

■ WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

Hotel Tax Hike And Pot Levy Survey is a Go

Seeking a path to stability in civic finances

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

A key step toward asking residents how they would feel about two possible tax measures was taken at Wednesday night's meeting of the Westminster City Council.

What's proposed – as a step toward achieving “financial stability” – is the city will spend \$35,000 to hire an opinion research firm to conduct public opinion polling about

an increase in the city's transient occupancy tax – commonly known as “bed tax” charged to guests at hotels and motels – and initiate a tax on the sale of cannabis (marijuana-derived) products within the city.

What was before the council didn't actually require a vote of the council. “This is within my spending authority,” said City Manager Christine Cordon, “so if you have any particular objections, this is the time.”

But there were none, and the council voted to “receive and file” the summary given by Erin Backs, city finance director.

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HEAD DUCK REACHES MILESTONE



The Anaheim Ducks (in orange) defeated the Edmonton Oilers 6-5 to give head coach Joel Quenneville his 1,000th career win (Ducks photo). For the complete story go to Sports Pages, page six.

1 percent raise for teachers

A tentative agreement with the teachers' union goes before the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education when it meets on Tuesday.

The agreement between the GGUSD and the

■ GARDEN GROVE SCHOOL BOARD

Garden Grove Education Association – which represents teachers and some other certificated employees – calls for a 1 percent salary increase from the

2024-25 base pay, retroactive to July 1, 2025.

Also included in the agreement are pre-school and adult education teachers teaching 25 hours or more.

Additionally, employees

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In The Tribune

Smart wagering? Don't bet on it



SEE SPORTS PAGE 6

'Man on the Run' had ups, downs



ARTS & LIVING PAGE 5

Another pedestrian fatality

A traffic collision between an automobile and a pedestrian last Tuesday night took the life of a person in Westminster.

According to Commander William Drinnin of the WPD, police received a

call about the fatal collision at approximately 11 p.m. The location was in the area of Bolsa Chica Road south of Garden Grove Boulevard.

The driver involved in the incident remained at

the scene and cooperated with responding officers. The identity of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

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Pot tax, bed tax hike mulled for Westminster

Continued from page 1

The survey, expected to take five to six weeks to complete, will be conducted in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

At least 400 Westminster residents will be questioned on their opinions using texts, photo calls

and other means

Currently, Westminster's "bed tax" is 8 percent.

The next meeting of the Westminster City Council is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11

at 8200 Westminster Blvd. (one block east of Beach Boulevard in the Civic Center).

1% raise for teachers is proposed

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will get a one-time 1 percent "off-schedule" salary payment based on the base pay of the 2025-26 salary schedule and will be paid at the year-end.

Also on the agenda is presentation of the spelling bee winners and announcing and honoring the March employees of the month by Jason Bevacqua, assistant superintendent for personnel services.

The board meets in closed session at 4:30 p.m., followed by study sessions on board policies at 5 p.m. and school renaming at 6 p.m., with the regular board meeting at 7 p.m.

The location is 10331 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove.

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Pedestrian dies

Continued from page 1

A comprehensive investigation followed and "driving under the influence" doesn't appear to be a factor, according to Commander Drinnin.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call Investigator Lin at (714) 898-3315, extension 3758.

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The Tribune

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News & Views

Young folks now paint it black, but just why?

If there's one more perpetual and omnipresent sight on the streets of our cities than white SUVs (we have a Chevy Equinox) it's junior high and high school kids walking around in their standard garb of black clothing.

Sometimes it's black and grey; sometimes it's even black and white. But take a close look at any group of kids ages 12 to 18 and most of them seem to be dressed like professional mourners



Retorts
Jim Tortolano

employed to boost the attendance at the funeral of a wealthy but disliked person. It's especially ironic to me, because this is the age in which young folks seek to express their individuality by all dressing alike. Of course, there are exceptions – saw a girl wearing pink just the other day – but they are about as common as a Socialist in Mississippi.

