The use of illegal fireworks anytime, and now leading up to the July 4th holiday, is causing a tremendous strain on our community’s safety, peace, and wellbeing. Every time an illegal firework is set off there is a potential for personal injury, property damage, and just as concerning disturbs everyone around, including our pets.

Don’t be that person! If you see that person, report him or her to the Montebello Police Department at (323) 887-1313.

The only fireworks that are permitted in the City of Montebello are “Safe & Sane” fireworks and ONLY on July 4th. Dangerous fireworks include rockets, aerial missiles, mortars, spinners, roman candles and are not considered “Safe & Sane” and are illegal!

The use of illegal fireworks will get you fined up to $1,000 and / or arrested. Look for the “Safe and Sane” seal on any fireworks you intend to purchase. There are several vendors from non-profit organizations selling legal fireworks in Montebello. All of these vendors have been inspected by the Montebello Fire Department.

Remember; any firework can be dangerous if not used properly. Recent years have resulted in several firework-related fires, severe personal injury, significant property damage, and deaths of animals in the community.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

A HOW TO ON SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING

By Whitney Fakolade, University of Southern California PharmD Candidate, 2021

Since the pandemic of COVID-19 has taken the country by storm, the Center of Disease Control, or the CDC, has urged the civilians in the United States to practice safe “social distancing”. But many Americans are generally confused by this term and do not have the resources to safely practice social distancing without comprising their health and the health of their loved ones throughout this time.

To practice safe social distancing, we must define and know what it is. On the CDC website, social distancing is defined as “keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home”. It is recommended that you limit face-to-face contact with others not familiar to you or your family, wear masks, and stand at least 6 feet apart from each other while interacting. It is also recommended to avoid large gatherings if possible, wash your hands often, and limit touching your face. While this may seem daunting or almost impossible to imagine, social distancing does not mean you should shut yourself off from the rest of your loved ones.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13
Happy 4th of July

It’s America’s 244th Birthday

State Senator
BOB ARCHULETA
32nd Senate District

Stay safe and healthy. Remember to wear your mask.

https://twitter.com/SenBobArchuleta
https://www.instagram.com/senatorbobarchuleta/
https://sd32.senate.ca.gov/contact
https://www.facebook.com/senatorbobarchuleta/

Paid for by Bob Archuleta for Senate 2022 • 1324 W. Beverly Blvd, 2nd Floor • Montebello, CA 90640 • ID#: 1414156
Health experts recommend that we keep a distance of at least 6 feet from other people and avoid crowded places to help slow the spread of the coronavirus. However, that does not mean you can’t continue staying active and healthy through exercise and habits during this time.

Now more than ever, keeping yourself healthy is important. There are many reasons to make a point of staying active and maintaining healthy habits. For one thing, it helps your immune system stay healthy. It is also a great way to cope with any stress and anxiety you may be feeling.

Getting Fresh Air

• Take a walk, run, or bike ride nearby. As long as you are actively moving and keeping a safe distance from others, it is possible for you to continue exercising outside.
• Get out into your garden and tackle some yardwork. Nature is a great stress-reliever too.
• If accessible, do yoga or meditation in your front or back yard or balcony.

Staying Healthy While At Home

• Have a virtual dance party with your family or friends over video chat.
• Be conscious of what you order for takeout or delivery. Try to choose healthy options or ask for healthier substitutions if possible. Restaurants are generous with their portions. Practice portion control by eating half of a meal now and saving the rest for later.
• Try new recipes. Cooking at home is not only an excellent stress reliever, it allows you to control what goes into your food such as how much salt or fat.
• If you have stairs, climb up and down them for 10 minutes at a time. Or work them into a strength routine with moves like inclined pushups or tricep dips.
• Stream a free yoga or other fitness video or see if your local gym is providing workout sessions over video chat.
• If you’re working from home, take some laps around the house on your breaks. Or have a walking phone conference.

Need a doctor for a health evaluation? Beverly Hospital has a medical staff of more than 400 physicians covering a wide range of specialties. Every doctor is thoroughly credentialed and has demonstrated his or her ability to deliver the kind of outstanding patient care that has earned us national recognition. Let us assist you in finding the right doctor for you. Call 1-877-207-2241 or visit our physician directory on www.beverly.org.

Sources: American College of Sports Medicine; American Heart Association; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
FIREWORK SAFETY  (Continued)

Please remember the following tips so we can all “Celebrate Safely” this 4th of July.

• Never use illegal fireworks
• Never allow young children to handle fireworks
• Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
• Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
• Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don’t go off or in case of fire
• Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear
• Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands
• Never light them indoors
• Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
• Never point or throw fireworks at another person
• Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting
• Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
• Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
We accept Medicare, Medicare HMO and PPO Insurance plans.

