

Council Moves Toward Water Rate Increase

After another lengthy discussion between the Sierra Madre City Council, residents and city staff, Mayor Joe Mosca, after a 4 - 1 vote, instructed staff to prepare the Ordinance for a water rate increase for first reading. Council members Walsh, Buchanan, Moran and Mosca voted in favor of moving forward. Councilmember Mary Ann MacGillivray voted against the rate hike, indicating that while she understood the need for the increase, she wanted the city to go through the Proposition 218 process again.

At the last council meeting, the City Manager was instructed to bring back several options for the council could consider for the implementation of the much needed water rate hike. This was done after opponents of the rate increase failed to gather enough protests to block the action via Prop 218, and after weeks of public meetings and hearings where the council and city staff attempted to address some of the concerns of opponents to the rate increase.

Residents who are opposed to the hike have, over the last few months, been primarily concerned with the tiered structure and the financial impact on rate payers. There has also been much discussion on the bonds, which were initiated years ago; the management of the water fund; the need for any increase and alternatives to the rate hike such as purchasing water from the City of Arcadia a recommendation from real estate investor Earl Richey or not paying the interest on the bond debt, something that resident Faye Angus suggested to the council on Tuesday.

The staff report provided three options for the council to consider. Option 1 provided for five years of equal increases with the bond covenant satisfied at the end of the five year period. That option would implement the rate increase exactly as it was introduced originally including a tiered rate structure.

Option 2 provided for five years of equal increases with the bond covenant satisfied in year three.

Option 3 - which the majority of the council supports, provides for five years of equal increases with the bond covenant met in two.

The bottom line for rate payers is that if the council adopts Option 3, the increase will be less than the approximate \$8 per month originally calculated.

The final figures will be presented to the council at the first meeting in December.

S. Henderson/MVNews

A Salute To The Brave Sierra Madre residents honor Veterans



The annual Veteran's Day memorial service was held in Memorial Park on Saturday. World War II Veteran Buddy Switzer takes a moment to give the audience an overview of veterans in general and the VFW in particular. Above, he points to a photo of Sierra Madre's Fourth of July parade more than a decade ago. Switzer also reminded the crowd of the contributions of longtime Sierra Madre resident veteran John Grijalva who is no longer with us. Grijalva and Madzler were the driving forces behind erecting the Veteran's Wall, among other things. Sierra Madre Police Chief, Marilyn Diaz was the keynote speaker. Photo by Dean Lee

Presenting Sierra Madre's 2011 Princesses

Madeline Pirrone and Yasmine Ibrahim were chosen to be the 2011 Princesses for the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association. The announcement of their selection took place Sunday evening, November 7, at the Masonic Hall in Sierra Madre.

Madeline is in 11th grade at Pasadena High School. Yasmine is in 11th grade at Alverno High School. Both have sisters who were princesses last year for the Association. Madeline's sister, Filomena, and Yasmine's sister, Bassant, took part in the coronation ceremony along with Tiffany Tripucko, who was the third princess on the 2010 Sierra Madre royal court. The fourth princess of that court, Tracy Sullivan, was not able to return from college to participate in the ceremony.

Madeline is active in water polo at PHS and Yasmine is active in student government at Alverno. Both have better than 3.0 grade averages and are active in other organizations. They are looking forward to their year as princesses and riding on the Sierra Madre float, Sueños de California, in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day.



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**GENERAL PLAN TOWN
HALL MEETING:**
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010
2-4 p.m.
YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTER -
SIERRA MADRE
611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.,
Sierra Madre

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JAPANESE GARDEN CLUB MEETS Sierra Madre Middle School student service club - The Green Thumb Crew

Story and Photo by Lina Johnson

The Japanese Garden Club, a service club for Sierra Madre Middle school had their first meeting on Monday November 8th at 1:00 pm. The meeting was well attended by students from the school eager to learn and participate in the cultivation and maintenance of the extraordinary garden located on the school grounds just below the lunch tables.

The original friendship garden was built as a gesture of goodwill in 1931 by first generation Japanese parents of about two dozen students of the middle school. During World War II the garden was vandalized and destroyed when anti-Japanese sentiment was virulent. Many Japanese Americans including the fathers who had built the garden were placed in concentration camps. The entire garden including the pond and bridge were unrecognizable for many years, hidden under layers of dirt, weeds and trash. In 1995, two sixth grade students of SMMS in Helen Ponterelli's class decided to rebuild the garden. Their motivation came from an article written in the Los Angeles Times. The article revealed information about the



Japanese Garden existing on the school grounds and the fact that the garden was now reduced to ruins. It was this article and a visit to Assumption church as part of an introduction into "Learning from the Past" that sparked a fire in two students, Natalie Sandoval and Alex Johnstone. Their enthusiasm and determination to rebuild the garden spread through the sixth grade class and to adult volunteers, especially

Sierra Madre Community resident Lew Wantanabe. Wantanabe worked tirelessly as a volunteer on the project assisting the children to re-design and re-construct the garden to its original state.

Complete restoration of the garden took about one year to finish and included many hours of physical labor and extensive fundraising. The students in Helen Ponterelli's 6th grade class were not discouraged

by the amount of money or work that it took to revitalize the "Goodwill Garden". For them the project was a humanitarian expression of correcting the wrongs committed in the past.

The garden now exists as a symbol of hope for acceptance and peace in the world. The students in Sierra Madre Middle School Japanese Garden Service Club have taken on the responsibility and challenge of keeping the garden in pristine condition. They will sign up to visit it once or twice a week to pull weeds, care for plants or rake the Zen garden. Through their continued efforts the Japanese friendship garden will flourish so that visitors can experience the joy that this little garden brings. Donations to help maintain the Goodwill Garden/Japanese Garden Service Club can be sent to Sierra Madre Middle School at 141 W. Highland Avenue, Sierra Madre, 91024

Holiday Latte
Flavors are
here!
Pumpkin
Peppermint
Amaretto

GREAT COFFEE

GREAT
SANDWICHES

GREAT
LOCATION

Niko and Friends Cafe
900 Valley View Ave #6, Pasadena, CA

On the Michillinda—Montecito/Valley View Corner
M-F: 7 to 6, Sat: 8:30 to 1:30, Closed Sun

626—510-6151
www.nikoandfriendscafe.com

Toys for
Tots

Help local children
Drop your donation
today!

\$5 Pastrami
Sandwich

Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast
Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Partly Cloudy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Partly Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



2011
Entertainment
Books Are Here!

Please help the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association raise funds for the 2011 Entry “Suenos De California” buy buying an Entertainment Coupon Book today. You'll not only be helping a wonderful cause, you will save \$\$\$\$ when you redeem the coupons. The book starts at \$25.00 for the San Gabriel Valley. Others are available at various prices. Call Ann at 626-574-1331

Gift Market Benefits Local and International Agencies

San Marino Community Church will be hosting its annual Christmas Mission Market on Sunday, November 14, 2010 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon.

The one-of-a-kind opportunity allows shoppers to learn about and support economic development, education efforts, medical relief, and responses to AIDS and homelessness in the neighborhood and around the world. All are invited to enjoy the petting zoo and free refreshments including popcorn and lemonade. Shoppers can choose between helping children in Africa or Latin America, Pasadena or Los Angeles; select a hand made-gift or buy a gift of food, shelter, education, or warmth.

Little ones love to give the gift of small chicks or other animals through Heifer International. A student bake sale will support Ministry of Hope in Malawi, Africa. There is no better time that Christmas to show love and share it with others. Come and capture the true meaning of the Season.

Sunday worship services at San Marino Community Church, located at 1750 Virginia Road in San Marino, are held in the sanctuary at 9:15 am (traditional liturgy with choir, separate student worship, Sunday Church School, and child care) and 11:15 am (casual, family-friendly service with childcare). Spiritual development classes for all ages are held at 10:30 am. To learn more about opportunities for fellowship, study, and service for all ages, contact the church office at (626) 282-4181 or connect online at www.smccpby.com.

