

Modified 'MAGA' Plaque Is Approved

A controversy over what's being called 'too partisan'

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

■ HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY COUNCIL

A modified version of the controversial "MAGA" plaque noting the 50th anniversary of the opening of the city's Central Library was approved unanimously on Tuesday night by the Huntington Beach City Council.

It was proposed by Councilman Chad Williams, and included some artistic changes from the original including a larger eagle and other modifications, but the most significant had to do with the content. "Some people seem to have trouble understand-

ing words," he said, referring to the slogan of "Magical Alluring Galvanizing Adventurous."

But then said that maybe it wasn't the words. "The problem is, who said it," Williams said.

He suggested that some people suffered from "Donald Trump Derangement Syndrome" and therefore reacted negatively to anything the president said.

On the revised plaque – below the MAGA, arranged now on a line – are words and phrases he said



HUNTINGTON BEACH Central Library in Central Park (OC Tribune photo).

were taken from comments from former presidents Ronald Reagan, Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

During the public comments session earlier in

the meeting most of the people speaking were in opposition to the plaque, arguing it was too "political" or "partisan."

One tense moment involved a speaker who –

after criticizing the plaque – announced he was going to do "peaceful resistance" and started to walk toward the council before he was intercepted by police officers.

State Senate vote on Tuesday here

A special primary election will be held on Tuesday in the 36th State Senate to fill a vacancy.

Four candidates – two Republicans and two Democrats – will be on the ballot.

They are:

- John Briscoe, Republican; business owner/broker;
- Julie Diep, Democrat; disability rights advocate;
- Jimmy D. Pham, Democrat; attorney/business owner;
- Tony Strickland, Republican; Huntington

Election 2025

Beach councilman/businessman.

The vacancy was created when Janet Nguyen was elected to the Orange County Board of Supervisors for the First District. That unexpired term will end on Dec. 7, 2026.

The 36th District covers coastal and northwestern areas of Orange County (including Huntington Beach, Stanton, Garden

Continued on page 2

Inside The Trib



The Angels land a closer

SPORTS Page 6



'Capt. America' is no marvel

ARTS & LIVING Page 5

DUI driving cause of this fatal crash?

A 26-year-old Buena Park woman was arrested Sunday after a fatal traffic collision in Anaheim that took the life of a 56-year-old Long Beach woman.

According to the APD, Samantha Farris was taken into custody for felony driving under the influence and gross vehicular manslaughter. She was booked at the Anaheim police headquarters after being medically cleared at a local hospital and was released on bail on Monday.

The incident began at



SAMANTHA FARRIS (APD)

around 10 p.m. Sunday when officers and Anaheim Fire & Rescue units responded to a report of a

Continued on page 2

State Senate special election

Continued from page 1

Grove and Westminster) as well as parts of Los Angeles County (Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens).

Republicans have an edge in party registration at 38.48 per-

cent. Democrats have 33.74 percent and “no party preference” is at 24.05 percent.

Republicans have held the district since 1994.

The last-day of Vote Centers for in-person voting will be on Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Woman is arrested for DUI in fatal crash in Anaheim

Continued from page 1

traffic collision at the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Broadway Street.

A woman in a red crossover sport utility vehicle was trapped inside her vehicle.

Heavy rescue equipment was used to extract the driver, who was taken to an area hospital. She was pronounced dead from her injuries about one hour after the collision.

The name of the deceased woman was not released pending notification of her next-of-kin.

Police investigation indicated that Farris – who was reported to have been drinking alcohol be-

fore the crash – made a left turn in her white Volkswagen sedan in front of the other vehicle at Magnolia and Broadway.

Anyone with additional information about the incident is asked to call the APD at (714) 765-1900.

AZTECA MEXICAN RESTAURANT
12914

Great Food & Atmosphere for the Whole Family!

Enjoy our crazy Elvis-themed restaurant serving Awesome Mexican Food!

In the mood to sing? Join us for Family Karaoke on Friday & Saturday nights.

Azteca Restaurant & Lounge
www.AztecaOC.com
HISTORIC MAIN STREET • GARDEN GROVE

Get your free e-news paper

Want a free subscription to the e-paper version of The Orange County Tribune?

