

New Legislation Aims to Stop California Literacy Crisis

Six out of 10 children in California can't read by third grade, according to a policy brief co-authored by the EdVoice Institute in December 2023. - SEE PAGE 3



LA Art Show Hosted Its Opening Night Premiere Party

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THE PAPER

THE VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS

SATURDAY MARCH 1, 2025

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VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 68

California is at higher risk for major earthquakes than previously known

By Clare Fonstein

n updated U.S. earthquake model showed slightly greater shaking possible in California than previously mapped.

The National Seismic Hazard Model, developed by the United States Geological Survey, says that most of California has at least a 75% chance of damaging earthquake shaking in the next 100 years — with at least a 95% chance for the Bay Area.

"Across California, the hazard has increased a little. It's not an alarming level of increase but it's something that helps us to understand more of the details of where shaking will be higher," said Mark Petersen, USGS geophysicist and lead author of the study.

The study measured the probability of experiencing a damaging earthquake taking into account magnitude, distance from the epicenter and likelihood of an earthquake, according to USGS research geophysicist Kevin Milner.

Please see California is at higher risk for major earthquakes on Page x



Downtown Santa Cruz was severely damaged by the 6.9-magnitude Loma Prieta earthquake in October 1989. Steve Castillo/The Chronicle



LA County Firefighter Paramedic Christian Schenk, LA County Firefighter Paramedic Austin Jones, LA County Firefighter Justin Amparan, LA County Fire Chief Anthony J. Marrone, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, LASD Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station Captain Robert Hahnlein, LASD Deputy Andre Cornejo, LASD Deputy Eduardo Olmos, LASD Deputy Mitchell Laudano, and LASD Deputy Christopher Fort. (LACo Fire Firefighter Paramedic Phil Dirkin was not present).

La Cañada Flintridge Rescue Presentation

ast Tuesday, February 13, 2024, I stand before you and I am proud to recognize the extraordinary efforts of our County first responders.

On January 30th, four deputies from the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station and four firefighters from Fire Stations 19 and 63 responded to a serious house fire on Rancho Cañada Road in La Cañada Flintridge.

In the face of extreme danger, both teams responded with tenacity, bravery, and strong collaboration.

I've been told by leaders from both departments that this was a prime example of how first responders ought to respond to a crisis.

The deputies and firefighters worked hand-in-hand to do their best to protect life and property. Within just two minutes of receiving the call at almost 4 a.m., the deputies arrived on the scene.

Upon arrival, they entered the back of the house and found a

young man inside. They escorted him outside and asked him if anyone else was inside, and he confirmed his aunt and uncle were home.

On January 30th, four deputies from the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station and four firefighters from Fire Stations 19 and 63 responded to a serious house fire on Rancho Cañada Road in La Cañada Flintridge

The deputies tried to go upstairs, but were stopped by the heavy smoke, so they began to strategize how to rescue the other family members. Because of their quick thinking and swift action, they scaled the side of the house, got the aunt out from upstairs, and transported her to a local hospital.

Shortly after this moment, the firefighters arrived and broke down the front door. As some firefighters assisted the residents, the others extinguished the massive flames. Inside, they found the uncle unresponsive and proceeded to render paramedic services for 30 minutes.

Sadly, he passed away, and I want to take a moment to send my heartfelt condolences to the family as they grieve this loss. This tragic incident illustrates that in the face of danger, our deputies and firefighters stand ready to work together to respond in times of need.

Even when there are tragedies, they continue to press forward. I'd like to present these scrolls of commendation to the members of our Sheriff's Department and Fire Department who responded to this incident in La Cañada.

Thank you all for your collaboration during this incident, and your ongoing commitment to our communities every day.



COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW LEGISLATION AIMS TO STOP CALIFORNIA LITERACY CRISIS, SIX OUT OF 10 CHILDREN CAN'T READ BY THIRD GRADE!

Early literacy legislation calls for an evidence-based approach to teaching children how to read.

acramento, CA (February 7, 2024) – Six out of 10 children in California can't read by third grade, according to a policy brief

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WITH THANKS TO

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co-authored by the EdVoice Institute in December 2023. A new early literacy bill, AB2222, introduced today by Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio (D-Baldwin Park), with 13 bipartisan co-authors, and sponsored by EdVoice, Decoding Dyslexia CA, and Families In Schools, aims to raise awareness about the severity of the early literacy problem, and ensure a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to teaching all California elementary school students how to read.