Dr. Jackson Ma, MD
Rheumatology and Internal Medicine
Montebello
101 E. Beverly Blvd., Ste. 100A
Montebello, CA 90640
(866) 802-3192 (TTY 711)

Alignment Healthcare & Dr. Ma
Working Together to Bring YOU Better Health Care

I am extremely grateful to my family, friends, neighbors, city employees and community members for voting Yes on Measures H! Our residents voted overwhelmingly 2 to 1! The passage of Measure H, for the .75% sales tax increase, pushed the local sales tax to the maximum of 10.25%. It’s expected to produce $6 million annually to our city budget, benefits our community and help the future of Montebello! All of you that voted Yes, voted to protect our community programs like youth and senior services, after-school programs and as well as public safety programs like: crime prevention unit, fire prevention and many others. We will invest in our community that we live and do business in, improving the infrastructure, in order to attract more businesses!

Measure H funds are subject to strict fiscal accountability provisions, therefore there will be a Transparencies and Accountability Committee to ensure all funds are spent as promised!

I would like to thank my newly elected colleagues, during the pandemic that we are all going through, we have balanced the city budget. There are many other cities, counties, even our state has deficits, yet for the first time in many years we balanced the budget without selling any city assets and have reserves as well!

Lastly I’d like to thank each of you for putting your trust in me and supporting our community, our Montebello, that we all love!

Mayor Pro Tem
Kimberly Cobos-Cawthorne

Thank You!
ILLEGAL FIREWORKS IN CALIFORNIA

By Gia L. Pacheco, Esq.
The Law Offices of George B. Pacheco & Associates

California firework laws are regulated by Health and Safety Code §12500 to §12728, which prohibits “dangerous fireworks” unless the holder has a special display license. California allows only “safe and sane” fireworks, which are fireworks that have not been classified as “dangerous” or “exempt”. The requirements for “safe and sane” fireworks are that they must be sold at a “fixed place of business” by a person who holds a retail license. The fireworks may only be sold from beginning on June 28th at 12 pm and until 12 pm on July 6th each year, unless otherwise designated by a local ordinance.

It is illegal to possess or sell illegal fireworks in California. It is also illegal to furnish fireworks to a minor, even “safe and sane” fireworks.

The consequence for committing a firework violation is a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in county jail and a fine up to $1,000.

FIREWORKS IN MONTEBELLO
You may not possess or use illegal fireworks in the City of Montebello. Residents may use and possess only “safe and sane” fireworks which are purchased from a licensed distributor in the State of California. The City of Montebello Police Department requests that reporting goes through the non-emergency line and for a specific address and description of the use of illegal fireworks. In the past, Montebello Police Officers have used all the resources available to locate, identify and cite and/or arrest individuals using or possessing illegal fireworks which has included undercover officers. May you have a safe and sane Fourth of July.

The fireworks ban applies to all types of fireworks, including but not limited to:

Disclaimer: This article is offered only for general informational and educational purposes. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this article, it is not intended to provide legal advice as individual situations will differ. You should not act or rely on any information contained in this article without first seeking the advice of an attorney. The statements are the expression of author, not The Montebello Reporter, and have not been evaluated by The Montebello Reporter for accuracy, completeness, or changes in the law.

HOME BUYER EDUCATION CLASSES NOW ONLINE

Montebello Housing Development Corporation (MHDC) has transitioned to teleworking.

At this time in person classes are cancelled. We are offering our Home Buyer Education course online as listed below. The course is through HomeTRACK online in English and in Spanish. This course can be taken in the comfort of your own home or anywhere there is internet. The cost for the class is $100 per household.

TO REGISTER VISIT www.MHDCCA.org, Click on HomeTRACK and sign up

Problems Making your Mortgage Payments:
If you are having problems paying your mortgage, please check with your lender first. If you are still having issues, please contact us.

Contact Us
(323) 722-3955
info@mhdc.org

Please note that our phone volume may be higher than usual and we will get back to you by the next business day.
City of Montebello Community Update

COVID-19 FAQ 4.0

In an effort to keep the community updated on changes enacted by the “Safer at Home” Order and current Los Angeles County Public Health Guidelines, the City has provided some answers to your most popular questions. These items are subject to change at any time. Please check our social media pages and website for the most up-to-date information.

PUBLIC TRANSIT
2020 SUMMER/FALL SCHEDULE

Montebello Bus Lines will operate on a new 2020 Summer/Fall Schedule beginning Sunday, August 2nd with front door boarding, a collecting fare of $1.10, and increasing capacity per bus to 20 passengers. Face coverings will be required, and COVID-19 preventive maintenance with extra cleaning will continue. For more information, please contact the customer service desk at (323) 558-1625, or visit www.ridembl.com.

