

OUR WEEKLY NEWS.com

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OC News

OC Teacher Commits Suicide

El Dorado High School Photography Teacher found dead in classroom

By CLAIRE LEWIS

Placentia – Students at El Dorado High School had a devastating shock when they went to their photography class on the morning of Mon., Mar. 2.

Placentia Police Officers stat-

see OC page 8

IE News

CNUSD Teacher Arrested

Teacher arrested for lewd and lascivious acts with a child

STAFF REPORTS

Corona – On Feb. 26, the Corona Police Department was notified by site administration from the Corona Norco Unified School District (CNUSD) of the possible inappropriate touching of a student by

see IE page 8

Walnut HS Alum Is “Idol” Top 24

Local teen, Adanna Duru, made the Top 24 on “American Idol”

By KELLI GILE

Walnut – Diamond Bar resident, Adanna Duru, has been named a finalist on the current season of “American Idol.” The show revealed its Top 24 contestants last week and the roster included the talented Walnut High 2014 alumna.

Duru wowed “Idol” judges with her performance of Lady Gaga’s, “You and I” during her San Francisco audition. Duru even received a Tweet from pop star, Jennifer Lopez, saying, “Congratulations, you killed it!”

TOP 24



WEDITHUFOX



PHOTO COURTESY: KELLI GILE

Diamond Bar resident and “American Idol” finalist, Adanna Duru.

The 18-year old teen kept her momentum during Hollywood Week and the House of Blues performances.

Duru began singing at age 4, and decided at age 9 that

she would be on “Idol” one day. She plays guitar and piano, and wrote her first song when she

see Idol page 8

Social Media Lure And Kidnapping

STAFF REPORTS

Chino Hills – On Wed., Mar. 4, Chino Hills Detectives arrested a Riverside man for kidnapping after he used social media to lure a victim to Chino Hills by falsely representing himself as an employer for Amazon, and then held the victim against her will.

Aaron Misael Viteri Vera met the 19-year old victim on a phone application designed to connect people for social, personal or professional relationships. The victim had posted her profile as “Seeking

see Kidnap page 5

City Council

Diamond Bar Council Recap

By RAYMOND MENDOZA

Diamond Bar – On Tues., Mar. 3, the hot topic of the night at the Diamond Bar City Council meeting was trees. Diamond Bar residents came out in droves to fight for the preservation of several trees that they argued represented the beauty of the City.

The evening’s public comment section was filled with residents asking for City officials to consider different plans concerning several trees on streets between Diamond Bar Blvd. and Stone-

see Council page 8

Fatal Shooting At Willie White Park



PHOTO COURTESY: CITY OF POMONA

STAFF REPORTS

Pomona – On Sun., Mar. 1 at approximately 3:20 p.m., the Pomona Police Department received a “Victim of a Shooting” call at Willie White Park, located at 3065 Battram Street. Upon arrival, Officers observed a male African-American victim near the playground area suffering from a gunshot wound. Additional information from witnesses indicated that there was a possible second victim; however Officers were

see Shooting page 5

Our Featured Businesses

Apex Lawyers, Inc.

By CLAIRE LEWIS

Apex Lawyers, Inc. is a full service boutique law firm that strongly believes in forming relationships with its clients. Located in the City of Diamond Bar, Apex is dedicated to providing clients with the highest quality and most cost-effective legal representation possible.

Since their first of business, Apex has

see Apex page 8



Apex Lawyers, Inc. is located at 21671 Gateway Center Drive, Suite 108, in Diamond Bar. They can be reached at (909) 860-0342, or visit www.apexlawinc.com for more information. See their ad on page 7.

Budget Rooter Plumbing

STAFF REPORTS

Chino – Since 1985, Budget Rooter & Plumbing has provided responsive, personalized service to each and every client. It’s hard to find a plumber who meets your expectations, but Dave Holt has been in the business for 35 years and promises to fix it right the first time.

“We treat every customer with re-

see Rooter page 3

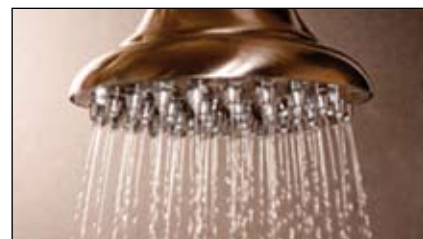


PHOTO COURTESY: BUDGET ROOTER

You can reach Dave Holt at Budget Rooter Plumbing at (909) 592-5855 or (626) 334-3533, or visit www.abudget-rooter.com for more information. See their ad on page 8.

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WEEKLY NEWS

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Did You Know?

By K.P. SANDER

This Girl Scouts of the United States of America (GSUSA) was founded on March 12, 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low. Low, who was inspired after a meeting with Robert Baden-Power – the founder of Scouting – reportedly telephoned a cousin, saying, “I’ve got something for the girls of Savannah [Georgia], and all of America, and all the world, and we’re going to start it tonight!”

Low was correct in her projections, and the youth organization was born. GSUSA – just like the Boy Scouts of America – strives to empower girls with the values of honesty, fairness, courage, compassion, character, sisterhood, confidence, and citizenship through activities such as camping, community service, and earning badges through the acquisition of various skills.

Wikipedia states that Low held the first official Girl Scout troop meeting in her hometown of Savannah, Georgia, and 18 girls were present. Low had always envisioned an opportunity for girls to get out and serve their communi-

ties, and learn life skills that would help sustain them by way of self-reliance and resourcefulness.

In 1915, the organization was officially incorporated and National Headquarters were moved to New York City. By 1920, there were nearly 70,000 members, and by 1923, there were branches in every state of the union. Overall, more than 50 million American women have participated in the GSUSA.

