

# OPINION

Opinions expressed by columnists and letter writers are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the newspaper.

## ED GALLO SPEAKS

# You'd think we could nail down this election thing

By ED GALLO

Oh my, can you believe it? Only 14 days until a day that seemed so far away months ago. Yes, election day is nigh. And yet a little more information coming forward regarding casting your ballot. Yesterday I read in the U-T, a champion of economic development and employment but who uses a printing office in Los Angeles rather than employing San Diegans who will then spend their income locally helping small businesses survive, reporting a different instruction from the Registrar of Voters.

As you recall, at least I hope you do, last week I wrote about the confusion in signing your ballot. The Registrar of Voter's instructions that came with the ballots mailed to every registered voter were to sign as you signed your driver's license. Ah, but then the U-T article instructed the voter to sign the ballot as they signed their voter registration form. Say what?

Not to worry though. There are teams of forensic document examiners at the ROV to examine signatures to verify their authenticity. Seriously, what could go wrong, right? They meticulously examine "loops, slants and crossed T's." If every person who received a ballot also read the U-T would there be less confusion among the electorate? Yeah, confusion would reign supreme. But Ed, there are numerous checks and balances employed in the counting process. Silly me. Do vote.

Finally, can you remember an election where problems and irregularities did not occur? I mean one would think that after 244 years in existence we could have nailed down this voting process. My first election we had voting machines. Just pull the lever and your vote is counted. Then it was discovered that the machines could be manipulated. Back to paper. Remember the "hanging chads?" Okay let's try this new-fangled electronic voting method. Wow what a mess! This year we have contradictory instructions on how to sign your paper ballot.

On to other news. It appears that cemeteries are competing for customers. Singing Hills Memorial Park, wherever that is, advertises as not your traditional cemetery but a park with numerous amenities. Well so is our Oakhill Memorial Cemetery but SHMP is advertising incessantly on the radio. I have not heard commercials for their burial locations. Apparently the Oak Hill board is content with the slow growth in their park.

Speaking of advertising, the granddaughter of Qualcomm founder Irwin Jacobs touts in her campaign for Congress advertising to have big pharma cut advertising costs to help reduce the retail cost of medications to the public. How about big tech cut advertising such as multi-million dollar naming rights on professional stadiums to reduce the retail cost of consumer goods. Eight hundred dollar cell phones?

There was a recent local report on what this latest pandemic, not unprecedented, has affected the job market in San Diego County. Thousands of jobs lost with understandably, the largest drop in employment in the tourism industry suffering a roughly 70% decrease in jobs. There were decreasing percentages in numerous other industries with one exception. Wanna guess which one? Government saw a 1% INCREASE in employment. If this doesn't raise awareness about the damage big government can do then nothing ever will.

Oh, I can't let this go by regarding newspaper editors. This T-A happens to have a good one. A story from an unnamed newspaper appeared the other day reporting on a stabbing included this description of the wound. A man was cut on "the upper part of his left arm about 3 inches below his elbow." Now I'm not a medical doctor or have any physiological training but I do believe that below the elbow is not the upper part of an arm. If you know otherwise please let me know.

First 2WRKHRD followed by OURSSRI. Hard work leads to obviously happily retired.

## LEANING LEFT

# Voting for Trump? . . . just 10 of the likely reasons why

By DON LONG

I know, I know, you're probably getting awfully tired of me -- and so many others -- banging on the president with our arguments against inking the box beside his name. So let me change it up and provide all the arguments as to why you will likely vote for him.

# 1: You kinda like all the drama. You have gotten a bit bored with "The Young and the Restless" and "As the World Turns." So when you turn on the news each morning, there you have the actual thing: ongoing real-life episodes of the ups and downs of someone terribly ill-used; former friends showing how disloyal they can be; accusations by relatives of being shorted in the millions of dollars; former "loves" showing up with accusations of uncouth behavior. But you're sure he'll survive, dismissing all the allegations, disloyalties, fabrications. He stands strong, heroic, above it all. He's THE MAN!

# 2: You love it that he's for AMERICA FIRST, now and forever, above all other nations. This globalization thing, the need for any cooperation or compromise with others -- farcical! America has no need for any agreements concerning nuclear arms, global warming or anything else, because we're No. One, period, end of story. And then there's his business "savvy," that foreign relations is just another zero-sum game: a win

for America, a loss for everyone else.

# 3: You figure he's got this virus "flu"-like thing under control -- mask or no mask -- and it will soon go away. If he can't cajole some drug company into producing a vaccine before Nov. 3rd, it will be verified and broadly distributed to all soon after. You're going to give him the credit for "warp-speeding" this process and delivering it to Americans so we're all back to "normal" in early 2021.

