



Mountain Bears Democratic Club was founded in 2004. We are located in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California. We hope to do our part to inform and educate the public and bring newcomers to the party by registering new Democrats. The Democratic Party believes that the American Dream should be within the reach of all people. We welcome and encourage people from all walks of life to join us in discussion and debate regardless of one's political affiliations.

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## NEXT MEETING

Our next club meeting will be on Tuesday, **January 28<sup>th</sup>**, at **5:30** pm in the Alpine Escrow conference room in Blue Jay. If you pay your dues then you will save \$5...

## Our Club's Online Presence

Our webpage: <https://mountainbearsdemocrats.org>

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Mountain-Bears-Democratic-Club-1464298517118574>

## Community Sources of Information

Our Chamber of Commerce web page: <https://www.lakearrowheadchamber.com>

Arrowhead Lake Association web page: <https://www.ala-ca.org>

### Local media:

- Mountain News newspaper: <http://www.mountain-news.com>
- Alpine Mountaineer newspaper: <https://thealpinemountaineer.com>
- Mountain Reporter digital newspaper: <http://mountainreporter.com>
- Lake Arrowhead News: <https://www.lakearrowheadnews.com>
- Lake Arrowhead 'Official Site': <http://www.lakearrowhead.com>

## Sources of Legislative Information

Library of Congress: <https://www.congress.gov>

Issue Voter.org: <https://issuevoter.org/bills>

Govtrack: <https://www.govtrack.us>

## California Democrats Online Presence

The party's web page: <https://www.cadem.org>

The party's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/cadems>

## National Democrats Online Presence

The national party's webpage: <https://democrats.org>

The national party's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/democrats>

## Health Issues

### In court, data may not win the day

In the [largest such study ever](#), researchers examining data from more than 252,000 women have determined that there is no statistically significant link between the use of talc-based baby powder and ovarian cancer.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=6f50d250-c8b9-413f-b784-f30d9fb325f3](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=6f50d250-c8b9-413f-b784-f30d9fb325f3) 1.9.20

I found a book called, "How to Solve 50% of your problems".  
I bought two.

### The Gene Drive Dilemma: We Can Alter Entire Species, but Should We?

A new genetic engineering technology could help eliminate malaria and stave off extinctions — if humanity decides to unleash it.



[https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/08/magazine/gene-drive-mosquitoes.html?algo=identity&fallback=false&imp\\_id=639684546&imp\\_id=455108554&action=click&module=Science%20%20Technology&pgtype=Homepage](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/08/magazine/gene-drive-mosquitoes.html?algo=identity&fallback=false&imp_id=639684546&imp_id=455108554&action=click&module=Science%20%20Technology&pgtype=Homepage) 1.9.20

### America's Favorite Poison

Whatever happened to the anti-alcohol movement? Americans tend to reject general anti-alcohol advocacy with a vociferousness typically reserved for IRS auditors and after-period double-spacers. Pushing for, say, higher alcohol taxes gets you treated like an uptight school marm. Or worse, a neo-prohibitionist.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/01/whv-there-no-anti-alcohol-movement/604876/>



What happens when Miracle Whip becomes ill?

- It has to go to the Mayo Clinic



## We all age, but how are you doing it?

Two new studies bring the goal of extending humans' 'healthspan' a bit closer

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=e9461779-f0ee-45fd-b73f-fab536cb327d](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=e9461779-f0ee-45fd-b73f-fab536cb327d) 1.18.20



## Medicare's Part D Doughnut Hole Has Closed! Mostly. Sorta.

The drug coverage gap was widely loathed, but the new scheme may still leave some older Americans holding the bag.