"If there is one primary responsibility of public elementary schools, it is to teach children to read so they may have a future filled with opportunity," said Marshall Tuck, EdVoice CEO, and sponsor of the bill. "We now know how to best teach children to read because of interdisciplinary research known as the Science of Reading. It's time we require this evidencebased approach to early literacy instruction in every California classroom. We are grateful to Assemblywoman Rubio for championing a child's right to read," added Tuck.

The bill requires updates to state-adopted English language arts (ELA), English language development (ELD), reading instructional materials. In addition, the bill calls for professional development elementary educators in evidence-based literacy instruction that adheres to the science of reading. The bill will improve accountability teacher preparation programs related to new literacy teaching standards and provide support for professional development for teacher preparation faculty. The science of reading follows evidence from a large body of interdisciplinary



research that guides classroomeffective practices benefitting all students, including English Evidence-based learners. practices include systematic and explicit instruction focused on phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, fluence, language development, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing.

"As an educator, I have firsthand knowledge of the struggles instructors face to ensure their students know how to read," said California State Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio (D-48), the bill's author. "California teachers work tirelessly to better the success of each student. However, California is failing its students, especially diverse students from low-income families. California must address this social inequity by following decades of interdisciplinary research showing what it takes for students to develop strong literacy skills. AB2222 will set up both our students and our educators for success by equipping them with evidence-based resources," said Assemblywoman Rubio.

California is the fifth largest economy in the world, but according to the latest California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress data (CAASPP), with more than 1.7 million students in kindergarten through third grade, only three in 10 third-grade students from low-income families are on grade level in ELA, compared to six in 10 of their higher-income peers.

For low-income Black students, English learners, and students with disabilities, the gaps widen with only two in 10 students (three in 10 for Latinos) in each respective group on grade level in ELA by third grade. California is facing a literacy crisis in part due to ineffective early literacy instruction.

"This is not just an education issue, it's a social justice issue," said Megan Potente, Co-State Director of Decoding Dyslexia CA. "Early learning gaps all too often turn into life-long opportunity gaps. The path to ending adult illiteracy and ensuring opportunity for all starts with effective early literacy instruction. We call on our elected leaders to take immediate action on comprehensive early literacy legislation given the urgency of this crisis," added Potente.

By third grade, students move from learning to read to reading to learn, and those who are not on grade level rarely catch up on their academic journey. This is a major contributing factor to the 28% adult illiteracy

rate in our state, one of the highest in the nation. Research shows that adults with limited literacy are more likely to be unemployed or earn an income that falls below the poverty level.

According to the World Literacy Foundation, illiteracy can also lead to poor health conditions, disenfranchisement, and even crime. Among youth involved in the juvenile justice system, up to 85% are functionally illiterate.

"Every parent wants their child to read – they know that literacy unlocks their potential," said Yolie Flores, Families In Schools President and CEO. "Parents are counting on us to address this literacy crisis so that their children can reach their hopes and dreams," added Flores.

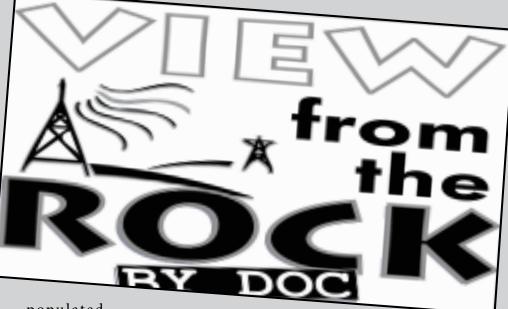
AB2222 is headed to the Assembly Education Committee this spring. Supporters have an opportunity to make their voice heard by signing this petition.

EdVoice is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization that, since 2000, advocates to reshape public education in California by directly influencing state policy so that students from low-income communities have futures filled with opportunity.

What a wonderful winter we're having. Well, it's sort-a late but we can blame that on the climate change and atmospheric rivers. When we were growing up, we never had big terms like that, it was just "MAYBE RAIN THIS WEEK! " Even the news was different then. Everything was going to be nuclear war or the war in Viet Nam. Things that unified the country with a common goal and quest for knowledge.