# 4: You agree that we don't need so many immigrants. Since immigrants come from other countries they can't ever be truly "American"; and illegal immigrants are only here to get a bunch of "free stuff," benefits that you have worked hard for so shouldn't have to share. And you agree with him that this "diversity" thing is a sham, just another disguise for allowing in more immigrants than we will ever need.

# 5: You apparently agree that Obamacare needs to be destroyed because it's just another step toward socialized medicine, and all those other nations who provide broad healthcare to their citizens are just plain stupid. Once he manages to destroy Obamacare, he and the Republicans will provide you a fantastic plan for taking care of your health. You probably haven't heard yet what the de-

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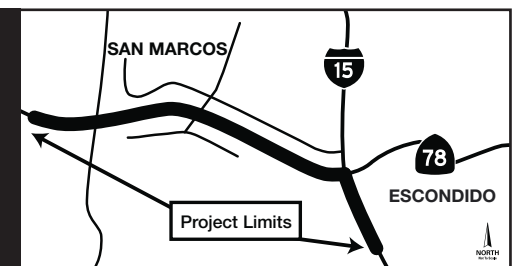


## NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Caltrans is proceeding to initiate an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) and a virtual Public Scoping Meeting has been scheduled for the I-15/SR 78 Managed Lanes Direct Connectors Project

### VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, October 29  
**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Access the Online Meeting at [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SR78](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SR78)  
**Questions or Comments?**  
 (888) 547-1161  
[SR78@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](mailto:SR78@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com)



**What's Being Planned:** The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and City of San Marcos, proposes to build Managed Lanes Direct Connectors between I-15 and SR 78, extend three miles of Managed Lanes in each direction on SR 78 between the I-15/SR 78 interchange and San Marcos Boulevard, and construct additional freeway and multimodal improvements at Nordahl Road, Woodland Parkway, Barham Drive, and Rancheros Drive.

**Why This Ad:** Caltrans, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), will prepare an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) to analyze potential effects the proposed project may have on the environment. This notice is to inform you of the scheduled public scoping comment period and public scoping meeting for this project and to solicit public input into the development of the scope of the project and the EIR/EA.

**Where Do You Come In:** Comments will be accepted during the minimum 30-day public scoping period from **October 19, 2020 to November 20, 2020**. Comments may be submitted via the website ([KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SR78](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SR78)), phone (888) 547-1161, email ([SR78@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](mailto:SR78@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com)), or mail (Caltrans District 11, c/o Ellen Renker, 4050 Taylor Street (MS 242), San Diego, CA 92110). Caltrans will address substantive comments in the Draft EIR/EA.

**Virtual Public Scoping Meeting:** Caltrans and SANDAG will host a virtual public scoping meeting on **Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM PST**. You may join the meeting anytime between these hours. Meeting information is available at: [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SR78](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SR78).

**For more information** about this project, please contact Ellen Renker, Associate Environmental Planner, at [ellen.renker@dot.ca.gov](mailto:ellen.renker@dot.ca.gov) or (888) 547-1161.

**Special Accommodations:** Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, documentation in alternative formats, etc.) are requested to contact the Caltrans District 11 Public Information Office at (619) 688-6670 at least 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting date. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service TTY line at 1-800-735-2929. Para información en español, por favor llame al (619) 688-6670.

## ESCONDIDO COLLEGE NEWS

News of Escondido residents attending college and university here, there and everywhere!

### News from University of Utah

Despite nationwide concerns over declining enrollment for institutions of higher education due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Utah saw its largest total enrollment in its 170-year history for the Fall 2020 Semester. It also welcomed its largest, most diverse freshman class.

The following local students joined the U's Class of 2024: Rosalinda Sanchez Balderas of Escondido, Abigail Traxler of Escondido and Reese Wazny, also of Escondido.

The University of Utah, located in Salt Lake City in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, is the flagship institution of higher learning in Utah.

### Local Residents join Biola Community

Biola University welcomed the following Escondido residents: Evelyn Tavares, Rebecca Waibel, Camila Nevez, Chloe Roehr, Rachel Helfrick, Mya Bastien, Chelsea Smith and Julia Marcus.

Biola provides the same services students enjoy on campus in a new format. "Biola at Home" is a community virtual experience, together. Biola University is a nationally ranked Christian university in the heart of Southern California. It was recently recognized as one of America's best colleges, earning a spot in the top tier of the "best national universities" category of U.S. News and World Report's Best Colleges 2021 rankings.