SIERRA MADRE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION



PARADE
TICKET
RAFFLE

SEE THE 2011 ROSE
PARADE IN PERSON

TWO FRONT ROW
GRANDSTAND TICKETS
ON ORANGE GROVE BLVD.
PARKING INCLUDED

RAFFLE TICKETS: \$ 1.00 each 6 for \$ 5.00
(Retail Value of \$90.00 Per Ticket)
Available at the Sierra Madre Rose Float Barn

DRAWING TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER
29TH at 7:00PM at the Sierra Madre Rose Float Barn
(Winner need not be present)

Donated by Sharp Seating

CROWN CITY SYMPHONY
PRESENTS TWO FREE
CONCERTS

Saturday, November 20th 2:00 pm
Pasadena Christian Church

Sunday, November 21st 2:00 pm
First Baptist Church of Pasadena

Crown City Symphony, a community orchestra founded in 2003 under the sponsorship of the Pasadena Senior Center, will give two free concerts, Nov. 20 & 21, at 2pm both days. The first concert is at the Pasadena Christian Church, 789 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena and the second concert is at the First Baptist Church of Pasadena, 75 N. Marengo. Marvin Neumann is the conductor, and the soloist is Andrew Sords.

Hailed as an “absolute wonder”, violinist ANDREW SORDS has established himself as the preeminent new face of classical violin. Already a veteran of the concert stage, Sords has appeared with over 60 orchestras and in countless recital venues across three continents. Born in 1985 in Newark, Delaware, Sords later moved to Shaker Heights, Ohio. He completed his undergraduate education at the Cleveland Institute of Music, and has performed for the legendary Midori in masterclasses in New York City and at the University of Southern California. In 2008 Sords received international exposure as the top Google Classical News story as well as crowning the “Top-40 Charts in Classical Music. He is the featured violinist in a documentary on violin technique recorded at the Cleveland Institute of Music. His website is www.andrewsords.com.

Crown City Symphony, whose motto is Ability not Age, has received grants from The Pasadena Tournament of Roses Foundation and the City of Pasadena Cultural Affairs Division, and the Pasadena Showcase for the Arts. This is the final concert under the sponsorship of the Pasadena Senior Center, which founded the Orchestra. Starting in 2011, The Tuesday Musicale of Pasadena will sponsor the Orchestra.

The web site is crowncitysymphony.org. For more information email Roberta Wilcox, manager, at manager@crowncitysymphony.org, or call, (626) 797-1994.

San Marino Community Church
Christmas Mission Market

Sunday, November 14, 2010, 9:00 am –12:00 pm

Join in a unique alternative shopping opportunity.
Find a special gift for everyone on your list;
Gifts that reflect a concern for all people, extending
love and compassion to neighbors near and far.



- Enjoy coffee, doughnuts, lemonade, and popcorn
- Visit the petting zoo
- Mission gifts from around the world and close to home
- Hand made gifts
- Bake sale to benefit Ministry of Hope

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

Altadena/Pasadena Soroptimists Host
Annual Silent Auction

On Sunday, November 14, 2010, Soroptimist International of Altadena/Pasadena will hold its 15th Annual Silent Auction and Social Hour from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the historic Essick House (home of the Sierra Madre Women's Club), 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre.

In addition to shopping at a wonderful Silent Auction, attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy great food, refreshments and music, as well as the company of Soroptimist members and friends. Admission is free. For more information, call (626) 398-1703, or visit www.soroptimist.devraweb.com.

Holiday Shopping for a Great Cause!

This Saturday, November 20th, Women At Work headquarters will be transformed into a special holiday boutique from 9am – 3pm featuring a selection of hand crafted artwork, fashions and home accessories. A special group of vendors have been selected, many with one-of-a-kind items, including elegant designer scarves by Gallemore, uniquely-crafted bookmarks by Beadie Beads Book Jewelry, and several collections of handcrafted jewelry.

The boutique will incorporate a colorful international flair with two separate gallery spaces featuring art, textiles, statues and other crafts from Africa and the Huichol region of Mexico. Other vendors will have handmade quilts, throws, linens, infant clothing, accessories and more. Homemade baked goods, gourmet lunch edibles and beverages will also be available for sale. 20% of all sales benefit employment preparation and job search assistance programs for more than 500 monthly client visits to our Career Resource Center per month. **Admission is free**, with an hourly drawing for door prizes. Women At Work is located at 3871 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107 (near the intersection of Michellinda) Learn more at www.womenatwork.org.

In An Emergency
Tune To
1630 (()) AM
Sierra Madre
Community Radio

If there's an earthquake, fire, or other
emergency, **1630-AM** will broadcast important
safety information. Listen on any **AM** radio.

Put a sticker on your radio!

Stickers courtesy of the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club

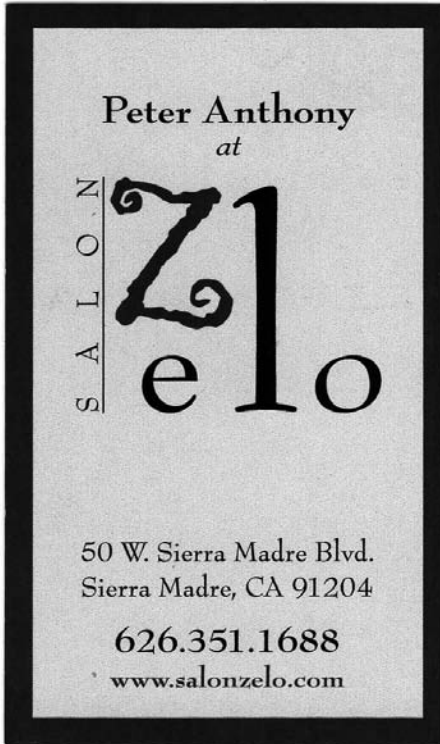


WEBSTER'S PRESENTS:



Webster's Fine Stationers presents an evening of literature and music with local author Hugh Bonar on Friday, November 19th. Hugh will be signing copies of his books, Avalon, a story centered around Catalina Island in the 1930's, from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm. Musical accompaniment by the artist Mario Martin Zelaya. Refreshments will be served.

Webster's Fine Stationers
2450 N. Lake Ave., Suite B
Altadena, CA 626-797-1135



SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB
INVITES YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL
HOLIDAY SALE

~

~New and Gently used Items~
Gifts, Books, DVDs, Cds, Kitchen and
Home Decorations, Toys, Holiday
Items, Jewelry, Stationary, Pictures,
Linens, Clothes and Shoes.

~

DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2010
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
ESSICK HOUSE AND WISTARIA
THRIFT SHOP
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA. 91024
626 355-7739

~

All Proceeds benefit local Charities
~STOP BY AND BROWSE~



By Sierra Madre Sue Behrens

"TUESDAY NIGHT TRIVIA" @ CAFE 322 with QUIZMASTER DEANNA, 8pm. \$2 per person to play, CASH or gift certificates to the top 3 teams. Fun and educational! 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. and stick around for some live music.....

TUES. 11/2 - THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS reunion @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 9ish, or immediately following Trivia. Tim Tutwiler, Jeff Ingwalson (of Sierra Madre Books fame), Peter Burke, etc. Rock & Roll.

"WEDNESDAY NIGHT PLATTER PARTY" @ THE BUCCANEER, 9pm. Bring your favorite vinyl records and play an entire side on the house turntable, commercial free! 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. No cover, full bar, friendly service!