Send us an e-mail at orangecountytribune@gmail.com and request a subscription.

The Tribune covers Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster with editions on Wednesday and Saturday.

The★Tribune

Jim Tortolano
Editor and Publisher
Marilyn Lewis Tortolano
General Manager

The Orange County Tribune is published on Wednesdays and Saturdays with some exceptions. Address is 9402 Luders Ave., Garden Grove, 92844.

E-mail : orangecountytribune@gmail.com.

www.orangecountytribune.com.
Phone: (714) 458-1860.

Established Aug. 6, 2016. All opinions expressed in The Tribune, unless otherwise stated, are those of the individual writer or artist and not necessarily those of The Tribune.

The Tribune is a member of The Associated Press, the Garden Grove Downtown Business Association and Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce.

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

Phuc Long Coffee & Tea
Authentic Vietnamese Coffee & Boba Tea

Start your happy day with a cup of coffee
Start your fun day with a boba milk tea

10% off
When Mention O.C. TRIBUNE

phuclongusa
12936 Main Street
Garden Grove, CA 92840
(933) TEA • BOBA | (933) 932-2822

DOGS AND CATS AGREE:
“We love Dr. Leung!”

Looking for a veterinarian who is:
• compassionate? • experienced?
• fair-priced? • conveniently-located?

Alamos Animal Hospital is a full-service facility and will treat urgent and routine medical, surgical, and dental issues. Albert Leung is experienced in all types of conditions and treatments. Beyond first-rate pet care, we make our clinic comfortable, kid-friendly, and a very calm environment so your pet – and you – can relax in the waiting room.

ALAMITOS ANIMAL HOSPITAL
7122 Garden Grove Blvd., Westminster
(just west of Knott and Goldenwest)
Call (714) 893-3591 or go to:
Alamosanimalhospital.com
Open Monday through Saturday

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

You have friends in Real Estate



The team of **Scott and Rebecca Weimer** will put their 74 years of combined experience and expertise to work for you. They are caring, honest, knowledgeable, hard-working and ethical. They’ve put the client’s best interests first since 1978.

They offer diversified real estate sales and services with the personal touch.



Weimer & Associates

AN INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

714-534-0992

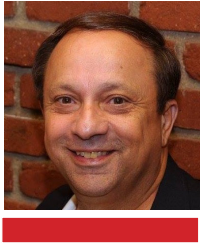
12866 Main St,
Suite 100, Garden Grove
Garden Grove CA 92840

News & Views

Don't let our history pass away and be forgotten

It's been said of California that it has no past.

That's so untrue and it's especially untrue of Orange County. Its "history" dates back at least to 1776 in San Juan Capistrano – just as the United States was declaring its independence from Great Britain – and years before the founding of Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles and other well-known metropolises.



Retorts Jim Tortolano

Anaheim was born in 1857 – four years before the outbreak of the Civil War – and Garden Grove was founded in 1874, two years before "Custer's Last Stand."

There's a lot of history in the story of our communities, but how much of it survives?

Developers – and cities anxious for development – have not exactly been anxious to stand strong for preserving the buildings, churches and business districts that have historic and significance.

But despite that there are still opportunities keep some gems for demolition or significant alteration.

In Garden Grove, for instance, I would nominate the Gem Theatre on Main Street, the Main Street block downtown (both of which can claim 100 years of existence) and nearby Garden Grove High School (established 1921, built at current location in 1923).

Not quite as historic, but significant architecturally is the Christ (formerly Crystal) Cathedral and certainly – the Stanley Ranch and Museum operated by the Garden Grove Historical Society.

Our other cities certainly

TAKING A STAND



At campuses in the Garden Grove Unified School District, new fence banners have been posted as "a display of our commitment to supporting students and families of all immigration statuses and to serve as a friend reminder to continue to spread the kindness and empathy that has built our school communities." The GGUSD serves most of Garden Grove and parts of Anaheim, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Santa Ana, Stanton and Westminster (GGUSD photo).

■ AREA NEWS BRIEFS

Local students lining up on dean's lists of universities

Local students have been honored recently by their college or university.

