

Suspect Held in Killing of a GG Woman

'Relationship' preceded a fatal outcome

A suspect was arrested by Garden Grove police after midnight Thursday for the murder of a woman.

According to the GGPD, booked for homicide was Rafael Arechiga after a high-risk car stop.

The investigation began just before 8 p.m. on Wednesday, when GGPD dispatch received a call from the Santa Ana police department to check on the welfare of a woman at an address in Garden Grove. SAPD was conducting an investigation into a possible missing woman.

Shortly after that, GGPD dispatch received a call

from an address in the area of the 10400 block of Lampson Avenue, the same address given by Santa Ana police.

The person calling said they had been called by the victim's family and was asked to check on her.

She was found dead, so they immediately called Garden Grove police who responded and located the woman dead in her room. It appeared the death was "not of natural causes."

Officers learned that the victim had a restraining order against a man named Rafael Arechiga. Prior domestic incidents with GGPD indicated the two "were in a relationship."

A canvas of the neighborhood revealed that Arechiga had been at the home

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ASIAN GARDEN MALL on Bolsa Avenue is one of the most recognized landmarks in Westminster's Little Saigon area, but there are other "Little Saigons" in Garden Grove, Fountain Valley and Santa Ana (Shutterstock)

Designer sought for 'other' Little Saigons in GG, FV, SA

By **Jim Tortolano**
Orange County Tribune

■ **GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

Although Little Saigon is often thought of as the commercial area along Bolsa Avenue in Westminster, there are also concentrations of Vietnamese-American businesses and residences in Garden Grove, Fountain Valley and Santa Ana.

On Tuesday night, the Garden Grove City Council will consider awarding a contract worth \$250,000 to Gensler, an architecture, design and planning firm to draft architectural and urban design guidelines for the various "Little Saigons" in those cities.

Funding comes from the state Community Eco-

nomics Resilience Fund. If the city is unable to negotiate terms with Gensler, the next choices would be urban design firms Studio One Eleven, then WHA or the SWA Group.

The idea is to develop

those areas as destinations for tourists and area residents.

Also on the agenda will be:

- a Community Spotlight recognizing the Garden Grove Unified School District for its "notable achievements and aplish-

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In The Tribune



The new world of vaccinations

ARTS & LIVING PAGE 5



Davante is back for the Rams

SPORTS PAGE PAGE 6

Rights of tenants, landlords

A study session on the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords is scheduled for Tuesday's meeting of the Stanton City Council.

Among the points would be limits on annual rent increases, the rights of landlords to enter rental units and rules regarding

■ **STANTON CITY COUNCIL**

deposits.

The recommended action by the council is to direct staff to create a webpage on the city's website on those matters with links to state resources.

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Man arrested in murder of GG woman

Continued from page 1

earlier in the day. The GGD dispatch located a vehicle description and license plate for Arechiga during a previous encounter with police.

At about 12:42 a.m. on Thursday

morning, Garden Grove police officers spotted the vehicle and conducted a high-risk car stop in the area of Chapman Avenue and Brookhurst Street. Arechiga, the sole occupant of the vehicle, was detained for the investigation.

With the help of the Orange County Crime Lab and the coro-

ner's office, police concluded that Arechiga was the suspect and he was arrested and booked into Orange County Jail for murder.

Anyone with more information on this case is asked to contact Detective Camara at (714) 741-5824.

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Urban designer for Little Saigons

Continued from page 1

ments in 2025”;

the introduction of an ordinance enacting standards for public hearing notices and other city communications.

The council will meet in its chambers at 6:30 p.m. at 11300 Stanford Ave.

Stanton council

Continued from page 1

Also on the agenda will be a sponsorship of the city with the Stanton Lions Club for the annual Stanton Car Show scheduled for May 16 at Stanton Central Park.

The city will sponsor with an in-kind contribution with a value of \$723.