CLOSURES

The following facilities will be closed until further notice:

- City Hall
- Recreation & Community Services Department
- Park playgrounds and equipment, basketball, baseball, handball, volleyball, & tennis courts, the skate park, picnic shelters, BBQ grills, & public restrooms
- Hollifield Park Community Center
- Reggie Rodriguez Park Community Center
- Cathy Hensel Gym & Youth Center
- Senior Center
- Police Department Lobby

*EXCEPTIONS: Life-threatening emergencies, custody agreement issues, mandatory Police check-ins, & release of property

CENSUS 2020
WE CHALLENGE YOU TO FILL OUT THE 2020 CENSUS! Help Montebello receive funding for public services and infrastructure for the next 10 years! Visit 2020Census.gov

REC’N’GO SUMMER CAMP KITS

The Recreation and Community Services Department’s NEW Rec’N’Go camp will offer children ages 6-11 an exciting opportunity to participate in a Summer Camp take-away kit. Every week, those who register will pick-up a Rec’N’Go bag filled with arts & crafts, at-home activities, & links to virtual “How-To” videos from staff! A whole summer of fun for FREE! A max of 30 kits available per a week. To register, visit www.cityofmontebello.com.

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STOP THE SPREAD
WEAR A FACE MASK WHEN YOU ARE NEAR OTHERS NOT FROM YOUR HOUSEHOLD.
WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN AND DO NOT TOUCH YOUR FACE.
PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND STAND 6 FEET A PART.

STAY INFORMED
Community Hotline: Available Monday-Sunday from 8 AM - 5 PM. Call: (323) 887-4540 | Email: covid19info@cityofmontebello.com

UP TO DATE CITY INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING LINKS

City of Montebello Homepage - www.cityofmontebello.com
City Social Media - Facebook - www.facebook.com/CityofMontebello/ Instagram - @MontebelloPRCS Twitter - @MontebelloCity
Fire Department - www.montebellofiredept.org Instagram & Twitter - @MontebelloFD
Police Department - www.montebellopd.org Nixle - Text “90640” to 888-777 Facebook - www.facebook.com/montebellopd
Transit Department - https://RideMBL.com

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

City of Montebello (323) 887-1200
City Social Media (323) 767-6519
Fire Department (323) 887-1313
Police Department (323) 558-1625

NEW My Montebello App Now available in the Apple Store or Google Play!
Stay Informed

Download our "My Montebello" Civic App

- Report an issue like park or city maintenance issues, graffiti, illegal dumping, etc.
- Stay up to date on the latest news and upcoming events
- Find important contact and destination information & more!

June 29 - August 28

FREE SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM
For kids!

Visit www.CityofMontebello.com to find more information!
REAL 92.3 hosted a live Instagram to celebrate the scholarship winners May 28, Los Angeles, CA – The Shops at Montebello, managed by Southern California-based Pacific Retail Capital Partners, is proud to award $12,000 in college scholarships to twelve local high school seniors in recognition of their outstanding achievements. Recipients include Giovanna Treto, Gisselle Gonzalez-Perez, and Shelsy Diaz from the Applied Technology Center; Marveilla Coronado and Miguel Maravilla Montes de Oca from Bell Gardens High School; Angel Mendoza, Calysta Muro, Cristina Chun Yoxon, and Seleney Orozco from Montebello High School; and Generiah Gutierrez-Alvarez, Hallie Muro, and Mia Salaiz from Schurr High School.

In lieu of a traditional Award Ceremony, due to LA County’s Safer at Home order, The Shops at Montebello partnered with REAL 92.3’s J Cruz to host a Virtual Scholarship Ceremony. He announced each recipient’s name with picture and spoke with some via video. Students were excited to be recognized and have a chance to share their individual stories.

“This scholarship means so much to me because I worked so hard for it,” said scholarship recipient Mia Salaiz. “The last four years of high school have been a roller coaster and now getting ready for college it’s even more crazy but knowing that our local mall is able to help the recipients of the scholarship out so much is amazing. Thank you so much to The Shops at Montebello.”

The Shops at Montebello’s Scholarship Awards recognize local seniors in their pursuit to continue their higher education and has awarded more than $72,000 to recipients in the previous six years. Supporting youth has been part of the center’s mission dating back to 1985 when the center opened. Programs like the scholarship program aim to assist local students in recognizing their educational goals and to provide initial monetary support to attain those goals. It is open to seniors at Montebello Unified School District High Schools including Applied Technology Center (ATC) High School, Bell Gardens High School, Montebello High School, and Schurr High School.

“The Shops at Montebello is thrilled to be able to recognize these hardworking and deserving scholars via our Virtual Scholarship Ceremony,” says Marina Satoaifaiga, Marketing and Business Development Manager at The Shops at Montebello. “We want to thank our partners at REAL 92.3 & J Cruz for agreeing to go LIVE with us and giving each of these High School seniors the pomp and circumstance they deserve. It was indeed a memorable #MontebelloMoment.”

Candidates applying for the scholarship program were evaluated on criteria including a combination of outstanding academic accomplishments, participation in school activities and clubs and community volunteer work. They must also possess a financial need, demonstrate a commitment to continuing their education and detail how The Shops at Montebello plays a role in their community. Candidates are also asked to explain three elements they would like to see at the shopping center (i.e. programs, potential tenants, etc.) in the future. To see the full celebration, visit https://www.instagram.com/tv/CAOGKkTA-Sh/.

