



## GREEN FLAG ALERT

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

## AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

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## ONE OF A KIND

Magnificent Mediterranean Colonial

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Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2010

VOLUME 4 NO. 5

# 7.5 Inches of Rain In 60 Minutes!

## Mandatory Evacuations Called

By Dean Lee

It was a wet muddy rollercoaster ride Saturday as the morning started out with heavy downpours, mandatory evacuations in most of the canyon areas, and by late afternoon the sun was shining, prompting the city to lower the threat level back to green.

Although not before the city council called an emergency meeting to proclaim another local state of emergency as mudflows hampered a number of canyon area neighborhoods.

"At the peak of the storm, which was measured at 8:55 a.m. there was just over 7.5 inches of rain per hour," said City Manager Elaine Aguilar. "That is a lot of rain."

She said the most mud impacted areas were, Woodland Drive, above the bridge by Mary's Market, Yucca Trail, the top of the private section of Auburn Avenue, the top of Lotus Lane the East and West ends of Skyland Dr. and the top of Alta Vista Dr.

Aguilar explained the debris basin just above Yucca Trail was full concerning them. The L.A. County Department of Public Works cannot clean it out until there is at least 8 hours of no rain. "If there is more rain it's going to overflow," she warned.

She did say they had cleared all the streets in the effected areas by late afternoon. She also said the state of emergency was a precaution having just declared the same thing Jan 20. "We're not sure if we were covered, so it was better to be safe," she said.



Chief Diaz briefs council (left) while crews work feverishly (above) to prevent mud damage after downpour.



Police Chief Marilyn Diaz again warned residents to stay out of evacuated areas for their own safety. She then told a story to exemplify.

"Battalion Chief Michael Bamberger and Police Sergeant Keith Abbott were in the canyon when it rained lightly," she said. "Within a minute and a half, a sudden force of mud, rain began flowing down the street. It was carrying 2X4's small boulders, pieces of metal and other debris. It was moving so fast, both the Sergeant and Battalion Chief had to order workers out of the way."

Although evacuations were lifted, Bailey Canyon Park, Mt. Wilson Trail, and Chantry Road will remain closed until further notice said Pubic Information Officer Elisa Weaver.

## "DOROTHY AND THE WIZARD OF OZ" CONTINUES BY POPULAR DEMAND THROUGH FEBRUARY 13th

Sierra Madre Playhouse To Extend Popular Show -Audience Participation Yields Sold Out Crowds See Story on Page 6



Shirley McConnell is Glinda the Good Witch, Ron Johnston is the Tin Man.

## SENIOR COMMUNITY COMMISSION SEEKING "OLDER 'SIERRA MADRE' AMERICAN OF THE YEAR"

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

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

Previous Honorees: Karl Teigler, George Maurer, Elsie Dannmayer, Doris Webster, Dorothy Tillquist, Celeste McCleary, Ed Wellman, Rose Fafach, Bonnie Garner, Isabella Paegal, James Tyler, Midge Morash, Lucile Flandres, James Heasley, Joylouise Harte-Smith, John Grijalva, Loyal Camacho, George Throop, Russ Anderson, Eph Konigsberg and Ken Anhalt.

## THE BATTLE FOR SIERRA MADRE CANYON

Michele Zack, author of Southern California Story: Seeking the Better Life in Sierra Madre, will be the featured speaker at the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society's annual program meeting. The historical presentation is slated for Thursday February 18th at the Sierra Madre Playhouse from 7 to 9:30 pm. Admission is free. Light refreshments will be served.

The program, titled "The Battle for Sierra Madre Canyon," will revisit the dawn of the Environmental Movement and Culture Wars in an illustrated talk. How major social changes at the national level played out in Sierra Madre — through opposition to the US Army Corps of Engineers and National Forest Service plans to alter the Canyon's environment, creation of the Sierra Madre Mountain Conservancy, as well as in-town tensions over youth-oriented "Canyon Culture" —will be the focus of this talk. Time for questions and discussion about this fairly recent history will be included in the program.

Ms. Zack will also sign copies of Southern California Story, which will be available for purchase. The stunning, 370-page hardcover book sells for \$45 plus tax (\$49.39).

## Sierra Madre Picked for FEMA Pilot Project

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved a pilot project submitted by Donna Cayson, Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) Distinguished Fellow. Cayson, a retired Sierra Madre Police Dept. officer, is assigned to the Department of Homeland Security; FEMA, National Preparedness Directorate. Cayson's proposed initiative seeks to develop and pilot a model that will increase individual preparedness through an all-inclusive community based approach combined with the development and implementation of a Technical Assistance Template.

The purpose of this pilot project is to take action in response to recent research which indicated that there has been little increase in the number of prepared citizens over the past six years. Cayson believes that individual preparedness will increase when the collective efforts of all community stakeholders are focused on the common goal of individual preparedness.

Nearly two dozen local organizations have been invited to participate in the program, and the Chamber of Commerce is taking an active role.

Phase I of the project is to determine the current state of preparedness among the residents of Sierra Madre and those who work in the City, and thus likely to be participants in the event of emergency.

A website has been set up and the Chamber invites all who fit the above criteria to visit the site and participate in a brief survey that will take just a couple minutes of your time, in order to help assess the current state of preparedness. The web address is <http://site.smipp.org/>.

Please take a moment to stop by the site and respond to the survey. We'll keep you updated on subsequent phases of the project as it moves forward. It is anticipated that if this pilot project is a success, the template created in Sierra Madre will be a model for towns nationwide.



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## Weather Wise

### 5-Day Forecast

#### Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Mon:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
<b>Tues:</b>	Partly Cldy	H 60s	Lows 50s
<b>Wed:</b>	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
<b>Thur:</b>	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
<b>Fri:</b>	Rain	Hi 60s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



## Travelers and Collectors 2010 Season Premier

On Friday, February 12, Kathy and Gary Symons will open Sierra Madre Public Library's 2010 Travelers and Collectors season with their "armchair travelogue," "Ethiopia: Tribes, Religion, and Wildlife." The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers. Accompanied by six other travelers, the Symons visited Ethiopia in January of 2009, where they joined thousands of local pilgrims on January 7 in the Holy City of Lalibela, also known as "The New Jerusalem," for Christmas services. Their subsequent itinerary included stops at many monasteries where they viewed exquisite decorative murals, and excursions through the countryside where they captured exotic wildlife on film. In southern Ethiopia they met tribal peoples with elaborate face and body scarifications, lip plugs, and red clay-dyed hair. The Symons have traveled to more than 70 countries worldwide in their quest to learn about unique cultures.

Travelers and Collectors is held the second Friday of the month, February through May, at 7:30 p.m., in the Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. All programs are free and open to the public. A schedule is available for takeaway at the Library Service Desk, and can also be found on the Library website, [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us). Travelers and Collectors is sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library. For more information please call Catriona Shafer at (626) 355-7186.

## The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine and Cuisine Tasting Event

Here's a great Valentine suggestion. Transform Valentine's Day into Valentine's WEEK! Accompany your significant other on a romantic evening Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, at the elegant Alverno Villa in Sierra Madre. Set against a backdrop reminiscent of an exclusive Italian Villa, the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library are hosting their gala 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine and Cuisine Tasting event.

You and your valentine will be treated to a variety of wines from dozens of vintners. And we'll tantalize your palates with delectable cuisine from more than 20 local restaurants.

Bid on treasures for your Valentine at our Silent Auction. Available items include more than 20 pieces of artwork, meals from gourmet restaurants, theater tickets, Disneyland, wine tours and tastings. Jewelry, golf, race track, museum tickets, and a gourmet dinner for 8 from the Wine Tasting Committee are but a few of the gifts offered. Musicians, magicians, and good friends and neighbors round out this evening of evenings.

Our Gala will take place 7:00 – 9:30, Friday evening, February 19<sup>th</sup>. The Alverno Villa is located at 200 No. Michillinda Avenue. Two blocks north of Sierra Madre Blvd and approximately one to one and a half miles north of the 210 freeway.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library tickets are available at: Sierra Madre Public Library, The Bottle Shop, Arnold's Frontier Hardware, Iris Intrigue, Charcuterie, Savor the Flavor and Sierra Madre Books. They will also be available on line at [www.SierraMadreLibraryFriends.org](http://www.SierraMadreLibraryFriends.org). Tickets are \$60 each and are limited so purchase your tickets early.

In addition to a wonderful evening you will, by joining us, enable the library to add new acquisitions and additions to collections, support library services and programs, and make improvements to the building and grounds.

## "Zorro" Book Discussion at Sierra Madre Library Celebrating Sierra Madre's 2010 "One Book One City"

"Zorro," by Isabel Allende, will be the topic of Sierra Madre Public Library's Third Thursday Book Club meeting on Thursday, February 18 at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to join in this informal discussion of the adventure novel selected as Sierra Madre's "One Book One City" for 2010. This event is free and will take place in the Library's Reference Room.

First published in 2005, "Zorro" tells the story of the youthful Diego de la Vega and the political and personal conflicts, world travels, and affairs of the heart that lead him to become the swashbuckling champion of the oppressed in 19th century California.

Isabel Allende, the most widely read Latin American author in the world, has written novels that have been translated into 27 languages, including the acclaimed "Portrait in Sepia", "Ines of My Soul", "Daughter of Fortune", "House of the Spirits," and the 2009 "La Isla Bajo el Mar," to be released in English later this year. Her work has won countless international literary awards and she has been honored by numerous universities and arts, literature, and feminist organizations around the world. Allende was born in Chile, traveled extensively with her family as a child, and then established a career as a journalist in her home country before fleeing the military coup in 1973. She now lives in northern California.

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

*The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre. For more information on this, and all other Library activities and services, please call (626) 355-7186, or visit our website at [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us).*

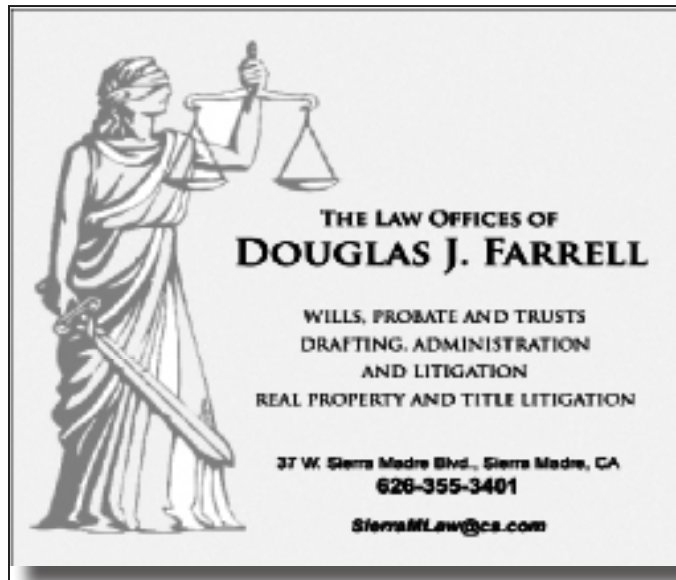
## Sierra Madre Youth Basketball League

Due to the success of the Sierra Madre youth Flag Football League, the City of Sierra Madre will be offering a Youth Basketball League this coming February.