The council will meet in its chambers at 7800 Katella Ave. at 6:30 p.m.

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News & Views

Look out, out for the terrifying attack of the AI

Beyond the Twilight Zone Dept.: If you were already convinced that much of what you see online is applesauce, you ain't seen nothing yet. The biggest, baddest liar yet to ride the World Wide Web is here, and whoa ... we're in a lot of trouble.

I'm talking about AI (artificial intelligence), which is making your garden-variety fibber look like a kid saying, "It wasn't me," after tracking in mud directly from the sandbox onto the expensive cream-white living room rug.

We've been contesting with faked photos from the crude days of air-brushing through Photoshop to ChatGPT and its sneaky cousins. Even an amateur can produce a reasonably realistic image with just a few keystrokes: I created a pretty good image of the Angels celebrating a World Series victory. Take about your fakes!

Experts can make an image, a film, a faked newscast, etc. that all but the most discriminating eye (and ear) will assume is the genuine thing.

I'm seeing "documentaries" and "news" that looks real, but is fake as my love letters from Jan Smithers. Some of it is done humorously. Some is done with intent to deceive. Some is done to so pollute the public sphere that anything is possible and charlatans selling miracle cures and "patriotic" politicians can drown whatever guilt they may have under a dump truck of cash.

The online "discussions" on



Retorts
Jim Tortolano

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A fire on the San Diego (405) Freeway in Westminster on Wednesday injured three persons (OCFA photo.)

Freeway fire injures three in Westminster

Three persons were injured in a traffic collision with fire on Wednesday in Westminster. According to the Orange County Fire Authority, the incident took place on the southbound San Diego (405) Freeway just south of Bolsa Avenue.

Fire engines for the OCFA were dispatched at around 5:27 p.m. to the scene.

Firefighter-paramedics simultaneously extinguished the vehicle fire and provided emergency medical care to the victims of the crash.

The three adult patients in various conditions were taken to area hospitals for further treatment. The cause of the accident is under investigation by the California Highway Patrol.

'Proactive' police officer collars a trio of suspects

Proactive police work in Huntington Beach on Tuesday night resulted in three arrests of people accused of illegal drug possession and with other charges.

According to the HBPD, at about 11 p.m. an officer conducted a traffic stop for vehicle code violations. During the investigation, the driver was found to be allegedly on probation and in possession of drug paraphernalia and suspected methamphetamine. The driver – identified by police as Isabel Chiara Riccardi, 38, of Huntington Beach – was

taken into custody.

A few hours later, the same police officer did another proactive traffic stop for vehicle code violations

During the stop, the driver – identified by police as Michael Thomas Boone, 58, of Huntington Beach – was found to be allegedly operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license in possession of an illegal switchblade knife, drug paraphernalia and outstanding arrest warrants. The passenger – identified by

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What's closed and open on ML King Day

In observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the City of Garden Grove will follow the schedule below for its facilities and services on Monday, January 19, 2026.

Garden Grove City Hall

- Garden Grove City Hall will be closed.

Resource Centers

- The Garden Grove Community Meeting Center, H. Louis Lake Senior Center, and Magnolia Park Family Resource Center will be closed.

Recreational Facilities

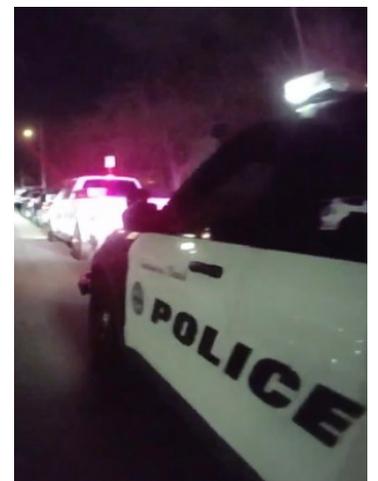
- Atlantis Play Center will be closed.

