



GREEN FLAG ALERT

The City's state of emergency level is now at Stage One: **GREEN FLAG**—Activated under a prediction of 80%—100% chance of precipitation. Affected residents should get "READY" for potential evacuation. This includes keeping a close watch on weather forecasts.

AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

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Mountain Views News

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Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2010

VOLUME 4 NO. 7

Police Officers Association Elects New Officers

The Sierra Madre Police Officers Association announced last week the election of its new Board of Directors. In a recent vote, the Association membership elected Officer Ken Berry as President, Dispatcher Hasmick Hartunian Vice President, Officer Henry Amos as Sergeant at Arms, Dispatcher Jeannette Dabney as Secretary, and Code Enforcement Lisa Volpe has become the new Treasurer. The Association issued the following statement:

"The new POA board wishes to convey its commitment to all who live and work in Sierra Madre to provide the highest quality of law enforcement service possible. The Department has existed for well over 100 years and is proud of its tradition of dedication and professionalism. Our goal is to serve the community for the next 100 years and beyond."

The Sierra Madre Police Association, in accordance with its By-Laws, exists to give men and women of the Sierra Madre Police Department a unified voice. This voice will be used in a professional manner to further the interests of its members, provide meaningful communication with the city of Sierra Madre and the Sierra Madre Police Department Administrations, and to give its members a

venue which to express their concerns and opinions on labor related issues. The Sierra Madre Police Association also exists to provide direct voluntary support for local community activities and further the relationship between the citizens of Sierra Madre and the men and women of the Sierra Madre Police Department that serve them.

The POA believes the election of the new board of directors is a positive signal of the membership's commitment to not only provide high quality service, but to seek mutually agreeable solutions to issues that periodically arise between the City and Association members.

Whereas there have been occasional periods of acrimony in the past, the POA pledges its desire to find accord on any issues of concern between the Association and City. Community service is our highest priority. We will work closely with Chief Diaz and the City Officials to ensure we have a cohesive and strong partnership as we perform our law enforcement duties. We have a simple and common goal; keeping Sierra Madre the safest and best place to live in our State."

Officer Ken Berry
President, Sierra Madre Police Officers Association

City Council to Discuss Dust Control At Tuesday Meeting

The Sierra Madre City Council will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 6:30 pm in the council chambers. Among the items on this week's agenda are:

(partial listing)

A proposed Ordinance to control dust from constructions sites in Sierra Madre;

A status report on the Emergency Radio Station fundraising;

Historic Preservation Issues;

Emergencies and Mandatory Evacuations; and

An Ordinance Regarding Maintenance of Vacant Commercial Property.

KIWANIS HOSTS BREAKFAST MEETING THAT WILL FOCUS ON JOB PROSPECTS FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES

Anthony Mojica, recent graduate of Loyola University in Chicago and recent hire by the U.S. State Department will speak at Kiwanis of Sierra Madre's first monthly breakfast meeting. This topic will be: *Jobs For College Grads: Good News or Bad?"*

This meeting will be the first of the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club's monthly morning meetings which will be held on the last Tuesday of each month. Breakfast will be served at 7:30am and the program will begin at 8:00 am at the Masonic Temple, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. The public is invited. Reservations are not required for this morning meeting of the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club.

40th Wine & Cuisine Tasting Brings Out The Crowds



Servers from Charcuterie dish up some food for local volunteer/resident Fran Garbachio at Friday night's Wine Tasting Fundraiser for the Sierra Madre Library.
Photo by Bill Coburn



Sierra Madreans Bob Matheson, and Colleen McKernan pose for the cameras. Bob donned authentic Scottish attire for the event. On the right, gourmet cupcakes were served by Connie McCoy of Oven Lovin.
Photos by Susan Henderson



Police Chief Marilyn Diaz places a bid at the silent auction during the Friends of the Library's Wine Tasting Fundraiser at Alverno High School Friday night.
Photo by Bill Coburn



SIERRA MADRE CAMPAIGN COVERAGE

2010 Sierra Madre Municipal Election



On April 13, 2010, voters in Sierra Madre will go to the polls and select three people from a field of six to sit on the City Council. They will also vote on a local ballot measure to prohibit the use of Eminent Domain by the city for the taking of personal property.

The Mountain Views News will provide our readers with comprehensive coverage of this election. Each week, as we have done in the past, we will profile the candidates and give each of the candidates the opportunity to introduce themselves to our readers by answering the following questions: (All candidates are being asked to answer the same questions)

1. Why are you running for City Council?
2. What are you going to do for Sierra Madre?

The paper will also review the pros and cons of the Eminent Domain ballot measure.

The schedule will be as follows:

February 27th	Eminent Domain - The Pros and Cons and Candidate Pat Alcorn
March 6th	Incumbent Don Watts
March 13th	Incumbent Joe Mosca
March 20th	Candidate John Crawford
March 27th	Candidate Nancy Walsh
April 3rd	Candidate Josh Moran
April 10th	Candidate Bill Tice

It is our sincere hope that each candidate will submit their answers so that we can share them with our readers. A separate letter has been sent to each candidate asking them to participate.

In addition to the candidate spotlights, we will attempt to cover the various forums sponsored by local organizations. Where possible, the unedited video of these forums will be broadcast on the papers website.

Our reporting on this election will be as fair and objective as possible. However, please keep in mind that our columnists are always free to share their opinions. Their opinions are their opinions and may or may not reflect the position of the paper. This is true in all things, not just this election.

We will also provide for you the calendar of important dates regarding the election. It is our goal to do whatever we can to help you make an informed decision on April 13, 2010.

Susan Henderson, Publisher and Editor

IMPORTANT DATES: (Per the City Clerk)

March 15-April 6	Voters May Request Vote-by-Mail Ballots with Regular Applications
March 23rd	Last Day to Mail Sample Ballots and Polling Place Notices
March 29th	Last Day to Register to Vote
TBA	Last Day To Return Vote By Mail Ballots
APRIL 13, 2010	ELECTION DAY

Civic Club Education Awards Deadline Fast Approaching

Submitted by Phyllis Chapman

The Sierra Madre Civic Club reminds High School Seniors that the deadline to enter their 2010 Education Awards program is March 1, 2010. No applications postmarked later than that date will be considered for an award.

Applications are available from counselors at local high schools or by contacting Education Awards Chairperson, Maria Bent at 626-355-5272 or emailing her at mbbent@aol.com.

Time is of the essence. In addition to personal information about each student to be considered on the application, two letters of reference must also be attached to the application.

Monetary awards to applicants chosen will be presented at the Civic Club's meeting on May 13, 2010 at 7:30 pm. The event will be held at Memorial Park Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

The Civic Club's long standing tradition is to give their support to young people.

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true colors
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Stephanie Edwards
Tuesday, January 19 at 10:30 a.m.

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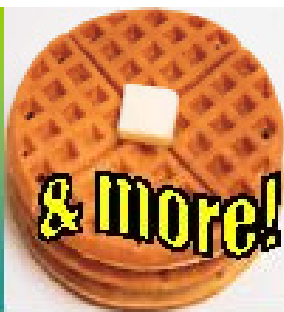
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Closed Sunday

Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Showers	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
Tues:	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



BARGAIN BOOK SALE AT SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY

The Sierra Madre Public Library is the place for the thrifty reader to go for fab February finds! The Friends of the Library will hold a table sale inside the Library Monday, February 22 through Saturday, February 27, during the Library's open hours. This month's featured topics will include Fiction, Hobbies, Gardening, Cookbooks, Politics, Children's, and Specialty Books. All books are in good condition and will be sold at the bargain price of \$1.00 each. These every-other-month book sales provide funding for Library resources and programs.

The Sierra Madre Public Library, located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre, is open Monday through Wednesday from Noon to 9 p.m., Thursday and Friday from Noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed on all major holidays. For information on all our Library activities and services, please call (626) 355-7186, or visit our website at www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us.

“Zorro: Myth and History”

A “One Book One City” Author Talk at Sierra Madre Library February 26

Author and Zorro expert Sandra R. Curtis will speak at the Sierra Madre Public Library on Friday, February 26, at 7:00 p.m. The program, part of Sierra Madre's “One Book One City 2010” celebration of Isabel Allende's novel Zorro, is free and open to the public.

Ms. Curtis is head of creative development for Zorro Productions, Inc., in Berkeley CA. Conversations with Ms. Curtis about her book, Zorro Unmasked, the Official History, piqued Ms. Allende's interest and inspired her to write her own historical novel on Diego de la Vega's early life and his evolution into Zorro, the beloved 19th century folk hero and champion of the oppressed. Amazon.com hailed the book as “A must-read for Zorro aficionados,” noting that “Sandra Curtis's thorough compendium offers a rich historical cross section of one of pop culture's most influential icons. Beginning with his debut in 1919 in a pulp magazine to Antonio Banderas's high-profile impersonation in The Mask of Zorro, every factoid and trivial tidbit about the masked muchacho is included.” Ms. Curtis has also written a series of young reader Zorro novels and worked with Jan Adkins in developing his Young Zorro series.

One Book One City hopes to inspire members of our community to share in reading the same good book at the same time and to participate in events honoring the book. The final program will be a docent-guided tour of the San Gabriel Mission, a prominent location in Zorro, on Saturday, February 27, at 2:00 p.m. Limited free transportation will be available (first call, first reserved) leaving the Library at 1:00 p.m.; reservations will need to be made by February 22. Contact the Library at 626-255-7186. Cost for the tour is \$5 per person.

Thank-you to the Sierra Madre Civic Club, the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, the Rotary Club of Sierra Madre, Santa Anita Race Track, and Tom Southwell for contributions to this year's “One Book One City.”

Copies of Zorro in English and Spanish and on CD, as well as Allende's other works, are available for checkout at the Library and for purchase at Sierra Madre Books in Sierra Madre. The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre 91024. For more information, please call Catriona Shafer at 626-355-7186 or visit the Library's web site at www.cityofsierramadre.com.

How to Grow Great Roses, 101

Descanso's Rosarium Horticulturist Amanda Everett cares for more than 3,000 rose plants at the Gardens. At this one day workshop on Saturday Feb. 27 from 9-11:30 a.m., she will discuss the not-so-secret basics of cultivating healthy roses.

Amanda will also tell you how to combine organic and conventional methods so your home rose garden will thrive, too.

Cost is \$24 for members and \$28 non-members.

To register and for more information, call (818) 949-7980.



March Events In Sierra Madre

SM Chamber of Commerce Candidate Forum

City Council Chambers
Monday, March 8, 2010

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce is pleased to host a City Council Candidate Forum. All seven candidates have been invited to participate. The Forum will be moderated by the League of Women Voters, Pasadena Area, which will provide a moderator, timekeeper and question sorters, all of whom will be non-residents of Sierra Madre.

Sierra Madre Woman's Club Pre-Election Chamber Mixer

Essick House 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Thursday, March 11, 2010 5:00 pm

Our annual March Chamber Mixer offers every business person and resident, in 2010, the opportunity to meet and greet our City Election Candidates. With some of the best (if not the best) food at a mixer prepared by the members of the SMWC, this is the “Must-go-to” mixer of the year. Come, bring friends and family and meet the candidates one-on-one. Surprises and Door prizes! Contact: Mary Carney 626-355-6225

2010 Wistaria Festival

Downtown Sierra Madre
Sunday, March 14, 2010 9:00 am

Festival includes more than 150 crafters, Live Music Venues all day, Childrens' Activities & Food Court in Memorial Park. More details coming soon..check www.WistariaFestival.com for more information

Tiffany or Bill 626-355-5111

Kiwanis Candidates Forum

Masonic Temple 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Tuesday, March 16, 2010 12:00 Noon

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will sponsor their bi-annual Candidates Forum at noon. The event is free and open to the public. Lunch will be served. Cost for lunch only - \$10.00. Reservations required. Contact Clem Bartolai at 355-0757.

Huck Finn Fishing Derby and Campout

Friday, March 26, 2010 - Sunday, March 28, 2010

The Community and Personnel Services Department will be hosting the Huck Finn Fishing Derby and Campout. The campout will be on Friday, March 26, the fishing derby will be held on the morning of Saturday, March 27, and family fishing will be on Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday, March 28. Please contact the Community and Personnel Services Department in February for event information and how to register for the campout. Adam Matsumoto

626-355-5278 amatsumoto@cityofsierramadre.com

Attention Sierra Madre Canyon Residents: Please attend a Canyon Community Meeting on the planning process for the RESIDENTIAL CANYON ZONE

Two meetings:
February 22 and March 22, 2010 – 7p.m.
Recreation Center 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre Room

Regulations pertaining to the development of the Residential Canyon Zone have been discussed and studied over the past 27 years. Beginning with the 1972 General Plan Canyon sub-committee, this process continued with the 1996 General Plan Canyon sub-committee and again with another Canyon Committee, in 2005 – yet the Canyon Zone was never finished.

In April 2009 the current 5-member committee began reviewing the 4th draft of the zoning provisions goals and objectives that were previously developed for the Residential Canyon Zone designation.

The committee has been reviewing zoning guidelines as they apply to the unique nature of the canyon, such as building massing, height limitations, property line setbacks, building square footage and lot coverage, parking requirements, design, landscaping, fencing, protection for the 1972 Wildlife Sanctuary designation of the city, night-sky lighting and noise. The circumstances for allowable deviations or exceptions from standards, the permit process and Conditional Use Permits have been discussed.

Foremost in the discussions has been the goal of preservation of the unique residential setting and rustic and historic character of the Canyon. Your input is important to this process. These two community meetings are in addition to the regular open monthly meetings, held on the third Tuesdays of the month at 7p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The final draft will go to the Planning Commission for further discussion and public input and then to the City Council for public hearings and adoption after further discussion and subsequent revisions.