Girl Scout Promise: “On my honor, I will try to serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law.”

Girl Scout Law: “I will do my best to be Honest and Fair, Friendly and Helpful, Considerate and Caring, Courageous and Strong, and Responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.”

While the Girl Scouts are known far and wide for their cookie sales, their promises are filled with sage advice for everyone to live by.



PHOTO COURTESY: WIKIPEDIA

Juliette Gordon Low (C) with two Girl Scouts

Forgiving Yourself

By JENNIFER JESTER-MADRIGAL

There is a saying that says something about forgiveness being a gift you give yourself. The idea is that once you forgive those who have wronged you, you take that load off your own shoulders and release that poison from yourself.



This is true in so many ways, but never is that load so heavy as when it is your own forgiveness. It's so much easier to forgive others than it is to forgive yourself. Often we judge ourselves so much harsher than others, and we make ourselves miserable trying to live up to some insane version of how we think we should be. The truth is, we're not perfect and we never will be.

Stop trying to be perfect and instead focus on who you are and the progress that you have made. Try and give yourself the same grace and charity that you give to others, and take a step back.

I do this all the time - I judge myself so much more rigidly than others and expect myself to always know better, do better and be better. But, I'm human, I mess up, I say the wrong things, do the wrong things, etc. These things don't make me bad and they don't define who I am. They are just mistakes.

Last year, I made some major life changes and decided to get real with myself. I was tired of making excuses and feeling guilty about poor choices I've made, and instead I took action. I forgave all those who wronged me, even if they never apologized. I set myself free from the burden of trying to make everyone else happy, and instead focused on just being a better person for myself and my kids.

The struggle to forgive myself has always been within me, and setting achievable goals has been a hard step to take. But, it's working. I know in God's eyes I'm amazing, and that He sees me for what I really am even when I am unable to. He sees the struggles, the heartache and all the good intentions. Most importantly, He has forgiven me. If He can, who I am to say I am greater than He is and not do the same?

That's the thing about mistakes and bad choices, they are so easy to do; but it's also easy to convince yourself that you are somehow not worthy of forgiveness.

So finally, after years of hurting and setting unreasonable expectations for myself, I finally have made peace within. I gave myself the same grace that I give others, and I let it all go.

Forgiveness is truly the best gift that I have ever given or received, and it turns out I had the power inside me all along.

“Project Sticker Shock”

STAFF REPORTS

Pomona – On Tues., Mar. 3, the Pomona Police Department recognized the contributions made by over 20 teen volunteers during a recent campaign to combat underage drinking.

According to the Pomona Police Department, the teens participated in “Project Sticker Shock,” a nationwide event with the goal of educating adults that providing alcohol to a minor is against the law.

Each volunteer received a

Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Chief of Police, Paul Capraro.

Pomona Police Officers participated in this annual campaign in collaboration with Partnership for a Positive Pomona, the Youth and Family Master Plan Community Board and concerned residents.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other community program offered by the Pomona Police Department, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at (909) 620-2318.



PHOTO COURTESY: POMONA PD

Teen volunteers proudly display their certificates for helping the Pomona Police combat underage drinking.

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In addition to delivering to homes and businesses, copies of our papers are also available at these locations:

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Paco's Tacos
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(909) 595-0044

Crossroads Urgent Care
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(909) 630-7868

Alamo Hand Car Wash
784 N. Nogales St.
(800) 952-2792

Farmer Insurance
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(909) 869-1077

Post Box Plus
382 N. Lemon Ave.
(909) 595-5924

Walnut City Hall
21201 La Puente Rd.
(909) 595-7543

Diamond Bar City Hall
21825 Copley Drive
(909) 839-7000

The Whole Enchilada
1114 S. Diamond Bar Blvd.
(909) 861-5340

Planet Beach
13890 Peyton Dr # C
(909) 465-9911

Animal Hospital
20670 E. Carrey Rd
(909) 594-1737

Hair Perfect
20747 E. Amar Ave.
(909) 598-8394

Shane Chiropractic
20803 Valley Blvd #103
(909) 598-2111

Walnut Hills Optometry
18736 E. Amar Rd.
(909) 594-1153

Diamond Mail & Shipping
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(909) 861-1290

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(909) 464-8286

Senior Baja
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(909) 902-5110

Clearwater Bagel
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(909) 598-4332

Lemon Creek Cleaners
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(909) 594-7504

Senior Center
21215 La Puente
(909) 598-6200

Walnut Library
21155 La Puente Rd.
(909) 595-0757

It's A Grind
1223 S. Diamond Bar Blvd
(909) 396-0577

Chino Hills Pharmacy
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(909) 364-9244

Taco Factory
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(909) 464-9943

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NY Pizzeria
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(909) 594-5000

Starbucks
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(909) 598-4459

Walnut Sheriff's Station
21695 Valley Blvd.
(626) 913-1715

Taco Factory
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Chopstix House
3938 Grand Ave.
(909) 590-3688

CHINO
Chino Commercial Bank
14345 Pipeline Ave.
(909) 393-8880

Community Events

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Free Tax Return Services
When: Mar. 7, 14, 21; Apr. 11 – 8 a.m. to Noon
Where: Ganesha High School, 1151 Fairplex Drive, Room 12, Pomona
Details: IRS-certified volunteer students who have been officially trained and tested in current tax law will offer free tax return preparation services to community members during eight Saturday sessions. No appointment is necessary; the service is available to those whose annual income is \$53,000 or less.
Contact: Jackie Jones, (909) 397-4400, ext. 30012.

