assessments, saving approximately \$2.6 million. The first new bonds, totaling \$150 million, will be sold on July 24.

Help globally by donating locally

DONATING from page 1

Missions Team is partnering with the organization, Imperial Valley – Hope For Haiti, and is traveling from July 19th to July 28th to assist with the ongoing construction of an orphanage and to minister to the Haitian people of that region.

However, this team needs the help of the community in order to help the people of Haiti. The team invites you to partner with them through your prayers and financial support. The cost of this Missions trip is \$1,600 per person and any size contribution is greatly appreciated!

Living in a fast-paced lifestyle, sometimes we believe that if we physically can't help someone in person, then there's nothing we can do to help those around the world. But, teams like the VantagePoint Haiti Missions Team are ready to travel in honor of

those who physically can't go to Haiti. Partnering financially means you will be represented by the team who can go; you will be a part of their team.

There are three ways you can partner with this team financially:

1) You can send your contribution to their team leaders to be placed in their VantagePoint Haiti Fund. All contributions should be made out to: VantagePoint Church (Haiti Mission) and sent to Brett and Marta Gibson. All contributions are tax deductible. Please call 714.257.1484 for more information.

2) You can go the team's Garden Tea Fundraiser on Saturday, June 29 at 11 am. The event will be held at 842 Elkridge St. in Brea. The cost of the tea is a \$30 donation with all proceeds going toward the VPC Haiti Team Fund. Please RSVP by calling Marta at 714.257.1484.

3) You can go the team's

Chik-fil-A fundraiser on July 9th anytime between 12 p.m. and 8 p.m. The event will be held at the Chik-fil-A located at 3640 Grand Ave. in Chino Hills. Please say "VantagePoint Church" or "Haiti Mission Team" at the register and a portion of your purchase will go to the Haiti Mission Team Fund.

If you are unable to partner financially, the team would love it if you would partner through your prayers. They ask you to please pray for safe travel, good health, ability to complete the task before them and that their actions may be living proof of our loving God.

If you would like to follow this team on their journey of helping the Haitians, you can also follow their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/VantagePointHaiti). They will be posting a blog and pictures while they're in Haiti, so you can see exactly how you've helped them to help others in need.

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For more information on the college and the Measure RR bonds, visit <http://www.mtsac.edu/about/construction/>.

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International School of Montessori

SCHOOL from page 1

child.

"Our philosophy is to have a curriculum based on the child," says Director Pushpa De Silva. "We have individually created it to suit each child with a staff that is warm and dedicated to the children."

The program is equipped and staffed to give the best possible care to these children. The experienced teachers provide a service that has grown out of sincere love for the children and a desire to help them in the proper development and adjustment.

"We are proud that most of our students attain skills comparable to children in the second grade when they graduate from our Montessori Kindergarten Program," says Office Manager Ann Chau.

Their aim is to provide a developmentally safe environment that allows the children to develop socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically towards their full potential.

The International School of Montessori provides children the freedom to learn at their own

pace in an atmosphere of respect and understanding of individual differences.

"We have highly qualified experienced teachers, a disciplined program developed over

the years, and we create a fun atmosphere that gives children the self-motivation to enjoy learning," says Chau.

They encourage children to experience the joy of learning

and the intrinsic satisfaction through creative use of attractive self-correcting materials and activities. It is a combination of all these things that allows The International School of Montessori to offer the most advanced preschool curriculum in Walnut.

"The loving environment and experienced teachers makes a difference," says De Silva. "Anyone can have a huge, beautiful building, but the teachers make a difference. It's not academic only, we focus on the child as a whole."

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