THURS. 11/4 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 6 - 9pm, every Thursday. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. Burgers, Brews & BLUES. <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

FRI. 11/5 - HAPPY HOUR with THE MELLOW Dz (Dave Osti & Deanna Cogan) @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 5:30-7:30pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Food & drink specials 4 - 6:30.

FRI. 11/5 - DIRTY DAVE OSTI & THE DYNAMITES @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm - midnight. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Awesome Blues/Rock originals and covers.

SAT. 11/6 - OPEN MIC NIGHT @ THE FRET HOUSE IN COVINA. 309 N. Citrus Ave. (626) 339-7020. Always on the first Saturday of the month, and just one dollar for performers or audience. Sign-up starts at 7:30. If there aren't enough slots for everybody they'll make a list for the next month, and call you. Each act gets two songs or ten minutes, whichever comes first. The show starts at 8:00. They'll have desserts and coffee ready. Bring your friends and family and join the show! <http://www.frethouse.com/>

SAT. 11/6 - GROOVY LEMON PIE @ LEO'S ALL-STAR SPORTS BAR & GRILL IN LA CRESCENTA, 9pm. 2941 Honolulu Ave. 818-249-5858. No cover. Classic Rock from Greg Tortel, Jorge Mena, etc.

SAT. 11/6 - CHICO'S BAIL BONDS CD RELEASE PARTY @ ARCADIA BLUES CLUB, 10:30pm with Bobby Bluehouse at 8pm. \$10.00 cover. 16 E. Huntington Dr. 626-447-9349. BLUES.

SUN. 11/7 - "OPERA TO BROADWAY" VOCAL PERFORMANCES @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 7-10pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. Every Sunday evening. Get there early - they pack 'em in!

Please remember to call and verify all info. before making plans. Everything is subject to change. This is show biz, after all...

Hope to see you out & about,
SierraMadreSue sierramadresue@yahoo.com

"THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW" Contest

Are you a small business owner who is tired of bureaucratic red tape? Do you have a common sense idea to cut waste from state government? Have you thought of a sensible solution to a growing problem in your community?

Some of the best legislative ideas come from those who have personally experienced a problem and see a need for reform. So, if you have an idea for a new law that you'd like me to consider, or if you believe a certain law is problematic and should be repealed, I hope you will participate in my 2011 "There Ought To Be A Law" contest.

I will choose one idea to be included in my 2011 legislative package. The person who submits the winning idea will be invited to join me for lunch and will receive a California State flag that has been flown over the Capitol.

To enter this year's contest, please visit my website, at www.senate.ca.gov/huff and fill out the short questionnaire describing your idea. You can submit the form online or mail it to my Capitol office by December 3, 2010, and the winner will be announced in January.

If you have questions, please contact my Capitol office staff at (916) 651-4029.

Seasonal Flu Shots

At this time the LA County Health Department is no longer hosting free flu shot clinics in Sierra Madre. The following locations are offering free shots but please call first:

- The Monrovia Health Center, 330 Maple Ave. - (626) 256-1600. Shots are available during the week.
- November 12th - Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive - appointments are necessary for this free clinic so please call in advance at (626) 574-5130.

SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB 34TH ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

As Thanksgiving approaches, the Sierra Madre Woman's Club invites the community to attend their 34th annual Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday, November 17, from 8 to 9 a.m. in the Essick House, their historic clubhouse. Essick House is located at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre.

Club members prepare a sit down breakfast and there is no charge. Members of the local clergy, who have accepted the invitation to attend, will provide spiritual nourishment, each presenting a brief seasonal message.

The event begins very promptly and those attending should arrive by 7:45 a.m. Reservations are needed. Please call 355-5528.

It's That Time Again....

"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go to the other room and read a book." - Groucho Marx.

It is time to start thinking about gifts for Christmas. The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will hold its December Best Used Book Sale on Friday, December 3rd, 3pm to 7pm and Saturday, December 4th, 10am to 2pm.

At the Friends December sale, you'll find excellent gift choices. For teens, discover the Twilight Series, Inkheart, and books by author Meg Cabot. For others, gift ideas will include Coffee Table Books, books on Fashion, Japanese Art and Architecture, Photography, National Geographic, Cartoon Art, New 2010 Fiction, Children's, and a beautiful collection of specialty Cookbooks. Also, don't miss a new selection of books on tape.

Outside tables will be filled with hardback fiction and non-fiction for \$1.00 each. Paperbacks for 25 cents each (5 for \$1.00) How many can YOU fit in a stocking? All proceeds from the Book Sale help the Friends support on-going library programs, and purchase materials and equipment to keep your facility up-to-date. Find your treasure behind the library at 232 W Sierra Madre Blvd.

BOSTON COURT PERFORMING ARTS CENTER SEEKS PERFORMERS FOR ITS 2011 ARTTALK

- *San Gabriel Valley's Largest Spoken Word Festival*-

Performance proposals are now being accepted for the fourth annual ARTTalk. ARTTalk is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 12th, 2011. Participants will be allotted one half hour to perform a piece that focuses on Words and Communication. All performances must be acoustical in nature. Boston Court will provide general lighting and no rehearsal time is allotted. Previous performance genres include film, storytelling, singing, and poetry. Participants will be provided a small stipend. The deadline for proposals is December 3, 2010.

Those interested in performing should email or mail their performance proposal to: Meg Hackney, Events Manager, Boston Court Performing Arts Center, P.O. Box 60187 Pasadena, CA 91116-6187 Email: meggh@bostoncourt.com. For more information on ARTTalk visit www.playhousedistrict.org/arttalk.

Irwindale Firm To Pay More Than \$1.5 Million For Polluting

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that the Davis Wire Corporation of Irwindale, Calif. pleaded guilty to one count of negligent discharge of acidic pollutants into a publically owned treatment works, following an October 26 court decision in which Davis Wire was sentenced to pay \$1.5 million in restitution to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) for damage done to its sewer system, and pay a \$25,000 criminal fine.

Investigators determined that Davis Wire, a manufacturer of galvanized wire, illegally discharged wastewater with acidic levels from its plant in Irwindale on a routine basis. A team of inspectors found that the Davis Wire discharges had, over time, impaired sewer lines to such an extent that the entire trunk line must be re-lined at a cost of more than \$1 million.

"Davis Wire has an extensive history of noncompliance since at least 2004, including repeated discharges of highly acidic wastewater," said Jared Blumenfeld, EPA's Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest. "Their illegal discharges put the surrounding community at risk by damaging the sewer pipes, potentially impacting public health and the environment."

The plea and sentence caps a joint investigation and prosecution effort by EPA's Office of Criminal Enforcement, FBI, LACSD, Los Angeles County Public Works, Los Angeles County Fire Department, California

Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California.

"All companies must ensure their compliance with federal environmental regulations or face the consequences, as demonstrated by the sentencing of Davis Wire for a combined \$1,525,000 million fine and restitution," said Nick Torres, Special Agent in Charge of the Office of Criminal Enforcement for EPA's Pacific Southwest region.

The case opened in February 2008, when a LACSD employee detected acid wastewater (with a pH level of approximately 3.0) while working in the southern portion of the Irwindale Trunk Line. The LACSD traced the source of the discharge to the Davis Wire plant at 5555 Irwindale Avenue. Davis Wire's industrial wastewater discharge permit with the Los Angeles County Sanitation District does not allow a discharge with a pH level below 6.0.

Davis Wire uses sulfuric acid in the manufacturing process, and is required to neutralize the acid with a wastewater treatment system before sending it to the public sewer. However, throughout the months of February, March, April and May 2008, inspectors recorded acidic discharges between pH levels of 4.0 and 1.0. A total of 14 illegal discharges were recorded during this period. The investigation revealed that Davis Wire's wastewater treatment system was in need of upgrades for years.



Saturday, December 18 and Sunday, December 19 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Free lunch will be provided!