This is not a new development; I can't remember the last time

I saw pastels or primary colors walking around. And I began to wonder: does this fashion choice represent a deeper issue? Today's young generation – not sure what it's called now – has lived through an historic pandemic that killed millions worldwide. Our nation has been at war somewhere, more or less non-stop as soon as the century began.

Our political world has spun wildly from left to right to left to right and not much is getting done, except actions that seem to divide and depress us.

On the other hand, maybe it's just the time-honored practice of "fitting in." We are particularly

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SOPHIA HUA of Hill Elementary School (pictured with parents) was the winner of the recent 38th Elementary School Spelling Bee of the Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD photo).

Sixth-grader wins GGUSD elementary spelling bee

Sophia Hua, a sixth-grader at Hill Elementary School in Garden Grove was the winner of the Garden Grove Unified School District's 38th annual Elementary School Spelling Bee on Wednesday.

She took the top prize for correctly spelling the word "plagiarize." In second were Sufyan Muthazzir (Stanford Elementary) and Ryan Tran (Garden Park Elementary).

"This year's Spelling Bee truly

highlighted the hard work and commitment our students bring to their academic goals," said Board of Education President Lan Nguyen. "We are incredibly proud of our district's outstanding spellers and grateful to our schools for the preparation and support they provide for such a demanding event."

Each of the district's 45 elementary schools entered their top speller after they held their school spelling bee in January.

WPD arrests three in a burglary try

Three persons were arrested last week in the middle of a burglary attempt in Westminster.

According to the WPD, officers were dispatched in response to a burglar alarm at a business in the area of Newland Street and Westminster Boulevard at 6:30 a.m.

Arriving officers found three masked suspects trying to enter a business. The suspects sought to flee in a vehicle and on foot, but were detained without incident.

A check of records showed that two of the subjects were in Post Release Community Supervision.

All three were taken into custody for burglary, possession of burglary tools, and possession of paraphernalia. The two in the PRCS status had two violations placed as well.

PRCS is for persons released from prison after having served at least once year for a felony. They are supervised by a county probation office.

Clear out the junk at March cleanup-day

A community cleanup day, offering residents of Garden Grove the opportunity to dispose of bulky items, recycle household batteries, and obtain paper shredding services for free is coming.

The event takes place on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., at Skylark Pre-School, located at 11250 Mac Murray St.

Residents may bring unwanted bulky items, such as non-refrigerant appliances, furniture, mattresses, and carpets. Electronic

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History Minute

'Klanaheim' was real ... for a while

Anaheim is best known as the home of "The Happiest Place on Earth," namely Disneyland. But for a hort time a century ago, it had gained the slur of "Klanaheim."

The Klu Klux Klan was not just in the South. In the 1920s it had branched out on the issues of Prohibition, immigration and more. Anaheim, founded by German wine-makers, was the local target of this secret society.

In 1924, a slate of four candidates (secret members of the KKK) were elected to the city council. The police department's 10 officers included nine KKK members.

Opposition soon arose from the community and a special election in 1925 ousted the four council Klansmen, and the KKK police officers were fired. The era of "Klanaheim" was over.

NewsUpdate

Clintons on Epstein: “No Connections”

Depositions were taken in a closed meeting

Bill and Hillary Clinton have spoken to a House of Representatives committee on the investigation into the Jeffrey Epstein sex scandal and each denied any significant ties to the man or his misconduct.

The former president insisted he “did nothing wrong” in his relationship with Epstein.

The former First Lady and secretary of state testified that she had no knowledge of his crimes – which involved providing underage girls to men for sexual purposes – and doesn’t remember ever even meeting him.

According to the Associated



THEN PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON and Jeffrey Epstein in September 1993 (Wikipedia).

Press, neither of them have been accused of any wrongdoing. Bill Clinton’s deposition was on Friday and Hillary Clinton’s was on Thursday.