The league will be co-ed and broken into two divisions: 7th and 8th graders will play in Division A, while 5th and 6th graders will play in Division B.

The league will consist of Sierra Madre teams and all games and practices will occur at Sierra Madre Upper School Campus basketball courts. Games and practices will occur Monday through Thursday after-school between the hours of 2:45 and 4:45 pm (the exact date and time is dependent on your child's coach). All games will follow the rules set out by the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (SCMAF).

For more information on how to register, please contact the Community and Personnel Services Office at 626-355-5278.



## FEBRUARY AT THE ARBORETEUM

February 11 Common Landscape Diseases with Jerry Turney, Ph.D.

This class for gardeners offers the fundamentals for diagnosis and management (including prevention) of various diseases of ornamental and edible plants in local gardens. Dr. Turney received his B. S. in Botany from California State Polytechnic University and his Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of California at Riverside. He has served as the curator of the camellia gardens at the Huntington Botanic Gardens, a research horticulturist at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, and is currently the plant pathologist for the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures for the County of Los Angeles, as well as a certified arborist and a licensed agricultural pest control advisor.

February 18 Aussies You Should Know with Jan Smithen – Part 1

Inspired by their vigor in Los Angeles-area landscapes, Jan's illustrated lecture proclaims the unusual and durable beauty of Australian plants from Adenanthos to Westringia (and sneaks in South African members of the Proteaceae). After the talk there will be a plant for sale donated by Jo O'Connell and her Australian Native Plants Nursery ([australianplants.com](http://australianplants.com)). Jan is the author of Sun Drenched Gardens: The Mediterranean Style. For over two decades, she taught the popular Fanatic Gardeners classes (that had a two year waiting list!) at The Arboretum, and is now very excited to tell everyone about this whole new pallet of plants! Part 2 of Jan's talk will be in the spring.

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

## "DOROTHY AND THE WIZARD OF OZ" AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE ; EXTENDED BY POPULAR DEMAND THROUGH FEBRUARY 13

Join Dorothy, Toto and all of their new found friends in this lively, colorful, magical musical adventure based on L. Frank Baum's much loved story. The interactive show permits the kids in the audience to be Munchkins. The show will be presented for Saturday daytime performances only.

June Chandler, long associated with Sierra Madre Playhouse, directs a cast that includes Dan Ellis, Ron Johnston, Donna Ieraci and Bruce Nehlsen.

Written by Steve and Kathy Hotchner. Presented by June Chandler and The Sierra Madre Players. Produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing Company.

"Dorothy and The Wizard of Oz." At Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Plenty of free parking behind theatre. NOW through February 13, 2010, Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Adults, \$18. Children 12 and under, \$12. (626) 355-4318. Online ticketing: [www.sierramadreplayhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplayhouse.org)

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## REMEMBRANCE

### Howard Thayer Syverson



Howard Thayer Syverson passed away peacefully on January 29, 2010, in Duarte, California. He was born on October 13, 1926, in Long Beach, moved to Santa Monica after the 1933 earthquake, and graduated from Santa Monica High School in 1943.

Howard met Frances Mueller in a physics class at UCLA before he enlisted in the Navy and was sent to V-12 officers' training at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. After his discharge, Howard earned his BS in chemical engineering at UW before returning to California. He was hired by the Ralph M. Parsons Company in Los Angeles and had a 42-year career designing refinery and chemical plant units, including refineries in Turkey, Senegal, and Germany. He became a computer guru for Parsons before the rest of the world had heard of computers.

Howard and Fran were married on May 21, 1950, after a two-year courtship. Their first home was in Whittier, where they started raising their three children, Steven, Nancy, and Mark, before they moved to La Habra. As choir members, he and his family were active in the First United Methodist Church in Whittier. The Syversons enjoyed annual backpacking trips in the High Sierras. Howard and Fran moved to Pasadena, then Sierra Madre, where they lived for 27 years before moving to Westminster Gardens in Duarte.

Howard had an insatiable curiosity about the world, so he and Fran started traveling in 1975 and continued the rest of his life. They've visited Asia, Africa, Europe, Russia, and the Pacific on numerous trips. Howard also loved reading on virtually any topic, particularly history, philosophy, and science. He started a second career in tax preparation, becoming an Enrolled Agent. He and Fran attended live theater and concerts regularly, played bridge with friends, and were active in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Arcadia.

Howard is survived by his wife and life-partner of 59 years, Fran; children Steve Syverson (Diana) and Nancy Kirkwood (Ken); grandchildren Grant Kirkwood, Holly Warner (Kevin), Nissa Syverson, and Mark T. Syverson; one great-grandchild on the way; nieces, nephews and cousins. His son, Mark H. Syverson, preceded him in death in 1997. Howard will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service and reception will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 15 at Church of the Good Shepherd, United Methodist, 400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Sierra Madre Playhouse, Sierra Madre Library, or Church of the Good Shepherd Foundation. Douglass & Zook Mortuary, 626-358-3244

### “Going Deeper”



The demands of life today can make it difficult to do anything more than scratch the surface of the meaning of life and faith. One observer describes her experience as one of “constant partial attention” as she “multi-tasks” through her day. Is there a center, a focal point around which the rest of life swirls? God invites us to cast our nets deeper to find what we’re looking for. If you’re tired of superficial living, join us for an exploration of what it means to be “Going Deeper.” Communion will be celebrated.

9:15 am Traditional Worship

Sunday school (K-5) and childcare provided

10:30 am Adult Spiritual Formation with Rev. Baird

11:15 am “The Gathering” worship service

Casual worship, multi-voice ensemble, childcare provided

#### San Marino Community Church

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## Duarte

### Duarte Mayor Delivers a Healthy Report on State of the City



Duarte Mayor Margaret Finlay takes Duarte's motto, “The City of Health” to heart. She recently challenged the community to get into shape by joining her “Biggest Loser” weight loss contest and she demonstrated her own fondness for fitness at her State of the City talk (Feb. 2) by roller skating to the podium. No surprise then that the “health” of the City, relating to Duarte's fiscal outlook, economic development, the environment, public safety, and

community well-being, were the focus of Mayor Finlay's remarks to the more than 100 business leaders, residents and elected officials in attendance at a luncheon hosted by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce at the City of Hope's Cooper Auditorium. On the fiscal health of the City, Finlay reported that Duarte's “rainy day” policy to keep a healthy reserve in the general fund has helped the City weather the economic storm. While most cities endeavor to keep a 20% reserve, Duarte has managed to maintain a 50% reserve level of \$5.3 million in general funds. The City's proactive steps to cushion itself against a proposed additional \$2.3 million in gas tax and redevelopment funds take from the state include a hiring freeze and retirement incentives to reduce the work force. The City's economic development picture is also showing healthy signs, despite the nation's still lagging economy. Duarte was the only city in Los Angeles County to register a slight increase in sales tax in the fourth quarter. Duarte's sales tax numbers increased approximately 7%. Major contributors include retailers Best Buy, which opened last May and is projecting \$30 million to \$50 million in sales, Staples, whose million dollar remodel increased overall sales by 10% in 2009, and the Duarte Target store which remains one of the highest grossing Target stores on a square foot basis in the region. On the horizon, Qdoba, a nationally recognized fresh mix, quick

serve style Mexican restaurant is set to open this summer on Mountain Ave, the first tenant in the new inline shops built adjacent to the Best Buy/Staples shopping center. The Maryvale Educational Center, in the last stages of construction is preparing for a spring 2010 opening. The new Leslie and Susan Gonda Diabetes and Genetic Research Center being built at City of Hope is projecting completion by autumn 2010. The four-story, 41,000 square foot expansion will double laboratory space for investigations into diabetes and other serious metabolic diseases. Between Maryvale, Best Buy, Staples, City of Hope and the new Sonic Drive-in, approximately 300 new jobs have been created.

While the City offers residents many ways to stay healthy and appreciate the outdoors including hundreds of acres of parks, trails, and a community fitness center, of major concern is the proposed Vulcan mining expansion to an area bordering Duarte residences that is currently under consideration by the City of Azusa. If approved, the mining project could have major impact on air quality, create visual blight and destroy the mountain ridge over Duarte.

“We don't want our views ruined or health ruined and we don't want a mountain taken down,” said Mayor Finlay who urged the community to attend the Azusa City Planning Commission meetings and Council meetings and comment on the Vulcan Draft Environmental Impact Report. Keeping the community safe from crime is job number one for the City of Duarte. Duarte ranks lowest in Part One crime categories among neighboring cities including Glendora, Monrovia, and Arcadia. Mayor Finlay reported that Part One crimes were down 20% in 2009, with the exception of residential burglary, which is up nationally. There was one homicide in 2009. Four persons were arrested and are currently awaiting trial. The City's comprehensive strategy of suppression, intervention and

## South Pasadena

### HOLY FAMILY KICKS-OFF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Holy Family Church will kick-off a year-long celebration of its 100th birthday today with an inaugural Centennial Mass at 12:45 pm. Several local officials are expected to be in attendance along with Cardinal Roger Mahony, Bishop Gabino Zavala and Pastor Monsignor Clement Connolly, as well as several other former and current priests who will concelebrate the Mass. A reception will immediately follow in the Parish Hall.

Holy Family Church was founded on May 10, 1910, with seventy-five courageous families who gathered for worship in a small cottage at the El Centro/Fremont location. By the following August, a temporary “bungalow church” was built to house the growing congregation until funds could be raised for a more permanent building, a “handsome edifice,” not only for themselves but for generations to come for this fast growing community.

Today, one hundred years later, Holy Family Parish has grown to over 3500 families with over eighty ministries including commissions for worship, community, outreach, education and administration. Each ministry has a body of eight to fifteen parishioners who execute initiatives and activities in their respective areas through subcommittees.

“Holy Family's centennial year is a rediscovery of the gifts of a living church, gratitude for yesterday and promise for tomorrow,” says

Pastor Monsignor Clement Connolly. “We have gratefully inherited the courage, the faith, and the vision of those who went before us. Our church was built in 1928 for 300 households and it was paid off by 1932; a tribute to the generosity, the belonging and the faith of yesterday's people who come alive in our community today. This inspires us to believe that in the power of the Holy Spirit great things are yet to come.”

“Holy Family's Centennial Year is a landmark in the history of the parish,” says Cambria Smith, Parish Life Director. “During this year of celebration, we will look back with gratitude to those who came before us in loving preparation for those who will come after us.” Other scheduled events throughout the year for the public include:

- Opening of the time capsule: February 7, 2010 (9:30 am mass)
  - Founding Mass Celebrating 100th Year: May 10, 2010 (8:00 am Mass)
  - Holy Family Centennial Auction & Gala: May 15, 2010
  - Music and Memories Under the Stars: June 5, 2010
  - Celebration of “A Life of Service” for Msgr. Connolly: All Masses
- Holy Family Church is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need.*

For additional press information please contact Tina Thomson, at 626-395-9932 or [tina@tinathomson.com](mailto:tina@tinathomson.com).