But that was yesteryear. As people call me and ask for information, it has reminded me of Jules Feiffer's 1970's book/story "Little Murders" that so actively portrayed what is happening to us now. Stop for a moment and take a look around at what is happening here in S-T. It's a shit show.

We have a drug oligarch creating new businesses on every corner, we have a councilwoman that figures that we don't have enough intelligent voters to cater to, we have crazy Armenian drivers putting every one in danger, we have the new houseless that can't get placed in our multi-million dollar shelters, a senior center that doesn't cater to seniors, restaurants going out of business because their food is slop and of course, our neighborhood council



populated

by an incestuous group of dogooders that for the most part are just helping themselves to the city money.

Does anyone care about what happened to the tens of thousands of city dollars that was spent on Emergency Supplies? And now disappeared? Or how the North Valley Taj Mahal honoring our councilwoman with a bigger than life size mural of her? Yes boys & girls, we don't have a large enough cesspool to hold all the crap that is going on here.

It wasn't too long ago that the TFP staff maintained a directory of the houseless living in the Big-T, and of even more importance, the "Death List" we maintained of what people died in the wash.

Except

for the families of those departed, no one in the city cared how many houseless were murdered.

It got to the point where I was on a first name basis with the LACo Assistant Chief Coroner. When Dyan was with us, we discovered 5 bodies in a 5 year period of time. But no one cared, so we stopped doing it. For every gooddeed doer, there were about 5 nay sayers that promoted the idea of "The Big Lie." From then STNC president Cindy Cleghorn and her sidekick Tomi-Lynn Bowling to the august Lloyd Hitt who just had to create a separate reality for what was happening in our little burg. Unfortunately, he was old for his tie and I didn't recognize the symptoms.

It actually got so bad here that even the cops didn't want to go into the Big T at night without one of our staff with them. But that's all changed now. Our councilperson makes the cops fall into line and do her bidding. Remember Capt. Johnny? Another assassination attempt by the powers that be.

Are you sick of hearing

about all this? Don't worry, you might not live long enough to see any changes. As of right now, we have the most corrupt community in Los Angeles. From our councilperson on down to the lowly neighbor council members that have a hard time dealing with the reality that they are nothing but dust blowing in the wind. Gutless, spineless and full of crap. They pass the baton to then next incest product on the board as they tell themselves how great

BUT, who am I to call them out, look at all the fools that voted for the trumpster. The bottom of the gene pool. And they are us. The election is coming up in a few weeks, let's see what happens, and NO, you can't say it was the water!

they are.

LA ART SHOW HOSTED ITS OPENING NIGHT PREMIERE PARTY

By David "Doc" DeMulle'

ast Wednesday, February 14th, on the International Day of Love, the LA Art Show ✓ hosted its Opening Night Premiere Party in support of the American Heart Association to kick off the 2024 Los Angeles art season. The event was hosted by celebrated actress Lucy Hale, and the city's largest and longest running art fair. NFL player Damar Hamlin (Buffalo Bills Defensive Back), whose terrifying experience suffering cardiac arrest on the field last year dominated global news, attended and joined Lucy on stage during the American Heart Association presentation. Reality TV star Francesca Farago (Too Hot To Handle, Perfect Match) and fiancé Tik Tok sensation Jesse Sulli looked loved up on the carpet as they celebrated Valentine's Day at the LAAS Opening Night Premiere Party.

BROLL and photos for your use are below - there is some really nice content of Lucy walking the LA Art Show and presenting with the American Heart Association survivor family. The footage is broken out by time stamps for your convenience.

Lucy was introduced to the LA Art Show by its inaugural charity beneficiary, the American Heart Association, which is celebrating its 100th birthday this year. As the evening's host and friend of AHA, Lucy took to the stage and spoke about the important work the American Heart Association is doing for their Life is Why



campaign, which inspires consumers to honor their reasons for living longer, healthier lives. LA Art Show Producer & Director Kassandra Voyagis, American Heart Association CEO Nancy Brown and AHA survivor family Danielle and Chandler Armstead also spoke during the heartwarming presentation.

LA Art Show will donate 15% of all ticket proceeds to the American Heart Association's Life Is Why™ Campaign. The evening's sponsors included Citibank and Nextdoor.