"Sueños de California" has the potential to be one of Sierra Madre's most beautiful floats ever. Because this year's entry is so large, we are hoping to complete **at least 35%** of the decoration **before Christmas**. To reach this target we need your help!

We'd love to have you join us any time during the month of December to help decorate, but December 18 and 19 are days when we especially need all hands on deck.

Join us for a Deco Blitz! Help decorate the spires of the mission in oatmeal, cinnamon and sesame seed. Create bark for palm trees and bougainvillea vines. Experienced decorators might detail monarch butterfly wings with intricate patterns of orange lentil, rice and strawflower.

Work is available for all experience levels, however we mainly need volunteers aged 14 and up. All minors must have a release form signed by a parent prior to working. Release forms are available at the Float Barn. There's no need to call ahead of time unless you are bringing a large group (more than 6 people).

Float decorating is a lot of fun, but it can be messy so wear your grubby clothes. Free lunch will be provided.

See you at the Blitz!

Float Barn
587 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
(626) 355-7005

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, October 31st, to Saturday November 6th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 293 calls for service. See crimereports.com for updated information.

Sunday, October 31st:

12:15 AM- Possession of Marijuana in Vehicle. 600 blk. W. Orange Grove Ave. Motorist was stopped for a Vehicle Code violation. Investigation revealed the driver was in possession of 1.3 grams of marijuana. The driver was cited and released on scene.

09:23 AM- Petty Theft. 100 blk. Grove Ln. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle parked in a residential driveway and stole one Volkswagen iPod cable and one pair of iPod earphones.
02:52 PM- Petty Theft. 100 blk. Grove Ln. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle parked in a residential driveway and stole one black leather folder containing vehicle car registration. The folder was later found on a shrub near the vehicle.

03:40 PM- Petty Theft. 100 blk. Lima St. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle through the driver's side and stole one Verizon LG ENV2 cell phone estimate value \$300.00.

07:56 PM- Possession of Marijuana/1oz or Less. Sycamore Pl. and Grandview. Officer responded to an argument between two people. Officers found 8.0 grams of marijuana on one suspect who was cited and released in the field.

Monday, November 1st:

02:50 PM- Drunk in Public/Battery. 290 blk. W. Sierra Madre Bl. A witness called 911 to report a man hitting a woman to the rear of Arnold's Hardware store. Officers detained the suspect who was arrested for public intoxication. The suspect's girlfriend, the battery victim, was uncooperative, and the witness could not positively identify the victim. Officers took the suspect to Pasadena jail for booking.

04:07 PM- Vandalism/Damages. 400 blk. N. Pleasant Hill Ln. A resident returned home and saw that unknown suspect(s) damaged her mailbox and fence.

08:50 PM- Petty Theft. 150 blk. N. Lima St. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle and stole a gray Garmin Nuvi GPS system, black G-pack Nakiworld knapsack, one Nintendo DSi video game and about 40 video games.

11:06 PM- DUI Alcohol Drugs. Baldwin Ave and Orange Grove Ave. An officer stopped a motorist a Vehicle Code violation. The officer determined that the driver was under the influence of drugs and had a suspended license. The officer arrested the suspect for DUI and took him to Pasadena jail for booking.

Tuesday, November 2nd:

06:23 AM- Petty Theft. 30 blk N. Auburn Ave. Unknown suspect(s) stole cleaning products out of two unattached storage cabinets located in the rear of parking lot. The loss included outdoor light bulbs, fluorescent light bulbs, toilet paper rolls, trash bags, paper towels, keys, and bolt cutters.

09:23 AM- Petty Theft. 200 blk. Sturtevant Dr. Victim realized his wallet was stolen. He last recalled seeing his wallet on Halloween night while handing out candy.

Thursday, November 4th:

09:23 PM- Possession of Toluene. 450 blk. Manzanita Ave. An officer stopped a motorist was stopped for a Vehicle Code violation. Investigation revealed the driver was under possession of Toluene and alcohol. The suspect was arrested and later released with a citation.

Friday, November 5th:

06:51 AM- Residential Burglary. 700 blk. Manzanita Ave. Unknown suspect(s) cut the wire screen and opened the unlocked window. The suspect(s) reached through the window and took a silver Sony laptop computer.

09:27 AM- Battery. 240 blk. W. Old Oak Ln. This incident involves a road rage incident between two drivers. The two drivers got out of their cars and fought. One driver left the scene by the time officers arrived. Officers contacted a witness and the second driver. The case will be submitted to the District Attorney's office for review.

Saturday, November 6th:

07:12 AM- Attempted Residential Burglary. 90 blk. N. Hermosa Ave. Witness saw an unknown suspect with a hooded sweater pulled over his/her head. When the suspect noticed the witness he/she ran from the structure. Officers determined that someone had tried to steal property from the location.

06:19 PM- Use Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/etc. W. Sierra Madre Bl. Two checks were cashed from a business account from an unknown Chase Bank.

06:56 PM- Use Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/etc. 80 Coburn Ave. Victim responded to Sierra Madre Police Department to report an identity theft.



Free on-air publicity for local events

Sierra Madre's new community radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

Any local non-profit or non-commercial organization can have their event information broadcast to the public on *Sierra Madre Community Information Radio*. This new radio station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia.

In a nutshell, your event must:

- Benefit a non-commercial or non-profit entity
- Be open to the public
- Be of general interest to local citizens

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to radio@cityofsierramadre.com.



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Mayor Announces Intent to Run for Reelection

By Dean Lee

Speculation ended Thursday night as Mayor Bill Bogaard confirmed that he is in fact throwing his hat in the ring running for reelection as mayor of Pasadena —a position he has held since 1999.

“Early next week I will take out papers from the city clerk’s office relating to the election process,” Bogaard told this newspaper. “My intention is to return those papers before Dec. 10.”

The deadline for filing nomination papers is Dec. 10, at 5:30 p.m. that also includes Pasadena City Council district seats 1, 2, 4 and 6, and Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education seats 2, 4 and 6.

Bogaard further said that until now he had only told a small group of loyal supporters his intent to rerun. Unconfirmed reports earlier this year said he was planning to step down something Bogaard said was partly true.

“Six months ago I was on the fence, uncertain,” he said. “I enjoy my work tremendously; I find it very rewarding to have a chance to participate in this lively process of governance of the city.”


He also explained that he never planned to run four times “When I was first elected, I never expected to continue on as I have.”

Bogaard has yet to face any stiff competition winning the last two mayoral elections with more than 85 percent of the vote. In 1999 he beat current City Councilmember Chris Holden getting 60 percent of the vote. Holden said last year, at his annual block party, that he would, in March, again run for mayor.

Bogaard also said that his decision came in light of being appointed, in September, second vice president of the League of California Cities.

“The bylaws of the league contemplate that the second VP becomes the first VP in one year and becomes the president a year after that,” he explained. “It would not have been appropriate for me to accept the nomination as the second VP if I weren’t planning to run.”

Pet of the Week



Cookie, a beautiful, three year old, black and white cat is very outgoing and affectionate. She is very charming and will surely be a wonderful companion. Cookie was found stray and would love to be adopted today!

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

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask about A279014 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

Casting Pond to Get \$300,000 Makeover



The city council voted in favor Monday night of renovating the Arroyo Seco Casting Pond awarding Altadena based Mallcraft the bid to repair the ageing facility.

The only no vote came from Councilmember Margaret McAustin who said residential impacts fees should go to new parks not upgrades of existing projects.

“That might be compliant with the letter of the law...” she said “But my belief is those park fees were intended to be used for new parks and new open space in the city.”

A motion made by

Urban Guerilla Astronomy Hits Old Town

By Dean Lee

Morris Jones (pictured right) spent Friday night stopping people in Old Pasadena giving them the chance to look through his telescope to see the craters of the moon, Jupiter and other objects in the sky something he said he has been doing for the last two decades.

