

**SIERRA MADRE
FARMERS MARKET
NOW OPEN EVERY
WEDNESDAY UNTIL
8 PM**

AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
Monrovia Wins Sawpit Trail Lawsuit *Page 3*
PASADENA
Gold Line Expansion Delayed
Pasadena Joins Foothill Transit Board *Page 4*

SAFETY
What Do You Really Know About Energy? *Page 5*
THE WORLD AROUND US
Oops....What Just Hit Jupiter?
LA Going Google...A Bad Idea? *Page 11*

ONE OF A KIND
The "Perfect" Highland Oaks Home
English rose bushes were lovingly planted inside the white picket fence, opening in a pale pink blush then maturing to white, vine around the expanse of fence that bends with the curved street, to the delight of walkers and drivers in the neighborhood. *Page 13*



Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2009

VOLUME 3 NO. 30

Budget Stalemate Ends Usurping of City Road Funds Averted



City Manager Elaine Aguilar was able to relax a little after the California Legislature passed a budget to fix a 26.3 million dollar deficit without taking gas tax revenue from California cities. That money is used for Sierra Madre's street programs, including the salaries for the city's street crews. Local governments have been very concerned that the state assembly and senate would cure the deficit by cutting off funds. The state plan to withhold property tax revenue "was already taken into account when the 2009-

2010 budget was prepared", said Aguilar. "But, we were very worried about the HOTA funds."

There are deep cuts in this budget aimed at addressing the gaping hole in California Revenue caused by a decline in Sales, Income, Banking and Corporation taxes. Hardest hit will be schools - \$5.7 billion. The budget also includes deep cuts in services for seniors and the infirmed. *Staff/MV News - Photo courtesy Office of the Governor*

1 Carter Extensions Recommended City Council To Vote on Request and Conditions

Developers of the 1 Carter project and their attorneys will come before the Sierra Madre City Council on Tuesday, July 28th and request that the city grant an extension of one year of their vested rights to develop the project and an extension of six months for the Deferred Improvement Agreement (DIA). Both the Final Vested Tract Map and the DIA were initially granted for a period of two years.

The One Carter Project consists of 29 Luxury Homes in Sierra Madre.

While the Vested Tract Map grants the authority to develop the lots as approved, the DIA was an additional agreement entered into by the City Of Sierra Madre and the previous owners, One Carter, LLC in 2007. At that time, the agreement called for the developer to complete numerous improvements including, (partial listing) a Grading Plan, Landscaping Plan, Fencing Plan, Erosion Control Plan, Street Improvement Plan, Storm Drain Improvement Plan and Water and Sewer System

Improvement Plan.

The primary reason cited for the request for extensions is the fact that the previous owner and developer, Dorn Platz, One Carter LLC, et. al., lost control of the project via foreclosure in December 2008. Since that time, the new owners, CS One Carter LLC has attempted to complete the work within the time frame required.

City staff has prepared a report for the council which recommends that both extensions be granted. However, the recommendation requires that the developer meet certain conditions before August 21, 2009.

Conditions for approval include:

1. That the developer executes and assignment and assumption assuming all of the obligations of the DIA including responsibility for all improvements installed whether by the previous owner or not;
2. Payment of an outstanding security of \$110,000;
3. Provide updated bonds for

faithful performance; and

4. Execute an assignment and assumption of the third party fee reimbursement agreement, including the obligation to fund the costs of the formation of a community facilities district, assessment district or Mello-Roos district for the purpose of funding the ongoing maintenance, operation and capital replacement of the clarifier and all other storm drain infrastructure.

The report also indicates that the previously issued Environmental Impact Report findings still apply as there have been no changes in the project.

All of the conditions are recommended to further protect the city "against financial responsibility in project-related costs".

The report also offers alternatives for the council for both the Final Map Extension and the DIA Extension. The council may either grant the recommendations with the conditions as submitted; grant the extensions without conditions; or deny the requests.

Downtown Overlay Zone Repealed

Requirements For Conditional Use Permits Eased By Susan Henderson

For many current Sierra Madre business owners who were considering moving to another location in town, the nightmare is over.

For businesses that want to come to Sierra Madre, the doors have just been opened wider.

After months of discussion, the Council approved the repeal of the infamous 'Downtown Overlay Zone' (DOZ) in an effort to encourage business development in Sierra Madre.

The Ordinance, enacted in 2005, was designed to "prevent development under the existing commercial zone guidelines while the Downtown Specific Plan was under development", according to a presentation made to citizens in 2006.

Since that time, the Sierra

Madreans passed Measure V which protected the downtown area from structures that exceeded 2 stories, 30 feet in height, and 13 units per acre without a vote of the residents. And while Measure V addresses issues of the design of buildings in the downtown area, the issue of 'use' remained a problem.

The DOZ revised the list of permitted businesses in the downtown area and required the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for businesses either not on the list or for businesses that moved from one location to another within the city. The cost to business owners could have been as high as \$3,000.00.

Recently, a spa and a beauty shop that had been doing business in Sierra Madre for years, each wanted to move to another location. Each was required to go through the

CUP process and initially asked to pay substantial fees for the right to move their businesses. While those businesses chose to stay in Sierra Madre and appeal to City Hall, other businesses who were considering Sierra Madre as their home may have been discouraged.

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce was an outspoken critic of the DOZ and hailed its' repeal as a victory for the continued stability of Downtown Sierra Madre.

With the repeal of the DOZ, the city will revert to the previous standards for downtown development with the some significant changes: (partial listing)

1. The list of permitted and conditionally permitted businesses has been updated. Spas, Beauty and/or Barber Shops, for instance, will no longer be required to go

through the CUP process.

2. A new section has been added requiring a CUP for new construction, additions and alterations. Changes (interior or exterior) that don't expand the floor area or increase activity would not be subject to a CUP.

3. The minimum lot area changes from one acre (43,560 sq. ft.) to 3,750 square feet (original minimum size).

4. A plant screen is required to obscure off street parking from view which was the standard prior to the adoption of the DOZ.

5. The standards and incentives for mixed-use were removed because of conflicts with Measure V.

It appears that the changes are in the best interest of the public and for the good of the general welfare of Sierra Madre. A healthy business environment is key to the continued success of the downtown area. Strong retail sales helps generate revenue for the city.

Public Peace, Morals and Welfare Ordinance

The second reading of a City Ordinance that will address the costs of loud parties, gatherings and events will be on the Sierra Madre council agenda Tuesday, July 28th.

The ordinance, if passed, will establish a Police Service Fee and an Administrative Fee that will be assessed for multiple responses against the person responsible and includes the owners of the property, the tenants of the property and the organizers of the party or gathering. The Ordinance calls for the issuance of a warning which indicates that if police are required to respond again within the next 12 hours, the fees will be assessed.

In the event the responsible party is a minor, the parents or guardians will be held responsible.

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Excessive Heat Warning**5-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.**

Mon: Sunny Hi 100s Lows 70s
Tues: Sunny Hi 100s Lows 70s
Wed: Sunny Hi 100s Lows 70s
Thur: Sunny Hi 100s Lows 70s
Fri: Sunny Hi 90s Lows 70s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

The City of Sierra Madre's Summer Fun in the Park

The City of Sierra Madre is offering the Summer Fun in the Park program every Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 am to 10:30 am at the Memorial Park Bandshell, 222 West Sierra Madre Blvd. The program is absolutely free and is for children ages 3 to 10 years. Tuesday activities start July 7 and run through August 25 and emphasize a variety of learning opportunities. Every Thursday starting July 9 through August 27 children are able to get out and get active with a fitness based program offered by Competitive Athlete Training Zone (CATZ). For Thursdays remember to bring sneakers, shorts, a t-shirt, and a water bottle. If you have questions about the program or would like specific program information please call the Community and Personnel Services Department at (626) 355-5278.

WHO'S "KILLING FOR A PART?" THE MYSTERY UNFOLDS AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE ON AUGUST 16

You, yes, you can have a chance to try out for the new play "Hate Mail," and can read for a part opposite the beautiful and glamorous Constance Bellows, star of the daytime drama "As the Soap Suds." There will be other hopelessly vying for roles in this major production, some well-trained, some just drop-dead gorgeous. Speaking of dropping dead, the atmosphere surrounding the auditions is so competitive and tense, that there's the possibility of something drastic happening. There's also the writer, who doesn't want his precious script corrupted by show-business hacks. There's also the director, concerned with maintaining control of the project.

It's just a show. No one could be driven to violence over it, could they? Is imminent Death lurking nearby?

"Killing for a Part" is an interactive murder mystery, presented for Sierra Madre Playhouse by Karen Young, who until 2003 headed the company Candlelight Murders.

Now, for one afternoon only, Sierra Madre Playhouse will have its own murder mystery party. Mystery fans will rejoice, and those looking for an unusual good time will also be able to enjoy and, if willing, participate.

The cast includes Rookie MacPherson, Dan Krause, Don Savage, Brent Keast, Lisa Sears and Diane LeMoine.

Food will be provided and libations will be available.

"Killing for a Part." Interactive murder mystery. Presented by Candlelight Murders (Karen Young) for Sierra Madre Playhouse. Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Ample free parking behind theatre. Sunday, August 16, 2009 at 2:30 p.m., ADMISSION: \$35, (626) 355-4318, www.sierramadreplayhouse.org

AARP 55 Alive / Mature Driving Class

August 25th & 26th - 9 am to 1 pm both days

This class is designed to help mature drivers recognize their physical limitations and learn how to best compensate for them. Most insurance companies honor the class certificate by discounting insurance rates. Participants are asked to register in advance - 10 students are required - drivers over 70 must take DMV written test. **Fee: \$12 AARP Members, \$14 Non-Member. To register, please call (626) 355-7394**

Kiwanis Club of Sierra Madre

Meets Tuesday 12:00 noon at Masonic Temple
 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
 Sierra Madre

Lunch catered by Lozano's is \$11 - program only is free and begins at 12:45pm

Upcoming Events

- This Week: Appraising Valuables**
- August 9 - Concert in the Park with the "Aluminum Marshmallows"
- September 19 - Annual Pancake Breakfast

Kiwanis This Week: Cynthia Abernethy is making a return appearance at the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club in what was a popular program. Cynthia handles estate sales and is an expert at appraisals. Bring one or two items you would like her to tell you more about, and to appraise... It will be an interesting and possibly lucrative experience.

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HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

5	8	9	4
<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>	<p>Arts Commission Council Chambers 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>	<p>4th of July Celebration, Parade, Food and Fun!</p>
12	14	15	16
<p>Concerts in The Park Memorial Park 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>	<p>Tree Commission Meeting, Council Chambers 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>
19	20	21	22
<p>Concerts in The Park Memorial Park 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Community Services Commission Council Chambers 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>	<p>Library Board Of Trustees Meeting City Hall Conference Room, 7:00 PM</p>
26	27	28	29
<p>Concerts in The Park Memorial Park 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>	<p>Summer Fun In the Park Memorial Park 9:30 AM</p>

L.A. Bluescasters In Concert July 26th

Charley Cazares - vocals; Michael Taylor - piano, organ, harmonica, vocals; Bobby Waite - guitar, vocals; Tony Rivera - bass; Rick del Carmen - guitar, slide guitar; Mike La Voie - drums, vocals

SIERRA MADRE CONCERT IN THE PARK - Sunday, July 26th 6-8 pm
 Sponsored by Supervisor Michael Antonovich

Formed in fall 1992, **The L.A. Bluescasters** is a six-piece blues/ rhythm and blues band from the San Gabriel Valley. The band's music includes traditional blues and updated interpretations of the blues as well as rhythm and blues, and original compositions.

Influenced by Jimmy Reed, Howlin' Wolf, Peter Green, Albert King, B.B. King, T-Bone Walker, Big Joe Turner, the Allman Brothers Band, Stevie Ray Vaughn, and Eric Clapton, their performances are mesmerizing.

Playing credits for individual members of **The Bluescasters** include the following Southern California clubs and events: The Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles; B.B. King's, Universal City; The Trubador, Hollywood; House of Blues, Hollywood; Madame Wong's West, Santa Monica; Madame Wong's East, Los Angeles; and The 1996 Glendale Blues Festival with Jefferson Starship and Elvin Bishop.

Visit the Bluescasters on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.labluescasters.com>

Sierra Madre Concerts In The Park will run every Sunday through August 30th from 6-8 pm. at the Bandshell - 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre. **Admission is free!**

COME JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS!
 Safe Neighborhood Through Community Involvement

Tuesday, August 4th
5:00PM - 9:00PM
Memorial Park
 (West Sierra Madre Blvd & Hermosa)



Strengthen neighborhood spirit with fun, food and activities



Sponsored By The Sierra Madre Chamber Of Commerce
Downtown Sierra Madre - Shop -Dine-Relax

July 31st	Aug. 21st
Gem City Jazz Cats	Sugar Penny
Jazz/Swing	Eclectic
Aug. 7th	Aug. 28th
Timmie Down	The Mellow Dz
Acoustic Rock	Acoustic Rock/Pop
Aug. 14th	
Steve and Steve	
Acoustic Rock	

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Arcadia's Par-3 Golf Course - Grand Re-Opening Event!

On Saturday, July 25th from 10am-3pm, the City of Arcadia and American Golf invite you to celebrate the Par-3 Golf Course Grand Re-Opening.

This is a free family fun event "fore" you to discover Arcadia's newly renovated golf course located at 620 E. Live Oak Avenue in Arcadia. Events that will take place include: Demo Day offered by Titleist/Cobra (state of the art clubs at unbeatable prices); Kids Fun Zone Craft Area; Barbeque Lunch (for a nominal fee); a Putting Contest; a Closest to the Pin Contest; and finally a 9-Hole Tournament. From our quaint course to our spacious practice facility, Arcadia Par-3 is the perfect place to spend time relaxing with your family and friends.

For more information, please contact the Par-3 Golf Course at 626.443.9357 or the City of Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department at 626.574.5113.

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REMEMBRANCE

Shirley Lee (Holmes) Richter entered eternal life Wednesday morning, June 10, 2009. Shirley was born March 30, 1927 to Lee and Muriel Holmes in Bakersfield, CA. She lived in Bakersfield, Sierra Madre, Canada, and Bullhead City before retiring with her husband, Fred, in Chino Valley, AZ. She was an excellent business manager for his husband's construction business, FW Richter Associates for many years, and also served as a justice court clerk. She was an active member, during her healthy days, of Bethany Church Sierra Madre, First Baptist Church Bullhead City, and First Baptist Church Chino Valley. She was active in Women's Missionary Union, supporting mission projects at home and around the world, and volunteered with the Yavapai Regional Medical Center's Auxiliary. She was a



gifted gardener, cook, and homemaker. Mrs. Richter was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Fred Robert Richter. She is survived by a son, Fred Lee (Susie) Richter of Alta Loma, CA; a daughter, Deborah Lynn (Rob) Sutherland of Queen Creek, AZ; six grandchildren, Matthew (Heather) Richter, Jessica Sutherland, Timothy (Jaime) Richter, Amanda Sutherland, Rachel Sutherland and Joanna Richter; and six great grandchildren: Adrianna, Camden, Adilyn and Caleb Richter (Matthew) and Noah and Leighla Richter (Timothy). A service celebrating her life was held at Eleventh Street Baptist Church, 990 West 11th Street, Upland, CA on Saturday, June 13, 2009, with Pastor Jarrell Jones, and her brother-in-law, the Rev. Ernest Richter, officiating. Stone Mortuary is assisting with final arrangements,

Editorial



Susan Henderson

What's Sick About Health Care in America

President Barack Obama has said the time has come for change in our health care system. Now. And I agree. Of the many things that place a real burden on our economy, the cost of health care is the most burdensome and impacts the most people, both financially and emotionally. I am willing to bet that most of those reading this column are currently faced with rising health care costs and problems with the delivery of health care services right now. What's the rush? Well, you tell me. The other day I heard Harry Truman (in a recording of course) say that we badly need to reform our Health Care system. That was in 1945. Despite the fact that there are vast differences in Barack Obama and Harry S. Truman, the fact remains that the way this country handles health care has been a problem for a long time. And, whenever the subject has come up, while superficial attempts were made we have done nothing but play Pollyanna politics with health care in this country and that is really sick.