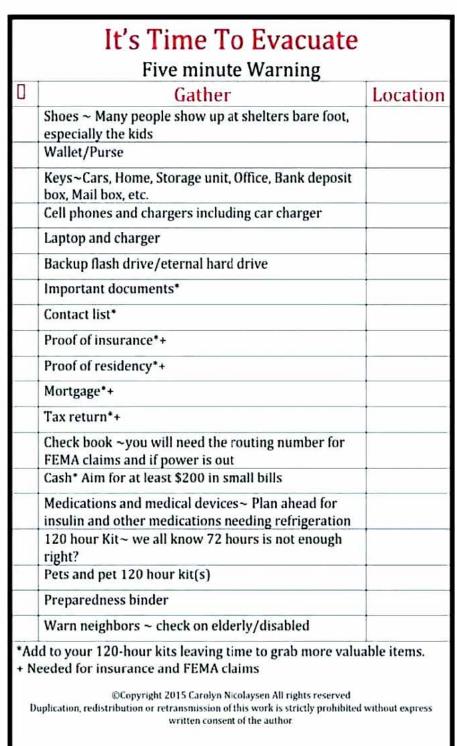
SOME OF THE NIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS WERE:

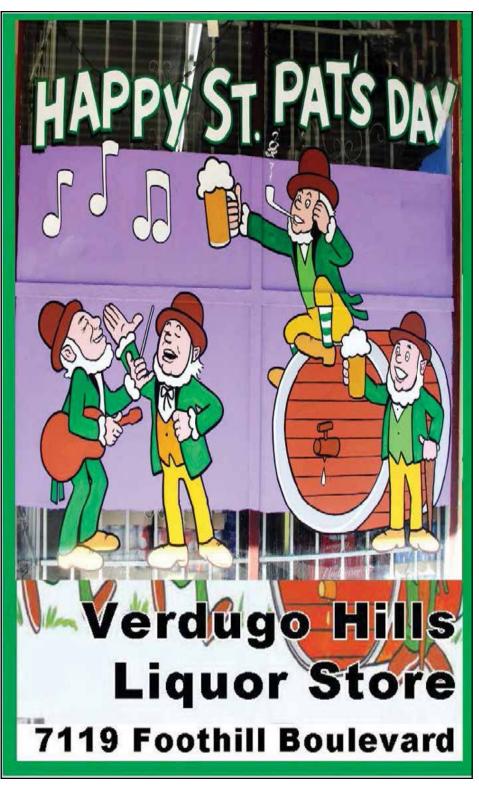
- Lucy Hale posed playfully on the red carpet with adorable, 5-year-old American Heart Association survivor Chandler Armstead
- Francesca Farago who stunned in a red cutout dress and fiancé Jessi Sulli held hands and looked super loved up as they admired artwork from global artists and gallerists
- Jesse Metcalfe and girlfriend Helene Immel
 who also supported the night's love theme
 in a gorgeous red silk dress chose to have
 Valentine's Day date night amongst art and
 philanthropy in support of the American Heart
 Association
- Never Have I Ever actor Anirudh Pisharody and producer & director Jill V. Dae celebrated their first Valentine's Day as husband and wife at the LAAS Opening Night Premiere Party
- Supermodel Janice Dickinson looked fabulous on the red carpet just days before her 69th birthday

Guided by the leadership of Voyagis, the 2024 LA Art Show featured an international lineup of exhibiting galleries and museums from countries including the Philippines, Italy, Israel, Peru and South Korea. Opening Night Premiere Party guests were given a special VIP preview of the LA Art Show's 2024 expansive cultural programming, with over 100 galleries, museums and nonprofits exhibiting.