“Oliver!”
When: March 20, 21, 27, (7 p.m.); 28 (2 p.m.)
Where: Walnut High School Performing Arts Center, 400 N. Pierre Road, Walnut.
Details: “Oliver!” is an enthusiastic experience, packed full of some of the most iconic characters to ever grace the stage, from the wily trickster Fagin, to the swaggering pickpocket, The Artful Dodger. The musical adaptation is based on Charles Dickens’ timeless classic of an orphan boy who dared to ask for more. Advance purchase tickets are \$13 for adults and \$11 for students/seniors. Tickets purchased at the door are \$15 for adults and \$13 for students/seniors.
Contact: Tickets are available at www.seatyourself.biz/walnutmusical. For show information, please contact director Joanne Karr at (909) 594-1333, ext. 34212.

Kids’ Night Out
When: Mar. 21; Apr. 18; May 16; Jun. 20; Jul. 18; 6 to 9 p.m.
Where: Chino Youth Museum,

13191 6th St., Chino
Details: Participants enjoy a fun Saturday evening at the Museum while parents enjoy a nice evening out. Art projects, games, dinner – all with a caring staff. Ages 4 to 10. \$12 members/\$15 general. Pre-registration is required.
Contact: (909) 334.3270 during normal operating hours, Wed. – Sun., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; or visit www.chinoyouthmuseum.com.

Pomona Inner City Homeless Ministry Dinner
When: The 4th Saturday monthly: Mar. 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, etc.
Where: First Baptist Church of Pomona, 601 N. Garey Ave., Pomona
Details: Come help serve the homeless and economically disadvantaged at monthly dinners. Volunteers meet in E202 (2nd Floor) at 12 noon for prayer/devotion, followed by orientation, clothing and hygiene kit distribution, and instruction for serving dinner to the homeless. Ministry ends by 4:30 p.m.

First Friday Food Trucks
When: May 1; June 5; July 3; Aug. 7; Sept. 11; Oct. 2; Nov. 6; Dec. 4
Where: WVUSD, Parking Lot, 880 S. Lemon Ave., Walnut
Details: Enjoy gourmet food, great weather and good friends while supporting education!
Truck line-up: The Slummin’ Gourmet; Piaggio; Me So Hungry; Street Food; Bakery Truck.

Pomona Police Host Blood Drive
When: Wed., March 11, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Where: Pomona Civic Center Plaza
Details: The blood drive is in

honor of fallen SWAT Officer Shaun Diamond and sponsored by Huntington Hospital. Donors must be in good health and 18 years or older. Every blood donation can save up to two lives.
Contact: To make an appointment, visit www.workforcehealth.com/passcode:shaundiamond. For questions call (626) 676-6881

Walnut-Diamond Bar Sheriff’s Booster Club Annual Golf Classic
When: Mon., April 6. Registration will be held between 9:30 am and 11:15 am, with a Shotgun Start at 11:30 am. .
Where: Western Hills Country Club, 1800 Carbon Canyon Rd., Chino Hills 91709
Details: Proceeds benefit the Explorer, Reserve Deputy and Citizen volunteer programs at the Sheriff’s Station.
Contact: For further information contact Sergeant Mark Saldecke at (909) 595-2264; or Gill Rivera at (909) 967-4525.

Diamond Bar Birthday & Business Showcase
When: Sat., Apr. 11; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Pantera Park, 738 Pantera Drive, Diamond Bar
Details: Be part of the DB Birthday Celebration by getting a booth at the Business Showcase. Over 6,000 attendees! Sign up while premium exhibitor space is still available.
Contact: www.diamondbarca.gov/bday

Chino Corporate Challenge
When: May 2 - 15
Where: City of Chino
Details: Commit your company and yourself to a healthier lifestyle by joining the two week event where company teams can complete with other local

businesses in a variety of games, including Kickball, Bunco, Softball.
Contact: Carolyn Owens, Community Center, (909) 334-3258; email communityservices@cityofchino.org; or visit the website at www.chinocorporatechallenge.com

Irwindale 35th Annual Golf Tournament
When: Thurs., May 7; 10 a.m. Registration; 11:30 a.m. Shotgun Start; 5:30 p.m. Catered Reception Dinner
Where: Sierra La Verne Country Club
Details: The tournament is open to every level of golfer and offers an invigorating day of business networking, socializing and sporting fun. Registration is limited to 144 players and sells out every year.
Contact: Call the Chamber office at (626) 960-6606, or visit www.irwindalechamber.org

REGULAR EVENTS:
Alcohol and Addiction Intervention Information
When: Third Tuesday, monthly; 6 p.m.
Where: Aurora Charter Oak Hospital, 1161 E. Covina Blvd., Covina
Details: Free information sessions about the intervention

process, a powerful tool to combat alcoholism and addiction. Attendees can expect to learn what the intervention process consists of, when an intervention is appropriate, and what local resources are available. Space is limited and reservations are recommended.
Contact: Call (626) 859-5269, or visit www.charteroakhospital.com.