Let's face it, even today, you can count on one hand, the number of people in the House and Senate that do not receive money from some health care industry related source. So do you really think those in Washington are listening to us or to the hands that put them in office? And while we have many elected officials, some I know personally and respect and trust, even they are walking on eggshells when it comes to putting a foot down on health care reform. This is not a partisan issue. It is a true issue of the people. And it really doesn't matter who gets credit for accomplishing real reform, we need it now. Don't be fooled by the rhetoric that it will add to our deficit, for according to the experts "...the biggest driving force behind our federal deficit is the skyrocketing cost of Medicare and Medicaid."

For opponents of Universal Health Care: There are 45.6 or 46 million Americans without coverage (that by the way is a 2007 statistic. Given the millions of Americans that have lost their jobs since then, 14,000 Americans lose their coverage daily, the number is much higher). Those that are uninsured are still treated when there is an emergency and the expense for that treatment is born by the taxpayers. But you know that

already. However, do you ever think about the fact that the uninsured only see a doctor when the situation has escalated? There is no proactive approach to health care for the uninsured. The uninsured also often put the rest of us at risk by not treating contagious diseases early. When we speak of the millions of people who have lost their jobs, many are eligible for Cobra (COBRA stands for the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, which became law in 1986. COBRA gives you the right to choose to temporarily keep the group health insurance benefits that you and your family would otherwise lose after you lose your job.) The problem with that, however, is that when a person loses their job, they lose their income and COBRA requires that you pay the full premium - (what your employer was paying and what you were paying). How do you do that without a job? **And For those against changing Medicare:** The waste, fraud and abuse that currently permeates our health care system cost us far more than any of the proposed Health Care Reform packages would. The country could stop more than \$100 billion in insurance company subsidies as part of Medicare. Do you realize that, for instance, that insurance companies mandate that people over 65 currently in the workforce accept Medicare Coverage as their primary provider without decreasing their premium? That's right - employees over 65 who pay for medical insurance, are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A. They continue to pay their medical insurance premiums at the same rate. That means that when there is a claim, the insurance company, which continues to collect the full premium, bills Medicare first and only pays the portion of the bill that Medicare does not cover. And yet, they keep collecting the full premium. How much would costs be reduced if just that practice would stop?

\$100 Billion Dollars! It is really time for the American people to insist on health care reform, now. We don't need to procrastinate any more, nor do we need another band aid remedy for a hemorrhage. We don't need to have any more people filing Bankruptcy just to keep afloat in the face of medical bills. We don't need another person dying because of lack of health care coverage. And we need to stop turning a blind eye to insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies and health care providers who double and triple dip into the pot, just because they can. What's sick about health care in America? Just about everything!

Nominations for Sierra Madre Honors are now being accepted

Sierra Madre Honors... a Recognition and Appreciation Dinner will recognize all out-going City Commissioners as well as extraordinary community members, organizations, and employees for their contributions to the community. Please take a moment to view the five awards listed below and nominate any person you feel is eligible for such an honor. Applications may be obtained at City Hall or the City website at www.cityofsierramadre.com should you wish to make a nomination. Alternatively, you may submit a one page description of the person/entity and why they should be honors. Nominations must be submitted to the Mayor's Ad-Hoc Committee at City Hall no later than Monday, July 27th at 4:00 pm.

GEORGE MAURER (LIFETIME SERVICE) AWARD
Presented to a person/entity that most strongly represents a commitment to serving and volunteering, which is the true spirit of Sierra Madre

WISTARIA AWARD
In recognition of City/Community partnership, presented to a local business or organization whose major contributions

to the City/Community of Sierra Madre have demonstrated a true partnership which assists in and provides services, programs or enhances the general welfare of the community as a whole.

POLICE CHIEF'S SPECIAL AWARD
Presented by the Sierra Madre Chief of Police to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to duty (employee) or service (community) in resolving a community law enforcement related issue

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD
Presented by the Mayor to an individual, either an employee or citizen, who took action to protect and maintain the safety of the community by taking lifesaving action

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD (EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR)
Presented by the Mayor upon the recommendation of the City Manager (nominated by other city employees) to an extraordinary city employee who has represented remarkable customer and public service as well as dedication to the citizens of Sierra Madre over the course of a year

If you have questions regarding Sierra Madre Honors... program you may contact the Community & Personnel Services Department at 626 355-5278 or by e-mail at city@cityofsierramadre.com



By now, most everybody knows that Henry's Farmers Market, located at 400 W. Huntington Dr. in Monrovia, is off and running since their Grand Opening Day, June 17th. However, I find lots of newsy stuff about Henry's in the Monrovia Insider published by the Chamber of Commerce. First of all, it is definitely a "family-friendly food store, recalling to mind mom-and-pop grocers and butcher shops of the 1950s, dating back to 1943, as a family-owned business selling truckloads of fresh, local peaches on a street corner in San Diego". Today Henry's has 30 markets located throughout San Diego, Los Angeles and Orange Counties, the Inland Empire and Coachella Valley. On that Opening Day, the first 200 people received a free bag of groceries and those whose first name was Henry (or Henrietta?) received a free deli sandwich card! Too late for that but all can benefit from the freshest of fruits and vegetables to help guarantee a really healthy lifestyle.

A couple of other worthwhile tid-bits from the Insider: Electronic Waste Collection Event, August 22, 9 am to 4 pm, hosted by the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce and City

Monrovia City Again Wins 'Sawpit Trail' Lawsuit; Gate Coming Down Soon

The City of Monrovia has won in court again in its continuing efforts to keep the Sawpit Trail accessible to the public.

The State Court of Appeals took just two days to uphold a trial court ruling in favor of the City, concurring that the residents of Monrovia have the right to continue to use the trail for recreational purposes, including the portion that runs across private property near Norumbega Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Buckner, owners of the property, put up a gate across the trail more than a year ago, blocking access to hikers and dog-walkers, saying that the trail was on their property and that walkers where disturbing their dogs. Attempts by the City to mediate the dispute failed and the matter ended up in court.

The City's position was that, while the Buckner's owned the property, the trail was on a County Flood Control easement across the land that predated their relatively-recent purchase, that the County and City had agreements in place to allow City use of the easement, the City had made

Altadena Schiff Helps Secure Funds for Local Infrastructure Projects Funding will help create local jobs

On Thursday, the House passed the Department of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 3288), which included funding Rep. Schiff helped secure for three local construction projects in the 29th Congressional District. The three programs will help the region's economy, relieve congestion, add to the quality of life of local residents, and improve safety.

"This bill will help create jobs through infrastructure spending and will improve the quality of life in our region," said Schiff. "We need to get our economy moving again and projects like these will not only improve our region's infrastructure, but will also produce local construction jobs."

The bill included \$500,000 for the Alameda Corridor-East in San Gabriel, which will help construct a 2-mile railroad trench for trains to travel underneath roadway bridges in the City of San Gabriel. The current railway has accounted for three crossing collisions, with one motorist killed in 2002. Pedestrian safety will also be improved for students at nearby schools.

"Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Construction Authority is extremely pleased at the assistance Congressman Schiff has given us over the years," said Rick Richmond, Executive Director ACE Construction Authority. "We hope that with his support we will be able to begin some early construction before the end of the year which will work to create jobs and improve safety in our community and we thank him for his continued aid."

The overall project will eliminate an estimated 420 hours of vehicle delay each day at four crossings, the busiest of which, San Gabriel Blvd., carries 37,500 vehicles per day. It will help improve air quality by cutting hundreds of tons per year of cancer-causing air toxins and greenhouse emissions by eliminating idling cars and trucks at the crossings.

The broader project will create 8,964 jobs and it also received federal funds in the recovery package. The Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority has already secured commitments of approximately 70% of the project's cost in non-Federal funds.

The bill also included \$400,000 for a renovation and addition project at the

of Monrovia. Location is Park and Ride Lot, corner of Myrtle Av, and W. Pomona Ave.

Also, 5th Annual Expo 50 plus, Seniors Going Green! September 12th, 2009, 11 am to 2 pm, at 925 S. Shamrock Av., Monrovia. For information, 626-219-4444. Listen to this, Free Mammograms, Sunday, Sept. 13th, 9am-2pm., by appointment only, income restrictions apply; free health screenings, free educational classes, free raffles, free food, and bring recycle items, newspapers, bottles, reusable clothes, old cell phones, household and office items, old computers and TVs.

As I mentioned in last week's column, Foothill Unity Center's Back To School Distribution is coming up, August 20th, 9 am - 5pm at the Race Track. More than 1300 needy children are outfitted for school. It is a sight to behold, the gleeful look on those young faces as they pick out backpacks, sox, shoes, uniforms or other clothing, school supplies, underwear, positively everything, even haircuts. Naturally, it takes many, many volunteers to accomplish this annual feat. If you can spare a few hours, call Joan Whitenack or Betty McWilliams at the Center, 626-358-3486 Postrye@netzero.com..

substantial public improvements to the trail and, most importantly, the trial had been in use by the public for decades.

After more than a year in the court system, both the trial court and appellate court have now agreed that the public continues to have a right to use the trail.

City Manager Scott Ochoa asked hikers and neighbors to be patient as the dispute now moves toward resolution. It will be a few weeks yet, he said, before all the legal i's are dotted and t's are crossed.

"In the coming days, we will work with the City Attorney, Public Works and Community Services Departments to remove the gate and other obstructions," Ochoa wrote in his Weekly Report, posted on the City of Monrovia website.

"Based on the history of this case and the bad blood between the Buckners and many of the folks who hike the trail, we will also keep the Police Department briefed as well.

"It is probably worth noting," he continued, "that, in trying to settle this matter out of court, the City had offered to pay for the construction of a more substantial fence between the Buckner's home and the trail. The Buckner's instead chose to litigate."

Altadena Library. The Main Altadena Library is 41 years old and in desperate need of repair, renovation, and expansion to provide modern library services. It is overcrowded and shows the effects of past earthquakes with cracks in the ceilings, concrete slabs, and windows. It lacks energy efficiency, has antiquated lighting, has encapsulated asbestos throughout which needs removal, and is non-ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant. In addition, old bookstacks do not meet seismic codes and cannot be retrofitted because of age and welding. This funding will be used for design and engineering studies as well as construction. This funding will improve the quality of life for the entire community and will assist the library in continuing providing much needed public services in a safe environment.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the Altadena Library which, as an independent library district, is traditionally wholly dependent on property tax revenue for its funding," said Dale E. LaCasella, President, Board of Trustees. "It will be a substantial step toward realizing our goal of making the library fully accessible to all residents."

Lastly, Monterey Park will receive \$250,000 to widen the on and off ramps of the 60 freeway (SR-60) at Paramount Boulevard to allow for increased vehicular capacity. The project is vital to relieving traffic congestion along this freeway corridor and providing access to the newly redeveloped Market Place Shopping Center which will improve the local economy in this underdeveloped area of the city. Paramount Boulevard also provides access to the south side of the City of Monterey Park and the northern portion of the City of Montebello, and as these cities grow, congestion is increasing proportionately.

"I am grateful for the initiative and hard work by Congressman Adam Schiff in securing the needed funds for the widening of the Paramount Boulevard off-ramp along the 60 freeway which will be the gateway to our new Monterey Park Market Place Shopping Center," said Monterey Park Mayor Mitchell Ing. "This project will generate approximately 90 new construction and engineering jobs in our City. It is good news for the San Gabriel Valley region especially during this slow economic climate."

Mountain Views News

Pasadena Altadena

News Form Your Community For Your Community

Annual National Night Out Is In Its 26th Year

The Pasadena police Department is participating in the “26th Annual National Night Out,” a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and local Target Stores. This year’s event has been scheduled for Aug. 4. The National Night Out campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, business and neighborhood watch groups and local community officials. Last year, worldwide, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out.

The event is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send

a message to criminals letting them know that in neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns and neighborhoods celebrate National Night Out with a variety of events and activities such as: block parties, cookouts, visits from local police departments, parades, exhibits, flashlight walks and youth programs. National Night Out has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation.

For more information call the Pasadena Police Department Community Services at (626) 744-7659.

Reclaimed Water Study Reviewed

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich to study increasing reclaimed water for non-drinking purposes.

Reclaimed water is highly treated, filtered and disinfected wastewater that can replace or supplement groundwater supplies. Common uses for reclaimed water include irrigation, wetlands restoration, aquifer recharge, vehicle washing, air conditioning cooling towers, and other industrial uses.

“Water agencies across

Southern California are facing significant challenges in their efforts to acquire water,” said Antonovich. “These issues include environmental concerns, increasing costs to transport water from outside the region, groundwater contamination, and compliance with Federal and State mandates regarding water quality.”

The motion directs the Chief Executive Office and the Director of Public Works to investigate on the feasibility of a comprehensive reclaimed water strategy and a report back to the Board of Supervisors in two weeks.

Pep Boys Evacuated After Scare

Employees stood outside the Colorado Boulevard Pep Boys Tuesday afternoon for hours after a weld in a major support beam failed threatening the collapse of the building.

Pasadena Building and Safety officials determined the auto parts store should remain closed workers said as they started to go home. The store was open later in the week.

Pasadena police sectioned off a large area around the building with yellow caution tape and cars being repaired could be seen still hoisted in the air suggesting everyone left in a hurry.



Building inspectors visit store after roof fails

Gold Line Extension Approval Delayed

It was standing room only at Thursday’s Metropolitan Transportation Agency’s board meeting and although most were there to find out the future of the county’s Long Range Transportation Plan—including the Gold Line Foothill Extension—any decision was put off until September.

Also put off were Westside Subway project’s including LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa’s pet project “subway to the sea,” an extension of the Purple Line down traffic-choked Wilshire Boulevard. San Gabriel officials have been at odds with Villaraigosa’s project as it competes with the Gold Line Foothill Extension for federal funding although both are now partly funded through Measure R.

Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard said, as he waited in the audience, he did not see any disadvantage in the delay.

“I don’t see a clear risk to the interest of the foothill extension by delaying approval of the long range plan,” Bogaard said. “It sounds like the project has the necessary support from this MTA board.”

At issue was the Measure R revenues listed for highway projects and programs. Board members, including



The Gold Line at Del Mar Station

County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, wanted to make sure the money for rail projects was not reallocated. There was also concern about an end date for a number of projects including the Gold Line Extension. The plan calls for a 2017 completion date although many want to see it built by 2013. Members of the “I will ride” campaign had “build it by 2014,” on the backs of their t-shirts.

Bogaard said he thinks construction in Pasadena, for the extension to Claremont, will begin within 12 months of approving the plan.

“When that project is constructed, the MTA will have no choice but to provide the necessary operating subsidies,” he said. “That will allow it to go into operation.”

