



SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

Wednesday 3- 7:30 pm
Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms. Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free. Free public parking on Mariposa.

AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

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Where Your
Community News Comes First

Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009

VOLUME 3 NO. 42

Concerns Over Possible Mudslides Bring Residents Out - Recent Rains Yield No Slides

By Dean Lee

City officials once again warned residents Wednesday night of the danger associated with the barren hillsides and mud flows, although Tuesday's storm brought no reports of any mud in the canyons.

Bruce Inman, Director of Public Works said the storm brought about 1.6 inches of rain. He also gave a quick overview of last year's storms and the mud they produced.

"What we saw last year was that the majority of the mud came from 801 [Skyland Drive]," he explained. "It comes down the long driveway and makes a big mess; it completely blocks the street..."

He said another area that produced a great deal of mud was the far end of Skyline where it changes to Canyon Crest Drive near the County of Los Angeles gate.

Inman added that last year the city was fortunate because the rain came in "little bits at a time." What was damaged, he noted, were the roads, "It's not the mud necessarily, it's the cleanup that tears up the roads." The city had to run tractors over the local streets for six months in order to mitigate the water damage.

Although last year could have been worse, this year the city is ready he said. Over the summer the Conservation Corp removed a series of sheet metal barriers near Mount Wilson Trail that could have become dangerous projectiles. He also said a wooden barrier was built across the Stonehouse property.

"That was probably the most dangerous area," he said about Stonehouse. "That's a very large drainage area that had no control. Debris, if we had a mud flow event, would have gone across Grand View Ave. and down through Arcadia." He added, "That one would have been ugly."

During Inman's 30 minute presentation, he cautioned that residents need to be ready noting that the city's resources would be in short supply. He also explained that he did not mean for it to sound cold hearted but said he was not going to send city workers out into dangerous conditions to rescue people, "we would wait for

the event to be over."

Police Chief Marilyn Diaz said although evacuations can sometimes be mandatory they cannot force anyone to leave.

The flag warning campaign - Ready, Set, Go was also discussed. According to city staff, a series of three different colored flags are flown at four different locations in Sierra Madre. They are City Hall, Search and Rescue Headquarters, Mountain Trail and Churchill Road, and Mary's Market). The colors, green, yellow and red indicate different stages of alerts with red triggering evacuations. The alerts



Public Works Director, Bruce Inman, chats with a resident over the potential mud slide dangers. Photo by D. Lee/MVNews

are also on the city's web site and on local channel 3.

Diaz explained that a yellow warning triggers vehicles being towed from designated streets. Residents are asked to park down the hill away from, Mount Wilson Trail, Churchill Rd., Skyland Dr., Fern Glen, Fern Dr., Idlehour Ln., Canyon Crest Dr., Orange Dr., Woodland Dr., Brookside Lane, Sunnyside Lane, Yucca Trail, and Holly Trail.

Diaz said during these times overnight parking restrictions are also lifted.

A brief spat broke out in the middle of the meeting over concerns about how the network and cable media were treated last year. Residents complained that the city let them park in the restricted areas. Diaz said state law prohibits them from interfering with the media.

"There is nothing we can do unless they become a danger," she said. "Then we can ask them to move."

George Maurer Is A Tower Of Strength



George Maurer, II, civic leader and once the Mayor of Sierra Madre celebrated his 87th birthday on October 5, 2009. What should have been a time of jubilation, however, became a time of excruciating sorrow.

Two days before his birthday, his beloved son, George Maurer, III, with whom he lived, suffered a stroke. On his birthday, his son-in-law, John Porretta of Arcadia, had a heart attack and died. And, on this past Thursday, George, III unable to recover from the stroke and infection, passed away. (See Remembrance - Page 3)

However, through all of the tragedy, George, II has remained strong. "It's been difficult", he said, "But I am so grateful for what everyone has been doing."

If you don't know George, you probably have seen him about town. He is one of Sierra Madre's most dedicated volunteers. You can see him at Beantown every morning. You can see him riding around town on his scooter going to Kiwanis, Rotary or Chamber meetings. You can see him posting notices for his favorite organizations. Always willing to help, he is now facing one of the most difficult tasks any parent has to face. But, we are certain, that George, the little guy who knows and does so much, will be alright.

S. Henderson/MVNews

Introducing: The 2010 Rose Princesses

Full Story on Page 4



Princess Ashley Thaxton, Princess Kinsey Stuart, Princess Katherine Hernández, Princess Michelle Van Wyk, Princess Natalie Innocenzi, Princess June Ko, Princess Lauren Rogers
Photo Courtesy Tournament of Roses

Bear & Wildlife Sightings Increasing Throughout Foothills - No Cause For Alarm - Just Caution

Residents are becoming increasingly concerned with the increased migration of bears into Foothill cities.

Bears have been seen as far south as Jameson Court in western Sierra Madre. In Arcadia, police killed two bears who are alleged not to have responded to attempts to chase the animals back into the wild using bean bags.

Experts stress that the animals are just searching for food and residents must take the necessary precautions so that the bears do not find food.

In a recent incident, a new resident to Sierra Madre encountered a bear in his yard one evening. "The bear and I looked at each other and we both quickly turned and went in the opposite direction," said Fred Thomas who lives near the Passionist Fathers Retreat. Thomas proceeded to do something that proved to be very effective when he went back inside the house. He hit the panic button for his automobile and the sound of the alarm caused the bear to leave.

The recent fires (the Sierra Madre fire of last year and the Station Fire) are indeed the cause for growing numbers of wildlife. And, unlike in colder climates, the California Department of Forestry said that California Bears do not hibernate, so there is no real respite from the presence of bears.

If you encounter bears or coyotes, the Humane Society suggests that you: Keep children close to you



This bear made a visit to the Gage home in Sierra Madre a few years ago. No damage to property. He found no food and left. Photo courtesy Gage Family

Do not approach the animal
Do not run from the animal
Always stand tall, make eye contact and pick up children without turning your back to the animal
Do all you can to make yourself bigger. Raise your arms, throw stones, branches, make noise, wave your arms slowly and speak loud
If in your yard bang pots and pans together or make other loud noises to scare them away
Carry an umbrella with you on walks. If encountered by coyotes open umbrella to scare them away
Report sightings to authorities immediately. (See Pg. 5 for more info)

October Is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is dedicated to increasing awareness about the importance of the early detection of breast cancer. Dollars Spent Where You See The 'Pink Ribbon' help support research to find a cure. Oh, and about The Pink Ribbon.....

HISTORY OF THE PINK RIBBON:

A pink ribbon symbolizes breast cancer awareness. The merging of ribbon and symbolism started in 1979 when yellow ribbons around the trees were a sign of hope for the return of American hostages abroad.

Eleven years later, AIDS activists turned the ribbon bright red, looped it, spruced it up and sent it onto the national stage during the Tony awards to represent those affected by AIDS.

In 1990, the first breast cancer survivor program was launched at the Komen National Race for the Cure® in Washington, D.C. The survivors wore buttons that were printed in black and white. Later that year, the survivor program developed, and pink was used as the designated color for Komen to promote awareness and its programs. Pink visors were launched for survivor recognition.

In 1991, pink ribbons were distributed to all breast cancer survivors and participants of the Komen New York City Race for the Cure®. Then in 1992, Alexandra Penney, editor-in-chief

of Self magazine, wanted to put the magazine's second annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month issue over the top. She did this by creating a ribbon and enlisting the cosmetics giants to distribute them in New York City stores. And thus, the birth of the pink ribbon!

In 2007, twenty-five years after its inception, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation changed its name to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The name change was accompanied by a new brand image. The new logo included a pink "running ribbon" designed specifically for Komen for the Cure. This ribbon signifies the promise Komen Founder Nancy G. Brinker made to her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, to do what she could to end breast cancer.

Today, any generic pink ribbon can be used to represent breast cancer awareness while the Komen "running ribbon" is reserved solely for use by Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. Want to learn other ways to help? Go to: www.cancer.org or <http://ww5.komen.org>

FCC Grants Radio License to Sierra Madre

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has recently granted a broadcasting license to the City of Sierra Madre to construct and operate an "Emergency Alert" AM radio station. The FCC has issued the call letters "WQKW561" for the station.

The station will broadcast to all of Sierra Madre on 1630-AM, and will provide important public safety information in the event of an emergency, such as an earthquake, fire, or flood.

This AM broadcasting station will be connected directly to the Sierra Madre Emergency Operations Center. In non-emergency times, the station will also be used to promote and publicize non-commercial community events in Sierra Madre.

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club and the Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council are organizing fund raising efforts to pay for the station, which has an estimated cost of about \$50,000. The City has pledged about \$14,000 in funding; the balance of \$36,000 must be raised from community volunteer efforts.

Telemarketing Scam Hits Sierra Madre Residents

Several Sierra Madre residents contacted local authorities and this paper regarding a recent rash of calls soliciting funds for fictitious police organizations.

One resident noted that the same person identified himself with the same name, as a representative of two different organizations within a few hours.

The callers use a variety of official sounding names such as "The Police Association" or "The Fraternal Police and Firefighters Association."

It has been suggested that if you receive such a call and have caller ID on your telephone, that you report the number to the police department at 626-355-1414.

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Pumpkin latte

Coffee!

Sandwiches

Niko & friends
Coffee - Deli

Corner of N Michillinda and W Montecito
M-F: 7 to 6, Sat 8:30 to 1:30, Closed Sunday

Read The Paper Online At: www.mtnviewsnews.com

Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast
Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

HUNTINGTON VETERINARY HOSPITAL
 626-357-2335
 MON.-FRI. 8-6PM SAT. 8-2
 535 West Huntington Drive in Monrovia

MEDICINE:
 • Annual Exams • Behavioral Counseling
 • Vaccinations • Dermatology
 • Dentistry • In-House Laboratory

SURGERY:
 • Orthopedics • TPLO
 • Neurosurgery • Soft Tissue

Gary R. White, DVM

OCTOBER

Sierra Madre

7 SMTV3 Committee Meeting Community Recreation Center, 7:30 am	14 Arts Commission Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 pm
15 Third Thursday Book Club Meeting SM Public Library 11:00 am	17 Oktoberfest Golf & Tennis Tournament October 17th Rec Center 8:00 am - Noon
19 What do Publishers Want? Talk at the Library October 19th 7:00 pm	20 Improve Home Energy Performance How Residents' Houses Can Measure Up The Arc 14403-B East Pacific Ave Baldwin Park 1:00 - 4:00
	28 Library Trustees Meeting, City Hall Conference Room 7:00 pm

Community Arts Commission Potluck & Friends of the Arts Meeting

The Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission invites you to a Potluck Dinner on Tuesday, October 20th at the Hart Park House / Senior Center in Memorial Park (222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.) starting at 7 pm. Please bring a dish to share (enough for 10 people) and your ideas for improving next year's Open Studio Tour. You are then welcome to stay and learn more on how you can support the newly formed Friends of the Arts Group as they kick off their first official meeting.

The Friends of the Arts group will focus on the ongoing promotion of the arts in Sierra Madre as well as the task of fundraising to support the work of the City's Community Arts Commission. This first meeting the group will create a mission statement, work on responsibilities of the group and develop leaderships roles such as President and Vice President.

For more information on the potluck or on how to get more involved with the Arts in Sierra Madre, please contact the Community & Personnel Services Department at (626) 355-5278.

WRITERS' PROGRAM AT THE LIBRARY

Perhaps you have an idea for an article, book, or screenplay, or a manuscript that you feel is ready to go—but how can you tell if it will sell? In "What Do Publishers Want?", author and editor Stephanie Vitale will discuss current literary trends, and how to tailor and target your material so that it has the best possible chance in today's shrinking media markets. This free program is open to the public and is not only for working writers; aspiring writers are especially welcome to attend. Monday, October 19th at 7:00 p.m., at the Sierra Madre Public Library. The Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre 91024. For more information, please call Stephanie Vitale at 626-355-7186.

BARGAIN BOOK TABLE SALE AT SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will have a Bargain Book Table Sale inside the Library, Monday, October 19 through Saturday, October 24, during the Library's public open hours. Featured topics will include Fiction, Mysteries, Poetry, Biographies (with an emphasis on Musicians), Children's, and Specialty Books. All books are in good condition and will be sold at the bargain price of \$1.00 each. These every-other-month book sales provide funding for Library resources and programs. For information on all our Library activities and services, please call (626) 355-7186, or visit our website at www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us.