*Holy Family Parish in South Pasadena, CA kicked-off a year long centennial celebration on Sunday with an inaugural centennial mass. In the center, in light vestments are, from left to right, Monsignor Connolly, Cardinal Mahony, and Bishop Zavala. Photo by Natalie Murray-Garay*

## Monrovia

### Hummus Preparation and Tasting Event At Chicken King Express To Support Relay For Life of Monrovia

ALL are invited to a special afternoon of hummus preparation demo and tasting event at Monrovia's restaurant Chicken King Express. The chefs from the restaurant will be doing a live demo of how to prepare authentic Mediterranean HUMMUS. Chips, falafel, and other finger items will be at hand to taste this freshly prepared healthy delight and to further satisfy your taste buds lunch will be available for sale in the restaurant.

The owner of Chicken King Express, Armen Kahouati will be donating a portion of the lunch sales that same day to support Relay For Life of Monrovia event. Relay for Life is a signature fundraising event for American Cancer Society that supports cancer research, education and services for cancer patients and their families.

For all you ever wanted to know about HUMMUS making but could not ask your chef, mark your calendars of fun afternoon with family and friends! What could be better than having a sumptuous lunch that also supports the community's fight against cancer?

What:	Hummus Preparing & Tasting Event
Host:	Monrovia Relay for Life 2010 ( <a href="http://www.RelayForLife.org/MonroviaCA">www.RelayForLife.org/MonroviaCA</a> )
When:	Saturday, February 27th
Time:	12:00 noon to 3:00 PM
Where:	Chicken King Express, 445 W. Foothill Blvd, Monrovia, CA 91016 Ph: 626-305-3111 626-305-3111 626-305-3111 626-305-3111 (Cross Street Mayflower) Contact: Mohna 626-359-4114 626-359-4114 626-359-4114 626-359-4114

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prevention efforts to reduce crime and gang violence is proving successful, reported Mayor Finlay. Since Dec. 1, 2009, Sheriff's deputies have made 42 arrests, among them 8 of the identified top 10 gang members. Intervention programs include the close monitoring of parolees and probationers and a jobs program instituted in conjunction with Foothill Workforce Investment Board. Mayor Finlay noted that prevention is central to helping keep Duarte safe. The City's more than 100 recreation, sports, mentoring, education, volunteer community service, and job and job training programs for youth are working to provide positive and healthy outlets to help ensure that Duarte youth grow into well-rounded, successful adults. A committee of 27 community members is currently involved in creating a Youth and Family Master Plan that will further enhance the City's programs, services and quality of life for youth and families



# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## City Annual Report Online

The City of Pasadena 2009 annual report made its debut at Mayor Bill Bogaard's State of the City event Jan. 28.

In spite of the enormous challenges associated with the national, state and local economic climate, the city continued to make great strides in 2009. Many of those accomplishments are outlined in the comprehensive report.

"Our successes can be attributed to the leadership of the mayor and city council, the invaluable input of an engaged citizenry, as well as the commitment by city employees to deliver exceptional services to the community," said Beck. "I submit this annual report to Pasadena's residents, businesses, community partners and other stakeholders in the interest of government accountability and community understanding."

The report's six main topic headings are the goals of the city's strategic plan and reflect the collective achievements of all departments.

These goals are Maintain Fiscal Responsibility and Stability; Improve, Maintain and Enhance Public Facilities and Infrastructure; Increase Conservation and Sustainability; Improve Mobility and Accessibility throughout the City; Support and Promote the Quality of Life and the Local Economy; and Ensure Public Safety.

Rounding out the report are a city council page, a message from City Manager Michael J. Beck, demographic information, a fiscal report and frequently called numbers.

In keeping with the city's commitment to environmental stewardship, a limited number of annual reports were printed. It is available online at [www.cityofpasadena.net/annualreport](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/annualreport).

## Zany Doo Dah Queen Tryouts

Tryouts Saturday at the American Legion, 179 N. Vinedo in Pasadena. Doors open at 2:00pm, Tryouts begin sometime after 2:30pm. First 20 queens hopefuls to arrive are admitted free-of-charge!!!!!! \$5.00 for all at the door. For more info call 626-792-9938.

## Pet of the Week



Neytiri, a lovely, three year old tabby needs a new home. She is very outgoing and likes to play but also likes to snuggle up to you for attention. Neytiri may prefer to be the only cat in the household. Come visit with this cute kitty today!

The regular cat adoption fee is \$70 which includes the spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a free follow-up health check at a participating vet.

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask about A260619 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena CA, 91105. Our adoption hours are 11-3 Sunday, 9-4 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-3 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at [www.pasadenahumane.org](http://www.pasadenahumane.org)

## Historic Theater's Last Act

By Dean Lee

Theater goes funneled past a small sign Thursday night, after seeing one of the last performances of Camelot, informing Pasadena Playhouse subscribers of the landmark's financial woes. The one page letter says they have every intention to honor their obligation to them. The Playhouse is set to permanently close Sunday night.

"We wanted to tell you personally that we intend to meet these challenges head-on with strong fiscal oversight and transparency," The one page letter reads, signed by Artistic Director, Sheldon Epps, and Executive Director Stephen Eich.

According to reports, the theater is more than \$2 million in debt including \$500,000 in bills and \$1.5 million in bank loans. All 37 employees will be laid off. Eich said that includes himself.

"Very, very sadly we had to release the 37 staff members,"



he said. "From our production staff, our box office and house staff to our operations and administrative staff."

While the theater is dark, the board of directors said they will look at all the options surrounding and possibly filling bankruptcy.

"I should clarify that we are not in bankruptcy yet, we have not filed for bankruptcy yet," Eich said during a radio interview.

He also explained that they had tried, unsuccessfully, to get a major donor to name the auditorium after. He estimated a \$5 million gift was needed.

Eich said their biggest problem was watching the cash on hand dwindle knowing that Feb. 7,

"there would be no money to pay anyone after that."

He also said \$6 million pledged to refurbish the theater was not a solution.

"First that money is not in hand," he told KPCC. "It's not in some bank account that we can use. It's not part of a solution."

He added that the decision to refurbish occurred four or five years ago. Eich also said he had been hired only seven months ago.

His biggest concern was how they will deal with subscribers which he said they did not have an answer to.

A number of upcoming shows were sold out according to [pasadenaplayhouse.org](http://pasadenaplayhouse.org).

## City Creates New IT Department

By Dean Lee

Although some questioned City Manager Michael Beck's decision, during a time of cutbacks, to create a completely new city department of Information Technology and hire a new head for the department, he defended the move Monday night saying it was in line with his budget strategies.

"I do know people are going to be scratching their heads in a time, economically the way we are," Councilmember Steve Madison said.

The department's creation also called for hiring an Interim Chief Information Officer at \$177,000 for one year. Although the cost was not a contention the process was.

Beck said the city had chosen Dianah Neff, the former Chief Information Officer for Philadelphia.

"She's paid on an hourly basis, but not to exceed 40 hour of paid time per week," he said. "She expects to work well in excess for 40 hours but we only pay for the 40 hours."

He said the city only interviewed three candidates asking that they exempt the bidding process something

Councilmember Chris Holden said was a concern. He later voted no to Neff as the Chief Information Officer after asking the issue have a separate vote. The creation of the department was unanimous.

Holden said he was not comfortable with not exempting Neff from applying for the permanent position further explaining that she would be creating the department which could give her an edge over other applicants. "This is a pretty pivotal position," he said.

Beck said he did not know legally if he could tell someone they cannot apply.

"I would just be reluctant, if she turns out to be the greatest IT director that we could find, to say that we're not going to consider her,"

Beck also implied that the hiring process for a permanent position would start in 6 to 9 months.

Councilmember Victor Gordo used City Attorney Michele Bagneris as a positive example of hiring the interim to fill a position saying he did not want to limit their opportunities."

"Our own city attorney is evidence that model works in this city," Gordo said. "Michele was in an acting capacity for

quite some time and that's how I view this person [Neff]."

Just before the vote Beck made clear that they were not hiring Neff they were contracting out her consulting firm to provide the CIO services.

Beck said the creation of an IT department would keep down labor cost through consolidating departments and efficiencies. The new IT department and CIO will be accountable to him.

An assessment of the city's technology infrastructure found the city does not have a formal disaster recovery plan, lacks a backup data center and lacks citywide technology standards among many other faults including having no IT vision or a citywide approach to IT decision making

Beck said, over time, the city would be spending over \$12 million dollars consolidating and fixing the technology department.

"I am not naïve enough to propose to you this evening this change is going to save us dollars today, in this fiscal year, or potentially the next fiscal year," he said but it will facilitate stronger utilization of technology over years, and reducing the cost associated with IT."

## Sporting Goods Retailer Collects Nearly One Million Pairs of Shoes For Haiti Effort



Chalet locations.

"Our customers are the best," said Craig Levra, Chairman and CEO of Sport Chalet. "They have proven, in an overwhelming fashion, that they are truly generous people who gave from their hearts. We had children, communities, schools, businesses and local organizations all rallying to donate their new and gently worn shoes. Their

outpouring of support for the besieged residents of Haiti is unbelievable, and we are very grateful that we could help."

Soles4Souls had originally set a national goal to collect 250,000 pairs of shoes and Sport Chalet set theirs at 55,000 pairs. After the first three days, Sport Chalet had collected nearly 70,000 pairs and therefore increased their personal goal to 250,000 pairs while Soles4Souls increased their national goal to 1.3 million.

"We are simply floored by the overwhelming support that our partners at Sport Chalet have received," said Wayne Elsey, Founder and CEO of Soles4Souls. "Their donations will be used to bring hope to the people of Haiti as they struggle to rebuild their lives. We are proud of the public for stepping up to help those less fortunate."

For more information on how to get involved and donate to the victims in Haiti, visit [www.giveshoes.org](http://www.giveshoes.org).

at Saturn in 2004. The probe was equipped with six instruments to study Titan, Saturn's largest moon. Cassini's 12 instruments have returned a daily stream of data from Saturn's system for nearly six years. The mission received a 27-month extension to Sept. 2010.

More Cassini information is available, at <http://www.nasa.gov/cassini> and <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov>.

## Kids Safety Academy Applications Available

The Pasadena Police Department is sponsoring a free Pasadena Kids Safety Academy beginning on March 6th 2010. Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis until February 19th or the class is full.

The classes for children between the ages of six and 12 are held for seven consecutive Saturdays at different Pasadena locations from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Classes are taught by Police, Fire and other City personnel. "We do require that parents or guardians attend with their young ones," says Janet Pope Givens. "The information may be presented at age appropriate levels for the little ones, but as parents we can learn a lot about what the department wants our children to know and how to use that knowledge."

"The intent of the academy is

to teach our youngsters what to do and how to do it in case of emergencies that can occur in every day life," says Interim Chief of Police Christopher Vicino. "As much as we don't like to think that something bad can happen, we want our kids to know what to do if something ever does."

The class covers age appropriate conversations about personal safety, bicycle safety, water safety, fire and crime prevention among other things.

To find out more about the class requirements and schedule, and to obtain an application go to: [http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/police/EMP\\_SERVICES/Community\\_Serv.asp](http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/police/EMP_SERVICES/Community_Serv.asp) or call Police Specialist Anita Butler at 626.744.7650.