Sincerely,

Canyon Residential Zone Committee Members:
John Herrmann, Chair; Caroline Brown, Vice-Chair; Michael Howard, Jim Monachino and Sherry Robison

Supporting documentation, including Draft Residential Canyon Code to-date, is available on City's website: http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/index.php?mod=planning_zoning

Live from Burger Continental The Harvey Hyde Show

535 So. Lake Ave. Pasadena (626) 792 - 6634

Every Thursday 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
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KSHP Las Vegas - 1400 AM

Sierra Madre Little League Gets Underway February 27!

Join in on the Opening Day fun as Sierra Madre Little League starts its season on Saturday, February 27.

It starts at 8:00A with a parade through town, ending at Sierra Vista Park. There will be games, booths, obstacle courses, a climbing wall, music, and great food at the diner, in addition to a pancake breakfast. Opening Day ceremonies start at 9:00A on Heasley Field and Little League games begin at 10:30A.

For more information go to www.smll.org or call the SMLL President Pete Siberell at 626-355-6746.



FEBRUARY AT THE ARBORETEUM

February 25 Three Tantalizing Taxa with Jim Henrich
Plant nuts: Board the tram with The Arboretum's curator of living collections! Learn about the Magnolia collection (55+ taxa) and the Quercus engelmannii grove (one of the largest remaining stands in Los Angeles County). In transit, he'll enlighten us about other Arboretum collections and history. The morning ends with a rare tour of the orchid collection, with details on its diversity and acquisition protocols. Jim has held various horticultural positions at the Conservatory of Flowers, San Francisco Botanical Garden, Denver Botanic Gardens and Missouri Botanical Garden. Pre-registration required.

Wistaria Thrift Shop Annual Spring Sale

Friday and Saturday
March 5 and March 6, 2010
9:00am to 3:00pm

Essick House and Wistaria Thrift Shop

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
(626) 355-7739

Thrift Shop will be closed the week prior to the sale.
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REMEMBRANCE

RueDell Eakin Mowery Willey

RueDell Eakin Willey, a 28 year resident of Sierra Madre, passed away on January 6, 2010, after a brief illness in her home, and was surrounded by her family.

RueDell was born August 15, 1929 in Apache, Oklahoma, the youngest of 5 children. She married Samuel Mowery in 1948 in Oklahoma, and had 2 sons. After their divorce, RueDell married Clarence Willey in 1955 in Oklahoma, and he adopted the boys a short time later.

RueDell and Clarence lived in many cities around Central and Southern California, including several years in Pasadena when the boys went to Pasadena High School. At that same time, both RueDell and Clarence worked at

Burroughs Corporation. After moving to the Redondo Beach area for about 10 years, they moved back to Sierra Madre in 1982 to be closer to their only grandson Patrick, and have lived here ever since. She loved interior design, and had once considered making it her vocation. But her first love was being a grandmother!

She is survived by her husband Clarence of Sierra Madre; son Michael Willey of Los Osos, CA; son Terry Willey and wife Linda of Snohomish, WA; former daughter-in-law Cheryl Willey of Arroyo Grande; and grandson Patrick Willey of Los Osos, CA.

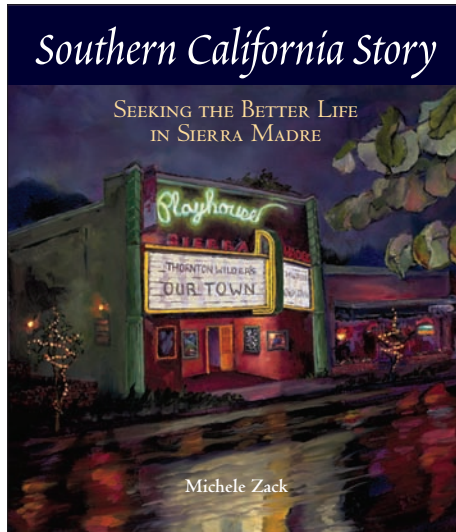
Per her request, no services were held. Notes and thoughts about RueDell can be emailed to the family at: cwilley333@hotmail.com.

By Chris Bertrand On Special Assignment:

Southern California Story: Seeking the Better Life in Sierra Madre



Author Michele Zack



Cover designed by Sierra Madre resident Jeff Lepides

I finally have my very own copy of Michele Zack's new comprehensive history of Sierra Madre. As a coffee table book, it's luscious as a gorgeous, color-rich decorating accessory for any town living room, but don't leave it sitting prettily on the table.

You really want to delve into the meat of this nearly 400 page, easy reading hardback. Zack has organized this substantial volume, intended as suitable to hand down to future generations, "organizing the material into narrative that will draw readers in," in her own words. That it does. Just open any page, any chapter, and you'll be drawn in by her artful weaving of photos, text, artifacts and documents into an insightful, fun read that connects the dots from "local to national and back to local Sierra Madre again," according to

Debbie Henderson, Associate Librarian in charge of the Archival Collection at the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Many communities produced municipal history publications around the bi-centennial in 1976, including Sierra Madre. In the decades that ensued, many inquired about something more in depth, according to Henderson. As local archivist, she worked extensively with Zack to unearth and provide the needed materials from the city's trove of historical photos, memorabilia and documents.

"Overall," comments Henderson, "It was a lengthy process with a lot of bumps in the road, but so worthwhile in the end." Other documentation attempts handled the community in a relative vacuum, "with no national or California context and didn't ask any of the big questions," she reflects. "How did Sierra Madre fare during the Depression? Many consider the saga of the Spanish explorers to be rather irrelevant to the shaping of our community. Not true." Michelle Zack delivered a "well researched local context for the bigger history. That's really what history is all about."

Before Carter owned his property here, a string of residency and ownership in the area really established the foundation for what Sierra Madre became today. "If you go into the fourth grade classroom at Sierra Madre Elementary, she continued, "You'll see they are studying the Spanish explorers. It's very relevant."

"It's really great to see the story of Sierra Madre More up to date," Henderson continued. "What's very different in this book that was not handled previously is the more recent history. I'm really glad a chapter on the saga of joining the Pasadena Unified School District and the uproar of the 'stomping on the floor' fight between the Canyon residents and Army Corps of Engineers was included."

Author Michele Zack muses, "I like research and I like a big project, so writing about Sierra Madre fulfilled these desires. That I don't live in town was a good thing, as having some distance from a subject allows you to be more dispassionate, and not to bring too much baggage, and to feel more free in your investigation. I just jumped in, following where the primary and secondary sources led, and for the more recent history, talking with lots of people."

"Big themes really fascinate me," she continues "And I always go for local stories that illustrate how they played

out here. That way, the reader doesn't just learn about Sierra Madre, but also about comparative colonial systems, what the Spanish were up to, Manifest Destiny, California's role in the Civil War, etc. I think that approach is more interesting to more readers than a social listing of local movers and shakers."

Jeff Lapides, a local resident selected by the Historical Preservation Society to design the book, also became co-image editor, delivering stunning photographic renderings of local artifacts and memorabilia from the city's archives and loans from private collections. His images of "great things we have collected like the WWI Red Cross sewing kit, pottery figurine and fire helmet just pop off the page," with an almost three dimensional quality, Henderson enthusiastically recalls. "These artifacts help tell the story."

Kevin Starr, preeminent California historian and USC professor says of Zack's work, she "pays her subject the tribute of extensive research, vigorous narrative and fullest possible honesty... in an encompassing and vibrant way.. in its most complete regional and national context."

"This mammoth, glossy-paged hardcover," says Larry Wilson of the Star News, "goes so far beyond what we usually mean by a local history that it creates a kind of category of its own. Thus the title - while certainly about the foothill city, its insights go not just deeply into Sierra Madre; by telling how the town was created and what it is now she tells the story, warts and all, of the entire Southland: How we got here and where we are going, too."

"The reproduction of hundreds of photographs and historical documents is so fine that real Sierra Madreans will buy two copies - one to hold onto, read and pass on down the generations, and one to attack with scissors and frame the contents."

"No one will be able to tell it's not the original E. Waldo Ward fancy Valencias crate label you've got on the wall. And the history that is revealed - well, everyone knows that "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" was filmed in front of Kersting Court. But who knew Anais Nin, the erotic diarist, lived in Sierra Madre with "impossibly handsome and shy forest ranger Rupert Pole" for a dozen years as his bigamist wife, since she already had a husband in Manhattan? Not me," Wilson concluded.

Henderson has used the book in the fourth grade classroom to teach about primary and secondary research techniques. She's talked about early marketing of the citriculture of the area by using Lapides photos of the E. Waldo Ward fruit crate labels. In the classroom they've discussed what can be learned from the photographs, touching on the lure of the mountains, the "California cure" and that most people in that era did not have oranges year round. It was often a special treat people bought for Christmas. "It's something familiar, relevant to the students and meaningful within



This picture of early Sierra Madre is one of many vintage photos found in the book.

their community.

The first printing of 3,000 copies of Southern California Story: Seeking the Better Life in Sierra Madre is available for a very reasonably priced \$45 at Sierra Madre Books, Vroman's Book Store and Sierra Madre businesses like Savor the Flavor and Sierra Fitness. Sales have been phenomenal already with over half sold. The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society also donated a copy to each Sierra Madre school and to Pasadena and La Salle High Schools. It's also available for review at Sierra Madre Library. For more information visit the Society's website, www.smphs.org or www.MicheleZack.com.

I agree with reviewer, Larry Wilson. I'll just have to buy a couple more copies as gifts for future generations, and one to attack with scissors to cut out my favorite photos for framing.

Have an interesting home, garden or person that might be of interest to our readers? Send Chris the contact information at C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com.

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Duarte

Mayor Makes a Special Delivery to Azusa City Hall

Azusa City Hall received a special mail delivery on Wednesday, Feb. 17, courtesy of Duarte Mayor, Margaret Finlay. The mayor rode her bike the four miles from Duarte City Hall to Azusa to deliver approximately 600 letters from citizens opposing a plan by Vulcan Materials Company to expand mining operations to a mountain ridge overlooking Duarte homes and schools. The letters were collected over the weekend by a grass roots group concerned about the

destruction of the visual beauty of the mountains, loss of property values, and potential health hazards should the City of Azusa approve the mining plan. The Azusa Planning Commission is currently reviewing a Draft Environmental Report and could vote on the plan as early as Feb. 24. It would then be sent to the Azusa City Council for a vote.

For additional information, contact: Duarte Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, 221.

Pasadena

The Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra To Perform At Sexson Auditorium

The Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra will showcase its members as soloists on Sunday, February 28, at 3:30 p.m. at Sexson Auditorium on the campus of Pasadena City College. PYMO will join 300 other high school and college students as well.

Pasadena mayor Bill Bogaard has declared the day Youth Orchestra Day. Orchestras joining PYMO for the celebration include the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra, the Olympia Youth Orchestra, and the Verdugo Young Musicians Association.

Perhaps the most exhilarating moment will take place when all four orchestras gather together on stage to present the World Premiere of a new work by Russell Steinberg, Music Director of the LA Youth Orchestra - The Net of Indra; A Youth Orchestra Anthem.

Youth Orchestra Day will present an afternoon of more than music making, however. Panel discussions will take

place between performances. For instance, as members of the 'conductors panel,' Stoup and Steinberg - plus their fellow conductors Fung Ho (Olympia Youth Orchestra) and Samvel Chillingarian (Verdugo Young Musicians Association) - will share their thoughts on music, Youth Orchestras and the invaluable, positive impact music education can have on the community. Panels of students and coaches will add their perspective as well.

Tickets for Youth Orchestra Day on February 28 may be purchased at the door for the suggested donation price of \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Tickets for "Musical Sojourns" on February 27 are also available at the door - for \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. Children under age 12 can attend both concerts for free.

For more information about the Youth Orchestra Day Summit, call 626.585.7580.

Local Artist Showcased

The Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission is pleased to present the works of world renowned visual artist and Sierra Madre resident, Djibril N'Doye, in a special show at the Sierra Madre City Hall and invites everyone to a reception with the artist on Friday, February 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall.

"Sharing and experiencing art and culture is how we give oxygen to our town", N'Doye says of his decision to lend his work to the City and participate in this show. He also has a concurrent show



Sierra Madre resident Djibril N'Doye

running at Creative Arts Group in Sierra Madre, and an hour long interview between N'Doye and well-known local broadcaster, Ralph Walker, will soon be airing on SMTV3, Sierra Madre's local cable access channel.

N'Doye is a native of Senegal, but having lived in Sierra Madre for more 16 years he has become a well-known local figure. He regularly participates in the annual Friends of the Library Art Fair each May where he has been selected as the featured artist.

In the same way that he puts people first in his art, N'Doye would like to see artists come to the forefront in Sierra Madre. He said he loves the idea of using City Hall as a gallery because it can create a dialogue about art in an unexpected place. He believes cultural activities of any kind are wonderful forms of education for everyone and that continuing education leads to continuing success in life.

N'Doye's work has been shown around the country and in Senegal. In 2002, he was declared a "Universal Living Treasure" by the Association for Cultural and Artistic Promotion in Senegal. In 2009, he won First Prize in Drawing/Prints at the annual "Affaire in the Garden" in Beverly Hills.

Djibril N'Doye's work will be on display at the Sierra Madre City Hall through the end of April. The reception on Friday, February 26 is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Sierra Madre Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-7135.

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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

Rude and Aggressive Drivers Sought by Police



The Pasadena Police Department will conduct an aggressive driver program on Monday, February 22, 2010. This enforcement program will be deployed throughout the City of Pasadena. The hours of operation will be from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm.

“These programs are an effective tool for achieving our ultimate goal of saving lives and reducing injuries related to traffic collisions,” says Interim Chief of Police Christopher Vicino. “Speeding, signal and signage violations, and aggressive maneuvers are all contributing factors in traffic collisions. These enforcement programs not only remind people to slow down and be courteous, but also provide us with the opportunity to educate the public about safer driving habits.”