Many in the audience



Mayor Bill Bogaard after addressing the MTA

criticized Villaraigosa who was at the meeting only to vote and for about 15 minutes. He did apologize saying he was in the backroom on a conference call with state lawmakers over the state’s budget deficit.

40 Years After: Now a Mission to Mars?

Local reporters four decades ago Monday, not lucky to be in Houston Texas, were briefed at one of the second best places to be as mankind first walked on the moon, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

And 40 years later in the center’s von Kármán Auditorium, the exact briefing room, JPL Historian Erik Conway lectured on events that led up to the historic landing and the intricate role robots at JPL played leading up to the flight. He also explained the difficulties there might be in landing a person on Mars.

One big problem he said was weight. Any spacecraft with a human crew would weigh thousands of pounds. He also said that if we were to go anytime soon funding would have had to be approved years ago. He said there was no chance we could ever land on the red planet before 2020.

Scientists also theorize that before going to the Mars we need to revisit the moon. Conway said the problem is that all the technology today is building shuttles not rockets.

Apollo 11 Astronauts, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Michael Collins and Neil Armstrong used an invitation to the Oval Office Monday to urge President Obama to consider a mission to Mars.



JPL’s von Kármán Auditorium

Residents Encouraged To “Do-It-Yourself” General Plan Workshops

What makes Pasadena special? What are the unique qualities that should be preserved and protected? What are the most important challenges facing Pasadena in the next 10 years?

The city of Pasadena will soon be updating the General Plan – a guide for future development and quality of life – and needs to hear from the community about how to plan the future. Public works projects, traffic mitigation measures, zoning decisions and other planning and development projects must be consistent with the General Plan.

As part of the update process, Pasadena

residents are encouraged to attend facilitator training and obtain a Do-It-Yourself (DIY) community workshop kit to discuss vital questions with local neighborhood, business, service and social groups, and provide feedback to city staff.

The DIY workshop kits will be available at a briefing Wednesday, Aug. 5, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Fair Oaks Conference Room (basement room 039) at Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Ave. The briefing will include an overview of the General Plan update process, a review of the DIY workshop kit contents and step-by-step training on how to facilitate a community workshop on

the General Plan.

City staff are meeting with business and neighborhood organizations in July, August and early September but can’t reach every group in Pasadena. The Do-It-Yourself workshop kit will support many more group discussions across the community and provide city leaders with additional feedback about the General Plan and the future of Pasadena.

Additional special events include a series of tours in August, community meetings in September and October, and a citywide open house in November.

For more information visit www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan or call 744-6807.

Study On Accuracy of Organic Foods Approved

To protect and inform consumers, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Supervisor Antonovich directing the Chief Executive Officer and the County’s Agricultural Commissioner to conduct a study to determine the accuracy of organic claims made by super markets.

“Consumers have the right to know that foods advertised as organic are grown free of pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, antibiotics or genetic modification,” said Antonovich.

Geoffrey Baum Appointed to CCBG

The California State Senate voted unanimously to confirm Geoffrey Baum’s appointment to the Community Colleges’ Board of Governors. Baum, a member and past president of the governing board of the Pasadena Area Community College District, will be serving a six-year term. The 17-member board, primarily appointed by the governor, sets policy and provides guidance for the 72 college districts and 110 campuses that make up the California Community Colleges system.

Baum has served as assistant dean of the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California since 2001. He also worked for C-SPAN as executive producer from 1999 to 2000 and as a senior producer from 1989 to 1993. From 1994 to 1999, he served as the assistant vice president for marketing and public relations at Claremont McKenna College.

State and federal leaders recognize the key role community colleges play in training the workforce and spurring economic recovery and growth. The members of the Board of Governors perform the vital role of keeping the core mission of the community colleges at the forefront of discussion, especially with the budget challenges facing the colleges.

Pet of the Week



Dana, a five year old, brindle colored beauty walks well on leash, enjoys petting and has been to a few events where she played well with volunteers and other dogs too! Dana has already been spayed and can go home with you today!

The regular dog adoption fee is \$120, which includes medical care prior to adoption, spaying or neutering, vaccinations, and a follow-up visit with a participating vet.

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask for A252560 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave, Pasadena CA, 91105. Our adoption hours are 11-3 Sunday, 9-4 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-3 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at www.pasadenahumane.org



Foothill Transit’s 24-member joint powers authority (JPA) formally announced Monday the welcoming of the City of Pasadena as a full voting member of the agency’s governing board.

“Pasadena is an important part of the region and the home of many employers in the region,” said Michael De La Torre, Chair of Foothill Transit’s Executive Board. “Their inclusion in the agency’s governing make up will only help Foothill Transit’s pursuit of high quality public transit service in the area.”

Foothill Transit Governing Board Members Richard Barakat from Bradbury and John Fasana from Duarte initially reached out to leaders in Pasadena to inquire about their interest in joining the Foothill Transit JPA. Following these informal discussions, formal request to join the Foothill Transit JPA from City of Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard was received by the agency in February 2008. Membership in the JPA requires unanimous ratification by each member city council and the County of Los Angeles.

“For many years, Foothill Transit has been an

important component in meeting this community’s transportation needs,” said Bogaard. “I welcome the opportunity for us to participate in a more formal relationship. The City of Pasadena will be represented on the Foothill Transit Governing Board by Councilwoman Margaret McAustin.”

The County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors was the final JPA member to ratify the inclusion of Pasadena at their May 2009 meeting. The entire process took approximately one year.

“Foothill Transit was created to meet the public transportation needs of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley’s and to be integral parts of the communities we serve,” said De La Torre. “Having Pasadena join is a natural development in the growth of the agency. We look forward to their participation and leadership.”

Foothill Transit was formed in 1988 through a joint partnership between 20 cities in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys and the County of Los Angeles to meet the growing transportation needs of the region.



Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know?

Created By Pat Birdsall

FACTS, MYTHS & WHAT DO YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT ENERGY?

THE FOLLOWING SURVEY IS COURTESY OF PLANET FORWARD:

WHAT AMERICANS KNOW AND BELIEVE ABOUT THE POWER THAT FUELS OUR WORLD WILL ABSOLUTELY SHAPE THE POLITICAL AND PERSONAL CHOICES WE MAKE AS WE TRY TO MOVE THE PLANET FORWARD. SO, HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW? TAKE OUR QUIZ, AND FIND OUT HOW YOUR ANSWERS COMPARE TO THE NATIONAL SAMPLE IN PUBLIC AGENDA'S ENERGY LEARNING CURVE SURVEY, CONDUCTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH PLANET FORWARD.

1. LESS THAN FIVE PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S OIL IS LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES, BOTH ON LAND AND OFFSHORE.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

2. MOST OF THE OIL THAT THE UNITED STATES IMPORTS COMES FROM THE MIDDLE EAST.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

3. BY REDUCING THE LEVEL OF SMOG IN THE UNITED STATES, WE'VE GONE A LONG WAY TOWARDS REDUCING GLOBAL WARMING.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

4. DRIVING GASOLINE-POWERED VEHICLES AND USING COAL TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY BOTH CONTRIBUTE TO GLOBAL WARMING.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

5. AMERICANS USE THE SAME AMOUNT OF ENERGY PER PERSON AS EUROPEANS.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

6. CARS IN EUROPE AND JAPAN ARE REQUIRED TO GET MORE MILES PER GALLON THAN CARS IN THE UNITED STATES.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

7. GEOTHERMAL ENERGY IS A FOSSIL FUEL.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

8. USING CROPS LIKE CORN TO PRODUCE ETHANOL INCREASES FOOD PRICES.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) HOTLY DEBATED

9. NUCLEAR POWER IS A TYPE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

10. OVER THE LONG RUN, THE PRICE OF OIL WILL GO UP BECAUSE SUPPLIES ARE DIMINISHING AND DEMAND IS INCREASING.

- A) TRUE B) FALSE
C) DON'T KNOW

FIND OUT HOW YOUR ANSWERS
COMPARE WITH OTHER
AMERICANS ON PAGE 14

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink

Brought to you by:

Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council (SMEAC)
P.O. Box 85 Sierra Madre, Ca. 91025-0085
Your thoughts and comments are welcome...

www.mtnviewsnews.com



Spiritual life requires collaboration with God's Spirit. We often limit the Lord's activity in our lives by how we choose to live. Rev. Jeffrey O'Grady's sermon this week is entitled, "God's Limits;" a reflection upon ways we limit the Lord's healing power.

Summer Worship: 10@10!

Ten worship services at 10 am

Sunday, July 5 through Sunday, September 6

San Marino Community Church

1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, CA 91108

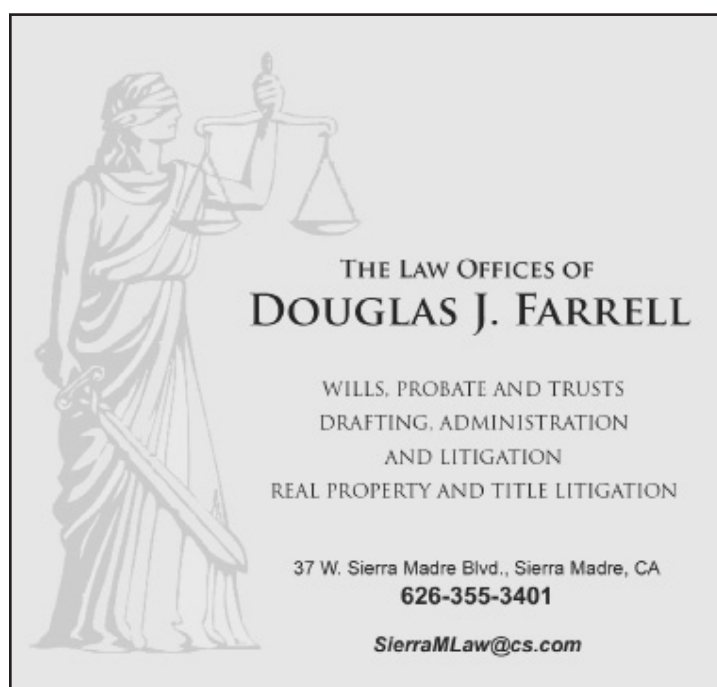
For more information call: (626) 282-4181 connect with us online: www.smccpby.com

SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

**Wednesdays
3-8pm**

Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms.

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



City of Sierra Madre

ORDINANCE NO. 1295

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA AMENDING SUBSECTION D OF SECTION 9.32.060 TO NARROW ITS APPLICABILITY TO LEAF BLOWERS AND AMENDING OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 9.32

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre makes the following findings: 1. Leaf blowers have a negative impact on the public health and welfare by disrupting the rest and relaxation of our residents through the excessive noise that these devices generate. For this reason, it is essential that non-work hours, weekends, and holidays be protected and reserved for the benefit of our community without the intrusion of excessive noise; 2. Leaf blowers endanger the health and welfare of our residents by dispersing dust which may at times contain harmful pollutants. This Ordinance is designed to protect our community from the potential harmful effects of dust;

Whereas, this Ordinance is categorically exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21000) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code (California Environmental Quality Act(CEQA)) pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 in that the provisions of this Ordinance protect the environment from noise, emission, and dust pollution.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 9.32.020 of Title 9 is hereby amended by deleting "powered gardening equipment" and its definition. SECTION 2. Section 9.32.020 of Title 9 is hereby amended by revising the definition of "holiday" to read as follows: "'Holiday' means and includes New Year's Day (January 1), Memorial Day (the last Monday in May), Independence Day (July 4), Labor Day (the first Monday in September), Thanksgiving Day (the fourth Thursday in November), and Christmas Day (December 25)."

SECTION 3. Section 9.32.020 of Title 9 is hereby amended by adding a definition for "Leaf blower" to read as follows: "'Leaf blower' means any portable machine used to blow leaves, dirt and other debris off sidewalks, driveways, lawns or other surfaces."

SECTION 4. Section 9.32.060 of Title 9 is hereby amended to read as follows: "A. Daytime Exceptions. Any noise source which does not produce a noise level exceeding 80 dba at a distance of twenty-five feet under its most noisy condition of use shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections 9.32.030, 9.32.040 and 9.32.050 between the hours of seven a.m. and nine p.m. daily except Sundays and holidays, when the exemption herein shall apply between ten a.m. and six p.m. B. Emergencies. Emergencies are exempt from this chapter. C. Construction. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, including section 9.32.100, between the hours of seven a.m. and seven p.m. daily, except Sundays and holidays when the exemption herein shall apply between ten a.m. and six p.m., construction, alteration or repair activities which are authorized by a valid city permit shall be allowed if the noise level at any point outside the property plane shall not exceed 85 dba. D. Leaf blower. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, including section 9.32.100, no person shall operate a leaf blower within the City outside of the hours of eight a.m. to seven p.m., Monday through Saturday, and ten a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays and holidays. The foregoing prohibition shall not apply within any commercial zone. Noise generated by leaf blowers within any commercial zone shall be regulated by other sections of this Chapter."

SECTION 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance or the rules adopted hereby. The City Council of the City of Sierra Madre hereby declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases hereof be declared invalid or unenforceable.

SECTION 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its passage and adoption pursuant to California Government Code section 36937.

SECTION 7. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published according to law.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this 14th day of July, 2009.

AYES: MacGillivray, Watts, Buchanan, Mosca, Zimmerman NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, July 12th, to Saturday July 18th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 232 calls for service.

Sunday, July 12th:

12:34 PM - Residential Burglary, 510 Woodland Drive. A parolee at large was identified as the suspect in the theft of an amplifier and a guitar stolen from the locked garage of an acquaintance. The crime occurred between Sunday, 3/01/2009 and Friday 3/13/2009. No loss estimate was available.

5:11 PM - Annoying Telephone Calls, 600 block Ramona Ave. A man and woman in Florida made several threatening telephone calls to the victim. The investigation revealed the telephone number was now out of service. The investigation is ongoing.

Tuesday, July 14th:

4:49 PM - Petty theft, 200 block of Mariposa Street. An unlocked black and white 26" men's Polaris mountain bike was taken from the back porch of a residence. The crime occurred on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 between

6:30 am and 4:45 pm. The bike was valued at \$250.00.

5:24 PM - Arrest, Unlicensed Driver and Possession of Marijuana. A motorist was stopped for a traffic violation. A records check revealed the driver was unlicensed. The driver admitted to having marijuana in the car. The driver was arrested and issued a citation for the violations.

Thursday, July 16th:

2:34 PM - Residential burglary, 400 block of Grove Street. A laptop computer, an XBOX, two IPODs and an IPHONE were stolen when unknown suspect(s) gained entry through an unlocked rear door. The crime occurred on Thursday, 7/16/2009 between the hours of 7:30 am and 12:30 pm, 07-16-09. The loss was estimated at \$1,500.

Friday, July 17th:

6:25 AM - Vandalism, 600 block West Highland Ave. Suspect(s) smashed the rear window of a gray Dodge van. The crime occurred between 8:30 pm, Thursday, 7/16/2009 and 6:00 am Friday, 7/17/2009. The loss was estimated at \$300.00.



RICH Johnson

Consumer Products That Flopped

It was probably a hot summers day when Plato coined the phrase, "Necessity (who) is the mother of invention." I have a theory that as the outside temperature rises, the creative juices in our brain start to sizzle and come alive. This causes us to feverishly start thinking of ways to survive the debilitating heat. I suspect most inventions and new products were created in the summertime. Just for fun let's take a look at some notable consumer items that failed.