Upcoming Halloween Activities

Halloween Happenings - Sierra Madre

Activities include the downtown trick-o-treating, costume parade, and costume contest. This year's festivities will be held on Friday, October 30, 2009. Downtown Sierra Madre merchants will be distributing candy from 3:30pm-5:00pm. The Halloween Costume Parade will begin at Kersting Court at 5:00pm sharp. The Sierra Madre Fire Department will lead parade participants down Sierra Madre Blvd. to Memorial Park. Once the parade arrives at Memorial Park, the Halloween Costume Contest will begin at the Bandshell at approximately 5:30pm. Participants in the Costume Contest must sign up in Kersting Court before the parade from 4:00pm-5:00pm. Contestants will compete in five age categories: walking to 2 years, 3 to 4 years, 5 to 7 years, 8 to 10 years, and 11 and up. For more information call 626-355-5278.

Goblins in the Garden - Arboretum

Arboretum members' children invited at no charge. Regular Arboretum admission fees apply for non-members, plus \$10 per child to participate in the event. Registration is not necessary.

Children up to age 10 and their parents are invited to celebrate fall, nature, and of course Halloween. Explore the wonders of the Arboretum gardens. Activities include nature-related crafts, art projects, story-telling, pumpkin decorating, music, face painting, photo opportunities, and lots of tricks and treats! Special surprises for all children dressed in costume. October 31st, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Haunted Halloween Happening - Arcadia

The City of Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department is excited to announce the sixth annual Haunted Halloween event! On Friday, October 30th, elementary school students can roam the haunted hallways of the Community Center and enjoy activities like the Ewey Gewey Room and Scary Crafts. Come dressed in your best costume to enjoy Trick or Treating, Goblin Games and outdoor activities. This event is free of charge and open to the public. The festivities run from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. For more information please call 626-574-5113.

Steven Kutcher, The Spider Wrangler, At Creepy Crawly Kiwanis Meeting

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will present a special Halloween program by Steven Kutcher, an entertainment industry Spider Wrangler and master of "bug art".

As a Spider Wrangler, Mr. Kutcher fills a unique niche in the motion picture industry, providing bugs, spiders, and other insects for movie and TV show production. His presentation will include a DVD with examples of his insects performing in movies and TV shows.

His other expertise is creating art with these creatures, loading their legs with paint, then letting them crawl around on a blank canvass. The result is "bug art", and he'll demonstrate it at this fascinating meeting.

The meeting will be Tuesday, October 27 at noon at the Masonic Temple, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. The public is invited. Lunch will be served. The cost is \$11 per person; reservations and exact change are required. For reservations, please contact Pat Birdsall at 355-7290 no later than noon the preceding Monday.

Pumpkin Roundup at Descanso Gardens on Oct. 24 - 25

Children and families can explore a lush landscape where pumpkins peek around nearly every corner at Descanso's annual Pumpkin Roundup, Oct. 24 and 25.

The highlights of the days are the costume parades, taking place at 10 and 11 a.m., when children can join in a cast of costumed characters and creatures who will make a grand procession through the Gardens with Mr. Dave singing the way. Afterward, everyone meets at the Under the Oaks Theater for a sing-along.

In addition, the Moo Doo Puppet Show takes place at 10:30 and 11:30 at the Under the Oaks Theater. Catch a show that promotes peace, diversity and imagination.

Other activities include: free face painting (noon- 2 p.m.) and pony rides (Saturday, Oct. 24 ONLY from noon - 4 p.m. for \$3), a pumpkin decorating station (\$2 per pumpkin) and rides on the Enchanted Railroad (\$3).

Admission to Descanso's Pumpkin Roundup is free with Gardens' admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors/students and \$3 children. For more information, call (818) 949-4200 or visit www.descansogardens.org.



Arcadia

		1 Middle School Book Club Arcadia Public Library 3:30 pm Oct. 9th		3 Methodist Hospital Foundation's 2009 Crystal Ball	
4 Bouncing Bee Baby Tales Arcadia Public Library 10:15 am		7 Senior Day Camp Wilderness Park, CA 8:30 - 4:00		10	
11		14 Classical Kaleidoscope Concert Series Arcadia Library		17	
18		21		24	
25		27		31	

October

Duarte

		1		Duarte Farmer's Market Every Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm	
4		6 Free Flu Shots Duarte Senior Center		8 Annual Community Meeting Fall 2009	
13		14		15	
20 Celebrate Teen Read Week		21		22	
27		28 Plant Sale and Botique From OCT 28 - 30		30	

Monrovia

		1		3 Monrovia Family Festival Every Friday 5:00-10:00 pm	
4		6		10	
11 Oct 10 & 11 Monrovia Arts Festival		14 MUSD School Board Meeting MUSD District Office 7:30		15	
18		21 Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers Oct. 14, 7:30		22	
25		28 MUSD School Board Meeting MUSD District Office 7:30		29	

Sierra Madre Halloween Downtown Window Painting Contest

Applications for the Downtown Window Painting contest are available at the Community Services Office, located at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Youth ages 9 - 17 years who reside in Sierra Madre are eligible to participate. The window painting contest will be held on October 23 and 24. Attached is the application for the contest. For more information call 626-355-5278.

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SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!
 Wednesday 3-7:30 pm
 Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms. Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free. Free public parking on Mariposa.

Live from Burger Continental The Harvey Hyde Show

"Harvey Hyde is a renowned college football coach and Las Vegas radio legend..."

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 535 South Lake Avenue
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REMEMBRANCE
George A. Maurer, III



George A. Maurer III Age 61 passed away suddenly October 15, 2009 in Arcadia. He is survived by his children Matthew Maurer (Joann), Jennifer Barnett (James), Deborah Maurer, his father George A. Maurer of Sierra Madre, his twin Brother Bill (Nancy) of Tyler TX, his sisters Linda Heaton (Dennis), Mikki Porretta and his uncle Dick Maurer. His grandchildren Colton, Montana, Grace Lynn and Emmaline were so very precious to him. His family and friends will miss his love, generosity and humor. A memorial service will be held Monday, Oct 19 at Maryknoll Sisters Chapel at 340 Norumbega, Monrovia at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers a donation to his friends at Maryknoll would be greatly appreciated.

David Wheatley & Friends - Live!
Sunday, October 25th - 2 p.m.
First Christian Church of North Hollywood



Halloween is just days away when hordes of small (and not so small) people dressed as Disney princesses, Harry Potter, hideous blood-spattered Screams, 60's hippies, Winnie the Pooh..... and Tigger, too, will haunt our houses, brandishing bags, demanding treats! We're buying candy, carving pumpkins, hunting up the spooky sounds CD, and preparing for a wild Saturday night.

But before the gypsies, tramps and thieves descend, you can enjoy a moment of calm prior to the Trick or Treat storm. Sunday, October 25th, treat yourself to a free concert featuring one of the Southland's finest organists, pianists and composers, David Wheatley. David's third concert in a series of four will feature original works, some favorite classics, contemporary jazz and even a few delightfully scary pieces in honor of the upcoming ghostly holiday. With special guest vocalists, Breanna Flores, Deborah Dietrich, and Maurice Davis; percussionist, Patsy Meyers and Luis Oliart on acoustic guitar, this afternoon of music is a guaranteed crowd pleaser, suitable for all ages. AND, there might even be a sing-along opportunity so bring along a friend or two to harmonize.

If you happen to be a fan of wall-shaking pipe organs, you'll be in the right place when David plays Die Fledermaus (Johan Strauss) on the First Christian Church organ. This combination digital and pipe organ, one of the premier organ installations in North America, provides an awesome listening experience with 50 digital stops and 1,063 pipes in 19 pipe ranks..... folks, that organ will definitely get your attention!

WHEN: Sunday, October 25th, 2:00 p.m. and admission is FREE!!
WHERE: First Christian Church of North Hollywood, 4390 Colfax Ave. (SE Corner, Moorpark & Colfax) Studio City 91604 - 818.763.8218 (free parking behind the church).



Call 626.836.8353
Fax 626.836.8373

California

After the Fire:
What to Expect

More than 700 firefighters bravely battled the Station Fire in an effort to contain the largest wildfire in Los Angeles County history. This atrocious and deadly fire burned more than 160,000 acres, dozens of dwellings were destroyed and sadly, the lives of two firefighters were lost. Our thoughts and sincere prayers go out to the families of the firefighters who lost their lives, and my deepest sympathies are with those who lost homes and businesses in these devastating fires. Those who worked tirelessly – for days upon end - to minimize the losses should be commended, and to the Red Cross and numerous volunteers who responded immediately, we thank you. With every day that passes, the threat of further structural damage and injury, from the Station Fire itself, diminishes. But almost like clockwork, in a counter-balance fashion, the looming threat of mudslides grows. In some cases the intense heat of the fire will cause the charred soil to “seal” itself, preventing any absorption of water thus leading to rapid run-off. Needless to say, certain steps must be taken to address this very real threat.

Contained within the Los Angeles National Forest are four watersheds that supply the Los Angeles basin with 35% of its water. It is taking the work of special teams of scientists and emergency response professionals to determine the extent of the damage caused by the Station Fire and to decide which mitigation techniques ought to be used. Teams are being prepared to address any effects those efforts have had on the environment and roads in the burn area. Rehabilitating these roads are essential to further post-fire response efforts. Once this has been achieved, the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) teams are deployed to assess and identify potential problem areas. The team's efforts



Senator Bob Huff

can range from warning-sign placement to habitat protection for threatened and endangered species. Their work will continue for years to come. The efforts of the emergency response teams and the post-fire response teams hardly go unnoticed but the fear is that as the fire's threat fades so will the public's awareness of the situation that is still brewing. As many of us have chosen to live against the magnificent vista of hills and mountains, we must stay ever vigilant in preparing ourselves for nature's natural reaction to the fire. Many of us have lived through mudslides and debris flows before, and may experience them again this year and years to come with the expected rainfall. We must continue to follow the lead of the public safety agencies and the guidance of the professionals dedicated to ascertaining further threats and mitigating them. Although the fire itself has forever altered southern California's scenic backdrop, our focus must remain on the fact that nature is not done. If you live in a mud flow or debris flow prone area, please contact the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5100 for information on how to prepare yourself and your home for the coming rain seasons.

Senator Bob Huff serves as the Senate Republican Caucus Chair. He represents portions of Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino counties. You can follow Senator Huff on Twitter @bobhuff99.

TOUGHER DRUNK
DRIVING LAW SIGNED BY
GOVERNOR

Governor Schwarzenegger and many leaders in the law enforcement community held a press conference last week to highlight the passage of Senate Bill 598 that he recently signed.

SB 598 allows a repeat offender to voluntarily install an ignition interlock device (IID) after a DUI offense to apply for a restricted license at an earlier time.

Also in attendance was the author of the bill, State Senator Bob Huff and Assemblyman Mike Feuer, who authored a companion measure that creates an ignition interlock device pilot program and allows repeat DUI offenders to apply for a restricted license if they install an ignition interlock device on their vehicles

47 states have either a mandatory or discretionary ignition interlock law, but of the approximately 1.4 million drunk driving offenders arrested and convicted each year nation-wide, only 10% of convicted DUI drivers who have been ordered to install an interlock device on their vehicle have done so.

In 2006, in California, there were 23,689 people convicted of driving with a suspended license. Overwhelmingly, the research studies have demonstrated a significant reduction – ranging from 50% to 90% - in recidivism while the devices are installed. But they are only effective if installed.

“Sadly, only a small percentage of people convicted of multiple DUIs are required by court to install an IID on their vehicles to discourage recidivism,” Senator Huff commented. “SB 598 provides one more tool to proactively fight drunk driving.”

SB 598 passed unanimously through both policy and fiscal committees in both houses and was signed by the Governor on October 11.

Kiwanis Club Meets Funding Goal

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club is pleased to announce the success of its recent Pancake Breakfast in Sierra Madre. The club met its goal, which will provide the funds needed to pay for a new multi-media sound system in the Hart Senior Center in Memorial Park.

The Senior Center will soon undergo a major renovation; the new sound system will be part of the upgrade, providing the building with state-of-the-art audio facilities that will work with a big-screen TV, CD player, radio, and microphones for P.A. use.

Kiwanis President Susan Henderson remarked, “Thanks to a great turnout at the pancake breakfast, We can not only donate the sound system, but we'll also be helping provide funding for the proposed 'Emergency Alert' AM radio station.”