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Local Women Honored During Women's History Month

Fifty/Fifty Leadership and UNA Pasadena/Foothills Chapter will celebrate the 2nd Annual Women of the World (WOW) Awards Saturday, March 13th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The event will be held at Mijares Mexican Restaurant, 145 Palmetto Drive, Pasadena, CA 91105. Tickets are now available for purchase at www.5050Leadership.org.

The nominees are: Dr. Riane Eisler, Social Scientist. Global HIV Clinician Shilpa Sayana, MD, MPH Whitney Kroenke Burditt - Co-Founder of Playing for Change - Peace Through Music.

Pet of the Week



Leopold, a talkative and friendly, seven year old cat needs a loving home. He is very outgoing and would be a great companion for someone looking for a new best friend. Come visit with this great kitty today!

The regular cat adoption fee is \$70 which includes the spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. Leopold qualifies for the Senior for Senior program where people over age 60 can adopt a pet over 5 for just \$20!

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask about A26 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91105. Our adoption hours are 11-3 Sunday, 9-4 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-3 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at www.pasadenahumane.org

Outrageous Gas Price Sparks Curiosity

By Dean Lee

One gas station on Washington Blvd this week oddly sold gas for three times the going rate. At \$8.87 a gallon most motorists pulled in realized the price and left. Even odder was the explanation given by a man Wednesday at VA Fuels making sure customers knew what they were paying.

The man, who refused to give his name, said the high

priced gas was part of a legal dispute. He then identified himself only as a Pasadena Sheriff which has now alarmed the Pasadena Police.

Pasadena Police Spokeswoman Janet Pope Givens said she was worried someone may have been impersonating an officer.

“It was right to think Pasadena does not have a sheriff station,” she said. “Because we don’t.”

Pope Givens also said she



Ouch, gas station at 1414 E. Washington gives glimpse of the future

Photo D. Lee/MVNews

KPCC Moves Operations off College Campus

By Dean Lee

For the past 30 years 89.3 KPCC, best known for three original programs, AirTalk with Larry Mantle, Patt Morrison, and Off-Ramp with John Rabe has broadcasted from the campus of Pasadena City College. Last week, under their broadcasting name Southern California Public Radio, KPCC moved into new multi million dollar studios on Raymond Avenue.

The new \$27 million 35,000-square-foot Broadcast Center will also host a Community Forum with live events.

Mayor Bill Bogaard said Friday that we wished them well and looked forward to attending an open house of the facility scheduled next month.

Larry Mantle, signing off for the last time from PCC, said he would be the first to broadcast from the new studios.

PCC's Board of trustees, who still hold the station's license, have been critical but supportive of the move off the campus. The board formed an ad hoc radio committee last year to oversee the move. Under the license agreement Southern California



Public Radio must keep one functioning studio on the campus.

Bill Davis, CEO of SCPR said most of the equipment at PCC would remain as emergency backup studios. He also saw no reason why PCC could not use them for instruction as part their radio program. Also as part of the license agreement, KPCC must make 12 intern positions available to students. He said the new complex would give students more opportunities.

Sneakers of Pasadena Marathon Reused

batteries.

Last year's recycling effort brought in about 200 pounds of shoes. The worst of the lot were ground up and recycled into bouncy playground surfaces for local parks. The better shoes were given to Union Station in Pasadena for their homeless clients.

“This is a free service of the city of Pasadena to help the

marathon stay green,” said Gabriel Silva, environmental programs manager of the Public Works Department.

For more information on recycling call (626) 744-4721, email recycle@cityofpasadena.net or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/publicworks and click on Trash and Recycling.



seven Emmy Awards and is active in several charitable organizations including the Los Angeles Public Library Foundation and the Watts-based Mama Hill's Help.

The parade's community grand marshals will be Gregory Mosley and Juanita West-Tillman.

Mosley's local volunteer involvement has included the Robinson Park Master Plan Committee, W.D. Edson Neighborhood Improvement Association, Pasadena YMCA and Pasadena Neighborhood Housing Services.

West-Tillman is chairwoman of the Pasadena NAACP's Education

Committee, treasurer of the Pasadena Council of Women's Clubs and advisor to John Muir High School's Mentoring & Partnership for Youth Development.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Charles White Park, located on Ventura Street at Fair Oaks Avenue in Altadena, and will end at Robinson Park, 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave. in Pasadena.

Following the parade, a family festival from noon to 4 p.m. at Robinson Park will include live music, food, information booths and more.

For more information about the parade and festival call (626) 744-7300.

Draft Plan Aims to Increase Bicycling In Pasadena



With an eye towards increasing bicycling as a transportation mode for commuting, shopping and recreation, the city of Pasadena has drafted a new bicycle master plan, available now on the city's website for public review.

The city's Transportation Department and ad hoc Bicycle Master Plan Advisory Committee spent 2009 assessing the community's priorities and creating a comprehensive plan to reflect the needs of local cyclists.

The new plan builds on the road and safety improvements implemented since the 2000 Century of Bikes Plan was adopted.

Three public meetings were held last year, with the initial meeting broadcast on KPAS TV throughout the year. A survey questionnaire was also circulated through bicycle shops, community

events, individuals and on the city's website.

In essence, the draft plan aims to increase the proportion of people using bikes, decrease the number of bicycle-involved crashes, make parking more secure and convenient, and create a network of bikeways so that every neighborhood is close to an effective route in the north-south and east-west directions.

A fourth workshop on Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers will help solicit public comments on the draft plan, which will be included in outreach for the update of the General Plan's Mobility Element.

Copies of the plan are also available at Pasadena Central Library and branch libraries. For more information go to www.cityofpasadena.net/bikeplan or call (626) 744-7254.

One City, One Story Book Events Planned For March

An Afternoon with Author Alan Drew

The author will share his experience writing Gardens of Water, followed by a question and answer session from the audience. Sunday, March 14 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Pasadena Convention Center Ballroom, 300 E. Green St.

Other Events

“Water” Photography Display

Created by Michael Kluch's Pasadena High School students in honor of the 2010 One City, One Story program. Sponsored by Samy's Camera. March 1 to 31 at Central Library, 285 E. Walnut Street

Documenting Earthquakes

Digital exhibit of earthquake accounts worldwide created in 2006 on the centenary of the San Francisco earthquake by Shelley (Charlotte) Erwin, PhD, Head, Archives and Special Collections at Caltech. March 1 to 31 at Central Library, 285 E. Walnut Street

Folktales for All Ages

It's Silk Road Storytime! Join us in the travelers'

Child Development Center Receives Accreditation

The Pasadena City College Child Development Center (CDC) was recently accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the largest and most widely recognized accreditation system for all types of early childhood schools and child care centers.

According to Nicki Harmon, director of the CDC, the Center's scores were perfect across the board, save for one 96.

“The accreditation is a yearlong process that begins with a comprehensive process of internal self study,”

Harmon said. In-depth evaluations were performed in various program areas including curriculum, teaching, and community relationships.

Additionally, teacher and family surveys were conducted. “The process was grueling but worth the effort,” Harmon added. The CDC undergoes review by the NAEYC every five years.

The NAEYC is the largest organization of early childhood educators and is recognized by the State and Federal Departments of Education. For more information, please contact Harmon at (626) 585-3181.

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

SMPD Chief Marilyn Diaz recently announced that the Sierra Madre Police Department is offering residents a new service designed to bring you the latest in crime reporting. The link is: <http://www.crimereports.com/> You can either put the cursor on California and scroll down the list of cities to Sierra Madre, or you can type in Sierra Madre, CA. at the top and press enter.

You will need to open the "Crime Types" to select which crimes to view. You may also choose the dates (the past 3 to 30 days) and you may even go to "Analytics" if you would

like to see crime statistics in graph form. If you place the cursor on a crime balloon, it will open to reveal the date and time of the crime. You can set your email to receive crime alerts in your neighborhood, if you so choose.

The only neighboring policy agency currently using [crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com) is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. You will see the cluster of crime balloons to the northwest of Sierra Madre (La Crescenta/Altadena station) and to the southwest (Temple City station).

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, February 7, through Saturday, February 13, the Police Department responded to 976 calls for service of which 125 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, February 7:

1. Units responded to the 00 block of East Live Oak around 2:08 p.m. regarding a woman who was physically abused during an argument by her live-in boyfriend. She indicated that while she was driving, her boyfriend pulled her hair, squeezed her arm, and struck her on the side of her forehead multiple times with a closed fist. He threatened to kill her and her children and then exited the car with two of her purses. Upon exiting the car, he kicked a window, causing it to break. She sustained a large bump to her head, red marks on her cheek, and bruises on her arm. Around 8:59 p.m., officers went to her residence in the 900 block of Arcadia and found the 27-year-old Caucasian suspect outside the location. He was taken into custody for inflicting corporal injury to co-habitant, making terrorist threats, robbery, and vandalism. An emergency protection order was obtained and served.

2. Shortly after 11:30 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Westfield Mall parking lot, near the Cheesecake Factory, regarding a fight in progress. Investigation revealed that a group of male Asians fought with two male Hispanics. During the physical altercation, a male Asian suspect slashed a victim in the face and chest area with a knife. Two suspect vehicles were located leaving the scene and were stopped. Three male Asians, ages, 19, 20, and 28, were arrested for assault with a deadly weapon after being positively identified by independent witnesses as participants in the fight. The victim was transported to a hospital for medical treatment.

Monday, February 8:

3. An auto burglary occurred between 8:30 p.m. on February 7 and 4:00 a.m. on February 8 in the 1100 block of Sunset. Unknown suspect(s) smashed a car window and stole a laptop computer, GPS unit, and wallet.

4. Between 3:30 p.m. on February 7 and 10:31 a.m. on February 8, a 1993 gold Acura was stolen from the 600 block of Fairview.

Tuesday, February 9:

5. A residential burglary occurred in the 1800 block of Third between 11:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Unknown suspect(s) entered the home by prying open a rear sliding glass door. Once inside, the suspect(s) ransacked rooms and stole cash, watches, and credit cards.

6. Shortly after 9:00 p.m., units were dispatched to the 1100 block of Arcadia regarding a battery incident. During an argument, a male victim was struck in the face by his live-in transsexual boyfriend. A 22-year-old male African-American was arrested for battery on co-habitant, and an emergency protection order was obtained and served.

Wednesday, February 10:

7. Loss prevention personnel from JC Penney advised that they had detained a woman for theft around 5:29 p.m. The suspect concealed silver jewelry on her person and left the store without making payment. A private person's arrest was made, and a 19-year-old Hispanic was taken into custody and additional stolen merchandise from Victoria's Secret was recovered.

8. Units were dispatched to the 300 block of San Miguel around 6:00 p.m. regarding a woman pleading for help at the location. After many public address announcements requesting that occupants exit the house, a man and woman finally stepped outside. The man was uncooperative, and the woman had a contusion on her forehead but declined any medical treatment. Uncertain if other occupants may still be inside and in need of emergency aid, officers conducted a protective sweep of the house. During the sweep, multiple marijuana plants and paraphernalia were found. The 27-year-old male subject was arrested for inflicting corporal injury to co-habitant and cultivation of marijuana, and the 26-year-old female Caucasian was taken into custody for cultivation of marijuana and a \$10,000 outstanding warrant.

Thursday, February 11:

9. Between 9:30 p.m. on February 10 and 7:30 a.m. on February 11, a blue and white 2007 Suzuki motorcycle was stolen from the 600 block of Fairview.

10. Around 1:14 p.m., two male subjects were riding their bicycles very slowly on the sidewalk near First and Duarte. Seeing the suspicious activity, the men were contacted. Both individuals provided identification from Honduras, but they did not have any form of U.S. identification. The men, age 37, were taken into custody for a code violation.

Friday, February 12:

11. Units responded to Nordstrom around 12:43 p.m. regarding to a woman detained for theft. Loss prevention personnel advised that the suspect was seen hiding a bracelet on her person and left the store without paying. A private person's arrest was made, and a 19-year-old Asian was taken into custody for commercial burglary.

12. A 2006 black Volkswagen Rabbit was stolen from 129 South First around 2:20 p.m. The victim advised that a female Hispanic, 18-25 years of age, entered the business and may have stolen her car keys off a counter.

Saturday, February 13:

13. Around 1:25 a.m., officers were dispatched to the Peacock parking structure at Westfield Mall in reference to an assault. Occupants in two separate vehicles were involved in an altercation, and a suspect in one vehicle threw a beer bottle at the other vehicle, causing a window to shatter. A 31-year-old female Hispanic was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm.

14. Two grand theft autos occurred at Westfield Mall. A blue 1990 Honda Accord was stolen between 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.; a red 2000 Honda Civic was stolen between 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The red Civic was later recovered by LAPD.

A Weekly Spotlight on Sierra Madre Volunteers

ALAN LEAHY Just Can't Say 'No'

Alan Leahy is one of those people who is "always there." He says he has a hard time saying "no" when asked to volunteer for a project.

That's why, when Shirley McGillicuddy told him there was a need for a treasurer for the Friends of the Sierra Madare Library, he volunteered. "I still do work for 'The Friends,'" he noted. In fact, he's been treasurer of the group for the past 12 years.

A long-time member of St. Rita's Church, Alan has served on the Parish Council, Finance Council, the St. Rita's School Board, the Holy Name Society and St. Rita's Men's Club.

Alan and his wife, Shirley, have delivered Meals-on-Wheels for 10 years and he serves breakfast with the St. Rita's Men's Club at the Union Station shelter in Pasadena on the first Sunday of each month. He has been a member of the board of the Hear Center in Pasadena, working as treasurer for five years. Alan loves to talk politics, and from 1959 to 1964 was active in the Young Republicans. He was a member of the Los Angeles County Central Committee from 1960 to '64.