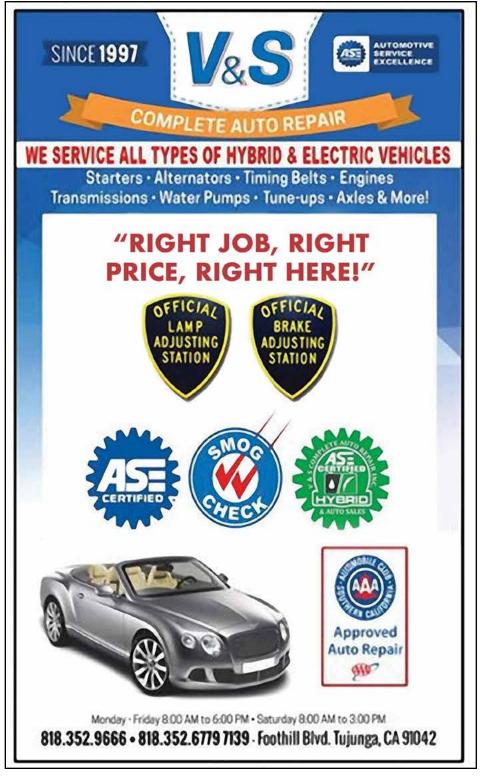


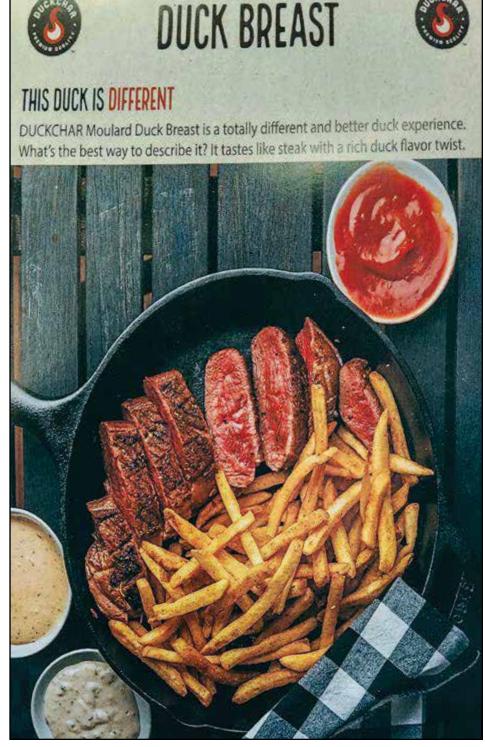


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MOULARD

ANOTHER DAY IN THE HOOD

Kate Berlant's hit show concludes record-breaking run at Pasadena Playhouse



Photo by Jeff Lorch

Tebruary 13, 2023, Pasadena, **≺** CA | KATE, comedian Kate Berlant's hit show written and performed by Kate Berlant and directed by Bo Burnham, concluded its record-breaking run at Pasadena Playhouse Sunday, February 11. KATE is one of the most critically and financially successful productions in the history of Pasadena Playhouse, the official State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award. To date, KATE holds the title of being the highest grossing 4-week run at Pasadena Playhouse, bringing in a majority new audience in their 20s and 30s according to audience

"Trust me, you've never seen a show quite like Kate" (Los Angeles Times) "Once you've seen Kate you'd pretty much follow her anywhere" (Variety) "A tour de force" (Broadway World) "Each joke hits, and hits at the right moment" (Stage Raw) – these are just a few of the words critics used to describe KATE. South Pasadenan said, "You are in for an 80 minute, intermissionless ride of storytelling, satire, physical comedy, and metatheatre the likes of which you've never seen."

In her widely celebrated onewoman show, revered comedian Kate Berlant explores the events of her life that have brought her to this moment. Embodying many characters in this tour de force performance, she expertly morphs before our eyes and exposes a truth she has, until now, kept hidden.

The New Yorker says "Berlant, who has a Lucille Ball-level prowess for physical comedy, plays the show's multiple characters, as well as multiple versions of herself: the

starry-eyed ingénue, the tyrannical diva, the Warholian performance artist, and, truest to life, the supertalented entertainer who has yet to find her breakout role."

Named a New York Times Critic's Pick and one of the "Best of the Year" by the New York

Times, Vanity Fair, Variety, Theatrely and more, The Guardian says KATE is "the one-woman show to end all one-woman shows."