Pepsi Cola lead the way with a product called Pepsi AM. They tried to market Pepsi AM (really, just regular Pepsi) as a breakfast drink. They figured having caffeine in it would make Pepsi AM a perfect refreshing alternative to coffee, particularly on a hot summer morning. Uh-uh. The Redux Company put out a drink called "Cocaine" that had three and a half times the amount of caffeine as found in a can of "Red Bull."

The FDA shut them down in 2007 because they were "illegally marketing their drink as an alternative to street drugs." By the way, you can still buy cocaine in Europe (Probably both kinds.)

And while we're on the subject of drinks, how about bottled water for pets? Yep, it's true. A company marketed "Thirsty Dog" and "Thirsty Cat," bottled water for cats and dogs. It came in two delicious flavors, Crispy Beef and Tangy Fish. The Coors

Beer folks tried to sell us plain water. Yeah, yeah, it was their heralded Rocky Mountain Spring Water but hey, where was the kick?

Pond's, the facial cream folks came out with Pond's Toothpaste in the mid 1970's. The problem was no one would stick something made by Pond's in his or her mouths. Clairol, on the other hand, got people to stick something in their mouth in 1979 called a "Touch of Yoghurt." Too bad it was shampoo. Apparently it didn't taste very good. And get this; Clairol had flopped three years earlier with another shampoo called, "Look of Buttermilk." Colgate, you know the toothpaste company, tried to get people to eat something. It was their new line of frozen food called Colgate's Kitchen Entrees. Maybe with a little Touch of Yoghurt. Never mind.

Harley Davidson came out with a line of perfume that, uh, tanked. The Mattel Toy Company came out with a Ken doll in 1993 called "Earring Magic Ken." Gone was the classy tuxedo replaced by a mesh t-shirt, purple leather vest, and earring. It was soon referred to as the Gay Ken doll and quickly vanished off shelves.

If you want to read up on these wonderful failures pick up the book "Brand Failures" by Michael Haig. And if you want to see pictures of "Thirsty Dog" and other items listed above visit <http://www.walletpop.com/specials/top-25-biggest-product-flops-of-all-time>.

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Members of the class of 1979 gathered for a group picture during their 30-year high school reunion near the Villa at Alverno High School. (Photo by Belle n' Beau)

Alumnae Gather at Alverno High School

With more than 200 people in attendance, alumnae from selected classes at Alverno High School had a joyful reunion on Saturday, July 11, 2009. The reunion was at 5pm in the Villa Del Sol d' Oro on campus and was a special reception for the classes of 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004.

The alumnae were treated to a Mexican theme with a bar that included margaritas and beer, as well as delectable catering from Chiquita Bonita in Pasadena which offered carnitas, quesadillas, and shrimp tostadas, as well as fresh fruit

and vegetable platters.

Alumnae enjoyed a slideshow that showcased their class with pictures and music from the year they graduated. Current student ambassadors were on hand to offer campus tours for the visitors and everyone was having a good time traveling down memory lane. "I enjoyed talking to the ambassadors because it reminded me how intelligent and fun the girls at Alverno are," said Katrina Patton '04.

Belle'n' Beau Photography was available to help capture the evening with special class photos as well as candid pictures through-

out the night. Following the reception in the Villa, each individual class went to an off-campus location to continue the celebration at 8pm. Some of the locations included Café 322, El Torito, and various homes of local alumnae. "A wonderful time was had by all, thanks to the team at Alverno who put it all together," said Ellen Behrens Hoffman '74. "The food was great, the margaritas were yummy, and the Villa looked beautiful. We're lucky to have such a perfect setting for a gathering like that. It always brings back so many memories."

News from Berklee College of Music

Pasadena Resident Earns Place on Dean's List at Berklee College of Music

BOSTON, MA - Berklee College of Music announces that Fulate Paizula of Pasadena has earned placement on the Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2009 academic year. To be eligible for this honor, a full-time student must achieve a grade point average of 3.4 or above; a part-time student must achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or above.

The Berklee curriculum focuses on practical career preparation for today's music industry. Four-year degrees are offered in Performance, Jazz Composition, Music Production & Engineering, Film Scoring, Music Business/Management, Composition, Music Synthesis, Contemporary Writing & Production, Music Education, Songwriting, Music Therapy, and Professional Music.

Berklee College of Music was founded on the revolutionary principle that the best way to prepare students for careers in music was through the study and practice of contemporary music. For over half a century, the college has evolved constantly to reflect the state of the art of music and the music business. With over a dozen performance and nonperformance majors, a diverse and talented student body representing over 70 countries, and a music industry "who's who" of alumni, Berklee is the world's premier learning lab for the music of today - and tomorrow.

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. Vannasdall

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 Lugenebuhl
E-mail address: jml@bcsllions.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
(626) 795-6981
Website: www.pusd@pusd.us

Ceramic Art Workshop! Ages 6 & up

Workshop will be taught at Paint 'n' Play a real working ceramic studio! Located at 418 S. Myrtle Avenue, Old Town Monrovia

Hey kids want to play in clay? Come experience, practice and learn "hand building" and ceramic glazing. This class is packed with a fun project for kids and you will also be creating a functional piece of art that will last a lifetime. We will teach you techniques to guide you through the wonders of clay.

Wednesday, August 12, August 19 and August 26, Time: 3-5pm. \$68 + \$20 material fee.

Mud Pie Parent 'n' Me Art Workshop - Ages pre-school - 5 yrs. old

Workshop will be taught at Paint 'n' Play a real working ceramic studio! Located at 418 S. Myrtle Avenue, Old Town Monrovia

Parents are encouraged to stay and help their little ones explore the joy of clay. Instructors help to insure personal attention as the children explore their creativity while learning the wonders of clay and ceramics!

Wednesday, August 12, August 19 and August 26, Time: 1:30-2:30pm. \$65 + \$15 material fee



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Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department Sports Camp

Sports Camp features a variety of fun sports activities for youth and is held at Arcadia High School, 180 Campus Drive. Week I (July 27-31) is the Pee Wee Sports Camp, which is available for youth entering grades 1-4. Week II (August 3-7) and III (August 10-14) are the Traditional Sports Camp, which are available for youth entering grades 5-9. The cost is \$110 per session and includes daily round-trip transportation, a daily beverage, camp-t-shirt, weekly cookout and team awards. Each week there are two excursions (Tuesday and Thursday). Campers will swim in the afternoon on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Each counselor participates in the organized activities with their group. Some of the sports activities include swimming, flag football, basketball, softball, soccer, volleyball, and other fun group games. Participants will learn fundamentals and engage in team sports activities. Children of all athletic skills and abilities are welcome. For more information please call the Recreation Office at 626.574.5113.



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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.



HOWARD Hays As I See It

I'm writing this on the fortieth anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing and yes, I'm old enough to remember - sitting spellbound in front of the Zenith with my family figuring that iridescent blob descending the ladder must be one of the astronauts. I wasn't sure if some maleficent quicksand wouldn't engorge the first boot to touch the surface, but as soon as the words "This is one small step for a man . . . " crackled through the static, I said, "We did it" - as if I'd somehow been personally involved.

My parents, brother and sister and an uncle who helped design the fueling system on the B-17 said, "We did it". Families across the country, kids watching in class, imbibers watching in bars, mission specialists in Houston, launch controllers at Cape Kennedy and those who built rocket components in Seal Beach, Downey, Huntington Beach and Canoga Park said, "We did it." The commitment came from a Democratic president and the landing took place during a Republican administration, but it wasn't a Democrat or Republican endeavor - We did it. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, barely a decade old, taxpayer funded through congress, worked with corporate giants Grumman, Rocketdyne, Raytheon, North American Rockwell, McDonnell

Douglas and Boeing, but this wasn't an accomplishment of government or private enterprise - We did it. Long before Fox News and MSNBC, we had Chet Huntley and David Brinkley, Frank Reynolds, Howard K. Smith, Jules Bergman and Eric Sevareid telling us, "We did it." Most of all, as Walter Cronkite ad-libbed "Go, baby, go!" at liftoff, and "Oh boy, oh boy!" as the module descended to the lunar surface, his inability to find words at the moment of touchdown was all the rest of us needed to confirm that, in fact - We did it. It remains a profound and enduring accomplishment. It also remains a sometimes shaming reminder of what "we" are capable of, as in, "If we can send a man to the moon, why can't we . . (fill in the blank)". I'll take my own suggestion and "fill in the blank".

If we can send a man to the moon, why can't we have a health care system where decisions are made with one's doctor, rather than by an insurance company? Where families don't find themselves one catastrophic injury or illness away from bankruptcy? Where an estimated 150,000 Americans don't leave the country every year to obtain affordable treatment? Where would-be innovators and entrepreneurs aren't stuck in dead-end jobs out of fear of losing their health coverage? Where employers don't have to slash payrolls and wages due to skyrocketing insurance premiums? Where more than 30 cents out of every health care dollar isn't spent on overhead, million-a-



HAIL Hamilton American Values

I'm not confusing capitalism with unbridled greed, but unbridled greed is what we have today. I don't begrudge anyone who makes millions of dollars honestly by their own efforts, whether it's inventing a more efficient light bulb or just doing a job, any job--blue collar, white collar--to the best of their abilities. That's what America is about--at least that's what I was taught in high school. What I can't stomach is the collusion between big business & big government--including state & local government. I can't digest the insidious corruption that permeates all levels of American society. This is what I call the "tyranny of capitalism" and it is rapidly causing our nation's demise.

Look around and what do you see: the awarding of no-bid government contracts according to who you know, lobbyist everywhere you turn doling out millions to curry favors from politicians, unnecessary and costly consultants being paid by taxpayers, the revolving door of regulators leaving government to represent the very businesses they used to regulate, the list could go on and on ad infinitum. This isn't free-market capitalism; this is corporate-government cronyism, welfare for the wealthy. This is socialism for the greedy, power-crazed, rich, elitist few.

My dad was a lawyer. He may not have been a millionaire, but he made an honest living. He worked hard to support his family. He bought a house & paid his taxes. He even volunteered to serve his country in WWII. He was a good father & a good husband. He always treated people with respect and never asked anyone to do something he wasn't willing to do himself. He taught me five guiding principles that have served me well:

- Life is a gift to be cherished and that every day should be lived to the fullest;
- Cheaters don't prosper—in the real world, there are no shortcuts to success;

Respect is something you earn by your example:

- A person's word is their bond—trust & loyalty go hand-in-hand
- All of us have a duty to leave the world a better place than we found it.

My mother, her brother and sister were the first college graduates in their family. My dad's father worked the gold field of Alaska before he went bust and returned to California. His brother was a doughboy in WWI and a merchant marine in WWII. My mom's father and his mother and father ran a newspaper for 40 years in Quincy, California before they moved to San Francisco after my great-grandfather died. My grandfather worked as a line-a-type operator all through the Great Depression. He was lucky to have a job and he knew it.

When I was a kid one Christmas I asked my mom why grandma always kept a place set at the dining table and four places set in the kitchen. I asked her how come our other relatives never came to Christmas dinner? She told me I didn't have any other relatives and that the empty settings were a family tradition started in the Depression. My grandparents felt blessed having an income & believed it was their duty to feed those less fortunate than themselves.

Are our core values so different today? I don't think so. I still believe in the American Dream; I still believe in the hope of the promise of America; I still believe in the limitless opportunities America has to offer. But I also believe that America is a work in progress, and that America has a long way to go to realize its dream and its promise.

I grew up reading Frank Norris, Sinclair Lewis, Jack London, Upton Sinclair, John Steinbeck, Ernest Hemmingway, Raymond Chandler, James M. Cain, Mark Twain, & Herman Melville--just to name a few. I still like watching the movies of William Wyler, Frank Capra, Billy Wilder & John Ford. These books & movies taught me about important American values. They taught me that America can be better, can always improve; if people are willing to stand up for what is right.

month executive salaries, stock dividends, marketing, and lobbying expenses? Where health care is not treated, as by Greg Wellborn in his column last week, just like "every other industry"? (Wellborn compared U.S. and Canadian health care systems, concluding that if we want to determine which is preferable, we should "just ask the Canadians". Last month, a Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey did just that. When asked whether the U.S. or Canada had the better health care system, 82% of Canadians said they preferred their own, thank you.)

It took eight years from JFK's announcing his intentions to Congress to our landing on the moon. It's been 64 years since President Truman delivered his message to Congress insisting on " . . . health security for all, regardless of residence, station, or race -- everywhere in the United States. We should resolve now that the health of this Nation is a national concern; that financial barriers in the way of attaining health shall be removed; that the health of all its citizens deserves the help of all the Nation."

It can't be a matter of cost; many in Congress now raising this concern wouldn't allow enactment of the Medicare prescription drug benefit plan without it prohibiting the government from negotiating lower prices. Maybe it's all that lobbyist cash (\$35 million in lobbying from the top 20 health insurance and pharmaceutical companies in the first quarter alone); if FedEx and UPS were able to pour that much into campaign coffers, there'd probably be a drive to eliminate the "public option" of being able

to take our packages to the Post Office. Perhaps the most honest explanation came from Sen. Jim DeMint (R - S.C.), who said a few days ago, "If we're able to stop Obama on this, it will be his Waterloo. It will break him." The president responded, "Think about that. This isn't about me. This isn't about politics. This is about a health care system that is breaking America's families, breaking America's businesses and breaking America's economy. And we can't afford the politics of delay and defeat when it comes to health care. Not this time, not now. There are too many lives and livelihoods at stake."

When President Kennedy announced that "we choose to go to the moon", he knew we'd be leading other nations in the exploration of space. As his younger brother Ted is now arguing for health care reform, it's rather to catch up with the rest of the developed world, acting under the conviction that no U.S. Senator, let alone a Kennedy, and his family should be any more entitled to the best available medical care than any other American family. When health care reform is enacted, it won't be all that important to apportion credit and/or blame among Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives - I just want to be able to say, "We did it."

P.S.

I want to let reader Val Usle know I appreciate the letter in response to my July 11 column. I'll conclude by quoting Will Rogers, as well: "I belong to no organized party. I am a Democrat."



STUART Tolchin On...LIFE DO YOUR JOB! NO EXCUSES

In the middle of the week my wife and I joined another couple at a Colorado Street Restaurant for a late dinner.

Our friends prefer restaurants that are generally more exclusive than the Coffee Shops that my wife and I usually patronize. But this was a special occasion and my wife suggested a place that was a little fancier. And fancier it was with a lit patio and candles and special flaming lanterns to generate atmosphere. We were seated in the patio and my wife asked that the candles be lit so that we might be able to read our menus. Unfortunately, the likeable waiter informed us that there were no candles available. This was only the first of many unusual problems.

I ordered Perrier and was told by the friendly waiter that sparkling water was not carried in the restaurant. "Fine", I said. "What sparkling waters do you carry?" None", was the prompt response from the waiter. "Do you have unsweetened iced tea?" "No, but we have a very flavorful, zesty sweetened raspberry iced tea." While this disturbing conversation was progressing we were all increasingly aware of the sounds of something like a jack-hammer disturbingly torturing our senses. My wife politely interrupted my conversation with the waiter and asked if he could do something about the sound and perhaps have the individual making the noise killed. Well, this the waiter could do. He immediately left our table disappeared for a couple of minutes and the sound ceased.

The meal continued and we were served undercooked chicken wings, wilted and unpleasant Caesar Salad, and inedible Asian pear quesadilla..