Free Acupuncture for Veterans, Active Military, First Responders
When: Every Tuesday at 5 p.m.
Where: 12598 Central Avenue, Unit 113, Chino, CA 91710.
Cost: Free
Contact: (909) 590-4183 or www.healingcirclecommunityacupuncture.com

Jack Newe’s Farmers Market sponsored by SGV Regional Chamber of Commerce
When: Every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Mt. San Antonio College Campus, Parking Lot B, 1100 N. Grand Avenue, Walnut CA 91789
Cost: Free Admission/Parking
Features: Seasonal organic produce, breads and cakes, olive oils, cheese and spreads, a variety of nursery plants, hand-crafted items and jewelry, fresh-popped Kettle Corn and grilled food plates.
Contact: (909) 869-0701

Budget Rooter Plumbing

Rooter from page 1

spect and honesty,” Holt said. “I do the best job I can for a fair price. It costs a lot to have a plumber come out, and you should at least get what you pay for.”
Budget Rooter Plumbing specializes in residential plumbing, installation, repair and replacement of tankless water heaters; faucets and toilets; leaking pipes; clogged pipes and drain

cleaning; gas pipe repair; trenchless sewer replacement; sewer locating, repair and lining; and gas water heater sale and installation.
“I personally come out and care about your problems,” Holt said. “I will give you an honest opinion and a fair price.”
Holt says he enjoys his job because of the gratification he gets out of helping people that appreciate him. Most of his clients come from word-of-mouth referrals by other satisfied clients. He returns the favor by

offering a personal warranty on his work.
“My personal warranty is, if it ever needs repair, just give me a call,” he said.
For Budget Rooter Plumbing’s coupon for a free in-home estimate, valued at \$49.50, see page 8.
You can reach Dave Holt at Budget Rooter Plumbing at (909) 592-5855 or (626) 334-3533, or visit www.abudgetrooter.com for more information. Budget Rooter serves the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

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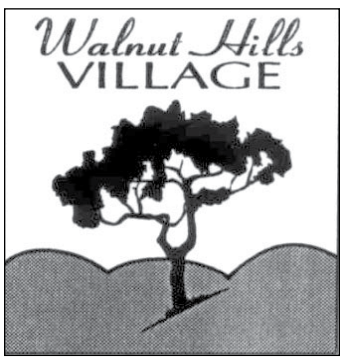
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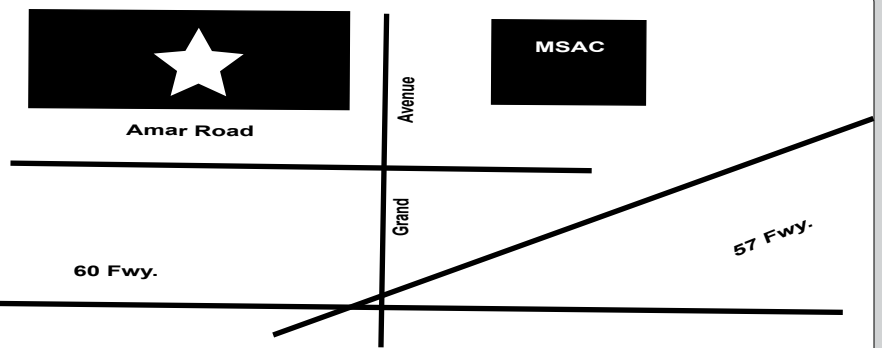
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-Mark Twain



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50% Cleaners	444-1111
Allstate Insurance	468-1495
Art Nails	594-5080
Asian Kitchen Express	345-8587
Bin Bin Konjac	594-2832
Burger King	468-3672
Clearwater Bagels	598-4332
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Newen's Beauty Salon	598-8394
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School Connection	594-1873
Skyline Dental / Harvey Chen, DDS	595-1800
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Stater Bros.	598-6534
The UPS Store	444-1303
US Taekwondo	595-9222
Vapor Junkies	595-0255
Wags to Whiskers	594-4092
Yummy House	468-4991

International School Of Montessori

Registration Fee Waived

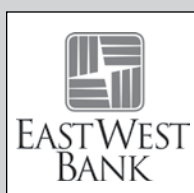
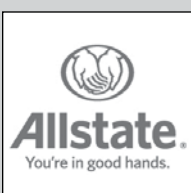
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Walnut Village Shopping Ctr.



CH Traffic Fatality in Carbon Canyon

STAFF REPORTS

Chino Hills – On Thurs., Feb. 26, at approximately 6:49 p.m., a red Saturn Ion driven by James Coffin was traveling southbound on Carbon Canyon Road approaching Canyon Hills Road. At the same time, a grey Honda Civic was being driven northbound on Carbon Canyon Road by the victim, Tammy Seagraves.

According to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, as the vehicles approached each other, Coffin crossed over the center double yellow line and struck Seagraves head on. Seagraves was transported from the scene and succumbed to her injuries after arrival at Chino Hills Medical Center.

Coffin was ejected from his vehicle and was transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

Alcohol is believed to be a factor in this collision and any witnesses are urged to contact Deputy P. Ortiz or Deputy N. Clark with the SBSD's Region I MAIT team at (909) 387-3545.

Fatal shooting at Willie White Park

Shooting from page 1

unable to locate him.

The victims, Jonathan Watts, 42, of Pomona; and a juvenile, 16, of Las Vegas, were in the park barbecuing prior to the shooting, when suspects stopped their vehicle and proceeded to fire at the crowd indiscriminately. The motive for this shooting may be gang related; however, this has not been confirmed.

Preliminary information received indicated that four male African-American suspects fled northbound in a gray or silver 4-door sedan. The victim, Watts, was transported by ambulance to a local hospital in critical condition, where he succumbed to his wounds and was pronounced deceased. While at the hospital, officers contacted the second victim who walked into the emergency room suffering from non life-threatening gunshot wound(s).

Anyone with information regarding this incident should call the Pomona Police Department at (909) 620-2085. For anyone willing to provide information that wishes to remain anonymous, contact "Crime Stoppers" at 1-800-222-8477.

Chino Home Fire Causes Injury

Heroes in a dog's eyes

STAFF REPORTS

Chino – On Wed., Mar. 4, Chino Valley Fire District (CVFD) firefighters responded to an outdoor fire on the 12000 block of Falcon Place in the City of Chino.

According to CVFD, the fire originated in the back patio/deck area of the single-family structure and extended into the attic. Firefighters started with an exterior attack and switched to interior once the fire spread into the attic.