Kate Berlant is an Emmy nominated comedian, actress and writer. She most recently concluded her first sold out London and second sold out New York run of KATE, her one-woman off-Broadway play, to a rapturous response, "the New York City Show to See" (Vulture). Her comedy special Cinnamon in the Wind (directed by Bo Burnham) is now streaming on Hulu. In addition, her A24/Peacock sketch comedy special Would It Kill You to Laugh?, created with her collaborator John Early, has been nominated for both a Critic's Choice and Primetime Emmy award. Kate's film credits include Kristoffer Borgli's Dream Scenario, Olivia Wilde's Don't Worry Darling, Quentin Tarantino's Once Upon a Time in Hollywood, and Boots Riley's Sorry to Bother You. She can currently be seen on the Amazon series A League of Their Own, starring alongside Abbi Jacobsen and Nick Offerman; her additional television credits include Search Party, The Other Two, Transparent, and I Think You Should Leave with Tim Robinson, as well as her celebrated episode of Netflix's The Characters. She was named a Just for Laughs "New Face of Comedy" and a Variety "Ten to

Watch." ■



CRIME MAPPING

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON (ADW) 241605267 7800 BLOCK FOOTHILL BL 2/11/2024 @ 11:30 PM

BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE 241605243

10200 BLOCK TUJUNGA CAN-YON BL 2/10/2024 @ 1:30 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 241605228 10400 BLOCK TUJUNGA CAN-YON BL 2/9/2024 @ 2:40 PM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - GRAND 241605218
7800 BLOCK KYLE ST 1/27/2024 @ 4:30 AM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - PET-TY 241605200

10300 BLOCK TUJUNGA CANYON BL 2/7/2024 @ 2:00 PM

THEFT - PETTY 241605161 10200 BLOCK COMMERCE AV 2/5/2024 @ 3:33 AM

BURGLARY 7200 BLOCK HILL-ROSE ST 2/5/2024 @ 11:00 AM

BURGLARY 241605130 11100 BLOCK LEOLANG AV 2/1/2024 @ 10:28 PM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 2416051127400 BLOCK APPERSON ST
2/6/2024 @ 12:05 AM

THEFT FROM VEHICLE - 241605098

FOOTHILL BL & LANGMUIR AV 2/5/2024 @ 8:00 PM

ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIO-LENCE 024-01743-0699 10100 BLK HILLHAVEN AVE, TUJUNGA, CA 2/4/2024 @ 6:30 PM

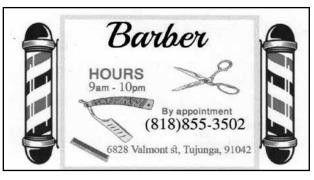
VEHICLE, STOLEN 241605042 7900 BLOCK MCGROARTY ST 2/4/2024 @ 2:30 AM

BURGLARY 241605035 10500 BLOCK MT GLEASON AV 2/3/2024 @ 5:10 AM

VEHICLE, STOLEN 241605020 8400 BLOCK DAY ST 2/3/2024 @ 2:50 AM



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ASK RUSTY



By AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor, Association of Mature American Citizens.

Dear Rusty: I have a question regarding my SS benefits. I turned 68 this month and work part time. I earned \$28,000 last year but will probably gross \$36,000 to \$38,000 this year. My husband collects his SS, and he earned \$25,000 last year. I was told by a financial planner that I should apply for my benefits now, instead of waiting until I'm 70. I would collect \$1700/month at 68 and \$1944/month if I wait. Which is the smarter move? Signed: Seeking Answers

Dear Seeking: I'm sure your financial advisor would agree that your decision on when to claim your Social Security comes down to just a few basic things – 1) how badly you need the money, 2) your life expectancy, and 3) whether you will receive a spousal boost from your husband when you claim.

Because you have already passed your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 4 months, your work earnings won't negatively affect your monthly SS benefit amount. If you claim now, however, your work earnings will affect how much of your SS benefits will be subject to income tax. Assuming you file your income tax as "married/filing"

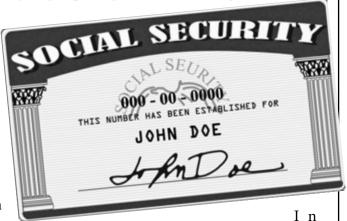
Should I Claim Social Security at 68, or Wait Until I'm 70?

jointly," up to 85% of the Social Security benefits you receive during the tax year will become part of your income taxable by the IRS. If you do not urgently need the extra money that your SS will provide, then waiting longer to claim will also postpone

paying income tax on your received benefits, and that may be a consideration.

