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The Riverside County Record

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Six Ceremonies Planned for 53rd UCR Commencement

More than 3,300 students are eligible to participate

RIVERSIDE—A graduating senior who survived genocide in Rwanda and alumni who are distinguished in poetry and diplomacy are among the speakers at UC Riverside's 53rd Commencement ceremonies that begin Friday, June 15.

More than 3,300 students are eligible to participate in ceremonies planned on June 15, 16 and 17:

Friday, June 15, 7 p.m. — College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences-Business Administration. Swapan Nag (M.B.A. 1986), chief executive officer of Nag, Inc. (dba Engineering Systems), will be the keynote speaker. Elise Galanto, a business administration honor student who will work for PricewaterhouseCoopers, will be the student speaker.

Saturday, June 16, 8 a.m. — College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Departments of Art, Art History, Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages, Creative Writing, Dance, English, Ethnic Studies, Film and Visual Culture, Hispanic Studies, Interdisciplinary Programs and Liberal Studies, Music and Theatre. Billy Collins (M.A. 1965, Ph.D. 1971), United States Poet Laureate from 2001 to 2003, will be the keynote speaker. The student speaker is Heather Andrews, an English major who plans a career as a professor of ethnic/cultural studies.

Saturday, June 16, 6 p.m. — College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Departments of Psychology, Sociology, Religious Studies and Women's Studies. California Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero (M.A. 1980, Ph.D. 19983), D-Los Angeles, will give the keynote address. J. Marie Hicks, an English and psychology major, honor student and mother of four grown children, will be student speaker.

Sunday, June 17, 8 a.m. — College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Departments of Anthropology, Economics, History, Philosophy and Political Science. The keynote speaker will be Yolanda Moses (M.A. 1975, Ph.D. 1976), vice provost for conflict resolution, special assistant to the chancellor for excellence and diversity, and professor of anthropology. The student speaker is Paul Rudatsikira, a history major, survivor of the Rwanda genocide and founder of the nonprofit Africa Global Partnership.

Sunday, June 17, 6 p.m. — Bourns College of Engineering and College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. Wally Rippel, principal power electronics engineer for Tesla Motors, will be the keynote speaker. He appeared in the documentary, "Who Killed the Electric Car?" The student speaker is Joana Aquino, a neuroscience major who was born in the Philippines. She plans a career as a surgeon.

Monday, June 18, 7 p.m. — Graduate Division and Teacher Education Program. The keynote speaker will be Ronald E. Neumann (B.A. 1966, M.A. 1967), former ambassador of the United States to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Algeria and Bahrain. The student speaker is Mary Link, a Ph.D. candidate in education and a special education teacher at Badger Springs Middle School in Moreno Valley.

For the first time the ceremony will be ticketed, with graduates receiving a particular number of tickets for family members.

With more than 35,000 people expected on campus for ceremonies this weekend, traffic will be heavy. Visitors may park free in any lot on campus.

The ceremony will be broadcast inside an air-conditioned environment for people who don't want to be in the sun.

High School Graduations, Middle School Promotions

GLEN AVON — School is coming to a close with less than two weeks remaining. Rubidoux High School will kick-off the annual rites of passage with a graduation ceremony Monday, June 18 at Riverside Community College's Wheelock Stadium, Magnolia Avenue, Riverside.

This 7 p.m. ceremony moves from Jurupa to Riverside City for the first time since 1960 and is being held at the recently refurbished stadium at the college because Rubidoux's Hawkins Stadium is now a dirt field — but will be a \$7.2 million stadium in September.

Rubidoux High Principal Jay Trujillo said RCC is offering the stadium to Rubidoux's Class of 2007 "free of charges."

Nueva Vista High will graduate its seniors the following evening, June 19, at the University of California, Riverside Theater. Ceremonies begin at 6 p.m.

The Jurupa Valley Jaguars will take their final walk Wednesday, June 20 at Jaguar Stadium at the high school on Etiwanda Avenue in Mira Loma. The Jaguars Class of 2007 graduation ceremonies begin at 6 p.m.

All three middle schools will promote 8th grade students to the high schools on Wednesday, June 20. Jurupa Middle's promotion begins at 10 a.m. Mira Loma Middle begins at 10 a.m. and Mission Middle will do promotions at 9:30 a.m.

Jurupa Valley High School's annual awards night is Tuesday, June 12, 7 p.m. in the gymnasium. Rubidoux High's awards night is Thursday, June 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Patriot High campus.

