

SCOTT CARPENTER and his family lived in Garden Grove when he became the second American to orbit the Earth and the fourth to fly into space (NASA photo).

GG resident Carpenter had the 'right stuff' to orbit the planet

After astronaut career, he explored ocean in Sealab

Garden Grove was founded in 1874, so this year is the community's 150th anniversary. Latest in a series about Garden Grove history.

Of all Garden Grove's residents, this one definitely had "The Right Stuff." Scott Carpenter lived in the city with his family during the time he was one of the original Mercury Seven U.S. astronauts launched into space in the Sixties.

He was born in Boulder, Colorado in 1925. After a career as a naval aviator in the Korean War, he became a test pilot in 1954. In 1959, he was selected

as one of the Seven. He was the second American in orbit, following John Glenn, and the fourth American in space.

Carpenter's Aurora 7 capsule rocketed into space on May 24, 1962. The craft made three orbits, but the splashdown was a bit off-target, missing by about 250 miles. After some anxiety about his fate, he was picked up by the U.S.S. John R. Pierce, a destroyer.

In 1965, Carpenter took a leave of absence from NASA, joining the SEALAB team seeking explore the ocean floor. His underwater activities inflicted injuries which made him

ineligible for space flight and he left NASA in 1969.

After his space and sea adventures, Carpenter dabbled in a wide variety of pursuits, including

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HUNTINGTION BEACH CITY COUNCIL

Public Vote On Library Change Defeated, 4-3

'Privatization' of system still a possibility

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

It was loud and it was time-consuming but it wasn't a surprise. After two hours of public comments and another hour of arguments among themselves, the Huntington Beach City Council members voted 4-3 against a proposal to put the fate of the municipal library system before voters.

As expected, the conservative majority - Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Pat Burns and Councilmembers

Casey McKeon and Tony Strickland - outvoted the liberal minority of Councilmembers Rhonda Bolton, Dan Kalmick and Natalie Moser.

At issue was a proposed charter amendment to require a majority vote of the council and of the voting public to "approve any proposal that would change the wholesale management of the library, and/or any proposal to operate the library with a private contractor that would employ library staff to achieve savings," and add an advisory vote of the public on "whether to hire a third-party contractor to operate the Huntington Beach Public Library."

If approved, the matter

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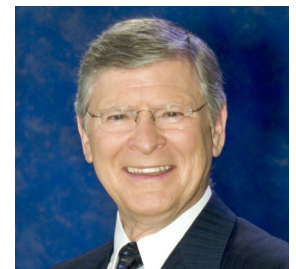
Ed Arnold is theme grand marshal

Ed Arnold, a veteran broadcaster and local icon, will be the theme grand marshal for the 2024 Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Parade on Saturday, May 25. The theme is "Celebrating Our Hometown."

Serving as celebrity grand marshals are the broth-

ers of Wahoo's Fish Taco: Win, Ed and Mingo.

Other celebrities will be Frank Kramer, Wendy Burch, Chris Tzorin, Courtney Conlogue, Danielle Lawson, Sean Lee, Pat O'Connell, Pyper Braun, Nikki SooHoo, Kayden Koshelev, Leigh



ED ARNOLD

Continued on page 2

Ed Arnold is theme grand marshal now

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Steinberg, CeCe Valencia, Nour Milla, Compa Gomez, Johnny Ice, Michael David, Jordan Fitzpatrick, Sarita Tello, Jim "Poorman" Trenton and Victor Mendez.

The festival parade steps off at Chapman Avenue and 9th Street and heads west on Chapman, turning south at Euclid Street and traveling all the way to the festival grounds in the Village Green park at Stanford Avenue.

It's one of the highlights of the festival, begun in 1958 and which continues to be one of the largest community events in the western United States.

"The 64th Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival is set up to be our best one yet," said Mark Mahoney, festival association president.

"We are honored to have so many well-known faces joining our celebrations and representing what makes this annual event so special."

The festival runs from Friday, May 24 to Monday, May 27 over Memorial Day weekend. The Village Green is at Main and Euclid Streets.

Note: The Orange County Tribune is one of many sponsors of the festival.

The★Tribune

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Council majority votes against vote on library

Continued from page 1

would have come back to the council at its June 4 meeting with the intent of placing the charter amendment on the November general election ballot.