Street Sweeping

- Street sweeping services will not be provided on the holiday and will resume the following day. For more information, visit www.ggcity.org/pw/street-sweeping.

Trash Service

Trash collection services will not be affected. For more information, visit www.republicservices.com/municipality/garden-grove-ca.



PROACTIVE Huntington Beach police officer had a productive night (HBPD).

NewsUpdate

Hiring Growth Slumped in 2025

Manufacturing, government jobs declined

The number of new jobs added during President Donald Trump’s first year of the second term is showing the slowest growth of employment since 2020.

According to The New York Times, Labor Department statistics released Friday showed 584,000 jobs added in the 12 months. That compares to 2 million jobs added in 2024, President Joe Biden’s fourth year in office.

Unemployment in December was mild but still up, at 4.4 percent, compared to 4 percent one year ago. Four percent is considered “full employment,”



EMPLOYMENT increased in 2025, but not as much as in 2024. Manufacturing is down (Shutterstock).

meaning almost all people who seek employment find work.

Still, that means that – for an example – about 68,000

manufacturing jobs were shed in December 2025. Government jobs eliminated in 2025 are tallied at 277,000, reflecting

the work of the semi-official Department of Government Efficiency run by billionaire Elon Musk.

Another oil tanker seized by United States forces

The U.S. seized another oil tanker on Friday in the Caribbean Sea. According to United Press International, the ship Olina was captured by the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Marines.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem claimed the ship was “suspected of carrying embargoed oil” and had attempted to “evade U.S. forces” as it departed from Venezuela.

The American forces that seized the ship launched from the aircraft carrier USS Gerald Ford and assumed control “without incident,” reported UPI.

Some of those ships seized are considered to be in such poor condition they cannot safely enter U.S. ports, so repairs will have to be made before they can dock in the United States.

Weather: A brief ‘summer’

We probably won’t get much of it, but our West Orange County cities will be getting some summer-like conditions for a while. Saturday is predicted to have sunny skies with a daytime high of 73, with a low of 51. Sunday and Monday will warm to 78 (52) with mostly sunny skies. Tuesday will be slightly cooler at 77 (53) and sunny.

Proposed state budget has a \$3 billion shortfall, but ...

The budget proposed Friday by California Gov. Gavin Newsom will include a \$3 billion deficit. But, according to the Los Angeles Times, that “hole” in the spending plan would have been a lot worse without rising revenues from the booming artificial intelligence industry.

His budget for 2026-27 is proposed for \$348.9 billion with no new major “spending initiatives.” According to what The Times refers to as “non-partisan analysts,” without the AI money, the shortfall could be as large as \$18 billion.

“This budget reflects both confidence and caution,” said Newsom in a statement. He said the state will “remain disciplined and focused on sustaining progress, not overextending it.”

Great Thoughts

“A dream without ambition is like a car without gas. You’re not going anywhere.”

– Sean Hampton

“Life is too short to drive boring cars.”

– Elvis Presley

“Never lend your car to someone to whom you have given birth.”

– Erma Bombeck

Arts & Living

What's Changed in Vaccinations

New guidelines from D.C. may mean changes

By Lauren Neergaard
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. health officials made broad changes to childhood vaccine recommendations Monday, alarming pediatricians and other medical experts who say they will sow confusion and undermine children's health.

The overhaul is effective immediately, meaning that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will now recommend that all children get vaccinated against 11 diseases, down from 18 a year ago.

The changes comes as U.S. vaccination rates have been slipping and the share of children with exemptions has reached an all-time high, according to federal data. At the same time, rates of diseases that can be protected against with vaccines, such as measles and whooping cough, are rising.

Here's what to know about the changes:

Here's what federal vaccine recommendations have changed

Once broadly recommended, the federal government now only recommends protection against these diseases for certain children at high risk or based on individual doctor advice in what's called "shared decision-making."