July Weather is Up Next

JURUPA — July is only 23 days from now, and if 2007 is anything like 2006, it's time to start thinking about keeping cool. Last year the Eddie Dee Smith Center was designated a "cool center", a designation which lasted well into the month of September.

In case you forgot, July brought us 27 consecutive days of 100+ degree temperatures from July 1 to July 27. Jurupa Hills Oscar Canfield keeps track of such things around here and shows us proof 2006 brought us the hottest July on record. The last three days of June last year were also 100+, making last year a streak of 30 days.

Will all this talk of "global warming" make July of 2007 even hotter?

In 1995, there were eight days in July with a temperature above 100 degrees. There were seven such days in 1997; 11 in 1998; three such days in 1999; eight in 2000, and five such hot days in the year 2001.

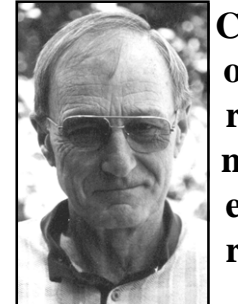
The average over the past 12 years has been about eight days of July temperatures higher than 100 degrees — until recently. There were 16 such days in 2005 and, as we mentioned, 27 such days in 2006, including a 118 degree July 22.

Oscar will keep track of this trend and we'll see what is in store for us all in the coming weeks. We're hoping the trend is reversed, of course.

Bob Steinbrinck

The Marriage Month... Blushing Brides and Red Ink

Steinbrinck's



What do you think of when you think of the month of June? No, I mean besides that. What June tradition comes to mind? Other than the fact it is the month when She Who Must Be Obeyed was born #-*% years ago.

Weddings. Getting spliced in June is, I assume, still all the rage. Didn't work for SWMBO and me. The Army (ours) had me tied up (and down) at a little outpost called Fort Benjamin Harrison near Indianapolis for the month so we got as close as we could...early July...in South Bend, Indiana.

It's a lovely time of the year in South Bend, if you like to sweat. At midnight.

We wed at 8 p.m., if I remember correctly, in her family church where her late father had been Pastor. The church had a classic form of air conditioning. They opened the windows. Didn't help.

Ours was a simple affair. Nobody had much money. The bride carried Shasta Daisies, recommended by the florist because they were the least expensive. Her oldest brother took the pictures. The

reception following the ceremony was in the church basement. Cake, ice cream, and punch (non-alcoholic).

There was a newspaper supplement a while back called "Bridal Banner." It was full of advice for all the people who are in a wedding party. Some of it sounds like the nuptials are for Donald Trump and one of his wives...not real human beings.

For example, there's a blank space on Page 3 where the bride should put her photograph. No room for the groom, however.

Among planning recommendations: The bride should personalize the wedding invitations by including a photo "...of the garden where your fiance proposed."

Our invites would have had a snapshot of the interior of a 1947 Studebaker. The front seats, for modesty's sake. The bride should give her bridesmaids jewelry in lovely drawstring bags that she sews herself. In our case, unfortunately, we needed the bags for our underwear.

The all-important wedding dress, the

advice says, should be "...a style that fits your personality as well as your body." I have to confess, when we were hitched, SWMBO's personality at that moment was not the first thing on my mind. The Groom should, of course, wear a tuxedo and, perhaps, add a top hat and gloves. In my socio-economic circle, they'd have to be boxing gloves.

The magazine lists "expense etiquette" for all involved. There are only two items for the bride: Her fiance's ring and "rice bags." The groom has six obligations, among them Limousine Service. I could barely afford gasoline back to Indianapolis in that beloved old Studebaker. The Best Man's only assignment is to plan the Bachelor Party. I assume that includes posting bail for the Groom when the festivities end. And, perhaps, the Stripper.

Then comes the Honeymoon (silly term if I ever heard one.) We didn't have time or money for that. I had to be back at Uncle Benjy's Rest Home (where the livin' was easy) two days later. The

Bride's Guide put our situation to shame by opining, "Most honeymoons involve dashing off to tropical ports of call." The only thing tropical about Indianapolis in July is the heat and humidity. And hostile natives.

The final page of advice for the Honeymooners left my jaw on the floor. It recommends the couple create a budget for the trip although it adds, "If money is not an issue for you, bon voyage." Money wasn't an issue with us. We just didn't have any except for five \$10 bills we received from Uncle Otto.

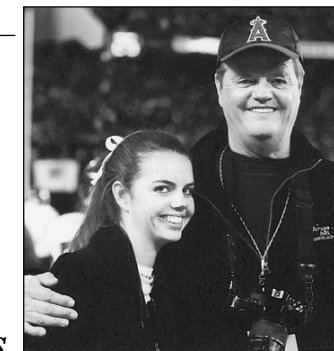
The publication cites a recent trend in "destination" weddings. In Maui for example. Those who wish to attend, of course, must pay their own way...maybe. This kind of Honeymoon, says the Guide is, (brace yourself) "becoming popular as more couples decide to forego the average \$20,000 wedding price tag..."