The first two hours of the meeting was taken up by public comments by 75 speakers, most of them expressing opinions about the library and most of those expressing opposition to a proposal to look into outsourcing or "privatizing" the operation of the city's libraries.

Finally the council members took up the issue.

Kalmick said, "The people would like to have a say in this," recasting the issue as "Do you like your library the way it is or do you think it's broken?"

McKeon challenged the idea of putting the proposed amendment before voters. "I think it's hypocritical," he said that the council

minority wanted a public vote on the matter while having opposed charter amendment ballot measures in March. He complained about what he called "fear-mongering" about what he called "premature assumptions" about the effect of issuing a request for proposals on hiring an outside firm to run the library system instead of city employees.

Grover in space

Continued from page 1

serving as a consultant, writing novels and appearing in TV commercials.

His personal life was not smooth. He was married four times, divorced three times and had eight children. He died on Oct. 10, 2013 at the age of 88 after suffering a stroke.



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News & Views

Why it's hard to feel forgiveness for Jane Fonda

Jane Fonda was in the news this week – national as well as local – when the Westminster City Council held a special meeting on Friday to pass a resolution demanding that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors rescind its awarding its own resolution honoring the film actress for her work on climate change.



Retorts Jim Tortolano

The council's objection didn't have much to do so much with the ice caps melting as it did with her notorious visit to North Vietnam in 1972. Not only did she express doubt that POWs she met with were telling the truth that abuse and torture of American prisoners (mostly pilots) was routine, she posed for a photograph on an anti-aircraft battery wearing a military helmet.

(The timing was awful; the L.A. County honor came on April 30, the day that Saigon fell to the North Vietnamese army).

The implications of the image were obvious; Jane was seeming to be giving tacit approval to the killing of American airmen.

That has dogged her all her life. She was slow to apologize and even when she made a more abject mea culpa, it was far too late.

Yes, she was just an ignorant young woman with little to no understanding of what she was doing. Still, she did it willingly. Some people say, give her a chance. She apologized.

But there are 58,000 Americans who died in that war. They can never hear her regrets. She was a privileged rich kid whose

Continued on page 8

'New revenue' could be annexed

County 'islands' might mean a \$1 million boost

When what is now the City of Westminster was being incorporated in 1957, the original plan was to combine the unincorporated communities of Westminster, Barber City and Midway City into "Tri-City."

The Midway City residents backed out and Westminster was created without them.

Over the years, there has been discussion of the "orphan" community in the area of Bolsa Avenue and Beach Boulevard, but only discussion.

A more serious move may be in the offing.

At Wednesday's meeting of the Westminster City Council will consider a report from city staff about "creative revenue ideas."

Topping the list is consideration of the annexation of "one or more" of four incorporated county "islands."

According to the report, a "resolution of intent" to annex the



THE ORANGE COUNTY Fire Authority has a small station in Midway City on Bolsa Avenue (Orange County Tribune photo).

three smaller areas, the process of which would not require a vote of the people within, could come in 2024-25.

However, the biggest area – "Bolsa/Midway" or Midway City – has about 7,500 residents, and voters' approval would be needed to approve an annexation to Westminster.

If all four unincorporated areas were to become part of Westminster, the city – in the fiscal year 2022 – would have received \$153,249 in property tax and \$924,403 in sales tax.

The city council will meet at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Blvd.

TEACHER OF YEAR FINALIST



JORDANNA JAHN of Irvine Intermediate School in Garden Grove is a 2025 Orange County Teacher of the Year finalist. The Orange County Department of Education sponsors the event annually (GGUSD photo)

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The OCT covers the cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster. In addition to local news there's a national/world news update and coverage of favorite area prep and pro sports teams as well.

The Tribune is published each Wednesday and Saturday morning.

NewsUpdate

Stormy Daniels' Salty Testimony

Tells court that she had sex with former president Trump

Stormy Daniels, the porn actress who claims she had sex with former president Donald Trump and was later paid to “keep it quiet” testified on Tuesday in a New York City court and spoke of her encounter with him.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, told of meeting Trump in 2006 in Lake Tahoe and visiting his penthouse.

After visiting the bathroom, she said, she found him in the bedroom in his underwear. “The next

thing I know was: I was on the bed” and they had sexual intercourse. She said the encounter left her “shaking.”