One female patient in her 20s sustained burn injuries to five percent of her body. She was



PHOTO COURTESY: CHINO VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT/CLUB

Traumatized, but okay, two pups are rescued from a house fire by CVFD Fire Inspector/Community Liaison Officer, Lena Lin; and Firefighter/Paramedic, Brett Underwood.

transported in stable condition to an area hospital.

Firefighters rescued two dogs from the structure. The dogs

were removed from the home and given oxygen.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Walnut-Diamond Bar Annual Golf Classic



PHOTO COURTESY: WESTERN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

STAFF REPORTS

Walnut – The Walnut-Diamond Bar Sheriff's Booster Club cordially invites you to participate in the Annual Golf Classic, to be held on Mon., Apr. 6.

Proceeds from the Golf Classic will benefit the Explorer, Reserve Deputy and Citizen Volunteer programs at the Sheriff's Station.

These volunteers give thousands of hours of work by doing extra patrols, staffing community events, and providing additional clerical and support work inside and out of the station.

The non-profit Booster Club's sole purpose is to provide much needed equipment and logistical support to the Volunteers, Explorers, Reserve Deputy Sheriffs and

Disaster Communication Specialists. A tax deductible donation will help purchase equipment and supplies for all of the volunteer programs to be vibrant and successful.

The Annual Golf Classic will be held at the Western Hills Country Club, 1800 Carbon Canyon Road, in Chino Hills (91709). Registration will be held on game day between 9:30 and 11:15 a.m., with a Shotgun Start beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Sponsorships are available in Platinum, Gold, and Silver, as well as Beverage Carts, Hole in One, Goodie Bags, Closest to Pin and Tee Signs - with donations ranging from \$100 to \$3,000. The cost for a Single Player to golf is \$100.

For additional information, contact Sergeant Mark Saldecke at (909) 595-2264; or Booster Club Member, Gil Rivera at (909) 967-4525.

Social media lure and kidnap

Kidnap from page 1

Employment." Viteri Vera - who used the screen name, "Jay Delgado" - communicated with the victim for weeks via social media and text messages regarding employment at the Amazon warehouse. In the texts, he told the victim his name was "Jay" or "James." The communications were professional and revolved around possible employment.

On Feb. 26, Viteri Vera and the victim met at a Subway to eat lunch and discuss her possible employment with Amazon. Viteri Vera waited for the victim in his car and told her he did not want Subway. He offered to drive the victim to Wendy's instead. The victim got in the car and Viteri Vera got on the freeway. He took the victim's phone

and refused to return it to her.

The victim realized they were not traveling toward Wendy's and became alarmed. There was a brief struggle inside the car and the suspect started to slow down. The victim, fearing for her life, opened the door to jump out of the car. The suspect grabbed her by the waist of her pants and tried to keep her in the car. Viteri Vera slowed the car and tried to keep her inside. As he continued to slow down, the victim jumped from the car and ran. The victim reported the incident to law enforcement and Deputies began the investigation.

Detectives and deputies from the Multiple Enforcement Team at the Chino Hills station served a search warrant at Viteri Vera's house in Riverside on the morning of Mar. 4. Viteri Vera was contacted and taken into custody without further



PHOTO COURTESY: SBSD

Aaron Misael Viteri Vera, arrested for kidnapping.

incident. He was booked into the West Valley Detention Center for the above charges.

Viteri Vera had documents with the names of other women and had several profiles on various social media sites. Detectives fear there may be other victims of Viteri Vera's scheme and urge anyone with information to contact the Chino Hills Police Department at (909) 364-2000.

22nd Annual Wine Soiree

Viva Italia!

STAFF REPORTS

Diamond Bar - Chairs Nancy Lyons, Rick Rogers and Tony Torng announce that the annual Friends of the Diamond Bar Library Wine Soirée will be held at Sun., Apr. 26, at the Diamond Bar Center.

In 2012, with the support of the community through the Wine Soirée, the Friends donated \$80,000 to partner with the County of Los Angeles and the City of Diamond Bar to make the new library a wonderful addition to Diamond Bar. They could not do this without the help of the community. By participating in the 22nd Annual Wine Soirée, you will have a great afternoon with old and new friends and know that all of the proceeds go directly to your local library and literacy in the community.

Come, bring your friends and neighbors, and join this festive and exciting afternoon with delicious food from local restaurants, great wine, music, raffles and exciting silent and live auctions. Some of the great restaurant food hosts include Aljibani Halal Market, Buca di Beppo, Chili's Grill and Bar, Claro's Italian Restaurant, Coco's Bakery, Diamond Bar Golf Course, Diamond Palace, Got Taco Party?, Graber Olive House, House of Bread, It's A Grind, Julie's Café, Mandarin Taste Restaurant, Mother's Market & Kitchen, NiNi Bakery, Round Table Pizza, and The Whole Enchilada. Visit them in person and thank them for their support of literacy in the community.

With your help, the Friends gave over \$30,000 in 2014 for much needed materials, programs, books, magazines, etc., that would not have been possible without the Wine Soirée and the non-profit bookstore, Basically BOOKS. The Friends also sponsored "Read Together Diamond Bar 2014," that brought Librarian of Congress, David S. Mao, to Diamond Bar last October.

Those attending this great event can feel good that all proceeds from the fun they are having - the food and wines they taste, the auction items they win, and the music they enjoy - will go to improving the quality of life and learning.

The Annual Wine Soirée is an institution in Diamond Bar, and is a great way to meet new and old friends and neighbors. Tickets are \$60 per person. Advertising is also available in the beautiful annual program. A unique souvenir wine glass and program are included with each ticket.