[https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/17/health/medicare-drug-costs.html?algo=identity&fallback=false&imp\\_id=661934855&imp\\_id=715962437&action=click&module=Science%20%20Technology&pgtype=Homepage](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/17/health/medicare-drug-costs.html?algo=identity&fallback=false&imp_id=661934855&imp_id=715962437&action=click&module=Science%20%20Technology&pgtype=Homepage) 1.18.20



## Law gives retirement savings a boost

Realizing that many people cannot afford to retire, Congress makes it easier to sock money away.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=22390cd-b-878b-4afa-81ef-3ff59fc25ac9](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=22390cd-b-878b-4afa-81ef-3ff59fc25ac9)

1.19.20

## On the Mountain +

### **Snow on vehicles piles up, but are there laws in California that prevent driving with it?**

#### **Is it required to remove snow or ice in California?"**

As far as we can tell, there aren't any laws on the books in California that specifically refer to drivers having to remove snow from their vehicles, and this was confirmed by California Highway Patrol Officer Dan Olivas of the CHP Inland Division.

[https://www.sbsun.com/2020/01/15/snow-on-vehicles-piles-up-but-are-there-laws-in-california-that-prevent-driving-with-it/?utm\\_content=fb-sbsun&utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_campaign=socialflow&utm\\_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR0Q7xdH0h-Dp22IKyeyIrpACYOMSNA8k-v3mk\\_ikVKh5gHZ1yQfoZMXM](https://www.sbsun.com/2020/01/15/snow-on-vehicles-piles-up-but-are-there-laws-in-california-that-prevent-driving-with-it/?utm_content=fb-sbsun&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=socialflow&utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR0Q7xdH0h-Dp22IKyeyIrpACYOMSNA8k-v3mk_ikVKh5gHZ1yQfoZMXM) 1.15.20

### **Could the 210 Freeway through San Bernardino County get wider...**

The San Bernardino County Transportation Authority is planning an upcoming lane addition project on the 210 between San Bernardino and Redlands which will close the gap from the three-lane configuration in San Bernardino to the four-lane connector at the 10 Freeway in Redlands, said Tim Watkins, chief of SBCTA's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2020/01/08/could-the-210-freeway-through-san-bernardino-county-get-wider-with-only-restriping/> 1.15.20



### **Combating homelessness on the mountain**

Despite the fact that California is spending more money than ever on homelessness, the numbers were up in the 2019 point-in-time count, mandated to be done at the end of January. In San Bernardino County, the numbers were up 23 percent.

[https://thealpinemountaineer.com/combating-homelessness-on-the-mountain/?fbclid=IwAR0fhkro08\\_8PCdj6EHIMDP3ZfG6ALL4WVdudzokbldwxb9GFoxN8dBT674](https://thealpinemountaineer.com/combating-homelessness-on-the-mountain/?fbclid=IwAR0fhkro08_8PCdj6EHIMDP3ZfG6ALL4WVdudzokbldwxb9GFoxN8dBT674) 01.09.20





## **Taking Action Against Distracted Drivers**

“California’s distracted driving laws have been saving lives for a decade now,” said former State Senator Joe Simitian, who authored the state’s hands-free and no-texting laws.

[http://www.mountain-news.com/news/article\\_9149883e-33da-11ea-ae5f-a7b480b919cb.html?fbclid=IwAR0CIN0nVjnmfrVGKqNiDJn6AXivZEdhjFc2wNRDjXDY37IKw1KV2Z4tOOM](http://www.mountain-news.com/news/article_9149883e-33da-11ea-ae5f-a7b480b919cb.html?fbclid=IwAR0CIN0nVjnmfrVGKqNiDJn6AXivZEdhjFc2wNRDjXDY37IKw1KV2Z4tOOM) 1.11.20



## **The Vatican Library Goes Online and Digitizes Tens of Thousands of Manuscripts, Books, Coins, and More**

[http://www.openculture.com/2020/01/the-vatican-library-goes-online-and-digitizes-tens-of-thousands-of-manuscripts-books-coins-and-more.html?fbclid=IwAR0wQDPVQdLjpL0SVqkNمبرOk976RUsYjqSpY\\_XEIJefn5LaxG\\_VzLB5r-Q](http://www.openculture.com/2020/01/the-vatican-library-goes-online-and-digitizes-tens-of-thousands-of-manuscripts-books-coins-and-more.html?fbclid=IwAR0wQDPVQdLjpL0SVqkNمبرOk976RUsYjqSpY_XEIJefn5LaxG_VzLB5r-Q) 01.09.20

## Should You Warm Up Your Car When It's Cold?

The long-held notion that you should let your car idle in the cold is only true for carbureted engines. But you still might need to wait a while before driving off in subzero temps.