That's probably more than the dew-eyed young pair will spend a few years later. On divorce lawyers.

Barnes' Stormin'

The Awful Drivers Here

By David H. Barnes



The annual St. John's Catholic Church Fiesta ended in horror Sunday night when a grandmother walking her two grandchildren across Opal Street, at Rustic Lane, was hit by the driver of a pickup truck who responded by leaving the scene.

That is becoming pretty common around here, and is the third such event I can recall just this year.

The first was a woman whose vehicle broke down on Rubidoux Boulevard. While she waited for her husband to rescue her, a drunk slammed into her vehicle, killed her, and fled.

Then Michael Collier of Roundtable Pizza fame, a couple of months ago, was returning from karaoke in Riverside and while riding in a vehicle on Mission Boulevard at the intersection of Rubidoux Boulevard, was hit and killed — and the driver fled.

Witnesses told CHP a drunk ran a red light, was revived by a nurse who stopped to help, then fled on foot.

Now, on Sunday, a grandmother, Kathleen Ann Rosiles, 50, is dead, hit by the driver of a pickup truck who fled the scene on Opal Street. This latest incident happened at 9:52 p.m. Sunday, just about the time the fiesta was concluding.

Opal Street is not exactly Van Buren Boulevard or Limonite Avenue, not even Pedley Road for that matter. The driver should not have been driving at a speed preventing him from running down this woman.

All three of these people, the victims, are guilty of being outside the house, off their own property at the wrong time — when idiots are running amok on our roads.

An officer at the California Highway Patrol (CHP) told me a few weeks ago, when I doing some follow-up on the Collier incident, that Jurupa is one of the most dangerous places to be when the bars are closing -- at 2 a.m.

Truth be known, it's pretty dangerous around here all the time. I find it hard to believe Jurupa is a mirror of the rest of the county, southland or even the country.

If we are an example of how people are driving nationwide, we really don't need to worry about terrorists.

I live on the Agate Road Freeway. We suffer from the usual speeding teenagers who are too stupid to know any better. The worse part of this, instead, is the adults who fly up and down Agate.

You'd think they would have grown up by now, turned off the boom box speakers and backed off the gas pedal.

No such luck.

We've been unfortunate during the housing boom. When Van Buren Boulevard became Riverside City commuters' worst nightmare, the commuters reacted similar to water looking for a way out.

Since traveling Van Buren is not an alternative, crafty thinking commuters found Pedley Road. This road offers commuters about five miles of relief, through Glen Avon, into Pedley, onto Clay Street and back to Van Buren

Boulevard at the Santa Ana River.

Now that Van Buren Boulevard and Pedley Road are impacted, those in the know discovered Agate, a residential street also offering north-south access from the Pomona freeway to Indian Hills and Riverside City.

Watching these people, Agate commuters, drive by at 6 a.m., during the afternoon, and in the evening makes me wonder how any of them are still alive, or at least still out of prison on reckless driving charges.

Al Qaeda (Al Quieda) whatever, would have a difficult time with improvised explosive devices (IEDs) getting these people.

The armed forces should recruit Agate commuters to drive the patrol routes between Baghdad and the military base camps.

I suppose most of you have the same people driving by your home or school.

We've had a couple of incidents to date. One young man lost control of his mini pickup truck and hit the tree and wall at my neighbor's house. Another mini-truck driver, from the JCSJ, last year locked up his brakes and just missed school children walking on Agate.

A decade or so ago, I was wakened when a drunk left the road, hit a pepper street alongside my property, and flipped his car upside down. He lived.

Agate is the main route of 7th and 8th grade students commuting on foot to Jurupa Middle. We also get a lot of Glen Avon Elementary school foot traffic and some high schoolers walking to the bus stop — with an eventual destiny at Jurupa Valley High.

Neighbors tell me only one person has been killed on Agate in recent years. I'm not certain that statistic will last the way things are going.

I repeat, it is not just the teenagers. In fact, the teens are probably the minority in this instance.

Last month I watched two students dive for cover when a Dodge truck came roaring by. When I say these people are "flying" and "roaring by" that's exactly what I mean.

Agate Road has a posted speed limit of 35 mph, 25 during school hours. I'm not an expert but I'm guessing the average speed is actually 55 mph and the "flying and roaring" cars and trucks are hitting 70 to 80 miles per hour.

