

PASADENA
Is The Lincoln Crossing Project Going the Way of 1 Carter? *Page 4*



EDUCATION & YOUTH
Alverno's Locks Of Love: 61 students, 3 faculty members and 600 inches of hair collected for cancer patients. *Page 5*



GETTING AWAY

Page 14

Mountain Views News

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Sierra Madre — Arcadia — Pasadena — Altadena — Monrovia

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2009

VOLUME 3 NO. 22

Dollars and Sense City Council Listens To 2010-11 Budget Forecast

By Susan Henderson

At a special meeting of the Sierra Madre City Council on Thursday, staff presented in great detail the 2010-2011 budget. City Manager Elaine Aguilar and Finance Director Karen Schnaider informed the council and public that despite the severe economic downturn of the state, county and federal governments, the City of Sierra Madre was not, at this time, in such critical condition. This has been in good part the result of the careful management of city resources since Aguilar and Schnaider came on board.

There is great anticipation and anxiety over what actions may come down from Sacramento after the defeat of the propositions put forth to ease the state's economic crisis. Among those items that the governor may implement is the withholding of property tax revenues to local governments.

Much of the city's survival thus far has been the fact that Sierra Madre is not dependent on sales tax revenues (which have declined across the country) and our property taxes have been "holding firm" says City Manager Aguilar. "We don't have the double digit increases we have had in past years, but we are holding firm."

Sierra Madre currently operates with a balanced budget and general fund reserves in excess of \$2 million. Budget projections which indicate continued success in this area, however, are predicated upon, among other things, the continuance of the User Utility Tax.

Upon completion of the 2007 FY audit, the general fund was credited with a \$1 million plus 'surplus' in the general fund. Much of that \$1 million dollar surplus is in fact interest that

has not been transferred to the appropriate restricted account. A complete picture can be reviewed in the charts below.

However, once the audit was released, Councilman Kurt Zimmerman began inquiring about the possibilities of abolishing and/or halting taxpayer authorized UUT increases over the next few years. Should either scenario occur, the city's revenue's would be adversely impacted. The Memorandum of Understanding signed between the city and the Police Officers Association in 2007 included pay increases for public safety officers. In order to cover the cost of these increases, the UUT was passed by voters. It currently generates approximately

Prudent fiscal management would continue to maintain at least that level of surplus revenue for emergencies.

There was much discussion on other methods of cutting expenses for the city. Previously, there were suggestions that the Library be removed as a budget item for the general fund and be funded by a 'parcel tax' if approved by voters.

In addition, former city councilman Rob Stockley strongly suggested that the city consider contracting out services in order to save money. Stockley asked the council to discuss with the city of Arcadia, for instance, the possibility of them taking over our paramedic services. He also suggested that the city look into



General Fund Summary

(In Thousands)	06/30/07 Audited	06/30/08 Audited	Projected FY08-09	Proposed FY09-10	Proposed FY10-11
Total Revenues	\$ 7,038	\$ 6,839	\$ 6,882	\$ 7,151	\$ 7,857
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,577	\$ 5,680	\$ 6,506	\$ 6,443	\$ 6,780
Net Budgeted Transfers, Out/(In)	\$ 424	\$ 423	\$ 467	\$ 623	\$ 633
Increase/(Decrease) to Net Assets	\$ 1,037	\$ 736	\$ (91)	\$ 85	\$ 444
Reappropriated Carry Over			\$ 300		
Increase/(Decrease) to Net Assets	\$ 1,037*	\$ 736	\$ 209	\$ 85	\$ 444
Percentage of Revenues	14.73%	10.76%	3.04%	1.19%	5.65%
* Unadjusted balance					1

\$400,000 per year for police, fire and paramedic services. Without the UUT, as city finances currently stand, the city's reserves would have to cover the cost of public safety increases.

According to Aguilar, the city's \$2 million dollar reserves are necessary to sustain Sierra Madre during extraordinary emergencies. For instance, after last year's fire storm, the city was able to pay their share of the cost from the surplus.

contracting out other services such as Park Maintenance, Building Inspection, Fire Marshall services and Police services.

The meeting concluded with the council directing staff to prepare for a formal presentation of the budget that the next council meeting.

The projected General Fund Reserves Chart may be viewed on page 9.

Men Of Honor



Members of VFW Post 3208 fire traditional three volleys at Memorial Day ceremony at Pioneer Cemetery in Sierra Madre. Mayor Maryann MacGillivray was the guest speaker. Photo by Bill Coburn



FRANK VAN DONGEN, owner of Harlequin Gallery in Sierra Madre passed away last week after a lengthy battle with cancer. He is pictured at left with "The Holy Face" a work of art he restored while going through chemo therapy. A man of amazing courage, after 911 he made an American flag and placed it in Kersting Court for everyone to sign. The flag now rests in city hall. Although he lived in Arcadia at the time of his death, he ran for city council in 1985 on a platform of giving police and fire fighters a raise.

See Remembrance - Page 3
Photos by Chris Bertrand

Vern Hensel Finds Water Billing Issues Still Unresolved
Page 8

Inside This Week...

NEWS

- PASADENA *Page 4*
- ALTADENA *Page 4*
- ARCADIA *Page 3*
- MONROVIA *Page 3*
- SIERRA MADRE *Page 1*

FEATURES

- Calendar & Arts *Page 2*
- Public Safety *Page 5*
- Opinion *Page 7*
- Legals *Page 8*
- Good Food & Drink *Page 10*
Tipping In Tough Times
- The World Around Us *Page 11*
Student Names Next Rover
- The Good Life *Page 12*
- Homes & Property *Page 13*
- GETTING AWAY *Page 14*
Travel & Leisure

Mira Monte Mission - Accomplished!



Sierra Madre celebrated the completion of the Mira Monte Reservoir renovation on Wednesday. Residents who attended were treated to a Bar B Que meal and were able to tour the facility. The Mira Monte project consisted several phases, beginning with the removal and replacement of the existing steel reservoir located behind Mount Wilson Trail (or "Turtle") Park. As this phase was being completed, the second removal and replacement of the partially underground steel tank west of Mt.

Wilson Trail Road was initiated. The final phase of the project consisted with the construction of a new pump house, exterior architectural work, landscaping of the park, and replacement of water system piping throughout the location. This project was undertaken as a result of a 1997 Corps of Engineers Seismic Reliability study of the City's water system. The 1928 Mira Monte Reservoir was identified as being susceptible to failure during an earthquake. Additional research demonstrated

that both storage tanks would need to be replaced in order to enhance the safety of the community. The price of the project was approximately \$8 million. It was financed with existing water bond proceeds, a low-interest loan from San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, local and federal grant money and will be repaid through water rates paid by all City residents. Water rates are not expected to increase to cover the cost of this project. Photos by Chris Bertrand

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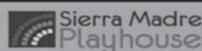
Weather Wise



5-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Tues: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Wed: Sunny Hi 90s Lows 60s
Thur: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Fri: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



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 \$17 Students under 18 \$12 Children 12 and under

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WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

A Free Public Lecture On Bracing for Slashes after Voters Rejected Budget Measures

What can the people of California do to save the state as we know it when facing a \$21.3 billion budget deficit? That is the topic of a free, public lecture at the League of Women Voters Pasadena Area, Thursday, June 4, 12:30 p.m., at the Women's City Club, 160 N. Oakland Ave., Pasadena.

Robert M. Stern, president of the Center for Government Studies (CGS), will talk about "Where We Go From Here" after voters in May rejected Gov. Schwarzenegger's budget measures that would have cut the budget deficit by \$15.4 billion.

The Center for Government Studies is a non-profit organization that creates political and media solutions to help individuals participate more effectively in their communities and governments. It was founded in 1983 in Los Angeles. Before joining CGS, Stern was general counsel of the California Fair Political Practices Commission and was the author of the Political Reform Act of 1974.

An optional luncheon for \$20 will precede the lecture. The deadline for reservations is May 29. Further information and luncheon reservations are available by calling 626-798-0965.

Breeders' Cup Volunteers Wanted

November 6 & 7, Santa Anita

Volunteer for the 2009 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, November 6 & 7 during the Oak Tree Racing meet.

It's a chance to be a part of the action, welcome thousands of visiting guests to Arcadia and see the world's greatest races.

Jobs include showing trainers and families to their seats and the paddock area, providing information, helping in the parking lot, working tables and booths, and other assignments.

To sign up or for more information contact Connie Russell at 562-699-7737 / connier80@msn.com or Pete Siberell, at 626-574-6373 / psiberell@santaanita.com

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	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	23	24	25	26	27	28
			JUNE			



Open Studio Tour
 Creative Arts Group
 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Community Services
 Commission Meeting
 Council Chambers
 6:00 pm



Arts Commission
 Meeting, Council
 Chambers, 6:30 pm

Tree Commission
 Meeting, Council
 Chambers, 7:00 pm

Planning Commission
 Meeting, Council
 Chambers, 7:00 pm

Spring Family Movie Friday Nights
 Kersting Court, 7:30 pm
 Featured film: The Wizard of Oz



SIERRA MADRE SWIM LESSON INFORMATION

The Sierra Madre Aquatic Center will be opening on June 15, 2009. Early registration for summer swim lessons will begin by mail on Monday, June 1, 2009. Online registration is available on Tuesday, June 9 and walk-in registration will be accepted on Monday, June 15. All swim information including: fees, schedule, class descriptions, and registration forms can be obtained online at www.cityofsierramadre.com. On the right side of the webpage please find the link that reads "Wistaria Vine Summer 2009" for swim program information. Are you ready for summer swim lessons? Don't know which level to place your child in? Visit the Sierra Madre Aquatic Center on Saturday, May 30, 2009 for a free swim test day. This is a great opportunity to have your child evaluated by Sierra Madre Swim Instructors and have recommendations made for swim lesson placement. The pool will be open from 12:00pm - 2:00pm for swim lesson evaluations. The Sierra Madre Aquatic Center is located at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. For more information call 626-355-5278.

The Friends of the Altadena Library District and the Moveable Theatre Company announce a collaborative venture: a Zane Grey Playwriting Contest.

Local playwrights will have the opportunity to dramatize the life of the long-time Altadena resident, famed author Zane Grey. The submitted plays must be original, unpublished works, no longer than 60 minutes in length. Deadline for submission is December 31, 2009. The winning play will be performed as a staged reading by the Moveable Theatre Company at the former home of Zane Grey in Altadena in the spring of 2010. The winning playwright will receive a \$100 cash prize, a video of their play being performed as a staged reading and will be able to participate in a question and answer session with the audience and actors, following the performance. For a complete list of contest rules and a Memo of Understanding that must be signed and returned in order to be enrolled in the contest, potential entrants may write to: The Moveable Theatre Company, 343 W. Central Avenue, Unit O, Monrovia, CA 91016; or email: info@moveabletheatrecompany.org

HOT TIME, SUMMER IN THE CITY

Creative Arts Group kicks off the summer with a sizzling reception featuring the work of our "oh-so-cool" faculty Sunday, June 7th, from 12-5 pm at the Jameson Gallery located at 108 N. Baldwin Avenue in Sierra Madre. Our talented instructors will be on hand to answer questions and watercolors, oils, ceramics, enameling, mosaics, puppetry and more will be on display representing summer classes available for children and adults. Light refreshments will be served and the public is invited.

Creative Arts Group is proud to be a participant in the Open Studio Artists' Tour which takes place the same day. Visit working artist studios in the canyon and village in this self-guided tour of Sierra Madre. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the tour and can be purchased at the gallery.

Creative Arts Group is the place to indulge (or maybe just become acquainted with) your artistic muse; and it all starts June 7th. For more information or questions, call (626) 355-8350.

Casting Call! Multiple Roles Available in Contemporary New Musical

Looking for college age through 20's (but will talk to mature high school students) singer/actors to play numerous parts in an original, contemporary musical. Three performances in October with possibly more to be scheduled. Six female roles, 9 male roles. Short rehearsal schedule, flexible audition times to work with your schedule. E-mail: freshwater@prodigy.net

SIERRA MADRE CHAMBER INVITES LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS FOR COFFEE

Beginning May 28th, the Sierra Madre Chamber invites local business owners, both members and prospective members, to stop by the Chamber office each Thursday morning between 7am and 9am to share a cup of coffee, and to discuss how the Chamber can assist local businesses. Chamber President Matt Krantz and Executive Director Bill Coburn will be on hand to receive feedback from local businesses about what the Chamber currently does to promote and serve local businesses, and how it can better serve the needs of Sierra Madre's business community. Beantown Coffee Bar will donate the fresh brewed coffee. The Chamber office is located at 37 N. Auburn Ave., Ste. 1 in Sierra Madre. Call for more info at (626) 355-5111, or visit the Chamber's regularly updated website at www.SierraMadreChamber.com.

Sierra Madre Kiwanis Monthly Night Out
 Tuesday, June 2nd - 7:00 pm
 Restaurant Lozano 44 N. Baldwin
 Reservations Call: 626-355-7290

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REMEMBRANCE

Frank van Dongen, 1938-2009

Art Restorer and Harlequin Gallery owner Frank van Dongen moved here to California from Holland in the late 1960's. Dutch friends in Arcadia sponsored him on his journey to a new life here. After settling in a little house in Arcadia, Frank quickly took work in construction, building homes on Santa Anita in Arcadia, studying English at night. Back in Holland, he operated a fresh food and vegetable market, and had also studied how to prepared fish for sale. He eventually opened Frank's Fresh Fish Market on Kersting Court in Sierra Madre, selling fresh and prepared fish in the space now occupied by Lucky Baldwin's. Soon he was known for serving fantastic fish and chips, lobster and clam chowder. Van Dongen opened another store in Glendora and another in Arcadia, continuing until the early 1980's.

When it was time for a career change, he went back to his early tutelage in art restoration by a great-great uncle, Kees van Dongen, a famous Dutch artist.

As an only child, Frank van Dongen spent many days at his uncle's studio, first learning to clean old paintings. At the time, they used fresh bread to remove layers of accumulated dirt, soot, etc. Another retail space on Kersting Court became available. A book store and gallery, where Starbucks is now, moved. Frank decided to open an art gallery. They started a frame shop in the back and van Dongen started slowly to do restoration. The business grew for about five years. In a tragic turn of events, the building's elderly owner agreed to sell him the building and loan procedures were started, but it was not to be. An attorney bought the building unbeknownst to them, and the gallery lost its space.

The owner of Harlequin Gallery's current location at 14 N. Baldwin, heard of their predicament, and offered to build out the undeveloped lower level. A deal was struck. The Sierra Madre community banded together, with many residents helping them move across the street between Christmas and New Years. They started again, with a gallery upstairs and the framing/restoration business on the lower level. The gallery offers art from all over the world, including consignment pieces from artists. Harlequin Gallery's art restoration business grew in size and reputation, and now includes pottery, porcelain and antiques restoration. Just about anything broken can be restored here. He and his staff became renowned as exceptional restorers, giving new life to all kinds of art, including religious icons from the 16th century and later, with clients from all over the country. The highlight of van Dongen's career came a few years ago, when he was privileged to restore an original

Monet for a local Sierra Madre collector. Currently they are continuing a long standing relationship with the Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills, restoring art and antiques like candelabras from the Robinson department store magnate's estate, which is open to the public.

Van Dongen recovered from a bout of melanoma in 1994, which returned in 2007. He continued working through chemotherapy and other treatment, including restoring "The Holy Face" which was displayed at St. Rita before it was returned to its San Francisco owner after restoration. Just last month, he donated a religious oil painting he had restored to St. Rita's Catholic Church, which was unveiled just a few days before his passing.

Frank van Dongen was very active in the Sierra Madre and Arcadia communities, as a member and president of both the Sierra Madre and Arcadia Chambers of Commerce,



Frank van Dongen

and ran the beer garden for a time during Sierra Madre's July 4th celebrations. He was often deeply involved in Sierra Madre politics, even running for a city council seat in 1986.