Later, in the wake of the surfacing of the “Access Hollywood” tape in which he bragged about touching women sexually without permission, she learned that Trump’s lawyer Michael Cohen wanted to buy her silence for \$130,000.

Trump’s lawyers sought a mistrial, which the judge denied.



STORMY DANIELS outside a court room in 2018 (Shutterstock).

Boy Scouts change name and brand

The Boy Scouts of America is changing its name and brand to Scouting America, the organization announced on Tuesday.

The change comes as the organization, now 114 years old, is seeking to reverse declining membership and image issues that include charges of sexual abuse and exclusivity. The re-

named youth group will welcome girls, gays and others long not welcome.

“In the next 100 years we want any youth in America to feel very, very welcome to come into our programs,” said Roger Krone, the group’s new president.

The new name will be in place on Feb. 8, 2025, the 115th anniversary of BSA.



This is the latest change reflecting a liberalization of membership.

Gay youth have been allowed since 2013, adults gay leaders in 2015 and girls in 2019.

Biden criticizes rise in ‘anti-Semitism’

President Joe Biden spoke at a holocaust remembrance ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday and spoke out against what he called “a ferocious surge in anti-semitism” in the wake of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Biden said the rise in acts and speech against Jews across the world reminded him and others of Nazi Germany’s efforts.

“This ancient hatred of Jews didn’t begin with the Holocaust,” he said. “It didn’t end with the

Holocaust, either.”

Demonstrations and “occupations” of college campuses by pro-Palestinians have sometimes generated speech that can be offensive.

One student leader said – and then apologized for – “Zionists have no right to live.”

Biden noted that the war began on Oct. 7 by Hamas attacks that killed about 1,200 Israelis.

Since then about 34,000 Palestinians have died in the conflict.

Israel gets part of crossing

The beginning of Israel’s surge into Rafah in Gaza is underway. That nation’s military has said it has captured the Gaza side of the border crossing with Egypt, which has been a vital corridor for humanitarian aid to pass into the besieged area.

About 20 Hamas militants have been killed by Israeli forces in an operation in east Rafah, it’s reported. Four Israeli soldiers were said to be wounded by mortar fire.

The move toward the border crossing comes after negotiations on a cease-fire broke down.

Gazans have been warned to evacuate the area around Rafah toward where an “expanded humanitarian area” is said to have been created.

A full invasion of the area by Israeli military forces is expected to follow.

Weather: Sunny side soon

Pleasant days continue in our West Orange County area right into the weekend with mild temperatures and partly cloudy skies. Wednesday’s daytime high is predicted to be 74 with an overnight low of 57. Thursday looks a little cooler at 72 (56), and then Friday bobs up to 74 (56). Saturday is forecast at 72 (58).

Arts & Living

Anne Hathaway Steals Show in 'Idea'

*May-December
romance from
Amazon/MGM*

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

In the warmly charming rom-com "The Idea of You," Anne Hathaway plays a 40-year-old divorcee and Silver Lake art gallery owner who, after taking her teenage daughter to Coachella, becomes romantically involved with a 24-year-old heartthrob in the boy band August Moon.

They first meet after she mistakes his trailer for the bathroom. There are a few hundred things about this premise that might be farfetched, including the odds of finding love anywhere near the porta johns of a music festival. But one of them is not that a young star like Hayes Campbell (Nicholas Galitzine) would fall for a single mom like Solène (Hathaway).

Solène is stylish, unimpressed by Hayes' celebrity and has bangs so perfect they look genetically modified. And, most importantly, she's Anne Hathaway. In the power dynamics of "The Idea of You," Hayes may be a fictional pop star but Hathaway is a very real movie star. And you don't forget it for a moment in Michael Showalter's lightly appealing showcase of the actor at her resplendent best.

"The Idea of You," which debuts Thursday on Prime Video, is full of all the kinds of contradictions that can make a rom-com work. The highly glamorous, megawatt-smiling Hathaway is playing a down-to-earth nobody. The showbiz veteran in the movie is played by Galitzine, a less well-known but up-and-coming British actor whose performance in the movie is quite authentic. And even though the whole scenario is undeniably a glossy high-concept Hollywood fairy



NICHOLAS GALITZINE and Anne Hathaway star in "The Idea of You"(Amazon/MGM).

Movie Review

tale, Showalter gives it enough texture that "The Idea of You" comes off more natural and sincere than you'd expect.