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The Shops at Montebello + City of Montebello Presents:

DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

DRIVE-IN MOVIES:
7/10, 7/17 AND 7/24

Join us for a FUN and FREE summer series! Visit shopsatmontebello.com/events for a full list of movie listings. Grab dinner at one of The Shops at Montebello's restaurants and enjoy from the comfort of your car. RSVP required, Spaces are LIMITED.

The Shops at Montebello + City of Montebello Presents:

DRIVE-IN CONCERT SUMMER SERIES

DRIVE-IN CONCERTS:
8/6, 8/13 AND 8/20

Join us for a FUN and FREE summer series! Visit shopsatmontebello.com/events for a full list of featured bands. Grab dinner at one of The Shops at Montebello's restaurants and enjoy from the comfort of your car. RSVP required, Spaces are LIMITED.
BEVERLY HOSPITAL LAUNCHES VIRTUAL TOUR OF HENSEL MATERNITY CENTER FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS

Pregnancy is a special time full of excitement and anticipation. But for expectant mothers facing giving birth during the COVID-19 pandemic, fear, anxiety and uncertainty are clouding this otherwise happy time. The maternity staff at Beverly Hospital know that many expecting moms and their partners have a specific birthing experience in mind and have imagined what it will be like to bring their newborn baby home. During this unprecedented time, many expecting moms and partners wonder how this will affect their birthing experience and their newborn baby.

At this time, it appears that a COVID-19 infection is not severe in most pregnant women. COVID-19 also does not seem to harm unborn babies. However, to help relieve any additional stress to expectant mothers and their partners, Beverly Hospital in Montebello has created a “virtual” tour of our Hansel Maternity Center. The video, which is available in English, Spanish and Chinese, can be found on the hospital’s website at https://www.beverly.org/services/maternity-services/.

Our Hansel Maternity Center features 18 private maternity suites among other amenities. Take a virtual tour and see what else our Center has to offer before coming in.

Don’t Delay An Essential Surgery

At Beverly Hospital, our surgical team is here and ready to provide quality care in a safe environment. We have reinstated our elective surgeries and procedure program with strict safety protocols to meet the needs of our community. Your health should not have to wait any longer. Speak with your doctor today to reschedule any canceled procedures.

Looking Forward To Providing Excellent Care:

(323) 726-1222 | www.Beverly.org
309 W. Beverly Blvd, Montebello, CA 90640

Fully Accredited by DNV-GL and ISO 9001 Certified
A HOW TO ON SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING  (Continued)

That means that you can still keep in touch with your family and friends without compromising your health or the health of others and maintain relationships throughout this difficult period. But what does social distancing look like?

Social distancing may look like many things to different people. Depending on the resources one has, everyone can actively maintain their relationships with their loved ones, without putting themselves at risk for transmission and infection of COVID-19. Here are 3 fun examples to practice safe social distancing:

Using free video and audio technology services like Zoom, Google Hangouts, WhatsApp, Facebook messaging, and Facetime to have a video chat with family and friends. You can schedule a friendly play date with your children’s friends each week, have a happy hour with your friends after a long day, or even schedule a family meeting if your family is spread out across the area. Most video technology will allow up to 4 to more than 50 people on one call, and you get see your loved ones in real time as you discuss a variety of fun topics. You can also use other free services like Skype and Cisco video conferencing. Did I mention that all these services are free?

If you have loved ones who are not so tech-savvy, you can always safely see them in person by practicing an in-house “drive in”. Many people who are at risk for infection can use this option. This simply is driving to your loved one’s place of residence and having a check in chat while one person is in the vehicle and the other is outside (6 feet apart, of course). You can still see your family and friends at a safe distance and converse with them. It can be an easier option for those who do not have access to technology and internet.

Last but not least, you can practice your language and writing skills by sending a letter through the mail to your favorite people! This is a great option for families who have young children at home. Children can practice their reading and writing skills by sending a “flat Stanley”, along with a heartfelt letter to their classroom friends who they may have missed over the time during quarantine. This can also be an option for those who like to get back into writing to their loved ones. It is always fun to expect a letter in the mail written to you! You can also send an email for faster communication!

Feel free to add your own spin to safe social distancing! Just remember, we can all triumph in this extraordinary time. If you are in need of COVID essentials, stop by the Prescription Shop Pharmacy and we will supply you with what you need (gloves, face masks, sanitizer, soap, and medicine). Be safe my friends!


CORONAVIRUS ESSENTIALS CENTER

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Disinfectant Wipes
Cleaners
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Vitamin C
Antibacterial Soap
Zinc
Isopropyl

Check us out at: www.tpsrx1.com

Tel: 323-728-8127
Fax: 323-728-4917

1215 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello
Montebello Mayor Pro Tem, Kimberly Ann Cobos-Cawthorne, was busy supporting local business and frontline heroes during COVID-19. She partners with Salvatore’s Italian Restaurant and McDonuts to satisfy taste bud and sweet tooths.