Though Frank van Dongen will be severely missed, the business continues strong with Ilona Lietje van Dongen, his beloved wife and business partner, at the helm, plus a professional restoration and framing staff of four.

The Memorial Mass for Frank van Dongen will be held on his birthday, June 15, at 2:30 in St. Rita Church. The church is located at Baldwin and Grandview in Sierra Madre. Fr. Richard Krekelberg, pastor, will officiate. For more information, please contact the church at 626-355-1292 or Harlequin Gallery at 626-355-4410.



Around Monrovia

by Pat Ostrye

Memorial Day at Live Oak Memorial Park in Monrovia

By now, I presume most of the viewing public knows that today, May 30th, is the original date for Memorial Day, proclaimed on May 5th, 1868 by General John A. Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and first observed on May 30th, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. However, in 1071 the last Monday in May was declared to be Memorial Day, to insure a 3-day weekend. It had been known as Decoration Day because of the flowers placed on the graves of veterans from the Civil War. Memorial Day honors servicemen and women who died serving their country, as opposed to Veteran's Day in November when all veterans of all wars are remembered.

Last Monday, May 25th, the Annual Memorial Day Tribute was held at Live Oak Memorial Park on Duarte Road in Monrovia, sponsored by the Upper San Gabriel Valley Veterans Council. Lt. Col. Charles Wiest, CAP, President of the Council, was Master of Ceremonies and has been for many years. Also on the agenda were words of wisdom from John Wou, Mayor of Arcadia, Mary Ann Lutz, Mayor of Monrovia and John Fasana, Mayor of Duarte. Speaker for the affair was Petty Officer First Class, David

Brentley, USN, Retired Iraq Veteran who was noisily interrupted for a few moments by the fantastic "Fly-over".

Every year leaders of 22 different patriotic organizations place wreaths at the Veterans' Memorial, assisted by Cadets of the Civil Air Patrol. It is a very poignant ceremony. Music was provided by the Monrovia High School Band and the entire park resembled a baseball stadium, with hundreds of all ages attending. Plus, everyone got in a good day's walking going to and from their cars.

Another Annual Memorial Day Weekend affair was the Immaculate Conception Church Fiesta, on Shamrock Ave. in Monrovia. This is a 3-day outing for all age groups. Rides of every scary description for the young group, a White Elephant Sale including furniture, for adults, every kind of food including Mexican plates for everyone and, very important, the Beer Garden with all-day and evening entertainment. Not surprisingly, Bingo in the hall was very well-attended. Twenty games at a sitting. I sat in one spot for 3 hours, winning only once. Again, lots of walking to and from one's car, with half of the San Gabriel Valley moving in and out all day and evening, until 11 pm. So much activity packed into one weekend!!
postrye@netzero.com.

"RAY BRADBURY'S YESTERMORROWS" OPENS JULY 11 AT FREMONT CENTRE THEATRE

"Ray Bradbury's Yestermorrows" is a collection of favorite tales from America's storyteller adapted for the stage. One of the stories is presented on stage for the very first time. Two others are stage classics.

The new story is "The Meadow." The elderly night watchman at a motion picture studio lot finds himself with a great responsibility: He is the protector of the entire world. There are those who would come to destroy, and the old man must summon all his wit and intelligence to dissuade them from their grim task.

For classic chills on a warm summer night: "Cistern" is the story of a young couple in love. They're undead and "live" in the cistern that runs underneath the city.

"A Device Out of Time" is a tale in which youngsters discover the secrets of time travel and, while they still can, visit the sights and sounds of decades past.

There's lots of warmth and a few shivers in this evening of wonders presented by Ray Bradbury's Pandemonium Theatre Company, helmed by resident director Alan Neal Hubbs, who has previously directed

"The Wonderful Ice Cream Suit," "Fahrenheit 451," "Ray Bradbury's Green Town," and more at Fremont Centre Theatre.

The cast of "Ray Bradbury's Yestermorrows" includes David Fox-Brenton, Georgeann George, Jay Gerber, Robert Kerr, David Mauer, Michael Prichard, Roses Prichard, Andy Sell and Steven Robert Wollenberg.

Ray Bradbury is one of America's best-loved writers, including among his recent honors the National Medal of the Arts (U.S.A.), the medal of Commander of Arts and Letters (France), and a special award from the Pulitzer Prize committee citing his career achievements.

Fremont Centre Theatre, 1000 Fremont Avenue, South Pasadena, CA 91030. Abundant free parking behind theatre. Close to Mission St. station of Metrolink Gold Line.

Previews July 10. Opens Saturday, July 11, 2009 at 8 p.m. Runs through Saturday, August 29. Regular show times: Fri. & Sat. at 8, Sun. at 3. ADMISSION: \$20. Seniors \$15. Students \$10. RESERVATIONS: (323) 960-4451. ONLINE TICKETING: www.Plays411.com/raybradbury

VA BENEFITS INFORMATION and WORKSHOP

JUNE 4, 2009 at 2pm

All VA's and family members are encouraged to come to this workshop to learn about VA benefits for assisted living and in home costs. On site application and pre-approval. Bring your information of when and where you served even if you NEVER went to war!

Please RSVP to Gigi - space is limited 626-374-4920
400 W Carter Ave Sierra Madre Ca 91024

Mt. Sierra College to Offer Free Educational Workshops

Mt. Sierra College will host Mt. Sierra Extension (MSX) on campus - a series of free educational workshops scheduled for Saturday, May 30 from 12 - 4 pm.

Prospective students and community members are welcomed by The College's faculty of industry professionals to participate in the workshop of their choice in the fields of Business, Technology and Media Arts & Design. This month's MSX will feature four workshop options: Game Arts Animation, Job Hunting and Resume Building, Flash Web Design, and Computer Hacking for Fun and Profit.

"We believe our degree programs can change lives," Patrick Azadian, Director of Admissions and Marketing said. "Mt. Sierra Extension is our window to The College. Participants can get a feel of how our institution can impact their lives by experiencing hands-on workshops through [MSX]."

Additionally, The College will feature many of its high-tech amenities by offering campus tours to MSX participants. The Theatre, Multimedia Lab, Sound Room and Telecommunications Lab along with student artwork will be presented. Lunch will be provided and participants will have an opportunity to mingle with current students and

alumni along with faculty and staff members.

During the event, Admissions Representatives will be available to answer questions regarding financial aid, scholarships, class scheduling, online versus on campus learning and general college requirements and inquiries.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to register for free online at www.mtsierra.edu/msx to reserve a workshop of their choice. Reservations can also be made by calling the Office of Admissions at (888) 532-5291. Family and friends are welcome.

Founded in 1990, Mt. Sierra College is a private college in Southern California offering bachelor degree programs, both online and on campus, in Media Arts & Design, Business and Technology. For more information, please call (626) 873-2139 or visit www.mtsierra.edu.

Mt. Sierra College is dedicated to providing access to higher education and a practical, hands-on quality learning environment that is flexible and accessible to a geographically diverse and multicultural population. The College is committed to preparing students with the requisite knowledge, and skills needed for successful careers in today's rapidly changing and complex global marketplace.

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.

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\$10 Million Secured For Gold Line Extension

A motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich to allocate \$10 million dollars for the construction of the Gold Line Foothill Extension was unanimously approved by the MTA Board of Directors.

"Today's action is the first step towards developing a funding plan to build this vital rail line," said Antonovich. "Measure R was passed with the promise that the Foothill Extension would be built immediately based on its readiness for construction."

Get Up and Moving Around the Rose Bowl

Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard and Police Chief Bernard K. Melekian will lead a 3.3-mile walk around the Rose Bowl Loop at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 3, as part of Up & Moving Pasadena.

Meet at Gate A at the stadium. Free parking is available. All levels of ability will be accommodated.

Up & Moving Pasadena is a community effort to support fitness for health. Walks are scheduled the first Wednesday of every month.

Find walking tips, start a walking group and track your progress at www.upandmoving.org or call (626) 831-2980.

Pet of the Week



Cheddar, an adorable, three year old red tabby has a great personality. He is playful, outgoing and loves attention. Cheddar will surely make a wonderful companion and would love to be adopted 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.

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask about A249519 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.phsspc.org

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Residents Question Water Rate Hikes

By Dean Lee

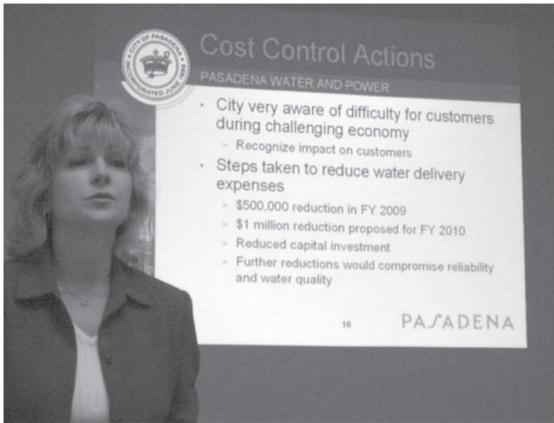
Pasadena Water and Power held the last of a series of meetings Tuesday night in an effort to help residents understand proposed water rate increases that would, in part, almost double the Distribution and Customer charge among other rates also set to go up starting July 1.

The city council will also hold a public hearing June 8, if approved rates would increase twice, first in July and then again July 1, 2010.

Assistant General Manager for PWP Shari Thomas told about 50 residents, who attended the meeting at the Jackie Robinson Center; rates are dependent on meter size. She said the average household has between a 5/8 inch pipe and 1.5 inch pipe with the latter delivering more water therefore with a higher rate charge. The D and C charge for a 1.5 inch pipe could go as high as \$48.54 a month starting in July, up from \$31.85. The rate would again rise to \$61.95 in 2010 according to the city's website.

Although, during the meeting, Thomas did not give the exact rate increases, residents were encouraged to bring in their current bill, which many did. One resident pointed out that their current bill's D and C was \$16.34 for two months. Thomas said by 2010 that would go up to around \$32. That was for a 3/4 inch meter size they said.

Thomas spent the first 20 minutes going over how to read a current water bill. First she said the D and C charge was a flat rate everyone pays.



Assistant General Manager for PWP Shari Thomas

She said it had not gone up in years saying "The city is playing catch up."

"If you have a cell phone or landline at home, you have a standard flat rate that you get charged every month whether you ever pick up the phone," she said. "That is exactly what that is." She further said, "it's the ability to get water to your home."

She also said the charge was about 25 percent of the total bill and then went on to explain water usage.

"Water usage is billed by hundred cubic feet," she explained showing a picture of it. "One HCF is 748 gallons." It is also referred to as a billing unit she said. The average household uses less than 12 of them a month according to a handout.

She also said there was a proposed block structure change which at times got confusing according to some.

Thomas said right now the city uses a three block rate system although that could change to a five block system

something that would not affect many homeowners. What she did said was that each of the other three blocks were proposed to be cut 20 percent. Currently block one allows 12 billing units that would drop to eight she said forcing users into block two with a much higher charge. Less than 10 percent of customers would be in the new blocks four and five she said adding that almost none of them are homeowners.

Block one is the city's groundwater she said. All other blocks are supplied by Metropolitan Water District with a surcharge. New blocks four and five would be set up as a "penalty" for customers using more than 35 and 47 billing units.

Residents questioned what the city was doing to conserve water. Thomas made clear that all the rate changes also applied to them. She said they could most likely find themselves in the higher blocks four and five.

The city's director of water resources, Shan Kwan said the city is working to reduce

water use at parks, in street medians and other publicly owned property. He also said they were working with other agencies such as Caltrans to reduce water usage along the freeways.

One resident asked about the city owned fountains, of which Kwan said there are only two.

"I know when the wind blows not all of the water stays in the fountain," a resident said referring to the fountain in front of the PWP headquarters. "How much water does it take to refill that?"



PWP Headquarters

Kwan answered to a shocked audience, "About 150 gallons a day." He said the city had been considering shutting it off something many said was a good idea. The other fountain is located in the courtyard at city hall he said.

'Operation Happy Valley,' Nets 13 Arrests

Pasadena police announced Thursday that in collaboration with six other law enforcement agencies, the department conducted a multi-jurisdictional program with the intent to locate and arrest known fugitives. Police said 13 arrests were made eight of them Pasadena residents.

The ages of the arrestees varied from 22 to 50, most of which were men.

Other agencies involved were Glendale, Burbank and San Gabriel. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the State Parole office and the United States Marshal's office were also involved according to a prepared statement.

Castle Green Home Tour, June 7



Among Pasadena's many claims to fame is the beautiful, and to some, mysterious, Castle Green, built in 1898 as an annex to the resort Hotel Green. Now privately owned apartments, the building will be open for its annual Spring Tour on Sunday afternoon, June 7th.

One of Pasadena's last historic hotels is now the private residence of designers, musicians, artists, collectors, and other dwellers. Those interested in history, creative interior design and cultural heritage will see the original interior of this unique city landmark, normally closed to the public. While trained docents will be available, you may walk at your own pace through the original public rooms and over 20 individual apartments. See the Grand Salon, the Moorish and Turkish Rooms, the Palm Room, Sunroom and Veranda, the open cage elevator, fireplaces, hand-carved woodwork, and marble staircases, the bridge, artist studios, and the Penthouse.

The semi-annual tours of the Castle Green are organized by volunteer members of the nonprofit support arm, Friends of the Castle Green, whose mission is to provide and implement restoration to the building. All funds raised through the tours and merchandise sales are dedicated to the preservation of this landmark building.

The cost is: \$20.00* adults, children under 12 are free. Reservations are NOT required. Pre-purchase tickets only possible for groups of 15 or more.

More Info: 626-577-6765 (Public may call). www.castlegreen.com

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Letters Question Dorn Platz Continued Default

By Dean Lee

The troubled Altadena Lincoln Crossing project has again hit further stumbling blocks as letters surface from the Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles demanding answers as to why the project continues to stay in default —suggesting it may never enter Phase 2 as planned.

In a letter by the commission addressed to Greg Galletly, president of Dorn Platz and Altadena Lincoln Crossing, LLC, states that the developer "has committed and continues to commit events of default under the DDA [Disposition and Development Agreement], which have not been cured and which have greatly affected the community's and our confidence in proceeding with Phase 2 of this project with ALC."

A 365 day extension to fix any defaults had also passed according to the Community Development Commission. The letter only asked that Galletly contact them to discuss the issue further. A call by this paper to Dorn Platz went unanswered as of press time.

Harsh language in the letter outlines many woes the project has including pending litigation, liens, writs, and other encumbrances. It says the latest title report

(as of March 26) shows seven mechanic's lines totaling \$311,000 as well as two additional abstracts of judgment totaling another \$207,000. There are also tax liens, in excess of \$500,000, recorded against the property. Each is in violation with the terms of agreement with the County of Los Angeles according to the letter.

The commission also expressed concern over a lease agreement with B&V Enterprises, Inc, granting them an option to buy the property. According to the letter, the option was granted without the commission's consent.

"We request that you and the tenant enter into an amendment to the lease that clearly stated that the Commission's consent was required prior to the transfer of the property and it was in the Commission's sole discretion."

The letter also questions a \$1.7 million deed of trust recorded against the property in January suggesting the money may have never been lent asking for proof and a history of the payments made under the loan documents.

"We were surprised to find this deed of trust in the title report," the letter says. "Especially since you have never mentioned this to us and since neither of these companies has ever come up in our discussion in the past."



The commission requested additional information on the structure of the trustor and beneficiary suggesting they are the same. The letter claims, Bradley Barns, of Barnst Properties, Ltd., the beneficiary, is also a manager of Dorn Platz.