Jones, along with his wife Jane, started the Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers based in Monrovia. Jones said they try to have about eight events a year, “We do these when the sky is clear and there is something to see. He said there was not any real “schedule.”

Along with Old Pasadena, Jones said they were set to have another event Saturday in Monrovia, at Myrtle and Lime Avenues. Jones said the Sidewalk Astronomers was founded in 1968 by well known astronomer pioneer John Dobson.

Dobson invented the large, portable, low-cost Newtonian reflecting telescopes known as the Dobsonian telescope Jones said showing



off his own version of the reflector telescope, autographed by Dobson himself.

Jones said Dobson was the person that got him involved with amateur astronomy when the two were living in San Francisco.

More information about the group, or events, can be found at: otastro.org.

A Noise Within Moves Closer Toward New Home

A Noise Within, the critically acclaimed classical repertory theatre company, has received a \$1 million, Patron To Patron challenge, a \$200,000 Eisner Foundation grant and a \$500,000 Ahmanson Foundation grant during the last six weeks for its new theatre under construction in Pasadena. The grant money was announced this week by Board of Directors President Terry Kay.

A Noise Within is now also offering “Hard Hat Sunday,” public tours of the construction site on the second Sunday of every month, Kay added. A Noise Within’s new state-of-the-art 33,000-square-foot facility is set for completion in fall 2011 for the company’s 20th Anniversary Season.

For free reservations (required), contact donors@anoisewithin.org or call 818-265-7959.

Nomination Period Opens For March 8 Elections

City Clerk Mark Jomsky announced Friday that anyone intending to run for office in the March 8, 2011, primary nominating election for Pasadena mayor, Pasadena City Council district seats 1, 2, 4 and 6, and Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education seats 2, 4 and 6 can obtain nomination papers at the Pasadena City Clerk’s Office, 100 N. Garfield Ave., Room S228 beginning Monday, Nov. 15.

The deadline for filing nomination papers is Friday, Dec. 10, at 5:30 p.m. If an incumbent officer does not file nomination papers by the Dec. 10 deadline, the period to nominate any qualified person other than the incumbent is extended to Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 5:30 p.m. for that

incumbent’s office.

Jomsky will conduct identical candidate workshops Monday, Nov. 15, at 8 a.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the Rose Conference Room (S228) at Pasadena City Hall . During the workshops, nomination papers will be issued to interested parties and Jomsky will review filing requirements and various regulations. Persons unable to attend may call (626) 744-4124 to arrange an individual session.

During the nomination period, the City Clerk’s Office will be closed Nov. 25 and 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Additional election information is available at www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/ election or by calling (626) 744-4124.

Community Meeting To Focus On 210 Freeway Sound Walls

The Pasadena Public Works Department will host a community meeting to discuss potential sound wall locations along the two-mile stretch of the 210 Freeway between Arroyo and Orange Grove boulevards.

The meeting is scheduled Thursday, Nov. 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Press Box (second floor) at the Rose Bowl Stadium, 1001 Rose Bowl Dr. Free parking will be available in Lot F.

City representatives will provide information about the potential placement of sound walls at six specific locations adjacent to the 210 Freeway, answer questions and address community concerns.

The city of Pasadena recently completed a sound study to identify potential locations for sound walls along this segment of the 210 Freeway

where existing traffic noise levels are 67 decibels (dBA) or higher and locations for the potential construction of sound walls to abate noise generated by traffic along the freeway. The 67dBA level is equivalent to standing next to a busy street intersection.

Six areas were evaluated: westbound 210 from Arroyo Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue, eastbound 210 from Arroyo Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue, westbound 210 from Lincoln Avenue to Mountain Street, eastbound 210 from Lincoln Avenue to Mountain Street, westbound 210 from Mountain Street to Orange Grove Boulevard, and eastbound 210 from Mountain Street to Orange Grove Boulevard.

For more information about the project, please call City Engineer Daniel Rix at (626) 744-4267.

The pond is used by the Pasadena Casting Club to practice fly casting city staff said. The organization’s website says they have over 300 members.

The pond, built in 1955 is in a state of disrepair, staff explained. “It has been patched and minor repaired over the years,” said Loren Pluth, Project Manager for Parks and Landscape. “The existing pond has substantial leaks and the pond floor and perimeter are damaged. This project would be a complete renovation.”

The project would include a new concrete layer making the pond less shallow, from 24 inches to 18 inches Pluth said.

There would also be a number of perimeter improvements including removal of asphalt surrounding the pond. The asphalt would be replaced with decomposed granite with small 4 foot square steppingstones.

New benches, picnic tables and drinking fountains would also be put in according to staff.

Year-long Sheriff Anti-DUI Program Funded

A new \$1.1 million traffic safety grant has been awarded to the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD) for a year-long anti-DUI program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on public roadways.

Additional enforcement measures in place to combat impaired driving are coming as a result of this grant awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety. The LASD said it’s dedicated to keeping our streets safe through both enforcement and education.

The special DUI Enforcement and Awareness grant is to assist in efforts to reduce the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol and other drug related collisions in the community. The grant activities will specifically target impaired driving offenders as well as educate the public on the dangers of impaired driving.



This will be done through the use of DUI/driver’s license checkpoints, warrant searches and stakeouts for repeat DUI offenders, saturation patrols, and court stings where DUI offenders with suspended or revoked driver licenses get behind the wheel after leaving court.

Drunk driving is one of America’s deadliest crimes. In 2009, over 10,839 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher.

Major Meteor Shower to be Seen During Unusual Dark Sky

Stargazers will be able to see shooting stars through Nov. 28, with peak activity occurring the night of Nov. 17-18 at a rate of 15 meteors per hour for some viewers. This year, a half moon sets after midnight, allowing for a dark sky. Best viewing time will be just before dawn. thousands of meteors

per hour can shoot across the sky. Scientists believe these storms recur in cycles of about 33 years, though the reason is unknown the last documented Leonid meteor storm occurred in 2002. Viewing tips and information on other upcoming meteor showers can be found at jpl.nasa.gov/news.

Citizen Journalism Meet-up

Learn not just how to blog but how to report the news

The Pasadena Community Network and this newspaper are holding a workshop on Citizen Journalism.

This group is the place where aspiring journalists can learn from trained professionals and support their local community by covering what’s really happening in their neighborhoods.

We will put the news in your hands. Learn how to find the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the means to tell the story using



the power of video, audio and print along with online social media. The next meeting will be Nov. 16 from 6 to 8p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave.

For more info call 626.794.8585 or visit pasadenan.ning.com.

Independent Audit of County’s Pension Fund to be Looked At

Supervisor Michael Antonovich introduced a motion Tuesday directing the County’s Auditor-Controller to hire an expert independent firm to audit and provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on accounting and actuarial methodologies currently utilized by the Los Angeles County Employee Retirement Association, the county’s pension fund.

“In light of recent civil convictions being taken by the SEC against San Diego city officials, statements by Governmental Accounting Standards Board, and the increasing financial scrutiny placed on municipalities including Los Angeles County, it is prudent to double check the standards and practices that the County is adopting to arrive at the figures it is placing in its financial statements,” added Antonovich. “This is

especially true with respect to the pension liabilities and unfunded Retiree Health Insurance Benefit Program which will reach nearly \$26 billion in the coming years.”

In June 2010, the (GASB) took a position that the portion of the pension obligation that is not covered by assets, the unfunded obligation, is a liability of government and meets the criteria for being reported in the government’s accrual-based financial statements.

Antonovich highlighted a recent decision by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to increase focus on transparency, reliability, and disclosure on employee pensions.

Los Angeles County’s pension fund contribution increased by \$200 million in fiscal year 2010/2011 bringing the total to \$987 million.