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/cars/car-technology/a19086/warming-up-your-car-in-the-cold-just-harms-engine/?fbclid=IwAR09XwQr9-8JACy9oKpluaK8CTBCcR-uP8jwce2otj2U7kqNpEtZrCDqtlo> 12.09.19

### State of California Department of Transportation Slope Stabilization Project on State Route 173

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) began preliminary work in advance of a slope stabilization project on State Route 173 (SR 173) between Hospital Road and Cedar Glen Road in Lake Arrowhead. The purpose of the project is to stabilize the slope below SR 173, which is eroded and failing above Lake Arrowhead. The project will realign the roadway, construct a soil nail wall, rebuild the slope below the road, and replace guardrail mounted on a fifteen-foot concrete barrier.

The \$11.6 million project will begin in spring 2020 and will be complete in fall 2022. Preliminary work was required in advance of the actual beginning of the construction project to remove twenty-five identified trees to make room for the slope repairs. Caltrans Maintenance crews began work this week to expedite the tree removal in advance of the actual project start date to avoid the bird nesting moratorium, which takes place each spring into summer, and to avoid delays to the project start date.

The remainder of the tree removal will be completed the week of January 27. The tree removal work and actual construction project requires lane closures with flagging for the duration of the project, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Caltrans staff have coordinated with the nearby hospital for emergency response.

Know before you go! To stay on top of roadwork in the Inland Empire go to [Caltrans District 8](#) and sign up for commuter alerts. Follow us for the latest information on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). To assist in planning your commute, view live traffic conditions using [QuickMap](#) and [planned lane closures](#).

For those with sensory disabilities requiring alternate formats (i.e. Braille, large print, sign language interpreter, etc.) and those needing information in a language other than English, please contact Emily Leinen at (909) 383-4631 or TTY 711 by January 31, 2020.

**Let's eat, grandma.      Let's eat grandma.**  
**PUNCTUATION SAVES LIVES!**



## National Politics



### ***Trump Moves to Exempt Big Projects From Environmental Review***

The White House on Thursday introduced major changes to the nation's benchmark environmental protection law, moving to ease approval of major energy and infrastructure projects without detailed environmental review or consideration of climate change. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/09/climate/trump-nepa-environment.html?action=click&m>



### **The Secretive Company That Might End Privacy as We Know It**

A little-known start-up helps law enforcement match photos of unknown people to their online images — and “might lead to a dystopian future or something,” a backer says.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/18/technology/clearview-privacy-facial-recognition.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage>