According to Dorn Platz website Phase 2 should have been completed last year. The site gives no further details. A 2007-2008 action plan of proposed Altadena projects outlines Phase 2 as, "consisting of an office building, technology school, restaurant, retail and residential housing." The area now sits partly vacant with a "for lease" sign in the window.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich sits on the Community Development Commission.

Arroyo Arts Exhibit to Feature PCC Work

Pasadena City College student Santina Giordano is one of a select group of artists chosen to participate in the Arroyo Arts Collective's installation project, "Bringing the Past to Light: New Art From Old Images." The multimedia installation will be on display at the historic Charles F. Lummis home in Highland Park (200 E. Avenue 43, Los Angeles) from now until through June 14.

"Bringing the Past to Light was inspired by images taken from old photographs, artists working in installation, performance, music, video, and other new media to create an innovative mix of past, present, and future visions of the Arroyo," according to the project's website.

Giordano's audio installation was inspired by Lummis and his vast wax recording. "He was

an extremely passionate man and I wanted to tap into his love for the Native people and their music," Giordano said. For her installation, Giordano recorded songs with Cindi Alvetire, a member of the Tongva tribe. "My memory of the gorgeous resonance in the tunnel of the Southwest Museum of the American Indian inspired me to work with Alvetire."

"The tunnel recordings are pure and unedited," Giordano explained. "The echo one hears in the tunnel participating in the performance. The tunnel is singing with us."

In addition to musical art, Giordano is a singer-songwriter with a keen interest in sound design. She is majoring in Radio Production/Broadcast at PCC.

For more information, visit www.ArroyoArtsCollective.org or call (323) 850-8566.

Free Class in Nature Photography Offered

Professional photographers and naturalists will team up Saturday, from 8 to 11 a.m. to lead a free outdoor class and walk at Hahamongna Watershed Park.

The workshop is open to photographers and nature lovers at all skill levels and is the final event in the Arroyo Seco Discovery Days series designed to deepen the public's appreciation of the park's uniqueness.

City of Pasadena naturalists and Armory Center for the Arts photographers will combine a walk with instruction on capturing nature on film or digitally.

Individual instruction will include close-up shots of plants and flowers as well

as panoramic views of the Hahamongna flood basin and San Gabriel mountains. Naturalists will teach about the Arroyo Seco's native plants, how to find animals when you can't see them and the role water plays in the environment.

Participants should bring their own cameras or camera phones, wear comfortable walking shoes, long pants, sun block and dress for the weather. Children 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Reservations are required. Call (626) 744-7358 or email e.jackson@cityofpasadena.net to reserve and for information on where to meet.



Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know?

Hummingbirds: Hefty Eaters, Hefty Pollinators

By Pat Birdsall

Last week I wrote about bats after seeing one flying at dusk in pursuit of insects. This week I was watching a hummingbird dart in and out of flowers in my garden. What a delight...they are truly amazing little birds. Bats and hummingbirds have something in common-- both are pollinators.

The hummingbird, or Trochilidae, family provides vital pollination services to thousands of plant species. Hummingbirds are considered nectarivorous, meaning they feed mostly on plant nectar, although they do eat insects as well. While hummingbirds feed, pollen from flowers stick to the birds' bills and is transferred to the pistils of other flowers. Because of the hummingbird's unique means of flight, it must consume almost twice its body weight in nectar daily and can visit up to 1,500 flowers per day.

Hummingbirds have special flight muscles that control wing beats of 38 to 78 times per second. Hummingbirds can hover, fly upside down, and are the only bird that can fly backwards. They range in size from the 8 inch giant hummingbird, which lives at altitudes of 15,000 feet in the Andes Mountains, to the Cuban Bee Hummingbird, which is 2 ¼ inches, the world's smallest. Endemic to Cuba, it tips the scales at about two grams, less than the weight of a penny.

Hummingbirds have long, slender beaks and large sternums. Their wings beat about 55 times per second during feeding and up to 200 beats per second during maneuvers and courtship displays. Hummingbirds are very territorial and will perch in trees and survey the area to attack any who dare to come into their area and try to feed on their food sources. They have been known to attack larger birds like jays, crows, and even hawks.

All females nest and raise the young on their own. Usually just two eggs (half the size of a jellybean), incubated for 2 to 2 ½ weeks. She feeds the babies for about 3 weeks. Most nests contain downy plant fibers held together with spider silk. To view for yourself, go to Yahoo.com or Google.com and enter "Birth of a Hummingbird." Amazing pictures!

Hummingbirds are not known to have a sense of smell, and locate food by sight. This brings to mind the red feeders that people place in their yards to augment the wee bird's diet. **CAUTION:** Hang hummingbird feeders near the flowers and prepare a clear sugar water solution of one part table sugar to four parts water. **Do not use honey, artificial sweeteners, or red food coloring.** Clean feeders every three days with hot water and a bottle brush. **Do not use soap.**

The West Coast species of Hummingbirds are: Allen's, Anna's, Black-chinned, Broad tailed, Calliope, Costa's and Rufous.

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Your thoughts and comments are welcome...

A Weekly Spotlight on Sierra Madre Volunteers Catherine Enmark Adde

Catherine Enmark Adde's volunteer resume is impressive. Why? Because in spite of her busy professional life, she still finds time to give back to her community. She is a longtime Sierra Madre resident who cares about her hometown. Among those who have benefitted from her talents include: Sierra Madre Public Library, our Playhouse, the Police Dept., 2007 Centennial Committee, and the All-America City celebration. She is also active with Neighborhood Watch in the upper canyon, where she lives in a hillside cottage shared by her husband and two cats. During morning walks, she started photographing her neighbor's pets for fun, but turned this into something more helpful: an on-line pet album for all to share, in case any of the animals are lost. She and another resident maintain the neighborhood e-mail list, so important for communications during the recent mud slides in the hills. She helps organize the popular Neighborhood Watch block parties, and last year Police Chief Marilyn Diaz attended as a guest.



Most Fridays, she volunteers for the city, converting old file card information into a computerized database, far more efficient for the Officers, benefitting the local businesses in town in case of emergency.

With Charles Andrese as mentor, Catherine wore many hats serving on the first Playhouse board: lights and sound technician, stage manager, actress. Currently a library trustee, she was a hostess for the Friends of the Library Art Fair as well as their Wine Tasting fundraiser. She assisted in developing a Strategic Master Plan for the library and chaired the One Book

One City selection committee, resulting in the choice of Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451," read by a great number of Sierra Madreans. Bradbury made a personal appearance in Sierra Madre in February. A voracious reader, and budding writer, she produces a monthly book review for the Friends' newsletter.

Catherine is a Certified Travel Counselor, with a master's degree in Tourism, a travel industry veteran who owns her own business called Departures! a division of American Express

Travel. This faithful volunteer is a Pasadena native. Attracted by the mountain scenery and small town appeal, the Enmark family made their home in Sierra Madre in 1962. Catherine's husband, Christopher (her English gent), is manager of the Huntington Library's general collections for readers' services. They met by chance at LAX, became pen pals and married in 1993. Catherine Adde hopes to continue serving Sierra Madre and encourage the volunteer spirit!

WATER RESERVE LEVELS

CLICK HERE TO VIEW PREVIOUS LEVELS

APRIL 2009

THE MWD SERVICE AREA IS CURRENTLY IN A

WATER SUPPLY ALLOCATION LEVEL 2

*Regional call for cities, counties, member agencies and retail water agencies to implement extraordinary conservation. Click here to read more about Water Supply Alert conditions.

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Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, May 17th, to Saturday May 23rd, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 233 calls for service.

Monday, May 18th

9:14 AM - Vandalism/Graffiti, Mount Wilson Trail Park. The public restroom was vandalized with various marking pens. Graffiti was found on the exterior of the restroom door and the interior of the restroom. No damage estimate was available.

Wednesday, May 20th

12:45 PM - Vandalism, 500 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. A construction worker discovered and reported damages to a door of a home under construction. No loss value was given for the damages.

Friday, May 22nd

11:42 AM - Arrest, Possession of a Controlled Substance, 100 block of West Sierra Madre Blvd. A motorist driving a pickup truck was stopped for a traffic violation. Further investigation revealed the driver had four truck tires and rims in the bed of the truck for which the driver was unable to provide proof of ownership. The officer believed the items to be stolen. During the investigation officers found Ecstasy and marijuana in the truck. The driver and one of his two passengers were arrested for possession of a controlled

substance, and transported to Pasadena Police jail for booking. The second passenger was later released. The tires and wheels were confiscated pending a follow-up investigation.

8:57 PM - Arrest, Restraining Order Violation, 300 block Mariposa Ave. Officers responded to a call of a restraining order violation. The man fled the area prior to police arrival; however, he left behind personal property in the street as he fled. The man later returned in search of his personal property and officers found the man as he tried to leave a second time. The man was arrested for the restraining order violation and taken to the Pasadena police jail for remand.

10:23 PM - Arrest, Driving Under the Influence, 100 block North Baldwin Ave. Officer stopped an intoxicated motorist who improperly parked his truck in the roadway and was trying to drive away. The officer arrested the driver for driving under the influence of alcohol and took him to the Pasadena Police jail for remand.

Saturday, May 23rd

10:12 PM - Arrest, Public Intoxication, 100 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. Officers stopped and detained a man who staggered across the street in the business district. The man was intoxicated and unable to care for himself. Officers arrested the man and took him to the Pasadena police jail for remand.

GET OUT! GET ACTIVE! VOLUNTEER! BE A CITY COMMISSIONER!

We want you to be a part of our City Team! The Sierra Madre City Council encourages citizen participation in its decision-making process through the use of citizen commissions. Currently, there are six citizen commissions established by the Council to advise and assist them in dealing with specific problems (presently the Planning Commission has the responsibilities of the Cultural Heritage Commission).

These advisory bodies are able to study a variety of issues and problems in detail. After gathering all pertinent information, hearing arguments, and weighing values, they recommend to the Council what they consider the best action to take. In certain situations, commissions are empowered to make specific decisions, subject to appeal to the Council. Public notices on all commissions are prepared in compliance of the Maddy Act.

Applications may be obtained at City Hall or the City website at www.cityofsierramadre.com should you wish to apply. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled, however, it is recommended that application for appointment for the beginning of the 2009-10 fiscal year be submitted by Thursday, June 4, 2009 to the City Manager's Office.

COMMUNITY ARTS COMMISSION

The mission of the Community Arts Commission is to promote the community's interest in, awareness of, and appreciation for the arts; to provide support and encouragement to artists living in the community; and to increase the community's participation in the arts. Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 6:30 pm, in the City Hall Council Chamber

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

The Community Services Commission is responsible for overseeing the City's recreation and community services programs. The Commission oversees the general use of park facilities and matters relating to the community's recreational and service needs. The Commission provides information and recommendations to the City Council in these areas. Meets the 3rd Monday at 6:00 pm, in the City Hall Council

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The responsibilities of the Library Board include the following: establishing Library policies and programs to ensure that quality programs are provided to the community, recommending an annual budget to the City Council for approval, and ensuring that efficient and effective services are provided at the Library. Meets the 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm, in the City Hall Conference Room

PLANNING COMMISSION

The responsibilities of the Planning Commission fall into two broad categories: consideration of current land-use (i.e. applications for General Plan amendments, zone changes, specific plans, conditional use permits, tract maps, variances, and appeals of staff land-use decisions); and advising the City Council on City initiated amendments to the City's General Plan. Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm, in the City Hall Council Chamber

SENIOR COMMUNITY COMMISSION

The Senior Community Commission is responsible for defining the needs, locating and publicizing available resources, coordinating and initiating services and opportunities for the senior population of Sierra Madre. Meets the 1st Monday at 3:00 pm, in the City Hall Council Chamber

TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Tree Commission is an advisory body to the Director of Public Works, City Manager, Planning Commission, and City Council. The commission shall make recommendations to the Director of Public Works, City Manager, Planning Commission and the City Council as appropriate on matters involving care and maintenance of City-owned trees and trees on private undeveloped property. Meets the 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm, in the City Hall Council Chamber

For more information please visit www.cityofsierramadre.com or call 626-355-7135.

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, May 17, through Saturday, May 23, the Police Department responded to 1,007 calls for service of which 139 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department.

Sunday, May 17:

Units were dispatched to Huntington and Santa Clara in reference to a possible drunk driver doing "donuts" in the intersection. A 28-year-old male Hispanic driver was contacted and officers detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his breath. A field sobriety test was conducted and it was determined that he was operating the vehicle while intoxicated. The driver was arrested for DUI, unlicensed driver, driving with an open container of alcohol, and an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Around 4:35 p.m., loss prevention personnel from Nordstrom advised that they had detained a woman for theft. The woman was seen taking a pair of earrings and three hair clips and concealing them in her handbag. A private person's arrest was made, and the 63-year-old Hispanic was taken into custody for petty theft with prior conviction.

Monday, May 18:

3. Officers responded to the high school around 1:23 p.m. regarding an abuse report. A 14-year-old female juvenile reported that her mother uses heroin while taking care of 4 children. The mother

was at the school and a consent search of her purse revealed a folding knife. A consent search of the house was also conducted, and officers found two bindles of heroin, glass pipe with burnt residue, and a foil pipe. The 38-year-old Hispanic was arrested for child cruelty, possession of a weapon in public school, possession of narcotics, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

4. Shortly after 5:00 p.m., units were dispatched to the 2700 block of Caroline regarding a terrorist threat report. During an argument, the suspect told his wife that he will kill their children, burn down the house, and then kill himself so she will have nothing. A 44-year-old male Asian was arrested for making terrorist threats. An emergency protection order was obtained and a handgun was removed from the location for safekeeping.

Tuesday, May 19:

5. Units were called to Daniel's Jewelers, located at Westfield Mall, around 12:46 p.m. in reference to a suspicious man causing a disturbance. A 26-year-old Hispanic was detained and officers found a 7" knife blade in his pants, and a record check revealed that he had 2 outstanding misdemeanor warrants totaling \$100,000. The man was taken into custody at the scene without incident.

At 4:00 p.m., an assault occurred in the 00 block of Bonita. The suspect was arguing with his wife when his father-in-law tried to intervene. This angered the suspect, and he went to the kitchen,

grabbed a knife, and lunged at the father-in-law. Fearing for his safety, the father-in-law tried to grab the knife but he cut his finger instead. Upon seeing the injury, the suspect dropped the knife. A 45-year-old man was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon and exhibiting a deadly weapon.

Wednesday, May 20:

7. A victim came to the station around 10:39 a.m. to file a fraud report. Unknown suspect(s) opened a credit card account with the victim's personal information and made almost \$2,718 in unauthorized charges.

8. Units were dispatched to 171 East Live Oak around 8:50 p.m. in reference to a battery that just occurred. For no apparent reason, a male victim was struck several times in the face by a known acquaintance. The 19-year-old male Asian suspect fled in his vehicle after the attack.

Thursday, May 21:

9. A 49-year-old male Caucasian suspect was detained by security guards at Pacific Clinics, 800 South Santa Anita, for a commercial burglary. Around 5:55 a.m., the suspect broke a lobby window by using his cane and entered the business building. He was subsequently arrested at the scene without incident.

10. Between 6:00 p.m. on May 15 and 2:30 p.m. on May 21, a grand theft occurred in the 1100 block of East Camino Real. The victim's coin collection, worth about \$2,000, was stolen by a known

acquaintance.

Friday, May 22:

11. Around 3:20 p.m., a victim came to the station to file a fraud report. Unknown suspect(s) made an automatic payment withdrawal from the victim's bank account in the amount of \$5,708 and then transferred the funds to another account.

12. Loss prevention personnel from Sport Chalet advised that they had detained a male juvenile for theft around 8:42 p.m. A 16-year-old Asian was seen concealing merchandise in a backpack and left the store without making payment. A private person's arrest was made, and the juvenile was taken into custody for petty theft.