County Expects Rocky Future as State’s Deficit Keeps Growing

In the wake of last weeks election, Supervisor Michael Antonovich made a statement Wednesday saying that with billions in deficit, those that were elected can expect a rough time ahead.

“The announcement by the Legislative Analyst’s Office that the State’s projected deficit has ballooned to \$25.4 billion -- much larger than legislative leaders had anticipated -- will severely impact every county, city and school district in California. This is a direct result of

the State’s budget being built on a house of cards,” said Supervisor Michael Antonovich .

“We are all in for a rocky future -- especially if the State expects the federal government to come to its rescue by just printing more money. The State and all local governments will be forced to review all labor agreements, and commit to provide only funded, mandated programs, to avoid the quicksand that surrounds Sacramento.”

ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

ARCADIA TO LOOSE FOUR KEY PEOPLE

Over the coming months, Arcadia will lose several of its highly-regarded top administrators to retirement: Chief of Police Bob Sanderson, and the heads of the library/museum and Chamber of Commerce, Carolyn Garner-Reagan and Beth Costanza, respectively, as well as Deputy Fire Chief David Haney. And next summer City Manager Don Penman plans to sit down with the City Council after the budget is adopted and discuss his plans.

With the exception of Costanza, who has been on the job nearly 12 years and is the only one who is not a City employee, all the others have been in their City-paid posts only a few years — being appointed between 2005-2009. The good news is that they are not exiting en masse as the result of any collective gripe, but rather a coincidental confluence of circumstances.

Retiring per PERS
Sanderson, Garner-Reagan, and Haney are officially retiring at the end of the year next month, perhaps a little earlier than they might have been if it not for the way the state's Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) rules are set up. In Garner-Reagan's case, she was motivated to take retirement now due to the City's PERS contract which only provides a spouse 50% of the employee's benefits if the employee who was eligible to retire were to, God forbid, die while still employed, as opposed to 100% available to the spouse if the employee dies after retirement. That's a bizarre

incentive for employees to retire as soon as they are eligible.

The same is true for Sanderson and Haney, though they can retire with full benefits at age 50, five years earlier than other City employees since they are employed in jobs involving public safety. Garner-Reagan, for example, is 61 and has 35 years of service under PERS.

In another unusual aspect of the system, Garner-Reagan, Sanderson, and Haney will continue to essentially serve in their same capacity for as long as six months after their retirement as the City takes advantage of the opportunity to retain them on a temporary basis during the year following their retirement to assist with the transition to a successor. The maximum amount of hours they can be paid during a fiscal year — 960 hours — works out to the equivalent of full-time employment for 6-months, so they will all bunch up their hours into the first six months of 2011, the last six months of fiscal year 2010-2011.

Actually, this happens to work out well for all involved, as explained by Penman:

City and taxpayers continue to benefit from their services and expertise, especially during this challenging fiscal environment as anticipated austere 2011-12 budgets will need to be set. Until a new department head is hired, the City and taxpayers save expenses on city-funded contributions to retirement as percentage of salary, which can range from 22% – 37% of salaries, which in these caases that range from \$119,000 – . Once they are retired, their retirement

payments come from a PERS account with funds already set aside. (In cases where the retired employee has accumulated 1000 hours of unused sick time, the City would also pay the medical premium for them and their spouse until they are eligible for Medicare — the City does not pay out for unused sick leave as do some cities, but Arcadia does allow unused sick time to be credited to time served when an employee retires.) Allows time needed to find a replacement whom the retirees could help identify and possibly transition into their position. City's option to end payment of temporary help at any time. Temporary work/pay will be completed in current fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Sanderson, Garner-Reagan, and Haney can get in a year's worth of temporary help in six months.

Changes made easier can work out
All of that will make the city's loss a little easier to deal with. And, if history is a guide, we can take comfort that each department and organization is strong and will, as always, find an able successor.

In fact, these leaders ascended through the ranks and capably filled the roles of their predecessors when their time came after years of service — Chief Sanderson in 2005; City Manager Penman in 2008; and Library and Museum Services Director Garner-Reagan in January 2009.

There are good people with years of experience in the departments of each of

these retiring City administrators. And where necessary, good successors will be brought in from outside the department or maybe even outside the city, as has been the case in recent years with people such as Recreation and Community Services Director Sara Somogyi and Administrative Services Director Hue Quach. As Penman pointed out, Arcadia attracts good people because it has such a strong professional reputation.

He also believes change and new ideas can be good, noting that over the past four or five years a new person has been appointed to head every department, "and I would say that this is the strongest management team I have worked with in my almost 13 years with the City."

Beth Costanza has served the longest of this group since becoming Executive Director of the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce in 1999. She is targeting April 2011 for her retirement. Although she is not a City employee, she also hopes to stay on in a marketing capacity to help with member recruitment.

The Chamber's board of directors will also surely find a worthy new executive director.

But the confidence in a smooth transition to strong new leaders does not minimize the appreciation of the laudable work of each of these fine people. At least we can be glad that we have plenty of time to show our gratitude as each of them has embarked on their months-long farewell tour.

— By Scott Hettrick, *Arcadia's Best*

Brown Bag Lunch

Noon - Nov. 18, 2010

Come hear "An Early History of Sierra Madre" at the Arcadia Historical Museum. Debbie R. Henderson, Associate Librarian, Archival Collections, Sierra Madre Public Library will be the guest speaker.

The Arcadia Historical Museum is located at 380 W. Huntington Drive, immediately behind the Community Center. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is always free.

Owls Are Everywhere at the Arcadia Public Library!

Whoooo! Enjoy an afternoon of owl-related stories, songs, games, and crafts on Saturday, November 20; 2:30 p.m. Especially for children ages 14 and under.

The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd. Arcadia. For more information, please call (626) 821-5566.

Book to Movie: Take 3!

Friday, December 3 at 3:30 p.m. all middle school students sixth through eighth grade are invited to join in on the fun with a book discussion of *The Lightning Thief*. Each month join us as we enjoy snacks, create themed crafts and have fun.

The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd. Arcadia. For more information, please call (626) 821-5566.

STREET CLOSURES FOR 57TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF BANDS PARADE

The City of Arcadia is hosting the 57th Annual Festival of Bands Parade on Saturday, November 20, 2010. Forty high school bands will compete in this prestigious event. There will be a number of street closures associated with the event that may affect vehicular travel. The parade will take place on Baldwin Avenue and Duarte Road in Arcadia on Saturday, November 20, 2010. Street closures will be as follows:

□ Baldwin Avenue between Huntington Drive and Naomi Avenue – CLOSED for vehicular traffic from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

□ Duarte Road between Golden West and El Monte Avenue – CLOSED of vehicular traffic from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

□ Campus Drive between Santa Anita Avenue and Holly Avenue – CLOSED from 6:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Residents living south of Huntington Drive, north of Duarte Road, east of Baldwin Ave, and west of Holly Ave are encouraged to use the intersection of La Cadena and Huntington Drive as the primary entrance and exit from the area. Other residents will be allowed into the surrounding areas with proof of residency. *Robert P. Sanderson, Chief of Police*

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Guide Dogs open eyes at Camino Grove Elementary

by Helen Simmons Conroy

With adorable brown eyes and downy-soft heads, two pups-in-training brought Guide Dogs of America to life for 4th graders at Camino Grove Elementary School in Arcadia. The pups were brought to the school on November 5 as part of an awareness campaign presented by their puppy raisers, Mary Monroe and Diana Snyder. At only 5 months old, the pups lay calmly on the floor of the school auditorium as if napping in their own living rooms, as Monroe presented students with information on the guide dog program.