When he was 16 years old in Brooklyn, N.Y., Alan got a job at U.S. Rubber Co. in -- of all places -- the mail room. Alan said he realized then that all of the successful young men had a college ring and diploma. So, in 1954, he went with the flow and picked up his diploma from Fordham University with a major in accounting.

He served his time in the U.S. Army in California, where (at a meeting of the Catholic Youth Organization) he met his wife, Shirley. They were married in 1957 and he found work in a small CPA firm. Two years later he obtained his CPA license. He worked in the same firm for over 40 years, the last 20 in which the firm was known as Leahy, Hood & Company. Alan has been a member of both the American Institute and the California Society of Certified



Public Accountants for over 50 years. After relocating the CPA firm to Pasadena in 1988, he became active in the Los Angeles chapter of CSCPA's Pasadena Discussion Group.

The Leahys moved to Sierra Madre in 1966 when their children started attending St. Rita's School. Their daughter, Liz, is theological librarian and a professor at Azusa Pacific University. Kathleen is a contract administrator with General Dynamics, and son, Alan John, is an attorney in San Bernardino and Ontario. There are four grandsons, ages 16, 15, 13 and 12, with interests in tennis, football and academics.

Alan says, "I think everybody should volunteer...This town is full of interesting people, who, like me, enjoy being active."

Passions? Numbers games, of course. Bridge, history, politics.

Alan Leahy -- the fellow who gets things done. The fellow who can't say "no" when there's a project to be completed.

Monrovia Police Blotter

During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 527 service events, resulting in 116 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:

Vehicle Burglary

On February 4 at 8:13 p.m., a resident in the 100 block of El Nido reported that someone had broken into their vehicle. They had parked the vehicle and went inside the residence. When they returned to their vehicle, they discovered the driver's window had been smashed. The loss is undetermined and the investigation is continuing.

Grand Theft - Motorcycle

On February 5 at 2:05 a.m., a resident in the 800 block of West Walnut reported his motorcycle had been stolen. He had parked it in his driveway in the early evening. The victim exited his residence at 2 a.m. and discovered his motorcycle was missing. The bike had no alarm or lock and he accounted for all of the keys. The investigation is continuing.

Vehicle Burglary

On February 5 at 6:12 a.m., the victim of a vehicle burglary called to report his truck broken into during the night. The victim parked his vehicle in the evening, and when he returned to it in the morning, he discovered his car stereo missing. The investigation is continuing.

Hit and Run Traffic Collision - Damage to City Property

On February 5 at 8:04 a.m., the City Public Works Department reported a hit and run collision with damage done to City property. An unknown suspect apparently collided with a fence on the west side of the City Well Field lot off of Peck road. The collision resulted in approximately \$15,000 damage to City fencing and to a small utility trailer. It appears the suspect intentionally rammed the fence in order to get out. Investigation continuing.

Grand Theft Auto

On February 5 at 12:50 a.m., a subject called to report her tractor truck stolen. The victim had parked her tractor at a business in the 1600 block of South Mountain on February 1. She was later admitted to a hospital and did not see her vehicle for several days. She returned to the parking lot on February 6 at 1230 a.m. and discovered the tractor missing. Investigation continuing.

Possession of Marijuana - Suspects Arrested

On February 5 at 1:06 p.m., Monrovia High School staff located a group of students who had left gym class together and returned smelling strongly of marijuana. Seven students received citations from officers regarding possession of marijuana and other smoking paraphernalia. All were cited and released.

Driving Under the Influence - Suspect Arrested

On February 6 at 1:57 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle for a violation and spoke with the driver. During the investigation, the driver displayed symptoms of being under the influence. He was arrested and taken into custody.

Drug Activity - Suspects Arrested

On February 6 at 2:20 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. During the investigation, it was determined that the three occupants each had warrants. Further investigation revealed three plastic baggies

containing cocaine near where each of the occupants had been sitting. The subjects were arrested and brought to the station for booking.

Driving Under the Influence Traffic Collision - Suspect Arrested

On February 6 at 3:45 a.m., dispatch received a call from El Monte Police Department reporting a traffic collision in the 3300 block of South Peck Road. Officers responded to the area and discovered two vehicles with collision damage. During the investigation, the officers determined that a driver was heading south on Peck Road and collided into a parked motor home. The driver displayed symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol and was arrested.

Burglary - One Suspect Arrested

On February 6 at 4:29 p.m., officers responded to a business in the 300 block of West Huntington regarding a burglary. Two male suspects entered a business and grabbed a large quantity of prepaid gift cards. Loss Prevention followed them outside and called for police. An officer arrived and detained one suspect who had fled east on Huntington. The second suspect was not located. The subject that was apprehended was arrested and charged with burglary and conspiracy to commit burglary.

Grand Theft

On February 8, an officer responded to the 200 block of East Lemon on a theft report. When he arrived, the victim reported that the GPS and a spare tire jack had been stolen from his vehicle overnight. The victim believes his wife left the vehicle unlocked. Investigation continuing.

Grand Theft Auto

On February 9 at 9:15 p.m., a female subject had her purse stolen from a locker at a gym in the 700 block of East Huntington. The suspect then used the keys from the purse to steal the victim's car, a 2002 Acura. Investigation continuing.

Grand Theft Auto

On February 10 at 6:13 a.m., an officer responded to the 100 block of East Pomona on the report of a stolen vehicle. The victim reported his 1998 Toyota truck was stolen. The truck was parked on the street in front of the location. Investigation continuing.

Vehicle Burglary / Grand Theft


On February 10 at 8:55 a.m., an officer was dispatched to a residence in the 200 block of West Walnut. On his arrival, the victim reported that someone had broken into her vehicle. The front passenger window had been broken and the GPS taken. Investigation continuing.

Vehicle Burglary

On February 10 at 9:11 a.m., an officer met the reporting party in the police station lobby. The victim reported that his car had been broken into while he worked out at a gym in the 700 block of East Huntington. Investigation continuing.

Commercial Burglary - Suspect Arrested

On February 10 at 1:25 p.m., officers responded to a business in the 1600 block of South Mountain. The stores loss prevention officers had detained a male subject who had placed copper pipes inside larger PVC pipes and then pushed the items out of the store without paying for them. He was arrested and brought to the station for booking.




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Wednesday 3-7 pm

Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms. Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free. **Free public parking on Mariposa.**

Youth and Government Delegation Gets Bill Passed in Sacramento

MONROVIA, CA, February 17, 2010 – A bill authored by Santa Anita Family YMCA's Youth and Government delegation to the 62nd annual Model Legislature and Model Court in Sacramento is awaiting signature by the governor. Youth Governor, Oliver Mittelstaedt, that is.

The seven member delegation, all Monrovia High School students, returned jubilant over the passage of their bill to require high school students to complete a minimum of 60 hours of community service to be eligible for graduation.

More than 2,000 high school students representing YMCA Youth and Government delegations from throughout California participated in the YMCA Model Legislature and Court. The students take over the official offices of the state capitol over the long President's Day weekend filling roles, including assembly members, state senators, pages, lobbyists, judges and journalists.

This is the third time in last five years that a SAFYMCA's Youth and Government delegation has successfully authored and passed a piece of legislation at the Model and Legislature and Court.

"It was an awesome experience, a bit intimidating at first because there were so many delegations larger than ours," said delegation president, Diana Ortiz, 17. "But although small, we were a very powerful delegation. We had a lot of leaders in our delegation who were very strong in making their proposals and arguments before committees," she said. Other members of the SAFYMCA delegation were: Alexis Palacio, 16; Andy Alonso, 17; Mariela Velez, 17, Angie Urena, 18; Carolina De Loera, 18, and Liliana Escobar, 17. Escobar served as an assembly member and speaker for the delegation's bill, an act to amend section 51225.3 of the Education Code relating to high school graduation. Under the bill, students would have to complete 15 hours of non-paid, non-graded, non-punitive hours of community service per grade level. De Loera was also an assembly member, while Urena served as a state senator, Alonso worked as a page and Velez was a member of the press, working on the



– *Taking over Sacramento* – The Santa Anita Family YMCA's Youth and Government delegation pose in front of the state capitol during their participation in the California YMCA's 62nd annual Model Legislature and Model Court. From left: Christina Huggins, advisor; Alexis Palacio, Diana Ortiz; Angie Urena, Carolina De Loera; Andy Alonso; Mariela Velez; Liliana Escobar; and Nancy Rosa, lead advisor.

daily newspaper and in charge of the video yearbook. Palacio and Ortiz were assigned to National Issues Committees. Palacio's committee discussed a proposal that would have government financial consultants assist nonprofit organizations. Ortiz's committee studied a proposal to give undocumented students who had lived in the United States for a minimum of five years the right to financial aid. It was good experience for Ortiz, who would like to have a career in public policy and law after graduating from college. "We're so proud of what our delegation accomplished," said Nancy Rosa, lead adviser for SAFYMCA's Youth and Government program. "Not only have they have grown intellectually and matured through this process but they are so much more confident. This experience has given them life skills to be better people, to be more engaged in everything that they do," she said.

HASTINGS RANCH NURSERY SCHOOL TO HOLD ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

Hastings Ranch Nursery School (HRNS) will be holding its annual silent auction to raise funds for the school on Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the La Salle High School Dining Hall (3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107).

This year's theme is a Hawaiian Luau. Dine on "ono" (tasty) Hawaiian food, listen to beautiful Hawaiian music, and even learn how to dance the hula. Guests are encouraged to wear their finest Hawaiian clothing—a classic Hawaii shirt, a cute grass skirt, and your favorite "slippahs" (sandals).

Entry into the auction is only \$10 per person (\$15 at the door), which includes a buffet dinner and one beverage. Additional beverages are \$1 to \$2.

While you're enjoying the Luau, bid on some wonderful auction items, generously donated by our sponsors. All of the proceeds from the auction will go directly to HRNS and its students. In the past, the auction has raised at least \$10,000 in revenues.

Some of the Big Kahuna Auction Items include tickets to the Ellen DeGeneres show, tickets to the Greek Theater, a hot air balloon ride, a weekend

at the beach plus many, many more!!
ABOUT HASTINGS RANCH NURSERY SCHOOL

Hastings Ranch Nursery School is a non-profit corporation with membership comprised of all families enrolled during the school year. It is licensed by the State of California's



Department of Health and Social Services to provide an enriched developmental program for children ages two through five. HRNS is equipped for these ages and meets or exceeds all State, Country, and City regulations for health, sanitation, safety

and teacher/child ratios. The Community Care licensing Division of the California Department of Social Services evaluates our school yearly.

HRNS is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the leading national professional organization for early childhood educators. NAEYC sets stringent, comprehensive criteria for accreditation to ensure high-quality programs for young children.

HRNS is an interracial, non-sectarian parent participation nursery school founded in 1953 by parents wanting quality education for their children.

Michael Birnbryer.

Guest conductor Paul Kilian of Pasadena City College grew up in Pasadena attending Washington and Marshall middle schools, Pasadena High School and Pasadena City College. He received a Bachelor of Music in Composition from USC, a Masters of Arts from California State University Los Angeles, and doctorate in Education from the University of La Verne. For ten years he ran the Music Program at the Boys Club of Pasadena, then taught Classical and Jazz Theory at Pasadena City College and conducted jazz and concert bands. He served for 17 years as Music Department Chair and later as Dean of Performing & Communication Arts. He retired in 2005.

The concert is free to the public.

PUSD MUSICIANS TO STAR IN ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Pasadena Unified School District's (PUSD) stellar young musicians will demonstrate their talent at the first of two All District Music Festivals this spring on Friday, February 26, at 7 p.m. at the Pasadena High School auditorium. This annual event provides a first-class performance opportunity for student musicians to broaden their experience and prepare them for advanced musical training. The students will also have the opportunity to play under the leadership of prominent local musician Paul Kilian, who will serve as guest conductor.

Musicians representing all PUSD elementary, middle and high school campuses will present symphonic band, orchestra, and jazz ensembles. Featured conductors include PUSD instrumental music staff: Roxanne Duboucheron, Amy McLean, Karen Klages, David Miller, and

Sierra Madre Little League Gets Underway February 27!



Join in on the Opening Day fun as Sierra Madre Little League starts its season on Saturday, February 27.

It starts at 8:00A with a parade through town, ending at Sierra Vista Park. There will be games, booths, obstacle courses, a climbing wall, music, and great food at the diner, in addition to a pancake breakfast. Opening Day ceremonies start at 9:00A on Heasley Field and Little League games begin at 10:30A.

For more information go to www.sml.org or call the SMLL President Pete Siberell at 626-355-6746.

JOB OPENING: Senior Recreation Leader

The City of Sierra Madre is now accepting applications for the Senior Recreation Leader position. The Senior Recreation Leader is a front line position that implements recreation programs and leisure services for middle and high school students at the Youth Activity Center.