For tickets and program information, call (909) 861-2002, or visit www.dblibraryfriends.org.

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BEST WESTERN Pine Tree Motel

A photograph showing the exterior of the Pine Tree Motel. The building is a two-story structure with a light-colored facade and a dark roof. There are palm trees and other tropical plants in the foreground. A sign for the motel is visible on the right side of the frame.

A photograph of a hotel room interior. It features a large bed with white linens and a dark headboard. There is a desk with a chair and some framed pictures on the wall. The room appears clean and well-maintained.

A photograph of the Centro Basco Restaurant at night. The restaurant has a modern design with large windows and a prominent sign that reads "Centro Basco RESTAURANT". The area is illuminated by streetlights and the restaurant's own lighting.

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PHOTO COURTESY: FACEBOOK.COM

Jillian Jacobson

OC teacher commits suicide

OC from page 1

ed that students found the classroom door locked, and assuming their instructor, Jillian Jacobson, was late, went to the next classroom to ask that teacher to open the door. What they saw when the door was opened was a horrifying scene: Jacobson was found in the classroom, hanging from the ceiling.

Staff quickly responded, calling 911, and getting the teacher down in hopes of reviving her. When paramedics arrived, resuscitation attempt were made, but to no avail. Jacobson was pronounced dead at the scene.

Detectives are reported as saying that they believed Jacobson, 31, of Anaheim, took her own life, although they were unable to find any suicide note.

Jacobson had been a teacher at El Dorado since 2008, and her expertise was not only in photography, but art education, ceramics and glassworks as well. With a master's degree in Educational Leadership, she was known to be an inspiring and caring instructor.

It is reported that Jacobson's own father committed suicide just four years ago, and that she was struggling with that, although she never let it interfere with her teaching.

The school is said to be reeling from the events surrounding Jacobson's death, and Kevin Lee, Assistant Superintendent of Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District, said counseling and crisis intervention teams have been made readily available to students, and would continue to be.

Hundreds of students left flowers, candles and notes for the popular teacher at the school's gates, and at her classroom door.

If you need help, you can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255, or visit <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>. With help, comes hope.

Diamond Bar council recap

Council from page 1

pine Drive for the Morning Canyon Rehabilitation Project.

The City, with the help of an arborist, noted that the large pine trees had grown out of control and have caused damage to the street's asphalt and the sidewalk area. Pictures shown at the meeting illustrated that even with ongoing trimming and cutting of roots, the trees in the area were causing immense damage that could lead unsafe roadways and walking areas.

Attending residents did not give up their cause, stating that routine tree maintenance could make the streets safe again. Council member Nancy Herrera disagreed with some of the residents, citing past litigations that had been brought against the City for damages caused by unsafe roads as a result of tree root growth. She also mentioned the possibility of the tree roots damaging the streets enough to



PHOTO COURTESY: CITY OF DIAMOND BAR

cause sinkholes. Herrera said the possibility of these safety hazards were a most compelling argument since personal safety is more important than trees.

"Lives and safety are paramount over trees," Herrera said to the meeting attendees.

Mayor Steve Tye and the other members of the Council instead fell back to compromising on the plans. Tye made an analogy that removing the trees would be akin to cutting off a portion of one's leg after finding a minor infection localized on a toe.

Tye's mode of thinking was to instead reject all current bids for the rehabilitation project and bring the plans back to City officials for re-evaluation before a final approval could be given. His motion was approved 4-1 (with Herrera dissenting) and residents cheered at the possibility of keeping some of their

neighborhood's trees intact.

During the meeting, the City's schedule of future events were announced for the Mar.10 Planning Commission meeting, the March 12 Traffic and Transportation Commission meeting, and the March 17 City Council meeting.

The Council also approved all items on the Consent Calendar concerning the minutes for the Feb. 17 Council and Dec.9 Planning Commission meetings, as well as ratification of a check dated Feb. 12 through Feb. 25 totaling \$716,891.89, and the Treasurer's statement for January 2015.

The Council then approved the only item on its consideration calendar, which was for the re-appointment all of its commissioners.

Following the final item's approval, the Council adjourned with plans to meet on Mar. 17 at 7 p.m., in the Windmill Community Room, at 21810 Copley Drive.

CNUSD teacher arrested

IE from page 1

a teacher at the Orange Elementary School, in the City of Corona.

During the investigation, Orange Elementary Teacher, Shane Alan Kent, 55, of Corona, was identified as the teacher accused of the inappropriate touching of a female student. Corona Police Detectives discussed applicable charges with the Riverside County District Attorney's Office and on Feb. 27, Kent was arrested for lewd or lascivious acts with a child under the age of 14.

As a result of the investigation and arrest, CNUSD has placed Kent on administrative leave.

At this time the investigation is ongoing and detectives believe there may be other victims. The Corona Police Department is asking for parents of students who attend, or attended, Orange Elementary School to speak to their children about any inappropriate contact they may have had with Kent, or any inappropriate behavior they may have witnessed.

If anyone has any information pertaining to this investigation, please contact Detective Martin Vega of the Corona Police Department at (951) 817-5796.

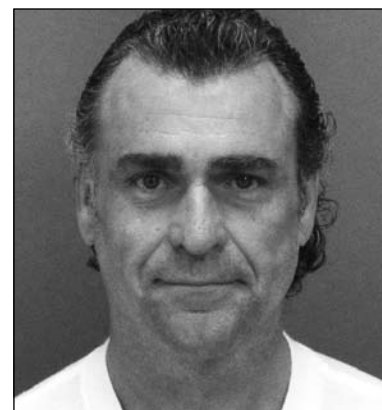


PHOTO COURTESY: CORONA PD

Shane Alan Kent

Walnut HS alum is "Idol" top 24

Idol from page 1

was 10.