Saturday, May 23:

13. Officers responded to AMH around 1:27 a.m. in reference to a stabbing victim who was being treated in the ER. The man advised that during a physical altercation at Bar Twist, 48 East Huntington, he was stabbed in the lower back by an unknown suspect.

Around 1:35 a.m., units were dispatched to Denny's, 7 East Huntington, regarding a battery/robbery that just occurred. Three male suspects, two Hispanic and one African-American, struck and kicked two male victims. When a female victim tried to take a picture of the suspects' vehicle, a suspect pushed her to the ground, broke her camera, and took her cell phone.



La Salle Graduates 181 Seniors at 50th Commencement Exercises

Pasadena, CA - La Salle High School graduated 181 seniors at its 50th annual Commencement on Friday evening, May 22. Commencement Exercises took place at the Church of the Nazarene, next-door to the School. Brian C. Conroy received the La Salle High School General Excellence Award, and will attend Harvey Mudd College as the recipient of the Harvey S. Mudd Merit Award. The General Merit Awards went to Florence F. Kerns, and Matthew K. Techy. Kerns will leave for NYU to study language arts in the summer and Techy will attend Washington University in St. Louis as the Eliot Scholar.

Jordan J. Wingate received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy, Gabriella A. La Fontaine received the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Christian Service Award and the Pro Deo et Patria Award. Kaitlyn M. Tripoli and Darrell J. Triplett, Jr. received the Lancer All Around Athlete Award.

Florence F. Kerns was chosen by the Faculty and the Senior Class for the honor of delivering the Commencement Address.

99% of La Salle's graduating class will attend college next year, and 80% will matriculate at four-year institutions.

Alverno Students Donate Hair to Cancer Patients

Photos by Lina Johnson



The Alverno High School "Locks of Love" event was from 11am to 1pm on May 26th. There were 61 student participants, 3 faculty participants, including the school's principal, and a total of 600 inches of hair collected.

Top Left, Alverno student Alyssa has her hair cut for the "Locks of Love" event. Alyssa's mother is currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer, and her daughter is her only caretaker. Alyssa knows from personal experience how painful it is to see you loved ones taken ill and unable to help themselves, and so made her donation in order to help someone else's mother, or daughter, or sister, or friend.

Nicole Tolosa, bottom left, has her long hair cropped short for a "Locks of Love" Donation.

Bottom Right, a stylist from ECCO Salon who volunteered for this event finishes trimming Caroline McLoughlin's hair after making the big cut. ECCO Salon is in South Pasadena, and it shut down all day on the 26th of May to participate in this event.



Arcadia High School Seniors Prepare for Graduation Honors

By Esther Lin

As the end of the school year arrives, the top students of the graduating class are once again revealed as Valedictorian and Salutatorians. Contrary to popular rumor, the selection committee does indeed aim to select one valedictorian only, though multiple valedictorians are undeniably inevitable and evident in the past few graduating years alone.

Starting May, all the potential Valedictorian and Salutatorians are rounded up and alerted of their potential. From then on, they must make sure to be on the best behavior as any wrongdoing puts them on the path of getting their award revoked. Primarily recognitions of remarkable academic achievement, these positions require the basic grade point average of 3.95 after the end of the fall semester of senior year.

Furthermore, close to perfect marks in citizenships and their attendance records must also be free from numerous unexcused absences or tardies. Once students have passed the qualifications to be a Salutatorian of their graduating class, they then have the choice of applying for the position of Valedictorian, the process of which includes a written application and if needed, an interview. Since candidates must also agree to have the selection committee review their whole attendance and disciplinary records, graduating as a Valedic-

torian or a Salutatorian is quite a feat in itself.

There is in fact a Valedictorian Selection Committee every year that consists of one administrator appointed by the Principal, the grade level counselors of the graduating class, and a couple of designated teachers from the core classes. The ASB President and the ASB Representative to the Board of Education, Charlie Tsouvalas and Yena Bae respectively, also have the honor of serving on the board. Conflicts of interest, such as a family member being reviewed as a candidate, are accounted for and will be taken care of. Lastly, the Principal serves on the board as a non-voting member who only votes in the case of a tie.

Not surprisingly, the Valedictorians of Arcadia High all demonstrate amazing academic achievement. It is not uncommon for candidates to have completed 9-13 AP or honors courses. It is this exact perseverance and success that boost them to their candidacy in the first place. CSF membership and national merit membership are commonalities found in the achievement section of their application. However, a few students also flaunt their internships or research work.

After this year's interview by the committee on May 28, the final results will be announced at the senior assembly on May 29.

Trish's Truth

by Trisha Collins

Justice For All

In the world of justice, I think we are truly moving on up in this world. President Obama said he would bring change and he is bringing it full force. Just last week, Sonia Sotomayor was nominated to be a judge in the Supreme. And just last week, we had a very tense debate in class concerning her nominations and past decisions.

The debate began after my AP European History teacher asked my classmates and me whether or not we thought President Obama chose Sotomayor because of

her race. She explained to us that perhaps, Obama was trying to gain the approval of the Latino community and women of America. She said that maybe Obama picked Sotomayor to prove a point. After hearing this, and several other statements, I finally raised my hand and said, "This may be true, but maybe he nominated her because she was qualified, intelligent, and experienced".

This woman is the one for the job. She was raised in the projects of the Bronx; she knows the injustice that faces people every

day. Point blank, she's been on both sides of the fence. Who better to decide the fate of our citizens, than someone who can relate to our struggle and situations firsthand? Not only is she street-smart, but book-smart as well. She graduated from Princeton University and Yale University's Law School, and served on the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan for over 10 years. I think Obama said it best when he described Sonia Sotomayor as "...an inspiring woman, who I believe will make a great justice".

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@bcslions.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

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

Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109
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Mountain Views News Mission Statement

The traditions of the community newspaper and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.



As I See It

By Howard Hays

Pop quiz: Who represents you in our state legislature? Don't know? Well, I know as a resident of Sierra Madre my assemblyman is Anthony Adams, and my senator is Robert Huff. I know this because it's the responsibility of every citizen to know who represents them, and also because I looked it up just now. More on that later.

With the defeats of Propositions 1A through 1E on May 19, most commentary focused on the need to cut expenses without raising taxes. Invariably, though, these commentaries fail to suggest where these cuts should be made. I won't, either, but instead offer the story of the Desk Chair (stay with me on this). A number of years ago I worked for a rather large state agency in a rather small capacity - supervising an office of five to six employees. One afternoon a chair leg broke and an employee ended up on his rear on the floor. I went to my supervisor's assistant to request a new desk chair, and soon after she called to say they'd gotten authorization for the purchase. The chair was over \$200, and shipping from the vendor in Wisconsin would be an additional \$150. I told her I'd seen a chair on sale for \$69 at the Office Depot down the street that would do just fine, and as for shipping, I'd throw it in the back of my car on the way to work. She agreed to see if we

could get it done. The next day I was called to my boss's office. Part of it was a dressing down for having asked his assistant to circumvent established purchasing rules, but mostly it was simple incredulity; why this would concern me because, after all, "it's not coming out of your pocket". I responded I was concerned as a California taxpayer. He gave me a blank stare. I tried to guess how many desk chairs are in use at any given time by the State of California acquired under similar purchasing rules.

The issue here was not a matter of determining what was needed. It was agreed we needed a desk chair, just as the citizens of California agree we need quality schools, police and fire protection, improved infrastructure and transportation corridors, health care for the uninsured, environmental protection, etc. - but rather it was determining the best way of obtaining it - and at what cost. I figured out myself the best way to obtain the chair, but obtaining all those other things - for that we rely on our state legislature. It's clear by now that government by ballot initiative is not a workable substitute. It was also made clear on May 19 that the consensus view, regardless of party, is that this legislature is not up to the task. Now the question becomes how best to obtain one that is. I have a couple of suggestions, which have already been made by many others.

First, the good news. Last November,

voters approved Proposition 11, turning redistricting over to a Citizens Redistricting Commission (scheduled to be impaneled by the end of 2010) and out of the hands of legislators whose main concern was ensuring "safe" districts for themselves.

Next, we need to get rid of term limits. It seems now the only ones in Sacramento with the experience and knowledge necessary to craft and enact legislation are staffers and lobbyists, whether corporate or representing organized labor. Legislators are preoccupied with raising funds and positioning themselves for their next office, rather than demonstrating they deserve re-election to their current one. Besides, they realize that whatever actions they take (or fail to take), they won't be around long enough to have to deal with the consequences.

This system of "minority rules" has proven a disaster in the current situation. With a 2/3 majority required for both tax increases and budget approval, extremes of both parties have the ability to block progress by the moderate majority. Even a 60% percent approval requirement would go a long way in preventing stalemate.

Most agree that some combination of spending cuts and revenue increases are needed, though the legislature seems incapable of dealing with even the most glaringly obvious calls for action. On the revenue side, it took years to close the "yacht loophole", allowing millionaires to avoid paying tax on their luxury vessels by

simply mooring them out of state for ninety days. Arguments were made as to the adverse effect closing this loophole might have on the yacht industry. Seriously.

On the cuts side, the legislature has so far been unable or unwilling to enact SB 685, which would ban salaries of more than \$100,000 a year to members of state boards and commissions that meet no more than twice a month - though kudos to Sen. Terry Strickland (R - Moorpark) for trying.

There's the conundrum of voters having an abysmal opinion of the legislature and a wish to see them all booted out, yet when the opportunity arises to do something about it, the same bunch is returned to Sacramento. Here's where we return to the question posed at the top. The first step is to know your representatives, and to demand answers - not just on specific legislation, but on how they intend to bring about the structural changes needed to get our state government functioning again. Trite sound bites, whether "No new taxes" or "No cuts in services", simply won't cut it. Second, get to know the incumbents' opponents in upcoming elections - and make clear to the incumbent that if they aren't up to the job, someone else will be found who is.

With a sustained effort, maybe once again we'll have a state legislature that does its job - and we'll no longer be seeing budget deficit numbers so enormous they're enough to make one fall out of his desk chair.



Stuart Tolchin On..LIFE

INTERPRETERS

It is no longer a surprise to me that the most interesting people in a Courtroom are invariably the interpreters. By definition these individuals possess an ability lacking in the vast majority of Americans and particularly in those Americans who have advanced degrees. One senses the differences immediately. Conversations with lawyers are almost without exception focused upon the Lakers, vacation destinations, and how to solve money problems. Conversations with interpreters involve classical music, philosophy, traditional occult healing and spiritual practices, world history and politics, and the maintenance of cultures.

This difference in the interests of professionals who work side by side each day is undoubtedly connected to the different requirements of their vocations. Lawyers are required to endure the experience of Law School. It is a time consuming, arduous, competitive process that leaves little time to pursue unrelated interests. The actual practice of law is similarly exhausting often dissipating any other intellectual interests as attorneys attempt to meet billing hour requirements and otherwise meet their professional responsibilities.

Interpreters, on the other hand, are typically very different kinds of people. Not only are they bilingual they are usually bicultural as well. Their life experience is usually much broader than that of a typical professional in that becoming an interpreter is usually a decision made later in life after other professions have been pursued. The duty of an interpreter is not to convince, or to control, not to win or to lose, but instead simply to use their resources to understand and to communicate this understanding to someone else. It is not just words that need to be translated but rather the internal experience expressed by these words. Doubt, anger, willingness to comply with burdensome

requirements all must be communicated from client to attorney in order that the attorney may responsibly advise his client as to the best individual course of action. The most effective interpreter through their highly developed observational and communication skills will accurately convey this information. It is a vital profession which requires a highly sensitive and developed person to meet its requirements.

Living a full and responsible life also requires one to be highly sensitive and developed and I believe that the interpreters can serve as models. The development of sane, effectively functioning human beings should be the goal of Schools at every age level. Rather than burying ambitious students under mountains of repetitious time consuming homework schools could actually assist its students to identify their own desires, interests, and strengths.. Instead of functioning as glorified trade schools readying students for frequently non-existent employment our schools should assist in the creation of sane human beings who have some sense of who they are and what they want to do. If we want this society to function without the necessity of daily doses of mood altering anti-depressive medications we need to allow individuals time to develop their own resources such that they can become responsible and knowledgeable communicators regarding their own lives.

Today most individuals emerge from schools with little awareness of their own inner lives. College majors are selected almost at random and people find themselves in positions in which they are unhappy for most of their working lives. This is a dysfunction we can no longer afford. Really, no matter the state of the economy, it would be better if somewhere along the line each of us had developed the ability to hear our own inner selves and be able to communicate harmoniously with other people. It might even be nicer if we could do it in more than one language so that we could have a greater understanding of what the rest of the world is talking about.

Government Gives Residents Money to "Buy Taiwanese"



By Hail Hamilton

Most economists agree that the central problem in reviving the US economy is the lack of demand for goods and services. More to the point, our consumer economy has come to a screeching halt. Americans are afraid—afraid of losing their jobs, their homes and their pensions. Fear is high, money is tight and spending is low. Fearful consumers hold on to their money, and when they do the economy suffers.

Triggered by last fall's housing market crash and subsequent foreclosure crisis, the current recession has spread rapidly into both the financial and industrial sectors—upside down mortgages, insolvent financial institutions, failing businesses, and banks refusing to lend.

And all this happened in the wake of last year's presidential campaign.

During the campaign, President Bush pushed through a \$700 billion bailout package for Wall Street. After taking office, President Obama asked for and was granted an additional \$888 billion to stimulate the economy. In less than six months nearly \$1.6 trillion has been earmarked to restart the economy.

But what if half of this money—\$800 billion—were aimed at the consumer where it would make the biggest difference. The US population is approximately 300 million. That means that every man, woman and child in residing in the US would get nearly \$2666 in consumer bailout money (\$10,664 for a family of four). How consumers spent it is entirely their choice. But the money must be spent in the US. It can't be saved or sent overseas.

Here's how it would work: Instead of propping up failing companies or cutting taxes give the money directly to consumers. By stimulating consumer supply of money, consumer demand for goods and services would increase. Companies would expand inventories and offer improved services. This would necessitate rehiring employees. Employees, in turn, would spend their incomes as consumers buying goods and services. As a result, money changes hands and the economy improves.

That's right, what America needs is a giant shopping spree. That will get the economy moving again.

The other day I discovered an article published back in January. It describes one way Taiwan is responding to its economic downturn by giving its residents shopping vouchers. It's the latest effort by a country to try to get money flowing through its economy.

Apparently a combination of a Chinese New Year's gift and a move to stimulate the flagging economy, Taiwanese President Ma Ying-Jeou unveiled a plan January 20 to give about \$108 in vouchers to the each of the island's 23 million residents.

By that evening, more than 90 percent of eligible Taiwanese, including the president and his family, had gone to special government booths and picked up their vouchers, which are valid through September.

Taiwan's residents were eager to start spending, if mall and store traffic on the island were any indication. French retail chain Carrefour reported 30 percent higher than normal sales the first weekend vouchers were used at its Taiwan locations.

Government officials encouraged residents in more secure financial situations to donate their vouchers to charity, as well as to make an effort to buy Taiwanese-produced items.

The plan cost the government of Taiwan nearly \$2.6 billion. I know this is small compared what I am proposing. But this is America—a country noted for big ideas.

Unfortunately, the US has chosen to stimulate the economy with the usual combination of corporate bailouts and tax cuts. Although a middle class tax cut is good for the economy. The rest is simply welfare for the wealthy. Remember the "voodoo" economics of the 1980s? The problem is it doesn't work when working people need it the most. People need help now.

I say give consumers a chance. They'll know how to best spend the money.

I'm sure I can decide how to spend my 2,666 bucks.

I have to admit, though, I am guilty person when it comes to money. I would have trouble getting a fat economic stimulus check and not depositing it in my savings account. But I would love to get a shopping voucher with an expiration date on it. I'd be guilt free all the way to (and from) the mall.