We sent some of the items back and conversed among ourselves noting that this was absolutely the worst restaurant experience of our lives. As we spoke my wife directed our attention to a man and a woman seated near us. The couple was obviously overhearing our conversation and the man was glaring at us with of those if looks could kill stares. The man walked over and introduced himself as the owner of the restaurant who had been dining with a restaurant critic.(Not the best night of his life, I'm sure.). He explained that he had recently fired the entire staff and had recently installed a brand new staff with brand new ideas. He did admit that the small oversights involving the lack of candles, sparkling water, and unsweetened iced tea were problematic but explained that the undercooked chicken and the wilted lettuce were the results of his new chef's attempt to prepare old dishes in a new way. My wife explained that she liked Caesar salad in the old way—that's why she ordered it. Finally, the owner said he did not like the tropical pear quesadilla either and that it would be removed from the menu. As we tried to remove ourselves from the conversation he presented us with a \$25 gift certificate which I'm sure he thought would ensure our return to his establishment. .

As I think about the evening it's clear to me that if Americans and Mr. Restaurant owner want to get out of the mess we're all in then we can't spend our time fantasizing about new dishes. We need to do the best we can right now and maybe forego some fancy dinners. WE can stop making excuses and stop waiting for someone else to take care of us and take care of business. Sure things will still be unfair and there will always be lots to complain about but still will be able to feel pretty good about ourselves even without the tropical pear quesadilla.



GREG Wellborn Red Drug Blue Drug

In a moment of candor at last night's address on healthcare, President Obama told us all just how

bad government-run healthcare is going to be and just how much freedom we're going to lose. Since the mainstream press has all but ignored this comment, I thought it would be appropriate to focus another week's column on healthcare.

President Obama used the example of a red drug and a blue drug to make his main point. Pardon me forgetting which was which, but in essence he said (and I paraphrase), "if you have a red drug that costs a lot and a blue drug that costs a little, and they both do the same thing, why wouldn't you choose the blue drug?" He went on to explain that a key plank in his plan will be the establishment of some new department which will make these assessments for the benefit of all healthcare consumers.

That's a powerful statement, but I'm not sure many people realize just how much personal freedom they will lose under Obama's proposed healthcare reforms. In concept, it's great to think that we can save costs by using the least expensive drug. But the reality is that rarely do different drugs do the exact same things. Most of the time there is a reason for the difference, and using one drug over the other is impacted by what our specific illness and symptoms are. Every time I talk to a doctor (and with a family of 5 and an aging parent, that means I talk to lots of doctors), I'm amazed at how complex the selection of drugs and/or procedures is. Up until now, making the selection of which drug to use or which procedure to have has been a

decision made by the patient and his or her doctor. I can't think of anything more personal or representative of my freedom than having the freedom to make my own medical decisions. If Obamacare becomes law, that basic human right will disappear with the stroke of a pen.

If you listened to the entire Presidential address, you would have noticed that cost savings is the primary goal in this legislation. Again, in concept that sounds great, but let's look at some of the techniques that will be used to reduce costs. One of the most profound techniques is actually in practice today. It's called Sustainable Growth Rate, or SGR for short, and Medicare employs it to simply reduce the payment they a r e willing to make for medical procedures. It mandates cuts in physician payments to lower costs. Medicare reimbursements are already 30% lower than what private insurance companies pay, and they're scheduled to decrease by 21% more next year. Physicians are getting to the point of not accepting Medicare patients or getting out of medicine altogether. Think about your own situation. How fair would it be for the government to simply announce that your pay will shrink by 21% next year just so we don't have as much inflation? And how long would you stay in that business if it continued? When you personalize this, it's obvious why it's a lousy idea.

Another devastating technique which will affect all our lives is something called "comparable effectiveness". Kind of a catchy, innocent sounding phrase which describes a process by which a government agency determines whether a patient will live long enough to benefit from a procedure or surgery. If the agency concludes that the patient will not enjoy enough benefit, they will deny the

patient the right to have the procedure. This is already being done in England and Canada. Patients literally die because of these government-mandated decisions. Even here in the U.S., elderly patients on Medicaid in Oregon are being denied treatments and are instead told to consider physician-assisted suicide.

Both these techniques will become primary tools to contain healthcare costs if Obamacare becomes law, and that should scare us all. In an ideal world, we could all make healthcare choices without concern for what it will cost. But that world will never exist. I have a simple philosophy here. I want to be able to make as much of that decision as possible. If I'm asking my insurance company to pay for some of it, I realize they have a right to weigh in on the decision too. At least in that situation, I have some negotiating room. If they unjustifiably deny a treatment, I can sue. There is give and take in this system.

Under the government system, a government bureaucrat will tell my doctor what can and can't be done. There will be no give and take, and I'll have the same negotiating rights as I do with the DMV or post office... that is to say, none!! I find it almost incomprehensible to think that Americans are willing to lose this basic freedom and to put their medical care in the hands of a D.C. agency. Of course, the truth is that Americans overwhelmingly do not want to do this. Poll after poll shows that 85% of us are satisfied with our medical coverage.

Everything that is being proposed in the name of cost saving will destroy that satisfaction and deny us our basic human right to make our own medical decisions. And what's ironic about this is that the Congressional Budget Office just concluded that Obamacare will INCREASE costs, not decrease them. It's a devil's bargain to give up one's freedom

to secure one's wallet. It never works out that way.

Finally, we should focus a little attention on the whole issue of healthcare cost increases. Everyone seems to think it's a bad idea. As I look at the situation in this country, rising costs aren't evidence of a problem; they're evidence of a tremendous benefit. Quality healthcare (like a quality automobile) is a discretionary expense. As income rises, people tend to buy higher quality, and higher quality costs more. The richer a society becomes, the more it can afford to spend on research and exotic techniques to sustain life longer. Our life spans and the quality of our lives here in the U.S. have increased dramatically in the last 70 to 80 years. Life expectancy used to be 65, now it's 85. Does anyone want to return to the costs and quality of 1930's healthcare?

I, for one, am perfectly happy to pay more for a higher quality product or service. More importantly, and critically for the character of our nation, I want to retain the right to make that decision myself. If I want to scrimp on healthcare by buying the cheapest coverage I can and forego medical appointments, that should be my right. However, if I want to purchase a higher quality insurance policy and pay for higher quality care, that too should be my right. I don't think many of us are truly prepared to have a nameless, faceless bureaucrat telling us what we can do or how long we can live. That's not the America I know.

Gregory J. Wellborn 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.wellborn@mtnewsnews.com.

ORDINANCE NO. 1298

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA AMENDING TITLE 9 (“PUBLIC PEACE, MORALS AND WELFARE”) BY ADDING CHAPTER 9.48 REGULATING RESIDENCY AND LOITERING OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Title 9 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code is hereby amended to add Chapter 9.48 to read as follows:
“CHAPTER 9.48 SEX OFFENDER RESIDENCY AND LOITERING RESTRICTIONS

- Sections:
- 9.48.010 Legislative findings.
 - 9.48.020 Definitions.
 - 9.48.030 Registered sex offender prohibition/child safety zone.
 - 9.48.040 Registered sex offender prohibition/residential exclusion zone.
 - 9.48.050 Registered sex offender prohibition/single-family and multi-family dwellings.
 - 9.48.060 Registered sex offender prohibition/hotels.
 - 9.48.070 Responsible party prohibition/single-family and multi-family dwellings.
 - 9.48.080 Responsible party prohibitions/hotels.
 - 9.48.090 Eviction requirements.
 - 9.48.100 Offenses Constituting Nuisances.
 - 9.48.110 Nuisances; Recovery of Abatement Expenses 9.48.120 Penalty/Enforcement.
 - 9.48.130 Criminal Penalties Do Not Satisfy Administrative or Civil Actions.
 - 9.48.140 Applicability.

Section 9.48.010 Legislative findings.

- A. On November 7, 2006, the voters of the State of California overwhelmingly approved Proposition 83, the Sexual Predator Punishment and Control Act, commonly referred to as “Jessica’s Law”, so as to better protect Californians, and in particular, to protect the children of California from sex offenders;
- B. Proposition 83, as codified in subsection (b) of California Penal Code section 3003.5, prohibits any person who is required to register as a sex offender under Penal Code section 290 (hereinafter referred to as a “registered sex offender”) from residing within 2,000 feet of any public or private school, or any park where children regularly gather;
- C. Proposition 83, as codified in subsection (c) of Penal Code section 3003.5, authorizes local governments to enact ordinances that further restrict the residency of any registered sex offender;
- D. Subsection (a) of Penal Code section 3003.5, enacted in 1998 prior to Proposition 83, prohibits registered sex offenders who are on parole from residing in a “single-family dwelling” with another registered sex offender during the parole period, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption. For purposes of this state statute, “single-family dwelling” does not include a residential facility such as a group home that serves six or fewer persons.
- E. The City is becoming an increasingly attractive place for families and children because of the City’s largely residential character;
- F. There are many places in the City where children frequently gather such schools, parks, a library, day care centers, youth activity centers, classes and group activities for children;
- G. The City is concerned with recent occurrences within the City, the San Gabriel Valley and the County of Los Angeles and elsewhere in California where multiple registered sex offenders have been residing together in violation of Penal Code section 3003.5;
- H. By enacting Chapter 9.48, the City intends to eliminate any potential conflict of land uses in residential neighborhoods and to reduce the potential dangers associated with multiple registered sex offenders living near families with children and places where children frequently gather. Chapter 9.48 also regulates the number of registered sex offenders permitted to reside in multiple family dwellings;
- I. In addition to public and private schools and local parks, the City further finds that other public places that children frequently gather, such as child care centers, should also be protected from registered sex offenders;
- J. In order to foster compliance with the intent of this ordinance, Chapter 9.48 also establishes regulations for property owners who rent residential facilities to registered sex offenders;
- K. Based on City data, once this ordinance becomes effective, there will be .12 remaining square miles within the City’s residential zones where registered sex offenders can still reside; and
- L. Article XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution authorizes the City to enact and enforce ordinances that regulate conditions which may be public nuisances or health hazards, or that promote social, economic or aesthetic considerations;
- M. California Government Code section 38773.5 authorizes cities to pass ordinances that provide for the recovery of attorneys’ fees in any action, administrative proceeding or special proceeding to abate a nuisance;
- N. Registered sex offenders who reside within a Residential Exclusion Zone and Responsible Parties who knowingly rent any Single family dwelling or Multi-Family dwelling, and/or hotels, motels, or inns to more than one (1) Registered sex offender create a public nuisance that is injurious to the public health, safety and welfare;
- O. This Ordinance is required for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the citizens of the City.

Section 9.48.020 Definitions.

For purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

- A. “Child” or “children” shall mean any person(s) under the age of eighteen (18) years of age.
- B. “Child care center” shall mean any licensed facility of the State of California, Department of Social Services, that provides non-medical care to children in need of personal services, supervision, or assistance essential for sustaining the activities of daily living or for the protection of children on less than a twenty-four (24) hour basis, including, but not limited to, a family day care home, infant center, preschool, extended-day care facility, or school-age child care center.
- C. “Child safety zone” shall include any area located within three hundred (300) feet from the nearest property line of a child care center, public or private school, park, public library, commercial establishment that provides a child’s playground either in or adjacent to the establishment, a location that holds classes or group activities for children, and/or any school bus stop.
- D. “Hotel” shall mean a commercial establishment that rents guest rooms or suites to the public on a nightly, weekly, or monthly basis, and shall include a motel, a bed and breakfast and an inn that operates in such capacity.
- E. “Loiter” shall mean to delay, linger, or idle about a child safety zone without a lawful purpose.
- F. “Multi-family dwelling” shall mean a residential structure designed for the permanent residency of two (2) or more individuals, groups of individuals, or families living independently. This definition shall include a duplex, apartment house, and a condominium complex, but shall not include a hotel.
- G. “Owner’s authorized agent” shall mean any natural person, firm, association, joint venture, joint stock company, partnership, organization, club, company, limited liability company, corporation, business trust, manager, lessee, servant, officer, or employee, authorized to act for the property owner.
- H. “Park” shall include any areas owned, leased, controlled, maintained, or managed by a public entity which are open to the public where children regularly gather and which provide recreational, cultural, and/or community service activities including, but not limited to, playgrounds, playfields, and athletic courts.
- I. “Permanent resident” shall mean any person who, on a given date, has obtained a legal right to occupy or reside in, or has already, as of that date, occupied or resided in, a single-family or multi-family dwelling or a hotel, for more than thirty (30) consecutive days.
- J. “Property owner” shall include the owner of record of real property, as recorded in the office of the county registrar-recorder/county clerk, as well as any partial owner, joint owner, tenant, tenant-in-common, or joint tenant, of such real property.
- K. “Registered sex offender” shall mean any person who is required to register under section 290 of the California Penal Code, regardless of whether or not that person is on parole or probation.
- L. “Residential exclusion zone” shall mean any area located within two thousand (2,000) feet from the nearest property line of the subject property to the nearest property line of a child care center, public or private school, park, or public library.
- M. “Responsible party” shall mean a property owner and/or a property owner’s authorized agent.
- N. “Public or Private School” shall mean any place of learning including the following: institutions of learning for minors, whether public or private, offering instruction in those courses of study required by the California Education Code and maintained pursuant to standards set by the State Board of Education; nursery schools, kindergartens, Sunday schools, elementary schools, middle or junior high schools, and senior high schools.
- O. “Single-family dwelling” shall mean one permanent residential dwelling located on a single lot. For purposes of this Chapter, single-family dwelling shall not include any state-licensed residential facility which serves six or fewer persons and is exempted under California Penal Code § 3003.5.
- P. “Temporary resident” shall mean any person who, on a given date, has obtained a legal right to occupy or reside in, or has already, as of that date, occupied or resided in, a single-family or multi-family dwelling or a hotel, for a period of thirty (30) consecutive days or less.

Section 13.59.030 Registered sex offender prohibition/child safety zone.

A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from loitering in a child safety zone.

Section 9.48.040 Registered sex offender prohibition/residential exclusion zone.

A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from becoming a permanent or temporary resident in any residential exclusion zone.

Section 9.48.050 Registered sex offender prohibition/single-family and multi-family dwellings.

- A. Same dwelling. A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from renting or otherwise occupying a single-family dwelling or a unit in a multi-family dwelling with another registered sex offender, regardless of the permanent or temporary residential status of either registered sex offender, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- B. Multiple dwellings. A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from renting or otherwise occupying a unit in a multi-family dwelling as a permanent resident if there is another unit in that multi-family dwelling that is already rented or otherwise occupied by a registered sex offender as a permanent resident, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- C. Temporary residency. A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from renting or otherwise occupying any single-family dwelling or any unit in a multi-family dwelling as a temporary resident.

Section 9.48.060 Registered sex offender prohibition/hotels.

- A. Same hotel room. A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from renting or otherwise occupying the same guest room in a hotel with another registered sex offender, regardless of the permanent or temporary residential status of either registered sex offender, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- B. Separate hotel rooms. A registered sex offender shall be prohibited from renting or otherwise occupying a guest room in a hotel as a permanent resident if there is another guest room in that hotel that is already rented or otherwise occupied by a registered sex offender as a permanent resident, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Section 9.48.070 Responsible party prohibition/single-family and multi-family dwellings.