At Tufts University of Massachusetts named to the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester are:

- Addysen Carson of Garden Grove;
- Cat Kawabe of Huntington Beach;
- Sidney Do of Huntington Beach.

At Seton Hall University in New Jersey named to the dean's list for the fall semester was:

- Anikka Aguirre of Huntington Beach.

Get your free e-paper twice weekly

Want a free subscription to the e-paper version of The Orange County Tribune? Send us an e-mail at orangecountytribune@gmail.com and request a subscription.

The Orange County Tribune covers Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster.

Our twice-weekly e-newspaper offers coverage of national and local news coverage, as well as that of area professional and high school sports..

DUI checkpoint on Thursday in H. Beach

The Huntington Beach Police Department will hold a DUI Checkpoint on Thursday, Feb. 20, from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. at an undisclosed location within the city limits.

Checkpoint locations are chosen based on the history of DUI crashes and arrests. The primary purpose of checkpoints is not to make arrests but to promote public safety by deterring drivers from driving impaired.

During the checkpoint, officers will look for signs that drivers are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The Huntington Beach Police Department is committed to keeping the traveling public safe. The safety of the community is and always will be the mission of the HBPd.

Officers will be are looking for impaired drivers because driving under the influence is dangerous and puts others on the road at risk.

The Huntington Beach Police Department reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol.

Some prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving.

Always follow directions for use and read warning labels about driving or "operating heavy machinery," which includes driving a car.

While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

If you plan on drinking or taking medications that may impact your ability to drive safely, plan on staying at home.

Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

NewsUpdate

'Broad Principles' on Ukraine Peace

U.S., Russia and Saudi Arabia met on Tuesday

Four "broad principles" on negotiating a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine have been arrived at, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced on Tuesday.

United Press International is reporting that the talks in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia led to an understanding that U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin needed to develop a "bilateral relationship" to "normalize" their "diplomatic relationships."

The Saudis, Americans and



DELEGATES from the U.S, Russia and Saudi Arabia (X).

Russians will work on an end to the war that's "enduring, sustainable and acceptable to all sides, lay the groundwork

for cooperation and interest that will emerge after the war."

Ukraine was not a party to the meeting and Ukrainian Presi-

dent Volodymyr Zelensky said his nation wouldn't accept any peace agreement without its participation.

RFK Jr. wants panel to study vaccines and more

A new presidential commission will be created that will examine childhood vaccine schedules, psychiatric medications and other treatments, Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr. announced on Tuesday.

"Nothing is going to be off limits," he said. Kennedy has often suggested that there may be a connection between those and other medical practices and

chronic disease, according to The New York Times.

Kennedy ran for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2024 and then dropped his bid and supported the election of Donald Trump to the White House.

He is the son of former New York Senator and United States Attorney General Robert Kennedy, who served under President John Kennedy.

Great Thoughts

"The People have a right to the Truth as they have a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

— Frank Norris, novelist.

"If we take the generally accepted definition of bravery as a quality which knows no fear, I have never seen a brave man. All men are frightened. The more intelligent they are, the more they are frightened."

– George S. Patton, American general.

Medicaid cuts considered by GOP Republicans

Reductions in the Medicaid program for adults and children in the billions of dollars are being considered by Republicans in Congress.

According to The Associated Press, the \$880 billion program of nearly-free health care could be a way to balance the federal budget if tax cuts to corporations and wealthier Americans are put into place.

In addition, the White House

announced on Friday, it would reduce by 90 percent the Navigator Program that helps people enroll in the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as "Obamacare."

A work requirement for Medicaid is being considered. Speaker of the House Mike Johnson said, "It's common sense," adding, "You know, work is good for you. You find dignity in work."

Weather: It's getting warmer

February is getting very un-February-like weather for our West Orange County cities. Wednesday is predicted to have a daytime high of 70 with an overnight low of 49.

Expect clouds in the morning and sun in the afternoon. Tuesday should rise to 73 (50) with partly cloudy skies. Friday will see more warming with 77 (51) and sun. Saturday will be similar at 77 (54) but with partly cloudy skies.