The Emergency Alert radio station will broadcast to all of Sierra Madre, providing important public safety information during emergencies, such as fires, floods, earthquakes, etc. (Related story on page 1)



Around Monrovia

by Pat Ostrye

HER HONOR, THE MAYOR, AS PROMISED

While I think I'm still semi-sane midst this chaotic moving-back-to-Monrovia venture, a few words about the Mayor's monthly visit to our senior New Horizons Club recently. First off, Mayor Lutz gave us a little inside information about the new Library and the beautiful fountain which will be in full operation by the end of November. The library itself is completely environmentally sustainable, using recycled products throughout. Even the flooring which is all cork, no noise, plus carpeting from recycled products. Interest in patronizing the library has quadrupled now, from what it was in 2007, including every department including the computer/internet service it offers.

Regarding the fountain, it will be all reused water and designed to be just as beautiful should the city hit a time of drought, making it necessary to turn off all water.

The Mayor also mentioned that Kohls, located in the former Mervyn's spot, has added much color and innovation inside and out and doing a land-office business since the grand opening in September.

Now, that monstrous construction going on at Olive and Myrtle! It is the Urban Housing Group, to be known as Myrtle Court, sporting 164 apartments, and will turn out

Pasadena

Pasadena Homeless Connect Day Links
Those in Need with Resources to Improve Their Lives

The third annual Homeless Connect Day, which strives to link those in need with resources and services to improve their lives, will be held on Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Salvation Army, 180 N. Mentor Ave., Pasadena.

This one-day, national event connects the homeless population to a wide variety of direct services locally. Last year Homeless Connect Day in Pasadena welcomed 275 consumers, linking them to more than 2,100 services in a thriving, positive atmosphere. Twenty-eight households came off the street and found shelter that night.

“Homeless Connect Day fuses political and community commitment in a one-day, one stop array of resources providing hospitality and support to create a pathway out of homelessness,” said Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard, who will be attending the opening ceremony.

Services offered on-site will include a medical clinic, STD testing and rapid response HIV testing, benefits screening and assistance, California ID cards through DMV and the vouchers to pay for them, pet therapy, housing placement and referrals, substance abuse screenings and referrals, shuttles to showers, budgeting assistance, veterans

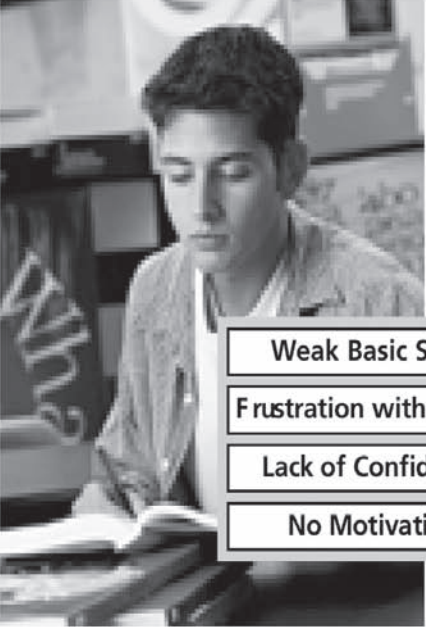
to be very appealing with a center square and small courtyards here and there, and six businesses on the ground floor.

Regarding the other apartment/condo project that has been going on forever, Colorado Commons, it has been converted from condos to apartments and is 100% full, which amazes me, considering they're three stories high forcing much stair-climbing because each apartment would have to have its own elevator to be comfortable and if there were enough space to do it. Perhaps the row houses in San Francisco and Philadelphia inspired the architect?

Living Spaces at Huntington and what once was Alta Vista, predicts a November Opening and will provide 160 jobs, as has Kohls. T. Philips has taken over the old Social Security building at Myrtle and Colorado, bringing Monrovia a glorified bar and whatever goes with offering 100 beers on tap and will stay open for the after-movie crowd. They also hope to add a private banquet room.

Last thought - Another Walgreens, next to Henry's on Huntington, to be a reality! Enough! Disconnecting the computer, hoping to be reconnected before the next column is due!! Postrye@netzero.com

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QST QST QST Calling All Sierra Madre Hams!

East Alegria's annual Pumpkin Patch is again on Halloween night. Local Ham Radio members of the Sierra Madre Emergency Communications Team (SMECT) are already getting ready for night event. SMECT was first formed in 2001 as partners for our Fire Department. We then transitioned to supporting our Police Department as extra communication in the event of in-town emergencies. Ham radio value proved to be invaluable to our Police Department during our fire and mudslide emergencies last year.

In order to be ready for any emergency, we run practice together at least three times a year by providing ham radio communications during

major community events. East Alegria's Halloween Pumpkin Patch, March's Wistaria Festival and May's Mt. Wilson Trail Race events have come to depend on our support..

If you are a Ham, a resident of Sierra Madre and would like to join us – especially this Halloween - come to SMECT's organizational meeting Tuesday, October 27, 7:15 pm at the "Only Place In Town". Some members begin the evening at 6 pm with dinner there before the meeting. This year we expect Saturday night's activities to run from about 6 pm to 11 pm. For more info, contact Al Wolff, our Fearless Leader, at kc70@arrl.net.

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, October 4th, to October 10th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 296 calls for service.

Monday October 5th

9:48 AM – Arrest, Driving without a driver's license, Sierra Madre Blvd/Mountain Trail. The Officer stopped the driver of a vehicle for not stopping for a posted stop sign. During the Officer's investigation, the Officer discovered the driver did not have a valid driver's license. The driver was arrested for the misdemeanor violation and released in the field on a written promise to appear.

10:59 PM - Arrest, Driving without a driver's license, 100 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. An officer stopped a motorist for a Vehicle Code violation. Further investigation revealed the motorist was driving with an expired driver's license. The motorist was arrested for the misdemeanor violation and released in the field on a written promise to appear.

Wednesday October 7th

6:11 PM – Arrest, Domestic Violence, 400 block Ramona Ave. The victim called the police department and claimed that after an argument, her boyfriend pushed her into a wall, causing damage to her glasses and injury to her head. The boyfriend was arrested for domestic violence and transported to Pasadena Jail for remand.

Thursday October 8th

3:38 PM - Arrest, Driving without a driver's license, 500 block W. Sierra Madre Blvd. The Officer stopped the driver of a vehicle for a Vehicle Code violation. T, the officer discovered the driver did not have a valid driver's license. The driver was arrested for the misdemeanor violation and released in the field on a written promise to appear.

Friday October 9th

10:30 PM - Arrest, Driving on a suspended/revoked driver's license, Baldwin Ave/ Orange Grove Ave. The officer stopped the driver of a vehicle for a Vehicle Code violation. The officer discovered the driver had a suspended/revoked driver's license. The driver was arrested for the misdemeanor violation and released in the field on a written promise to appear.

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, October 4, through Saturday, October 10, the Police Department responded to 983 calls for service of which 116 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, October 4:

Around 6:13 a.m., units responded to Motel 6, 225 Colorado Place, regarding a battery that just occurred. The victim advised that he had told his friend that he was gay, and his friend then struck him numerous times in the face causing minor injuries. The victim was transported to a hospital for medical treatment, and a 48-year-old male Hispanic was arrested at the scene.

Between 11:00 p.m. on October 3 and 10:05 a.m. on October 4, an auto burglary was reported in the 00 block of West Sycamore. Unknown suspect(s) entered two vehicles parked in a driveway, ransacked the glove compartments, and stole a GPS unit from one of the vehicles.

Monday, October 5:

Shortly before 10:00 a.m., a victim came to the station to file a grand theft report. The victim owns a satellite dish installation company and a 34-year-old male Hispanic employee had forged job invoices and received payment for services that were never rendered.

JC Penney loss prevention personnel advised that they had detained a man for theft around 2:30 p.m. A 43-year-old African-American was seen hiding bottles of perfume in a large black bag that he had brought into the store, and he was also wearing a stolen jacket. A private person's arrest was made, and the man was taken into custody for grand theft and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Tuesday, October 6:

Between 5:40 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., a 1991 red Honda Accord was stolen from the Westfield Mall parking lot.

A residential burglary occurred between 6:00 p.m. on October 4 and 3:00 p.m. on October 6 in the 400 block of West Duarte. Unknown suspect(s) made forced entry through a sliding glass window, and the suspect(s) stole several television sets, computers, cash, and other property.

Wednesday, October 7:

Around midnight, units responded to the 200 block of Hillgreen regarding black bears nesting at several different locations in the neighborhood. For the past several months, the bears ate fruit from fruit trees, rummaged through trash cans, and damaged fences. Officers found several

nesting sites and sprayed repellent at the locations hoping to deter the bears from returning. The Department of Fish and Game was contacted regarding the possibility of either trapping and relocating the bears or destroying the bears, and the decision was made that if the animals were seen again then they must be destroyed before someone was injured.

Loss prevention personnel from JC Penney advised that they had detained two Hispanic female juveniles for theft around 8:48 p.m. The girls took merchandise into fitting rooms and then hid the items on their persons and in their bags. Private persons' arrests were made, and a 15 and 17-year-old were taken into custody.

Thursday, October 8:

Around 6:10 p.m., officers returned to the 200 block of Hillgreen regarding a black bear in a backyard. Since all the deterrents had failed and for the safety of the residents, the bear was killed and the Department of Fish and Game responded to remove the carcass.

Units were dispatched to the 1700 block of El Vista around 7:25 p.m. regarding a vehicle theft report. The victim advised that his car was stolen and officers later located the vehicle and a high risk traffic stop was made. The driver turned out to be the victim's daughter, and investigation revealed that she had permission to use the car but her father had wanted to teach her a lesson after an argument. A 53-year-old male Caucasian was arrested for making a false police report and the 18-year-old female was taken into custody for an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Friday, October 9:

Between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 1000 block of West Huntington. Unknown suspect(s) entered the apartment through an unlocked window and stole cash and jewelry.

A second black bear was seen in the 200 block of Hillgreen around 8:20 p.m., and the bear was also destroyed.

Saturday, October 10:

Seven auto burglaries occurred between 5:00 p.m. on October 9 and 11:20 a.m. on October 10. The burglaries occurred in the 200 and 400 blocks of San Antonio, 500 and 600 blocks of San Luis Rey, and 300 block of Santa Cruz.

A grand theft from vehicle occurred at a Marie Callendar's parking lot, 820 South Baldwin, between 2:30 p.m. and 2:50 p.m. Unknown suspect(s) entered the unlocked vehicle and stole a handbag containing a large amount of cash.

A Weekly Spotlight on Sierra Madre Volunteers

Erica Blodgett - Youthful Volunteer

What is Erica Blodgett's distinction as a volunteer? She started that "career" as a youth and continues today, to try to change the lives of others.

After graduating from USC with a BA in American Literature and a minor in International Relations, the Sierra Madrean asked a professor what she was supposed to do with her education. He said, "Join the Peace Corps." So she did.

For two years she served as a librarian in an elementary school in Micronesia where she "learned about myself and the world." She added, "I learned that philanthropy was what I wanted to do."

After her Master's Degree from American University in Washington, D.C., Erica returned to California and began freelance writing. But the need to pursue further philanthropy kept nibbling at her soul. When an opportunity to join the "Violence Intervention Program" landed in her lap, she became Development and Communications director of the nonprofit group in East L.A.

"I am in awe of how the therapists work with the children coming into the group. Some are brought in by social workers and some come in on their own."

Erica, who has been there since June 2008, said it was "fully rewarding." She explained that the organization works with domestic violence cases, with those individuals who have suffered child abuse, sexual assault and elder abuse.

She said her work appeals to her because



she was always interested in working for an organization "that helps people who need help."

Her personal life is also filled with philanthropy. She served on Sierra Madre's Centennial Committee in 2007; she's been a member of the Arts Commission since 2007; and she's on the Library's "One Book One City" Committee that has chosen Sierra Madre's featured book for all-city reading, to be announced in November.

Erica is also part of a nonprofit mentoring organization called

"WriteGirl." It's a group that matches women writers with high school girls as mentors to promote creative writing, literacy and positive self-expression.

The Tarzana native came to this foothill town with her mother when Erica was 3 years old. She attended Bethany and went to Mayfield before going to university. Her mother lives in Northern California and her dad and stepmother in Culver City. Erica has two half-brothers.