On May 31, Mayor Pro Tem along with Salvatore’s fed Beverly Hospital staff from 4 units. Emergency, respiratory, ICU and their cleaning staff all enjoyed pizza, pasta, salad and more. To help deliver the food was owner of Salvatore’s Italian Restaurant, Joe De Lorenzo.

Later in June Mayor Pro Tem also teamed up with Kelly and Kuong, owners of McDonut for National Donut Day. She delivered over 35 dozen donuts to Beverly Hospital, Montebello Fire Department, and the Montebello Police Department. And to help promote McDonut, all who mentioned the Mayor Pro Tem’s post on social media received a gift with any purchase.

"I had the honor of partnering up with Salvatore’s Italian Restaurant and McDonuts to show our appreciation for the hard working front line heroes," said Montebello Mayor Pro Tem Kimberly Ann Cobos-Cawthorne. "Also, remember to support our small local business during this time of crisis.”
YMCA REOPENED JUNE 29

YMCA’s throughout the Southland are Opening again, following several months of closure due to the COVID-19, Corona Virus! We are thrilled to welcome our community back! Because our community’s health is our highest priority, we’ve made some changes to our facilities, including deep cleanings, new operating hours, re-organizing equipment and temperatures being taken for everyone entering our facility.

Ys are opening in a series of “waves” in the weeks ahead, with your Y in Montebello scheduled to open on June 29th, following the initial wave of our first six Ys opening a week earlier to help other Ys “iron out any wrinkles” in our new operating policies. Services and hours will be scaled back initially, and fill out as demand merits. In Montebello, we expect to operate from 7am to 7pm Mondays through Fridays, and from 7am to 4pm on Saturdays.

Our initial reopening of the Y is unlikely to immediately include swim lessons to follow the health department’s directive to continue maintain social distancing. This is due to the limited space on our pool deck and in our locker rooms, so making it impractical to assure safe distancing for our families for the immediate future. Since both of my boys learned to swim at the Y growing up, I realize how important swim lessons are. We’ll offer those as soon as we’ve given the green light and will keep posting updates here. However, the plan is to have our pool open for lap swimming when the Y reopens.

Group exercise and small group training classes, as well as personal training, will also return incrementally as well. The reason for these services not returning full on right away is also to abide continuing social distancing protocols, and given the limited space in our group exercise rooms, we’ll need to ramp up gradually to our full slate of offerings, pre-Corona, as restrictions are officially lifted.

Sadly, our residence camp will not happen this summer out of an abundance of caution. And please understand that our leadership staff at the Y personally feels the weight of not offering camp this summer because we have children who were also looking forward to leadership camp this summer, and yet, we also understand the need to keep all of our children safe as paramount.

Youth sports will also need to await all youth agencies being given the “all clear” by health officials. Again, all of our children grew up in Y youth sports, so we appreciate the value of the Y’s “fun, fair play, and fundamentals” elements of our youth sports program, but again, we’re obligated to follow the guidelines of officials determining when we’ll be able to reintroduce youth sports again.

New protocols for facility use will be available at the Y including the probable requirement for all entering the YMCA to have temperatures taken, be asked standard protocol questions about known regarding potential exposure to others with COVID-19. We’ll also most likely be paperless and have other safety measures in place. Your safety is our top priority!

Please understand that all the decisions around new protocols and gradual introduction of all programs and classes were not made in haste or without much consideration. As much as we would love to offer all of the services we provided pre-Covid, for safety’s sake, we’re ramping back up gradually. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this continuing, evolving time!

Please visit or call the Y for details at: (323) 887-YMCA (9622). Our leadership team looks forward to seeing you soon at the Y- for youth development, for healthy living, and for social responsibility.

YES, WE ARE OPEN AND HERE TO HELP!

DUE TO COVID-19, WE WILL BE OPERATING AT REDUCED HOURS
NEW HOURS THRU MAY 15

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The UPS Store

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1012 W. Beverly Blvd.
Tel: 323-721-7529 Fax: 323-721-8659
My name is Jennifer Velez, and I am your Junior Citizen of the Month for June. I am a senior at Vail High School. My two years at Vail have been great. I have learned so many things, received so much support, and felt motivation when I first arrived on campus.

Before this I didn’t care about my education nor tried my best. Once I got to Vail, my mindset changed completely. I wanted to graduate! I started working hard to pass all my classes. At one point I wanted to give up. I managed not to. I just kept pushing myself even more and told myself, “I got this,” keeping my head up. Since the first day, I never failed a class and I am happy about that.

I have received certificates of excellence and was awarded a scholarship which was exciting for me seeing that my hard work paid off.