- A. Same dwelling. A responsible party shall be prohibited from knowingly allowing a single-family dwelling or a unit in a multi-family dwelling to be rented or otherwise occupied by more than one registered sex offender, regardless of the permanent or temporary residential status of either registered sex offender, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- B. Multiple dwellings. A responsible party shall be prohibited from knowingly allowing more than one unit in a multi-family dwelling to be rented or otherwise occupied by a registered sex offender as a permanent resident, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- C. Temporary residency. A responsible party shall be prohibited from knowingly allowing a single-family dwelling or any unit in a multi-family dwelling to be rented or otherwise occupied by a registered sex offender as a temporary resident.

Section 9.48.080 Responsible party prohibition/hotels.

- A. Same hotel room. A responsible party shall be prohibited from knowingly allowing a guest room in a hotel to be rented or otherwise occupied by more than one registered sex offender, regardless of the permanent or temporary residential status of either registered sex offender, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- B. Separate hotel rooms. A responsible party shall be prohibited from knowingly allowing a guest room in a hotel to be rented or otherwise occupied by a registered sex offender as a permanent resident if there is already a registered sex offender renting or otherwise occupying another guest room in that hotel as a permanent resident, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Section 9.48.090 Eviction requirements.

If, in order to comply with Section 9.48.070 or Section 9.48.080, a responsible party is required to terminate a registered sex offender’s tenancy or other occupancy, the responsible party shall comply with all applicable state law procedures and requirements governing the eviction of tenants of real property. If, in accordance with these procedures and requirements, a court determines that such termination is improper, the responsible party shall not be in violation of this Chapter 9.48 by allowing the registered sex offender to remain as a tenant or other occupant.

Section 9.48.100 Offenses Constituting Nuisances.

Any Single family dwelling, multi-family dwelling or Hotel operated or maintained in a manner inconsistent with the occupancy requirements of this chapter or the restrictions of Penal Code section 3003.5 is declared to be unlawful and is defined as and declared to be a public nuisance that is injurious to the public health, safety and welfare.

Section 9.48.110 Nuisances; Recovery of Abatement Expenses.

- A. In any civil action, administrative proceeding or special proceeding, including but not limited to those brought to abate a public nuisance, the prevailing party will be entitled to recovery of all costs, attorneys’ fees and expenses provided that the attorneys’ fees will only be available in those actions or proceedings in which the City has provided notice at the commencement of such action or proceeding that it intends to seek and recover its own attorneys’ fees. In no action or proceeding will an award of attorneys’ fees exceed the amount of reasonable attorneys’ fees incurred by the City in the action or proceeding.
- B. Moneys due to the City pursuant to this chapter may be recovered in an appropriate civil action. Alternatively, such liability may be enforced by special assessment proceeding against the parcel of land upon which the nuisance existed, which proceedings must be conducted in a manner substantively similar to the proceeding prescribed in Chapter 8.16 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code relating to assessment for abatement of property nuisances.

Section 9.48.120 Penalty/Enforcement.

Notwithstanding any other penalty provided by this Code or otherwise by law, any person who violates this Chapter 9.48 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and in addition, the City may enforce the violation by means of a civil enforcement process through a restraining order, a preliminary or permanent injunction, or by any other means available by law.

Section 9.48.130 Criminal Penalties Do Not Satisfy Administrative or Civil Actions.

Neither arrest, prosecution, conviction, imprisonment, nor payment of any fine for a violation of this Chapter shall satisfy or diminish the authority of the City to institute administrative or civil actions seeking enforcement of any or all of the provisions of this Ordinance.

9.48.140 Applicability. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:

- A. Tenancies or other occupancies which commenced prior to the effective date of this ordinance, or to the renewals of any such tenancies; or
- B. A registered sex offender who committed the offense resulting in such registration prior to the effective date of this ordinance.”

Section 2. *Severability.* If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance or the rules adopted hereby. The City Council of the City of Sierra Madre hereby declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases hereof be declared invalid or unenforceable.

Section 3. *Effective Date.* This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its passage and adoption pursuant to California Government Code section 36937.

Section 4. *CEQA.* This Ordinance has been determined not a “project” for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines and the City’s local CEQA Guidelines.

Section 5. *Certification.* The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published according to law.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 14th day of July, 2009.

AYES: MacGillivray, Watts, Buchanan, Mosca, Zimmerman NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

City of Sierra Madre
COURTESY NOTICE

To: City-wide
From: The City of Sierra Madre
Subject: Congestion Management Program (CMP)
Applicant: City of Sierra Madre

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to review the City’s compliance with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s Congestion Management Program (CMP) pursuant to California Government Code Section 65089.

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 28, 2009
(meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

PLACE OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

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

PROJECT LOCATION: City-wide

APPEAL: If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the City Council in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7135.

By Order of the City Council
Danny Castro, Development Services Director

City of Sierra Madre
COURTESY NOTICE

To: City-wide
From: The City of Sierra Madre
Subject: **Request for Extension of Vested Rights for One Carter - Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 54016**

Applicant: Brian Sosner – CS One Carter LLC

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to review the applicant’s request for a one (1)-year extension of vesting rights of Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 54016 (One Carter) recorded on August 22, 2007. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 16.52.080.C.(1) and California Government Code Section 66498.5(C), a subdivider may request a one (1)-year extension of vested rights within 2 (two) years of the recordation of a vesting tentative tract map.

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 28, 2009
(meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

PLACE OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
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All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

PROJECT LOCATION: City-wide

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By Order of the City Council
Danny Castro, Development Services Director



TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

California Wine Bars

It just may be the new Starbucks in America someday. It wouldn't be a grand invention, more of a social evolution. I first heard about wine bars from my dearly departed father many years ago. He would charm me with grand tales of European wine bars, where groups of people would gather for social stimulation, taste the different varieties of grapes that were typically found in France and occasional cultivated in Riesling, Germany. He had a

Cheese Shop; I learned volumes about Wine and Cheese. The shop is located in an Old Skateboard shop, but you would never know from the penetrating wines that caught me attention at every tipping. Assistant Gretchen approximates that they have over 400 different labels in any week available for sale. Here is the *Midas Touch* for the natives that feel we have a place of paradise in California. The shop only carries California made Wines. You know one thing; you are never going to get an undernourished grape due to lack of sun. The Cheese selection extends past our California



way of romanticizing those smoke filled wine bars, I could picture a man with a mustache, an exceptionally well tailored man in his tuxedo, he was dignifying each guest which arrived with an antiquity of manner that gave the person a pampered impression that they were an aristocrat. My imagination is not that engaged that I could achieve that feeling here in California, amongst the sandy shores that forbid a man a tuxedo. Our way is different in California and we ride upon the fashionable trends of casual wear.

Over the past few years' wine bars have been popping up in cities around LA, not at the rate Starbucks is appearing but each city seems to be entrenching and embracing some. Pasadena has Pop, Vertical and Heritage. Sierra Madre has one Monrovia claims one as well.

Tom Dugan is a retired Federal Postal Agent. I don't know why but he didn't strike me as Cliff Claven from Cheers. Tom is as calm as the come, and he gives you the shark routine at first, I don't know too much about wines. It didn't take long and he was telling me more in an hour about wines that I hear in a month. Maybe this guy is the person they modeled Cliff Claven after? Tom gave me an Olympic tour of his California Wine and

Borders, something about the cows roaming. Each week the wines available change and offer one a good rotation to keep the palate entertained. On my visit CWC was featuring Zinfandels. You can purchase a taste for around (\$4), for a 5oz glass you pay around (\$11), and a flight is in the (\$20) range. I think the flight is the way to go. On my visit they was offered a mixed white flight, available with Wines from Lodi, Paso Robles and an exceptional glass of Vok 2007 Verdelho El Pomar for (\$7.50) a glass. Another winner is San Simeon Chardonnay at (\$5) a glass. Get on their mailing list to be updated on times to meet wine maker and enjoy their class. My only disappointment was a short supply of California Sparklers. Again, just my opinion and my preference. The Cheese selection is also skimmed from the finest buckets in the business. I was well pleased with the Barely Buzzed Cheese that Asst. Fromagier Gretchen gave me. If you know your wine, or want to learn about wines, I recommend a visit to California Wine and Cheese.

Peter Dills, www.peterdills.com
California Wine and Cheese 115 W. Colorado Blvd. Monrovia (626) 358-6500
Watch The Chef Knows Saturday Afternoons at 3 PM on KJLA TV

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Wed 8: 8:00 PM - SONG SIRENS a collective of LA's female singer songwriters

Thur 9: 8:00 PM - The Fuzzy Logic Bopet

Fri 10: 8:00 PM - Jack Sheldon

Sat 11: 8:00 PM - Cuban Jazz Sensation ILLIANA ROSE

... SALSA DANCING !!

Tues 14: 8:30 PM R&B Memphis Soul Singer Songwriter SUSAN MARSHALL

Wed 15: 8:00 PM - The Jon Mayer Trio with vocalist Andera Baker

Thurs 16: 7:30 PM - The Danny Guerrero Jazz Trio

Fri 17: 7:00 PM - Jazz with the Dave Cullwell 3. 9:00 PM Mercy & the Merkett's Dance party

Sat 18: 8:00 PM - THE SKIVALLY / SILLS QUARTET

Wed 22: 8:00 PM GUITARIST LORENZO GRASSI AND TRIO

Thurs 23: 8:00 PM - JAZZ PIANIST / COMPOSER., Impromptu with Harry Smallenburg and Robert Pope. LOU FORESTIERI

Fri 24: 8:00 PM - Impromptu with Harry Smallenburg and Robert Pope

Sat 25: 7:00 PM - The BILL WATROUS QUARTET

Wed 29: 8:00 PM - The Jennifer Leitham Trio

Fri 31: Swing Dance Party with Flat Top Tom



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Breakfast Bagel:
 Eggs, Cheese, Bacon or Sausage
 with Tomato on a Fresh
 Toasted Bagel
 & Medium Coffee or Juice
 \$5.95

Breakfast Bowl:
 Eggs, Cheese, Country Potatoes,
 Onions, Bell Peppers,
 Bacon Or Sausage
 & Medium Coffee or Juice
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Chicken & Pesto Panini \$7.35

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Looking Up With Bob Eklund

NASA Images Show an Object Has Hit Jupiter

On the morning of July 20—exactly 15 years after Comet Shoemaker–Levy 9 impacted Jupiter—another object crashed into the giant planet. The impact occurred exactly on the 40th anniversary date of man's first landing on the Moon.

Following up on a tip by an amateur astronomer, Anthony Wesley of Australia, that a new dark "scar" had suddenly appeared on Jupiter that morning, scientists at JPL in Pasadena used the infrared capabilities of the Keck II Telescope on the 14,000-foot summit of Mauna Kea, Hawaii, to confirm that an impact had just occurred. The scar, appearing dark against Jupiter's bright surface, is about the size of the Pacific Ocean.

The images show the likely impact point to have been near Jupiter's south polar region, with a visibly dark scar and bright upwelling particles in the upper atmosphere detected in near-infrared wavelengths and a warming of the upper troposphere with possible extra emission from ammonia gas detected at mid-infrared wavelengths.

"We were extremely lucky to be seeing Jupiter at exactly the right time, the right hour, on the right side of Jupiter to witness the event," said JPL scientist Glenn Orton. "We couldn't have planned it better."

This image was taken at 1.65 microns, a wavelength sensitive to sunlight reflected from high in Jupiter's atmosphere, and it shows both the bright center of the scar (bottom left) and the debris to its northwest (upper left).

"It could be the impact of a comet, but we don't know for sure yet," said Orton. "It's been a whirlwind of a day—and this coming on the anniversaries of Shoemaker–Levy 9 and Apollo 11 is amazing."

Shoemaker–Levy 9 was a comet that broke into more than 20 pieces before the fragments hit Jupiter between July 16 and 22, 1994. It was co-discovered by Carolyn Shoemaker and David H. Levy.

Leigh Fletcher, a NASA postdoctoral fellow at JPL who worked with Orton during these latest observations said, "Given the rarity of these events, it's extremely exciting to be involved in these observations. These are the most exciting observations I've seen in my five years of observing the outer planets!"

The observations were made possible in large measure by the extraordinary efforts of the Infrared Telescope Facility staff at Mauna Kea—including telescope operator William Golisch, who adroitly moved three instruments in and out of the field during the short time the scar was visible on the planet, providing the wide-wavelength coverage.

MY PERSONAL RECOLLECTION OF THE SHOEMAKER–LEVY 9 IMPACT might not be out of order here. I was at Mount Wilson Observatory on the night of July 16, 1994, when the comet's first fragment struck Jupiter. The Observatory was holding an Open House for the press and others that evening, with the 100-inch telescope trained on Jupiter.

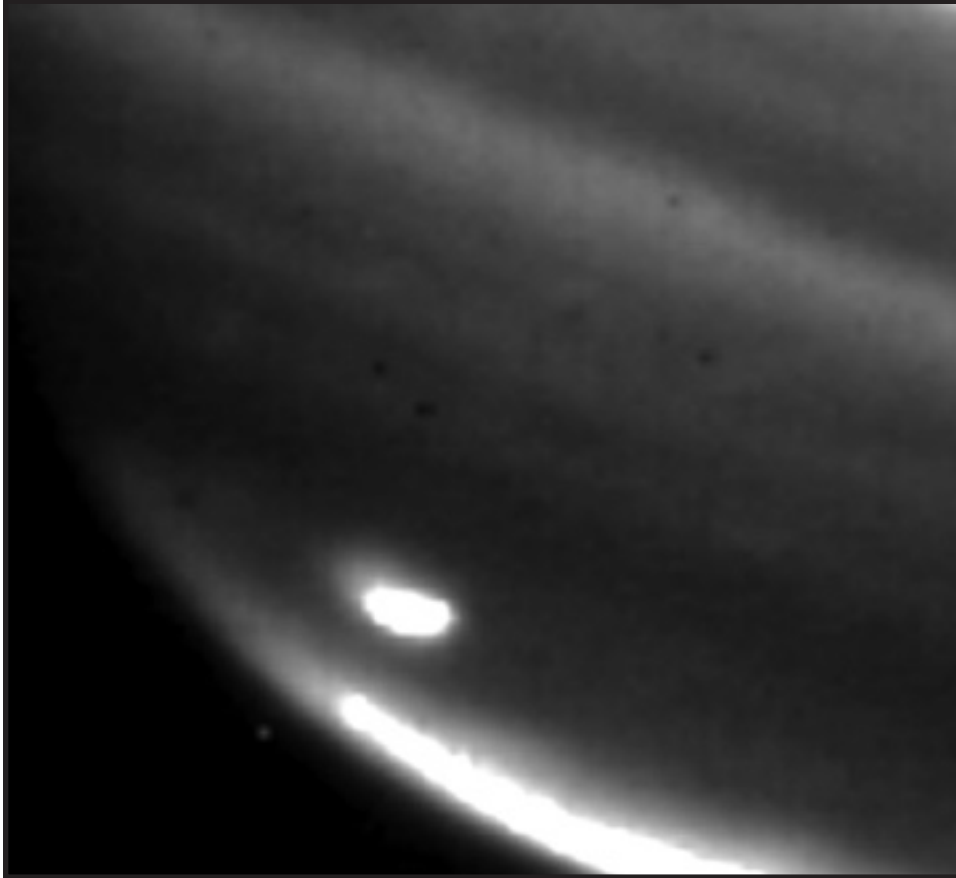
As it turned out, that first collision took place just out of sight, on Jupiter's back side, and so was not actually visible at the moment of impact. However, the dark scar from the impact soon came into view as the planet rotated.