And remember, Agate Road is practically a one-lane road.

I'm of the opinion there's nothing that can be done about this. Stop signs are a no-no. Speed bumps are a no-no. Signs noting the speed limit won't, don't, work.

All of us are just going to have to live with the risk, continue to be "lucky", and try not to stress over it all. It is illegal, to shoot at them. Throwing nails and rocks in the street hurts the innocent.

I had hoped age would be the new deterrent, that the drivers would grow old enough to know better. That isn't working, either.

I was naive to think the gasoline crisis would prompt the unwitting to lay off the

pedal. Not yet.

The answer, for those in the future, is residential planning. Planners can design residential housing tracts to be a series of twists and turns, of cul-de-sacs and dead-ends.

Housing, in the future, should not be allowed on roads, streets, highways and boulevards providing access to freeways, downtown shopping or otherwise. Residential communities should be built "off" straight-a-ways.

Riverside City fathers have been forced

to stop deaths by installing speed bumps: the by far most requested city service of all.

The speed bumps are a double edged sword: it prevents the less than brilliant from terrorizing the neighborhood, but also slows emergency vehicles from timely responses.

I suppose it's a matter of dying while crossing the street, or from a heart attack in the living room.

A lose-lose situation. Myself, I'll take my chances with the slower rescue truck.

Calvert Says Important Water Act Passes House of Representatives

• Riverside-Corona Feeder Water Supply Act

WASHINGTON, DC. - Today Rep. Ken Calvert (R-Corona) said his bill H.R. 1139, the Riverside-Corona Feeder Water Supply Act, passed the U.S. House of Representatives under suspension of the rules.

"The Western Municipal Water District provides water service to western Riverside County and serves a population of more than six hundred thousand people," said Calvert on the floor of the House. "The purpose of the Riverside-Corona Feeder water supply project is to capture and store water in wet years in order to increase Western's firm water supplies, provide a cost-effective water supply, and improve water quality."

H.R. 1139 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Western Municipal Water District, Riverside County, California, to participate in the planning, design, and construction of the Riverside-Corona Feeder water supply project, which includes 20 groundwater wells, groundwater treatment facilities, water storage and pumping facilities, and 28 miles of pipeline in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. "At a time when water demand continues to grow due to the West's increasing population, traditional water sources have been confronted by a prolonged drought and other environmental challenges," said Calvert. "It is imperative that Southern California continue to reduce its dependence on imported water from the Delta and Colorado River through innovations such as the Riverside-Corona Feeder."

[Rep. Calvert's Floor Statement]

"Mr. Speaker:

The Riverside-Corona Feeder Water Supply Act represents an important investment in the water infrastructure in western Riverside County, California - one of the fastest growing regions in the country.

At a time when water demand continues to grow due to the West's increasing population, traditional water sources have been confronted by a prolonged drought and other environmental challenges. In fact, just last week California water officials turned off the huge pumps that send water to Southern California from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to protect a tiny imperiled fish. While the shutdown is only scheduled to last a week or two, it is a stark reminder that Southern California must continue to reduce its dependence on imported water from the Delta and Colorado River.

The Western Municipal Water District provides water service to western Riverside County and serves a population of more than six hundred thousand people. The purpose of the Riverside-Corona Feeder water supply project is to capture and store water in wet years in order to increase Western's firm water supplies, provide a cost-effective water supply, and improve water quality.

New wet year water will come from local runoff, including regulated releases from Seven Oaks Dam and the State Water Project, and stored in San Bernardino Valley groundwater basins. To deliver the stored water to consumers in Western's service area, the project will provide for new groundwater pumping and pipeline capacity. As an additional benefit, the Riverside-Corona Feeder will provide the means to control water tables, thereby reducing liquefaction dangers in the Colton and San Bernardino communities. Additionally, the project improves local water quality as perchlorate and other contaminants would be removed from the basin when water is extracted from the well heads via the Riverside-Corona Feeder.

I applaud Western and our local elected officials in Western Riverside County for taking bold, proactive steps in meeting our region's current and future water demand. In particular, I'd like to acknowledge the leadership of Western's General Manager John Rossi as well as Western Board Members Charles Field, Tom Evans, Brenda Dennstedt, Don Galleano, and Al Lopez.

I also want to thank my good friend Grace Napolitano, the Chairwoman of the Water and Power Subcommittee, for her leadership and support of my legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is crucial that we recognize and assist communities that are working to reduce their reliance on imported water and I urge all of colleagues to support the Riverside-Corona Feeder Water Supply Act."