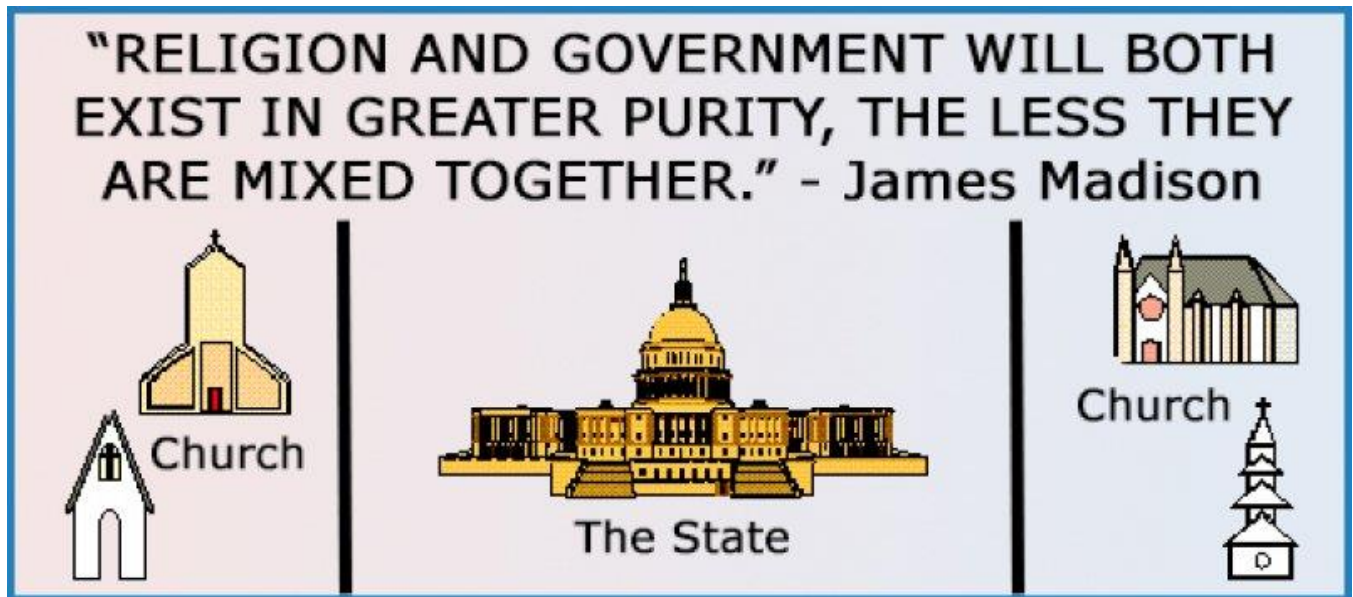
1.18.20



## Justices take up religious school dispute

Case could make it easier to use public money to pay for private education.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=0d1e7caa-10b2-4879-99ca-feccb4ae29ee](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=0d1e7caa-10b2-4879-99ca-feccb4ae29ee) 1.19.20



## China trade deal is 2 steps back

That sound you may have heard Wednesday morning was that of a heavy truck spinning its wheels, as President Trump signed an agreement with China that imposes a cease-fire in a trade war that has achieved virtually nothing for Americans, except the imposition of enormous economic costs on U.S. consumers, farmers and manufacturers.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=7446752f-247f-494f-8b89-441c775be422](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=7446752f-247f-494f-8b89-441c775be422) 1.19.20



Nestle and Cargill ask justices to shield them from claims of abetting forced labor on Ivory Coast farms.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=ec69bb10-006b-430b-931c-46d228efe953](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=ec69bb10-006b-430b-931c-46d228efe953) 1.14.20

### Read the full watchdog report on Ukraine aid withholding



The U.S. federal government's auditing agency has concluded that the White House Office of Management and Budget violated the law when it withheld aid to Ukraine in the summer of 2019, according to **a decision issued today.**

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/read-the-full-watchdog-report-on-ukraine-aid-withholding?fbclid=IwAR38af0VEtxRqyTjV8jJo1728DqR43xHn3ZEK79ZX4kU913Qs7t5rSFb9bs> 1.16.20

### Body Armor for Females Modernization Act would help military women's uniforms and protective equipment better fit them

Too many women in the military are made to wear protective clothing items originally designed for men, in which proportions and measurements are wrong even when sized up or down.

<https://govtrackinsider.com/body-armor-for-females-modernization-act-would-help-military-womens-uniforms-and-protective-23d66ea3853f> 1.15.20

### Feds won't tap brakes on driverless car tech

New guidelines aim to spur development but avoid crashes

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=03274067-4b88-4b66-b04a-8edca66ed43d](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=03274067-4b88-4b66-b04a-8edca66ed43d) 1.9.20

### Trump Is an Eerily Perfect Match With a Famous 14-Point Guide to Identify Fascist Leaders

<https://www.alternet.org/2016/12/trump-eerily-perfect-match-famous-14-point-guide-identify-fascist-leaders>

## This Migrant Won In Immigration Court, And The U.S. Sent Him To Mexico Anyway

The judge granted Jesus withholding of removal, a form of protection from deportation. In other words, he won — something that very few migrants at the border can say these days. Jesus thought he might finally be allowed into the U.S., where he could reunite with his family.