For more information contact Rosemary Garcia at 626-355-5278 or via email at: r.garcia@cityofsierramadre.com. You may also get additional information by going to the city's website at: www.cityofsierramadre.com.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno High School

200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3463 Head of School: Ann M. Gillick
E-mail address: agillick@alverno-hs.org

Arcadia High School

180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: David L. Vannasdal

Arroyo Pacific Academy

41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke
E-mail address: pclarke@arroyopacific.org

Barnhart School

240 W. Colorado Blvd. Arcadia, Ca. 91007
(626) 446-5588 Head of School: Joanne Testa Cross
Kindergarten - 8th grade
website: www.barnhartschool.com

Bethany Christian School

93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3527 Principal: James Lugenbuehl
E-mail address: jml@bcschools.org

Carden of the Foothills School

429 Wildrose Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016 626/358-9414
626/358-5164 fax office@cardenofthefoothills.com

The Gooden School

192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-2410 Head of School: Patty Patano
website: www.goodenschool.org

High Point Academy

1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road
Pasadena, Ca. 91107
626-798-8989

website: www.highpointacademy.org

LaSalle High School

3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.
(626) 351-8951 Principal: Patrick Bonacci
website: www.lasallehs.org

Monrovia High School

325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 471-2000, email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

Norma Coombs Alternative School

2600 Paloma St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107
(626) 798-0759 Principal: Dr. Vanessa Watkins
E-mail address: watkins12@pusd.us

Odyssey Charter School

725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001
(626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill
website: www.odysseycharterschool.org

Pasadena High School

2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.
(626) 798-8901 Principal: Dr. Derick Evans
website: www.pasadenahigh.org

Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Ave. Pasadena, Ca. 91109
(626) 795-6981 website: www.pusd@pusd.us

St. Rita Catholic School

322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-9028 Principal: Joanne Harabedian
website: www.st-rita.org

Sierra Madre Elementary School

141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-1428 Principal: Gayle Bluemel
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

Sierra Madre Middle School

160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 836-2947 Principal: Gayle Bluemel
Contact person: Garrett Newsom, Asst. Principal
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

Weizmann Day School

1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107
(626) 797-0204
Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School

300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107
(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln
E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

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TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

Cheese Cake Factory

This week, I awoke amidst a dream. The vision was that of a restaurant. It was of one that carried some disappointment, but I also found amid that shrouded darkness of night, a forgiving hand in an executioner. What was the foggy institution that prodded the inspired vision of my pillow? It was a child's will that led the hand of fate and focused this very dream. My daughter Lauren's birthday had arrived and she confided in me that she was emotionally bonded to a single restaurant, The Cheese Cake Factory. She maturely penned, in my calendar, a lunch date for two. I was worried, for the falling sands of the hourglass had taught me that time was fleeting and that having less than an hour to eat and return Snow White to school was a work of fiction

I have no lasting disappointment with CCF, but they have done their utmost to confuse me. Let me place my Dr. Phil cap on for a moment, minus the degree (stated for legal reasons). Why do people insist on waiting in long lines for adequate, but not inspired, food selections? It may be the herd mentality; a person swayed by others' eagerness, also known as a line. On their behalf, CCF is consistently reliable and steady. They offer lunch specials till 5 p.m., most items falling below the (\$10) range. I tackled the herb-crusted fillet of salmon (\$12.95), it was good and reliable. That appears to be the thought this week, reliable food selections. Be prudent in selecting items here, as they build confidence in many of their food selections,

but stumble in some as well. My daughter Lauren went Paris Hilton on me and ordered the Shrimp and Angel Hair Pasta (\$16.95). She either tired of the meal or I was very fortunate to firmly secure two very delectable shrimp.

If you have been to The Cheese Cake Factory you know they have advertisements inside their menu. It irritates me, but is an acceptable reality. What is beginning to bother me though, and I need to verify produce prices, is that restaurants are now charging (\$9) and above for chips and guacamole, and that includes CCF.

They offer an eclectic array of dishes that calm the beast and nurture the butterfly in any group, and it would be false to say that other restaurants risk the attempt to service the limitless cravings of our ethnically diverse Californians. They do get credit for trying and walking the tightrope here.

The menu starts off by saying, "The best possible food and service." The spirit of their motto is felt in the seats and upon every fork of the restaurant!! Even with the throng of people on this day, they almost made a work of fiction a best seller on the nonfiction list.

We were only twenty minutes late!

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Email me your thoughts to thechefknows@yahoo.com



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	11:30 PM - 11:30 PM FATSO JETSON
Sun 7	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
Tues 9	QUIZZIDGE TRIVIA NITE WITH QUIZ MASTER MIDGE
Wed 10	THE L.A. SONG SIRENS
Thur 11	7:30 PM - 10:30 PM COW BOP featuring guitarist BRUCE FORMAN
Fri 12	8:00 PM - 11:00 PM JACK SHELDON QUARTET
Sat 13	7:00 PM - 10:30 PM Jazz Vocalist Judy Platt
Sun 14	VALENTINES DAY !!!! 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
	Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
Tues 16	QUIZZIDGE TRIVIA NITE WITH QUIZ MASTER MIDGE
Wed 17	7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Bobby Bradford Motet
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Thur 18	8:00 PM - 11:00 PM
	The California Pop and Jazz Council: More Souls of Jazz!
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	9:00 PM - 11:00 PM MERCY & THE MERKETS DANCE PARTY
Sat 20	8:00 PM - 11:00 PM MEAGHAN BOEING & NOTARY PUBLIC
Sun 21	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
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HOWARD Hays As I See It

Great scene from a W.C. Fields movie: He wakes up in a hotel room and frantically searches his pockets; “Godfrey Daniel! What happened to the \$20 bill I had on me?” His friend reminds him, “Don’t you remember? You spent it last night drinking.” Fields settles back on the mattress with a sigh of relief, “Thank goodness! I thought I’d lost it.”

We may disagree on what’s a legitimate expense, but whether looking at a bank statement or a federal budget itemization, at least we want to know where the money went. A troubling aspect of the \$700 billion TARP bailout is the difficulty in finding out what happened to it. Add to that \$700 billion the \$787 billion of President Obama’s Recovery and Reinvestment Act and, quoting Everett Dirksen, “a billion here, a billion there - pretty soon you’re talking real money.” There will continue to be argument on which is the more legitimate expense; the bailout of Wall Street in the former or the tax cuts and investments of the latter. One can’t argue, though, that the combined total of close to \$1.5 trillion is an awful lot of money. With that in mind, consider a federal agency that shells out some \$2 trillion and insists on a right not to tell taxpayers or our elected representatives what they did with it.

When I think of the Federal Reserve, it’s usually of its chairman making appearances before Congress to say the economy looks to be improving, but maybe it won’t; there’s reason for optimism, but we should remain cautious; things might happen, but probably not right away; and if things do happen, it’ll probably be gradual - unless it isn’t. We then hear the next day how Wall Street reacts to these revelations.

Its roots go back to our founding, with Alexander Hamilton arguing the need for a central bank and Thomas Jefferson worried it might become a means for players in New York City to exert control over the rest of us. Andrew Jackson (the only president to pay off the national debt) had the same concern when he abolished the Second Bank of the United States. After a bank run in 1907, it was clear something had to be done to stabilize the currency. A commission to study the matter was headed by Senate Republican leader Nelson Aldrich, who recommended a privately-run central bank. Democrats resurrected century-old warnings of enabling Wall Street to call the shots, noting Aldrich’s close ties to J.P. Morgan and his daughter’s marriage to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. The Federal Reserve Act signed by President Woodrow Wilson in 1913 established an institution neither public nor private, but rather “independent within the government.”

As reported in the New York Times, the Fed’s transparency became an issue in the fall of 2008 when Bloomberg News filed a Freedom of Information Act request for an accounting of its \$2 trillion role in the bailout. After four months of having its

request ignored, Bloomberg filed suit in what became Bloomberg L.P. v Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, seeking to “break down a wall of secrecy” in the Fed’s “controversial use of public money to prop up financial institutions”. It argues we’re entitled to know who got how much under what terms, and be “informed of how the Fed is safeguarding the public’s money.” The Fed, in its counter-argument, maintained that such disclosures might make the banks look bad. Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke refused to tell Congress which banks received bailout funds and what role the Fed played in saving AIG.

A Manhattan district judge ruled in favor of Bloomberg, and now the case is before the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In the meantime, Bloomberg’s side has been joined by The Associated Press, The Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. The Fed has gotten allies in J.P. Morgan Chase, Citibank and Bank of America.

We remember the Wall Street bailout of November 2008 - how taxpayers were told we had to fork over hundreds of billions to forestall economic collapse and get credit flowing again to individuals and small businesses. Looking back, we see how individuals and small businesses have had credit lines shrink and interest rates multiplied - if credit’s available at all. At the same time, Wall Street profits have soared, executives have been awarded multi-million dollar bonuses and firms have returned to the same risky trading practices as before - even more confident that taxpayers will cover losses if their bets don’t pan out. A lot of that extra cash has gone to buy off Congress and make sure any attempts at reform of financial markets and consumer protection are stopped dead.

In this situation with the Fed, taxpayers are indirectly picking up the tab for legal expenses incurred in establishing the right of banks to refuse to divulge what they’re doing with our money. In this they’ll be aided by the recent “Citizens United” Supreme Court decision Stuart Tolchin wrote about in his column a couple weeks ago. Corporate lawyers promoted to Supreme Court Justices went beyond deciding the limited issues of the case (“like an umpire calling balls and strikes” as Chief Justice John Roberts promised in his confirmation hearings), and instead threw out a hundred years of precedent in establishing corporate “personhood”. As trans-national corporations can claim First Amendment “free speech” rights in buying Congress, so can they claim a Fourth Amendment “right of privacy” in refusing to say how they spend billions in bailout funds, as an individual might decline to state how he spent a tax rebate.

Wall Street players and their cohorts at the Federal Reserve and the Supreme Court have taken to heart W.C. Field’s admonition to “Never give a sucker an even break, or smarten up a chump.” As I see it, we’ll continue to be played as suckers until we smarten up.

GREG Welborn Gridlock Might Be The Answer



With Senator Evan Bayh’s decision to not seek re-election this November, I suppose it was inevitable that the reason for yet another Democratic Senator’s resignation would have to be attributed to conservatives. Evan Bayh and the New York Times have advanced the theme that gridlock is destroying Washington, forcing good men to leave office. Senator Bayh’s comments about a dysfunctional Congress prohibiting compromise to control the national debt were sharpened in the New York Times’ headline, “Party Gridlock in Washington Feeds Fear of a Debt Crisis”. Such an attribution is both dishonest and an intellectual sham, tinged with utter contempt for the decisions that a sound and thoughtful electorate have made over the course of the three most recent elections.

Somehow, the loss of a veto-proof majority in the Senate is supposed to explain the mess we’re in right now. Unfortunately, the facts just don’t back that up. When Republicans lost control of the House and Senate, the budget deficit was \$161 billion. Given a veto-proof majority, President Obama’s budget for next year called for a \$1.6 trillion deficit, and that’s without a shred of stimulus or TARP spending. In 3 years of almost absolute control of the reins of power, the Democrats have swollen the deficit 370%. It wasn’t gridlock which caused this train wreck in financial management.

Looking forward, we can’t honestly say that the loss of the Massachusetts’ Senate seat to a Republican really diminishes the Democrats’ ability to deal with the deficit. It remains perfectly within their power to use the reconciliation process to pass a budget. They can also trim spending if they want without using a single Republican vote. Same goes for raising taxes. They only need 51 votes in the Senate to do any of this, and they still have 59.

The real problem here is that the Democrats don’t want to reduce spending; they don’t want to actually vote for raising taxes. What they want to do - but are now feeling very constrained by their constituents - is to spend more money than they have, borrow to make up the deficit and thus force a future Congress - hopefully one controlled by rascally Republicans - to raise taxes to pay off the debt. That’s what they want to do, and that’s what they can do without any hindrance from Republicans this year - if they dare.

Ahh but the jig is up. The electorate has started to get a handle on all these financial shenanigans and understands that deficits and debt today mean taxes and misery tomorrow - for them and/or for their children. Collectively, this country is saying loud and clear “NO!”. So “gridlock”, if that’s what we’re going to call it, may well be what the voters use to impose some sanity in Washington. But gridlock is absolutely not the source of the problem we face today. To Democrats, claiming gridlock is simply a means to try to shift the blame, and the main stream media is more than happy to accommodate them.

When there was no gridlock (ie 50 solid Democratic Senate votes), we had an attempt to take over the medical industry; we had a stimulus bill that didn’t work; we had a takeover of GM to benefit the unions; we had special interest payoffs unlike anything ever witnessed in DC. Democrats were able, and still are able, to ram through almost anything they want. There wasn’t any gridlock, and there certainly isn’t any gridlock today. The voters have simply sent a message to their elected representatives, which is largely being ignored or dismissed by those same representatives. One little senatorial vote moving a seat from Democratic control to Republican control has not created gridlock as most of us understand that term, but it sure is being viewed with alarm and anger on the left.

The focus of this anger, of course, is with us uneducated, unsophisticated and unworthy voters who dared to express our dissatisfaction with what the elites wanted to

do. But rather than admit that they may have gone down the wrong path and needed a bit of correction from the voters, liberals now accuse us of causing the problem - or at least preventing its solution - by imposing gridlock on DC. As much as this is a preposterous claim, it is also very much a disingenuous claim.

Where was liberal concern for gridlock when George W. Bush was President? As the Washington Post explained back then, he ran into a “solid wall of Democratic opposition” to his attempt at bipartisan social security reform. Where was liberal concern for gridlock when Democrats sidelined judicial nominees in 2001 and 2002, or when they actively used the filibuster from 2003 through 2006? The answer to both questions is simply that liberal concern for gridlock only applies when their pet philosophies and attempts to dramatically reshape the culture and traditions of this country are resisted by the voters. I have no problem with Democrats fighting the good fight to advance their beliefs. If Democrats can muster enough votes to stop or slow down Republican moves when Republicans were in the majority, then Democrats have to be willing to accept Republican efforts to do the same.

By and large, our country remains somewhat evenly divided between staunch conservatives and staunch liberals. Each is trying to convince the more moderate elements and the independent voters to support their agenda. That’s the definition of democracy. It’s almost definitional that there will be resistance and “gridlock”. Our founding fathers counted on the fact that “power would oppose power” and that factions would form along many different political issues. It is the great strength of our democracy that the fighting between two committed groups of believers results in slow gradual trends in one direction or another, rather than in rapid moves to either side’s extreme position.