## Humane Society Hosts Animal Behaviorist

Pet owners, animal trainers and veterinary professionals are invited to take part in The Well Adjusted Cat and Dog Workshops, March 26-28, at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA. Feature presenter and one of the world's most celebrated veterinarians, Dr. Nicolas Dodman, BVMS, is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists and founder and Director of the Animal Behavior Clinic at Tufts University. Dr. Dodman has authored several books about animal behavior and appears regularly on radio and television programs that include 20/20, Good Morning America, NOVA, and Oprah. Dr. Dodman is also a columnist for Martha Stewart's Body and Soul Magazine, LIFE, and American Kennel Club's AKC Family Dog. Dr. Dodman will share his knowledge and discuss

behavioral pet problems during the daylong feline workshop and the 2-day canine workshop. Some workshop topics include: Feline Fears and Anxiety, Feline Medical Problems that Present as Behavior Problems, Litter Box Strategies and Furniture Scratching, Dominance vs. Conflict Aggression, 7 Steps to a Well Adjusted Dog, Canine Phobias

Workshops begin at 9:00a.m. at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA located at 361 South Raymond Avenue in Pasadena. Space is limited. Dr. Dodman will have a selection of his books available for purchase and will be signing books at the event. Register by February 14, 2010 to receive the early bird price of \$99 for the feline workshop and \$199 for the 2-day canine workshop. For more information and to sign up for this event, please visit [www.thepetdocs.com](http://www.thepetdocs.com).

## City College Hosts Piano Sale



A selection of pianos loaned to the Pasadena City College Music Department will be available for sale this President's Day Weekend. The selection of new and used pianos includes grands, baby grands, uprights, studios, digitals, and consoles from brands such as Kawai, Shigeru, Young Chang, Steinway, Yamaha, and Baldwin. All pianos have been professionally maintained and most include their original 10-year manufacturer's warranty.

All pianos will be sold on a

first-come, first-served basis. PCC faculty, staff, alumni, students, and friends will be given priority status on Feb. 12 and 13. Private appointments on these days can be scheduled at (626) 585-7886.

Unsold pianos will be available to the general public on Feb. 14 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Community Education Center building at 3035 E. Foothill Blvd.

For more information, contact the PCC Music Department at (626) 585-7886.

## PCC Receives \$208,800 Grant for Upward Bound

The Pasadena City College Foundation was recently conferred a \$208,800 grant from the College Access Foundation of California. The grant, which will be awarded over the course of two years, will support college scholarships for local high school students in PCC's two Upward Bound Programs. Specifically, the grant will provide two-year scholarships (totaling \$180,000) to 30 students and will fund program support costs totaling \$28,800.

PCC began its Classic Upward Bound Program in 1995, and added the Math/Science Upward Bound Program in 1999. Together, the programs motivate and challenge 110 low-income and first-generation college bound students to attain the academic skills necessary to complete postsecondary

education. PCC's Upward Bound Programs work with five high schools (to provide a comprehensive program of academic activities and support services that enable participants to complete high school and enter into and succeed in college.

Created in 2005, the College Access Foundation of California helps qualified students in California who have financial need attend and graduate from college by providing grants to community-based programs so that they can award college scholarships to the students they serve. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded over \$36 million to over 100 organizations statewide, resulting in scholarship awards to more than 10,000 students.

For more information, call (626) 585-7722.



## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, January 17th, 2010 to Saturday, January 23rd, 2010 the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 359 calls for service.

### Monday, January 18th

**5:17 PM** – Possible Explosive Device, 100 block Santa Anita Ct. A resident called the Police Department regarding a suspicious package resembling an explosive device that she found in her mail box on the parkway. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad responded, and with the use of a remote control robot, detonated the device. Further inspection of the device revealed it was not a real explosive device, though it appeared to look real. The Los Angeles County Bomb Squad took the device for further investigation.

**6:52 PM** – Residential Burglary, 500 Block Sierra Meadow. On Monday, January 18th between 6:45 AM., and 6:15 PM., unknown suspect(s) walked through an unlocked side gate and entered the home through an unlocked bedroom window. The suspect(s) stole an IMAC computer, an Olympus E-500 camera, 2 Skagen white titanium men's watches, \$400.00 in coins, and a Bank of America checkbook in the victim's name. Total loss is estimated at \$1,620.00.

**7:00 PM** – Theft from Vehicle, 500 block Sierra Meadow. Suspect(s) took a soccer bag from an unlocked van parked in the driveway and a green Razor scooter from the carport. The officer investigating the residential burglary down the street (6:52 PM) on Sierra Meadow found the soccer bag from the living room floor and returned it to the owner. The value of the scooter is \$80.00.

### Tuesday, January 19th

**7:07 AM** – Burglary/Vandalism – 100 Block W. Highland Ave. Unknown suspects broke a window to enter a classroom at the Sierra Madre Elementary School. Suspect(s) poured paint on the classroom floor, ransacked a desk and took \$90.00 and permission slips. Suspect(s) also threw a rock through a second classroom window. Total damage and loss are yet to be determined.

**1:14 PM** – Vehicle Burglary, 300 Block E. Grandview Ave. Between January 18th and 19th, suspect(s) stole a Garmin GPS from the victim's vehicle by smashing out the front passenger window. Total loss is estimated at \$100.00.

### Saturday, January 23rd

**2:44 PM** – Vehicle Burglary, 400 Block Manzanita Ave. Between 3:00 AM and 3:30 AM on 01-23-2010, suspect(s) stole a Garmin GPS, I-Pod, and misc. paperwork from the victim's vehicle by smashing out the front passenger window. Total loss is estimated at \$800.00.

## Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, January 24, through Saturday, January 30, the Police Department responded to 826 calls for service of which 148 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, January 24:

1. Shortly before 6:00 p.m., units responded to Macy's regarding a husband and wife detained for theft. Loss prevention personnel advised that the Asian suspects were seen concealing a Coach purse on a stroller and they left the store without making payment. Private persons' arrests were made, and a 45-year-old man and 44-year-old woman were taken into custody for commercial burglary. A child's car seat had to be removed from their vehicle so heir three-year-old daughter could be taken home by a relative, and inside the car officers found additional stolen property, burglary tool, and security sensors.

2. Units were dispatched to Motel 6, 225 Colorado, around 9:09 p.m. in reference to a juvenile who ran away from a halfway house in El Monte. Two male Hispanics, 21 and 14 years of age, were contacted in one of the rooms and the missing juvenile was located. A consensual search of the room resulted in the finding of a loaded handgun, marijuana, glass-smoking pipes, burglary tools, and stolen electronic equipment. It was determined that the subjects were associated with a gang involved in stealing vehicles and committing auto burglaries. During the investigation, two more male Hispanics arrived in a Honda Accord but they left the scene on foot, and a DMV check revealed that the Honda was a stolen vehicle. The subjects in the room were arrested for vehicle theft, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of burglary tools, and receiving stolen property; the juvenile was also charged with possession of a concealable handgun and minor illegally possessing live ammunition, and he was later transported to Eastlake Juvenile Hall.

Associated with the same investigation, officers were on the lookout for another stolen vehicle. The car matching the description was seen with two male occupants and a traffic stop was attempted; however, the driver sped away. A short pursuit ensued and the driver later stopped the vehicle and fled on foot in the 400 block of Santa Rosa, and a 16-year-old Hispanic passenger was taken into custody right away. A perimeter was established and the 16-year-old Hispanic driver was subsequently found hiding near some trash cans in the 400 block of Santa Cruz. Both juveniles were charged with vehicle theft.

Monday, January 25:

3. Around 1:06 p.m., an auto versus pedestrian accident occurred at Huntington and First. A female driver failed to stop at the crosswalk and struck a pedestrian. The victim suffered head trauma and a broken clavicle and was transported to a hospital for treatment. (Press release is attached.)

4. A hit-and-run accident occurred at El Camino and Santa Anita around 5:53 p.m. While taking a theft report, officers heard the sound of a collision and saw a car leaving the scene. A traffic stop was conducted and a 62-year-old female Hispanic driver was arrested. She had struck a parked trailer and the impact caused the trailer to hit a man standing nearby. The victim sustained only minor injuries.

Tuesday, January 26:

5. An auto burglary occurred between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Lovell and Duarte. Unknown suspect(s) broke a car window and took a laptop computer, camera, iPod, and other miscellaneous property.

6. Around 9:30 p.m., a strong-arm robbery occurred at the 99 Ranch Market parking lot located at 1300 South Golden West. A female victim was putting groceries into the trunk of her car when a male Hispanic passenger, in a moving burgundy vehicle, grabbed her purse and the car sped away. The victim was dragged about 30 feet before she was able to let go of her purse. An area check was conducted, but the suspects were not found.

Wednesday, January 27:

7. Between 5:00 p.m. on January 26 and 7:50 on January 27, a burglary occurred at a construction site in the 200 block of Genoa. Unknown suspects entered the location through an unsecured window and stole construction tools and equipment.

8. A residential burglary occurred in the 00 block of Diamond between 9:00 p.m. on January 25 and 8:00 p.m. on January 27. The victim returned home to find that a locked drawer was pried open and a large amount of cash was stolen.

Thursday, January 28:

9. Around 10:00 a.m., a victim came to the station to file a fraud report. Unknown suspect(s) used the victim's checking account information and made fraudulent bill payments totaling over \$2,310.

10. Units responded to Tapioca Express, 160 East Duarte, around 6:49 p.m. regarding a verbal argument between a man and a woman sitting in a parked vehicle. The subjects were contacted and record checks revealed that the 18-year-old male Asian had an outstanding warrant and was arrested. The 18-year-old female Asian was also arrested for possession of marijuana, but she was later cited and released.

Friday, January 29:

11. About 1:44 p.m., officers were dispatched to T-Mobile, 8986 Rosemead, in reference to a man in possession of a possible stolen cell phone. Investigation revealed that a 25-year-old male African-American had a cell phone that was stolen from a Verizon kiosk located at Westfield Mall. A record check also indicated that he had two outstanding warrants. A private person's arrest was made, and the suspect was taken into custody for receiving stolen property and outstanding warrants.

12. Shortly after 11:30 p.m., units responded to Sunset and Huntington regarding an injury traffic collision. An intoxicated driver in a BMW failed to stop for a red light and collided with a Honda in the intersection. The impact caused the Honda to spin out of control and hit a light pole. Both occupants in the Honda were injured and were transported to a hospital for medical treatment. A 21-year-old male Asian was arrested at the scene for DUI.

## A Weekly Spotlight on Sierra Madre Volunteers

### MARY TUMILTY Lightning Eyes - Marshmallow Heart

Mary Tumilty would pooh-pooh any published description of her. Very able manager. Artistic, smart and clever. Fantastic cook and hostess. And eyes like lightning and a marshmallow heart.

To those words she would level her brown-eyed gaze and utter some interesting expletives. No way, she'd say.

Mary Tumilty is a beloved figure in Sierra Madre in spite of what she says. She's the former long-time city librarian, as everyone knows.

Mary speaks chronologically in eras rather than dates. This 95-year-old wonder has lived here for 59 years, measuring the time by the age of her daughter, Cynthia, to how old Cynthia is now.

Mary and her then-husband built a home in "the Oakless Oaks" section of Arcadia, then, some years later, she and Cynthia moved to Carter Street in Sierra Madre. That was the beginning of her love affair with Sierra Madre. Years later, Mary built the apartment house that is still her home.