[https://www.npr.org/2020/01/09/794587498/this-migrant-won-in-immigration-court-and-the-u-s-sent-him-to-mexico-anyway?utm\\_campaign=npr&utm\\_term=nprnews&utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR16FBuaRaX6s-w1jk23m8WSJ358UK2PwoaL000U5Sa8XGIH-Ay2hiytqYk&fbclid=IwAR3IRYHRqM4MWrl-r1SJTxxkvyuHBR-Q-Wy9K2X0-xAhkKpGxZORE-mBIW7w](https://www.npr.org/2020/01/09/794587498/this-migrant-won-in-immigration-court-and-the-u-s-sent-him-to-mexico-anyway?utm_campaign=npr&utm_term=nprnews&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR16FBuaRaX6s-w1jk23m8WSJ358UK2PwoaL000U5Sa8XGIH-Ay2hiytqYk&fbclid=IwAR3IRYHRqM4MWrl-r1SJTxxkvyuHBR-Q-Wy9K2X0-xAhkKpGxZORE-mBIW7w) 1.9.20

### ‘Chaos Is the Point’: Russian Hackers and Trolls Grow Stealthier in 2020

The National Security Agency and its British counterpart issued an unusual warning in October: The Russians were back and growing stealthier.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/10/us/politics/russia-hacking-disinformation-election.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage>

1.10.20



## Treating Workers With Dignity Act would mandate companies allow employees restroom and meal breaks

The [Treating Workers With Dignity Act](https://govtrackinsider.com/treating-workers-with-dignity-act-would-mandate-companies-allow-employees-restroom-and-meal-breaks-f33255b368d7) would mandate employees be provided with restroom and meal breaks, as well as medical breaks when necessary.

<https://govtrackinsider.com/treating-workers-with-dignity-act-would-mandate-companies-allow-employees-restroom-and-meal-breaks-f33255b368d7> 1.10.20







## High court takes up electoral college case

Justices will decide if electors can go against voters' wishes. They'll also weigh a challenge to contraceptives law.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=6778c7e9-a991-45d1-8c1f-085eab73bf51](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=6778c7e9-a991-45d1-8c1f-085eab73bf51) 1.18.20

## Trump has broken more promises than he's kept

With Trump nearing the end of his third year as president, it's time for an update.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/01/17/trump-has-broken-more-promises-than-hes-kept/?fbclid=IwAR3FdFIAf5QZOUON\\_0w2xT92ZRhBynlmyeTxeh\\_s3TxY9rcV-Yepx1CtdoU](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/01/17/trump-has-broken-more-promises-than-hes-kept/?fbclid=IwAR3FdFIAf5QZOUON_0w2xT92ZRhBynlmyeTxeh_s3TxY9rcV-Yepx1CtdoU) 1.17.20

## Club Stuff

### Committee Chairpersons and Guest Speakers needed

We are always looking for speakers who can "inform and educate the public and bring newcomers to the party".

**Contact Mickey Laws, (760) 567-6159**

**DUES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020** (Financial Sponsorship Available)  
 Membership Application and Renewal Form       New Member       Renewal

Seniors (60+) and  Students -  \$15/person or  \$25/couple  
 Under 60 -  \$25/person or  \$40/couple

**Make Check Payable to:**  
 Mountain Bears Democratic Club  
 PO Box 3514, Blue Jay, CA 92317-3514  
 (or give to Club Treasurer)

\_\_\_\_\_  Cash     Check  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

First, M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 American Citizen?  Y  N    Registered to Vote Democrat?  Y  N  
 Home Phone  Cell     Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

First, M.I. (If couple) \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 American Citizen?  Y  N    Registered to Vote Democrat?  Y  N  
 Home Phone  Cell     Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Couple's Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Interest List**  
 1. Inactive  
 2. Active Now  
 3. Register Voters  
 4. Phone Tree  
 5. Fund Raisers  
 6. Host Mixers  
 7. Provide Refreshments

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 Receipt for 2019 dues paid to Mountain Bears Democratic Club    Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 for \_\_\_\_\_  Person  Couple

**Pay your dues for 2020 before January 31 and pay \$5.00 less!**

## State Politics



### **Newsom calls for state to sell its own brand of generic drugs**

The proposal drew both praise and skepticism Thursday as healthcare experts said they were eager to see details on how the state would rein in drug prices that have become increasingly out of reach for many in the state. Budget plan aims to help lower healthcare costs, but the still conceptual proposal includes few specifics.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=b8ad1371-5cd4-4ebd-8940-30fe7bbdd634](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=b8ad1371-5cd4-4ebd-8940-30fe7bbdd634)