Arts & Living

This 'Capt. America' Is No Marvel

Anthony Mackie impresses but he is alone

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

Celebrate Valentine's Day this year with "Captain America: Brave New World," a highly processed, empty calorie, regret-later candy of a movie.

We're nearing the end of Phase Five of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, with predictable and underwhelming returns. "Captain America: Brave New World" feels like it's just treading water, wasting Anthony Mackie in his first cinematic outing as his "Hamlet"-like Captain America.

The story by Rob Edwards, Malcolm Spellman and Dalan Musson gathers familiar Marvel characters and blends them into a White House conspiracy-meets-international violent face-off in the Indian Ocean. Only Marvel in Phase Five could make that boring.

It lifts from "The Manchurian Candidate" and "Top Gun" and even pointlessly steals its title from Aldous Huxley. It cannibalizes from other Marvel movies, like the addition of a substance called Adamantium, much like Vibranium from Wakanda. There is a Kendrick Lamar song heard at the climactic end, but it's not new; it's from 2014.

We start with Harrison Ford as Thaddeus "Thunderbolt" Ross — taking the role over from the late William Hurt — in his first days as U.S. president. He insists he's changed from the days when he hunted down Hulk and was an all-around evil dude.

He approaches Sam Wilson, the new Captain America, and proposes a strategic union between the government and Captain America. "Work with me, Sam. We'll show the world a better



ANTHONY MACKIE in "Capt. America: Brave New World (Walt Disney Pictures).

Movie Review

way forward."

This is a dangerous idea — superheroes working for the government — and Cap is warned but still agrees. "Trust me. My eyes are wide open," he reassures Danny Ramirez as his sidekick and fledgling new Falcon. (Cap's eyes may be open but yours may be slowly closing).

There is a trio of bad guys, each more powerful and overacting as the last — a delicious Giancarlo Esposito as the villain Sidewinder, Tim Blake Nelson as Samuel Sterns (a hyper-intelligent megalomaniac with his brain literally bursting out of his skull) and Red Hulk, a massive slab of angry man-meat who makes the regular Hulk look like Timothée Chalamet.

There are also some tangential characters, like Isaiah Bradley, a Korean War veteran who was a Super Soldier but spent years in prison, and the weirdly cast Shira Haas as Ruth Bat-Seraph,

a slippery national security agent with a murky agenda.

Director Julius Onah does well with the action but fumbles the quieter moments and supervises editing that's the opposite of crisp, not helped by script writers who ape military language — "Negative, the package is the priority" — and grandiose sentiment — "The country is lost."

For extra credit, spot all the product placements in the movie: Cap drives a GMC truck and uses Dell computers. The president of the United States uses a Peloton. What a wasted opportunity for Cap'n Crunch.

There does emerge a theme that unites Cap and Ross, which is that both feel the need to prove themselves. Mackie's Captain America throughout the previous 2021 TV series "The Falcon and the Winter Soldier" was ambivalent about taking on the mantle of Steve Rogers, the original Sentinel of Liberty. "You wonder if you'll ever be enough," he says.

Ross says he wants to secure peace across the world but re-

Poor ★

ally wants to reconnect with his estranged daughter — Liv Tyler — and prove he's changed. He wants to take a walk with her to see the cherry blossoms. We would like him to ask serious questions of his agent.

Mackie, who joined the MCU more than a decade ago in 2014's "Captain America: The Winter Soldier," has been a good servant to Marvel and deserves better. One of our great actors, he can be steely and vulnerable. But he can't outrace stilted lines like "If we can't see the good in each other, we've already lost the fight." Marvel has lost more than the fight; they've lost the thread.

"Captain America: Brave New World," a Walt Disney Pictures release that opens in theaters on Friday, is rated PG-13 for "intense sequences of violence, action and some strong language." Running time: 118 minutes.

TheSportsPages

A sad moment for Mike Trout, out in right field

Poor Mike Trout. No, I'm not being sarcastic here. At a press conference on Monday, he fessed up to what everyone already knew: once the best centerfielder in Major League Baseball, he was being moved over to right.

He looked liked he had eaten a bad clam. His body language suggested something akin to that of groom at a shotgun wedding.