- Flu
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Meningococcal disease
- Rotavirus
- RSV
- COVID-19, a change made in 2025

Here's what federal vaccine recommendations stayed the same
The following vaccines were left on the recommended-for-all list:



VACCINATIONS for diseases — especially “childhood” maladies -- will continue (Shutterstock).

— Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)

— Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis or whooping cough (DTaP)

— Polio

— Chickenpox

— Human papillomavirus, or HPV. But in a surprise, the guidance reduces the number of recommended vaccine doses against HPV from two or three shots to just one.

— Hib, or Haemophilus influenzae type B, bacteria that despite the name isn't related to flu

— PCV or pneumococcal conjugate vaccine

Why were the vaccine recommendations changed?

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said the overhaul was in response to a request from President Donald Trump in December. Trump asked the agency to review how peer nations approach vaccine recommendations and consider revising U.S. guidance accordingly.

HHS said its comparison to 20 peer nations found that the U.S. was an “outlier” in both the number of vaccinations and the num-

ber of doses it recommended to all children. Officials with the agency framed the change as a way to increase public trust by recommending only the most important vaccinations for children to receive.

However, many European countries recommend some of the vaccines the U.S. removed from its list.

What do doctors and pediatricians say?

The nation's large doctors' groups, including the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics, say they will continue to recommend the vaccines that the

Trump administration has now demoted. They said there was no new science that warranted the changes, including no signs that the former U.S. vaccine schedule harmed children.

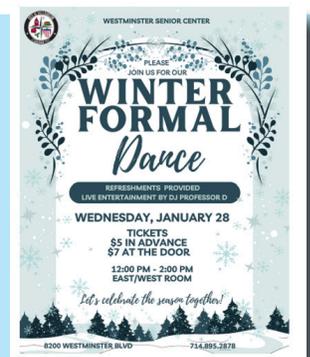
Dr. Sean O'Leary of the AAP said the changes could increase child illness and death from preventable disease. He voiced special concern that the U.S. would no longer recommend flu vaccine for children, just as the flu season is becoming severe and after last winter's particularly harsh season.

The pediatricians' group has issued its own child vaccine recommendations. Also, states, not the federal government, have

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Let's get formal

The Winter Formal Dance at the Westminster Senior Center is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 28 in the East/West room from 12-2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Refreshments will be provided and there will be live entertainment for DJ Professor D.



TheSportsPages

Puka Nacua: nothing quite like him now

I grew up (to the extent that I ever really grew up) watching Roman Gabriel throwing the “post route” deep pass to Jack Snow to the end zone and another Rams touchdown.

Although I respect all the positions in football, the wide receiver is the one I most admired. The Rams have long been blessed

with outstanding wideouts, including Cooper Kupp, now with the Seahawks. There’s one who may turn out to be the most memorable, which is a



**Sports
Retorts**
Jim Tortolano

lot to say about a team that has future Hall of Famer Davante Adams.

I’m talking about Puka Nacua, whose play has lifted the Rams into Super Bowl contention. Matthew Stafford is superb, but when was the last time you saw him throw a block?

Puka is an outstanding wide receiver. He runs clean patterns, is (almost) always where he’s supposed to be. He finds the spot, squares up his body and presents a great target for Stafford. It almost looks like they’re playing “catch” in the backyard. He averages 107.2 yards receiving per game.

But he also can be called upon to carry the ball on a short-yardage situation and blocks downfield when someone else is the receiver. This season he’s only had four drops out of 166 “targets” and only one drop in 2025.

And he looks so darn cheerful and friendly doing it all. Some football players look perpetually angry, as if they’re working in a coal mine for \$4 an hour and a bus pass.

Puka seems to be glorying in the big show he’s starring in

Continued on page 8

Adams Back, With Goals

Davante sees a long playoff run for Rams

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Davante Adams didn’t work his way back from a late-season hamstring injury and a knee injury just to make one playoff appearance for the Los Angeles Rams.