The testimony was in a closed-door session in Chappaqua, New York.

Epstein was a wealthy financier who provided tax and estate

services to billionaires.

He was awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges in a New York City jail in 2019 when he committed suicide by hanging.

Anthropic pushes back on Pentagon A.I. demands

Artificial intelligence, A.I, is a powerful tool for making videos and de-aging your photos, but also has wide possible warmaking uses.

The Department of Defense is seeking to use a classified version of Anthropic’s A.I. model, Claude, which would be a \$200 million contract.

According to The New York Times, Anthropic insists that it

must imbed safeguards to prevent its use for mass domestic surveillance of Americans or in “fully autonomous” weapons that could act on their own.

The Pentagon wants those safeguards eliminated from the product, and a deadline of Friday was set for an agreement.

The outcome was not available at our deadline.

Weather: Hot and then warm

February is ending and March is arriving, giving us in the West Orange County cities summery temperatures ranging from pretty warm to mildly toasty. The forecast for Saturday is for a daytime high of 83 with an overnight low of 53. Sunday will cool to 78 (54), followed by Monday’s even cooler numbers of 70 (51). Tuesday will warm a bit to 73 (51). Partly cloudy conditions are expected all that time.

Pakistan at war now with neighboring Afghanistan?

Pakistan has declared that it was in “open war” with Afghanistan, a neighboring nation.

According to United Press International, Pakistani forces conducted air strikes on the capital city of Kabul and Kandahar, the second-largest city in Afghanistan.

Pakistan military officials claim that its forces had killed 133 Afghan Taliban fighters and wounded over 200 more. Twenty-seven Afghan military posts

were also destroyed, they said.

The Taliban denied this and said it had suffered no casualties. Pakistan’s attack followed Afghanistan’s attack on Pakistani border outposts, an assault which was said to be in retaliation for Pakistani attacks on seven Taliban camps.

Afghanistan has been accused by Pakistan of harboring terrorists seeking to overthrow their government.

Great Thoughts

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

– Albert Einstein

“I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.”

– Mark Twain

“Children must be taught how to think not what to think.”

– Margaret Mead

Arts & Living

'Man on the Run' Was Up, Down

A fair look at Paul McCartney post-Beatles

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

If Peter Jackson's "The Beatles: Get Back" was the supreme document of the Beatles' final moments together and of their dissolution, Morgan Neville's "Man on the Run" is a kind of sequel.

It begins in late 1969, just months after Savile Row rooftop concert. The Beatles have broken up. Paul McCartney has seemingly disappeared. There are even rumors that he's dead. On a remote farm in Scotland, a confused and distraught McCartney wonders whether he'll write "another note, ever."

But the most surprising thing about revisiting this tumultuous, tabloid-ready period of McCartney's life is a simple fact. When the Beatles broke up, McCartney was 27 years old.

To say he had lived a lifetime by then would be an understatement. By just the sheer enormity of their production and colossal cultural impact, you might easily mistakenly put McCartney in middle age by then.

"Man on the Run," premiering Friday on Prime Video, is the story of everything that came after. McCartney, an executive producer, is never seen sitting for an interview, but his off-camera musings mark the movie, a chronicle of self renewal. For McCartney, kept boyish by the Beatles, the band's end meant a sudden coming of age.

"I had to look inside myself and find something that wasn't the Beatles," McCartney says in the film.

How you feel about McCartney's post-Beatles career might inform how you feel about "Man on the Run." For Neville, the celebrated documentary film-



PAUL McCARTNEY in "Man on the Run" (MGM).

Movie Review

maker of "Won't You Be My Neighbor," "Pie by Piece" and "20 Feet From Stardom," it's a period that offers no neat narrative, but — quite unlike the mythic Beatles years — something more like the ups and down of life, with regrets and triumphs along the way.