When she and Cynthia moved to Sierra Madre, Mary enrolled daughter Cynthia into the Ascension Parish Day School and later Mary became president of the PTA there. That was probably the beginning of a lifetime of volunteerism.

She and members of the Church of the Ascension Women's Group made doll clothes to sell at their bazaar. The clothes were a smashing success.

After getting the family library card, Mary started working at the library book sales. She joined Friends of the Sierra Madre Library and later became president of that group.

Mary started the annual Art Fair with Shirley Cullen, Ellen Grijalva and Tensie Benson. In her typical Tumilty fashion Mary chaired the Art Fair, then, after becoming president of the Friends, she soon led the State Friends as president. She held workshops around the State of California, directing eager volunteers in the dynamics of running their own book sales.

Then she met the late Howard Whalen, a famous sculptor and all-around artist in Sierra Madre, and a group of would-be thespians started The Studio Players, connecting both local and professional actors. She liked the theater enough to produce a play. The group went on to open a coffee house, called The Impromptu Owl, in the old adobe on Montecito.

After Whalen's death, Mary became manager of his sculpture garden in Sierra Madre, has served in that capacity for 25 years, helping to protect it from the elements and general destruction.

And suddenly Cynthia was headed for college and Mary had to find a real job. City Librarian Paul Ax hired Mary to be library clerk for \$325 a month, and so her library career was launched.



It was Mary's idea to start the now-popular Travelers and Collectors program, and then Fridays at Eight musicals, as well as the ballet recitals with Helga De Kansky's group, and she invited the famous Times columnist Jack Smith, and, finally, well-known author Ray Bradbury to speak at the library.

Lucy Wesley and Margaret Duran designed a quilt to be sewn in commemoration of the country's Bicentennial (1976), and Mary and many others participated. The quilt can now be seen at the library.

To you who have been here many years, remember the Mitford Tea, named for the book read by the entire community? Another of Mary's ideas.

At about that time (remember Mary Tumilty measures time in eras rather than years), Mary thought the library's archives should have their own

room, so on her own she worked with friends until donations satisfied the price of the room. This was named the Jameson Room because of the generous donations from the Jameson Estate in Sierra Madre.

The Wesleys weren't satisfied until there was a new computer room added to the library. It became the Walt Wesley Room because of the Sierra Madre family that had first brought the idea to the library. It was about then -- in 1981 -- that the Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce gave the coveted Citizen of the Year award to Mary.

After all of that, what was left? Mary had started as library clerk in 1965, became the city librarian in 1975, and on Dec. 27, 1984, she decided to retire.

Her Friends of the Library Endowment Fund started with \$5,000. Twenty-five years later it's up to \$70,000.

Retirement? Not really. She's worked with Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council, Meals-on-Wheels, Senior lunches, Docent Council at the Gamble House, Board of the Friends of the Library, Sierra Madre Historical and Preservation Society, Creative Arts Group Auxiliary, Rose Float Association, former president of the Sierra Madre Republican Club. And she's Director Emeritus of the Friends of the Library. Interspersed in all of these activities, Mary has traveled the world.

This former Hoosier left Indiana to come to California with her family when she was 9 years old. She graduated from USC with majors in business and merchandising in the Deep Depression of 1936.

Mary's daughter, Cynthia, lives in New York and Tuscany. Cynthia's husband, a gentleman farmer, has a vineyard in Tuscany and they split their time between the two continents. They have a daughter, Adrienne, a very special granddaughter for Mary, who lives in Mumbai, India.

"I have been blessed to have so many friends, a wonderful church (Church of the Ascension) and to live in Sierra Madre," Mary said. "This couldn't have happened anywhere but in Sierra Madre."

Mary Tumilty. Ninety-five years old and not stopping for anyone. Lightning eyes and a marshmallow heart.

## Monrovia Police Blotter

*Highlighted Activity - Week of January 21 - 27, 2010 During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 566 service events, resulting in 125 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:*

Grand Theft Auto

On January 21 at 6:36 a.m., an officer responded to the 400 block of East Greystone regarding the report of a stolen vehicle. When he arrived, the victim told him the vehicle had been taken sometime during the night. All keys are accounted for and there was no glass on the ground where the vehicle was parked. The vehicle is a black, 2008 Dodge Ram. Investigation continuing.

Residential Burglary

On January 21 at 9:04 a.m., an officer was dispatched on the report of a residential burglary in the 200 block of North Myrtle. On arrival, the victim reported that someone had broken into their garage. The garage lock had been cut to gain entry, and the victim reported miscellaneous items had been taken. Investigation continuing.

Attempt Grand Theft / Vehicle Tampering - Suspect Arrested

On January 22 at approximately 3:55 a.m., officers observed a male subject tampering with a vehicle parked on Alta Vista and Linwood. The subject was detained, and through investigation it was determined he was attempting to steal the rims and tires off the vehicle. The victims were contacted and advised of the attempted theft. The suspect is a juvenile that is on probation for burglary. He was arrested for the above listed charges and later released to a parent.

Grand Theft Auto Recovery

On January 22 at 9:13 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 400 block of Genoa regarding the report of a vehicle that had been parked there for two weeks. When the officer checked the plates through DMV records, he found it had been stolen out of Arcadia six days prior. The vehicle was recovered and returned to the victim.

Bank Robbery

On January 22 at 11:12 a.m., police received a call reporting a bank robbery approximately five minutes

after the robbery took place at a bank in the 100 block of West Foothill. The suspect walked in and handed a note to an employee demanding money. He told the employee he had a bomb and would detonate it if they did not cooperate. The suspect was given money. He exited the south doors and fled south on Myrtle. Investigation continuing.

Possession of Stolen Property / Possession of Drug Paraphernalia / Parole Hold - Suspects Arrested

On January 22 at 1:21 p.m., officers patrolling the 800 block of Eighth stopped a vehicle for traffic violations at Myrtle and Longden. The driver was arrested for possession of a methamphetamine smoking pipe. The passenger is on parole and was arrested for receiving stolen property and a parole hold.


Residential Burglary

On January 22 at 3:39 p.m., police received the report of a burglary in the 200 block of West Cypress. The victim left her residence at approximately 10 a.m. and returned at about 3 p.m. On her return, she noticed the bathroom window was open. She looked in the bathroom and saw footprints on the tub. She looked around the house and noticed two watches missing from a shelf in the bedroom. She then called police. Investigation continuing.

Domestic Violence - Suspect Arrested

On January 22 at 12:30 a.m., neighbors reported a fight in progress in the 100 block of South Mayflower. An officer investigated and found the fight was between a husband and wife, and he determined the wife was the aggressor. She was arrested and charged with spousal abuse and assault with a deadly weapon. Driving Under the Influence / Hit and Run Traffic Collision - Suspect Arrested

On January 23 at 9:40 p.m., officers on patrol observed a broken wall at a church in the 700 block of South Shamrock. There was a large puddle of oil and debris on the sidewalk and in the street directly in front of the wall. The officers followed the oil trail and found the vehicle in the 1100 block of east Lemon, traveling at approximately two miles per hour with its hazard lights on. The 20 year old male driver was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and hit and run. The 18 year old female passenger was cited for possession of alcohol.




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## PUSD News This Week

More than 40 parents and residents attended the first of four community forums to help shape the future of the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD). PUSD is updating its *long-term strategic plan* and is actively seeking community input in four community forums at locations throughout the district's boundaries. Community feedback will be reported to the Board of Education to incorporate into its strategic plan framework, establish an implementation plan, and measure the District's progress toward its goals. Spanish translation and child care provided at each meeting.

**School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs)** are now available online in English and Spanish at [www.pusd.us](http://www.pusd.us). California public schools annually provide this information to the community, allowing the public to evaluate and compare schools for student achievement, environment, resources, and demographics. The dynamic displays are updated as the data is released by the state.

**PUSD's Open Enrollment** application period for the 2010-2011 academic year ended today, February 4. Applicants are selected via random lottery. Notifications will be mailed in March.

Webster Elementary, Altadena Elementary and San Rafael Elementary School students joined 80,000 Californians for the **2010 Jamba Jump** on February 1. Students, teachers and staff jumped rope simultaneously for 10 minutes in an attempt to set a new world record. The Jamba Jump was organized by PUSD's physical education teachers, CAHPERD, the American Heart Association and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Students in **Blair IB School's Health Careers Academy** held a blood drive on January 29 in support of the The City of Hope, and donated 48 units of blood for the hospital's use. This donation comes at a time of when blood is especially needed, and saved the City of Hope \$15, 120 in blood purchases. It is one of three blood drives that the Health Careers Academy holds each school year.

**Pasadena High School is sending a team to the Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon**, where they'll compete against more than 500 high school students in a series of academic challenges. Top-scoring squads will go on to the California Academic Decathlon in March.

PUSD students continue to help with the **Haiti Earthquake Recovery Efforts**. Activities (in addition to those listed in the January 21, 2010 press release) include:

In just 5 days, the **Don Benito School** community collected 1,136 pairs of shoes that were donated to the organization of Soles for Souls; **Longfellow Elementary** raised more than \$1,300; **Jackson Elementary School** organized a collection to benefit Haiti; **Pasadena High School** is collecting toiletries, baby formula and diapers; **John Muir High School** is collecting donations to raise more than \$1,000.



Jamba Jump at Altadena Elementary School

### The Week Ahead:

**Tuesday, February 9**  
6:30 p.m.

The Board of Education will hold its regular meeting. Spanish translation provided. Board Room, 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena.

**Wednesday, February 10**  
6:30 p.m.

What knowledge, skills and values should a graduate of PUSD obtain to be prepared for college and careers? PUSD is updating its strategic plan and invites students, families and residents to attend a community forum that will help shape the future of public schools in Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre. Loma Alta Park, 3330 N. Lincoln Ave., Altadena. Spanish translation and child care provided.

**Thursday, February 11**  
6:30 p.m.

What knowledge, skills and values should a graduate of PUSD obtain to be prepared for college and careers? PUSD is updating its strategic plan and invites students, families and residents to attend a community forum that will help shape the future of public schools in Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre. Villa-Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa St. Pasadena. Spanish translation and child care provided. Parking is very limited at this location. Please carpool, walk or use public transportation.

**Friday, February 12 and Monday, February 15**

PUSD schools and offices closed in observance of Presidents' holidays.

## They say the whole worlds a stage. AND...

it's never been truer than these last two Saturdays as the entire Sierra Madre Playhouse has magically become the land of Oz.

"Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz" transforms the children in the audience into munchkins. The kids are outfitted in costumes which includes their names. Then throughout the forty-five minute performance the characters interact with the kids, many by name: The munchkins oil the tin man and stuff the scarecrow. They're asked by Dorothy and friends which way to go along the yellow brick road. And the munchkins turn into trees hiding Dorothy as the Wicked Witch chases her through the "forest." The witch melts at the end and the Wizard, at first glance, appears to be 10 feet tall. If you missed this charming production, IT'S NOT TOO LATE. Due to overwhelming support by the community, "Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz" has been extended through Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, and possibly even longer. Show times are at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Order tickets online at [www.sierramadreplayhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplayhouse.org). Or reserve tickets by calling (626) 355-4318. (\$12 for children, \$18 for adults.) The Playhouse is at 87 West Sierra Madre Blvd. "Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz" are all benefit performances supporting the Sierra Madre Playhouse.