Erica advises other potential volunteers not to be afraid to step up and offer their services.

"It's a great place to meet people, to expand your circle. And remember that there's a whole army of others doing the same."

Erica answers the call of "Youthful Volunteer."

KEEP ME WILD

Are You Mistreating A Wild Animal, While Reading This Ad?

You may not realize it – a simple bag of garbage, bowl of pet food, or plate of leftovers left outside your home or vacation site, can cause severe harm to wildlife.

Today black bears, coyotes and other wild animals are living closer nearby. Their populations are increasing.

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But if wild animals have access to human food and garbage, they want more and more. They change their natural ways. Their normal fear of humans becomes lost.

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- Or store garbage in your garage until pick-up
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- Keep pet food and bird feeders away
- Pick up fallen tree fruit
- Remove cosmetic fragrances and other attractants
- Install or request bear-proof trash containers

If in doubt, ask your local Fish and Game warden, park ranger, law enforcement officer, garbage collection company, or town council.

Or visit: www.keepmewild.org

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WFS' HAUTE HALLOWEEN SPOOKFEST!

Make plans now to join us at WFS for Halloween fun and festivities! Pick up coloring pages for the kids to create Halloween masterpieces that'll be hung on our Halloween tree. Each artist will be entered into our Haute Halloween drawing and names will be drawn at 2:00 p.m.

Following the drawing, we'll take the kids on a Halloween Procession up and down Lake Avenue and around to the back of the store. You're encouraged to participate, but definitely bring a camera – you won't want to miss out on this perfect Kodak moment! We'll march back into the store for more festivities, fun and Halloween treats!

Saturday, October 31st, 2009

2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
CROSS-STREETS: Lake Ave. between Marcheta and Mariposa
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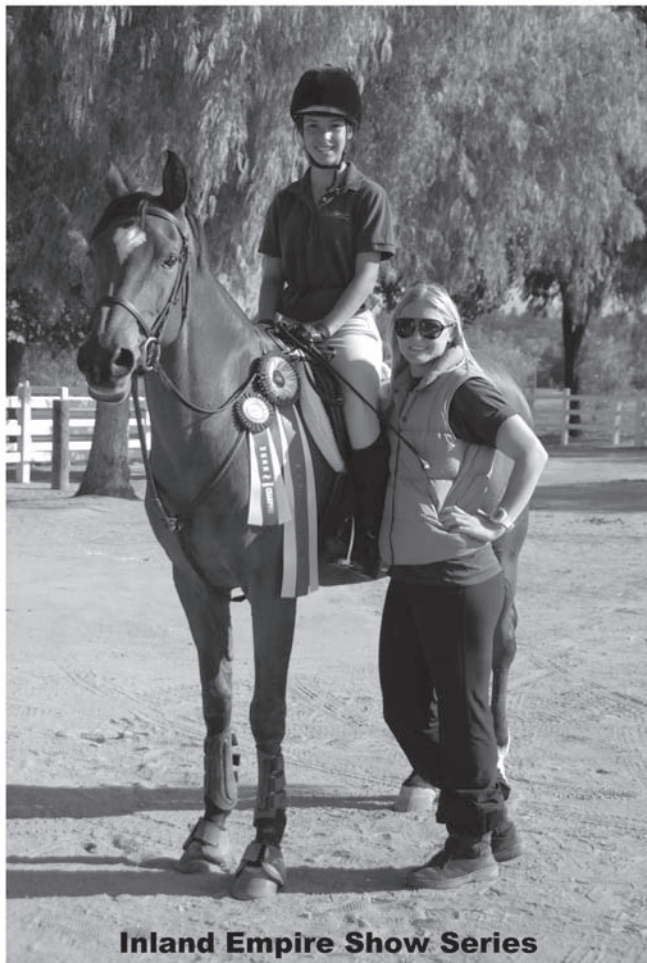
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Eryn is 13 yrs old freshman at Alverno HS. Marisa Thomas is a trainer at Bright Promise School of Riding.

Trish's Truth

By Trisha Collins

"And the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize goes to..."

It seems as though everyone has an opinion concerning President Obama receiving the Nobel Peace Prize Award. From what I have heard and observed, people are either one of three things: shocked, happily surprised, or confused. Now, as you well know, the Nobel Peace Prize isn't just any award. It may be the most respected and honorable award given in the world. Just to be a nominee is an accomplishment all on its own. And so, when I heard that our very own president, Barack Obama, had won the Nobel Peace Prize, I was not only shocked, but overjoyed. What an accomplishment! I went to school the next day assuming everyone else was as excited about this bit of news as I was. I was wrong. In fact, I encountered many people who were outraged at the Nobel Committee for awarding him the award. All day I heard "He won it for what?" and "What has he even done?" Each time a person said that, I wanted to say "You honestly have no idea why President Barack Obama won the Nobel Peace Prize? Honestly?" To those who may be confused,

I think the statement the Nobel Peace Prize Committee made about his contributions sum it up well, generally explaining that it was awarded to him for his "extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples." I thought there was no doubt that Obama was deserving of this award. Who else, in this day and age, has broken down racial barriers and activated such a hope in a nation? His presence alone as a positive African-American male has already changed, and continues to change, the minds of young and old alike. That kind of impact, on a national, and arguably a global scale at that, can't be made by just anyone. It takes a special kind of person to inflict that kind of hope, make that kind of change. Not to mention, not too many would give up the \$1.4 million reward (especially in these hard economic times) to charity. If anything, I think the reaction everyone should have would be an overcoming sense of pride that such a man is representing this great nation.


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NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Pasadena, CA - Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Superintendent Edwin Diaz announced today that he has named Elizabeth J. Blanco as executive director of special education. Ms. Blanco brings two decades of experience as an instructional leader serving children with disabilities and special learning needs.

"Ms. Blanco's proven leadership skills, her commitment to providing a rigorous academic curriculum to all children, regardless of their disabilities, and her organizational skills will help align functions and structures with this District's focus on students, reflection and inquiry, and collaboration with parents," said Superintendent Diaz. "I am delighted to welcome her to the PUSD team."

As Executive Director of Special Education, Ms. Blanco will be responsible for administering all Special Education programs, establishing collaborative relationships with parents and directing strategic planning efforts for the division.

Ms. Blanco joins PUSD from the Rowland Unified School District, where she has served as director of special education for the last five years. Under her leadership, students with disabilities made a 68 point gain on the Academic Performance Index (API) and posted improvements in English Language Arts and math.

Previously, she was director of Curriculum, Special Projects/

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) and Parent Education, where she directed the planning and design of the state and federal preschool programs, family literacy and community based English tutoring programs, and served as facilitator for parent advisory councils.

"As a servant leader and an educator for social justice, I am personally committed to the academic success of all children," said Ms. Blanco. "I look forward to working with the teachers, families and community of PUSD."

Ms. Blanco, who also teaches multicultural education at Argosy University in Orange County, began her career as a special education teacher in Rowland Unified.

She was named special education administrator of the year by the Association of California School Administrators, and participated in the mentoring program of the California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators.

Ms. Blanco earned a doctoral degree in K-12 Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California (USC) in May 2009, and holds two Master's degrees from California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA), one in Special Education and the other in Educational Administration. She holds a Bachelor's degree in child development from CSULA.

PUSD SEEKS STRATEGIC PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Pasadena, CA - The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) is seeking applicants for its Strategic Plan Steering Committee, responsible for advising the District's upcoming strategic plan process. Members will assist in developing a framework for community engagement, identifying focus areas for parents, businesses and community organizations,

and designing a community engagement plan.

This community-based committee will include five board members, parents, employees, students and representatives of local businesses, community organizations and institutions of higher education. Individuals with a stake in the future of PUSD are strongly encouraged to apply.



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PUSD is seeking applicants for its Strategic Plan Steering Committee, which will be responsible for advising the District's upcoming strategic planning process. Members will assist in developing a framework for community engagement, identifying focus areas for parents, businesses and community organizations, and designing a community engagement plan. Parents, students, employees, business and community representatives are encouraged to apply at www.pusd.us. Contact the Office of Communications at (626) 396-3606, or communications@pusd.us for more information.

SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

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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: pcclarke@arroyopacific.org

Barnhart School

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

Bethany Christian School

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

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1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107
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Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School

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

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What we think about is what we tend to become. In the fast paced life of today, we often find ourselves multi-processing with what one person describes as "constant partial attention." It makes it difficult to focus on anything very meaningfully. The invitation to "be transformed by the renewing of our minds" rather than conforming to the world around us opens possibilities for living with greater purpose and meaning. Maybe it's time to change "what's on your mind!"

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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.

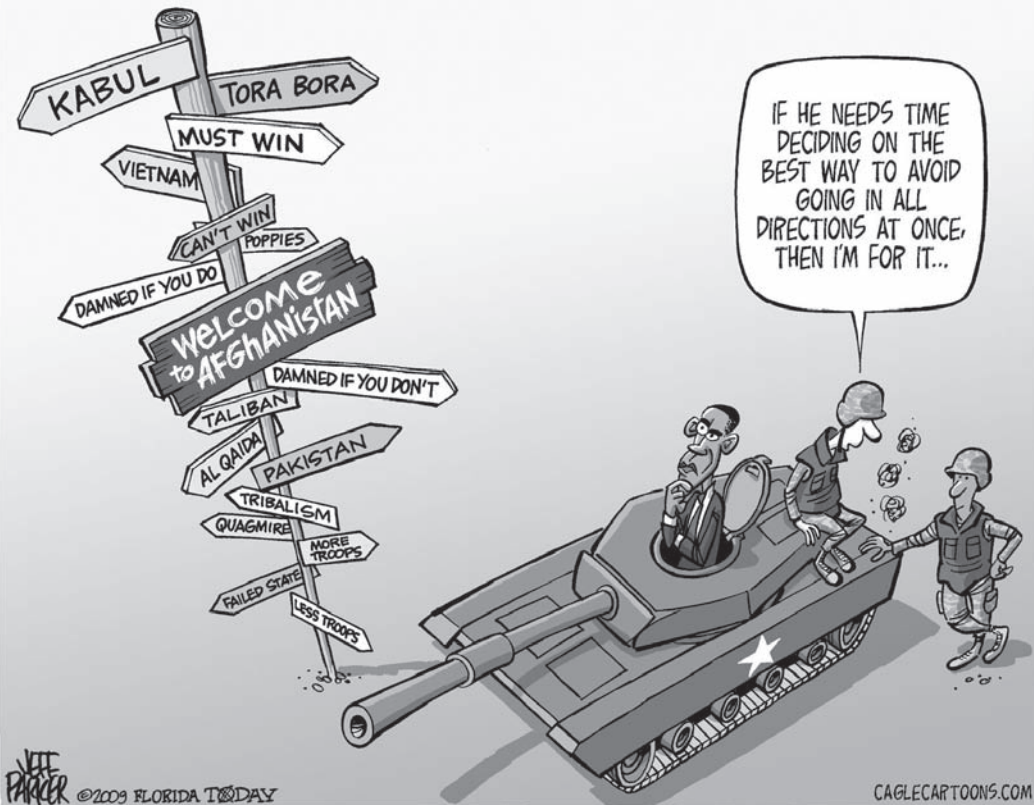
HAIL Hamilton



The Tyranny of Capitalism and Our National Demise

The US has been subjected to the ruthless and unrelenting tyranny of the world's most advanced capitalist economy, permeating every aspect of American life. The chief difference from other tyrannies is its facelessness, its dependence on impersonal coercive power more than on direct violence and terror against its subjects. A frightening irony of this new tyranny is that it is producing a degenerating society, and an economy headed toward collapse. All world empires have decayed from within and eventually fallen. The new tyranny's demise may long be hidden by a sophisticated technology and international armed might. The portents of social and political decay in the US are numerous. Perhaps like the Romans and the British before us America's time has passed. Will we be just another second-rate power, our days of glory left on the junk heap on history? America is a non-egalitarian class society with an ever-growing chasm separating a minuscule minority of the very rich from the poor and moderately well-off. Americans lack adequate universal medical care and their physical and mental health is declining. American society is a culture of rapidly proliferating violence, rampant consumerism, mindless entertainment, and unequaled freneticism, while its political culture, grounded in an eighteenth-century constitution - intended to create a democratic republic - has become ever more hollow and undemocratic. The tyranny of capitalism in America has become an integral - and insidious - part of our society. But most Americans are ignorant of the real rulers of our country. Capitalists on every political persuasion have usurped the real meaning of democratic government, freedom of

ideas, and the individual liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and the Fourteen Amendment. Greed has replaced the common good. We are no longer a free people but simply consumers and slaves. And what is the solution? The solution is what was used in the Great Depression - a comprehensive national economic program along lines similar to FDR's New Deal. This would be a bottom up, not a top down, plan. It would focus on unemployed workers, not under-employed executives. It would stimulate job creation, not the creation of wealth. It would be aimed at rebuilding our failing infrastructure, not bailing out our failing corporations. This 21st century "New Deal" would be directed at the people who can help the economy most - the unemployed, underpaid, uninsured American consumer. It is their spending that ultimately is responsible for the wellbeing of the American economy. We must also become fiscally responsible. It is the tens of trillions of dollars of debt that most threatens the nation. Reining in the debt and finally balancing the books won't be easy, so deep is the current hole we are in. But we might start with the following: (1) limiting spending growth, (2) increasing tax revenue, (3) making new initiatives more cost-effective, and (4) reform long-term entitlements. This means setting priorities and being honest with the American people; this means paying for the programs we want the government to provide. Time is running out. It is time to address the chief maladies afflicting the US and forcefully demand that fundamental change is necessary if moral, political, economic, and social implosion is to be avoided. It is time to reclaim the freedoms our forefathers bequeathed to us and posterity. It is time to stand up and be counted. Otherwise, what we call America and all that its name symbolizes will soon cease to exist.