The other great strength in our system is that voters aren’t afraid to express their dissatisfaction when they see something they don’t like. The voters don’t want Obamacare. They don’t want the government to own GM. Voters don’t trust Chris Dodd or Barney Frank to overhaul the financial services industry. They certainly don’t want to incur another \$1.6 trillion in debt. Nor do voters believe the stimulus is working or that The EPA’s cap-and-tax approach to environmental management would do anything positive for our economy. The voice of dissent started softly enough, and was persistent, but it was also ignored. Voters may be apathetic at times, and they’re certainly patient with most elected leaders, but they are also willing to speak their mind.

Democrats were given the reins of power with very few restrictions in 2008. They were trusted to manage the country’s affairs with the whole of the country’s interests in mind, not the narrowness of their own lust for power and control. We didn’t get into the mess because of gridlock, but gridlock may very well be what the voters use to correct the excesses they see playing out in Washington. By all accounts, Senator Evan Bayh is an honorable man and deserves appreciation for his years of service. But even well intentioned leaders can get it wrong. The dysfunction he sees in Washington was the result of too little real gridlock, not too much of it. As we now begin the process of returning to a more balanced sharing of political power, perhaps some real solutions to our problems can be developed and implemented. Thank God for gridlock.

About the author: Gregory J. Welborn is a freelance writer and has spoken to several civic and religious organizations on cultural and moral issues. He lives in the Los Angeles area with his wife and 3 children and is active in the community. He can be reached at gregwelborn@earthlink.net.

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For writing samples and resume, see my web site: www.bobeklund.com. Bob Eklund beklund@sprynet.com (310) 216-5947

League of Women Voters Pasadena Area presents:

Access to Impact

Using Open Government to Create Change

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To be an informed citizen requires access to information and open and transparent government. This community forum addresses access to information issues around local open government from the perspective of the media, libraries, city governments and civic organizations.

Emcee: Pete Peterson,
Executive Director, Common Sense California

Opening speaker: Hedab Tarifi,
Vice-Chair, Muslim Public Affairs Council

Open Government Panelists:

Larry Wilson, Public Editor, Pasadena Star-News

Jan Sanders, City of Pasadena Director of Libraries and Information Services

Michele Beal Bagneris, Pasadena City Attorney/ City Prosecutor

Pete Peterson, Executive Director, Common Sense California

Date: **Saturday, March 6, 2010**

Time: **8:30 a.m. to Noon**

Place: **Neighborhood Church
301 North Orange Grove Boulevard, Pasadena, 91103**

Program			
8:30 A.M.	CHECK-IN	9:15 A.M.	PANEL PRESENTATIONS—QUESTION & ANSWERS
9:00 A.M.	WELCOME	10:25 A.M.	FACILITATED BREAKOUT SESSIONS
9:05 A.M.	OPENING REMARKS	11:25 A.M.	REPORT BACK TO THE CITIZENS
		11:45 A.M.	WRAP-UP AND CALL TO ACTION

This forum is a free community service provided by League of Women Voters Pasadena Area and promoted by its community partners. Please RSVP by Noon on Friday, February 26 -- by phone: 626-798-0965 or by e-mail: lwpasocialpolicy@gmail.com

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Dates Pub: Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 2010

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TIFFANY BARRAS. The business name is
DESSERT AT TIFFANY'S, 5770 CENTINELA AVE.,
210, L.A., CA 90048. This Business is conducted by:
AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TIFFANY BARRAS.
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 (s) have) commenced to do business under the
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 expires five years from the date it was filed in the
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 Statement must be filed prior to that date. The
 filing of this statement does not in any way
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 or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business
 and Professions Code/Publish. Mountain Views News

Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another person or the common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views News
Dates Pub: Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 2010

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 10-0112490

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CONDITIONING AND HEATING, 1175 N. GREENHAVEN ST., COVINA, CA 91722.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DONALD RYAN WALKER, 1175 N. GREENHAVEN ST., COVINA, CA 91722.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL, DONALD RYAN WALKER.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/26/10. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not constitute an admission of liability of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views News
 1998 Jan 7, 14, 21, Feb 5, 12, 20, 2010
 FILE NO. 10-0074434
 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
 The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE, 7336 HOWERY ST., SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA 90260. The business name reference above was filed on AUG. 18, 2005, in the County of Los Angeles. The original file number of 05-1988399. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of

in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: JORGE PARRAL/OWNER.

FILE NO. 10-0059984

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: L/A NALLS, 2500-10TH AVE, BLVD., L/A JEROME, CA 91750. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 12/04/07, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 207-2657313. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed on 01/14/10. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: ROGER LIM/OWNER.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: RICHARD L. MAYES**
MONTECITO AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024
SIERRA MADRE TAX SERVICES 175 E. MONTECITO AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **RICHARD L. MAYES**
SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: RICHARD L. MAYES**
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/08/2010. The registrant(s) is (are) **NOT** required to file this statement under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed to keep this statement in full compliance with this statement does not of itself authorize

the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) and County of Los Angeles News Service Dates Pub: Feb. 13, 20, 27, Mar. 6, 2010

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20100052408

The following (s) are (are) doing business as: FASTENATIONS JEWELRY 566 MANIZANTA AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) VALERIE GRAHAM BUTLER 566 MANIZANTA AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024. This Business is conducted by AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: VALERIE GRAHAM BUTLER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/13/2010. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 01/13/2010. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new

Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News
Dates Pub: Feb. 13, 20, 27, Mar. 6, 2010

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Looking Up with Bob Eklund



Close Encounters Of The Phobos Kind

The Mars Express spacecraft, which has been orbiting the Red Planet since 2004, recently began a series of close flybys of Phobos, the larger of Mars' two moons. The campaign will reach its crescendo on March 3, when the spacecraft will set a new record for the closest pass to Phobos, skimming the surface at just 50 km. The data collected could help untangle the origin of this mysterious moon.

The Phobos flyby campaign began February 16, when Mars Express drew to within 991 km of Phobos' airless surface. The flybys will continue at varying altitudes until March 26 when Phobos moves out of range. They offer prime chances for doing additional science with Mars Express, a spacecraft that was designed to study the red planet below rather than the grey moon alongside.

The names of Mars' two moons, Phobos (fear) and Deimos (dread) are taken from Greek mythology. In Homer's Iliad, Phobos and Deimos were two sons of Ares (Mars), the god of war. The moon Phobos is slightly irregular in shape and about 22 km in diameter.

"Because Mars Express is in an elliptical and polar orbit with a maximum distance from Mars of about 10,000 km, we regularly pass Phobos" says Olivier Witasse, Mars Express Project Scientist. "This represents an excellent opportunity to perform extra science."

Back in 2009, the mission team decided that the orbit of Mars Express needed to be adjusted to prevent the closest approach of the spacecraft drifting onto the planet's nightside. The flight control team at the European



Image of Phobos, imaged by the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter in 2008

Space Operations Centre in Darmstadt, Germany, presented a number of possible scenarios, including one that would

take the spacecraft to just 50 km above Phobos. "That was the closest they would let us fly to Phobos," says Witasse.

Precise Gravity Measurements

Heavy emphasis is being placed upon the closest flyby because it is an unprecedented opportunity to map Phobos' gravity field. At that range, Mars Express should feel differences in the pull from Phobos, depending on which part of the moon is closest at the time. This will allow scientists to infer Phobos' internal structure.

Previous Mars Express flybys have already provided the most accurate mass yet for Phobos, and the craft's High Resolution Stereo Camera has provided the volume. When calculating the density, this gives a surprising figure because it seems that parts of Phobos may be hollow. The science team aims to verify this preliminary conclusion.

In particular, Mars Express' radar will operate in a special sequence to try to see inside Phobos, looking for structures or some clue to the internal composition. "If we know more about how Phobos is built, we might know more about how it formed," says Witasse.

The origin of Phobos is a mystery. Three scenarios are possible. The first is that it is a captured asteroid. The second is that it formed in situ as Mars formed below it. The third is that Phobos formed later than Mars, out of debris flung into Martian orbit when a large meteorite struck the red planet (which is the way Earth's moon is believed to have been formed).

You can contact Bob Eklund at: b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com.

On Line

By PJ Carpenter

Now and Forever: Identity On The Web



It's probably safe to assume that most people can be found somewhere on the web these days. If direct evidence of their presence can't be located, bits and pieces of their identity is often left behind from some other source. If one has ever attended a school that posts an alumni page or has a friend of a friend with a Facebook page and a digital camera, chances are high that one is "in there" somewhere, and those are just the chances of being placed on the web incidentally or just by being included in someone else's digital photo. Although this type of inclusion happens most often without our awareness of the act it still counts as an internet presence and an internet user savvy enough just might be able to pull these disparate pieces together and draw their own conclusion as to who the "person" they've located really is.

More often than not the pieces of information that could be used to establish our identities on the web are placed there by us. The now commonplace web media known as social networking has given internet users the world over ample resources to tell the world exactly who they are and what their interests entail. Large and efficient search engines trawl these websites and other internet resources in order to keep track of the huge amount of information to be found there and catalog it for ease of use and access by any interested parties. The reasons that people would want to establish a presence on the internet vary from the personal to the professional but the common element that ties them together is the desire to define ones self as the person in question sees fit to do so.

This new form of self-expression continues to push the boundaries of social interaction and continues to make waves in the legal arena. This week alone saw the resolution of two court cases that had similar implications centered on the issue of Protected Speech but radically different outcomes. The first case was about a Florida teen who created a Facebook dedicated to making public her feelings of scorn for a public school teacher. The site featured a picture of the teacher and it invited visitors to share and also make

public their feelings about the teacher. The court decided that the post was protected speech under the First Amendment and the lawsuit has been allowed to proceed through the courts. The second case involved a Pennsylvania teen who created a mock MySpace profile that insinuated that her teacher was a sex addict and a pedophile. In this case, the court ruled that the fake MySpace page was not protected under Free Speech protections and ruled against the student. The Supreme Court of the United States has yet to take on the issue of online speech such as the type described in the two aforementioned cases but beyond the pressing legal issues even larger social issues that need to be considered are found. In both cases material posted by a party other than the subject has now become part of the permanent collection of information that the web presents to users when information about the original person concerned is searched. The creators of the fake web pages have in a sense taken part in defining their subjects above and beyond any objections that the subjects themselves about held about the opinions presented about them. Figures in the Public arena (celebrities, politicians, athletes, etc.) are subjected to this type of treatment all the time and in many cases their public personas are almost considered public property. Both officially and unofficially this treatment is part of the package that public figures sign on for when they participate in the public sphere. Private citizens on the other hand, most often see things radically different and are often especially protective when it comes to what is said and posted about them online and in other media. Since the internet has a built-in persistent memory that neither forgets nor forgives, there are several interesting questions that future courts may find themselves having to consider in relation to web postings such as how much right does someone have to define another person's web identity through postings that may be considered opinion or just outright false. How can injured parties be made whole once something is posted and later proven to be less than honest if the offending statements can't be permanently scrubbed clean from the web. Just some things to think about....




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Could you use help in preparing written communications for your business? I have extensive experience in writing and editing business documents including brochures, proposals, newsletters, resumes, customer success stories, press releases, and articles for newspapers and magazines.

Current work includes writing the column, "Looking Up with Bob Eklund," in Mountain Views News, and writing newsletters for the Mount Wilson Observatory. I recently published a book, First Star I See Tonight: an Exploration of Wonder, and am finishing a second book, Winds Aloft.

For writing samples and resume, see my web site: www.bobeklund.com. Bob Eklund b eklund@sprynet.com (310) 216-5947

RICK McNEAL:

Freelance Counselor, and Soul Man of Pasadena

By Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges is the author of "Self-Sufficient Home: Going Green and Saving Money," and writes a unique blog at www.ChristopherNyerges.com. He can also be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041.]



I was waiting for Rick McNeal in a back alley of Pasadena, when out of the darkness he appeared, a slight figure with a deep presence. I'd been told about this freelance social services counselor, this mentor to homeless and alcoholics, who has counseled hundreds of people in need in the last 12 years.

What was this man's background, I wondered. What path led him to the path of helping others?

We sat down at the outdoor tables of a Mexican restaurant and chatted about his life.

McNeal, born in New York, has lived in Pasadena since 1986. He's Creole and Native American, who grew up with lots of other children, and always felt like an older brother to the children surrounding him.

"My Navajo grandfather planted that seed of social services in me," he explains. "Ever since I was very young, I always had this special connection to people, and to helping people," he tells me. He describes being an altar boy in Catholic church - his mother was a Catholic -- as well as his father being a Mason. "I noticed how good the Masons were, especially in hard times." On the other hand, being an altar boy exposed him to alcohol, which became a problem later in life.

As a child, he would go into the woods and hunt rabbits, pheasants, and deer, and learned how to fend for himself in the world. Over the years, he's lived all over the U.S. At one point, he began drinking, which led to a period of homelessness, and he's now a recovered alcoholic who has been sober for 19 years.

McNeal explains that he turned to alcohol in the 1970s, and the drinking always kept him on the edge of homelessness. According to McNeal, this period in his life taught him gratitude, and it made him see what he did have, and that he needed to appreciate more. "We don't know what we have until it is gone," said McNeal. "Homelessness made me see what people really go through, and it taught me gratitude."

McNeal pointed out that during this period, "I couldn't shower regularly, there's no regular toilet, and I had to find public bathrooms. When I was homeless, I went to places that gave donations, like food banks. I went to 99 cent stores, I panhandled, and I did odd jobs such as painting and roofing. Plus I wrote poetry. I sometimes stayed at cheap motels in Pasadena or Los Angeles."