I am planning on attending East Los Angeles College (ELAC) for the next couple years and then transfer to CAL STATE LA (CSULA). It may be hard. I’ll try my best. I want to prove that I can go to a university and continue my success.

I am interested in the medical field. Possibly studying to be a doctor or nurse or one that helps others with drug and alcohol recovery while helping lead them to choose the right path. I want to keep my options open. Then I will narrow down what I want to study. I have so many opportunities and I will take them.

I am doing this for my family. I want them to be proud of me in having reached my goals. Because of them, I am not quitting school. I will continue my studies. They have helped motivate me all the time. Without their support, I would not be here. I thank them so much for that. Now to continue my journey filled with positivity and to keep pushing myself for greater success.

I am grateful to the Montebello High Twelve Club and the Montebello-Whittier Masonic Lodge #323 for this honor. Also, I am delighted to receive one of High Twelve’s 2020 Jack L. Lowry Memorial Scholarship Award to be applied toward my education.

Help Support Our K-9 Heroes!

Montebello Police K-9 Association

For More Information or to Contribute Contact:
George Pacheco - President or
Gia Pacheco - Secretary
Email: earlyed@maof.org

Web: www.maof.org
More than 500 Montebello High School seniors graduated in a drive-thru ceremony, a method that ensured social distancing during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The Mighty Oiler seniors were joined by parents, teachers and other school and city officials, who cheered as each student was recognized during the ceremony.

The event was the first time many of the graduates had seen one another since the pandemic shut down schools statewide in March.

With their commencement postponed because of the coronavirus, school officials were thrilled that they were able to have a ceremony to recognize the seniors for their achievement.

This year, drive-thru graduation ceremonies were held for all MUSD high schools. Congratulations Graduating Class of 2020.
EDWARD FRANCO, NEW PRESIDENT 2020-2021 ROTARY CLUB OF MONTEBELLO

Eddie, a dedicated Montebello native, born at Beverly Hospital, alumnus to St. Benedict Elementary and Montebello High School, will be the 2020-2021 President for the Rotary Club of Montebello. Joan, his wife, is a pulmonary and infectious disease nurse specialist for Kaiser Permanente Downey. They, with two adult children, Kim and Andrew, reside in the Brighton Hill neighborhood of Montebello.

Eddie is a past Disney cast member, SCCA race driver, and print production specialist now focused on the Real Estate market. Currently, a principal of ET Realty Group, a unit of Keller Williams SELA servicing the Montebello area. Partially responsible for the opening of the Keller Williams office in the Philippines, he continues to serve the international real estate market. He also supports print customers collaborating with Monarch Litho, one of Southern California’s most extensive commercial print provider serving the global market with manufacturing plants in Montebello, Juarez, Mexico, and Santa Teresa, New Mexico.

Eddie joined Rotary in 2015, sponsored by his brother Manny, as an opportunity to serve his community. This year Eddie was recognized as “Rotarian of the Year” and received the prestigious “Paul Harris Fellowship” award.

He is an integral part of the BUYAH, Back-Up-Your-Area-Hospital project, providing comfort provisions to Beverly Hospital’s frontline COVID-19 medical staff and First-Responders and along with his business partner, Tiffany Chang-Sahakian, spearheads the Neighborhood Watch program for Brighton Hills residents.

Dedicated to the ideals of “Service Above Self” and “The Four-Way Test,” he sees service as a means of opening doors of opportunity as we emerge from this global pandemic.
Bill J. Walters went home to be with his heavenly father on June 12th 2020; after being diagnosed with lung cancer/congestive heart failure. Bill was born in Tilden, Nebraska, on January 8, 1939. He was raised in Bell & Downey, California, and in 1956 he graduated from Downey High School.

Bill was important to so many. He had many people that called him Uncle, Grandpa, Brother and Dad. His extended family was vast. This meant so much to Bill, especially that he was an only child; although he gained a large family when he married Isabell.

Lion Bill, as he was known to most, retired after 40 years, from an Industrial Uniform Rental Company where he was a Sales Executive, and District Sales & Service Manager. After his retirement, Prudential Overall Supply didn’t want to lose Bill’s expertise; therefore, he was rehired as Sales Trainer and Consultant for another 5 years.

It was at Prudential Overall Supply that Bill met and married Isabell. They celebrated 51 years of marriage, the day before he went to the hospital. Bill was a loving husband and father. He is predeceased by their twin daughters Milissa and Michelle; his adopted brother and sister, Bob & Janie King. Bill is survived by his wife Isabell, son Dane, grandchildren Jacob Walters-Huckeba, Stefanie Walters and Jonathan Walters; many cousins, nieces, nephews and several adopted grandchildren.

With children of school age, Bill and Isabell took part in the children’s activities. Bill became involved in youth sports; coaching his son on a City of Montebello baseball team. He then became active in the Pop Warner Football Program where his son played football and his daughters were part of the Cheer Leading Team. This brought Bill to join his friend Frank Espinoza, where they co-founded the Golden State Basketball League of Montebello. Here he coached his nephew and son for approximately 8 years. Bill continued supporting his children as a member of the Football/Athletic Booster Club of Montebello High School. Bill was Booster president for 3 years.