RICH Johnson A Second Look at the Nobel Peace Prize



Two years ago (almost to the day), your intrepid columnist wrote about the Nobel Peace Prize. The column was entitled, "An Inconvenient Peace Prize" and was motivated by Al Gore's winning of the Peace Prize that year.

What is this Nobel Prize? For those of you who don't know or remember, the Nobel Prizes are named after Alfred Nobel, a wealthy Swedish chemist, engineer, inventor and pacifist. Incidentally, the pacifist also owned and operated a business that built bombs. You see, he invented dynamite... the most powerful explosive of its time.

The Peace Prize, according to Mr. Nobel, is to be awarded to, "the person who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between the nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses". I guessing he must have felt pretty bad about inventing dynamite.

Really, I don't have a serious problem with President Obama winning the Prize. Yeah, except for the fact the Prize is typically awarded for somebody's body of work or efforts over the years and not for three nicely given speeches. Oh, and I think it displays a political correctness and liberal bias on the part of those members of my ancestral country. (Maybe it is also related to guilt associated with that whole Viking Marauder part of Norway's past.) I'm not alone on this concern. The London Times reported on October, 9th, "...It is certainly true that his energy

and aspirations have dazzled many of his supporters. Sadly, it seems they have so bedazzled the Norwegians that they can no longer separate hopes from achievement. The achievements of all previous winners have been diminished..." In support of our President, I think he has reacted and responded very well to the notice of his prize.

My real problems with the Nobel Prize do come to the surface when I consider who DID NOT win. Mohandas Gandhi did not win. He was nominated in 1937, 1938, 1939, 1947 and 1948 (the year he was assassinated.) I have my own ideas why, but you tell me why you think he didn't win.

In 1990, The Peace Prize was awarded to Mikhail Gorbachev. In my opinion Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul's contributions to bringing down the Soviet Empire are irrefutable, and dwarf Mr. Gorbachev's. Where were Mr. Reagan's and Pope John Paul's Prizes? As a matter of fact, other than the Prize being awarded to Henry Kissinger (connected to Le Duc Tho, North Vietnamese Peace negotiator), the last Republican to be awarded the Peace Prize was Teddy Roosevelt in 1906.

Unfortunately, it appears political correctness dictates who does and who doesn't win the Nobel Peace Prizes. They often honor people who have truly earned recognition such as Albert Schweitzer, Martin Luther King Jr., Anwar Al-Sadat, and Menachem Begin.

It's too bad whom they choose to ignore. It renders the Nobel Prize People irrelevant to me. So, what else is new?

STUART Tolchin On...LIFE ARE WE LIVING IN A HUMAN ZOO?



One of my many concerns is that everyone around me seems to be nuts. I understand that there is a possibility that I am nuts and everyone else is okay, but I do not believe this is likely. Everyone around me is taking daily medication for the purpose of controlling anger, coping with depression, easing inner tension, or combating habits of procrastination. From my perspective, people appear to me to not really be present. It is as if there is a barrier between the actual experience of feelings and the mouthing of platitudes that pass for conversation, while little is actually heard or felt. I think people are putting pillows over their emotions and are living in a permanently benumbed state, unwilling to share their opinions or impressions with others because of discomfort within themselves.

What's going on? I think I gained some insight from reading a New York Times Article by Olivia Judson entitled "Leopard Behind You!" The article is ostensibly about the development of a vocabulary of alarm among animals. Emphasis is placed upon the fact that, for many animals, alarm calls are much more than simple squawks of fear. Animals of prey use different sounds to warn of different types of predator. "Leopard!" is not the same as "snake! Or "eagle!" The article explains that if you hide a loudspeaker in the bushes, and startle unsuspecting monkeys by playing recordings their identified cries of "Snake!", they will look around at the ground. "Eagle!" makes them look up. "Leopard!" sends them scampering to the trees.

This discussion of animal language is instructive, but what really caught my attention is the description of "the landscape of fear" in which animals develop their understanding of the world. It is the exposure to the world and its ever-present dangers that allows an animal to develop the full use of inherent capabilities. Animals who live in the pampered environment of

a zoo are deprived of the opportunity to fully develop and never really mature. They live half-lives, dependent on their keepers for survival, unable to really care for themselves. (Sound familiar?)

I e-mailed the Judson article to a friend, who replied that he was reminded of Carlos Castaneda's character Don Juan, saying that the body needs fear as a prerequisite to growth. It is my belief that in our modern protected society we are insulated from signs of real danger such as global warming, various forms of pollution, and multitudes of desperate sick people. Instead many of us are aware of unspecified feelings of anxiety, anger, depression, and despair and search for causes in our work-life or domestic relationships. Out of touch with our feelings, many of us choose to swallow prescribed chemical cocktails and drink to excess or utilize street-drugs and seek out exciting but pointless distractions in an attempt to quiet our fears. We walk the streets, preoccupied and benumbed, insensitive to the cries of "snake!" all around us because, like animals in a zoo, we have been deprived of the opportunity to fully develop. Internally we are permanent brooding adolescents, knowing that there is more to life but not knowing where to find it.

A possible solution I think is to face the "landscape of fear" and meet our own personal challenges. We humans have already done the hard things: learned, to walk, talk, and control our bowels. We acquired these magical abilities only because we weren't carried around all day and automatically diapered and fed. Something was expected of us and those expectations allowed us to grow. Sometime after we acquired these skills, something went wrong and our society of super-abundance gave us too much.

Instead of realizing the need to work toward goals, we developed expectations of entitlements. Is it a wonder that we now experience emotional deprivations and don't know what to do about them? We just need to learn to walk again. "EAGLE!"

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HOWARD Hays As I See It



Another tough break for President Obama. Already dealing with two wars, healthcare reform, climate legislation, financial market regulation, high unemployment figures - and now this.

“Unwelcome and embarrassing” said the L.A. Times. Democratic strategist Joe Trippi saw “another tool in the Republican arsenal”. William Kristol suggests it might doom Obama’s 2012 re-election bid. For (some) Americans, first the elation of having an American city fail in its bid to host the Olympics, and now the humiliation of an American president being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

How did our president find himself in this mess? Back in 1895, TNT-inventor Alfred Nobel provided in his will for an annual prize to be awarded to the one who has “done the most or the best work for fraternity between the nations and the abolition or reduction of standing armies and the formation and spreading of peace congresses.” This year, the Norwegian Nobel Committee has come to the conclusion that President Obama deserves the award “for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples” and his “vision of and work for a world without nuclear weapons.” Obama is credited with creating “a new climate in international politics”, and leading the USA to play “a more constructive role in meeting the great climatic challenges the world is confronting. Democracy and human rights are to be strengthened.” Regarding those principles represented by the award, the Committee says “Obama is now the world’s leading spokesman.”

Okay, but what has he actually done, anyway? You could start with Obama’s first days in office, when he banned torture, declared that Guantanamo would be closed in a year, and shut down the secret CIA “black site” prisons. Within weeks he dispatched envoys to work with Israelis and Palestinians, not waiting until the last months of a second term as per recent presidential tradition. All troops save for a “transitional force” are to be gone from Iraq by August 2010. In considering the report on Afghanistan by Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the president (unlike the media) is no doubt focusing on the General’s admonition to address the needs of the civilian population and the importance of a “responsive and accountable” government in Kabul. In his speech at Cairo University, President Obama dispelled the notion of the U.S. as “self-interested empire”, rejecting the “clash of civilizations” rhetoric of recent years and emphasizing the idea of different faiths with common interests. Most importantly, the U.S. is once again joining with other nations in addressing issues of global concern, whether terrorism, regional conflict, poverty and disease, climate change or nuclear proliferation. Countries like China and Russia are working with us to apply pressure on problem states like North Korea and Iran, rather than reflexively blocking efforts to do so. In short, we are pursuing policies that work, rather than those that chiefly benefit war profiteers and the recruitment efforts of our enemies.

Has anybody noticed? According to a recent Pew Research Center poll, when asked if they had confidence in our president to “do the right thing in world affairs”, 93% of Germans answered in the affirmative, as did 91% in France and 86% in Britain. This compares to 14%, 13%, and 16% in those three countries, respectively, when asked the same question about then-President George W. Bush. A

more-than-80% vote of confidence was also given President Obama in Canada, Japan and South Korea. The same question asked in the U.S. brought a 74% affirmative response. Inspired by President Obama’s efforts toward a world free of nuclear weapons, two Japanese cities have submitted the first dual-cities bid to host an Olympics. Although the IOC now says the plan is unworkable, there’s still hope the world would come together in 2020 for the games in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Isn’t this too soon? Unlike other Nobel Prizes based on a specific accomplishment, whether a novel, scientific discovery or economic theory, the Peace Prize is awarded for “work” towards a goal; perhaps recognizing that goals of enduring “fraternity among nations” and the abolition of “standing armies” are ultimately unattainable. An award of this kind at this time is not so much the gold pocket watch bestowed upon retirement, but rather like the diploma awarded by a prestigious graduate school; a sign of undeniable accomplishment, but also of encouragement and profound expectations for the future. Clarence B. Jones, former personal counsel and advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., recalled the effect becoming a Nobel Peace



GREG Welborn

Healthcare Reform Smoke And Mirrors

Just when we thought that Obamacare was dead, Senator Max Baucus, rides to its rescue, holds a couple of press conferences, disappears into several committee meetings and emerges with the compromise that’s supposed to fix the problems inherent in the last bill. Judging by the 13 to 9 vote which allowed this “compromise” to pass through the committee, the politicians are hoping that’s exactly what all the voters will think. But if we really take a look at this new legislative attempt, we quickly see that all the old problems – increased costs, higher taxes and reduced patient control of healthcare decisions – are still present, many of them more obnoxious than ever. In its current version, healthcare reform creates another entitlement program that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates will increase at 8% per year. They frankly

bill, that will be passed on to everyone. The Joint Committee on Taxation calculated that 87% of this burden will be put on those earning less than \$200,000; fully 50% will fall on those earning less than \$100,000.