The star receiver with a long playoff history — but not a recent history — is confident the fifth-seeded Rams (12-5) will play more than just one postseason game this winter.

“I was just talking about this with a couple of the guys — you have to forgive me if we’re not cheesing ear to ear after the first win,” Adams said Tuesday. “Obviously, we’ve got to go out there and play the right type of ball to be in that position. But we’ve got bigger goals in mind than to just survive the first round of the playoffs. I think everybody is going to have that mindset of being locked in the whole time and staying present in the moment so we can take care of business this week, and then you get ready for next week.”

Adams is ready to return from his three-game injury absence when the Rams visit the Carolina Panthers (8-9) on Saturday in the



DAVANTE ADAMS will be back in the lineup for the Rams against the Carolina Panthers in a NFC wild card playoff.

■ **RAMS** will visit the Carolina Panthers on Channel 11 on Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

wild-card round. The game will be Adams’ first postseason appearance since January 2022, when the Packers lost to San Francisco in the final game of his successful eight-year tenure in Green Bay.

Adams didn’t make the postseason in the ensuing three years with Las Vegas or the New York Jets, but he is eager to play in his 12th postseason game when he suits up for the Rams, who are

among the favorites for Super Bowl contention as the NFL postseason begins.

Adams played a major part in the success of the NFL’s most productive offense, leading the league with 14 touchdown receptions in 14 games while catching 60 passes for 789 yards.

His yardage and receptions totals ended up being his lowest in a decade because he got hurt during the Rams’ 41-34 comeback win over Detroit on Dec. 14, sidelining him for the final three games of the regular sea-

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John Harbaugh will be back

By Beth Harris
AP Sports Writer

EL SEGUNDO (AP) — The NFL is down one Harbaugh in its coaching ranks, although Los Angeles Chargers coach Jim Harbaugh doesn’t expect his older brother to be out of a job for long.

“He’ll be a head coach next year,” Jim Harbaugh said Wednesday. “We’ll be playing

■ PRO FOOTBALL

against him in some form or fashion.”

John Harbaugh was fired as coach of the Baltimore Ravens a day earlier after 18 seasons that included a Super Bowl championship in which he famously beat Jim, who coached the San Francisco 49ers at the time. The Ravens were 8-9 and missed the playoffs this season.

■ **CHARGERS** will visit the New England Patriots on Channel 4 on Sunday at 5 p.m.

Jim Harbaugh will guide the visiting Chargers (11-6) against the New England Patriots (14-3) in the AFC wild card game on Sunday.

Asked if he was surprised at his brother’s dismissal, Jim

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BLUE ON BLUE



PACIFICA defeated Western 49-28 in a non-league game (above) earlier in the season. On Friday the Mariners took on Brea Olinda in a North Hills League contest. Pacifica lost 67-53 to fall to 12-9 overall and 0-3 in league (GGUSD photo).



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Boys

THURSDAY

Laguna Hills 52, Garden Grove 47
Ocean View 90, Santa Ana 57
Katella 61, Westminster 39
Godinez 62, Segerstrom 54

Girls

THURSDAY

Los Alamitos 70, Hunt. Beach 55
Fountain V, 59, Newport Har. 46
Corona del Mar 51, Marina 44

Boys

FRIDAY

Edison 75, Newport Harbor 70
Foun. Valley 56, Hunt. Beach 49
Los Alamitos 83, Marina 57
La Quinta 60, Rancho Ala. 48
Orange 60, Estancia 59 (OT)

Anaheim 57, Santiago 42
Brea Olinda 67, Pacifica 53
Western 68, Savanna 54

Girls

FRIDAY

Western 45, Santa Ana Valley 38
Western 45, Santa Ana Valley 38
Savanna 44, La Quinta 21
Orange 55, Estancia 27
Century 52, Santiago 7
Garden Grove 47, Ocean View 23
La Habra 54, Pacifica 15
Costa Mesa 60, Westminster 36

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John will rejoin brother Jim back in coaching soon

Continued from page 7

Harbaugh said, "Yeah, as were many."