Monroe highlighted the life-changing services that Guide Dogs of America provides free of charge to people with disabilities. In addition, she described her role as a puppy raiser, training pups from the time they are 7 weeks old until they are a year and a half. She discussed challenges involved in training, from teaching a puppy not to nibble on popcorn strewn on the floor at a movie theatre to refusing to move -- using "intelligent disobedience" in order to prevent a blind partner from facing dangers such as being bonked on the head by a low lying tree branch. Guide dog etiquette came next: never distract a guide dog in training or working guide dog; talk to the blind person, not the dog; and always ask permission to pet a guide dog.

Then Monroe talked about the Guide Dogs of America Training Center in Sylmar: its intensive training program; free tours; and need for puppy raisers. She mentioned that people with blindness are invited to speak at the center and shared one blind woman's story. For years, the woman had used a white cane to get around. The woman disclosed an insightful observation, "When you can't make eye contact, no one talks to you. But when I got my dog, my life changed. It became much less lonely -- people started talking to me because of my dog."

As the assembly concluded, students lined up excitedly to pet Fagan, Diana Snyder's pup-in-training. Rita, (Fagan's sister), looked on shyly, not quite ready to be petted by so hands. Students then presented Monroe and Snyder with donations of blankets, towels, and durable dog toys, for the puppies and adult guide dogs in advanced training that reside at the Sylmar facility.

Photo (right): Camino Grove 4th graders present Guide Dogs of America puppy raisers and puppies-in-training with donations for the puppies and adult guide dogs in advanced training that reside at the Sylmar facility. From left to right: top – Leigh-Ann Trajano, Cameron Slessor, Megan Lau, Titanium Wang; middle – Mirium Maldonado, Andrew Trujillo, Keith Wong, and Brian Miron; bottom – Guide Dogs of America puppy raisers, Mary Monroe and Diana Snyder, with their pups-in-training, Rita and Fagan.

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, October 31, through Saturday, November 6, the Police Department responded to 895 calls for service of which 141 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, October 31:

2. Around 11:40 p.m., units were called to In-N-Out, 420 North Santa Anita, regarding a male driver who had fallen asleep behind the wheel of a running vehicle in the drive-thru area. A 33-year-old Caucasian admitted to taking Valium, and a field sobriety test indicated that he was operating the vehicle while under the influence of a controlled substance. The man was arrested at the scene without incident.

Monday, November 1:

3. A victim came to the station around 11:28 a.m. to file a forgery report. The victim was notified by his bank in reference to a forged signature on a balance transfer check for \$3,895. The bank advised that the transaction was made at a rare coin company where three gold coins were purchased.

4. Around 3:20 p.m., a victim came to the station to report a theft that occurred between 5:00 p.m. on October 30 and 2:00 p.m. on October 31. The victim had a Halloween party at his home on the evening of October 30 for about 35 guests. The next day, he discovered that someone had stolen his Rolex watch worth about \$10,500 from the master bedroom.

Tuesday, November 2:

5. Shortly after midnight, units responded to the 200 block of West Woodruff in regards to a residential burglary in progress. Four male suspects were seen fleeing the scene, and a perimeter was established. With the help of outside agencies, a yard-to-yard search was conducted and all four Hispanic suspects were apprehended. The suspects, between 16 and 19 years of age, were charged with residential burglary, obstructing/resisting, conspiracy to commit crime, and petty theft.

6. A private person's arrest was made at JC Penney around 2:26 p.m. An 18-year-old female Hispanic was taken into custody for petty theft after concealing merchandise while in a fitting room.

Wednesday, November 3:

7. Around 11:20 a.m., a 52-year-old male Caucasian was arrested for indecent exposure at Huntington and Santa Anita. The suspect dropped his pants and exposed himself to bystanders at a bus stop.

8. A victim came to the station around 8:05 p.m. to report a domestic violence incident that occurred in the 100 block of California. During an altercation, the suspect struck his wife in the face, choked her, and pushed her to the ground. A 36-year-old male Hispanic was subsequently arrested for inflicting corporal injury to spouse.

Thursday, November 4:

9. At approximately 11:43 a.m., officers received a Lojack alert of a possible stolen vehicle in the vicinity. An area check was conducted, and the stolen car was found at Westfield Mall and two subjects were seen exiting the car. A 20-year-old male Hispanic driver was taken into custody for vehicle theft; a 20-year-old female Caucasian was charged with possession of marijuana and she was later cited and released. Further investigation revealed that the driver had taken the car while his victim/mother was asleep, and she reported her car stolen to the Baldwin Park Police Department. The mother later refused to press charges, so the driver was released.

10. A traffic collision occurred at Second and Winnie around 4:40 p.m. A 48-year-old Caucasian male driver collided with several mailboxes, a telephone pole, and a vehicle. A record check of the subject indicated that he was a convicted felon, and a search of his vehicle revealed ammunition, swords, spring-loaded knives, butterfly knife, daggers, multi-bladed knives, and throwing stars. The man was arrested for felon in possession of ammunition, possession of prohibited/dangerous weapons, and possession of switchblade/spring loaded knives.

Friday, November 5:

11. Around 6:45 p.m., officers responded to the 1000 block of South Baldwin regarding an assault that just occurred. A victim was attacked by several male Asian suspects at the location. He was also stabbed in the torso and was transported to a hospital for treatment.

12. Shortly before 2:30 p.m., loss prevention personnel from JC Penney advised that they had detained a man for theft. The suspect took a manufactured bag that would avoid sensor detection to the store and concealed stolen merchandise inside the bag. A private person's arrest was made, and an 18-year-old Vietnamese was taken into custody for commercial burglary.

Saturday, November 6:

13. Units were dispatched to Public Storage, 12340 Lower Azusa, around 9:30 a.m. in reference to several commercial burglaries that occurred between 11:30 a.m. on November 5 and 9:00 a.m. on November 6. Unknown suspects entered several storage units by going through the drywall.

14. Around 1:26 p.m., officers were sent to Gymboree located at Westfield Mall regarding a grand theft that occurred between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on November 5. Unknown suspect(s) took 12 shirts and 25 pairs of jeans from a display table for a total reported loss of about \$1,045.



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Winter Holidays Around the World at the Arcadia Historical Museum

On Saturday, December 18 at 2:30 p.m., come see how people around the world celebrate the winter holidays! Enjoy an afternoon filled with activities and crafts including a puppet show! Get a henna tattoo and make a cheeky caroler! Seating is limited and families will be accepted in the order that they are in line.

The Arcadia Historical Museum is located at 380 W. Huntington Drive, immediately behind the Community Center. For more information, please call (626) 574-5440.

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City Manager's Report:

MFA Lawsuit Presented in Curious Fashion

This week, we received notification from the Monrovia Patch.com website that the president of the Monrovia Firefighters' Association (MFA) was planning on suing the City of Monrovia. Interestingly, the City has not been served with the lawsuit despite its being filed two months ago. And while the plaintiff has, I believe, 120 days to serve us, preemptively leaking it to the press seems a bit melodramatic.

The plaintiff's attorney leaked the news of the lawsuit after being contacted by the Monrovia Patch.com editor about a separate case (another discrimination lawsuit he is handling, brought by a former Fire Department employee). The City will defend both lawsuits, regardless of these sensationalistic tactics. Allegations of discrimination are serious, no doubt.

Still this set of circumstances does raise some valid questions, such as, "What is going on in the Monrovia Fire Department?" and "What was the D.A. inquiry that was referenced all about?" With kudos to Monrovia Patch.com for presenting an even-keeled overview of this situation, about all I can say is that - in my opinion - this is about control over the Fire Department. Folks have tried to make it about safety (remember the fracas over the grant-funded regional procurement of firefighter breathing apparatus?), but couldn't; they've tried to make it about ethics (the aborted D.A. investigation), but couldn't. This is about control and change in organizational culture.