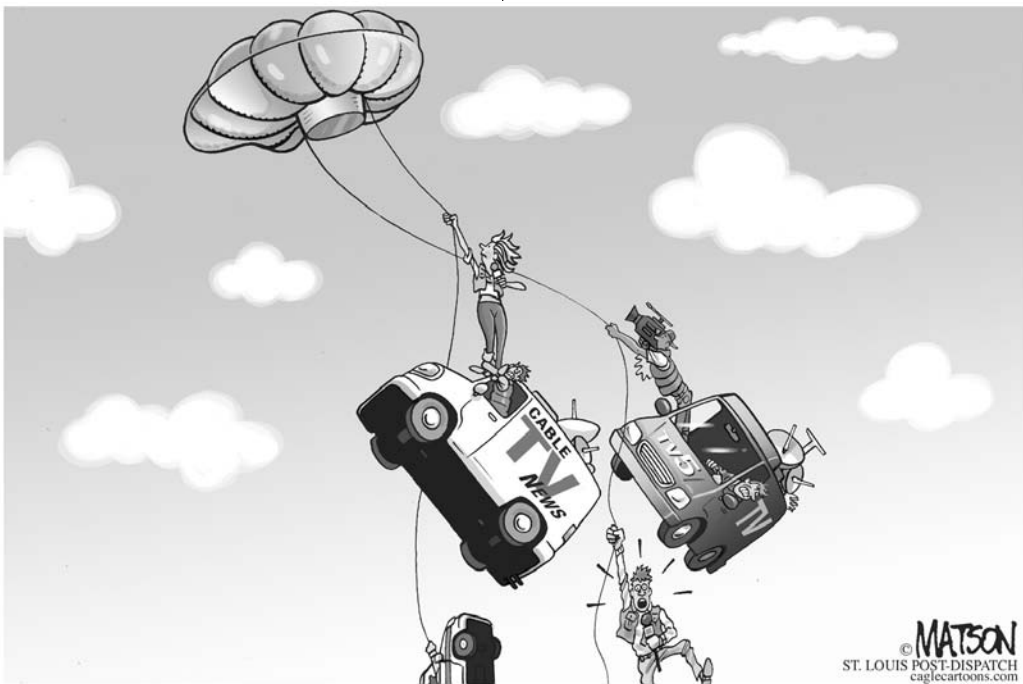
The Senate also imposed some highly regressive taxes on the middle class through the fee structure for insurance. A family of four earning \$54,000 is projected to pay \$4,800 per year for its insurance under this plan. However, if that family increases its income to \$66,000 (a \$12,000 increase), then its medical premiums will rise by \$2,800. That’s an affective tax rate of 23%, which will be in addition to increases in the income taxes that same family has to pay for the privilege of increasing its earnings. In a country that prides itself on its quintessential “rags-to-riches” stories, this is one heck of a headwind to impose on those who just want to get ahead in life.

Lest one think that I’m just complaining because I’m a conservative and this is a bill proposed by liberals, let me point out some of the observations made by liberal Senators. Senate Majority Leader, and uber-liberal, Harry Reid, has included a little provision in this bill that would exempt his state from some of the projected cost increases which this bill would pass on to state Medicaid programs. For the next 5 years, the federal government (meaning you and me and everyone else not living in Nevada) will cover these cost increases. I ask you, if this version of healthcare reform actually reduced costs, why is the good Senator so concerned about having the feds cover cost increases?

Remember that 40% surcharge on Cadillac plans and “rich” pharmaceutical companies that I mentioned? Well it just so happens that New Jersey is home to more of these companies than any other state. So, New Jersey Senator, Bob Menendez, got a little tax credit worth \$1 billion put into this bill for companies that invest in medical R&D. Likewise, Senator Schummer from New York is so concerned that the high cost of living in his state makes normal health insurance plans look like Cadillac plans that he put a little waiver into the bill for his state. The rest of us will be penalized if our health insurance plans cost more than \$21,000; but if you live in New York, your limit is \$25,000. That’s a 20% privilege for New Yorkers paid for by the rest of us even though I think the cost of living in Los Angeles, San Francisco and other major cities is also pretty high.

The truth is that not much has changed about the healthcare reform bill other than the marketing campaign. Some favors have been called in – or arms twisted to the point of breaking – and the CBO is going along with the farce, claiming that this “new” bill will cost much less. Healthcare reform still looks like a very expensive plan being imposed on a nation that is already sorely over spending and a plan that will still strip patients of their right to manage their own care. Costs will rise, they will have to be contained because we can’t pay for all this, and therefore the government will step in to start rationing care and making decisions on who gets what procedure or drug or treatment. Obamacare needs to be laid to rest before the rest of us are prematurely.

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



Prize recipient (the youngest ever) had on Dr. King. Although he had already accomplished nothing less than the transformation of American society, “knowing that hunk of metal was in his bureau drawer” led him to broaden his sense of obligation and speak out on injustice outside the realm of racial equality, notably in forcefully voicing his opposition to the Vietnam war. A story often told during the Bush years was that of President John Kennedy sending his envoy, Dean Acheson, to brief French President Charles de Gaulle on the Cuban Missile Crisis. Acheson started to hand de Gaulle an envelope containing confidential reconnaissance photos confirming the existence of Soviet missile emplacements, but de Gaulle brushed them aside saying, “I don’t need to see the photos. The word of your president is good enough for me.” The story was used to contrast our position in the world then with what it became during the years of fabricated “evidence” to justify war, of piously condemning other nations for engaging in the very behavior we covertly engaged in ourselves. I thought then, and many agreed, that it would take at least a generation to restore our position of leadership, inspiration and moral authority in the world. Instead, under President Obama, that leadership has been restored, in breathtaking fashion, in barely nine months - truly a prize-worthy achievement. Now it’s up to us to see what we can do with it.

Congratulations, Mr. President.

admit that this is more than the projected rate of economic growth or tax revenues. This is the same problem that caused the CBO to release its first report on healthcare reform costs which killed the last bill – remember the \$1 trillion price tag?

This time around, however, the Senate simply denied the reality of these cost increases, assumed that Congresses in the future would vote to constrain costs and impose higher taxes and fees on the middle class. The fact that the CBO went along with these new assumptions is mind boggling; then again, in D.C. everyone has their price, even the “independent” Congressional Budget Office. To get around the affect of projected 8% per year cost increases, the current bill projects that future Congresses will vote to reduce medical reimbursements through the Medicare system which affects 25% of seniors. That’s a sizeable number of elderly people who have a very affective lobbying group – the AARP – who are supposed to just role over and let their healthcare deteriorate. In short, it’s a fiction at best and a lie in reality. Beyond that, the current bill imposes \$400 billion in taxes and fees on the middle class. They don’t come out and say that of course, but the fact is inescapable. The money needed to fund this new plan will be raised in part by imposing a 40% tax on sales by insurance companies of Cadillac plans. But to think that insurers will absorb these costs and not pass them on to all their insured customers is pure fantasy. This will become a cost of doing business, just like paying rent and the electric

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Operates G.A.C. water treatment system;

Responsible for operation and maintenance of City water production, treatment & distribution systems;

Maintains a variety of records and schedules, such as water production or water quality records; Responsible for monitoring water quality for City water production and distribution operations, including sampling, testing, reporting and record-keeping;

Represents City and Public Works Department at meetings with residents, vendors, contractors, and other governmental agencies;

Participates in monthly safety meetings and in safety related programs;

Keeps informed of developments in the field of water production and distribution, especially water quality regulations and water rights issues and provides reports to Deputy Director of Public Works as to such developments;

Responsible for Public Works construction inspection, particularly for water-related improvements;

Participate in emergency operations and staff emergency operations center as required;

Performs preventative maintenance on well pumps and electric motor equipment, well buildings and facilities;

Inspects booster pumps and well pumps, including checking for excessive noise, vibration heat, leaks and proper fluid levels;

Responds to water customer complaints and supplies customer information by phone and in person;

Responsible for accurate and timely meter reading;

Water Distribution System repairs; Repairs water leaks; locates, digs, repairs, back fills, patches and cleans work areas;

Assists in tasks necessary for installation of new water services; procures & prepares materials, locates, digs trenches, welds and lays out pipes, sets meters and meter boxes, backfills, patches and cleans work area;

Maintains chlorine stations; changes cylinders; ensures that feed rate is normal and chlorine residual leaving the plant is within limits;

Checks chlorine residuals throughout city;

Locates and marks water mains and services water lines;

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Responds to emergency call outs after hours;

Maintains records of lubrication, calibration and maintenance performed on equipment and machinery and compiles data into written reports;

Issues 24 hour notices for delinquent bills;

Ensures cathodic protection;

Cleans spreading basin, including top grading and side cleaning;

Supervises grounds maintenance at pumping and pumping sites, drains and cleans out reservoirs and maintains water treatment plant facilities;

Performs building maintenance, such as electrical, lighting and plumbing;

Maintains equipment and materials used in the work;

Removes hazardous objects from streets;

Must be available to work weekends and occasional evenings;

Performs various related essential duties as required.

Minimum Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and some college or vocational course work in science, water treatment, or public works, and five years of California municipal water system operation experience (including supervision). The ideal candidate will hold Certificates in State of California in Water Distribution II and Water Treatment II and able to obtain Grade III in Treatment and Distribution within one year of employment. Alternatively, any combination of training and experience that provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities will be considered.

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TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

Monday Night Pub Grub

Football fans, can't you feel the stinging collisions right down in the couch where you sit? Stop being a couch potato and get out there and mix it up! Women have the malls for shopping and get their game faces on as they escape during this holiday season. Men, we have football and plasma TV's to message our barbaric nature. Where do you go if you crave a Bud Light Lime, the newest player in the game, and desire some good eats? Okay ladies, you can come along for this one, it may save us a house payment anyway. We are creatures of habit and develop those comfortable favorites that we like to visit. Recently, I went to Clearman's Boat on The Pasadena/San Gabriel Border. I liked it, and if you are a sports fan you know this place! It's in a new building, now with over 30 Large screen TV's. The place is setup like an old German Beer Hall, so there are plenty of places to sit with views of the TV's from almost every seat in the place. The Bar features 10 beers on tap. The food is acceptable, as long as you know what to order. My recommendation? Stick with the cheese bread and salad. McCormick and Schmick's in Pasadena has been written up numerous times for their happy hour selection and prices. A perennial favorite, their (\$1.99) specials have become less bountiful, but there are always beer specials and they have upgraded their TV's as well. A place that might not come to your mind, yet

offers a cozy setting for a game, is Il Fornaio. The Bar showcases its own TV and they offer a (\$3) menu with pizzas, salads and Chicken wings. This is not the place for the big football crowd, but if you just want to watch the game with some seclusion, Il Fornaio is like a comfortable chair. Hungry for a great meal with the game, Panda Inn offers both. Two large screen TV's in the bar with an award winning menu. Gus is the mad mixologists in this cocktail filled land. They offer no specials here but do have adequate seating for all. Pasadena number one destination has to be the Yard House. Over 130 beers on tap and what I consider above average pub grub. During the game there are many full portion appetizers at ½ price, plus pints of beer; house martinis and wine are specially priced. This is a true indoor tailgating experience. I usually like sitting at the Island shaped bar. Bill over at Barney's LTD tells me they feature happy hour running from 3pm to close every Monday. Happy hour consists of a specific 1/2 price appetizer menu featuring calamari, Buffalo wings, sliders and many others, along with (\$2) domestic drafts, (\$3) Pyramid Heffeweisen and (\$3) house wine. Don't forget to check out their new menu coming this month, which will feature scratch made crab cake sliders and several other new items.

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6 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Quizzidgel! Trivia Quiz Night with Quiz Master Midge
9:00 PM - 11:00 PM The Mellow D's with DAVE OSTI AND DEANNA COGAN
7 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Javier Vergara Trio
8 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM the DAVE TULL TRIO
10 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Nine + One Band featuring Harry Smallenburg on Vibes
11 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM Private Event CLOSED FOR BRUNCH
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
13 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Quizzidgel! Trivia Quiz Night with Quiz Master Midge
14 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM VIOLINIST LUCA CIARLA performing "Fiddler in the Loop"
15 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM FAT DANNY & HARD TYMZ
16 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM The Gil Bernal trio
9:00 PM - 11:30 PM Mercy & the Merketts Dance party !!
17 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Dona Oxford Queen of Boogie Piano
18 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM New Astro Turf
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
20 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Quizzidgel! Trivia Quiz Night with Quiz Master Midge
9:00 PM - 11:00 PM John McDuffie TRIO
21 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM SONG SIRENS a collective of LA's female singer songwriters
22 Too Many Guitars with Tom McNamara & Van Webster
23 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM THE SKIVALLY / SILLS QUARTET
24 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Cuban Jazz Sensation ILLIANA ROSE SALSA DANCING !!
25 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM JAZZ BRUNCH "WHOLLY HANG" with SUSAN KREBS
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
27 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Quizzidgel! Trivia Quiz Night with Quiz Master Midge
28 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM The Jennifer Leitham Trio
29 The Danny Guererro Jazz Trio
30 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Swing Dancing with Flat Top Tom & the Jump Cats
31 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Crepscule with Fido plays the music of FRANK ZAPPA
9:30 PM - 9:30 PM HALLOWEEN PARTY FREEKOUT with WHITE FLAG, FATSO JETSON ,F, DEAD WHITE UNDER BELLY

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Looking Up with Bob Eklund

Just Ahead: A Season of Stellar Events



Dave Jurasevich To Tell Inside Story of Mt. Wilson's Fire Survival, October 25 at Altadena Library

The great Station Fire raged through the San Gabriel Mountains for more than a month and came closer to destroying Mount Wilson Observatory than any event in that facility's 105-year history. The story of how this most historic of observatories was spared will no doubt become a major chapter in the history of astronomy.