Give me money and I'll spend it—I'll shop until I drop.



By Gregory Welborn

The Reality Tour

You may have missed the announcement about the beginning of the President's grand world tour which started in earnest earlier this month. Of course, the reason you missed it is because there really wasn't any announcement. Many in the current administration - perhaps even the President himself - and certainly everyone in the mainstream media have missed the fact that world events have forced our young president on a reality tour. And just like the better

publicized rock tours, this tour represents a series of events in distant locations. But unlike the entertainment offered by rock tours, this tour only serves to demonstrate just how out of sync this administration is with what the rest of the world calls "reality".

Theories of how the world works are great, but eventually every theory must reconcile itself to the truth, to reality. Nowhere is there a more explicit confrontation between theory and reality than in President Obama's faith in diplomacy.

Our first stop on the Obama Reality Tour is the Middle East. President Obama wants to talk to Iran and talk to Syria - at first without preconditions, and now with only mild concessions from these rogue states. There isn't any concrete plan beyond meeting and talking except for an unwavering belief that peace will result from the discussions. In reaction, the dictators and Islamic potentates of the region have announced a new resolve to wipe Israel off the map, stepped up violence in Iraq and Afghanistan and challenged our president to a debate at the U.N.

Apparently, it is being left to the new Netanyahu administration in Israel to deal with the Iranian nuclear problem. What the Obama administration fails to see - but the Israelis see very clearly - is that diplomacy has never changed any adversary's basic beliefs, interests or intentions. Simply announcing your desire to talk and expecting a change in behavior is hubris or arrogance. Why would anyone listen to anything we say or do anything we want unless

Theories of how the world works are great, but eventually every theory must reconcile itself to the truth, to reality. Nowhere is there a more explicit confrontation between theory and reality than in President Obama's faith in diplomacy.

words are backed up with actions or consequences? Empty words are just that... empty! Our adversaries understand that reality very well. Unless Israel steps up to the plate to redeem America's words, Iran will have their nuclear bomb.

The next stop on the Obama Reality Tour is North Korea where yet another tyrant flagrantly mocks the president's theories about nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. With the successful test of their mid-range missile and their second nuclear detonation, Kim Jong Il is putting the lie to President Obama's promise that "violations must be punished", "rules must be binding" and "words must mean something". In the face of North Korea's actions, what exactly do our words mean? According to Secretary of State Clinton, they mean we are "committed to dialogue" and there is an "open door" to talks. Pardon me for being totally unimpressed and believing that Kim Jong Il played his cards pretty well.

The third stop on this tour is kind of a half-day blitz to the U.N. in the morning and on to Western European capitals in the afternoon. The reality check here is that the U.N. can't even gather enough votes to formally condemn North Korea, and not a single one of our allies will take a significant number of Gitmo detainees into their own country. Seems like the theory of multi-lateral actions and closer collaboration with our allies ran into a brick wall. The truth is that unless the U.S. stands tall not much good gets done in the world and a whole lot of bad people get away with murder.

The last stop on this tour will hopefully find us back in the oval office with a wiser, more pragmatic president who has learned well from his experiences. Nothing like a road show to teach you about the way the world really works. To wit: bad guys are bad guys because of their own moral deficiencies, not because of what we have done to them or said about them. The U.S.'s strength and presence is not the cause of problems in the world, but it sure can be the source of solutions to these problems.

We can theorize about talking all day long, but we better be prepared to back it up with real actions or it's just so much hot air released into the environment. Let us hope that this reality finds a secure home in our young president's outlook on the world stage on where he now presides.

Gregory J. Welborn is an independent opinion columnist. He writes and speaks frequently on political, economic and social issues. His columns have appeared in publications such as *The Los Angeles Daily News*, *The Orange County Register*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. He can be reached at g.welborn@mtnews.com.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0767987

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BAKMI PARAHYANEAN**, 989-13 GLENDORA AVE., WEST COVINA, CA 91790. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LONNY CHANDRA, RONNY GUNAWAN**, 1621 COWWELL ST., LA PUENTE, CA 91744. This Business is conducted by: **HUSBAND AND WIFE. Signed: RONNY GUNAWAN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/22/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0774082

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CAR REPAIR CONSULTANTS**, 2029 CENTURY PARK EAST #1360, L.A., CA 90067. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **TRUEMAN TAYLOR**, 3656 VINTON AVE. #1, L.A., CA 90034. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TRUEMAN TAYLOR**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/26/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EQUILIBRIUM PILATES**, 5842 BELLFLOWER BLVD., LAKEWOOD, CA 90713. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **KATIA FERREIRA**, 8221 LANGDON AVE. APT. 209, VAN NUYS, CA 91406. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: KATIA FERREIRA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/28/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on MARCH/2009.

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File No. 09-0791714

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ESSERE SEAMLESS 2. GRATIA WEAR 3. BEANER**, 1026 S. SANTA FE #302, L.A., CA 90021. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **AMERICAN TRAITS CLOTHING, INC.**, 1026 S. SANTA FE #302, L.A., CA 90021. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: AURORA MORACOF**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/28/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0768173

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GREAT NORTHWEST ENTERPRISE**, 1655 GREENCASTLE AVE. #B, ROWLAND HTS., CA 91748. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **STEVEN HUNG JUNG CHOU**, 1655 GREENCASTLE AVE. #B, ROWLAND HTS., CA 91748. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: STEVEN CHOU**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/22/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 1988.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0793928

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SERA COLLECTION RESEARCH SERVICES LLC**, 4735 MYRTLE ST., PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SERA COLLECTION RESEARCH SERVICES LLC**, 4735 MYRTLE ST., PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. This Business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Signed: MONICA LOPEZ/OWNER**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/28/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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File No. 09-0774560

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **TWILIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIOS**, 519 S. WESTMORELAND AVE. #104, L.A., CA 90020. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOSE M. GONZALEZ**, 519 S. WESTMORELAND AVE. #104, L.A., CA 90020. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOSE MANUEL GONZALEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/26/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **I. VISION E-STAFFING 2. VISION EMPLOYMENT AND TAX SERVICE**, 711 S. KERN AVE., L.A., CA 90022. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LETICIA LOPEZ**, 3214 PORTOLA AVE., L.A., CA 90032. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: LETICIA LOPEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/28/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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Pub. 06/01, 06/08, 06/15, 06/22/2009

FILE NO. 2009-0774270

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **MARISCOS EL REY 2 / MARISCOS EL REY 2 MEXICAN FOOD**, 6417 ATLANTIC AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90805. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 4/3/09, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 09-0486499. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SOMCHIT JOHNPRADIT**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/26/2009. 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: CIRIA HISAMAR GAMBINO ARMENTA/OWNER.
Publish: Mountain Views News
Pub. 06/01, 06/08, 06/15, 06/22/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0794919

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **2 MATTRESSES**, 5555 PEARBLOSSOM HWY., PALMDALE, CA. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **YVONNE CHAVEZ**, 8464 S. GATE AVE. APT. D, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: YVONNE CHAVEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/20/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0739814

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ECLIPSE GLASS & MIRROR GALLERIA**, 9969 BELCHER ST., DOWNEY, CA 90242. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROMY RAMIREZ**, 9969 BELCHER ST., DOWNEY, CA 90242. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROMY RAMIREZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/19/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0732220

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **INDUSTRIES**, 1826 CLUB DR., POMONA, CA 91768. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MICHAEL ANTHONY FLORES**, 1826 CLUB DR., POMONA, CA 91768. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MICHAEL ANTHONY FLORES**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/18/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0661324

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ME 90 AL**, 10125 ROSEWOOD AVE., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ALFRED MENDEZ**, 10125 ROSEWOOD AVE., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ALFRED MENDEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/05/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0731124

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MOBILE DAVINCI**, 4067 HARDWICK ST. #246, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **PREMIER CAPITAL INVESTMENT, INC.**, 4067 HARDWICK ST. 246, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: KAREN SUYKRY/SECR**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/18/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0725544

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **I. ROGER WPT RUN 2. ACCURATE LOCK & KEY BY ROGER 2. AARP SECURITY SYSTEMS**, 16592 BORDEAUX LANE, HUNTINGTON HARBOR, CA 92649. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROGER NOOR**, 16592 BORDEAUX LANE, HUNTINGTON HARBOR, CA 92649. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROGER NOOR**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/15/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/01/08.

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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0732870

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SANAMLUANG CAFE**, 1648 INDIAN HILL BLVD. #C, POMONA, CA 91767. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MRS. SOMCHIT JOHNPRADIT**, 8818 PASO ROBLES AVE., NORTHBRIDGE, CA 91325. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SOMCHIT JOHNPRADIT**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/18/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on MAY 1, 09.

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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0733082

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SOSA JANITORIAL SERVICE**, 1926 10th ST., SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **RUDY SOSA**, 1926 10th ST., SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: RUDY SOSA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/18/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0756816

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **STANLEY REPAIRS**, 915 S. MATEO ST. #308, L.A., CA 90021. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SOO YOUN KIM**, 6184 CANARY CIR., BUENA PARK, CA 90620. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SOO YOUN KIM**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/21/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FILE NO. 2009-0732897

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **SANAMLUANG CAFE**, 1648 INDIAN HILL BLVD. #C, POMONA, CA 91767. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 9/20/05, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 05-2267579. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SAHAH MANECWARN/OWNER**.
Publish: Mountain Views News
Pub. 05/25, 06/01, 06/08, 06/15/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0684021

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BELLAJO NURSING SERVICES**, 717 AVENIDA ALTISIMA, ROSWOOD AVE., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROSARIO ANGELINA ALEJO**, 5630 RAVENSPUR DR. #308, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROSARIO ANGELINA ALEJO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/08/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5/8/09.

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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0688677

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BEST SOLUTIONS ENTERPRISE**, 9600 MELVIN AVE., WEST GARDEN, CA 91324. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DONALD CICERI**, 9600 MELVIN AVE., NORTHBRIDGE, CA 91324. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: DONALD CICERI**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/11/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0684700

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BRANDON FOUCHÉ DOG REHABILITATION**, 5979 S. ST. ANDREWS PL., L.A., CA 90047. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **BRANDON FOUCHÉ**, 5979 S. ST. ANDREWS PL., L.A., CA 90047. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: BRANDON FOUCHÉ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/08/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 05/08/09.

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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0690373

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EBB & FASHION & EMBROIDERY SILK SCREEN PRINTING**, 533 W. 80th ST., L.A., CA 90044. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LORENA RIVAS**, LUIS RIVAS, 533 W. 80th ST., L.A., CA 90044. This Business is conducted by: **HUSBAND AND WIFE. Signed: LORENA RIVAS**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/11/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0690838

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EXPRESS AUTO DETAIL CENTER**, 8315 EASTERN AVE., BELL GARDEN, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ERNESTO MERIDA**, 10001 W. FRONTAGE RD., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ERNESTO MERIDA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/11/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5/11/09.

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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0705557

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GLOBALTEK ENERGY**, 16010 SHOEMAKER AVE., CERRITOS, CA 90703. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **WINDOM LLC**, 16010 SHOEMAKER AVE., CERRITOS, CA 90703. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **M. PILEK**, WINDSTAR, ALISO VIEJO, CA 92656. MICHAEL MARTIN CRAWLEY, 3205 LERENDARIO, SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92673. WILLIAM PHILLIPS, 757 SOUTHEAST 17th ST., FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33316. This Business is conducted by: **A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP. Signed: ALVIN HAO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/13/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0707157

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DR. CLANAN S.V.C.**, 645 N. HAZEL ST., LA HABRA, CA 90631. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **GEVORK SAPONYAN**, 645 N. HAZEL ST., LA HABRA, CA 90631. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: GEVORK SAPONYAN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/13/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/18, 05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0708279

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **INDUSTRIAL MACHINE REPAIR & INSTALLATION**, 4811 MARTIN ST., MIRA LOMA, CA 91752. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LUIS A. CRUZ**, 4811 MARTIN ST., MIRA LOMA, CA 91752. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: LUIS A. CRUZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/13/09. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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:

INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ERNESTO S.A. GONZALEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **05/04/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0628139

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **REAL TALK GENERATION IMPACT**, 17042 DOWNEY AVE. #E, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOLI JOHNSON**, 17042 DOWNEY AVE. #E, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. **SHAWN V. FLOYD**, 6115 GARDENIA AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90805. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: JOLI JOHNSON.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **04/29/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/08.

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
Pub. 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0652931

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SS TEST ONLY OPEN SUNDAYS**, 12332 CARSON ST., HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ELSA M. CISNEROS**, 12332 CARSON ST., HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ELSA M. CISNEROS.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **05/04/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0675672

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **T&G PARKING SERVICES**, 1605 S. HOOVER ST. #103 STE. 255, L.A., CA 90006. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CARLOS J. TRUJILLO, LORENA V. BEANATO**, 1605 S. HOOVER ST. #103 STE. 255, L.A., CA 90006. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: CARLOS J. TRUJILLO.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **05/07/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0670306

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **TWINS TRUCKING**, 11641 EL GRANADA AVE., LYNWOOD, CA 90262. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOSE J. OCEGUEDA**. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOSE J. OCEGUEDA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **05/06/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 09-0641385

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **UNITED LEGACY SOLUTIONS**, 2225 W. PICO BLVD. STE. A, L.A., CA 90006. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JUAN CARLOS JIMENEZ**, 12768 CAMERON AVE., SYLMAR, CA 91342, **LEGACY INTEGRATIVE SOLUTIONS, INC.**, 18000 STUDEBAKER RD. #700, CERRITOS, CA 90703. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: JUAN CARLOS JIMENEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **05/01/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business 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 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
Pub. 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01/2009

200901RC
File No. 20090556317 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **GEORGE GLASS**, 806 E. Hermosa Dr San Gabriel, CA 91775

The full name of the Registrant (s) is (are) **Jorge Orozco** and **Sofia Moreno** 806 E. Hermosa Dr San Gabriel, CA 91775. The business was conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP**. The Fictitious Business Name Statement referred to above was filed on 07/10/2008. Original File No. 2008-1230220. I declare that all 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) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on April 16, 2009 The registrant (s) has (have) ended transacting business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 04/16/2009.

NOTICE- The Fictitious Business 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) First Filing: 05/15, 05/22, 05/29 and 06/05, 2009 200901RC CNB

City of Sierra Madre

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

To: Citywide
From: The City of Sierra Madre
Subject: Consideration of Ordinance 1294 (Readoption and Ratification of Ordinance 1256, an amendment to Chapter 17.52 H-Hillside Management Zone (HMZ) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code).

Applicant: City of Sierra Madre, 232 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that on June 9, 2009 and June 23, 2009, the City Council will consider adoption of Ordinance 1294 (the readoption and ratification of Ordinance 1256, an amendment to Chapter 17.52 H-Hillside Management Zone of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code). Ordinance 1256 altered standards in the Hillside Management Zone for new and existing lots, including design and development standards. Ordinance 1256 also addressed construction, grading, drainage, architecture, landscaping, fire prevention, fuel management and biotic resources standards for hillside development. In addition, Ordinance 1256 specified permit requirements, filing and review procedures, and application contents. Finally, Ordinance 1256 amended the City's zoning map to expand the boundaries of the HMZ to better reflect the shape and topography of land in the northern areas of the City. As a result of this change, additional residentially zoned properties, not previously in the HMZ were included within the new HMZ boundaries. Ordinance 1256 was originally adopted on October 6, 2006; subsequently, the City Council directed staff to conduct further environmental analysis of the Ordinance. This analysis has been completed. At its May 21, 2009 meeting, the Planning Commission adopted PC Resolution 09-09, recommending the City Council readopt Ordinance 1256. The City Council is now being asked to consider Ordinance 1294, which is the readoption and ratification of Ordinance 1256. A full and complete copy of the text of Ordinance 1294 is available at Sierra Madre City Hall, Development Services Department at the address noted below.

DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS

City of Sierra Madre
City Council meeting
Tuesday, **June 23, 2009** (First reading)
(meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

City of Sierra Madre
City Council meeting
Tuesday, **June 23, 2009** (Second reading)
(meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

PLACE OF MEETINGS

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA

All interested persons may attend these meetings and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide, in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

By Order of the City Council

Elaine Aguilar, City Manager

Where To Find The Mountain Views News

(partial listing)

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Bottle Shop
Webb Martin Realtors
SM City Hall
Senior Center

Pasadena
Albertson's
Ralph's Hastings
City Hall
Walkway nr Vromans
Main Library
Robin's

Altadena
Library
Sheriff's Department
Webster's
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Letter To The Editor

To Whom it May Concern:

I read an article in the Pasadena Star News this morning which reflected a very negative opinion on our community. The comments about residents were derived from blogs from our local papers. I promptly sent a letter to the editor disputing his opinion. I have included the article and response below.

However, I wanted to write you to encourage the residents of Sierra Madre to take caution when blogging so that our reputation isn't being tarnished in other local publications. By no means am I indicating that the source of the material in the blogs came from Mountain Views News or that opinions should not be expressed. I simply would like for our neighbors to know to result of bad mouthing each other in blogs. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Kindest Regards,

Melanie Shewmaker

www.mtnviewsnews.com

Utility Rate Insert Notices Inadequate Campaign to change billing system continues

Vern Hensel, the Sierra Madre resident who has taken the city to task over years of overbilling for water, has achieved a victory of sorts when the city agreed to include inserts in the water bills indicating the rate residents are charged.

However, Hensel feels as though the effort does not go far enough in protecting residents against the kind of overbilling he experienced for years.

In Hensel's case, his single family home was billed as a multi unit dwelling. The total cost of the overages was in excess of \$5,000. After years of attempting to get the city to reimburse him for his loss, Hensel took the case to court where he learned that due to a state law, the city's exposure was limited to one year's worth of billing.

Hensel's primary concern, however, was not the amount of money that he could not recoup from the city for their error, but the fact that no safeguards were in place to prevent this from happening to other residents.

His initial attempts to rectify the situation were under the administration of former City Manager John Gillison where he faced a brick wall. Since the hiring of current City Manager Elaine Aguilar, the response has been much better. It was through Hensel's efforts that the city agreed to include notification of water rates in the bills residents receive. There are still several other items that Hensel feels need to be addressed, however.

In a recent letter to the Mayor and City Council, Hensel states the following:

"Dear Mayor MacGillivray, I have been communicating with your City Manager, Elaine Aguilar, regarding some issues related to the Utility Bill (titled City of Sierra Madre - Water Dept), and she has been a great help in answering my questions. However, there are a couple of issues that I must bring to your attention, because I believe them to be beyond the scope of her authority and ability to remedy.

The first Issue is that one of the factors in calculating the utility bill is the size of the water meter. From what I understand, there are different sizes of water meters and residents are billed based on the size of their particular meter. However, the size of the resident's meter is not disclosed on the utility bill, so the resident has no way to tell if they are being billed properly.

The solution is that (1) the size of the water meter must be included on each utility bill, or an insert can be used temporarily, until

such time as it can be added to the actual utility bill, or (2) the size of the meters can be averaged and an average amount included in the base service fee of the bill, so that it is not necessary to list the size of each meter on the utility bills. The second option is obviously the most cost effective and the way a lot of cities handle it.

The second issue is that another factor in calculating the utility bill is the "account type", such as (1) Residential-Single Unit, (2) Residential-Multi Unit and (3) Commercial. As you all know, in the past this info was not disclosed on the utility bills, which allowed the miss-classification of properties to go undetected. The result was an overcharge to residents estimated to be over \$100,000. Also, the city's policy is to limit the credits for overcharges to only one year and it keeps the rest as income, so the residents only receive a small percentage of the overcharge.

I have been working to get this problem rectified for over three (3) years, and after all of that time the best remedy the city has agreed to is to put a utility rate insert in only 1/3 of the bills, explaining the "account type" being charged. That means that 2/3 of the bills have no inserts and not rate disclosure. The reason the city gives for not putting rate inserts in all of the bills is that it costs too much. The city says it will use the inserts until the "account type" can be added to the bill itself, and the exact time for that to be accomplished is unknown and only estimated.

The proper solution is for the city to put the utility rate inserts in EACH utility bill until it has the "account type" added to the bills themselves. The city has the responsibility to notify residents of the rate they are being charged with EACH bill, especially when you consider the city's poor track record in the past in regards to billing accuracy and its limited refund policy regarding the overcharges.

The city's argument that it is not able to put utility rate inserts in more than 1/3 of the utility bills because it costs too much is not acceptable. In the past several years the city has made plenty of utility bill overcharges, and kept over 90% of the money, so it should certainly be willing to spend some of that overcharge money to put utility rate disclosure inserts in each bill.

This is a very reasonable request and I will be looking forward to your response."

Hensel hopes that the city's will continue to work on a system that will resolve the issue.

	Undesignated Fund Balance for General Fund (Estimated)	Percentage of Fund Balance to General Fund Revenues (Estimated)
Adjusted General Fund Reserves as of FY 2007-08	\$ 2,242	32.78%
Increase/(Decrease) to Net Assets (FY 08-09)	\$ 209	
Projected General Fund Reserves FY 2008-09	\$ 2,451	35.61%
Increase/(Decrease) to Net Assets (FY 09-10)	\$ 85	
Proposed General Fund Reserves FY 2009-10	\$ 2,536	35.46%
Increase/(Decrease) to Net Assets (FY 10-11)	\$ 444	
Proposed General Fund Reserves FY 2010-11	\$ 2,980	37.93%





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Fri 5 VR Smith & Putter Smith
Sat 6 Judy Platt
Sun 7 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guerro, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Tues 9 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge (EARLY THIS WEEK !!)
Rodeo Drivers, 8:30 PM - 10:30 PM
Wed 10 So Cal Jazz Co. Big Band with John Fick, 7:30 PM - 10:30 PM
Thur 11 Fuzzy Logic Boplet
Fri 12 Jack Sheldon's California Cool Quartet
Sat 13 CLOSED FOR PRIVATE EVENT
Sun 14 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM PCC Jazz Improvisation Ensembles
Tue 16 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge (EARLY THIS WEEK)
Wed 17 SONG SIRENS a collective of LA's female singer songwriters
Thur 19 Mercy & the Merketts Dance party !!
Sun 21 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guerro, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Tues 23 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge (EARLY THIS WEEK !!)
Wed 24 Remember When Vocal ensemble
Thur 25 The Fabulous Gil Bernal
Fri 26 Swing Dancing with Flat Top Tom & the Jump Cats
Sat 27 The Superstitions
Sun 28 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guerro
Tues 30 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge (EARLY THIS WEEK !!)



TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

Tipping in Lean Times

No I don't claim to be an economist, (even though Economics was my major in College), I have noticed a cut back at many of the restaurants that I frequent. Seems there is one less bus boy, one less host and service has suffered. So what to do? Is there a new strategy in the tipping dept? I say no. You are still tipping on quality of service.

Tipping is well, to insure good service. But wait, to insure good service in advance? Only at Starbuck's would that make any sense. Very few times have I gone to a restaurant and actually tipped in advance. Opening day at The Race Track at Del Mar is the only occasion I can even remember having to tip in advance. The reason is there are very few seats available for the overflow crowd. Thus, the maitre'd just takes the tip and that really doesn't insure great service at all.

Let's get straight to it. When at a restaurant, you tip on the speed and accuracy of service not on the food. So with that being said, let's

continue on. I have heard that tipping at a fancy restaurant and tipping at a coffee shop are different. Hogwash!!!

These are my tips for tipping - not necessarily the way I tip. I even give 10% for really bad service. Seems with my picture in this paper and on my TV show "The Chef Knows" that I might get a bad rep from the Server Syndicate.

Here are my suggestions for you. Again no matter where you are.

Fair to medium service 12 to 14 %
Good to Better then Average 15 to 18%
Great Service 20%
Can't figure the whole percentage on tipping. Best way is to just double the tax.

Let me answer a few questions. Valet Parking... If there is no charge and it's a tip only, I suggest at least \$5, again depending on speed of service. What if there is a \$5 fee? I will give at least \$1 extra and maybe even \$3 if my car is brought to me quickly. How about Wine or a drink at the bar? A full bottle of a \$10 wine takes as much energy as a bottle of Dom Perignon to open. So, if the bartender keeps my glass full and clean and if the wine is kept cold and is poured for me, I suggest 10 to 12% with a minimum of \$3 for the bartender. Have Kids? Sure I do. Sometimes they make a mess, throw food and crayons on the floor. I always leave the busboy at least \$3!!! If you don't, well you could consider cleaning it yourself.

Helpful? We review tipping again in a few weeks.

Email me at the chefknows@yahoo.com with your thoughts. Join me every Saturday afternoons at 3PM on KJLA TV for the Chef Knows. And now Charter Cable subscribers can check out my reviews on CNN Headline News.



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Looking Up With Bob Eklund

When the Sky Fell: Asteroids May Have Accelerated Life on Earth

A NASA-funded study indicates that an intense asteroid bombardment nearly 4 billion years ago may not have sterilized the early Earth as completely as previously thought. The asteroids, some the size of Kansas, possibly even provided a boost for early life.

The study focused on a particularly cataclysmic occurrence known as the Late Heavy Bombardment, or LHB. This event occurred approximately 3.9 billion years ago and lasted 20 to 200 million years. In a letter published in the May 21 issue of Nature magazine titled "Microbial Habitability of the Hadean Earth during the Late Heavy Bombardment," Oleg Abramov and Stephen J. Mojzsis, astrobiologists at the University of Colorado's Department of Geological Sciences, report on the results of a computer modeling project designed to study the heating of Earth by the bombardment.

Results from their project show that while the Late Heavy Bombardment might have generated enough heat to sterilize Earth's surface, microbial life in subsurface and underwater environments almost certainly would have survived.

"Exactly when life originated on Earth is a hotly debated topic," said Michael H. New, the

astrobiology discipline scientist and manager of the Exobiology and Evolutionary Biology Program at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "These findings are significant because they indicate that if life had begun before the LHB or some time prior to 4 billion years ago, it could have survived in limited refuges and then expanded to fill our world."

"Our new results point to the possibility life could have emerged about the same time that evidence for our planet's oceans first appears," said Mojzsis, principal investigator of the project.

A growing scientific consensus is that during our solar system's formation, planetary bodies were pummeled by debris throughout the Late Heavy Bombardment. A visual record of the event is preserved in the form of the scarred face of our moon. On Earth, all traces of the bombardment appear to have been erased by rock recycling forces like weathering, volcanoes or other conditions that cause the crust to move or change.

Surface habitats for microbial life on early Earth would have been destroyed repeatedly by the bombardment. However, at the same time, impacts could have created subsurface habitats for life, such as extensive networks of cracks or even hydrothermal vents. Any existing microbial

life on Earth could have found refuge in these habitats. If life had not yet emerged on Earth by the time of the bombardment, these new subsurface environments could have been the place where terrestrial life emerged.

"Even under the most extreme conditions we imposed on our model, the bombardment could not have sterilized Earth completely," said Abramov, lead author of the paper. "Our results are in line with the scientific consensus that hyperthermophilic ("heat-loving") microbes could have been the earliest life forms on Earth, or survivors from an even more ancient biosphere. The results also support the potential for the persistence of microbial biospheres on other planetary bodies whose surfaces were reworked by the bombardment, including Mars."

For more information about NASA's astrobiology activities, visit: <http://astrobiology.nasa.gov>
You can contact Bob at: b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com

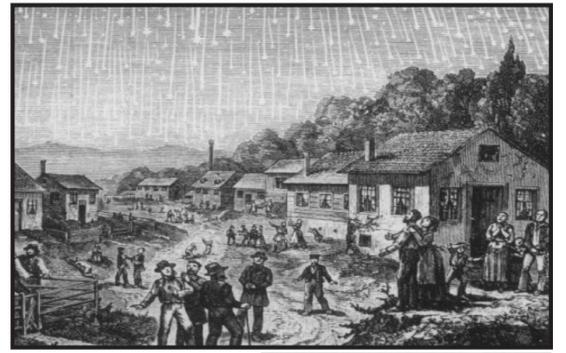


Photo by Aaron Dominquez

On Line The Chinese Version of the Internet

with P.J. Carpenter

The Internet as we know it here in the US is a literal pathway to thousands of repositories of knowledge on just about any subject that one could wonder about at any given point in time. Often the made-up information available about a subject is even better than the actual information available on the subject at hand, even if only for the entertainment value alone. Internet experts guess-timate that as much as 60% of all email traveling on the Internet is Spam. There is a strong suspicion that a large part of the remaining percentage is copies of chain e-mails, jokes, YouTube links and other miscellany that can probably be best described as semi-spam, as it comes from known sources. Whether one thinks of this state of affairs as a huge waste of resources that could be used for more serious matters or not it is a very definite indicator of just how Free communication is on the Internet in the West. Individuals and Business entities actually have the ability to waste our time and resources in the name of Free Speech and Free Enterprise specifically because Free Speech is so highly valued and protected here in the West.

In China such is not the case. Here are a few points of difference about Internet Usage and Access between the US and China as reported by Network World Magazine in the May 12 issue:

The Chinese Government is believed to employ tens of thousands of censors whose primary job is to monitor subversive sources posting on

the Internet and delete offensive or subversive material. ISPs and other Internet entities are routinely forced to stop posting offending material under the threat of very real criminal prosecution.

The Chinese Government uses Internet mechanisms such as DNS to control what sites its population may access on sites outside of its borders. Foreign correspondents often report being unable to establish communications with their home offices outside of Chinese Government approved channels.

The Chinese Government often has the full cooperation of US and other Western nations and corporations in enforcing its brand of censorship on Internet access for its citizens.

For all of its efforts the Chinese Government has an Internet that is less congested with spam traffic (China produces about 4% of the world's spam while the US is the point of origin of 42% of the world's spam), has a user population that is less targeted for malicious activity such as phishing (7% for China, 31% for the US) and is developing the Next Generation IPv6 Backbone to deliver high-quality IP Services and Application for widespread use to all users of its citizens with Internet access.

Some would argue that the price paid for a safer Internet may actually be worth the cost in terms of Freedom. That depends on who you are and what you want the Internet to do for you.

NASA SELECTS STUDENT ENTRY AS NEW MARS ROVER NAME

NASA's Mars Science Laboratory rover, scheduled for launch in 2011, has a new name, thanks to a sixth-grade student from Kansas. Twelve-year-old Clara Ma from the Sunflower Elementary school in Lenexa submitted the winning entry, "Curiosity." As her prize, Ma wins a trip to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., where she will be invited to sign her name



Clara Ma, a 6th-grader from Lenexa, Kansas suggested the name, Curiosity, for NASA's next Mars rover!

directly onto the rover as it is being assembled.

A NASA panel selected the name following a nationwide student contest that attracted more than 9,000 proposals via the Internet and mail. The panel primarily took into account the quality of submitted essays. Name suggestions from the Mars Science Laboratory project leaders and a non-binding public poll also were considered.

"Students from every state suggested names for this rover. That's testimony to the excitement Mars missions spark in our next generation of explorers," said Mark Dahl, the mission's program executive at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "Many of the nominating essays were excellent and several of the names would have fit well. I am especially pleased with the choice, which recognizes something universally human and essential to science."

Ma decided to enter the rover-naming contest after she heard about it at her school. "I was really interested in space, but I thought space was something I could only read about in books and look at during the night from so far away," Ma said. "I thought that I would never be able to get close to it, so for me, naming the Mars rover would at least be one step closer."