The only thing that really needs to make perfect sense in a movie like "The Idea of You" is the chemistry. The film, penned by Showalter and Jennifer Westfeldt from Robinne Lee's best-seller, takes its time in the early scenes between Solène and Hayes — first at Coachella, then when he stops by her gallery — allowing their rapport to build convincingly, and giving each actor plenty of time to smolder.

Once the steamy hotel-room encounters come in "The Idea of You," the movie has, if not swept you away, then at least ushered you along on a European trip of sex and room service. At the same time, it stays faithful to its central mission of celebrating middle-aged womanhood. The relationship will eventually cause a social media firestorm, but its main pressure point is

whether Solène can stick with Hayes after her ex-husband (Reid Scott) cheated on her. This is a fairy tale she deserves.

While Showalter ("The Big Sick") has long showed a great gift for juggling comedy and drama at once, "The Idea of You" leans more fully into wish-fulfillment romance. That can leave less to sustain the film, which has notably neutered some of the things that distinguished the book.

The May-December romance has been shrunk a little. In the book, the singer is 20. Given that Galitzine is 29 and the 41-year-old Hathaway is no one's idea of old, this is more like a July-September relationship. In the book, the daughter (Ella Rubin) is a huge admirer of the pop singer, adding to the awkwardness, but in the movie, August Moon is "so 7th grade" to her.

There are surely more interesting and funnier places "The Idea of You" could have gone. But Hathaway and Galitzine are a good enough match that, for a couple hours, it's easy to forget.

But the most convincing thing about "The Idea of You"? Au-

Good: ★★★

gust Moon. The movie nails the look and sound of boy bands so well because it went straight to the source. The original songs in the film are by Savan Kotecha and Carl Falk, the producer-songwriters of, among other pop hits, "What Makes You Beautiful," One Direction's debut single.

That connection will probably only further the sense that "The Idea of You" is very nearly "The Idea of Harry Styles." The filmmakers have distanced the movie from any real-life resemblances. But one thing is for sure: With August Moon following 4*Town of "Turning Red" (whose songs were penned by Billie Eilish and Finneas O'Connell), we are living in the golden age of the fictional boy band.

"The Idea of You," an Amazon MGM Studios release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for some language and sexual content. Running time: 115 minutes.

TheSportsPages

The revolving door in Lakers locker room

The Lakers' firing of Darvin Ham as head coach this week was about as predictable and short-sighted as such things come. The team has now had seven head coaches in 15 years, and the Lake Show has become the Lame Show as far as demonstrating consistency and vision.

I'm not saying that Ham was the greatest man ever to clutch a clipboard.

What I am saying is that if you want to build an operation that contends for the top you have to create and nurture a sound foundation and keep your finger off the panic button every 24 months.

This sort of knee-jerk behavior is rampant in pro sports, and in business and even academia. When I was a college teacher, we had a new president every four or five years and the new one always wanted to make his or her mark by undoing everything the previous prez did, or tried to do.

Every president we had was either fired or got promoted to chancellor and then fired. In my military days, the brigade commander was switched every two years, and we experienced leadership whiplash. Sometimes it was a step up ... just as often a step back or a side-step.

Ham's Lakers had some stars — LeBron James, Anthony Davis and D'Angelo Russell — but they also had stars who got injured a lot, like James, Davis and Russell.

This year the team got off to a bad start, but won the In-Season Tournament and made the playoffs with an impressive closing kick.



Sports Retorts
Jim Tortolano

Continued on page 8

Spring-Ing Forward?

UFL's debut has some promising numbers so far

By Joe Reedy
AP Sports Writer

Editor's note: There are no UFL teams in the LA-OC area, but there might be if the new league provides that spring football is viable. There are some promising signs.

The Birmingham Stallions are playing in a new spring football league, and they're continuing their winning ways.

The Stallions are unbeaten as the United Football League reached its midway point last week. The UFL came about after the mergers of the USFL and XFL last September.

Birmingham, the two-time USFL champion, was one of four teams to survive along with four teams from the XFL. The Stallions are the league's only unbeaten team at 5-0 and can wrap up a playoff spot with a win at Memphis on Saturday.

"Skip Holtz is a heck of a football coach. He has a great way about him and how he manages that team," XFL President and CEO Russ Brandon said. "When



UFL ATTENDANCE and TV numbers are encouraging so far in the combined league's first season (Shutterstock).

you saw them in training camp, you thought this was a team that was going to be tough to beat."