Your life expectancy is key in making your decision on when to claim. You already know that your benefit will be \$244 per month more if you wait until you are 70 to claim. If you claim at 68 (e.g., this month), you will collect about \$40,800 by the time you reach 70. If you, instead, wait until age 70 to get that extra \$244/month benefit, it will take you about 14 years collecting at the higher rate to offset the \$40,800 you would have received had you claimed now (in other words, you would break even moneywise at about age 84). If your life expectancy is longer, then waiting to claim may be the better choice. Of course, no one knows how long they will live but, for general guidance, average life expectancy for a woman your current age is about 87. Family history and your current health are obviously influencing factors as well. If you wish to get a more personal estimate of your life expectancy, I suggest using this

www.socialsecurityreport.org/tools/life-expectancy-calculator/.



the end, if you believe you will attain at least average life expectancy and you don't urgently need the money now, waiting longer will not only give you a higher monthly benefit in your later years, but also the most in cumulative lifetime benefits. If, however, you have reason to suspect you won't achieve at least average life expectancy, or you need the SS money sooner, claiming before age 70 is likely the better move.

One other thing to consider: If your benefit as your husband's spouse will be more than your own earned maximum SS retirement benefit, then you should claim your SS benefit now. Your maximum benefit as a spouse would be 50% of your husband's full retirement age entitlement and, if that is more than your own benefit will be at age 70, then claiming now to get your maximum spousal benefit would be your best choice. To get a spousal benefit from your husband, your personal FRA entitlement (not your age 68 amount) would need to be less than half of his FRA entitlement. If that isn't the case, then you should make your decision based only on your own Social Security entitlement, as described above.

Jacob Thompson of Sunland, CA, graduates from Clarkson University

acob C Thompson of Sunland, CA, received a master of science degree in occupational therapy from Clarkson University on December 16, 2023.

As a private, national research university, Clarkson is a leader technological education sustainable economic and development through teaching, scholarship, research innovation. We ignite personal academic connections across fields and industries to create mindset, entrepreneurial knowledge and intellectual curiosity needed to innovate world-relevant solutions cultivate the leaders of tomorrow.

Nicole Smith from Tujunga, Earns Dean's List for Fall 2023 Semester

merson College student Nicole Smith from Tujunga, CA 91042 is named to the College's Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. The requirement to make Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

Smith is majoring in Theatre and Performance and is a member of the Class of 2025.■

Momentum Continues for the Homelessness, **Drug Addiction, Retail Theft Reduction Act as it** Surpasses 300,000 California Voters' Signatures

Another nearly 100,000 California voters have signed petitions in the past 10 days to place the measure that will stop theft and fentanyl crimes onto the November 2024 ballot

acramento, Calif., February 2, 2024 --- Californians to Reduce Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft announced today that they have collected another nearly 100,000 signatures from California voters totaling over 300,000 to place the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, Retail Theft Reduction Act on the November 2024 ballot.

"We continue to see an outcry of overwhelming support from Californians of every political affiliation and geographic region across the state demanding for change that will improve community safety and hold repeat offenders of theft and serious drug crimes including those

involving fentanyl accountable," said campaign chair Greg Totten who is also chief executive officer for the California District Attorneys Association.

"Californians want to feel safe in their neighborhoods and when they shop, and this initiative amends Prop 47 to effectively hold individuals accountable for repeat crimes of theft and serious drugs like fentanyl while making sure individuals receive and complete drug and mental health treatment they need," added Totten.

A survey of likely California voters found that 70% of voters support the title and summary of the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, Retail Theft Reduction Act. The overwhelming support was consistent across every demographic and geography including the Bay Area and Los Angeles. Furthermore, 89% of likely voters support amending Proposition 47 for stronger penalties for those engaged in repeated retail theft and trafficking hard drugs like fentanyl. The measure also includes incentives to complete drug and mental health treatment for people who are addicted to hard drugs. The survey was conducted online from November 8-November 13, 2023, with a margin of error of $\pm -2.28\%$.

To qualify the measure for the November 2024 ballot, the law requires 546,651 valid signatures.



California is at higher risk for major earthquakes

continued from page 1

Compared with the prior model, done in 2018, California locations had about a 10% or less increase in the chances of experiencing a damaging earthquake, Milner said. The new data also marks the chances of a 7.0 magnitude earthquake in the Bay Area at a given time being 3% greater than noted in 2018 and 80% greater statewide, he said.