"What broke my chain of homelessness, explains McNeal, "was a friend who brought me to grips with myself. He was always doing tough love. He told me to never let what you've done in the past eat up your future. This mentor, Bill Morgan, knocked down my wall of resentment," says McNeal with a smile.

McNeal says that the solution to homelessness and alcoholism comes by personal conscious decisions, one by one, and not by some government mandate. "One thing that life has taught me," explains McNeal, "is that when you make a conscious decision to change your life,

and to turn your life over to God, miraculous and mysterious things begin to happen."

"When people come to me and tell me they have a drinking problem, I don't preach to them," explains McNeal, who prefers instead to direct the individuals to whatever social services are appropriate in the Pasadena or Los Angeles areas. He meets the people he helps when he attends PTA meetings, church meetings, AA meetings, abuse meetings, and other meetings.

While describing his work, and his past, McNeal delves into his metaphysical side. He describes some of the influential individuals in his childhood, including his Auntie who was called a Seer. McNeal explains that things sometimes come to him in visions.

"Once our parents leave us," says McNeal, "they become our guardian spirits and protect us."

"When I was living in the bay area, a friend told me one day that I would experience rainbow vision, and God sending me colors. When I meditate, God tells me 'I will send a sign.' When this happens to me, I first get a feeling in my stomach, like nervous butterflies, and then it is like walking into the Light of the Lord, like Moses.

I often feel that spirits are talking to me." He adds that he feels other people's pain, but "I have to choose whether or not to counsel another person or not," he explains. "I have to feel that spirit inside me first."

"I get my strength from God, just like Moses, Mother Teresa, and Mandella did," McNeal explains. "It makes me humble."

McNeal also plays harmonica, drums, and has sung lead and background vocals with various blues and jazz bands. He does spot appearances, such as at Pasadena's Central Park on holidays. Joe Lewis, the lead singer of the Drifters, is one of McNeal's cousins. While we sat outdoors at the Mexican restaurant, McNeal hummed a tune on his harmonica, and he sang in his deep bellowing voice to the pigeons in the parking lot as we departed.

People seem to know Rick McNeal wherever he goes, this "social soldier," as he refers to himself. He carries a certain spirit about him, this soul man of Pasadena with a mission to bring peace to people, especially the down and out.

McNeal advises that it is important each morning upon awakening to think of something that makes you happy. "If you go to sleep with that happiness, you'll wake up with that happiness," he says, adding that we each need to find a way to resolve or to let go of our problems.

McNeal's goal is to operate a coffee shop where he can play music, do poetry readings, and have a place for like-minded people to meet and mingle. He's also like to operate an outlet where food and blankets can be provided for free to people who are in need. His future outlet would provide counseling, and would be privately funded.



The Senior
By Bruce Lamarche

VOLUNTEERING: Finding the Right Match for You



Volunteering is a great way to help your community and give the gift of yourself. Your experience gives you the satisfaction of making a meaningful difference to others. The spirit of volunteerism is symbolic of what has made America great.

To be successful at volunteering, it's important to find the niche that's right for you. For example, if you're interested in environmental issues, and you're volunteering with politicians who are against protecting endangered species, you're obviously in the wrong spot! But, if you have a desire to help struggling families and you are at the Foothill Unity Center in Monrovia, you're probably in the right spot.

Here are some questions to identify a volunteer project that's right for you:

Given a choice to do anything you wanted, what would it be? Combine your personal dreams with volunteering. You are limited only by your imagination. Perhaps you want to teach disadvantaged children, work in a hospital, volunteer at your church or library, or even at your local police department! (Senior patrol or work the desk?) Check out the docent programs at local places like the Huntington Library or Arboretum.

How much time do you have to offer? Even if you only have two hours a month to donate to volunteering, an organization in your area would welcome your contribution. In only two hours you could serve a hot meal in a soup kitchen, transport a disabled person to the polls to vote, or visit a nursing home.

What are your reasons for volunteering? To get the most out of your volunteer time, think about what's motivating you and make sure you have realistic expectations. People volunteer for many reasons; meeting new people, learn new skills (and even develop a job opportunity), pass along skills to another generation, or simply help a child

learn to read. Others want to add variety to their lives, help people who are not as well off physically, financially or in other ways; or to give something back to their community or fulfill a sense of duty.

Where can you find volunteering opportunities? 1) Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley: www.1-800-volunteer.org 2) Foothill Unity Center-Monrovia: www.foothillunitycenter.org; 626-358.3486 3) Meals on Wheels Association of America (www.mowaa.org, 703-548-5558). 4) Head Start (www.nhsa.org; 703-739-0875)

I have personally volunteered many hours at the Foothill Unity Center and found it very rewarding work. They have many different jobs available for anyone willing to contribute. The positive impact on families is amazing!

You can also find places to volunteer at faith-based service organizations and senior centers, senior group homes and nursing homes. Senior facilities and service programs rely heavily on volunteers. To find opportunities in your area, do a key-word search on the Internet using words such as the name of your city or county; state; senior, community, center; volunteer.

Volunteering can give seniors an amazing boost to life. It instills a sense of purpose and contribution. It's a reason to get yourself "in gear" each day. It's more than a job. It can be the reason you get excited about a new day. So ... volunteer!

You can reach Bruce by phone-(626) 335-3412 or e-mail: blamarche@verizon.net This article is provided by Bruce Lamarche, a member of Society of Certified Senior Advisors', www.csa.us. Bruce's company, R & B Reverse Mortgage Services, helps seniors make an informed decision about obtaining a reverse mortgage. www.LASeniorMortgage.com

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Americans Recognize Risk of Fire to Older Adults

SFPE survey finds most Americans know risks of fire, but don't think about it.

BETHESDA, MD – February 17, 2010

– Older adults are more vulnerable to a number of risks including fire, either at home or in assisted living facilities such as nursing homes. In a recent nationwide survey conducted by the Society for Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), Americans correctly identified adults age 65 and older as the most at-risk group.

Thirty-nine percent of Americans named older adults as the most at risk of fire danger, while 26 percent of respondents indicated that infants and toddlers were most at risk. At the same time, 63% of Americans stated they think about fire less than once a year.

"I'm not surprised that Americans recognize the increased risk of fire to older adults. People with limited physical and cognitive abilities, especially older adults, are at a higher risk of death from fire than other groups," says Chris Jelenewicz, Engineering Program Manager at SFPE. "At the same time, it's dismaying that most people don't think about fire even once a year when over 3,000 people die each year as a result of fire. Without a doubt, the public does not fully understand the enormity and seriousness of the fire problem."

While fire is a noteworthy risk for people of all ages, federal government statistics cite older adults to be almost twice as likely to die in a fire as compared to the rest of the population. Older adults are more likely to suffer from reduced sensory abilities and mental capacities as well as physical disabilities. Moreover, medical devices, cooking equipment and electrical products can pose serious fire risks to older adults.

There are numerous ways that fire protection engineers play an essential role in designing safe facilities that house the aging population. For example, fire protection engineers analyze how buildings are used, how fires start, how fires grow, and how fire and smoke affects people, buildings and property. Additionally, they use the latest technologies to:

- Design systems that control fires, alert people to danger and provide means for escape;
- Evaluate buildings to pinpoint the risks of fires and the means to prevent them;
- Conduct fire safety research on consumer products and construction materials;
- Investigate fires to discover how fire spreads, why protective measures failed,

and how those measures could have been designed more effectively.

As part of National Engineers Week, February 14-20, SFPE is publishing a list of ways that fire protection engineers enhance the safety of public and private buildings and what American should look for in their loved ones living facilities at www.sfpe.org.

The Society seeks to increase the public's awareness of how science and technology is used to protect people from fire.

"Whether they live in a small house or a large assisted living facility, it's critically important to take the time to evaluate your loved ones fire risks and ensure the best technology is available to protect them from fire," said Jelenewicz. "There life may depend on it."

The survey, commissioned by the Society for Fire Protection Engineers and conducted in January 2010 by Synovate, polled more than one thousand American adults. The findings have a margin of error of plus (+) or minus (-) three percent.

What is a Fire Protection Engineer?

According to the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, a fire protection engineer applies science and engineering principles to protect people, homes, workplaces, the economy and the environment from the devastating effects of fires. Fire protection engineers analyze how buildings are used, how fires start and grow, and how fires affect people and property. They use the latest technologies to design systems to control fires, alert people to danger, and provide means for escape. Fire protection engineers also work closely with other professionals, including engineers of other disciplines, architects, state and local building officials, and local fire departments to build fire safe communities. Fire protection engineers are in high demand. The number of available jobs far exceeds the supply.

About Society of Fire Protection Engineers

Organized in 1950, the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) is the professional organization that represents engineers engaged in fire protection worldwide. Through its membership of over 5,000 professionals and 65 international chapters, SFPE advances the science and practice of fire protection engineering while maintaining a high ethical standard. SFPE and its members serve to make the world a safer place by reducing the burden of unwanted fire through the application of science and technology. To become a member, go to www.sfpe.org.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

FYI:

LA County Offering
FREE H1N1 Vaccine
Tuesday, March 2, 2010
1:00 pm to 3:30 pm
Sierra Madre Community Center /
Sierra Madre Room
611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Vaccines are available to anyone 6
months or older - no reservations
necessary. For more information,
please contact the Senior Desk
at (626) 355-7394

Older "Sierra Madre" American of the Year

The Senior Community Commission is now accepting nominations for the Older "Sierra Madre" American of the Year. If you know someone living in Sierra Madre who has demonstrated outstanding community service and is 60 years of age or older, please contact the Senior Services Desk at (626) 355-7394 for a nomination form.

Nominations are due to the Community & Personnel Services Department, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., by Monday, March 1, 2010. The Senior Community Commission will discuss nominees at its Study Session on March 4, 2010 and announce the honoree at their regular scheduled meeting also on March 4 at 3 pm in the City Council Chambers. The honoree will also be recognized at a reception held in their honor at the Sierra Madre Hart Park House in May.

AARP Safe Driving Class

Next class: February 23 & 24 - 9
am to 1 pm both days
\$12 for AARP Members & \$14 for
Non-members
Please call the Senior Desk at (626)
355-7394 to register in advance
or for more information.

FEBRUARY EXCURSION

February 26th - L.A. Subway
Art Tour - join our escort on an
adventure that will take you on
the Gold Line to Union Station
where you will meet your docent
who will take you on a 2 hour art
tour of Metro's artwork via the
Red Line. After the tour you will
have lunch on your own and return
to Sierra Madre via the Gold Line
& Gateway Shuttle.

No money will be collected but you
will need 25 cents for the Metro
ride & extra cash for lunch.

If you are interested, please call the
Senior Desk at 355-7394 for more
information and/or to have your
name added to the list.

*Some walking & limited restrooms
are part of this trip*

City of Sierra Madre's Community Services Commission is looking for two motivated, enthusiastic, creative, and friendly volunteers to serve on the City's Ad Hoc Transit Committee and SMTV3 Committee. The City welcomes any interested residents to apply. Submit applications to the Community & Personnel Services Department at the Community Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Boulevard. For an application, please visit www.cityofsierramadre.com look for commission/committee applications. For more information please call (626) 355-5278.

Recipe of the Week:

Raspberry Vinegar Chicken Breasts

INGREDIENTS

2 skinless, boneless chicken breasts
2 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
3 tablespoons shallots, minced
1/3 cup chicken stock
1/4 cup raspberry vinegar
1/3 cup heavy whipping cream
salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

In a large saucepan, heat the butter or margarine and oil over medium heat. Add the chicken and brown lightly on each side. Once the chicken breasts are cooked (the juices should run clear) remove them from the pan and set aside.

Add the shallots and the chicken stock to the pan. Simmer for 3 minutes. Add the raspberry vinegar. Bring all to a boil and simmer, stirring, until the mixture thickens. Stir in the cream and return the chicken to the pan. Heat for 1 minute to warm the chicken, turning the chicken pieces to coat with the sauce. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

February Birthdays



Lorraine Bush, Susan Henderson, Hilda Pittman, Ursula El-Tawansy, Sylvia Lorhan, Ann Luke, Janet O'Day, Ana Ptasinski, Jannene Reed, Winifred Swanson

Activities:

Unless listed differently, all activities are at the Hart Memorial Park (Senior Center) 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre

Lunch Program:
Monday- Friday at the
Intervale Café -12:00
Noon-Call (626) 355-
0256 to make your daily
reservation. Suggested
donation \$2.00 for
seniors (60+) and \$3.75
for visitors.

Monday:
1:00 pm to 1:45 pm:
Strength training with
Lisa Brandley. FREE class
of stretching with light
hand weights while you
sit.

Tuesday:
2nd Tuesday of each
month FREE blood
pressure checks by
Methodist Hospital; 11
am to 12 noon

3rd Tuesday of each
month FREE financial
consulting; 10 -12 noon
call 355-7394 for an
appointment

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm:
BINGO; cards are only
25 cents each so stop by
& play

5:30 pm to 7 pm: Yoga;
\$7.00 - 50 & over. Please
call 355-5278 for more
information

Wednesday:
11 -11:45 am: Balance
Class with Teryl. FREE
class designed to improve

balance & refresh the
joints

2nd Wednesday of the
month: FREE Legal
Consultations: 10-11:30
am. Appointments call
355-7394

Wii Wednesday - 1:00
pm or call the senior desk
at 355-7394 to arrange
another time & day to
learn how to play. No
previous experience or
skills required and it is
great exercise.

Thursday:
1:00 to 3:30 pm: Game
Day. Join us for UNO
and Poker with Bridge on
the 2nd & 4th Thursdays;
so please call for more
information.
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm: Yoga;
\$7.00 - 50 & over. Please
call 355-5278 for more
information

Friday:
1:00 pm: Ping Pong
Saturday: 11:30 am:
Senior Club brown bag
lunch and BINGO at
12:30 pm

Free Lawn Bowling

Lessons: The Santa Anita
Bowling Green Club
will have beginning
lawn bowling lessons
each Saturday morning
starting at 10:00 AM.