"Curiosity is an everlasting flame that burns in everyone's mind. It makes me get out of bed in the morning and wonder what surprises life will throw at me that day,"

Ma wrote in her winning essay. "Curiosity is such a powerful force. Without it, we wouldn't be who we are today. Curiosity is the passion that drives

us through our everyday lives. We have become explorers and scientists with our need to ask questions and to wonder."

The naming contest was conducted in partnership with Disney-Pixar's animated film "WALL-E." The activity invited ideas from students 5 - 18

years old enrolled in a U.S. school. The contest started in November 2008. Entries were accepted until midnight Jan. 25.

Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures supplied the prizes for the contest, including 30 for semifinalists related to WALL-E." Nine finalists have been invited to provide messages to be placed on a microchip mounted on Curiosity. The microchip also will contain the names of thousands of people around the world who have "signed" their names electronically via the Internet. Additional electronic signatures still are being accepted via the Internet.

"We have been eager to call the rover by name," said Pete Theisinger, who manages the JPL team building and testing Curiosity. "Giving it a name worthy of this mission's quest means a lot to the people working on it."

Curiosity will be larger and more capable than any craft previously sent to land on the Red Planet. It will check to see whether the environment in a selected landing region ever has been favorable for supporting microbial life and preserving evidence of life. The rover also will search for minerals that formed in the presence of water and look for several chemical building blocks of life.

The Mars Science Laboratory project is managed



Artist concept of Mars Science Laboratory. Photos courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech

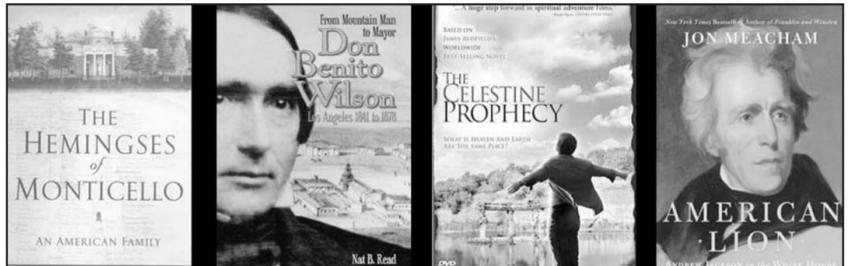
by JPL for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

For more information about the mission and the contest winner, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/msl>.

To send your name on the rover microchip, visit: <http://marsprogram.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/participate/sendyourname>

JPL is managed for NASA by the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

Jeff's Pics The Book Reports



The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family by Annette Gordon-Reed

This book is the 2009 Pulitzer Prize history winner. Historian and legal scholar Annette Gordon-Reed traces the Hemings family from its beginnings in Virginia in the 1700s to the family's movements after Jefferson's death in 1826. It brings to life not only Sally Hemings and Thomas Jefferson but also their children and Hemings's siblings, who shared a father with Jefferson's wife, Martha. The book sets the family's interesting saga against the background of Revolutionary America, Paris on the eve of their own revolution, 1790s Philadelphia, and plantation life at Monticello. One of the most in-depth history of an American slave family ever written.

Don Benito Wilson: From Mountain Man to Mayor Los Angeles 1841 to 1878 by Nat B. Read

He established our own Mt. Wilson Trail originally for lumber. As the second mayor of Los Angeles, Wilson's legacy lives on most famously in the name of Mount Wilson. But Wilson was also a prominent war captain, a State Senator, a founding father of the U.S.C. and the grandfather of General George S. Patton Jr. His life parallels and is at the center of the rise of Los Angeles whether involving industry, agriculture, politics or transportation. In this comprehensive biography the author documents Wilson's incredible impact on Southern California, including his many landholdings, which would later become Pasadena, Culver City, Beverly Hills, Westwood, etc. Thru following Wilson's life we get a look at the wild history and goings on of a most important time in the growth of Los Angeles.

The Celestine Prophecy by James Redfield

One of the most popular spiritual books of the 20th century this novel discusses various psychological and spiritual ideas which are based in Eastern Traditions. The main character of the novel undertakes a journey to find and understand a series of nine spiritual insights taken from an ancient manuscript in Peru. The book is told in first person narrative about the narrator's spiritual awakening as he goes through a transitional period of his life. Can be life changing!

American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House by Jon Meacham

This book is the winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Biography. Andrew Jackson, his close circle of friends, and his tumultuous times are at the center of this interesting book about the man who rose from nothing to create the modern presidency. Beloved and hated, Jackson was an orphan who fought his way to the height of power, bending the nation to his will in the cause of democracy. Jackson's election in 1828 started a new and lasting era in which the people, not distant elites, were the guiding force in American politics. Author Jon Meacham goes inside the Jackson White House. Drawing on newly discovered family letters and papers, he details the family, the women, and the inner group of advisers that shaped Jackson's private world through years of storm and victory. Jackson was a pivotal president who forever changed the American presidency and America itself. Jon Meacham is the editor of Newsweek, a commentator on politics, history, and religious faith in America. He also wrote *Franklin and Winston: An Intimate Portrait of an Epic Friendship*

Dreier Recognizes Youth Volunteers

ARCADIA, CA - Congressman David Dreier (R-San Dimas) presented awards to the winner and participants of his 2009 Youth Volunteer Award Program on Wednesday evening at the Arcadia Community Center. Parents, students and community leaders were present to honor the high school students who participated in the program, now in its 23rd year.

"Each year I am so impressed by the commitment and dedication these young people show in the service they provide to their communities, schools and for various organizations," Dreier said. "These honorees are our future leaders and we can all learn from their example. In addition to recognizing these great volunteers, I want to congratulate their parents, teachers and mentors for encouraging and supporting them."

Sixty-three high school students from throughout the San Gabriel Valley and Inland Empire participated in this year's program. Dreier began the annual award program in 1986 to honor area high school students for their volunteer community service. To participate, students submitted an application, wrote an essay on volunteerism, and provided a letter of recommendation. They were then interviewed by a board of community leaders about their volunteer activities.

This year's winner is Shalyn Smith of Rancho Cucamonga. The Los Osos High School student volunteers for the Rancho Cucamonga library's reading program, assisted Phi Beta Sigma's Christmas Toy Drive and the "Wrapping for Inclusion" program that benefits children with

disease. Shalyn also devotes her time to "The Giving Spirit", an organization focused on helping the homeless, mobilizing her fellow students to assemble survival kits for the homeless and delivering them to those in need.

First Runner-Up Benjamin Coupe of San Marino attends Loyola High School volunteers at his school's inner city tutoring program and serves at Pasadena's Union Station homeless shelter helping make and serve food, washing dishes and cleaning the kitchen. Ben is also Loyola High

School's liaison to Habitat for Humanity, helping build and paint houses in the Azusa area. Second Runner-Up Kate Sim of Walnut attends the Webb School in Claremont where she was elected Global Citizen Corps Leader and through the

Corps, hosted World Food Day, World Aids Day and Climate Change Day. Kate has also been very involved with Habitat for Humanity, being honored with their national "Building the Future" award. Third Runners-Up are Jared Iverson, La Crescenta, for his volunteer service with the Special Olympics, YMCA, American Cancer Society and "Operation Gratitude" for our armed forces; Edward Laurance, South Pasadena, for his volunteer service at Pasadena's Union Station and Loyola High School's "Urban Plunge" a program focused on helping those on skid row; and, Lily Vartanyan, La Canada Flintridge, for her volunteer service at Ararat Retirement Home providing weekly musical concerts and a music library for the seniors to enjoy.





The Senior Spot

By Bruce Lamarche

Mt. Wilson Trail Race- Portrait of a Winner

Many people are conditioned to think of "getting old" as a process of becoming less than we were at one time. This comes from a society that idolizes youth and treats the word "old" as a negative term. Well, it's time that we rethink this!

Meet a winner from the Mt. Wilson Trail Race held Saturday, May 23rd. His name is Lono Tyson. He is an athlete who has participated in a number of marathons as a runner in the last few years and has run the Trail Race for many years. Recently he participated in a 5K Triathlon involving running, bicycling, and swimming. In addition he snowboards in the winter and surfs in the summer.

I and many others declare him a winner in this annual race for three reasons. One is that he even participated; so many of us don't. Two, that he finished with style . . . and three, that he is 82 years old!

After a delightful conversation with Mr. Tyson, I discovered that he is only 35 years old "in his head". That's a direct quote. While his body feels older than in times past, he chooses mentally to be young. Is there a lesson here? I think so. We are what we imagine ourselves to be.

This modest man almost decided not to run the race after so many years because he knew he would keep the race officials at their posts longer than the last runner before him. Being courteous, he had this concern; yet he ran. While most had left knowing all but one

had returned, some of us stayed to cheer him as he arrived back to finish the race in less than four hours. This is a champion and an example for all of us. Many of the spectators who left missed the opportunity to see a champion do at 82 years old what most of them would never do at any age. Again, we need to rethink our definition of age and shift our youth oriented praise to the elders of our society.

It is interesting that of the over 100 runners of the race, thirty were over sixty years old and six were over 70. Among the seniors running was Dr. Bill White who also crossed the finish line in style, at 73 years young!

All runners of this race are to be commended for finishing. I would

ask that those of us who did not participate consider the lessons shown here. Not everyone is physically able to do a race like this. However, we all should consider what we can imagine ourselves doing and go for it. Seniors are starting to reject the stereotyping of being old in favor of being an elder who can do most anything we decide to do. Congratulations, Mr. Tyson, and thank you for your example.

Got a question? Ask 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 (Glendora) helps seniors make an informed decision about obtaining a reverse mortgage. www.LASeniorMortgage.com



SENIOR HAPPENINGS...

By Pat Birdsall

FYI: June is Adopt-a-cat Month

The country's animal shelters are overflowing with eligible cat and kittens awaiting homes. Need incentive to adopt? According to the Berlin Longevity Institute, cats can add as much as 10 years to their owners' lives! Many of history's greatest visionaries were inspired by cats. Said Albert Schweitzer, "There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats."

Please consider opening your home and your heart to a feline companion... You will not be sorry.

~Helpful Hints~

Using nail polish for repairs: 1) If you sat on your eyeglasses and one lens has a small crack, seal the crack on both sides with a thin coat of nail polish. That will hold it together until you get to the optometrist's office. 2) Plug a small hole in your cooler by sealing it with two coats of nail polish. This will keep ice and other melted substances in.

Recipe of the Week: Spinach Dip



Ingredients:

- * 1 onion, chopped
- * 2 cloves garlic, minced
- * 1/3 cup butter
- * 2 cups flour
- * 2 Tbs sugar
- * 1 Tbs baking powder
- * 1/4 tsp pepper
- * 1/2 tsp salt
- * 1/3 cup half and half
- * 1 egg, beaten
- * butter

Directions:

- 1) Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. In small microwave-safe bowl, combine onion, garlic and butter. Microwave on high for 2 minutes, and then stir. Microwave for another 1-2 minutes or until onion is tender. Remove from microwave and let cool for 10 minutes.
- 2) Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and pepper in large bowl and stir to mix. Add sautéed onions with the butter remaining in the bowl, milk and egg. Stir until just combined. Gently press the dough together with your hands to form a ball.
- 3) On ungreased cookie sheet, press dough into an 8" circle. Cut the circle into 8 wedges, like you were cutting a pie. Separate the wedges slightly. Bake at 400 degrees for 12-15 minutes until lightly browned. Brush with more butter and serve immediately.



Happy Birthday! - John Shier, June 11

For Your Funny Bone

A man calls home to his wife and says, "Honey, I've been asked to go fishing at a big lake up in Canada with my boss and several of his friends. We'll be gone for a week. This is a good opportunity for me to get that promotion I've been wanting, so would you please pack me enough clothes for a week and set out my rod and tackle box? We're leaving from the office so I'll swing by the house to pick up my things. Oh! And please pack my new blue silk pajamas." The wife thinks this sounds a little fishy but being a good wife she does exactly what her husband asked. The following weekend he comes home a little tired but otherwise looking good. His wife welcomes him home and asks if he caught many fish. He says, "Yes, lots of Walleye, some Bluegill and a few Pike. But, why didn't you pack my new blue silk pajamas like I asked you to?" She answers, "I did, they're in your tackle box."

Mrs. Whembleton decided to have her portrait painted. She told the artist, "Paint me with diamond earrings, a diamond necklace, emerald bracelets and a ruby pendant." "But, Madam, you're not wearing any of those things." "True enough," said Mrs. Whembleton. "If I should predecease my dear husband I know he will remarry right away, and I want his new wife to go stark raving mad looking for the jewelry!"

Quote:

One should examine oneself for a very long time before thinking of condemning others.

~Moliere~

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: Free strength Training Class with volunteer Lisa Brandley 1:00-1:45
Tuesday: Bingo- 1:30PM- 3:30 PM .25c per card
 Yoga- 5:30 PM- 7:00PM Instructor Andrea Walsh- \$6.50 for seniors (50 and over.)

Call 355-5278 for more information.

Wednesday: 1st & 3rd Wednesday-Community Lunch & Learn Program

Thursday: Game Day- 1:00PM- 3:30PM- Poker, UNO, Scrabble, Cribbage, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, Pinochle...you name it.

Yoga- 5:00 PM- 6:30 PM \$6.50 for seniors (50 and over) Call 355-5278 for more information

Friday: Ping-Pong 1:30 PM

Saturday: Senior Club for those 55 and older- Brown bag lunch at 11:30AM Meeting at Noon- Bingo at 12:30 PM- only .25c per card

The Santa Anita Bowling Green Club will be having beginning lawn bowling lessons each Saturday morning starting at 10 AM. Anyone interested come by the park before 10 AM. For information call Gene at 626-351-5327. FREE!

Senior Opportunities and Excursions



Monthly Excursions:

Dodger Game- July 1 at 12:10 pm (tickets are limited & seats are in the shade)

Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach- July 10 at 4:30 pm

Hollywood Bowl- August 21- An evening of Jazz with Diana Krall

Free Blood Pressure Clinic- Second Tuesday of each month 11:00 AM- Noon No appointment necessary

Senior Stretch and Balance- A free class designed by volunteer instructor Teryl Willis, for seniors to refresh the joints, soothe the spine, and improve balance. Come and join in some simple and gentle exercises, a little light yoga, and a bit of easy tai chi. On Wednesdays at 11:00 am.

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 homebound seniors by volunteer drivers through the YWCA Intervale Lunch Program M-F (with frozen meals for the weekend.) \$2.00 suggested donation per day. Call Susan Garcia at (626) 858-8382 for more information.



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See the "Senior Spot" column weekly!

Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son...

(Stole a pig and away he run.) by Dorothy White

Tom was an honest boy and he had not stolen the pig. Because the pig was the runt of the litter, a kindly farmer had given the scrawny little creature to Tom. Tom's vegetarian parents were far from being overjoyed about their son's acquisition, but they did allow him to keep the pig as a pet.

Tom named his new pet Primrose. Since his family lived on a farm, it was no problem to indulge Primrose with rich cream, eggs and corn. With this diet Primrose became plump and pretty. Furthermore, she which endeared her to

There was one strange

When Tom took her for a

leash he had made for her,

and would begin pawing

giving little squeals. It was

tell him something. It was

listened closely and realized

(Primrose was a French

do? They dig for truffles...
subterranean delicacies.

With this discovery,

making weekly trips to the

truffles that sold at a very high price. Tom's father, who had been a piper with a rock band,

gave up his musical career, which he had always disliked because it involved so much time on the road, and concentrated on the truffle business.