And I remember that for several days thereafter, I was able to see the impact scars on Jupiter with my own 6-inch amateur telescope.

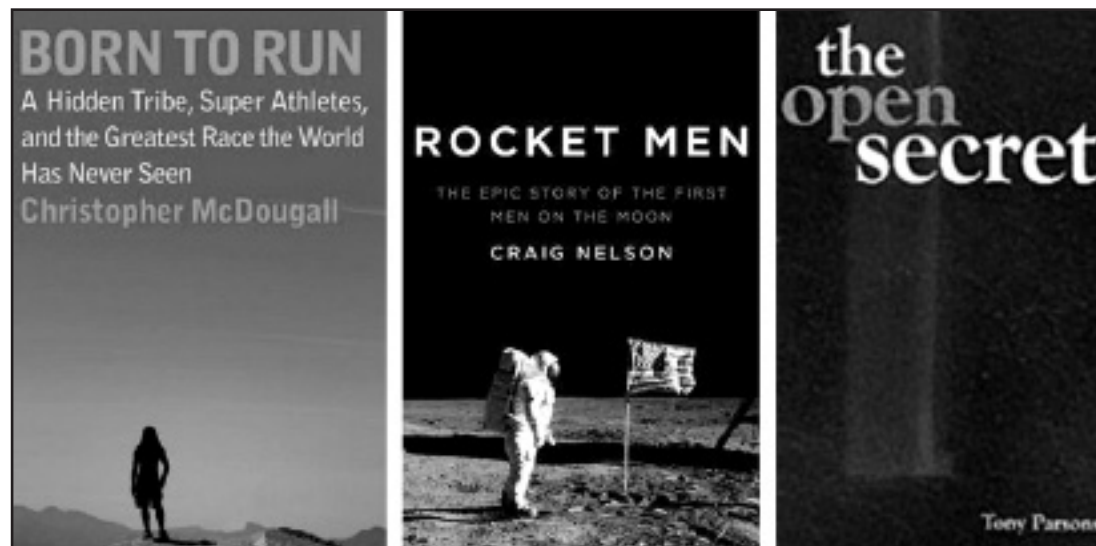
For more information, you can contact Bob at: beklund@MtnViewsNews.com



Photo by Aaron Dominguez



Jeff's Pics The Book Report Books for your consideration



Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen by Christopher McDougall (2009)

Full of incredible characters, amazing athletic achievements, cutting edge science, and pure inspiration, Born to Run is an epic adventure that began with one simple question: Christopher McDougall sets off to find a tribe of the world's greatest distance runners and learn their secrets, and in the process shows us that everything we thought we knew about running is wrong. Isolated by the most savage terrain in North America, the reclusive Tarahumara Indians of Mexico's deadly Copper Canyons are custodians of a lost art. For centuries they have practiced techniques that allow them to run hundreds of miles without rest and chase down anything from a deer to an Olympic marathoner while enjoying every mile of it. Their superhuman talent is matched by uncanny health and serenity, leaving the Tarahumara immune to the diseases and strife that plague modern existence. With the help of Caballo Blanco, a mysterious loner who lives among the tribe, the author was able to uncover the secrets of the Tarahumara and also to find his own inner ultra-athlete, as he trained for the challenge of a lifetime: a fifty-mile race through the heart of Tarahumara country pitting the tribe against an odd band of Americans, including a star ultramarathoner, a beautiful young surfer, and a barefoot wonder. With a wit and exuberance, McDougall takes us from the high-tech science labs at Harvard to the sun-baked valleys and freezing peaks across North America, where ever-growing numbers of ultrarunners are pushing their bodies to the limit, and, finally, to the climactic race in the Copper Canyons.

Rocket Men: The Epic Story of the First Men on the Moon by Craig Nelson (2009)

At 9:32 A.M. on July 16, 1969, the Apollo 11

rocket launched in the presence of more than a million spectators who had gathered to witness a truly historic event. It carried Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Mike Collins to the last frontier of human imagination: the moon. Rocket Men is the thrilling story, and it restores the mystery and majesty to an event that may have become too familiar for most people to realize what a stunning achievement it represented in planning, technology, and execution. Through interviews, twenty three thousand pages of NASA oral histories, and declassified CIA documents on the space race, Craig Nelson re-creates a vivid and detailed account of the Apollo 11 mission. From the scientific to the magical, readers are taken right into the cockpit with Aldrin and Armstrong and behind the scenes at Mission Control. Rocket Men is the story of a great achievement and a twentieth-century pilgrimage; a voyage into the unknown motivated by politics, faith, science, and wonder that changed the course of history.

The Open Secret by Tony Parsons (2008)

Perhaps the whole story of feeling like a separate person is simply and only a metaphor pointing to another possibility. And supposing that suddenly this whole individual construct could evaporate and there would only be emptiness? Could it be that, like a vacuum, emptiness is suddenly absolute fullness? The absolute fullness which is wholeness, a wonder and an indescribable love that is unconditional. And there could be the realization that all of that seeking and longing and struggle is also already absolute wholeness, an all-embracing love. And that love which we have longed for, has never left us but constantly sings to us through our senses and in every part of the aliveness which is happening . . . reading these words, sitting, breathing, hearing, feeling and thinking. It is all there is, as it is

On Line By PJ Carpenter



A Very Bad Idea

Is LA Going Google?

The City of Los Angeles is seriously considering replacing its existing application suite with the Google family of online applications known collectively as Google Apps. Google Apps consists of Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Talk, Google Docs and Google Sites. The collective package of services take advantage of the huge collection of Cloud Computing resources available to Google (mainly its huge server farms and its comprehensive software development teams) and offers its users a light, quick and well-developed suite of online tools that rival the best of the desktop productivity suites commercially available. Google's extensive experience in delivering on-line services and content successfully and consistently would naturally place it at the head of any list of eligible candidates for assistance with transitioning an organization through the steps involved in the move to become a total Cloud Computing Enterprise. The benefits of such a shift in data management and storage strategy are many and include Fault Tolerance, Reliability and a Dedicated Disaster Recovery model that would rival the fastest of its kind available to any major data management enterprise. One of the more attractive features of all this hi-tech wizardry is the reduced cost of operation. Since the physical resources involved are owned by the hosting company, the main costs to the city would be the 'leasing' of space for storage and other fees accrued for maintenance and consulting. Any upgrades of the hardware and software utilized by the system for this project would more than likely be absorbed by Google.

Just about everything in this proposed switch comes up pluses from a purely business viewpoint but unfortunately for the pro-switch advocates the proposed benefits do not outweigh the very real potential for the mishandling of confidential information and the security risks involved with the public storage of official documents and records. First and foremost on the list of concerns is the matter of who will have access to records stored on Google's servers. The public citizen has the expectation that information pertaining to them will be treated confidentially and only be shared with those parties directly concerned. Those entrusted with the information thus far have been the various public departments directly involved with the processing and storage of those records. Under normal conditions there are safeguards in place to ensure that private information is only released to authorized parties. Public employees

routinely sign confidentiality agreements and are held to well-defined standards of conduct that often define stiff penalties for even minor infractions. As public employees they are directly responsible to the public which they serve. Google's true level of commitment to user and data privacy has yet to be clearly defined in this context. The question of to whom Google will be directly responsible to in the event of a data breach or the unauthorized release of confidential information has yet to be answered and the question is not if an unauthorized release of information will happen but when it will happen. Anyone who has order something online and then began to receive unsolicited emails for offers of a better deal on very similar products has some idea of how bits and pieces of information about us gets 'out there'. One has to wonder how soon it will be before people begin to receive emails advertisements from DUI Attorneys for their services after having been pulled over for suspicion of a DUI because the online record of the incident somehow 'got out'. Having an online bank account or an online email account is not the same as having public records pertaining to us stored online, even if they happen to be hosted by the same company. The former represents a personal decision to release information about ourselves and that decision is made by us. The latter represents that decision being made for us.

The idea that a private business entity would somehow be more qualified and better able to handle a project involving public services is not a new one. At this point in time we now have sufficient evidence to show that this often is not the case at all and the reason for this is simple: Businesses have different priorities than Public Institutions. The Charter School experiment, Private Prisons and the various Defense Contractors involved in the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have shown us very clearly that these private businesses answer only to their bottom line and Google is most certainly a business in every sense of the word. Any problems that the City of Los Angeles has with its information systems will best be dealt with by investing in and upgrading their existing infrastructure. There is simply no way that they will be able to outsource the handling and processing of these sensitive records and ensure that the legal standards of data confidentiality and data integrity will be upheld. For the City to believe that Google will handle their business as well as they can is a very bad idea.

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The Senior Spot

By Bruce Lamarche

CHANGE, DON'T YOU JUST HATE IT?

Things are not like they used to be. All this reliance on electronics and the constant need to be in communication is driving us crazy. The need to constantly be in touch grabs us all, yet the stress it creates can be bad. Overall, it seems that life around us is changing too fast.

Yet, the law of life is change. Nothing is ever the same as it was. The challenge is our ability to adapt to these changes. A lot of that ability boils down to our willingness to learn new things. I'm not proposing that we all become computer geniuses and walk around with a Bluetooth stuck in our ear for instant communications. What is important is that we be willing to learn and grow. It actually can be fun and allows us to get out of the rut that we pretend to like because it seems safe.

When was the last time you went to school? While that seems like decades ago (yes, it was), the local community colleges offer an amazing array of courses to learn. Classes can be either academic or more skill or hobby oriented. The cost is minimal.

With the economy in a shambles, we as seniors have more tools to deal with the changes than younger folk. We have the ability to know how to live on a budget and to enjoy the

simple things. We know that we don't have to go to the movies at \$10 a head to enjoy a pleasant evening with friends. We have tools that experience offers to realize that the things that marketers push on us are not changes we must adopt.

So are we ready to flex our mental muscles; get our minds in the right shape to handle the challenging times as the future has a way of arriving unannounced? There are changes occurring that we must accept. Banking and bill paying on line is now standard, yet is actually easier when you know how to do it.

Let us embrace change despite the uncertainty that accompanies it. John F Kennedy once said "Change is the law of life, those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future."

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

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See the "Senior Spot" column weekly!

SENIOR2SENIOR

Medicare: A Summary

by Bill Robinson

Franklin Delano Roosevelt pushed Social Security through Congress but only after many political battles. Lyndon Baines Johnson then pushed Medicare through Congress but again only after many political battles. Now Barack Obama is trying to push health care reform through Congress and the battles are just beginning.

One of the battles is over the way health care services should be provided. Another battle is over the way these health care services should be funded.

Like so many others, my wife and I are on Social Security and depend on Medicare to pay at least a portion of our health care costs. It is a fair question to ask how these possible new changes to our health care system will impact on our Medicare coverage and on our family budget. My guess is that there are a huge number of other families asking the same question.

A review of the high points of Medicare seems in order.

Medicare's web page at www.medicare.gov lists all of the things covered by Medicare Parts A and B. It guides the reader through eligibility, the application process, the benefits and the premiums. It also lists all of the insurance companies and HMOs that market approved Medicare Advantage Plans and Medicare Drug Plans and lists them by region. It has a handy chart that shows what these private plans offer, what they cost and rates them as to the quality of their service.

The one thing the web page doesn't do is give a simple description of the various kinds of Medicare options. This is my attempt to make a complicated system easy to understand. I'll leave the rates, benefits and eligibility requirements to those not fighting the battle of word count.

Medicare Part A is public insurance intended to help those on Social Security pay their hospital bills. Enrollment is automatic when you start to draw Social Security benefits. It doesn't offer comprehensive coverage nor is it a program with many frills. It is bare bone partial coverage administered by the Federal Government. It costs money to obtain and requires co-payments and deductibles.

Medicare Part B is also public insurance for those on Social Security but it is intended to help

pay doctor bills. It is an optional program. It doesn't cover all of the needed services. Like Medicare Part A, Part B is bare bone partial coverage with few frills administered by the Federal Government. And like Medicare Part A, Part B costs money to obtain and requires co-payments and deductibles.

Enrollment in a Medicare Advantage Plan and/or a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan requires an enrollment in Medicare Parts A, B or both depending on the policy.

Medicare Advantage Plans, also called, "Medicare Part C", are private plans that give supplemental coverage to Medicare Parts A and B. Some Medicare Advantage Plans include some coverage for prescription drugs but there are others that do not. They carry a monthly premium and they may have a requirement for co-payments and a deductible. In some cases, but not all, a Medicare Advantage Plan will pay for itself. There are 33 different Medicare Advantage Plans approved by Medicare in this area. Compare these plans on Medicare's web page.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, also called, "Medicare Part D", are private plans that give prescription drug coverage to Medicare Parts A, B and sometime C. They carry a monthly premium, require a co-payment and they often have a deductible. Again, a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan may pay for itself but not necessarily. See Medicare's web page for a comparison of the 51 different Part D plans available in this area.

Medicare says, "Medicare drug plans may have a 'coverage gap' which is sometimes called a 'donut hole' ", (pronounced doughnut hole). Look out for those "donut holes", they are 'do not pay for this prescription holes' and they can be expensive. Consider the purchase of Medi-gap insurance to protect you from evil donut holes or get a prescription drug plan that doesn't have any.

There are also Medicare Supplement Plans. They are private plans that pick up some of the gaps in coverage left by Medicare Parts A and B. It's all very complicated and medical insurance coverage deserves close attention.

Senior to Senior is a monthly column written by Bill Robinson for the Mountain Views-Observer

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS

FYI: Cellular Plans Designed For Older Americans

(NAPSI)-There are an estimated 250 million cell phone subscribers in the United States. And while people ages 50 to 65 are just as likely as younger people to have cell phones, only 68 percent of those age 65 and older have them.

As the nation's largest member organization dedicated to helping people 50 and over improve the quality of their lives, AARP is using the power of its nearly 40 million members to help make basic cell phone plans more accessible.

By and large, older Americans are looking for flexible, competitively priced calling plans. These plans are offered by Consumer Cellular, the exclusive wireless provider to AARP members.

The relationship between the two organizations was established after AARP challenged the telecom industry to develop cell phone plans that eliminate early-termination fees, long-term contracts and mandatory binding arbitration. Consumer Cellular was selected as the AARP member benefit provider because it met AARP's rigorous service and policy standards.

"As the cost of daily living rises, AARP members are paying greater attention to how they spend their money," said AARP's Adam Sohn. "Consumer Cellular appreciates the basic service needs of our members and understands that they consider obstacles, like early-termination fees, when purchasing a wireless plan."

Benefits of Consumer Cellular's service include:

- No early-termination fees, no long-term contracts and no mandatory binding arbitration in customer contracts;
- Free basic phone with purchase of a calling plan; add a second phone for just \$10 and share monthly minutes;
- Phones from leading manufacturers, such as Motorola and Nokia, including basic, flip and camera phones;
- Transfer existing cell number;
- Hearing aid-compatible phones;
- Top-ranked customer support based in the U.S.;
- Risk-free satisfaction guarantee within the first 30 days or 30 minutes, whichever comes first.

"Many mature adults don't want to deal with the high monthly fees and long-term contracts associated with traditional mobile plans. With Consumer Cellular, AARP members and consumers across the country can enjoy wireless service with confidence through simple, low-cost phones and plans, without having to sign an intimidating contract," says John Marick, Consumer Cellular CEO.