"I'll do what's best for me.

Body-wise, keep me on the field," he said. "I'll see how it goes."



Sports Retorts

Jim Tortolano

You can't blame Mike for being reluctant to let go of the CF spot. It's the most glamorous fielding position in baseball and probably the most fun. You get to showcase your speed, your glove and your arm all in a few seconds.

Playing in the deepest part of the outfield, you're the guy who makes the ESPN highlights, robbing some batter of what seemed to be a sure home run. But while 33 isn't yet crutch and walker territory, he's not only a bit past his prime, but also injury-prone in his past few seasons.

The very term "right field" suggests the boondocks, the wrong side of the tracks. In grade school, the weakest fielder on the team was plunked out there, and when a left-handed batter came up to the plate, there was a switch.

So maybe Mike will "only" be the best right-fielder in baseball. That's still pretty good. Unless you used to be the best at everything.

The NBA or Not Berry Appealing: The National Basketball Association will be resum-

Continued on page 8

More Veterans for the Halos

Former Dodger closer comes back to SoCal

ANAHEIM (AP) — The Los Angeles Angels announced a \$10 million, one-year contract with veteran right-hander Kenley Jansen and a \$5 million, one-year deal with veteran infielder Yoán Moncada on Saturday.

Jansen, a 37-year-old closer, spent the past two seasons with the Boston Red Sox after a 12-season run with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Jansen will begin his 16th major league season with the Angels, who bolstered their bullpen with the move. He seems likely to be the closer for a team that traded former All-Star closer Carlos Estévez to Philadelphia last July, allowing fireballing reliever Ben Joyce to remain in a setup role.

Jansen is returning to the Los Angeles area, where he is still beloved after spending much of his major league career with the Dodgers, who signed him as an undrafted free agent out of Curacao.

Jansen won a World Series ring, twice led the NL in saves and earned three of his four All-Star selections during his long tenure with the Dodgers, who eventually let him leave for Atlanta as a free agent in 2022.

Jansen has recorded at least 25 saves in each of his past 12 seasons. With a consistent pitch repertoire built on his famed



KENLEY JANSEN was a Dodger closer (Wikipedia)

cutter, he is the majors' active career leader in appearances (871) and saves (447).

He had 27 saves in 31 opportunities for the Red Sox last season, racking up 62 strikeouts in 54 2/3 innings.

Jansen is yet another veteran addition to the Angels, who are coming off the worst season in franchise history. Los Angeles also has added starting pitchers Yusei Kikuchi (33 years old) and Kyle Hendricks (35), catcher Travis d'Arnaud (36), outfielder Jorge Soler (32) and third

baseman Yoán Moncada (29).

Moncada, who is from Cuba, made his major league debut with the Red Sox in 2016 before playing for the Chicago White Sox for eight seasons. He has a career .254 batting average with 93 homers and 339 RBIs.

To make room for Jansen and Moncada on the 40-man roster, infielder Anthony Rendon (left hip impingement) and right-hander Robert Stephenson (elbow surgery) were placed on the 60-day injured list.

The NBA has returned

By Tim Williams
AP Basketball Writer

The trade deadline is gone. The All-Star break is about to end. Luka Doncic is with the Los Angeles Lakers. Jimmy Butler is with the Golden State Warriors. Anthony Davis

is with the Dallas Mavericks, though it's unknown when he'll play again.

The dust has settled. It's time for the stretch run.

Here comes the fun part of the season. Every club has between 26 and 30 games remaining in

Continued on page 8

Lakers, Clips back

Both the Los Angeles Kings and Los Angeles Clippers are back this week after the NBA All-Star Break. The Lakers will host the Charlotte Hornets on Wednesday and the Clippers will be on the road Thursday visiting the Milwaukee Bucks.

Mariners beat Cate, advance to semis

By Miles Gaskin
Orange County Tribune

The Pacifica Mariners outlasted the Cate Rams of Carpinteria in a gritty, defensive battle on Tuesday night, prevailing 44-41 to advance to the CIF-SS 4-AA semifinals on Friday.

Despite early struggles, the M's were able to secure the home win late thanks to some crucial plays down the stretch.