Bill continued to be involved in the community as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Civil Service Commissioner and Golf Course Commissioner; as well as YMCA Concert Committee Member, and Beverly Hospital Foundation Fundraiser Committee. He participated in many city elections since 1985 to present.

Bill joined the Montebello Lion in March of 1979 and served 41 years of Perfect Attendance and held various offices in the club. Bill was President for three terms, Lion of the Year three times and Treasurer for 17 years. He, twice a year, chaired the Pancake breakfast fundraiser as well as prepared the pancakes. In partnership with the Rotary and Soroptimists, Bill chaired the Thanksgiving Basket give-away serving over 100 families. For the last seven years, he was the M.C. at the Christmas at the Quiet Cannon Breakfast for less fortunate families. The Montebello Lions yearly gives a $1,000 scholarship in the name of Bill Walters. At the district level, Bill held many positions, including District Governor 2004-05. He was Charter President of the Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation in 2009 and board member from 2009 to present. At the state level of Lions, Bill was Convention Management Committee member for 12 years and chaired it 3 times. As a Lion Bill was awarded a Harry Aslan Fellowship, Al Ohrmund Supporter Award, Governor Appreciation, Lions International Leadership, International Presidential Appreciation, 100% District Governor and is a 5 diamond Melvin Jones Fellow. Bill loved serving his community, so it was fitting he became a Lion since their motto is “We Serve”.

In between Lions and Community Service, Bill made time to take his family camping in their motor home to the Colorado River. Here he taught the kids to ski behind their boat named “It’s Only Money”. But, he also took a few Lion friends and family on these exciting adventures. A few Lions learned to “howl” and ride the fountain! At any gathering, if music was involved Bill was the first on the dance floor and given a chance he would grab the microphone and sing. His love of golf had him on the golf course every weekend. For the last 10 years, Bill had the pleasure of golfing with his son, Dane, every Sunday; both are members of the Montebello Men’s Golf Club. Bill “Thank You” for teaching us how to live. We will Love You Forever and then some more.

Unable to have a service now, a “Celebration of Life” will be held on Bill’s first anniversary, i.e., June 2021. In lieu of flowers a donation, in Bill’s name, may be made to the Montebello Lions Charities Foundation, PO Box 87, Montebello, and Ca 90640.
Santiago Alvillar, a first generation student and American, received a $50,000 scholarship from Elks National Foundation. Sponsored by our Local Montebello Lodge #2051, Santiago competed nationally and was selected as Elks Most Valuable Student - Top Male Winner from an application pool of 19,000 students.

Son of immigrant, indigenous parents from a rural village near Puebla, Mexico, Santiago was born and grew up in El Monte. Consistently, Santiago and his family struggled with issues of poverty and the difficulties of being native Spanish speaker in a predominantly English country. Coming from an indigenous family, Santiago’s brothers and him are the first from his entire lineage to receive any sort of formal education.

Being surrounded by constant home troubles, Santiago was a troublesome kid; he consistently had issues with paying attention, talking, and listening to his teachers around him. It wasn’t until his school recognized him as a gifted student that he began to develop his passions as a STEM student with sharp skills in mathematics and science.

School became a coping mechanism for Santiago, a way to escape the harsh realities of his world. In high school he was the president of clubs like Emerald Jewel (an environmental club) and the California Scholarship Federation while being program director of the Freshman Mentoring Program and juggling Cross Country and Track and Field. He also received scholarships to attend prestigious engineering summer programs at Stanford, Yale, and Princeton his sophomore and junior years.

This year, Santiago graduated as a valedictorian from South El Monte High School and received admission from Stanford, Harvard, and MIT. He plans to complete his undergraduate degree at Stanford University majoring in Engineering Physics with a specialty in Energy Alternatives. He hopes to complete his Masters and PhD for Environmental Engineering in the near future and work on creating safe and efficient energy alternatives in everyday consumption.

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LME DRIVE BY CAR PARADE GRADUATION!
The graduates of La Merced Elementary School, such as myself, did not have a “normal” graduation. Instead, we had a car parade! Cars would drive by the school, where they had the option to purchase leis or stuffed animals from street vendors. Next students could say hello to their teachers and take pictures. God did well for these graduates, and now they begin a new chapter of their lives.

SOME COVID-19 SAFETY TIPS
The World Health Organization gives 5 safety tips for coronavirus:
1. Stay home as much as possible to prevent spread of disease.
2. Keep a safe distance of 6 feet, so you don’t get contaminated.
3. Wash your hands often so you do not have any germs, or wear gloves, instead.
4. Cover your cough by sneezing into your elbow or into your shirt.
5. Lastly, if you are sick, please stay home. This is highly recommended.