1.10.20



### **Panel on homeless crisis calls for mandate**

Local governments that fail to get more people off the streets should face sanctions, state task force says.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=182bd8e6-de87-4083-b7fc-09dbdf42d696](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=182bd8e6-de87-4083-b7fc-09dbdf42d696) 1.14.20

### **Body cameras key to LAPD probe of falsified stop data**

Few issues have generated more controversy in California law enforcement circles than how police determine whether someone is a gang member.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=4b61aad3-c389-48e4-a740-5445acca8771](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=4b61aad3-c389-48e4-a740-5445acca8771) 1.16.20



A few puns make me numb ...  
but math puns make me number.

## High court vacancy as justice to step down

Chin's retirement in August will give Newsom first chance to fill slot and cement liberal makeup.

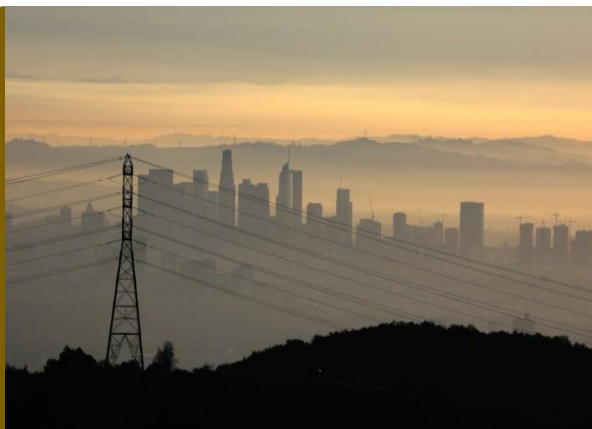
California Supreme Court Justice Ming W. Chin said Wednesday that he will step down Aug. 31, giving Gov. Gavin Newsom an early opportunity to put his stamp on the state's highest court.

[http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article\\_share.aspx?guid=f8475ab2-d351-4b16-acfc-c85417b668e8](http://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=f8475ab2-d351-4b16-acfc-c85417b668e8) 1.16.20

## The Bill That Could Make California Livable Again

S.B. 50 would make the state denser, cheaper, greener, and more affordable.

[https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/01/sb50-california/604786/?fbclid=IwAR0mV4nh-kaBNtSf6FULgeocHgQYPnxcM61rY4NBzIDtOlcu304\\_yBzzl6E](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/01/sb50-california/604786/?fbclid=IwAR0mV4nh-kaBNtSf6FULgeocHgQYPnxcM61rY4NBzIDtOlcu304_yBzzl6E) 1.14.20



## Not our state, but...

### Virginia Declares State of Emergency After Armed Militias Threaten to Storm the Capitol

The governor said law enforcement had intercepted "extremist rhetoric" similar to the lead-up to Charlottesville days before pro-gun activists are holding a rally.

[https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/939b3y/virginia-declares-state-of-emergency-after-armed-militias-threaten-to-storm-the-capitol?utm\\_source=vicefbus&fbclid=IwAR3f0SM2J8KPsocUh-X64Hza0vxzEymuV6pi4vl0gnLUdghk93cUbgALzw](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/939b3y/virginia-declares-state-of-emergency-after-armed-militias-threaten-to-storm-the-capitol?utm_source=vicefbus&fbclid=IwAR3f0SM2J8KPsocUh-X64Hza0vxzEymuV6pi4vl0gnLUdghk93cUbgALzw) 1.16.20

Being honest may not  
get you a lot of friends, but  
it'll always get you the  
right ones.