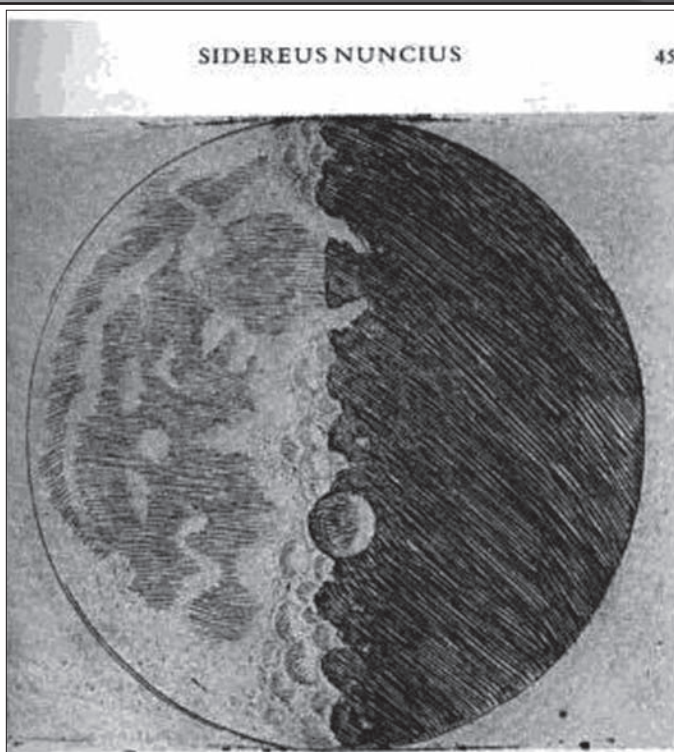
Observatory Superintendent and astrophotographer Dave Jurasevich was on the mountain through the ordeal, and on Sunday, October 25, Dave will show (with his stunning photography) and tell us exactly what the experience was like. This is a free talk, sponsored by the Mount Wilson Observatory Association. The lecture begins at 2:30 p.m. at the Altadena Public Library, 600 E. Mariposa, Altadena. Refreshments will be served before the program, starting at 2:00 p.m.

THE WEEKEND OF DAVE'S TALK is, it turns out, a great time for looking up and reaching out. To commemorate the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first look at the heavens with a telescope in 1609, stargazers worldwide will be celebrating "**Galilean Nights**" on the evenings of October 22, 23, and 24.

One of these events is a star party and poetry reading that I will be presenting on Thursday evening, October 22, at the Westchester-Loyola Village library, 7114 Manchester Ave. in Westchester (just north of LAX), phone 310/348-1096. We'll kick off the evening with an introductory talk and reading from my book, *First Star I See Tonight*, at 6:30 p.m. in the library's Mary Lou Crockett Meeting Room. Then, from 7:00 to 8:30, we will go outside and look at the moon and Jupiter with telescopes.

For a full list of October 22-24 astronomy events, go to www.galileannights.org.

A WEEK LATER, ON HALLOWEEN WEEKEND, October 30 - 31, you can do some "looking up" closer to home. The Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers, led by Mo and Jane Jones, will be setting up telescopes on both Friday and Saturday evenings—Friday in Pasadena's Old Town, on



Galileo's drawing of the third quarter moon

Colorado Blvd. between De Lacey and Pasadena Ave.; and Saturday in Monrovia Library Park, corner of Myrtle and Lime. Both events are from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Bring the children, and enjoy beautiful views of the crescent moon's craters and planet Jupiter—as Galileo saw them 400 years ago. More information at www.otastro.org.

FINALLY, WHILE WE'RE TALKING DATES, does anybody know what Nov. 2 is the anniversary of? Well, in addition to it being Laura's and my wedding anniversary, it's my favorite birthday: the Mount Wilson 100-inch telescope will be 92 years old.

It was in the middle of WWI, on Nov. 2, 1917, that the 100-inch was finally ready for "First Light"—the first live test of its capabilities, something like the opening night of a play. Very few people were present for such a historic occasion—only a

few staff astronomers and workmen; the telescope's operator, Wendell Hoge (great-grandfather of Pasadena artist/designer Virginia Hoge, who illustrated my book); Observatory founder/director George Ellery Hale; and Hale's only guest, a poet named Alfred Noyes.

In his book of astronomical poetry, *Watchers of the Sky*, Noyes later wrote of that memorable November night:

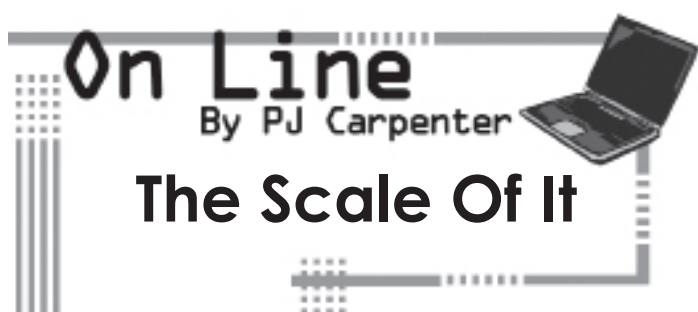
*The explorers of the sky, the pioneers
Of science, now made ready to attack*



Jane Houston Jones' sketch on July, 2009 using 70mm eyepiece

That darkness once again, and win new worlds...

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



It often happens that if one looks at a lot of something long enough, it may eventually appear not to be as much of the thing that it was at first glance.

Even if the actual number or size of the observed object never varies, over time the senses of the observer become accustomed to the presented quantity and a sort of dissonance can set in and the original scene lacks the power to move the viewer the way it once did.

This tendency to view what once was considered to be an extraordinary quantity or quality as commonplace after a sense of familiarity sets in, is so common that when it happens sometimes the best chance of detecting when it happens is through hindsight.

When I began my career as a Computer Professional one of the first machines I was trained on had a 5 Megabyte Hard Drive. At the time that was considered huge for a hard drive. Anytime a command was run on the computer and

this beast. The drive itself took up about a third of the available space inside the case and looked more like a mini-tank rather than the seriously hi-tech (at the time) piece of equipment that it actually was. There weren't many commercially-available programs written for the personal computer at that time and the ones that were available weren't that big and it took more than a few of them to fill up a drive of even that small size.

Things have changed considerably since that time. The cell phone I carry now has several orders of magnitude more storage space than that first hard drive I met way back then and I have a thumb drive on my key chain that has 4 Gigabytes of storage space. Just in case. In today's hi-tech world professionals and non-professionals alike have become accustomed to working with technology that is on an ever-increasing upwards ramp in terms of power, speed

and access.

Today's Computer Professional-In-Training is playing on a wider, multi-dimensional field that is in a current state of self-creation and re-invention on several levels. Even beyond the basic mastery of today's existing technology and the very real possibility of having to deal with issues concerning legacy systems that the budding Computer Professional is sure to come across, success in his or her chosen profession now requires a new thinking about the issues of scale when it comes to today's computing enterprise.

Social networking giant Facebook processes up to 40 Billion user photos while Google routinely churns through 20 times that amount of information on a daily basis just running their data analysis jobs they use to fine tune the services they provide to their worldwide customer base. While these may be two extreme examples of modern data management challenges they only represent the extremes of today.

If the current prevailing trends toward greater capacity and large data storage scenarios these examples may well be moving more towards the center of the data processing norm. In addition to thinking outside the box the Computer Professionals of tomorrow would do well to make sure that they consider the challenge of scale in their calculations.



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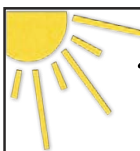
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The Senior Spot

By Bruce Lamarche

What We Most Worry About...Senior Fears

Many seniors worry about similar things. A report called 'Attitudes of Seniors and Baby Boomers on Aging in Place' studied what seniors fear most. Health issues causing a loss of independence is the most frequent concern. Following this is apprehension about the need to move from a familiar and comfortable home to a nursing facility. Less frequently quoted are the issues of giving up driving and losing family and friends.

While death itself rated very low as a fear, the vast majority of seniors said that aging in place was very important to them. More than half of seniors surveyed expressed concerns about their ability to do just that. Things that could interfere with independence were expressed as 1) Health problems 2) Memory problems 3) Lack of ability to get around (including driving and physical mobility).

It is possible that an underlying concern is finances. While we know that money does not prevent health problems and the issues of mobility, it certainly is a factor in mitigating them. The ability to generate an increased income when these needs occur can facilitate remedies for them. This can come from the liquidation of cash assets such as stocks or savings accounts. This, however, can be a limited solution as assets are used up. The idea of selling one's home to generate the money needed for additional care issues defeats the very premise of aging in place.

Being able to live life in one's own home environment is really the central issue for most seniors. Being able to afford this with the additional expenses of making it possible is at the core of the problem. While money cannot necessarily solve problems, it can certainly help.

Aging at home is sometimes a mechanical problem. It involves converting parts of the

home to be friendly for limited mobility; ramps, handrails, bathroom improvements, and even stairs with elevation seats. The need for at-home assistance can come in the form of general household care, non-medical physical assistance, to full or part-time nursing.

Again, we come back to the essential ingredient . . . money. One tool available to solve this is to use the equity in one's home on an as-needed basis. The reverse equity mortgage is worth looking at for this. It can provide needed cash for alterations to the home, additional monthly income, or a line of credit for occasional use. The lack of monthly payments can help tight retirement budgets where traditional forward mortgages cannot due to required monthly payments. While reverse mortgages are not for everyone, they can be an excellent tool to facilitate aging in place.

Seniors facing these problems should gather trusted friends and advisors to help gather a summary of needs, resources and possible solutions for consideration. This will help make an informed decision. A clear analysis of the facts is needed. Your decisions are only as good as the completeness and accuracy of your facts. So, get the facts! Gather your advisors and think it through carefully. Then, get on with the rest of your life.

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 He can be reached at (626) 335-3412.

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See the "Senior Spot" column weekly!



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Curves Sierra Madre

Where: 47 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

When: Monday, October 19th

Time: 9:00AM-12PM & 3:30-6:30PM

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Smoke Alarms Save Lives

(NAPSI)-Thousands of lives could be saved from home fires each year if the homes had working smoke alarms. To encourage people to install and maintain smoke alarms and sprinklers, practice fire escape plans and perform a home safety walk-through, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) launched the Install. Inspect. Protect. Campaign. The campaign suggests:

- Placing properly installed and maintained smoke alarms both inside and outside of sleeping areas and on every level of your home.
- Installing both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms or dual sensor smoke alarms.
- Testing smoke alarms monthly and changing alkaline batteries at least once every year or as instructed.
- Installing residential fire sprinklers in your home.

Do your part to get out before firefighters have to come in.

For more information, visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/smokealarms or call (800) 561-3356.



What we think about is what we tend to become. In the fast paced life of today, we often find ourselves multi-processing with what one person describes as "constant partial attention." It makes it difficult to focus on anything very meaningfully. The invitation to "be transformed by the renewing of our minds" rather than conforming to the world around us opens possibilities for living with greater purpose and meaning. Maybe it's time to change "what's on your mind!"

9:15 am Traditional Worship

Choir, youth worship, Sunday school (K-5), childcare provided

10:30 am Adult Spiritual Formation

11:15 am "The Gathering" worship service

Casual worship, multi-voice ensemble, childcare provided

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS

FYI:

Where To Get A Flu Shot
Sierra Madre Woman's Club Flu Shot Clinic - Saturday & Sunday, October 17rd & 4th, 9 am to Noon. Cost is \$25. For more information please call 355-8586.

Mandarin Baptist Church in Alhambra - **FREE** Flu Shot Clinic on Sunday, October 4th—10:30 am to 12 noon - 210 N. Garfield Ave.

La Fetra Center in Glendora - **FREE** Flu Shot Clinic on Monday, October 5th - 9 am to 11:30am - 333 E. Foothill Blvd.