The USFL, which was owned by Fox Sports, had its first season in 2022. The only similarities it had between the USFL of 1983-85 was playing in the spring along with the team names.

The XFL, first founded in 2001 by WWE's Vince McMahon, returned to action in 2020 but had to shut down at midseason because of the COVID-19 pan-

dem. It eventually filed for bankruptcy before it was bought by Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Dany Garcia — Johnson's business partner and ex-wife — and investment firm RedBird Capital Partners. The new-look XFL went up against the USFL last year.

The UFL took the best of both leagues. While games are played in team's home markets, all the teams practice in Arlington, Texas, during the week, which

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Angels hammer Pirates; Dodgers reel in Marlins

It was a rare night, but both Los Angeles-Orange County major league baseball teams won blowouts on Tuesday.

The Los Angeles Angels finally got what they've needed — good pitching and lots of timely hitting.

On Tuesday night the Halos hammered out 15 hits —including two home runs and six RBIs by Kevin Pillar — en route to a

9-0 victory over the Pirates in Pittsburgh.

At the same time, the team got an outstanding performance from starting pitcher Patrick Sandoval (2-5), working seven innings and yielding three hits. He struck out seven batters and walked just one.

Catcher Logan O'Hoppe raised his batting average to .279 with

Continued on page 8

AL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
Texas	21-16	.568	—	7-3
Seattle	20-16	.556	.5	6-4
Oakland	17-20	.459	4	6-4
ANGELS	13-23	.361	7.5	3-7
Houston	12-23	.343	8	5-r

NL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
DODGERS	25-13	.658	—	8-2
San Diego	19-20	.487	6.5	5-5
Arizona	16-20	.444	8	4-6
San. Fran	16-21	.432	8.5	3-7
Colorado	8-27	.229	15.5	2-8

Finally, will spring football finally put down roots?

Continued from page 6

the XFL did last year.

Fox Sports CEO and executive producer Eric Shanks credited Brandon and Garcia for a smooth merger.

“Russ is a great operational football executive who has contacts that are second to none. Getting to know Dany, the avenues she opens up to think about through her relationship with players and

coaches, content, marketing, branding, social media, it really opened my eyes to why the XFL had been successful,” Shanks said. “Some of the metrics around our UFL coverage are successful. And a lot of that goes to Dany.”

Daryl Johnston, the former USFL president of football operations, leads the UFL football operations. Mike Periera and Dean Blandino, who were integral with developing officiating in the USFL, are also part of the UFL. Games are averaging 2 hours, 57 minutes along with a combined 42.5 points.

While the UFL adopted the XFL’s extra point option (run/pass options with 1 point from the 2-yard line, 2 points from the 5-yard line and 3 points from the 10-yard line), the kick-offs are more traditional and taken from the USFL. The biggest difference, though, was that teams kicked off from the 20-yard line, which has resulted in a 94.9% return rate and average starting position at the 36-yard line.

If the game is tied or a team is trailing in the fourth quarter,



it has the option of retaining possession after a score with a fourth-and-12 from its own 28-yard line.

Brandon said even if they knew the NFL would adopt a new kickoff model reflecting the XFL of 2020 and '23, the UFL would have likely still gone with the more traditional approach.

“We went back and forth on the kickoff. At the end of the day, both leagues were looking at almost the identical return rate and the injury data was almost identical as well. So we kept the more formal kickoff play,” he said.

More than 250,000 fans have attended the first 20 UFL games,

including 40,317 in St. Louis on April 6 when the Battlehawks hosted the Arlington Renegades.

While Birmingham has a two-game lead over Michigan in the USFL conference, St. Louis and San Antonio are tied in the XFL conference with 4-1 records.

St. Louis has benefitted from the return of coach Anthony Becht and quarterback A.J. McCarron, who leads the league in passing TDs (10) and second in yards (1,051). Hakeem Butler is the league’s leading receiver with 25 receptions for 344 yards and three touchdowns.

The San Antonio Brahmas are coached by Wade Phillips, who led Houston’s USFL team last year. With Phillips’ forte being defense, it isn’t a surprise he has three of the league’s top five tacklers.

The Arlington Renegades, who won the XFL last season, are 0-5.