Toto the dog is played by Steve Cipriani

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## The Assisteens Book Buddy Program at the Arcadia Public Library!

Thursday, January 14 and 28, February 4 and 18, March 4 at 4 or 4:30pm and March 11 and 18 at 6:30 and 7pm

Registration begins January 4 for January 14 and 28; January 25 for February 4 and 18; February 22 for March 4, 11 and 18.

The Assisteens Book Buddy program is a special one on one program designed to promote the love of books through reading aloud to children ages 4 – 8 years. Space is limited, so be sure to register early. This special program is made possible by the generous volunteer time provided by the Assisteens, an auxiliary of the Assistance League of Arcadia.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

### Alverno High School

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

### Arcadia High School

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

### Arroyo Pacific Academy

41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,  
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke  
E-mail address: [pcclarke@arroyopacific.org](mailto: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](http://www.barnhartschool.com)

### Bethany Christian School

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

### Carden of the Foothills School

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

### The Gooden School

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

### High Point Academy

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

website: [www.highpointacademy.org](http://www.highpointacademy.org)

### LaSalle High School

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

### Monrovia High School

325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016  
(626) 471-2000, email: [schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.odysseycharterschool.org)

### Pasadena High School

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

### Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Ave. Pasadena, Ca. 91109  
(626) 795-6981 website: [www.pusd@pusd.us](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:gbluemel220@pusd.us)

### Weizmann Day School

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

### Wilson Middle School

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

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For more information contact Rosemary Garcia at 626-355-5278 or via email at: [r.garcia@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:r.garcia@cityofsierramadre.com).

You may also get additional information by going to the city's website at: [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com).



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## TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

*Happy Valentine's Day to the Knights and the Damsels*

First, can we all agree that Valentine's Day should be a weekend or even a weeklong event? Mercifully, it must have been a very clever King that limited this to a single day.

Every February across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday? The history of Valentine's Day — and its patron saint — is shrouded in mystery. But we do know that February has long been a month of romance. St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite? Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentines, all of whom were martyred.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men — his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

How about trying an evening at home with a bottle of champagne and a candlelight dinner? Do you think that is an inappropriate response to this Holiday, am I not trying hard enough on this day of romance? Look, it's a real tough night for the restaurants. One of "10 Dills' Rules" is avoiding popular restaurants on these "famed" and overhyped days. Service is suspect and if you do make a reservation, it often leads to a wait and a miserable evening. Would you rather

be snuggling with that beautiful guy or girl, or watching and waiting for someone to leave their table to open a spot up for you?

Okay, if you insist, let's go dine. Where to dine on the Day of Kissing and Flowers? Try to avoid the five stars and hit the mom and pop corner restaurants. Many of these places will go out of their way to make you feel like royalty!

One of my favorite restaurants in Pasadena is the **Central Park Café** on S. Fair Oaks in Pasadena. The menu offers a variety of meats, poultry and Seafood. I am a big fan of their crab Bisque soup. **Hint:** They are offering a special menu the night prior. The menu starts off with a Pear salad, choice of House Made Ravioli, Filet Mignon or King Salmon and to top it off a Tiramisu Mousse Cheesecake.

How about **Avanti Café**, on the N. Lake? The restaurant like the owner is small and very charming. Nice pizzas and pastas and you won't go broke eating at Avanti.

For those in Sierra Madre, what about rediscovering **Restaurant Lozano** on N. Baldwin. The menu is eclectic and owner Gilbert is always there with a thoughtful suggestion. My understanding is that they will have a special menu.

Last but not least **Café Mundial** in Monrovia, I dined there recently and was very pleased with the pasta dishes, plus the prices are very reasonable.

I have given you four neighborhood restaurants, please make reservations and be patient!! I'm talking about with your date!!!

Join me every Sunday Night at 9 PM for my TV Show "Dining with Dills" on KJLA TV. Plus you can e mail me at thechefknows@yahoo.com



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Saturday 9th - Cheryl Barnes and  
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Steve Creson  
Friday 15th - Mercy and the Merketts  
Saturday 16th - Skivaly & Sills quartet  
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Malbec Restaurant - New Argentinean Cuisine  
Wednesday, February 17 from 3 - 5 pm

Wait until you taste this fabulous Argentinean food which is full of influences from Italian, Spanish and French cuisines rather than the traditional Latin American flavors. Argentinean owners, Javier Pardini and chef/owner Pablo Alcorta, have brought these lively flavors to Pasadena with their fabulous Malbec Restaurant.

Malbec is also the name of Argentina's signature grape that is quickly making a name for itself with red wine lovers worldwide. We will be enjoy this wine with the great menu they have chosen to demonstrate for you! Chef Pablo grew up in the Patagonia region of Argentina. He attended a premier culinary school and later worked in Buenos Aires before opening his own restaurant in Córdoba, Argentina.

He makes everything from scratch—pasta, soups and authentic sauces. Join us for a wonderful afternoon! The Skirt steak with chimichurri sauce is a signature dish as is the Milanesitas!! Menu: Soup, Beef Empanadas, Milanesitas de Lomo a la Napolitana, Marinated Skirt Steak with Chimichurri Sauce and Grilled Vegetables - www.malbeccuisine.com

Save the date: March 10—Chef Claud Beltran of Noir Food & Wine

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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.

## RICH Johnson TERROR ALERT LEVELS



It's time to review the five stages of our Federal terror alert levels. At the bottom is our safest level "LOW" signified by the color green. The next level up is "GUARDED" displayed by the color blue. "ELEVATED" is one more level up and is against a yellow backdrop. "HIGH" is orange and "SEVERE" is signified by, not surprisingly, the color red.

I Wondered what other European countries had as security levels so I did some research and discovered the following evidence as compiled by historical data:

The British have four security levels in responding to terrorist threats. The first is "miffed" followed by "peeved." Third is "irritated," followed by their highest security level, "A bit cross." "A bit cross" has not been used since the blitz in 1940 which caused tea supplies to run out. They had a fifth level referred to as "bloody nuisance" but that has not been issued since the American Revolution, errr, I mean American Insurrection.

The French, whose opinion and affirmation many Americans greatly crave, announced yesterday it had raised its terror alert level from "run" to "hide." The only two higher levels in France are "collaborate" and "surrender." The rise in French alert levels was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France's only white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's military capabilities.

Italy has increased their alert level from "shout loudly and excitedly" to "elaborate military posturing." Two more levels

remain: "ineffective combat operations" and "change sides. This motivated the Germans to raise their alert status from "disdainful arrogance" to "Dress in uniform and sing marching songs." The Germans also have two higher levels: "invade a neighbor" and "lose."

The Spanish, ignoring updated information on their security alert levels, chose to speak excitedly about the deployment of their new submarine fleet. These beautifully designed subs have glass bottoms so the new Spanish Navy can get a good look at the old Spanish Navy.

Three events still coming up. First is Corfu's day before Valentine's Day romantic dinner starring Jane Fuller. It is on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 on. Yours truly has actually agreed to perform a song and sing backup on another. So, if you need to see this, call Amy or Vic at 355-5993 and make your reservations.

Due to overwhelming response, the marvelous play, "Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz" has been extended at least one week to February 13<sup>th</sup>. This play turns the kids in the audience into munchkins complete with costumes and activities. Call 355-4318 for reservations.

And last and certainly not least, the Friends of the Library 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine and Cuisine Tasting Event is on schedule for Friday night, February 19<sup>th</sup>. I had lunch last Thursday at one of the wine and Cuisine participants: Noir Food and Wine Bar right next to the Ice House in Pasadena. I had their wild boar chili verde. Wow! Was that good. I can't wait to see what they serve up. Order tickets online at [www.SierraMadreLibraryFriends.org](http://www.SierraMadreLibraryFriends.org). \$60 per ticket which goes to a wonderful cause, the ongoing efforts of the library.

## STUART Tolchin On...LIFE It's Time For A New Personal Mission Statement



In last week's article I lamented that the Supreme Court decision in Citizen United v Federal Election Commission has removed many of the restrictions on corporations from participating in the political process and perhaps has guaranteed that our country's future will be dominated by corporate interests. I stated that the hope of our nation and perhaps our planet resided in the hearts of the individuals who control the corporation and who, hopefully, would recognize that there were more important human goals that superseded corporate goals.

During the week I thought about the differences between corporate, professional, and national goals versus personal aspirations. It is certainly true that the needs of business as exemplified by the created fictitious entity of the corporation has often completely obscured mankind's ability to behave in accord with compassionate, humanistic feelings. As was written in 1898 by John Chapman Gray, "Business has destroyed the very knowledge in us of all other natural forces except business." I came across this quote during the past week as I reread the novel 'Gain' by Richard Powers. In this book the author describes the needs or the overall Mission Statement of any corporation: "To make a profit. To make a consistent profit. To make a profit in the long run. To do business. To stay in business. To find the purpose of business."

This is what I believe corporations do. There is no overall responsibility to anything but the corporation itself.

What is good for the corporation is what directs all actions of the corporation. Overall human good is nowhere in the corporate equation. To understand this statement of purpose or mission statement is to understand all corporate behavior. It is my purpose here to clarify the way much of our behavior can be predicted and explained by our internalized mission statement. The fictionalized general corporate mission statement concludes with the goal of finding the purpose of business. It is my belief that there is little time to waste and that it really is necessary that we, particularly we Americans, start thinking about our Mission Statement immediately if not sooner.

Who are Americans anyway? A few days ago the social activist and professor Howard Zinn

died. Reading his book "A People's History of the United States", which was quoted in the papers last week, profoundly influenced my concept of America. In the first chapter Zinn presents the written observations contained in the log of Christopher Columbus as the explorer and his sailors first came ashore and observed the Arawak Indians of the Bahama Islands who typified the Indians of the "New World". Columbus observed that these people were remarkable for their hospitality and their belief in sharing. The Indians brought the Europeans food, water, and gifts. Columbus wrote: "They would make fine servants.... With fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want."

Basically, these few lines capture the entire European History in North America. European Americans considered it to be our "manifest destiny" to go from sea to sea, Atlantic to Pacific, across raging rivers, high mountains, scorching deserts, and to subjugate the land and its people to our will and to do whatever we want. Well, we have had our way for more than half a millennium and it is time to rethink this Mission. Perhaps Columbus and the other conquistador-adventures saw no harm in what they were doing, as it was consistent with their mission.

Perhaps American politicians and powerful business leaders saw no harm in what they did in that it was good for business and promoted what was seen as the national interest. Probably scientists saw no harm in creating chemical solutions to various problems such that we now live in an air-conditioned world filled with labor saving solutions such as detergents, and plastics, and pesticides, and radiation that are basically destroying the planet. That's all. Not only have we completely destroyed the indigenous cultures and murdered its peoples we have now endangered the whole planet, its air, and its water.