Duru performed in musicals at Suzanne Middle School, starring as the Duchess in Alice in Wonderland, and an Oompa Loompa in Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. For three years, she was a member of the Walnut High School Choir. During her sophomore year, Duru

also competed on Season Three of "The Voice."

On the second night of Top 24 Week, Feb. 26, Duru sang, "Rather Be," and Hollywood.com said her performance was "pretty amazing, actually."

At press time, four of the gentlemen in the Top 24 had been voted off, but the results for the ladies were not available. Hopefully you have voted to help keep this hometown girl on the show!

There are five ways to vote and

you can vote up to 100 times!

- Texting or Calling
- www.americanidol.com
- FoxNow App
- Google Vote

Online voting ends at 9 a.m. PST the day after performances. Phone lines are open for calls and texts up to 2 hours after the show.

"American Idol" Season 14 airs Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m. on FOX.

Good luck, Adanna!

K.P. Sander contributed to this story.

Apex Lawyers, Inc.

Apex from page 1

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Spring Training

By PASTOR MARK HOPPER

Baseball was a big deal when I was growing up in Arizona. Since we did not have a major league baseball team in Phoenix at that time, it was exciting when several major league teams came to town in March for Spring Training.



I enjoyed playing baseball. When I was very young, we actually played “sand lot” games in a vacant lot near our home. I also played on organized Little League teams as I grew up, and I made the All-Star team a couple of times.

When I got into high school I

enjoyed playing baseball, too. My position was short stop. That was where all the action was. It was my job to stop those hard hit ground balls and throw runners out at first base. As short stop, I also assisted with double plays and tagging runners out as they tried to steal second base. I also helped relay throws from the outfield and tried to stop base runners at home plate.

The other part of playing baseball was hitting. I don’t remember what my batting average was, but I know I didn’t set any records.

Years later, I had the opportunity to coach some Little League teams that my son played on. Coaching is an important part of every team sport.

I do know that I enjoyed playing baseball. It is a team sport

where everyone has an important role to play. You learn to work together and value each person’s contribution to the team.

Each team has a coach who helps players to develop their skills both on the field and in the batter’s box.

I have heard that some parents get a little crazy watching their kids participate in team sports. I hope you will exercise restraint and encourage your kids to participate in a team sport. They will enjoy it, and you will too!

Pastor Mark Hopper is from the Evangelical Free Church of Diamond Bar, 3255 South Diamond Bar Ave. Sunday services are 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. For more information, call (909) 594-7604 or visit www.efreedb.org.

Don’t Ever Stop Believing

By NANCY STOOPS

We are going through some hard times right now. There are many people losing their jobs, their homes; and budget cuts to very important programs are taking place.



I still believe things can be turned around. I still believe that people are basically good. I still believe anything is possible with hard work and tenacity. I refuse to give up in believing that all great things are possible.

They say people or things have to hit rock bottom before they will get better.

Take a look around in all that is still right with our world. Take a look around at all the good that still goes on in our our community.

Please don’t use the state of the world as a reason to stop be-

lieving. They say all things happen for a reason. I don’t know why people have to suffer. I don’t know why bad things happen to good people. I just know that I believe in the good this world still has to offer.

I also believe our efforts to be our best do get rewarded. It may take some time to see the results of one’s hard work. Please don’t become a victim of apathy or anger because you feel every road you take becomes a dead end. Remind yourself that there are unlimited roads to travel down and that eventually you will discover the right one.

We must learn to be happy with the baby steps that occur when we want change to happen yesterday. Just for a moment, think back to a time that you thought would never change or get better; yet it did get better and so did you.

I have to believe things will get

better. We need to remember why we are here and how powerful we are. We need to remember having faith in our world and each other is very healing and can lead us to finding that the right road.

This article was written by Nancy Stoops M.A., M.F.T. Nancy is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. She has a private practice in Diamond Bar and is currently accepting new clients; she is also a motivational speaker who can inspire your employees or group members. Nancy runs free family support groups, including a group on loss for seniors, and groups on how to manage anger. For more information about any of these services feel free to contact her at (909) 229-0727, or via email at nancyjstoops@verizon.net. Nancy’s books, “Midnight the Therapy Dog,” and “Live, Heal and Grow,” are available at Amazon.com.

Straight Talk With Danice

By DANICE AKIYOSHI, N.D.

Dear Dr. Akiyoshi:

I have a friend who is very controlling. Every time we get together, we have to eat where she wants to eat, and see the movie that she wants to see. If I say we did it her way the last few times and make a suggestion, she gives me the silent treatment. Every time this happens, I tell myself to never go



out with her again, but when she calls I cave in and do what she wants. I really do like her company most of the time. I’m weak, I know. I need help! Thanks in advance.

-Lynn

Dear Lynn:

You are obviously easy going, and that’s a good trait, but in this case it’s causing you to feel taken for granted. It would be a good idea to set up a fair system with your friend. Continuous feelings of being taken for granted will eventually diminish your self esteem. I think expanding your

friendship base would also be a good idea.

-Danice Akiyoshi, N.D.

Danice Akiyoshi is a Naturopathic Doctor and the head of Candid Coaching Service. She 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 straighttalk@candidcoachingservices.com. You can also visit her website at www.candidcoachingservices.com.