Located just north of the
golf course at 405 S. Santa
Anita Ave.< free parking>
For information call
Gene at 626.351-5327.



Meals-On-Wheels

Meals are delivered to home-
bound seniors by volunteer
drivers through the YWCA Intervale Lunch
Program M-F (with frozen meals for the
weekend.) Call the YWCA at (626) 214-9460
or Darlene Traxler at (626) 355-0256 for more
information.

**MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS
VOLUNTEERS TO DELIVER MEALS TO
OUR HOMEBOUND NEIGHBORS **ONCE
A MONTH OR WEEKLY****
Please contact Darlene Traxler at
626.355.6220 or (626) 355-0256.

SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

Wednesday 3-7pm

Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms. Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free. **Free public parking on Mariposa.**

Join the Lenten Journey

Join the San Marino Community Church for worship
and reflection during the Lenten Season!

This Sunday, Rev. Jeffrey O'Grady will preach on the
Old Testament text Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Participate in a six-week Lenten Reflection and
Renewal Class, Tuesdays, February 23 & March 2, 9,
16, 23, & 30, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall. A time
of reflection and learning as Rev. O'Grady, Rev. Karen Berns, and Martha
Williamson explore themes from *Urgings of the Heart: A Spirituality of
Integration* by Au and Cannon will be followed by small group discussion.
Childcare and Children's activities available upon pre-registration.

RSVP for the class kick-off dinner on Tuesday, February 23 at 6 pm. (Cost:
\$5/person, \$4/children 2-13, under 2 free). Call (626) 282-4181 x 10.



9:15 am Traditional Worship

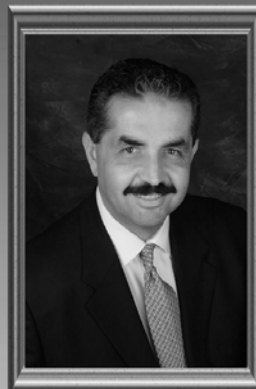
Sunday school (K-5) and childcare provided

10:30 am Adult Spiritual Formation

11:15 am "The Gathering" worship service
Casual worship, multi-voice ensemble, childcare provided

San Marino Community Church

1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, CA 91108
For more information call: (626) 282-4181
Connect with us online: www.smccpb.org



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by *Luther Tsinoglou*

LITTLE STEPS UP TO THE LEAP

As you've already read here, conditions are ripe to become a homeowner, and it's time to determine if you're ready to make the leap. While the price of the home is the largest factor, don't forget about loan fees and closing costs, which add to your total financed amount.

Since banks are stricter in their lending, Step One is to polish up your credit report. A higher score gives you more power when it comes to negotiating terms and interest rates.

Similarly, a larger downpayment will positively affect your mortgage terms and reduce the amount you have to finance. If you can't manage 20% down, you will likely have to pay a monthly mortgage insurance premium.

Upon preapproval from a lender, you'll know how much loan you qualify for, and how much is required for the downpayment. It's best to secure preapproval before you begin looking at homes, especially since

sellers will see your offer as a solid one worthy of consideration.

In addition to newer fees being assessed on loans to less than stellar applicants, there are standard closing costs associated with the purchase, including appraisals, legal fees, credit reports and more. All are included up front on your settlement statement and some may be negotiable. Contact an agent today to get the ball rolling and find out how much home you can afford.

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to federal tax
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to \$8,000.***

**Hurry
before
deadline
expires on
April 30th!**



Contact **Mary Vartanian**

call or email: **626-893-6773 | mhvartanian@hotmail.com**

CENTURY 21 VILLAGE RECOGNIZES TOP PRODUCERS FOR 2009

Sierra Madre, CA February 9, 2010 – Andy Bencosme Managing Broker at CENTURY 21 Village Realty recently presented the annual home sales awards to the office's top sales producers. The annual awards breakfast was held at the beautiful San Gabriel Country Club.

The 2009 "Top Sales Award" went to the 10 time CENTURION® Award Winning agent Emily Duggan. The 2nd Top Producer award went to the office's 2 time Grand CENTURION®, Nazee Rix and the 3rd Top Producer was first time CENTURION® Award Winner, Nathalie Marles. "Not only did these three agents have a successful year in real estate but all three also qualified for the Quality Service Pinnacle Award which is compiled by survey of all of the clients they helped." "In addition" remarked Bencosme "due to their achievements in 2009, Emily, Nazee and Nathalie will be receiving the coveted CENTURY 21 President's Award

which is bestowed on sales associates who earn both Quality Service Awards and show Superior Sales Performance."

Bencosme presented plaques to the three "Top Producers" for 2009 and thanked all of the agents and staff present for their hard work, professionalism and complete dedication to their clients. Bencosme stated that "In a difficult year for the Real Estate Market, due to the efforts of the sales associates, we managed to have a very successful year. And the outlook for 2010 is outstanding!"

Emily Duggan, Nazee Rix, Nathalie Marles and all of the friendly CENTURY 21 Village agents can be reached at 38 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre, by telephone at 626.355.1451 or online at www.c21village.com. CENTURY 21 Village Realty is a full service brokerage specializing in all types of residential and income properties.



Emily Duggan, Nazee Rix, Andy Bencosme and Nathalie Marles

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153 East Highland Avenue, Sierra Madre
Beautiful 2 bedroom / 1 bath on a nice corner lot. Large kitchen, beautifully remodeled with hardwood floors. Move in ready **\$669,000**



19 West Orange Grove, Sierra Madre
Incredible, gorgeous large 9600 sq ft lot! 2 bedrooms upstairs with one bath. Downstairs has Master Bedroom w/ full bath. Beautifully remodeled kitchen with the charm of yesterday and today's the modern touch.



327 E Newman Ave., Arcadia

\$675,000

Remodeled in 2006 w/many upgrades, turnkey condition & near award winning Arcadia schools, park, stores & beautiful mtn views this home offers newly painted interior & exterior, newly refinished hwdw flrs, water purifier, new driveway & attached garage w/auto opener. Pride of ownership is demonstrated in every detail of this beautiful home



Carolyn Papp
626-353-7443

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1328 Oakwood Dr.	Open Saturday & Sunday 2-4pm Arcadia Amy Ellis	\$998,000
502 E Camino Real Ave.	Arcadia Blanca Jenkins & Jean Valiquette	\$1,858,000
524 Cambridge Dr.	Open Sunday 1-4pm Burbank John Kermgard	\$925,000
158 N Mountain Ave.	Monrovia Bruce Pfeiffer	\$719,000
455 W Michillinda Ave.	Pasadena Michael Paris	\$775,000
327 E Newman Ave.	Open Sunday 1-5pm Arcadia Carolyn Papp	\$675,000
320 Cabrillo Rd.	Open Sunday 2-4pm Arcadia Gary Lorenzini	\$1,038,000
49 W Sycamore Ave.	Arcadia Jeff & Darlene	\$2,295,000
950 Singing Wood Dr.	Arcadia Peggy Fong Chen	\$2,498,000
2228 E Oak Shade Rd.	Bradbury Gary Lorenzini	\$1,150,000
2760 Royal Oaks Dr.	Duarte Monica Quesenberry	\$580,000

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380 W. Carter Avenue, Sierra Madre

Located in the quaint mountainside village of Sierra Madre, this charming one level original 1951 bungalow features 3 Bdr. 2 Ba. in well cared for original condition. The large 9,126 SF lot has ample room for an addition. Walking distance to hiking trails, downtown shopping and restaurants. Please call Bevin at (626) 808-7403 for an appointment.

Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them

Story and Photos By Susan Henderson

On Top Of Paradise: A Labor Of Love

If you take a journey north, 30 miles from the sea on the Island of Puerto Rico, you can see for yourself what living in the Garden of Eden must have been like. There you will find an amazing home, built over seven years on eight acres of paradise.

Debra and Cristoph, who met in 1992 as doctoral candidates studying marine science at the University of Puerto Rico fell in love with the island and decided to marry and make it their home. However, they did not just become another expatriate couple living in a world that was not their own. They made a commitment not only to each other, but also to the island, to do their best to help make Puerto Rico a better place.

Debra, who grew up in Detroit, Michigan and Cincinnati, Ohio is officially Dr. Debra Moore, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) with a PhD in Marine Biology. Dr. Moore earned her DVM from Tuskegee University where she served as an anatomy instructor for several years, and as coordinator of the Gulf States Consortium on Aquatic Pathobiology. She has an extensive background working as a clinician and researcher with marine mammals and sea turtles in the Caribbean. In 1997 she was co-founder of the non-profit organization Caribbean Center of Marine Studies in Puerto Rico. She is currently a private mixed-animal practitioner and wildlife veterinarian contractor for the Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources.

Her husband, Dr. Cristoph Schmitt, also marine biologist, and graduate of The University Puerto Rico, was born in Germany and came to the island because of his interest in the preservation of Coral Reefs. He currently works as a consultant for clients such as the University of Puerto Rico, the US Environmental Protection Agency and local agencies concerned with the impact of Global Warming on marine life.

The couple has a 13 year old son, Brandon, who is tri-lingual and loves soccer. As a young child, his father spoke to him only in German and his mother in English. And, of course, they all learned Spanish in Puerto Rico.



Drs. Cristoph Schmitt and Debra Moore and their son Brandon.

As outstanding as their contributions to the preservation of marine life are, Debra and Cristoph's home speaks volumes to their character and their reverence for this tropical island.

When they decided to build a home in Puerto Rico, they chose 8 acres in an area known as Indiera Fria in the municipality of Maricao. They designed the octagonal shaped house that is nestled in the Cordillera Central Mountain Range some 3 hours from San Juan. Ultimately, their dream home epitomized the tenets of the Chinese Art of Feng Shui as it is practiced today. That is, they have situated a human built environment on spots with good qi. Qi as it relates

to feng shui, would include the orientation of a structure, its age, and its interaction with the surrounding environment including the local microclimates, the slope of the land, vegetation,



This model was created to help Debra and Cristoph visualize their dream home. Beki Debra uses a discarded refinery container as a flower pot.



degrees at night, 365 days a year, there is no heating or air conditioning unit. The family relies on solar panels installed on the roof for all other energy needs.

The home completely captures the serenity of the area, starting with the front entrance where visitors are greeted by a lily pond made from an abandoned piece of equipment from a sugar refinery. Many eclectic artifacts from days gone by, including an old plow, discarded telephone poles and abandoned equipment can be found blended into the décor of both the house and the exterior.



Debra shares a moment with friends in the great room.

Gardens surround the home including an herb and spice garden loaded with fresh bay leaves, rosemary, mint, oregano, etc. There are several sitting areas throughout the 8 acres that are in the midst of nature's finest work. Fruit trees of every tropical variety – over 100 banana trees, mango, papaya, raspberry, figs, avocados and more can be found. The couple also raises honey bees generating sugar for the family and bees for pollination of the plants around them. Maintenance of the vegetation



Hidden from plain sight by tropical foliage in Puerto Rico, this custom built home is the epitome of perfect balance.

and soil quality.

And they have done just that. The octagonal shaped house is simply beautiful, inside and out. The two stories were designed to be both environmentally correct and user friendly. Because of the tropical climate, the island's temperature is on average 80 degrees during the day and 70



There are numerous walking paths on the property complete with sitting areas for meditation. (Inset) One of 100 Banana trees.



as well as the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea on clear days.

It took Debra and Cristoph seven years to complete their home and its gardens. They built the structure one level at a time, sleeping in one room on the lower level for two years. And, probably, one of the best features of

the home is that, through their patience and diligence, this 3,400 square foot masterpiece (with its surrounding grounds) is mortgage free!

For more photos of the Moore-Schmitt home go to www.mtnviewsnews.com

Pillars, such as the one shown on the left in the library, are recycled telephone poles. They also serve as additional structural support throughout the house.

Below is the view from the second floor deck. Early morning sea mist hide the ocean in the horizon.



Luther & Georgina TSINOGLOU

Working on Common Ground

198 N. Lima St. Sierra Madre
\$699,500



Spacious 3 bd, 2 ba with living room, dining room, master suite, laundry, attic, separate artist studio that can be used as 4th bedroom. Updated electrical, A/C & heat, new carpets & paint, deck & garage/workshop. 2,283 sq.ft. on a 7,200sq.ft. lot.

4519 Elrovía Ave. El Monte
New Listing!



Roomy 3 bd, 1 ba, formal living room w/ fireplace, dining room, spacious kitchen & private rear yard. Home offers a 2-car garage, laundry hook ups, rear patio, newer roof and options to expand. Apprx. 1,300 sq.ft. on a apprx. 8,800 sq.ft. lot.

6203 Avon Ave. San Gabriel
SOLD * \$900,000



Custom built 4 bd, 4 ba home with formal living room, dining area, large family room, custom kitchen, den/home office and 3-car garage. Built in 2004.

560 W. Duarte Rd. Monrovia
\$1,395/month



Updated 2 bd, 1-ba unit offers kitchen w/ new cabinets, dishwasher, microwave, stove, A/C & heat, new bath, wood floors, custom moldings & paint & updated windows. Building offers laundry facilities, BBQ area/patio and covered parking. Apprx. 975 sq.ft.

9620 Ancourt St. Arcadia
SOLD * \$367,000



Great starter home with Temple City Schools. This 2 bd, 1 ba home offers a spacious living room, kitchen with eating area, laundry hook-ups, converted basement and an extra large & updated 2-car garage.

My mommy and daddy were the top producing sales agents in Sierra Madre in 2009!



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