It didn't get off to a good start. McCartney, blamed for the Beatles breakup, was guilt-ridden. His first records were a disappointment.

Singing with Linda McCartney, his wife, wasn't greeted well. A 1973 TV special that included a rendition of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" was, to put it mildly, a misjudgment. A curious feature of McCartney's largely sunny disposition is a nagging self-loathing.

"If I hear someone damning Paul McCartney, I tend to believe them," he says, referencing the Beatles split.

"Get Back" offered a revelatory window into the group's dynamics that put many of the old views of McCartney to bed. Comparisons are tough — "Get Back" is one of the greatest docs

of the century — but Jackson's film, drawn largely from footage shot by Michael Lindsay-Hogg, was also incredibly intimate. It captured not only the band's individual relationships but the songwriting process in real time. (The emergence of "Get Back" from McCartney's strumming and humming stands as one of the great sequences in documentary film.)

"Man on the Run" lacks that sense of closeness. By keeping the film in archival — the documentary is full of family photos and home movies — and without present-day talking heads, Neville lets us experience Mc-

Fair ★ ★

Cartney's post-Beatles years as he did. It comes as a sacrifice, though, to a nearness to McCartney — and to the creation of his solo songs — that might have deepened the film.

The real arc of "Man on the Run" is building toward the creation of McCartney's first post-Beatles band, Wings. It's in some ways an unlikely centerpiece.

In the revolving makeup of the band, Denny Laine was the only permanent member outside Paul and Linda. On the other hand,

Continued on page 8

Welcome Back, Schroeder

The re-opening of the improved Schroeder Park in Huntington Beach is planned for Thursday, March 5 at 2:30 p.m. There will be ice cream, lawn games and more.

The park is located at 6231 Cornell Drive. For more information on the event, call (714) 536-5486.



TheSportsPages

*Who's going to win that game?
Stay at home*

I don't bet on anything, unless it's a sure thing. By that, I mean, like, a bar bet in which I already know the answer.

(The Los Angeles Lakers franchise started as ... the Detroit Gems).

But with the boom in sports gambling I have started giving some thought to how a betting man (or woman) would calculate the chances of a team winning a specific sporting event.



Sports Retorts

Jim Tortolano

Probably it's NFL games that are the most heavily wagered. As you might expect, home teams are favored and there's a lot of statistics to back that up.

Overall, according to the betting.us website, playing at home means you've got a 56.7 percent chance of winning. But that doesn't compare to pro basketball, where the home team wins 60 to 62 percent of the time.

I'd guess it's the close quarters of a roundball arena that magnifies the emotional lift provided by cheering fans.

But baseball is different. Spacious stadiums, many of which have modest fan seating in the outfield, dilute the impact of all that yelling, and the stats show a 53.5 percent chance of victory, partly because the home team bats last.

But it gets "worse." In 2023 and 2024 combined, the home teams were 36-48 in the MLB playoffs.

This road v. home math is only a part of a successful betting strategy. There are many other things to consider, of course. Player injuries, weather conditions, fatigue (has one of the

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1,000 Percent A Winner

The Ducks coach reaches milestone at Honda Center

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM (AP) — Joel Quenneville's 1,000th career victory as an NHL head coach was so dramatic that he almost had to be reminded of the milestone when the clock finally hit zeros on the Anaheim Ducks' 6-5 comeback win.

When Quenneville stood at center ice with his wife, his daughter and his entire team for a postgame photo moments later Wednesday night, he allowed himself a moment out of the hockey grind to appreciate history.

"I wasn't prioritizing the number," Quenneville said after joining Scotty Bowman in the most exclusive hockey coaching club. "I just wanted to play well tonight and find a way to win. That was the motivation, and it turned out to be a very special one as well."

His Ducks rallied to beat two-time defending conference champion Edmonton in their return from the Olympic break, overcoming a pair of two-goal deficits and another one-goal deficit during their frenetic four-goal third period.