INTERVIEW WITH MARTIN PEREZ
The following you are about to read is an interview with Martin Perez, who is the manager of the La Morena Bakery in Los Angeles, California

Bearington Post: What is your name?
Martin: Martin Perez

BP: What is the history of your establishment?
Martin: My father started in 1959. He was a baker and became the owner

BP: How did you acquire the establishment?
Martin: It’s a family run business

BP: What does your establishment’s name mean?
Martin: La Morena is what they called my mother.

BP: What is your job?
Martin: I am the manager of this company

BP: What is your top selling item?
Martin: Masa, which is tamale dough

BP: What’s business’s busiest day?
Martin: The weekend, because that’s when we serve the menudo.

BP: How do you help out your community?
Martin: We’ve been serving them for many years

BP: How is your establishment helping out with COVID-19?
Martin: We are trying to supply necessities for the community and stay open longer.

BP: If you could eat one item on the menu for the rest of your life, what would it be?
Martin: Champurrado and cookies.

BP: Anything you’d like to say to the plethora of readers out there?
Martin: They’re welcome anytime at La Morena.

Martin was very friendly and may God help his business

SPOT OF THE MONTH FOR SUMMER BREAK
Legg Lake Review: Legg Lake is a park in the Whittier Narrows Recreation Center. There, you can fish or feed the many ducks and geese that inhabit the lake. There are many play sculptures of monsters scattered around the park. You can rent a pedal boat and pedal around the lake or rent a four seater bicycle and pedal around the park. You can also go every third Saturday at 8 am and learn how to fish with the Dan Hernandez Fishing Club for kids. You can also visit the nature center, which is next to the lake. If you live around the Montebello area, I recommend a visit to Legg Lake for fun and excitement.
James Bruce Travis, a Whittier resident now, before a long time Montebello resident, has lived in the area since arriving from Pennsylvania in 1947. He has been involved over the years with the Pomona Drags, Bonneville (Utah) Salt Flats, El Mirage Dry Lakes, and museums such as the Petersen Car, Los Angeles, where Jim was instrumental in developing some of the early exhibits, and the Wally Parks NHRA Motorsports, Pomona.

Having been inducted into the Dry Lakes Hall of Fame, Jim was honored, for involvement in Land Speed Racing on the dry lakes of the Bonneville Salt Flats and El Mirage. His streamliner, “The Pumpkin Seed,” was recognized in the 2017 Dry Lakes Racing Hall of Fame, one of two cars selected annually. This same vehicle was utilized by Jim; Randy Travis, his youngest son; and Danny Thompson, son of legendary Mickey Thompson; as each qualified for going over 200 MPH and then being inducted into the 200 MPH Club. The ceremony took place in Buellton, CA, at the Mendenhall Museum, Gas Up Hall of Fame, with family and friends in attendance.

Jim, a 1953 graduate of Montebello High School, has been involved with every automobile since his days in Auto Shop. Later, his repair shop in Pico Rivera. A Ford Motors retiree he has given many hours to the advancement of racing. He wrote the standards by which each racer operates on the salt flats.

In the making of the movie, “The World’s Fastest Indian,” about motor cycle racing on the salt flats, starring Sir Anthony Hopkins, the studio contacted Jim for vehicles that fit the era when New Zealand’s own, Burt Monroe, raced at Bonneville. Many of the vehicles in the Bonneville portion where supplied by Jim. He and his son, Randy, were extras in order to move the vehicles during filming. Both can be spotted in the background and appear in the credits.

Among the list of accomplishments, Jim and Randy, with the permission of Danny Thompson, brought Mickey Thompson’s famous Challenger to Jim’s Whittier work shop, and restored the four-engine land speed record challenger. This made it possible once again be in public view and now resides in a museum. Similarly, Jim’s “Pumpkin Seed” now resides in the Speedway Motors Museum of American Speed, Lincoln, NE, in an exhibit featuring Jim and Mickey. You can view this at museumofamericanspeed.com. A year ago, Jim, Randy, and Don Travis were hosted at the Museum with an exhibit private viewing. As they walked the floors, a tape recording was made of every fact that Jim provided about the vehicles they reviewed. Then a recorded interview was produced as he fielded and answered the museum’s questions.

Jim’s “Pumpkin Seed” was shipped to England to be featured at GoodWood Festival. A second time it was shipped to New Zealand and featured in the 2013 Leadfoot Festival. At both events, they walked the red carpet and broke bread with many famous racing families.

For years, Jim traveled to the Indy 500 where he knew many of the race drivers including Dan Gurney. Jim worked Gasoline Alley performing any needed tasks. He made friends with many of the famous race families of today including the Unser’s, A. J. Foyt, etc. While Jim never owned an Indy car, nor raced in one, nor on a crew, his many trips, deep interest, and knowledge, he was voted into the Indy 500 Old Timers Association Hall of Fame.
Montebello Reporter

JULY 2020

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