John Lennon





# Pun Pages



Full-sized  
Yoda



Toyoda

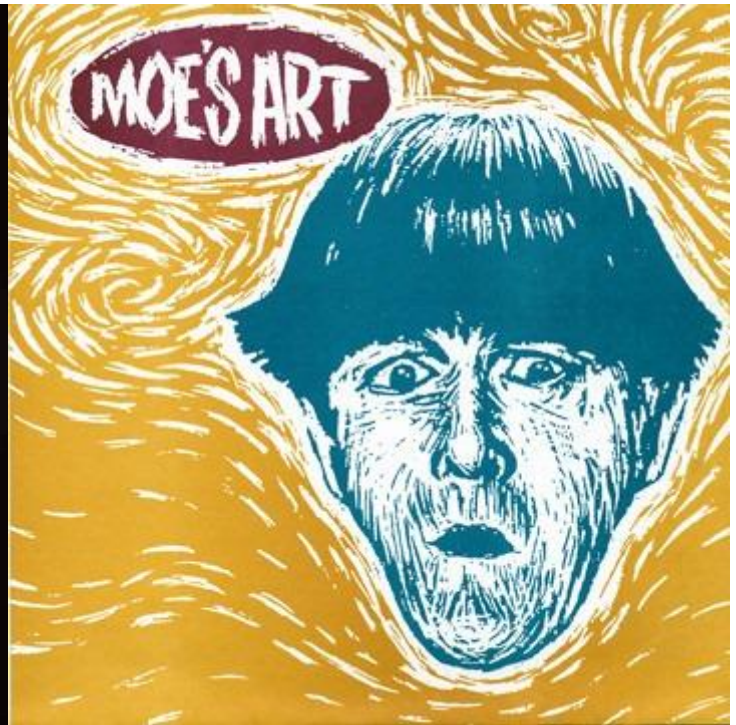


SORRY, SON...THERE'S NO APP FOR THAT





I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE  
ACT ALL INTELLECTUAL  
AND TALK ABOUT  
MOZART WHILE THEY'VE  
NEVER EVEN SEEN ONE  
OF HIS PAINTINGS...

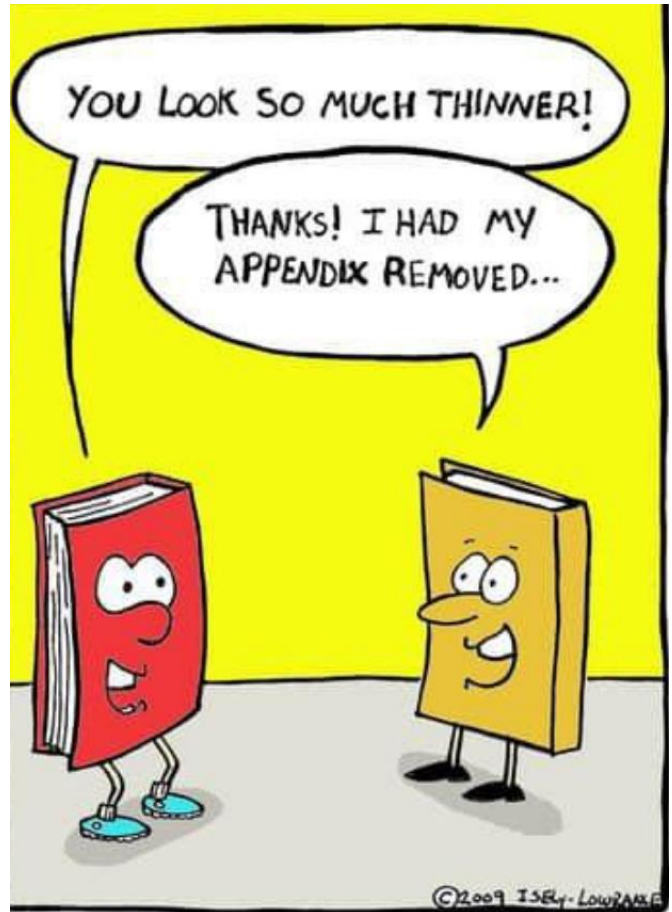


**NO MATTER HOW STUPID YOU FEEL,  
REMEMBER, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD**



**COULDN'T FIGURE OUT A TALKING WOLF  
IN DRAG WASN'T HER GRANDMOTHER**





**The Mountain Bears are a politically and socially active group of local democrats who want to stay informed, encourage voter turnout, and promote Democratic Party values while sponsoring or participating in community activities for the mutual well-being of all the mountain residents.**