"John Harbaugh's the best coach I know, the best coach I've ever seen. I'm his brother, so I might be biased," a smiling Jim Harbaugh said.

John Harbaugh went 193-124 in Baltimore, including the post-season. He led the Ravens to the AFC championship game four times, including their Super Bowl season.

"It's great seeing that kind of outpouring of support," Jim Harbaugh said. "It's so cool to see all my brother's accomplishments and be recognized for that."

John Harbaugh certainly isn't alone on the NFL's unemployment line. The league has seven

head coaching jobs open, including AFC spots in Cleveland, Las Vegas, Tennessee and of course, Baltimore. The available NFC jobs are in Arizona, Atlanta and New York.

"As I told him, whatever team he goes to is going to be formidable," Jim Harbaugh said. "Just

hope it's in the NFC."

John Harbaugh, older than Jim by 15 months, is 3-0 coaching against his younger brother.

"He'll be attacking with an enthusiasm unknown to mankind the next opportunity," Jim Harbaugh said.

Rams have Davante back on field

Continued from page 5

son. Adams injured his hamstring while running a long route, and he revealed Tuesday that he also discovered a knee injury after the game.

Adams, who turned 33 on Christmas Eve, has been through a range

of emotions in the weeks since his injuries — particularly when the Rams lost their first two games in his absence, knocking them out of the No. 1 seed in the NFC bracket.

"I was just talking about this with Q the other day," Adams said in reference to Rams safety Quentin Lake, who is also returning from a lengthy absence following elbow surgery.

"That's one of the things that I have never really figured out, is how to manage (injury recovery). The first few days is always feeling sorry for yourself, and then you realize, especially me being in the position I'm in, guys are looking at me for leadership and direction still, in the midst of me battling with injuries. I've still got to be there for them, be strong for the team."

Adams is all but certain to play Saturday, and he doesn't think his partnership with Matthew Stafford will lose any of its potency. The receiver and quarterback didn't get to work together in training camp because of Staf-

ford's balky back, but they found a groove almost immediately — particularly around the goal line, with Adams catching 11 TD passes in a six-game stretch of October and November.

Adams and the Packers lost four NFC championship games during his eight years in Green Bay, so he is well aware that his chance to finally play in a Super Bowl could hang in the balance this month.

Jim T. Retorts

Continued from page 3

Facebook and other social media are already lost battles. It's estimated that perhaps up to 85 percent of the comments there are actually pre-programmed by "bots," intended to create the illusion of support for — or anger against — a candidate, an issue, or anything you can imagine.

China, Iran and Russia are already deeply into this, seeking to shape public opinion in the U.S. and now we have key elections coming up in 2026 and 2028.

The storm of well-disguised *merde* we're in now will soon give way to a blinding blizzard. We're in a lot of trouble.

Proactive police work

Continued from page 3

police as Donald Ernest Wolfer, 70, of Huntington Beach — was also allegedly found to be in possession of contraband, including drug paraphernalia and suspected methamphetamine. Both were arrested.

Vaccination

Continued from page 5

the authority to require vaccinations for schoolchildren. While CDC requirements often influence those state regulations, some states have begun creating their own alliances to counter the Trump administration's guidance on vaccines.

Sports Retorts

Continued from page 6

and having a ball (so to speak). It's going to be good if Nacua wins the offensive player of the year award without being, well, offensive at all.



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.

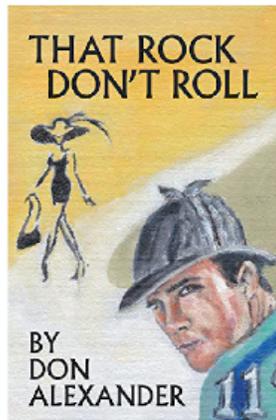
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