What can be done? Our political process seems dysfunctional. Not only is it dominated, increasingly so, by corporate interests; but also it seems crippled by visionless politicians craving only re-election and having no higher purpose. From my point of view, the major thing going for America right now is our President. Not his party, not his programs, not his appointees, nothing but the Man himself. I believe, that for many of us, a vote for Barak Obama was a vote for humanity. PLEASE HELP US TO DO THE RIGHT THINGS. Well, maybe that wasn't enough! We must begin with ourselves and live responsibly and lovingly. We must care for our children, our pets, ourselves and our planet. How this will look I do not know. Let's begin by asking ourselves right now, what is our purpose? Next live in accord with that purpose. Really no one is going to do it for us. We are each responsible for ourselves and, I believe, if anyone of us and all of us act responsibly everyone else will follow. Nothing else will profit us!



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<http://www.unicef.ca/kiwanis> or <http://www.redcross.org>

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## Looking Up

with Bob Eklund



### Suspected Asteroid Collision Leaves Trailing Debris

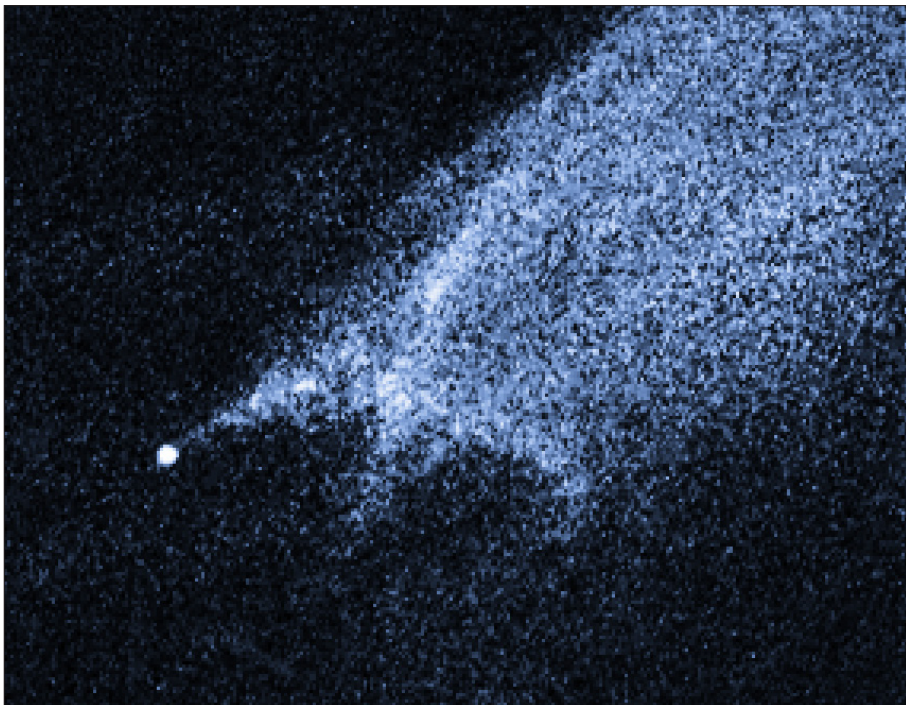
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has observed a mysterious X-shaped debris pattern and trailing streamers of dust that suggest a head-on collision between two asteroids. Astronomers have long thought the asteroid belt is being ground down through collisions, but such a smashup has never been seen before.

Asteroid collisions are energetic, with an average impact speed of more than 11,000 miles per hour, or five times faster than a rifle bullet. The comet-like object imaged by Hubble, called P/2010 A2, was first discovered by the Lincoln Near-Earth Asteroid Research, or LINEAR, sky survey on Jan. 6. New Hubble images taken on Jan. 25 and 29 show a complex X-pattern of filamentary structures near the nucleus.

"This is quite different from the smooth dust envelopes of normal comets," said principal investigator David Jewitt of the University of California at Los Angeles. "The filaments are made of dust and gravel, presumably recently thrown out of the nucleus. Some are swept back by radiation pressure from sunlight to create straight dust streaks. Embedded in the filaments are co-moving blobs of dust that likely originated from tiny unseen parent bodies."

The Hubble images show that the main nucleus of P/2010 A2 lies outside its own halo of dust. This has never been seen before in a comet-like object. The nucleus is estimated to be 460 feet in diameter.

Normal comets fall into the inner regions of the solar system from icy reservoirs in the Kuiper Belt and Oort Cloud. As comets approach the Sun and warm up, ice near their surface vaporizes and ejects material from the solid comet nucleus via jets. But P/2010 A2 may have a different origin. It orbits in the warm, inner regions of the asteroid belt, where its nearest neighbors are dry rocky bodies lacking volatile materials.



Comet-like Asteroid P/2010 A2  
Courtesy: NASA, ESA, and D. Jewitt (UCLA)

This leaves open the possibility that the complex debris tail is the result of an impact between two bodies, rather than ice simply melting from a parent body.

"If this interpretation is correct, two small and previously

unknown asteroids recently collided, creating a shower of debris that is being swept back into a tail from the collision site by the pressure of sunlight," Jewitt explained.

The main nucleus of P/2010 A2 would be the surviving remnant of this so-called hypervelocity collision.

"The filamentary appearance of P/2010 A2 is different from anything seen in Hubble images of normal comets, consistent with the action of a different process," Jewitt said. An impact origin also would be consistent with the absence of gas in spectra recorded using ground-based telescopes.

The asteroid belt contains abundant evidence of ancient collisions that have shattered precursor bodies into fragments. The orbit of P/2010 A2 is consistent with membership in the "Flora" asteroid family, produced by collisional shattering more than 100 million years ago. One fragment of that ancient smashup may have struck Earth 65 million years ago, triggering a mass extinction believed to have wiped out the dinosaurs. But, until now, no such asteroid-asteroid collision has been caught "in the act."

At the time of the Hubble observations, the object was approximately 180 million miles from the Sun and 90 million miles from Earth. The Hubble images were recorded with the new Wide Field Camera 3 (WFC3).

For Hubble images and more information, visit:  
<http://www.nasa.gov/hubble> <http://hubblesite.org/news/2010/07>

You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com)



The term 'Creatives' refers to the community of professionals who use the Mac almost exclusively for their computing endeavors. It could be supposed that by extension this group would include all Mac users. In many instances this group finds itself having to adapt to a world not of their choosing when it comes to their public computing practices. Sometimes the computing platform to be used is dictated by the powers that be or by workplace protocol and budget. In such cases the Creative can be identified by the never-ending stream of 'testimony' (to put it nicely) to the obvious superiority of the all-mighty Mac and how all would be right with the world if everyone just came over the Bright Side. On some level they may be onto something here. At present I work in a field dominated by 'Creatives' and from a purely technical standpoint I would be hard-pressed to reproduce the computing environment needed to deliver our product were I to switch all the production hardware and software to a purely PC platform. In this instance there is simply no equal to the Mac products that we use to accomplish our mission. It would be difficult, but not impossible.

Creatives, as a group, like to see themselves as more, well....creative than the typical PC user. The advertising directed at this demographic (Mac Users) is designed for them to see themselves as more individualistic and forward-thinking than the PC types. It is designed to highlight

what they see as their more cosmic natures. Some market research and a cursory perusal of the Mac ads in the field today bear this out. Since Apple has become the mega-corporation that it has with representation in every country on the planet one wonders how Mac users can still consider themselves a niche community. The wildly popular iPhone has almost overnight transformed this group of hipsters into the very thing that they've always snickered at PC users for being: Lemmings.

To be fair, this mad rush for all things Apple hasn't happened because of anything that the Mac users themselves have done and the come-lately crowd probably can't be called true creatives as the nature of their presence in the group is almost entirely consumptive rather than productive. This has come about as a direct result of the Apple brand going mainstream. The iPod and the iPhone have garnered the Apple brand considerable new attention from a buying public that seems to be getting quite used to spending the extra cash necessary to procure the pricey offerings from Cupertino. Apple has always been well-served by its stellar reputation as a special brand that seems to transfers a certain air of hipness to the user and this phenomenon has seemed to extend to the iPod and iPhone product lines. That kind of brand magic is hard to find.

### HAIL Hamilton



One thing you can say about Australians is they have a curious sense of humor. This is especially true when they meet Americans, as I found out over the holidays vacationing in Coogee Beach, a small seaside community south-east of downtown Sydney.

### My Watery Adventure Down Under Taking on the Waking Cake Island Challenge

While there, I met a 70 year old Coogee local named Russell Smith who told me about how, as a kid, he had swum to Wedding Cake Island, a jagged reef covered white with bird droppings 800 meters offshore. He said he had done it twice when he was at 14 and 16. He said the swim was considered a right-of-passage for the local young men of his generation.

Russell exhibited a toughness and wisdom that comes from living life to the hilt. He seemed like a standup guy who would never walk away from a challenge. I liked him immediately. I told him about my lifelong experience as a surfer and ocean swimmer. I asked him what he thought the chances were of a bloke my age swimming to Wedding Cake Island.

"Well sport, I suppose that all depends on you," he said. "You seem like a fair dinkum. I can see you ain't no shark biscuit. But I won't lie to you mate. I wouldn't bet a zack on your odds. Most older blokes are a bunch of dipsticks that just yabber about it over a middy in the pub. You got to be a water ace and a bit batty to even consider it."

Coogee Beach is really a Bay, and is popular for activities such as swimming, body-boarding and surfing. Coogee is a generally safe beach because it is protected from the Tasman Sea by Wedding Cake Island.

However, this protection from the sea is very deceptive, and the island looks a lot closer to shore than it really is. The swim around the island, according to the local lifeguards, is 2.4 kilometers (1.5 miles), but can be longer depending on the currents.

The afternoon I swam there was a strong on-shore breeze, the sea was very choppy, and there were whitecaps pounding the island. The swim was very bumpy and tiring, no two strokes were the same, given the chop and strong currents. The ocean was also on the chilly side.

The swim proved to be a real challenge



This was the 2.4 Km (1.5 mile) route I swam on January 5, 2010. The conditions were much windier than shown in this aerial photo. The current was brutal. The only thing missing were the sharks. The record is 28:02 minutes, held by a 19 year old mate. The record for seniors is 48:53, held by a 44 year old bloke. It took me just under an hour. Photo Courtesy of Hail Hamilton

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

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

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



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and a bit scary. There was even a brief moment while I was helplessly caught in the current on the backside of the island when I began to question the wisdom of my decision to do the swim. But years of experience in the ocean have taught me one important lesson—panic is not an option. You do what is necessary to survive. Fifty minutes later, I stumbled out of the water absolutely exhausted and shivering, but exhilarated by the whole experience.

The next day I saw Russell again and told him about my swim. His eyes widened. "Good for you, sport. That's a rip snorter of a swim. You Yanks really are a hardy lot." He paused a moment. "But there're a couple of things I neglected to tell you the other day."

"Like what," I asked.

"Like about the sharks," he answered. "They use Wedding Cake Island as a feeding ground. Of course they only come around at dawn and sunset, and luckily they're quite shy of humans."

He added with a grin, "We Aussies have a rule that if there're four sharks in the water, you'll be fine. But when there're five, you're in trouble."

"Thanks. Next time I'll be sure to count."

"One other thing," he said. "Have you ever heard of the Island Challenge held in Coogee each November? It's one of the biggest sporting events in Sydney. Hundreds of swimmers come to race around Wedding Cake Island. The swimming course is marked out with buoys and patrolled by lifeguards in boats and on jet skis. They even have a rescue helicopter and fully equipped medical tent on the beach with trained medical staff."