DUCKS' COACH Joel Quenneville exults after his 1,000th career coaching win on Wednesday (Ducks photo).

Cutter Gauthier scored the winner with 1:14 to play, and Anaheim hung on for its NHL-leading eighth multigoal comeback win during its first year under Quenneville, whose players all gathered at the bench to mob their coach after the whistle.

"It was an important game for us in a lot of ways," said Quenneville, who has the second-place

Ducks in the Stanley Cup playoff race for the first time since 2018. "They had the puck a lot more than we did, but at the same time, I thought we found a way to win a game. It had other meanings, but to me it was the importance of where it put us in the standings, and coming out of the break, the momentum

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Ducks' work overtime to win, 5-4

By Hugo Baker
Orange County Tribune

Better make that 1,001.

One game after the Anaheim Ducks won and gave coach Joel Quenneville his one thousandth career win, the Orange County team gave him another present: a stirring come-from-behind 6-5 overtime win in Anaheim over the Winnipeg Jets.

Trailing 2-0, the Ducks rallied

NHL and NBA

to tie the game and won it in extra time for their fourth win in a row. With the victory, they're 32-23-3 and in second place in the NHL Pacific and fifth in the NHL Western Conference.

Anaheim got goals from Ryan Poehling, Chris Kreider, Leo Carlsson, Jacob Trouba and Pavel Mintyukov. Lukas Dostal

made 29 saves in goal.

Kreider scored the game-winning goal off a pass from Beckett Sennecke. It was the Ducks 11th win in 13 games.

"I think we just have that belief in ourselves that we were never out of it," Sennecke said, "and I think that's kind of the biggest thing in these comeback wins is we never think we're out of it, and we know we can score goals."

Quenneville puts 1,000th career win on ice

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that we could get off a win like tonight.”

The 67-year-old Quenneville received some fine bottles of wine and cigars among his post-game gifts, but he planned to celebrate just with a beer.

The second member of the 1,000-win club took a long time to join Bowman, who got his 1,000th with the Detroit Red Wings on Feb. 8, 1997 — just a month after Quenneville coached his very first game with the St. Louis Blues.

Quenneville reached the mark in his 1,825th game of a career highlighted by three Stanley Cup championships with the Chicago Blackhawks. Bowman finished his career in 2002 with 1,244 victories in 2,141 regular-season games, also winning nine Stanley Cup titles as a coach.

“He’s from a different league when I look at his company,” Quenneville said about Bowman, who was a senior advisor of hockey operations to his son,

“I wasn’t prioritizing the number. I just wanted to play well tonight and find a way to win. That was the motivation and and it turned out to be a vey special one as well.”

general manager Stan Bowman, during the Blackhawks’ successful run under Quenneville.

“I think he’s lonesome up there, the number he’s at,” Quenneville added. “I had Scotty and Stan in Chicago together. We had some great wins, and he’s got a lot of Cups. He’s been very successful in the game. ... I’m happy to be getting the opportunity back in the game and be around a team like we’ve got now.”

Quenneville has made a successful return to the NHL this season in Anaheim after a four-year absence from the league following his resignation from

the Florida Panthers in late 2021 over his inaction during the Blackhawks’ sexual abuse scandal 11 years earlier.

Quenneville’s NHL ban was lifted in July 2024, and the Ducks hired him one year later to take over a struggling franchise with no playoff appearances in seven consecutive seasons. Anaheim (31-23-3) has vaulted into the thick of the Western Conference playoff race in its first season under Quenneville, who has led his teams to the playoffs in 20 of the 22 NHL seasons he finished behind a bench.

When asked if there were times when he wondered whether he would have a chance to reach 1,000 wins, Quenneville replied: “It’s something that I don’t think about. I think my motivation, my goals were always once you win a Cup one time, you can’t wait to do it again. It’s always been the reason why we’re doing what we’re doing.”