Petersen said the forecast earthquake hazards for the Bay Area have always been high and continue to be. In the state, the highest chances for damaging earthquake shaking is along the coast, according to the model, published in January. Across all states, California also has the highest risk for damaging earthquakes.

The model was created as a tool for people, including engineers and policymakers, to mitigate the risks

of earthquakes.

"California has earthquakes. We already knew that. But what we want to know is in detail how can we better design buildings and bridges and develop communities that are resilient and can recover quickly from earthquakes?" Petersen said.

The findings can be applied to building codes to ensure structures can withstand the kind of shaking possible at a certain location, Petersen said.

About 500 new faults were mapped in the model, but few of those faults were in California. Most were in other western states, which did not have as extensive fault databases as California, Petersen said.

"The improvement in California was to think about what kinds of earthquakes you can have on the known faults we already have recognized in California," he said.

One of the areas of improved research was the types of earthquake ruptures possible. Petersen said earthquakes have complex rupture patterns — sometimes they break at an individual part of a fault or many faults can break together, creating larger earthquakes.

the possibility of these multi-segment fault ruptures more so than previous models.

"We try to simulate what kinds of ruptures we will see based on the geometry of the faults, the slip rates of the faults and the continuity of the faults," Petersen said. "In this new model we have accounted for many more of the complexities and alternative types of ruptures that we think can happen but hadn't considered in the past."

In addition to improving the modeling on fault ruptures, the new model takes into account how the rocks and soil can impact the amount of shaking.

"In several areas of the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles area, we had previously included some estimates of amplifications from these sediments beneath our feet. In this model we have expanded on that," Petersen said.

Sandy soils and some clay material The new model takes into account have the potential to intensify shaking, Peterson said. This happened in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, he said.

> "In the Marina District for example, we had a lot of sandy soils that amplified the shaking and caused damage but also caused liquefaction," Petersen said.

> Within California, only the sediment in the San Francisco area, Los Angeles area and Central Valley were accounted for in the new model, Petersen said. So there is more work needed to expand that research across the state.

> "As we try and understand more about the Earth, we recognize that there's a lot more to learn and that we need to continue to study," Petersen said.

2024 Lunar New Year, Year of the Dragon

he 46th Annual L.A. Chinatown Firecracker 5K/10K Run/1K Kiddie & PAW'er Dog Run/Walk & 20/50-Mile Bike Ride – which will be held over the weekend of February 24-25, 2024, where thousands will take to the streets and where the events start and end, as well as a free to the public post-event festival at the historic Los Angeles Chinatown Plaza (Event Festival until 3pm on Saturday as well as a Lantern Paw Festival in Blossom Plaza from 11am-4pm in conjunction with Saturday's Paw'er Dog Walk, and on Sunday, the Firecracker event festival goes until noon).

In addition, the 50-mile Bike Ride snakes through DTLA, LA River, "Frogtown", LA Zoo, Travel Town, Burbank, Glendale, Verdugo Foothills, Montrose, La Canada, Pasadena, Altadena, San Marino, South Pasadena, El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, and much more.

The L.A. Chinatown Firecracker is one of the largest and oldest running races in the U.S. which had its humble beginnings from a few Belmont High School Alums (a public school located in the Westlake community just outside of Chinatown). Please find attached an article about the history of the L.A. Chinatown Firecracker from the Belmont HS Alumni News.

With the generous support of these friends and Belmont alums, the various LA Chinatown Firecracker-sponsored events have been mainstays of Chinatown's New Year celebrations since 1979. This group of volunteers, plus many new ones from the community, donate their time and energy to organize and stage events



and programs promoting healthy lifestyles, fitness, cultural awareness, supports education and encourages community participation. The nonprofit LA Chinatown Firecracker Run Committee (LACFRC) continues to give back with proceeds reinvested in the community providing service and programs benefiting local elementary schools and nonprofit organizations.

A wonderful volunteer effort that continues to grow in a much beloved historic community that has a rich history as they continually bring thousands of runners, bikers and friends and families to Chinatown annually to enjoy the Lunar New Year festivities as well as the restaurants and shops that line the streets and plazas.