A spacious sty was built for Primrose where she lived out her life in contentment. When she gave up truffle digging, she taught the skill to her piglets who took over, keeping the Farmer's Market supplied with truffles for the gourmet trade for years to come.



had a pleasant personality

family and friends.

thing about Primrose.

walk around the farm on a

she made frequent stops

in the dirt, all the while

as though she was trying to

puzzling, but one day Tom

she was saying "Oui, oui,"

pig). What do French pigs

those very expensive,

Tom and his family began

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One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them*

By Chris Bertrand



Chris Bertrand

Cottage in the Canyon Morphs into a Magnificent Craftsman

Tom Cullen's extensive experience creating sets for the entertainment industry provided him with the tools and the ability to take vision into reality. What was once a nearly century old, 571 square foot summer cottage has gained a new life as the central core of a truly magnificent, 2515 square foot Craftsman... built by a true Craftsman; no... built by a true Renaissance Man.

At work, Cullen excels at the art of creating the illusion of a setting, efficiently, quickly and with an authentic appearance. At home, he prides himself on building the real thing with the best of materials. None of that faux stone stuff here. Through his work, Cullen knows just where to access the tumbled round stones similar to the ones used to construct the century old stone walls prevalent here in the Canyon.

The wood milled for the interior doors and trims came from old growth, Canadian fir, harvested in the early 1900's. Cullen points out the tight rings on the woodwork, indicating three to four centuries of growth in just the width of the window trim. The clear red oak floors give a rich warm foundation to the rooms, lit by a varying, soft green palette of paints on the interior, and the mature landscape from the outside.

Several of the lighting fixtures are custom gems, and some hark back to the 1920's. The dining area boasts hand beaded, vintage fabrics on the shades. The master suite includes a fixture with Thomas Edison, hand-blown reproduction bulbs for a period effect.

Even the cabinetry, crafted from the Douglas fir, came straight from Cullen's head to his workshop to the kitchen, baths, and to the stunning dual built-ins for the master suite. Cullen did rely on exceptional furniture maker, Stickley, for most of the pieces throughout the home. They feature inlaid details in the Craftsman style, in complementary woods.

When his real estate agent suggested a balcony for the master suite, it magically appeared a short time later. Cullen's experience laying out a set project, pre-cutting the parts, then masterfully assembling the project like a set of Tinker Toys, allowed him to create the balcony from start to finish quickly. "Not many people can envision a complete project like that," chuckles Cullen, "but it's the key to quick and accurate construction."

When he purchased the cottage in 1990, it was a very modest structure known as "The Wildwood Cabin." A quarter mile up Woodland Drive from Mary's Market, it was built

in the heart of Sierra Madre's eclectic enclave, known simply as "The Canyon."

A mountain creek gurgles along the property's perimeter part of the year. Cullen created a rock waterfall into the 12-person, in-ground spa to provide the soothing sounds of water spilling over rocks upon command, summer or winter. Dramatic night lighting illuminates the quarter acre of trees and mature landscape, creating an ambience that can be enjoyed inside or out.

Cullen loves to entertain, and built the home to accommodate a great party with a wide, circular traffic flow between the living room and the kitchen-dining room. Both areas open to the deep, post and beam porch through French doors. The porch, which runs the length of the home, is anchored by a gorgeous hand-laid wall of river-tumbled rock.

Two things are unusual about this Canyon property. Since many of the homes were initially summer cabins, the lots are usually teeny tiny. Wildwood, however, offers .30 usable acres, with a generous lawn, huge spa and waterfall, plus an attached two car garage and onsite parking for two guest cars (very unusual for the Canyon!). If there's a large party, a nearby parking area can be rented from Nature Friends.

With five bedrooms and four baths, the home now includes two main floor bedroom suites with private baths. One main floor bedroom suite also opens through French doors to the front yard, with its own covered patio slightly removed from the living areas. This suite is ideal for use as a guest or au pair suite. The second main floor bedroom is currently configured as a home office.

The home can be sold literally as a turn-key residence. Nearly all the furniture and accessories (many from his sister's Studio City home décor store, Marlow Artistic Furnishings) are available for separate sale. Cullen's ready for a new challenge, probably in Hawaii when this home sells.

As he points out, "The Stickley furniture and hand-made Pakistan rugs were specially ordered to fit and be-jewel each room, so I view it all as a complete set. I'm a destination person. When one project's finished and I've reach that destination, I'm always immensely proud of the work I've done, but I'm totally ready to move on to the next one. The Hawaii house is already evolving in my head."

803 Woodland Drive in Sierra Madre was just listed at \$1,169,475 by mother and daughter team, Gloria and Kim Dear, of Webb Martin Dickson Podley Realtors. For more information on this property, contact the agents at 626-355-2384 or visit www.DicksonPodley.com.

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460 SIERRA KEYS, SIERRA MADRE
 Open House Sun 1-4. Fabulous Location \$729,000
 A quiet cul-de-sac location with wonderful mountain views, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has a family room, master bedroom suite, formal and informal dining, CA/FA, hardwood floors, new laminate flooring in family room and kitchen, fireplace, covered patio, pool, large spa, grassy play area and 2 car detached garage. Great floor plan. (S460)



SIERRA MADRE
 More Home than Townhome \$619,000 A wraparound yard and patio on two sides of this home provide privacy and lush landscaping to this unique townhome. A generous 1877 square feet with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, breakfast den, formal dining area, separate laundry room, spacious living room with fireplace, ceramic tile floors, CA/FA, high ceilings, two sets of sliding doors, direct access two car garage. (E103)



ALTADENA
 Quiet Neighborhood \$448,000 Beautiful north Altadena home featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gorgeous master bedroom with huge sunken tub, vaulted ceilings & sky lights. Large dining area, large kitchen with lots of cabinets & storage. (W303)



626 W. COLORADO BLVD, MONROVIA.
 Historic Victorian \$699,000 Located close to Old Town Monrovia this Historic two story 2426 sq.ft. character home features 4 bedrooms, dining room, family room, built-ins, central air & heat, 2 fireplaces and 2 baths. This is truly a "must see" home. (C626)



3542 MARYBETH, ROSEMEAD.
 Open House Sunday 2-4 Don't Miss This One! \$498,000 Located in Rosemead this 1540 sq.ft. 3 bedrooms, 1.75 baths, newer roof, separate formal dining room and eat in kitchen, master suite with bath 6812 sq.ft. lot., attached garage. (M3542)

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Bush Roses – Easy To Have Around

There are several spectacular bush roses readily available to us in our local nurseries, some are well know to the avid gardener, while others, to my amazement, still remain unfamiliar. Needless to say, they are no substitute for stem roses if you want cut flowers in the house (stem roses hold the flower longer once cut, give you much more length on a longer stem and are unlimited in variety and color.)

Bush roses on the other hand are very heavy bloomers, generally don't get any taller than 2' to 3' and require "shearing" rather than pruning in January. In addition to all these good traits, they generally are pest and disease free. Rust and black spot, the major trouble makers to roses, seem to play a lesser role with bush roses. They work wonderfully as a showy hedge or can be incorporated in planting areas to compliment your existing landscape. The most impressive ones, and the lesser known are

Tomora - 3' high
 Compact rose, with gorgeous apricot-pink-yellow flower. Shaped like deep cups in the style of the romantic roses of past centuries. Leaves have a red tinge to them which makes a stunning contrast to the flower. Scented.

Gruss aus Bayern (Greetings from Bavaria)
 Deep red, medium sized flowers. Heavy bloomer. Blooms practically all year round. Easily grows to 3', maybe a little taller.

Simplicities
 White and red simplicities are very attractive and take quite a bit of shade compared to other bush roses. When kept at about 2' they are generally quite good bloomers, not anywhere as impressive as the (other two) above mentioned, and fill out nicely. Left to grow any taller they tend to look rather "skinny". They also come in pink and yellow. The pink is definitely the least attractive of the bunch. The yellow is awfully good looking. The leaf is such a dark green, and shiny, so it complements the yellow wonderfully.

In my opinion, these are excellent choices for your garden. All roses need full sun, light afternoon shade (later in the day) is good in the hot months. Remember, good drainage is essential, as with all plants, and don't forget to feed them throughout the growing season. If you mulch the soil around the base of the rose, you will help conserve the moisture and keep down the weeds at the same time. *Stella Binns - Barristers Nursery and Garden Center*

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Travel Around The Globe: THE MIDDLE EAST WE HAVE FORGOTTEN

Editors Note: Daily, we hear so much about the turmoil in the world that we forget the many vibrant and rich cultures that exist and are very much a part of our history. Periodically, we shall take a look at the many places across the globe that are well worth visiting. I can tell you from personal experience, that traveling abroad will be a rewarding experience that you will never forget regardless of your culture and/or religious beliefs. We encourage traveler's to submit articles of their experiences abroad to share with others. You may inspire someone to take the trip of a lifetime! For your review this month we have a jewel of the Middle East - Jordan.

Jordan – a visit to the Hashemite Kingdom



Jordan is filled with amazing historical treasures. Biblical landmarks, Greco-Roman cities, crusaders fortresses, and a modern culture with strong ties to the West. While it is often visited as an add-on to a trip to Egypt or to Israel, Jordan has more than enough treasures to make it a destination all on its own.

Petra – UNESCO describes this rose red city, sculpted from a mountain range by the Nabataeans in the Third Century BC as “one of the most precious cultural properties of Man’s cultural heritage.”

Wadi Rum – “Vast, echoing and God-like” was how Lawrence of Arabia described Wadi Rum, the largest and most magnificent of Jordan’s desert landscapes. Bedouin’s still inhabit this area living among their camels and livestock a life run by the seasons, little changed by modern society, although they do accept some modern conveniences. Spend a night in the desert, take a camel or four-wheel drive trek, walk the sands and listen to the sounds of ancient rock formations.

Jerash – Crossroads of Civilization, remarkable for its unbroken chain of human occupation. Here in the hills of Gilead are remains from Neolithic times, as well as Greek, Roman, Byzantine and Omayyad civilizations. The Roman city equals the ruins at Ephesus, with chariot grooves carved in the stone of the amphitheatre – which is still in use for programs and concerts more than 2000 years after it was built.

Kerak – along the 5000 year old Kings Highway, this is the most impressive remains of a series of Crusader forts and outposts. Protected by a 3200 feet deep canyon, this fortress of underground galleries and secret passageways holds testament to the brave Crusaders who held out bravely for over 100 years.

Madaba - this city has a Greek Orthodox Church housing a 6th Century Byzantine mosaic map. It also is a place to shop for ceramics, local handicrafts and Dead Sea health and beauty products.

Mount Nebo –where Moses saw the Promised Land, and tradition claims this is also the site of his burial. Views of the Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, and even the rooftops of Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Aqaba – on the Red Sea has some of the best coral reefs of the area. Jordan has a year round resort area of beach hotels here, as well as at the Dead Sea.

Zoar – Lot’s Cave, and the site archaeologists believe were the two cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Navigating Jordan on your own is still a bit difficult, however the cost for a driver and guide are reasonable enough that you can still afford to travel on your own or with a few friends, if you are not interested in joining an escorted group tour. While many travelers still combine Jordan with a trip to Syria, Israel or Egypt, it’s become much easier to reach from the West Coast.

Emirates Air, the airline of the United Arab Emirates, began daily non-stop service from LAX and San Francisco to Dubai on May 1, with some of the worlds best in flight service, including private individual suites in First Class, and onboard showers. From there it is an easy connection to Amman, Jordan, and to combine these two US friendly Arab countries on one trip just seems to make sense. The very newest lands on earth, with Dubai’s expansion into the Gulf of Arabia on manmade islands, with one of the most ancient cradles of humanity in Jordan.

There are also good connections through Europe to Amman on a variety of airlines, for example, Air France with one change in Paris, Lufthansa thru Frankfurt, British Air or Virgin Atlantic via London, or fly to New York and take Royal Jordanian or Delta non-stop from there.

While Petra is probably a ‘must see’ on most travelers lists, Jordan has so much more and is indeed a active archaeological focus with new discoveries still being made, and amazing sites which get relatively few visitors. Please expand your travel plans to include more of Jordan!

For more information on tours to Jordan: www.yallatours.com/jordan or www.visitjordan.com

Planning A Greener Vacation

Finding ways to make vacations greener—while being sure they still deliver plenty of fun—has become a top priority for many family travelers. In fact, more than 55 million Americans are interested in sustainable travel, according to the Travel Industry Association of America. If you’re among them, the following tips can help:

Greener Transportation

Those driving to their destinations can take steps to get the maximum fuel efficiency from their vehicles. Be certain tires are properly inflated, that the engine is well tuned and that you are not carrying any unnecessary weight. Also, map out a direct route to your destination to help save gas. If you are flying to your vacation spot, you might consider airlines that offer CO2 offsets. The offsets can be purchased to help fund green projects—such as building solar panels or tree planting—as a way to reduce the total amount of carbon in the atmosphere, and your vacation’s carbon footprint.

And Of Course, There Is No Place Like Home!

Those sticking close to home this year might try something as simple as spending the night as a family outdoors, away from the TV and computer. Just pitch a tent in your backyard for the fun of a camping trip with all the luxuries of home. Here are some ideas to try out:

- **Neighborhood Block Party**—Plan a community potluck barbecue where each neighbor brings a different contribution. Each family can find great deals on festive paper products to help them celebrate in style.
- **Ice Cream Social**—Work with your children to make homemade ice cream, cones and toppings.
- **Plant a Family Garden**—Look for festive gardening tools just for kids designed by children’s author David Kirk. The brightly colored characters can inspire gardening greatness.
- **Home Movie Theater**—If it’s rainy or too hot, opt for an affordable movie day with the latest DVD releases. Create a cozy setting with comfy pillows and blankets and add a special touch with movie theater-style food like popcorn and candy.
- **Family Game Day**—Any day is a perfect time for board game fun. Look for sales on games and put away a few options for an unexpected cloudy day. Add to the fun by picking up small low-cost prizes like candy, stickers and small toys for the winners. Games can be played indoors or out - your choice.

Greener Destinations

Check out vacation spots that are certified as eco friendly. For instance, Travel Green Wisconsin is a voluntary program that reviews, certifies and recognizes tourism businesses and organizations that have made a commitment to reducing their environmental impact.

The program’s fun, affordable and green getaways include trips to inns, activities and must-sees at Bayfield and Madeline Island. The picturesque small town serves as a gateway to the stunning Apostle Islands National Lakeshore with 21 gemlike coastal islands that are home to lighthouses, sea caves, hiking trails and blue-water sailing. Eco-conscious lodgers can stay at the Pinehurst Inn at Pike’s Creek and the Bayfield Inn, or a number of other certified-green venues as they shop and eat at Earth-friendly boutiques, restaurants and cafes. There’s even the green Living Adventure company that offers would-be sea kayakers rentals, paddling instruction and guided excursions—including fully outfitted overnight trips.

Similarly, Wisconsin’s Door County offers a variety of eco-tourism options. The area itself provides vacationers with a wonderland of towering bluffs that emerge steeply out of the deep Green Bay waters or gently dip beneath the surface of Lake Michigan. There’s also a variety of lush green vegetation and abundant wildlife, as well as a selection of year-round, green activities.

Vacationers can check out Door County Kayak Tours to explore the region’s waterways, the Art & Nature Center or The Jacobsen Museum at Washington Island, or enjoy a naturalist-guided hike at Ridges Sanctuary. Rock Island State Park, an untouched wilderness, is so pristine that cars and even bikes are not allowed on its shores.

There’s also a “Scenic Overlooks” tour that lets visitors take in some of the peninsula’s most amazing panoramic views as they get a crash course in the geology of Door County.

Green accommodations include the Blacksmith Inn on the Shore, White Pines Victorian Lodge, and Quiet Cottage Bed and Breakfast on the Lake.

The state’s other green getaways include the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest—located in Wisconsin’s Northwoods and covering over a million and a half acres.

For a complete list of green getaways and tips, visit the Web site www.travelgreenwisconsin.com.



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