"No, I haven't heard about it," I said. "But why didn't you tell me this before I took my swim?"

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"Come on sport, I ain't no larrikin. But telling you ahead of time would have spoiled the fun," he laughed. "It would have taken the thrill out of it. You did the Wedding Cake Island swim because you bloody wanted to prove you could do it. And you succeeded where so many others have failed. You are one of a handful of blokes your age who have done it. You deserve a coldie for what you did. Mate, you've definitely earned a place in Coogee legend."

I don't have a clue about Coogee legend, but I do know one thing—I'll never forget my swim around Wedding Cake Island.





# The Senior Spot

By Bruce Lamarche

## GROW, OR GET WEEDED FROM THE GARDEN

One of my favorite quotes is from Ray Krock, the founder of Mc Donald's Restaurants. He said, rather bluntly, "When you're green you grow, when you are ripe, you rot." As we mature life brings us many changes, some desirable and some not so. While we enjoy increased maturity and experience we also experience physical limitations that are sometimes hard to adjust to. Personally, I think that the continued growth of the mind coupled with new life experiences (adjusted for our maturing bodies) is a sign of good mental health.

I am saddened when I see seniors who have given up on life. When I first saw this humorous definition of an adult, I laughed. "ADULT: A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle." Then, I realized that it represents many of us who stop growing at the head end as well as the feet (or physical) end of our activities and indulge ourselves with self-serving activities that jeopardizes health (that's the middle part).

There are so many interesting things to study and so many younger folk in need of our experience and wisdom. Wisdom here is defined as "finally figuring things out after running into many walls." It's sort of like finding the doors (and the handles to open them) in these obstructing walls. For those of us who do not see ourselves in a teaching role, realize that the sharing of simple lessons with youth is often more important than helping them with algebraic formulas. These basic things are those which turn their lives in directions that determine their eventual success or failure (either emotionally or financially). Are we involved in the lives of youth or do we say that

we did our time as parents and we're done with that foolishness? Perhaps the biggest gift to a young person could be our listening skills. Good counselors practice "active listening". This powerful skill supports the one needing to talk and helps them figure things out themselves with good supportive questions. After listening, it asks questions like "and how did you feel after you did that?", "how could you have handled that better?", or "what do you think is the lesson to be learned here?" (Then comes the part where we keep quiet again and listen as they figure things out.)

Are we in to ourselves to the point of excluding our ability to listen . . . I mean really listen, with care, to others? Do we just want to talk of our own experiences and stories? Where is the element of giving in this? What do we learn by hearing our own voice? What do we do to grow and be involved with others? Are we well read? Do we learn new skills that we can teach younger folk? Are we growing in this way or are we *ripe*? I refer back to Mr. Krock's quote.

**ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:** WRINKLES--Something other people have; similar to my character lines.

**You can reach Bruce by phone--(626) 335-3412 or e-mail: [blamarche@verizon.net](mailto:blamarche@verizon.net)**

*This article is provided by Bruce Lamarche, a member of Society of Certified Senior Advisors, [www.csa.us](http://www.csa.us). Bruce's company, R & B Reverse Mortgage Services, helps seniors make an informed decision about obtaining a reverse mortgage. [www.LASeniorMortgage.com](http://www.LASeniorMortgage.com)*

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### Balance and Mobility

One of the most powerful ways to stay active and independent is by preventing slips and falls. According to the CDC, falls have become the leading cause of injury deaths in the elderly. Complications from falls can create loss of mobility, complications from surgeries, increased risk of infections and death. Dr. Licata DC will have a special health presentation teaching you; how the brain and body controls balance, ways balance and mobility declines with age and ways to maintain and improve coordination to stay active and independent.

The lecture will take place Tuesday, February 16 at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia. If interested in attending please call or register at the Arcadia Senior Services Department, 626.574.5130 before February 10, 2010.

For additional information please contact Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130. This medical presentation is for individuals age 50 and over.

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Vaccines are available to anyone 6 months or older - no reservations necessary. For more information, please contact the Senior Desk at (626) 355-7394

### Recipe of the Week:

#### Short Ribs In Beer

**Ingredients**

2-1/4 lbs. beef short ribs  
2 large onions/cooked, sliced  
1 package dry onion soup mix  
1-1/2 cups beer

**Directions :**

Turn on broiler. Broil ribs 10-15 minutes until brown. Transfer ribs to a baking pan. Preheat oven to temperature 325°F. Spread onion slices over browned ribs. Sprinkle with onion soup mix. Pour beer over all. Cover and bake 1-1/2 hours until meat is tender. (Serves 6)

### February Birthdays



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

### Activities:

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

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

**Monday:**  
1:00 pm to 1:45 pm: Strength training with Lisa Brandley. FREE class of stretching with light hand weights while you sit.  
**Tuesday:**  
2nd Tuesday of each month FREE blood pressure checks by Methodist Hospital; 11 am to 12 noon  
3rd Tuesday of each month FREE financial consulting; 10 -12 noon call 355-7394 for an appointment  
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm: BINGO; cards are only 25 cents each so stop by & play  
5:30 pm to 7 pm: Yoga; \$7.00 - 50 & over. Please call 355-5278 for more information  
**Wednesday:**  
11 -11:45 am: Balance Class with Teryl. FREE class designed to improve balance & refresh the joints  
2nd Wednesday of the month: FREE Legal Consultations: 10-11:30 am. Appointments call 355-7394  
Wii Wednesday - 1:00 pm or call the senior desk at 355-7394 to arrange another time & day to learn how to play. No previous experience or skills required and it is great exercise.  
**Thursday:**  
1:00 to 3:30 pm: Game Day. Join us for UNO and Poker with Bridge on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays; so please call for more information.  
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm: Yoga; \$7.00 - 50 & over. Please call 355-5278 for more information  
**Friday:**  
1:00 pm: Ping Pong  
**Saturday:** 11:30 am: Senior Club brown bag lunch and BINGO at 12:30 pm

**Free Lawn Bowling Lessons:** The Santa Anita Bowling Green Club will have beginning lawn bowling lessons each Saturday morning starting at 10:00 AM. Located just north of the golf course at 405 S. Santa Anita Ave.<free parking> For information call Gene at 626.351-5327.



### Meals-On-Wheels

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

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Chris Bertrand

## One Of A Kind:

*Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them*

Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand

Tucked away off Maiden Lane in the estates area of Northern Altadena, this stunning home was designed by one of Pasadena's premier architectural firms of the era, Marston and Maybury. Completed in 1931, it was once part of three adjacent family homes built for the family of Paul Franklin Johnson, spanning acres of this idyllic hillside. Sadly, Sagemont, the original estate of patriarch Johnson, a principal at Milwaukee's Johnson Controls, was razed during subdivision of that parcel to create Sagemont Estates in 1960. A beautiful one-third acre parcel still surrounds this Bates Johnson estate, which was lovingly restored by the owners over a two year span.

As a set designer by profession, the owner possesses a most critical eye for perfection in detail, craftsmanship and presentation, with truly stunning results that are in keeping with the period, while incorporating modern day conveniences.

Bath fixtures have been meticulously reglazed and replated to give the feeling of new while maintaining the home's original character. In some cases, the original bath tiles could be used, including an original tile inset of a swan scene. Otherwise, Mission Tile was used in the style of the original tile patterns and colors. The staircase railings and balusters were disassembled, redone and reinstalled.

The magnificent bottle glass insets to the massive front door were uncovered in the basement, much to the delight of the owners. At some point the original golden glass pieces had been replaced

with clear glass by a previous owner. Some pieces had to be matched and replaced, but the final result is seamless. Old and new blend together beautifully, as does everything in the home.

The living and dining rooms are restored to their original glory, with a massive Palladian window on one wall of the living room, a beautiful mahogany fireplace on another wall and wainscoting. Since the home was built during Prohibition, the requisite hidden storage cabinets for the then-banned liquor stash can still be found behind the bookcases in the den.

Upstairs, the master suite is everything a 1930's or a 2010 owner might want... Privacy, cool breezes and a secluded retreat from the hustle and bustle of the day. Gentle evening breezes can flow through French doors situated to catch the evening's cooling effects. A walk in closet with a window (always a plus in my book!) was slightly reconfigured from the original separation for a sewing cove overlooking the garden. Not many of us use a sewing room any more, and much prefer the naturally lit, extra closet space.

Additional bedrooms and baths are on the opposite end of the second floor. The main sleeping porch offers a breathtaking tree house feel amid the lacy branches of mature conifers. In one direction, downtown LA and city lights blink at night. In the other direction are glorious peeks of the San Gabriel peaks.

The current owners reconfigured an easement along the north edge of the overgrown back yard, redirecting the garage ingress to the corner of Maiden and Dolores, and culling a pool house with bath from part of the garage. In the newly designed yard, a terraced, saltwater pool can host a basketball team in the 37 foot lap pool while others relax

on the top level spa. Moms and toddlers can simultaneously play unfazed in the patio level wading pool.

Just outside the kitchen is a wonderful shaded gazebo, for outdoor dining. On the top level of the garden, an outdoor fireplace and barbecue station with sink provide another delightful gathering spot.

The view and breeze oriented home originally utilized sunroom/sleeping porches, which were

## Magnificent Mediterranean Colonial



later enclosed into year round living space. The master suite's sunroom is perfect for an upstairs study or retreat, overlooking the pool, with peeks of mountain views.

In addition to 4264 square feet of main house living space, a 700 square foot (ap.) basement offers several rooms, some with natural light and outside access for a home gym, hobby rooms, billiard play or whatever the imagination might desire.

1155 Dolores Drive in Altadena includes four bedrooms, with a main floor suite, plus six baths. It is offered at \$1,950,000 by Gretchen Palmer of Dickson Podley Realtors. For more information, contact the agent at 310-874-6087 or [Gretchen.Palmer@gmail.com](mailto:Gretchen.Palmer@gmail.com)



## Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

## ALL IN THE FAMILY

Many areas of the country are experiencing buyers markets, and current tax laws make this a very attractive time for parents to help their children become homeowners. Prices and interest rates may never be lower than they are now, so strongly consider this potential investment in your children's future.

As parents, you can provide a significant downpayment, free of taxation. Individuals may gift up to \$13,000 per year, so two parents making gifts to their child and spouse can give a total of \$52,000 in one year without paying gift tax!

Above and beyond the outright gift, you may loan your family money, as long as you charge a minimum

interest rate, which is currently very low. Then you can make your gifts each year, and your child's family can use the gifts to pay the loan!

If neither of these options is attractive, you could purchase the home yourself and then set up a Qualified Personal Residence Trust (QPRT), with the home passing to the children at the end of an established term, tax free. You will need to consult with your financial advisor and employ an attorney to handle this kind of transaction.

Begin by meeting with a real estate agent and explaining your situation. Contrary to what you may have been hearing, there is practically no better investment today than real estate.

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



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February 19, 2010

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- Oenologist Speaker
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7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

- Limited to 400 guests
- Domestic and International Wines
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All are invited to a fun filled hummus preparing demo and tasting event.  
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For more info on Relay For Life of Monrovia: Mike Laban 626-627-5230  
[www.RelayForLife.org/MonroviaCA](http://www.RelayForLife.org/MonroviaCA)  
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