Cate started the game on a 12-2 run, and led by four at half time. Cate held a narrow lead for the vast majority of the game, but with just a minute left, Pacifica found themselves clinging to a 42-41 lead.

Cate played defense without fouling at first but fouled very late in the shot clock, forcing them to foul again in order to stop the clock and give themselves another possession. Pacifica managed to work the clock down to about 15 seconds before Cate fouled junior guard Gianmarco Mendoza.

With the game in the balance

Mendoza calmly knocked down both free throws to put the Mariners up 44-41. With the game's final possession, Cate senior combo guard Marcus Scudder missed the potential game tying three pointer.

Cate will end their season at 14-8 overall. Pacifica will improve to 21-10 overall.

The Mariners were led by junior shooting guard Myles Salas, who shot the lights out from long range finishing with 19 points, including five-three pointers, and three rebounds. Junior combo guard Maxon Tjhatra also chipped in, with 10 points, a rebound, an assist, and a steal.

The Rams got big time play out of Marcus Scudder, who finished with 12 points and two steals, as well as sophomore wing Barylin Glomah, who had eight points, six rebounds, three assists, and a steal.

Pacifica Coach David Friedman said that the team might have been a little nervous to start the game which resulted in the slow start.



BATTLE at the basket during Pacifica's 44-41 CIF-SS quarterfinal game on Wednesday night. (Tribune photo).

"Early on we looked really tight, the guys were a little nervous, fortunately we were able to keep the game close for the first half in order to get those nerves out and only be down four."

Friedman had high praise for Myles Salas after his big night. "Myles is a great kid, he's the

hardest worker in every drill, every single day, and he showed you tonight what he is capable of," said Friedman. "He is a really good player and he has a lot more basketball ahead of him."

In the semifinal game, Pacifica will face district rival Santiago, which defeated Workman 66-64.



GARDEN GROVE'S BEST KEPT SECRET

What is behind that big old house and windmill
on Euclid Street south of Chapman Avenue?

Stop by any 1st or 3rd Sunday of every month at
1:30pm and let us show you the history of
Garden Grove

Private tours are available by appointment

Stanley Ranch Historic Village
12174 Euclid Street, Garden Grove 92840
714-530-8871
gardengrovehistsoc@att.net

Your loved ones are safe with us, Always

DONNINGTON
HOMECARE
a division of Donnington Corporation

The Finest Care at Home!



California License # 304700137

All of our Staff are :

Covered by Workers' Compensation

W-2 Employees (no 1099s)

Finger printed and screened through LiveScan (FBI)

English speaking Citizens or Legal Residents

Licensed in California

TB tested

Tel : (714) 530-7946

Fax : (714) 530-7947

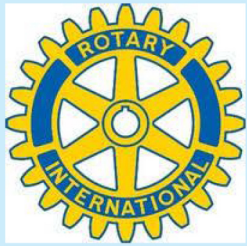
e-mail : donningn@att.net www.donningtoncorp.com

11752 Garden Grove Blvd., Suite 121
Garden Grove, CA 92843-1442

The NBA: And here comes the stretch run

Continued from page 6

this 7 1/2-week sprint to the April 13 finish line, play resuming Wednesday when Charlotte faces the Lakers. And teams will point to recent history as proof that just getting into the playoffs means anything can happen: No. 5, No. 6, No. 7 and No. 8 seeds have made their way to the conference finals in the last two years alone.



Who helped eradicate the plague of polio?

Garden Grove Rotary

Who sponsors a defibrillator program to save lives when heart attacks strike?

Garden Grove Rotary

Who recognizes 6th grade students for achievement in academics and scholarship?

Garden Grove Rotary

Who sponsors and contributes to training high school students on leadership and citizenship?

Garden Grove Rotary.

The **Garden Grove Rotary Club** has been serving the community since 1953. The modern club is part of a worldwide service organization of over 1 million men and women.

Interested in doing good work in your town and enjoying fellowship and fun with like-minded leaders in Garden Grove? Contact us for meeting times and more information. E-mail: journaldon@aol.com. Website: gardengroverotary.com.