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Huntington baseball, softball teams advance

Pacifica softball team rallies to victory over South Hills Huskies

Three local baseball and softball high school teams won on Tuesday and advanced to the next round of the CIF-SS playoffs. Seven lost.

In Division 1 baseball's second round, Huntington Beach defeated Villa Park 5-3.

The Oilers (22-8) will advance to the quarterfinal round on Friday, hosting Santa Margarita (21-8-1). The semifinal round is on Tuesday, May 14.

Matt Hansen was for 2-for-3 with a run scored for HBHS. Dominic Gutierrez homered as the team posted its fourth straight win.

In softball, in Division 1 round one a pair of Division 1 teams posted triumphs. Huntington Beach (18-7) defeated Riverside Poly 4-1.

PREP SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

CIF-SS Playoffs Baseball/Softball

Second Round Division 1

Baseball Tuesday

Hunt. Bch; 5, Villa Park 3

Division 8

San Bernardino, R, Alamitos 1

First Round

Softball Tuesday

Division 1

Hunt. Bch. 4, Riverside Poly 1

Pacifica 4, South Hills 3

Division 5

Grace 4, Garden Grove 3

St. Joseph 13, Santiago 3

Division 7

AB Miller 4, Los Amigos

Muir 14, Orangewood 4

Division 8

Temecula Prep 1, Orange 0

The Oilers will take on Mesa High of Murrieta (24-3) on Thursday.

Pacifica High (24-2) defeated South Hills 4-3 and will take on Oaks Christian (22-4) on Thursday. The Mariners scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to rally from behind.

Brynne Nally worked seven innings, giving up two hits and three earned runs. She struck out six batters and walked three.

Malta Cuevas was 2-for-3 with a single and a double with two runs batted in.

Semifinal action will follow on Saturday.

Angels roll, 9-0; Dodgers win big

Continued from page 6

a 4-for-5 performance with two RBIs.

With the win, the Angels snapped a three-game losing streak and improved their record to 13-23 which lifted them into fourth place in the American League West.

Showing no sign of slowing down, the Los Angeles Dodgers won their sixth consecutive game on Tuesday, beating the Miami Marlins 8-2 at Chavez Ravine.

It was their 13th win in 15 games.

Max Muncy hit a grand slam in the first inning and Gavin Lux hit a solo home run.

Starting pitcher Yoshinobu Yamamoto (4-1) pitched eight

strong innings, giving up five hits and two runs.

He struck out five batters and walked two.

The Blue Crew is now 25-13 and leads the NL West by 6.5 games over the San Diego Padres.

Sports Retorts: Revolving doors

Continued from page 6

So what if they didn't add a 19th championship banner to the rafters. In 1964, Yogi Berra managed the Yankees to the AL championship, winning 99 games. And was fired when the Yanks lost the World Series in seven games.

Under new management, they slumped to sixth place in 1965 and 10th (and last place) in 1966. They didn't make it back to the World Series until 1977 when Billy Martin was fired twice in one season by George Steinbrenner.

Let's face it; winning it all is at least one half luck and timing. The Angels were at their best with a long-term manager like Mike Scioscia and the Lakers with Pat Riley and Phil Jackson.

Those giants aren't available. But maybe it's time to show some patience and grow a new hero from the fellows you have.

Retorts: Jane is difficult to forgive

Continued from page 3

actions mocked the working class kids who fought the war. They didn't have the option of being willing fools, like Jane.

You don't have to feel that the Vietnam War – whose implications still echo strongly, especially in Orange County – was the best course for America, to understand that there's a difference between honest dissent and shallow Hollywood political theater.

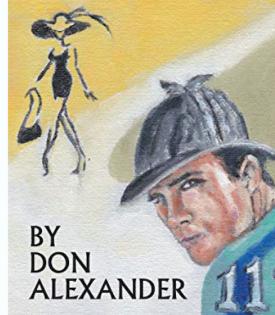
Just as it's too late to save the lives of those 58,000 – not to mention the many who were wounded physically or emotionally scarred – it's too late for me to feel comfortable saying, "That's OK, Jane."

The life you lead depends on the decisions you make. She made a bad one in 1972, and it follows her yet. Just like memories of the wounded who wore the uniform in an unpopular war a half-century ago.

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Don Alexander has been a sports columnist, a sports broadcaster, talk show host and a college instructor. This is his first novel.

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