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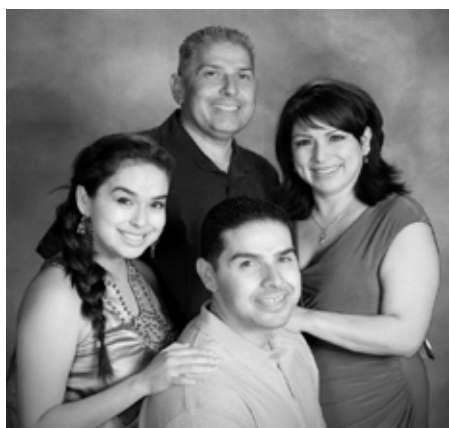
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Vejar Elementary parent, Christina Kondo, chats with kindergarteners ready to create a design with triangles.

PHOTO COURTESY: KELLI GILE

Collegewood Elementary School Is Turning 50!

By Kelli Gile

Walnut – Collegewood Elementary will mark its 50th Birthday with two special events.

The award-winning school will host a kick off assembly on Fri., Mar. 20, at 10:15 a.m., with time capsule dedication, special music, VIP speakers, aerial photo, and birthday cake.

Several past principals will be on hand to celebrate the golden birthday. Student council members will share fun facts about the school's history, and the school choir and Walnut High Band Buddies will provide music.

Immediately following the ceremony, students and parents will be invited to enjoy a hotdog lunch on the playground.

The 50th Birthday celebration will continue this spring at the Collegewood Carnival scheduled on Sat., May 16, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. The 50s-themed event will honor the school's original alumni, feature a "Hall of Memories" with photos and fun trivia from the past 50 years, and offer commemorative t-shirts.

Community members and alumni are invited to attend both of these events.

Collegewood Elementary is located at 20725 Collegewood Drive in Walnut. For more information, please contact the school at (909) 598-5308.



WV Parents Get Close-Up Look At Common Core

By Kelli Gile

Walnut – Walnut Valley Unified School District parents recently stepped into classrooms to see the new Common Core State Standards in action.

Vejar Elementary opened its doors to a delegation of 35 parent leaders and administrators on Feb. 26.

"We want to provide parents with an opportunity to see firsthand what Common Core looks like in practice and what the instructional methodology looks like and sounds like," explained Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor.

Members of the Coordinating Council parent leadership group represented all fourteen schools during the tour.

"We're excited for this opportunity to show what's happening in classrooms with the transition into Common Core," said Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Matthew Witmer.

Teaching and learning looks different in classrooms with the implementation of Common

Core. Along with implementing the new standards, there is a shift in the way instruction is taught in classrooms, embedding 21st Century skills of collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity and citizenship into the curriculum.

Students have become involved with projects and collaboration, along with expressing and writing about their thinking processes in all subject areas, including mathematics.

The tour offered a snapshot into this transition. Parents split into small groups with WVUSD principals and administrators to tour all grade levels – transitional kindergarten through 5th Grade.

"I'm very interested in seeing what Common Core looks like," said Collegewood and Walnut Elementary parent, Lily Eibert. "And I want to share with other parents."

"The more we get to understand it and see the impact on students, I think the more comfortable we all are as we make this transition," Witmer

added.

During the tour, parents immediately saw visible student engagement, interactive instruction, and increased use of technology.

Groups visited each class for 15 minutes, and then debriefed outside.

"We saw kids collaborating and working in groups. It just seemed like they're learning more and doing a lot more thinking – which is good!" said Sam Castorena from Castle Rock.

Castorena shared that he had a certain perception about the new standards when he went into the experience at Chaparral.

"And by the time we were done it had changed. I think Common Core is probably one of the biggest benefits that we're going to see in our country for a really long time."

Diamond Bar parent, Yara Sands, was very impressed during the visit to an 8th Grade Language arts class.

"In the past, students read a book and took a 10-question quiz

- and that was it," she noted.

During a multi-layered assignment, a class studied about the author Edgar Allan Poe, and discovered that his wife and several family members died of tuberculosis. To integrate science into the lesson, students also read an article by the American Lung Association about the disease. And finally, they wrote a letter to the famed author to describe how the women in his life could have been saved, citing evidence from the article.

"They're digging in deeper and deeper. It was a great experience and made me even prouder to be a Chaparral Cougar!" exclaimed Sands, the school's Community Club President.

"The conversations after the tour were amazing. Parents gained an awareness of how literacy is incorporated across all subject areas and observed some of the real world examples and applications," Taylor added. "I think this separates us from other districts around the country. We're doing something that is really unique."

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Westmont Students In National Reading Celebration

By Juliette Funes

Pomona – Students at Pomona Unified's Westmont Elementary School participated in a nationwide effort to "Read the Most Coast to Coast," on Fri., Feb. 27. They were among hundreds of thousands of students across the nation who joined in this fourth annual reading celebration.

The event took place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and launched Read Across America, a week-long celebration of literacy in honor of Dr. Seuss.

"Read the Most Coast to Coast" is a fun-filled event that enables students at multiple grade levels to join in a shared reading challenge,"

Principal Cynthia Badillo said. "Students are engaging in valuable reading practice, all while taking part in an event that joins students across the country in a collaborative effort focused on reading. We're so proud of our students."

"Read the Most Coast to Coast" celebrated reading with a one-day event that encouraged students to read as much as possible. In 2013-14, students set a new one-day record of 4,987,949 books read. Students also completed Accelerated Reader quizzes on the books they read.

At Westmont, as many as 380 students joined in this shared effort. They wore pajamas for the day to maximize comfort during

their read-a-thon. Big buddies paired with younger students, and all students who participated received a Certificate of National Participation.

"Our students, all of whom participate in Accelerated Reader, have strengthened their reading and literacy skills, and this celebration is a great opportunity to showcase to the nation how well-read PUSD students are," Superintendent Richard Martinez said.

The Accelerated Reader program enables teachers to manage independent reading practice. Students read books at the appropriate level and then take a quiz to show they understood what they've read.

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