Duarte Senior Center - **FREE** Flu Shot Clinic on Tuesday, October 6th - 9:30 am to 11:30 am - 1610 Huntington Drive

Monrovia Health Center - **FREE** Flu Shots - 330 W. Maple Ave. - (626) 256-1600. This center offers weekly shots - please call ahead to get days & times.

Special note: If you have questions regarding the Pandemic H1N1 (aka Swine Flu) please either pick up the flyer that is available at City Hall, the Library and the Hart Park House / Senior Center or contact the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention at (800) 232-4636 or www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/general_info.htm

Eligibility requirements to receive the LA County Public Health influenza vaccine include the following:

Those 50 years or older
Children and adults of any age with chronic health conditions or special health care needs
Pregnant women
Households with adults over 50 years of age or children 6- 59 months of age
Out-of-home caregiver of children under 6 months of age
Children 6 months thru 18 years old

Please feel free to call the Senior Desks at (626) 355-7394 if you have any questions

Recipe of the Week: Downeast Maine Pumpkin Bread

Ingredients:

1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin puree
4 eggs
1 cup vegetable oil
2/3 cup water
3 cups white sugar
3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease and flour three 7x3 inch loaf pans.

In a large bowl, mix together pumpkin puree, eggs, oil, water and sugar until well blended. In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and ginger. Stir the dry ingredients into the pumpkin mixture until just blended. Pour into the prepared pans.

Bake for about 50 minutes in the preheated oven. Loaves are done when toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

For Your Funny Bone

A woman's printer type began to grow faint so she called a local repair shop, where a friendly man informed her that the printer probably needed only to be cleaned. Because the store charged \$50 for such cleanings, he told her that she might be better off reading the printer's manual and trying the job herself.

Pleasantly surprised by his candor, she asked, "Does your boss know that you discourage business?"

"Actually it's my boss's idea," the employee replied sheepishly. "We usually make more money on repairs if we let people try to fix things themselves first."

Helpful Hints

Taking Good Care of Wood Furniture

Shoe polish and felt tip pens work well in hiding small scratches in furniture. Shoe polish applicator bottles work well for furniture touch-ups, when filled with stain.



October Birthdays

Pat Birdsall, Sole Krieg, Angela Stella, Mary Jane Baker, Monrovia; Barbara Cline, Dixie Coutant, Cathleen Cremins, Lillias Eubanks, Margit Johnson, Dorothy Lee, Adie Marshall, Alma Mays, Eva Poet, Anne Tyler

Quote:

Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising up every time we fail.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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:

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

Tuesday:

2nd Tuesday of each month FREE blood pressure checks by Methodist Hospital; 11 am to 12 noon 3rd Tuesday of each month FREE financial consulting; 10 -12 noon call 355-7394 for an appointment

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

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

Wednesday:

11 -11:45 am: Balance Class with Teryl. FREE class designed to improve balance & refresh the joints

2nd Wednesday of the month: FREE Legal

Consultations: 10-11:30 am. Appointments call 355-7394

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

Thursday:

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

Friday:

1:00 pm: Ping Pong

Saturday: 11:30 am: Senior Club brown bag lunch and BINGO at 12:30 pm

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

Located just north of the golf course at 405 S. Santa Anita Ave.< free parking>

For information call Gene at 626.351-5327.

Lunch & Learn Series

The Lunch & Learn series will continue on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 12:20 pm. A variety of topics will be covered ranging from health issues to resources for seniors. **October 7th** - Suzi McConnell from the City's Public Works Dept. will talk with you about being "water wise."

October 21st - the Sierra Made Police Department will discuss the topic of Senior Scams.

*There is no cost for the lectures but if you wish to have lunch first, please make reservations by 12 noon the day before by calling the Lunch Café at 355-0256; there is a \$2 donation for each meal.



Senior Excursions

Big Bear Oktoberfest Saturday, October 24th

\$34.00 per person.

Enjoy a traditional German meal, complete with beverage, in beautiful Big Bear. The bus will leave the Senior Center at 9 am and return at 6:30 pm. The cost of the excursion covers the meal, transportation & driver's tip. To register, please call the senior desk at (626) 355-7394. Please note the date has changed and space is limited.

Upcoming Excursions

Thursday, November 19th - Nixon Library & Museum - 10 am to 3:30 pm

Cost is \$26 per person and includes transportation, lunch & driver's tip

Thursday, December 17th - Christmas Show - 10:30 am to 4 pm Join us at the Candlelight Pavilion Theatre in Claremont Cost per person is \$51.00 for lunch, show, transportation & tip.

To register for future excursions, please call (626) 355-7394. *Payment required to reserve space*

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.**



One Of A Kind:

Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them

Story By Chris Bertrand
Photos by Adriana Ortiz and Chris Bertrand

South Pasadena Treasure: The Dumont/Bradley Estate

This 1906 Craftsman estate is designated on the National Register of Historic Places, not only for its noteworthy architecture and sensitive additions, but for the magnificent arroyo stone and clinker brick walls with matching lighted pillars along the street. "The Dumont House... walls," writes Tim Gregory, The House Biographer, are "unusual for (their) massiveness, artistic geometric setting of bricks, brick capping along their tops, and inclusion of three imposing piers... supporting unusually decorative wrought-iron lanterns with pyramidal tops."

It is one of about 15 remaining homes of the 37 constructed locally by renowned builder, Chris M. Hansen, who served as contractor for architectural luminaries like the Greene brothers. The original home, probably designed by Hansen himself, currently measured as 4671 square feet, helps define the historic significance of this tony, Oneonta Park neighborhood and possible historic district, according to Gregory, and former owners' records.

Gregory's research, which many listing agents tap to create a "pedigree" and paper trail lineage for historic homes, provides details gleaned from newspapers, trade journals, LA County and local permits, his vast personal files and other sources.

The estate home, with a spacious lower level basement and walkable attic, has been meticulously restored and refurbished over the last 17 years by the current owners. Over eleven coats of paint in various hues, including the most recent yellow and blue, were carefully removed, introducing a four color, Craftsman-appropriate color scheme in two shades of greens, maroon and brown.

The box beam ceiling in the massive living room, features "interstices faced with wood laid in a board and batten configuration" according to Gregory. The care applied to this home is amazing for its age, where most of the significant living areas are pristine in maintenance and appearance.

The stunning dining room includes carefully preserved, century old "wallpaper" above the plate ledge, which is actually painted canvas on cheesecloth. The beautiful, quarter sawn oak flooring provides a unifying element to the main

livings areas.

Many original lighting fixtures still adorn the home, including two of those prized street-side illuminations.

Somewhere along the way, decorating styles, preference or family need led to a two story addition for extra bedrooms and baths, replacing draped doorways with solid wood doors, two kitchen updates, enclosing a porch, a pool, etc. All accomplished with tender attention to the home's character and importance.

Its' livability today offers many flexible choices. The main level offers grand formal spaces that invite comfortable daily living or gracious entertaining possibilities. The smaller, main floor spaces can be tuned to office and family room use. Upstairs, all the bedrooms are generous, light and airy. The master suite, expanded in the 1980's, includes a spacious bath, clerestory windows for light and air while maintaining privacy, and generous closet and storage space. Downstairs, the daylight basement includes a wine cellar, study and generous storage.

The kitchen, butler's pantry and breakfast area, enlarged by culling a downstairs maid's room decades ago, is certainly the warm inviting hub of the home. It overlooks the 18,000 square foot level grounds, with a large pool, dining patio and relaxation spaces.

For those who feel drawn to the anchor of a home with history, 1628 Laurel will tug at your heart strings, and looks to stand regally on Laurel Street for another century, at least! The home offers five bedrooms, four and one half baths, gated rear grounds, a pool, garden and patio, plus a detached garage with workshop and bathroom downstairs and playroom or storage space above.

1628 Laurel Street, in South Pasadena was just listed at \$2,275,000 by Carol Majors of Coldwell Banker Previews, International. She will host an open house form 2-4 p.m. on Sunday October 18. For more information, visit the home's unique website www.1628Laurel.com or call Majors at 626-399-9665.

Know of an interesting home, garden or person to feature in One of a Kind? Contact Chris Bertrand at C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com



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Are English Gardens a Thing of the Past?

I was talking to a good client recently about the drought in California and how a garden like hers will hold up in the years to come. She has a very big property in Pasadena, which I landscaped about 8 years ago. Because of its' size it made sense to create formal gardens as well as lots of roses and a cutting garden so she could have flowers for the house. She was concerned that her beautiful English garden, and English Gardens in general, would become a thing of the past as she seemed to think that they required more water than most other gardens.

"People won't plant these kind of gardens in the future, will they?" she asked. "Of course they will," I answered. They have existed for hundreds of years and will continue to exist for hundreds of years to come," "What will change, and already is changing" I continued, "is how we use our water." I went on to explain that the things we allowed in the past can no longer be tolerated in the future.

This is where your waste is: Don't assume your gardener is as concerned about water conservation as you are, so talk to him and let him know your that watering down the driveway is unacceptable. Imagine the volume of water saved, in every household in California, if this practice was banned, yet it still goes on. Also, don't let him hose down your planting areas (again) if the irrigation system was on that day - it didn't need a "second" watering.

Overwatering is a big problem. Irrigation systems need to be adjusted at least 3 times a year, depending on how hot or cool it is outside. Homeowners seem to be intimidated by the sprinkler box and never want to make the necessary changes. Your water requirements are different in July than they are in January, so it's important to change the system. We can generally reduce the watering by 15% in every garden we work in and the client has never felt "deprived" because of the adjustments, the plants still thrived - and we saved her money!

Turn off the system in January until March! Yes, off! Obviously, you have to be aware of the temperature outside before doing anything with your irrigation system, but, unless we have a scorching January, you can usu-

ally count on this month, and the following two months, to cool off considerably. Gage the weather. Turn it on once a week, if you need to. If it has rained in that week you probably don't even need to turn it on at all.

Take out your unsightly lawn! Notice I said unsightly! Beautiful, lush green lawns are a joy to see. But one sees so few of them! If it is old, weed-ridden and gets more shade than sun, take it out and replace it with something that requires less water and less work, or no water at all! Granite, gravel or slate are all great substitutes and once you have installed them, no further work, or water, is required. It can still be a space that is functional and user friendly - perhaps as a new seating area!

No, we don't have to sacrifice anything. Our State is not asking us to. We are asked to really be mindful of "how we use" our water and we can all still decide what kind of garden we want to plant for ourselves.

Just like there will always be an England, there will always be English Gardens!

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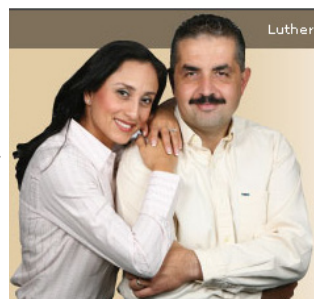
Make Your Move

REAL ESTATE

By Luther Tsinoglou

Alert: Buyers only have until December 1, 2009 to take advantage of the first-time buyers tax credit authorized in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Consult now with your tax advisor and real estate representative to get moving! Most first-time buyers (who haven't owned a home in three years) will qualify. If you're married, you and your spouse must both satisfy this description.

There are income limits for claiming the credit of up to 10% of the home's purchase price, which maxes out at \$8,000. If your modified adjusted gross income (on IRS Form 1040, line 37) is less than \$75,000 for individuals or \$150,000 for married filing jointly, you can claim the maximum credit.



For incomes up to \$95,000 or \$175,000 respectively, the credit is reduced.

This is not a tax "deduction," but a tax "credit" meaning that the amount you claim is reduced from your total tax bill! If you owe less than \$8,000 on your 2009 return, you'll get a REFUND from the IRS for the difference!

The biggest news is that in response to pressure from the National Association of REALTORS®, FHA lenders will allow buyers to use the credit to cover closing costs, buy down the rate or as additional down payment! I urge you to take this money from the government and make your move before December!

For real estate inquiries, you can contact Luther Tsinoglou at luther@tsinoglou.com or 626-408-1401

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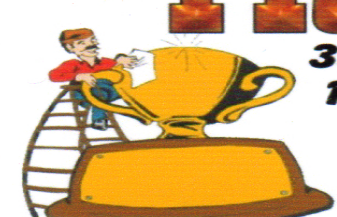
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