After playing 13 NHL seasons as a sturdy defenseman with the signature bristly mustache he

has sported for his entire adult life, Quenneville has been an NHL head coach for parts of 26 seasons, and he has won at every stop.

He led the Blues to seven consecutive playoff appearances before his firing. Quenneville then lasted just three seasons in Colorado despite producing two playoff teams.

He replaced Denis Savard behind the Blackhawks’ bench in 2008 and led the Original Six franchise to eight straight playoff appearances and three championships — including the 2010 Stanley Cup, which ended the NHL’s longest active drought at 59 seasons.

Quenneville joined the Panthers in April 2019, but his third season in Florida ended abruptly when the NHL banned him along with Stan Bowman and Al MacIsaac “as a result of their inadequate response upon being informed in 2010 of allegations that Blackhawks player Kyle Beach had been assaulted by the

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GARDEN GROVE’S BEST KEPT SECRET

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'Man on the Run' had his ups and downs

Continued from page 5

Wings' "Band on the Run" is the best album McCartney produced after the Beatles, and the clear culmination of years of struggle. If you needed one, this is your cue to go play "Jet"

loud.

It turns out, to no one's surprise, it's hard to move on after being in the Beatles — especially for someone like McCartney who believed so sincerely in the band. Like its subject, "Man on the Run" inevita-

bly pales next to films of the Beatles heyday. But it's a meaningful companion piece about the end of an era and the start of a long and winding road.

"Man on the Run," an Amazon MGM release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for language. Running time: 126 minutes.

Cleanup day on March 14

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waste, including printers, computers, and televisions are also accepted.

This will be a self-service event in which residents will be unloading their own items, on a first-come, first-served basis, until bins are full.

Residents may recycle household batteries, such as AA, AAA, D, C, and old power tool batteries. Automotive batteries will not be accepted.

Paper shredding services will be available on a first come, first served basis to help safely dispose of personal documents. There is a limit of four boxes per vehicle.

Items not accepted include hazardous waste, LED lights, refrigerators, freezers, AC units, concrete, dirt, tires, and construction and demolition debris. Cleanup days will be held at various locations throughout the city, every other month,

Retorts: Paint it black

Continued from page 3

sensitive to peer pressure in those years. And what if our outerwear were to shift giddily to salmon and mint? Would that represent a true shift away from gloom, or just a new conformity? Still, I would welcome that.

If your life isn't filled with color-ful dreams and delights for the eye at that age, when will it be?

Home sweet home? Hmm...

Continued from page 6

teams played a bunch of tough road games?), etc.

But considering that Vegas and the sports books rake in billions and we — the sports fans — (despite all our faith in stats and luck) are the ones providing all that cash, here's the best strategy to hold on to your car payment.

Don't bet at all.

1,000 wins for Quenneville

Continued from page 6

club's video coach," the league said. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman determined Quenneville had showed remorse for his inaction on the allegations that surfaced during Chicago's play-off run to a Stanley Cup title.

Quenneville said he also worked with advocacy groups to study the proper ways to lead in such situations.

Quenneville remained intently focused on the NHL during his four years away from the bench, watching games every night

on television from his home in Florida and staying in contact with his countless friends in the game. Those friends included Pat Verbeek, his former teammate with the Hartford Whalers and the Ducks' general manager. Verbeek fired Greg Cronin and persuaded owner Henry Samueli to take the potential risk and the public-relations hit of hiring Quenneville.

The move has worked out splendidly on the ice so far, with the Ducks dramatically improving.



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.

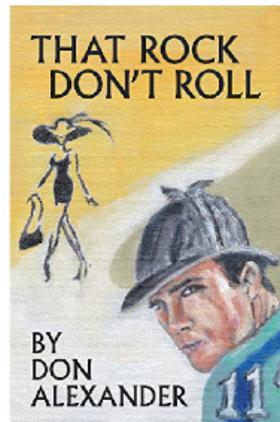
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The★Tribune

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