“I’m looking forward to the challenge,” said the Warriors’ Stephen Curry, the now two-time All-Star Game MVP. “It’s basically a playoff game every single night, and that usually brings the best out of you.” Some teams can go ahead and start planning for the playoffs.

Oklahoma City and Cleveland are both 44-10, tied for the best record in the league. Defending champion Boston, currently No. 2 in the Eastern Conference, remains on pace to obliterate league records for 3-pointers made and attempted in a season.

The Celtics, New York, Denver, Houston and the Lakers all have winning percentages over

.600, which is an excellent sign — 132 of the last 133 teams to reach the break with such a record have wound up making the postseason.

“We have obviously a pretty good basketball team,” said Oklahoma City All-Star guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, the current MVP favorite according to BetMGM Sportsbook. “We have a little bit more experience. We have an opportunity to, for sure, win an NBA championship. Now we’re going to have to earn it.”

Then there’s the other end of the spectrum, that being the teams that are out of the mix.

Over the last 20 seasons, 98.8% of the teams that have winning percentages under .400 at the break wind up missing the playoffs. If that form holds, that eliminates Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Toronto, Charlotte, Utah, New Orleans and Washington.

So, based on the numbers, that means seven teams are in, seven teams are out, and 16 teams remain in the middle fighting for what will be the last nine playoff spots — five to be clinched on or before the end of the regular season on April 13, four others to be won in the play-in tournament later that week.

“The last 25 to 30 games are really important for everyone,” said Miami guard Tyler Herro, the league’s new 3-point shoot-out champion. “We’ve got a new group, in a sense, and we’re going to hit the ground running. It’s going to happen fast. Every-

thing is going to matter throughout this next month and a half.”

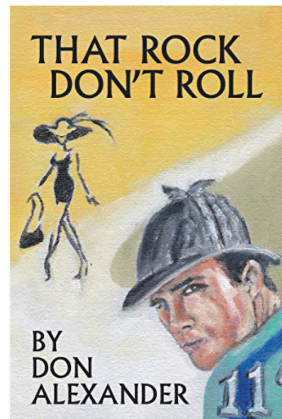
The Heat traded Butler to the Warriors, getting back Andrew Wiggins in return. San Antonio landed De’Aaron Fox from Sacramento, and the Los Angeles Clippers — who have barely had Kawhi Leonard available this season, but he’s playing now — figure they’re right in the mix to challenge as well.

“I think we got a really good chance,” Clippers All-Star guard James Harden said. “We added some shooting, we added some defense and obviously with a healthy Kawhi we’ve got a chance to compete with anybody. So, I think for us, it’s just finding out how we want to play and attacking it.”

Milwaukee added Kyle Kuzma, moving Khris Middleton — a Bucks mainstay for years — to Washington in that deal. And Phoenix didn’t trade Kevin Durant, which is a sign that the Suns are hoping their star trio of him, Devin Booker and Bradley Beal can make a push.

Some serious fun

Murder, corruption, sex, humor, sports and lottery



That Rock Don't Roll

“A fun story set in the OC that is sometimes tongue-in-cheek and sometimes deadly serious.”
– The Orange County Tribune

Available through Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble for \$19.99. Special offer: For a signed copy, including the cost of shipping and handling, send a check for \$15 payable to Don Alexander, 9814 Bird. Ct, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Include your name and return address.



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

Retorts: Save our history before we are

Continued from page 3

have potential nominees for the National Register of Historic Places. And — in Garden Grove — who better to take up this cause that our new Mayor, Stephanie Klopfenstein, whose family has been in town since the late 19th century?

I think we should move now to preserve our history before we Baby Boomers and Gen Xers become history ourselves.

Sports ReTorts: Sorry for Mike; Bored with NBA

Continued from page 6

ing its 2024-25 season shortly and zzzzz ... The format of the All-Star Game (s) was almost universally panned. The NFL saved its “all-star” game with a kind of party: skills competition and flag football coached by the the Manning Bros.

My suggestion for pro basketball is to have a coed game with the WNBA to showcase Caitlin Clark, which brings us to her request (or maybe her agent’s request) for more money, which brings us to the women’s league becoming more on par with the men’s league, especially in the greed department.

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.