To learn more about the new plans or to sign up for affordable cellular service and have a free phone shipped directly to you, visit www.ConsumerCellular.com or call (888) 437-9221. AARP members also qualify for additional benefits and discounts.

Recipe of the Week: Artichoke, Avocado & Chicken Salad



Ingredients:

Terttu's Special Dressing (see make-ahead recipe below)
1 (14-oz.) can artichoke hearts, rinsed and drained
½ cup pimiento-stuffed green olives, sliced
10 oz. cooked chicken, shredded
1 (10-oz.) bag chopped romaine lettuce
2 ripe, Fresh Avocados, peeled, seeded and chopped

Terttu's Special Dressing Ingredients

1/3 cup seasoned rice wine vinegar
1 tsp. soy sauce
1 tsp. toasted sesame oil
2 Tbsp. light Caesar dressing

Salad Directions

1. Gently toss a small amount of the dressing with each of the artichoke hearts, olives, chicken. Reserve remaining dressing.
2. Place lettuce in a large flat serving bowl. Toss with half of the reserved dressing.
3. Top lettuce with the artichoke hearts, olives, chicken and avocados.
4. Serve immediately and pass remaining dressing on the side.

Dressing Instructions

1. In a jar with a tight fitting lid, mix all dressing ingredients.
2. Shake well before using.

**Large avocados are recommended for this recipe. A large avocado averages about 8 ounces. If using smaller or larger size avocados adjust the quantity accordingly.*

Serving Suggestions:

Serve with garlic bread for a delicious meal.

For Your Funny Bone

A man and a woman go to the carnival every year. Every time the man says,"Anna can we ride them airplanes that goes up for a couple of minutes then comes back down?"

The woman always replied by saying,"We don't need to spend any extra money on them airplanes,its to expensive.Ten dollars is ten dollars.

Tom, the pilot, said," Larry, every year I hear you say you want to ride my airplanes, and every year Anna says it 's too expensive. I'll make you a deal, if I do all of my flips and tricks with you in there with me, and you don't say one word, I'll give you the ride for free. Anna and Larry discussed it and decided they would take the deal. They got up in the air and Tom did all of his tricks and flips.

Tom said,"Larry I just knew you'd say something on that first flip,but you didn't!

Larry replied," i was going to say something when Anna fell out, but ten dollars is ten dollars.

July Birthdays



Joanne Gheezo, 7/5; Martha Griffin, 7/8; Beverly Turko, 7/11; Anthony Gheezo, 7/27; and Betty Hansen, 7/30

Quote:

Life is great. Don't let circumstances and society fool you into believing it's not. ~Adabella Radici

Sierra Madre Aquatic Center is Open

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Sat & Sun: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

*Special Senior Price (62 & over): Daily admission is \$1.50 or Seasonal Pass is \$59.00. For Public Swim times or more information, please call (626) 355-2356

Pasadena Highlands Sponsors Bingo Prize

Pasadena Highlands, an independent and assisted living community, is proud to provide a special gift basket on the first Tuesday of each month. Bingo takes place every Tuesday at 1:30 pm in the Hart Park House / Senior Center in Memorial Park. The game begins at 1:30 pm but those wishing to play must arrive 10 minutes before to secure your Bingo cards.

Join us on the first Tuesday of each month for your chance to win this special prize and learn more about the Pasadena Highlands.

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

3rd Tuesday of each month-Free financial consulting: 10-12 noon. Call 355-7394 for

an appointment.

Wednesday: Wii Wednesday Virtual Reality games (bowling, tennis, boxing,etc.) 2nd Wednesday of the month: FREE Legal Consultations 10-11:30 am. Appointments necessary. Call 355-7394.

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

Senior Opportunities and Excursions



Monthly Excursions:

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.



MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO DELIVER MEALS TO OUR HOMEBOUND NEIGHBORS **ONCE A MONTH OR WEEKLY**

Please contact Darlene Traxler at 626.355.0256.



Chris Bertrand

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

By Chris Bertrand

The “Perfect” Highland Oaks Home

When Darin and Wendy Gruber found the perfect home in 2003, it only existed in Darin's head. The Highland Oaks home was overgrown with ivy and three decades of shrubbery gone feral. The good news to Darin, a designer and construction project manager, was that the owners hadn't done any remodeling at all. Nothing needed to be un-done.

They made a family leap of faith, and closed on the house, moved in and had their third child all in the same week. All five of them squeezed into their future dream home, which sported only two bedrooms but a tantalizing 270 feet of curving street frontage and a plethora of possibilities.

When Darin quickly hauled away the ivy and shrubbery jungle, uncovering keen neighborhood interest, many thought he had already expanded the house. The front yard became the Gruber's pride and joy, with the proverbial front yard swing, hand decorated by local muralist Moira Love.

60 English rose bushes were soon lovingly planted inside the 200+ feet of new white picket fence. 55 more roses, opening in a pale pink blush then maturing to white, vine around the expanse of fence that bends with the curved street, to the delight of walkers and drivers in the neighborhood.

Within a few short months the Grubers expanded out and around; anywhere but up. This family loves a sprawling ranch style home. The young Gruber girls, though, pined for their previous home, so Darin created a mini version of it as a playhouse in the back yard.

Though both parents are busy with the professions, home and the family revolves around the

children. You can see and feel it at the front door, adorned with a beautiful hand painted sign welcoming visitors from all the family.

Darin's architectural training and Wendy's Realtor's eye combined to put all the appealing yet very family friendly and functional touches throughout the home. The bathrooms, though elegant with Noche travertine, Brazilian granite and other gorgeous materials, proclaim their owners. A custom designed butterfly mosaic for the girls' bath, and classic car replicas displayed throughout their son's bath.

The master suite was definitely built as a soothing retreat, with nearly espresso brown walls. A stunning angled fireplace was raised on a generous granite hearth, providing casual seating and putting the mesmerizing flames at eye, actually, pillow level. The intricate carved mantle, a “find” Darin is proud of, remains toned down and understated in its monochromatic white.

Muralist, Moira Love, brought the love of reclining on the back yard grass to the girls' bedroom. The entire ceiling became a mural, with sky and clouds in the center. The corners of the ceiling provide peripheral vision of the actual variety of trees located outside the bedroom. Above each girl's headboard, is their own personal mural, one of a dancer and the other a horse.

Construction clients love Darin's keen eye, vision and creativity, plus his ability to pull just the right contractors, artisans and materials into a project, whether it's a new bathroom, a new driveway, a new rose garden or....

Gruber Home Improvement 626-221-1900 or DarinGHI@aol.com

South El Monte Among Top 10 Cities With Increased Property Values in L.A. County

South El Monte, CA, July 20, 2009 – The City of South El Monte has been chosen among the top 10 cities with the highest positive increase in assessed valuation for 2009 by the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office. In a time when home values have declined and foreclosures have risen, South El Monte's property values have increased by 3.5%.

For its evaluation, the Assessor's Office considered South El Monte's diverse land use pattern, the demand for industrial and commercial development in 2008, and the accessibility to the 10, 60, and 605 freeways that provide ready access to points throughout Southern California.

Although numerous economic developments took place, the greatest share of South El Monte's value increase is attributed to transfers of existing residential, commercial, and industrial properties.

The increased valuation is due in part to the City of South El Monte's diligent efforts to improve the quality of life by creating economic developments that generate sales-tax revenue, which amounted to more than \$4 million dollars, coupled with substantial infrastructure improvements and municipal rehabilitation programs.

Business development continues to flourish, including the South El Monte Villa (30 single-family detached homes), a mixed-use senior housing development on Peck Road, a soon-to-open Arco gas station on Rosemead Boulevard replacing an auto-dismantling business, and Plaza del Sol Neighborhood Shopping Center that redeveloped an under-developed, 9-acre block with a CVS drugstore and Superior Warehouse Grocery Store to be joined by a Marshalls Store along with other regionally known retailers in Winter 2009.

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Facts, Myths & What Most Americans Know About Energy: Quiz Answers - From Page 5

1. Less than five percent of the world's oil is located in the United States, both on land and offshore.

TRUE. Only 2.4 percent of the world's known oil reserves are in the United States, and North America - including the U.S. - has just 3.2 percent. Bigger players: Central and South America, with 9 percent; Africa, with 9.5 percent; Europe and Eurasia, with 11.6 percent; and the Mideast, with 61 percent.

Who agreed with you?

If you got this one wrong, you've got lots of company. Only five percent of the national sample of participants in Public Agenda's Energy Learning Curve™ survey, done in association with Planet Forward, said the U.S. has less than five percent of the world's oil. More popular, but wrong, guesses: 11 percent said we've got over half; 17 percent put our share at 5 to 10 percent; about a fifth said we've got a quarter to half of the supply; and a third estimated our share at 11 to 25 percent.

2. Most of the oil that the United States imports comes from the Middle East.

FALSE. The U.S. imports about 60 percent of the oil it needs, but about half of that comes from countries in the Western Hemisphere, such as Canada, Mexico and Venezuela. Only about 16 percent comes from countries in the Persian Gulf, mostly Saudi Arabia.

Who agreed with you?

On this Energy Learning Curve™ question, 65 percent of survey participants said "true," 24 percent said "false," and 10 percent said "don't know."

3. By reducing the level of smog in the United States, we've gone a long way towards reducing global warming.

FALSE. The techniques used to reduce ozone and the sooty "particulates" that cause visible smog, like smokestack "scrubbers" and catalytic converters on cars, don't have any effect on the invisible greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide. So while the EPA reports that pollutants which cause visible air pollution have fallen over the past several decades, emissions of gases linked to global warming have increased.

Who Agreed With You?

On this survey question, Energy Learning Curve™ researchers found 52 percent who said "true," 36 percent who said "false" and 12 percent who said "don't know."

4. Driving gasoline-powered vehicles and using coal to generate electricity both contribute to global warming.

TRUE. Fossil fuels - gasoline, coal and natural gas - produce greenhouse gases, the main cause of global warming. They account for 80 percent of U.S. energy use and their supply is limited.

Who Agreed With You?

Asked about what contributes to global warming, 54 percent of Energy Learning Curve™ survey participants said it is affected "a lot" by vehicles that use gasoline; 39 percent said the same about using coal for power plants; and 21 percent said nuclear power plants contribute "a lot," even though nuclear plants do not emit greenhouse gases.

5. Americans use the same amount of energy per person as Europeans.

FALSE. Americans use a lot of energy: our per capita total in 2006 was over twice as much as in Europe - a robust 334.6 million BTUs (British Thermal Units) here compared to 146.2 million over there.

Who Agreed With You?

Most of us know that Americans are using a whole lot of fuel. On this question, 73 percent of Energy Learning Curve™ survey participants said "false," 8 percent said "true" and 19 percent said "don't know."

6. Cars in Europe and Japan are required to get more miles per gallon than cars in the United States.

TRUE. In Europe, vehicles average about 37 miles per gallon and are set to get 50 miles a gallon by

2012. In Japan, they currently average 45 miles per gallon. Fuel standards for vehicles in the U.S. remain at around 25 miles per gallon. A recent bill passed by Congress ramps that up to at least 35 mpg by 2030.

Who Agreed With You?

On this question, the Energy Learning Curve™ survey found 56 percent who said "true," 18 percent who said "false" and 26 percent who said "don't know."

7. Geothermal energy is a fossil fuel.

FALSE. Geothermal energy - steam and water made hot by the Earth's own heat - is not a fossil fuel. Fossil fuels, on the other hand, are the remains of plants and animals, turned into fuel by millions of years of exposure to the heat of the earth.

Who Agreed With You?

For this question, we asked participants in the Energy Learning Curve™ to tell us what energy sources they think of when they think about fossil fuels. Coal and oil were each pointed to by over a third of the survey participants, and gasoline and natural gas were each named by about a fifth of survey participants. But nearly a third were unable to name a fossil fuel and others wrongly said wind and solar power are fossil fuels.

8. Using crops like corn to produce ethanol increases food prices.

HOTLY DEBATED. Groups like the World Bank have blamed biofuels for driving up food prices by using land for fuel instead of food production. Biofuel advocates say other factors, like rising world demand for food and energy prices themselves, play a bigger role in food prices.

Who agreed with you?

On this question in the Energy Learning Curve™ survey, 59 percent said "true," 28 percent said "false" and 13 percent said "don't know."

9. Nuclear power is a type of renewable energy.

FALSE. Nuclear power is not a fossil fuel but the supply of uranium is limited, so this is not a renewable source of energy. Renewable energy sources, which have supplies that can be replenished and won't run out, include solar power, wind, hydroelectric, ethanol and geothermal.

Who Agreed With You?

For this question in the Energy Learning Curve survey, we asked people to name a renewable source of energy. Thirty percent could not think of one; and nuclear power, named by 8 percent of participants, was the most popular of the wrong answers. But there were plenty of correct identifications of renewable energy sources: wind, named by 45 percent of Energy Learning Curve™ survey participants; solar, by 40 percent; hydroelectric, by 24 percent; ethanol, by 6 percent; geothermal, by 4 percent, and biofuels and biodiesel, by 2 percent and 1 percent.

10. Over the long run, the price of oil will go up because supplies are diminishing and demand is increasing.

TRUE. Energy experts agree that one of the biggest trends - and challenges - is that world energy demand is going to skyrocket over the next twenty years, as countries like China and India expand their economies and people there are able to afford cars, bigger homes and more gadgets. The International Energy Agency projects that energy demand will grow 45 percent by 2030, and demand for oil, coal and natural gas will grow faster than new supplies come on line. So it's very likely prices will go up.

Who Agreed With You?

On this question in Public Agenda's 2009 Energy Learning Curve™ survey, 70 percent said "true," 24 percent said "false" and 6 percent said "don't know."

SCORING

Running Low: 0-4 correct answers

Plugged In: 5-8 correct answers

Fully Charged: 9-10 correct answers

To learn more about the ways we find, produce and make energy, check out "Did You Know...? Fast Facts About Energy" and our energy and environment issues page. And for more about public attitudes and knowledge about energy issues and possible solutions, see the results of the Energy Learning Curve™ survey, done by Public Agenda for Planet Forward.

Where To Find The Mountain Views News

(partial listing)

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Can not combine with any other offer. One coupon per table.
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\$5 OFF
Any Guest Check \$20.00 or More
Can not combine with any other offer. One discount per coupon per table.
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Concerts In The Park

City of Arcadia 2009 Summer Concert Series

City Hall West Lawn
240 West Huntington Drive

- Every Thursday, 6:30 – 8pm
- FREE Kids Fun Zone featuring games, crafts and activities

NEW TIME

<p>July 9, 2009</p> <p>Hodads "Beach Tunes"</p>	<p>August 6, 2009</p> <p>Cold Duck "70s/Top 40"</p>
<p>July 16, 2009</p> <p>Howlin' Blues Boogie Band "Blues"</p>	<p>August 13, 2009</p> <p>Jumpin Joz "Jump/Swing"</p>
<p>July 23, 2009</p> <p>Rockit Scientists "Tribute to the Baby Boomers"</p>	<p>August 20, 2009</p> <p>Rubber Soul "Tribute to the Beatles"</p>
<p>July 30, 2009</p> <p>Silverados "Country"</p>	<p>SPONSORED IN PART BY ARCADIA TRANSIT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT</p>

Charcuterie

1/2 Off
Any Salad, Burger or Sandwich
When you purchase one of equal or greater value.
With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Expires 8-4-09 MVN

\$2 Off
Any Salad, Burger or Sandwich
With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Expires 8-4-09 MVN

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