Thus, with apologies to the community for the ignominy of having this power-play play out in public, all I can offer is that sometimes these situations simply need to work themselves out.

As for the issue of the above referenced D.A. investigation, we received a letter in February 2010 from the D.A.'s Public Integrity Unit stating that they had opened an investigation as to whether Fire Chief Chris Donovan and Battalion Chief Chris Fabrizio were illegally receiving certification pay of \$100 and \$50 per month for a period of 10 and 8 months respectively. The pay is in reference to training certificates that both men possess.

By way of background, in the previous Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiation with the MFA, the City agreed to pay Fire personnel for such training certificates, similar to what police personnel have enjoyed for years (the "POST certificate" pay). The alleged illegality of this situation stems from the fact that the City paid both the Chief and Battalion Chief for the Chief Officer certificates they possessed, even though such "cert pay" was not directly discussed in the management and mid-management employee MOUs (which cover all management employees, sworn and non-sworn alike). Instead, relying on past practice (which is common, appropriate and lawful in the realm of employment law) the City's position has historically been that whatever benefits were not

specifically mentioned in the management employee MOUs - but were covered in the Fire and Police MOUs - would be applied to appropriate sworn public safety employees. To be clear: the violation was not that paying Fire Chiefs and Battalion Chiefs was wrong; but rather, that the management MOUs did not say that Fire management employees (or Police management employees, for that matter) were eligible for such pay.

The D.A.'s office acknowledged that this was a "technical violation," but argued that they had to examine this matter strictly from a criminal law standpoint, not a civil employment law perspective. Thus, in April 2010 the City Council approved revised management and mid-management MOUs that specifically authorized such cert pay; Chief Donovan, Battalion Chief Fabrizio - as well as two other Battalion Chiefs who were not named in the complaint - repaid the small amount of certification pay they had received; and the D.A.'s office closed the case.

One detail that stuck out in the Monrovia Patch.com story was, "Why did Chief Donovan and Battalion Chief Fabrizio voluntarily stop receiving the cert pay - was it some tacit admission of guilt?" Hardly. The MFA raised the issue previously with the City's Department of Human Resources. The Human Resources Director advised the MFA representatives that the City has long relied on the past practice of having sworn safety

management employees follow their respective department employees' MOUs. Still, when Donovan and Fabrizio were advised of the union's protest, both men voluntarily offered to forgo the pay - the grief simply wasn't worth \$100 or \$50 per month. Yet, as the saying goes, no good deed goes unpunished.

All this said, I have hope - indeed I have to have hope - that better times lie ahead. In this country - and certainly in this organization - men and women have the right to complain, protest, argue and beef about issues they believe are unfair, and to do so without fear of retribution or retaliation. At the same time, if the situations change and the people change and issues change over the years, but the rant from a small group of individuals remains the same, then I do believe that folks will eventually have to open their eyes and try to make the best out of a given situation - even if it means compromising and not getting everything they want.

Increased Wildlife Sightings
Just an FYI that we have experienced an uptick in wild animal sightings over recent weeks. If you see bears, mountain lions or coyotes exhibiting aggressive or nuisance behavior, please contact the Police Department's Animal Control officers. Also, please keep in mind the new animal control regulations that were recently adopted by the City Council - especially those concerning the feeding of wild animals. Help us help the animals!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are looking for a second career or wishing you could do more for Monrovia -- Now is your chance!
The City is looking for volunteers willing and able to join City staff in serving the community. If you have good clerical, computer and/or people skills, are interested in teaching or working with families and children, or if you have special or professional skills -- give us a call!
Volunteers will receive training and work alongside City staff. Examples of opportunities available in all City departments include:
Community Development Code Enforcement and Neighbor-to-Neighbor Mediation
Finance and Human Resources research and office-related projects
Fire Department brush clearance and hillside monitoring
Library mending and shelving books; assisting patrons
Police Department clerical, receptionist, Citizens Patrol (must be 50 or over)
Public Works clerical and general data input; Producer for programs to be aired on cable television; Disability Compliance Resource Person; Outdoor education programs at Canyon Park; Trail maintenance and construction, and general park maintenance
Recreation special events and senior programs
Office related assistance
Coach and referee
For more information call the Job Line at (626) 932-5592.

Monrovia Police Blotter

During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 536 service events, resulting in 81 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:

Residential Burglary

On October 29 at 1:42 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 300 block of Beechworth Avenue on the report of a burglary. The victim left his garage door open. The suspect took gardening equipment from inside and then fled the area.

Bear Incident

On October 30 at 3:12 a.m., an officer responded to the 1000 block of Norumbega regarding a bear incident. The bear had entered the detached garage of a residence and forced entry into a refrigerator. The bear took meat out of the refrigerator and left the location.

Grand Theft Auto Recovery

On October 31 at 4:39 a.m., an officer was patrolling in the 500 block of Sherman when he observed a suspicious vehicle occupied by two subjects. The officer ran the vehicle's license plate and discovered it was reported stolen out of San Dimas. The officer arrested the person in the driver's seat and completed an identification card on the passenger. It was later determined the suspect had rented the vehicle and did not return it as agreed upon. The owner then reported it stolen.

Driving Under the Influence

On November 2 at 2:11 a.m., an officer responded to the report of a suspicious vehicle driving around the area of Bradbury and Royal Oaks. The officer located and stopped a vehicle for traffic violations that matched the description of the vehicle. The driver was determined to be driving under the influence and was too impaired to drive a motor vehicle safely. The driver was arrested and taken into custody.

Robbery / Witness Intimidation / Drug Activity

On November 2 at 6:32 p.m., the victim of a strong-arm robbery that occurred on Wednesday, October 27, called police. He reported that he just seen the two suspects, who are known gang members, on Duarte Road. He said they were threatening and following him as he was walking down Duarte Road. Officers responded and conducted an area search for the suspects. They located four juveniles at an elementary school in Arcadia. One of the juveniles was wanted for the strong arm robbery, and was also found to be in possession of methamphetamine. He was arrested for suspicion of robbery, possession of methamphetamine and witness intimidation. A second juvenile suspect was arrested for witness intimidation. The third juvenile attempted to run from officers, and the fourth was found to be in possession of marijuana; both were arrested. The juvenile wanted in the robbery was booked and taken to Eastlake Juvenile Hall. The other three were cited and later released to their parents at the station.

Vehicle Burglary

On October 3 at 9:08 p.m., a vehicle burglary was reported at a business in the 700 block of East Huntington. The suspect smashed the window of the car and took items that were left visible from outside the vehicle.

Vehicle Burglary

On October 3 at 10:17 p.m., a vehicle burglary was reported that occurred during the evening hours of October 2. The crime occurred in the 200 block of North Primrose.

IT'S RUBBER DUCKY TIME!

Want to adopt a duck? A rubber duck, that is. The Santa Anita Family YMCA is gearing up for its annual Rubber Duck Dunk fundraiser. Funds raised will benefit The Y's Youth and Government program to help offset travel costs to Sacramento for local teen delegates to the YMCA Model Legislature and Model Court in February.

Ducks are available for adoption for \$5 each. On Saturday, Nov. 20, beginning at 2 p.m. all adopted ducks will get tossed in the swimming pool at The Y and lucky ducks - those that are randomly plucked from the water - will win valuable prizes for their adoptive "parents". Winners not need be present.

More than 25 prizes will be given away, including a 30-day fitness package including personal training, nutrition, counseling and personalized fitness plan, and a one night's stay at Embassy Suites.

Helping to sponsor the event are the Montgomery Family, Realtor Donna Baker, and New Life Evangelistic Church.

The Santa Anita Family YMCA serves the cities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte and Monrovia, offering dozens of sports programs, exercise classes and activities on a member and non-member basis for children, teens, adult, seniors and people with special needs.

For more information about The Y or to "adopt a duck," call (626) 359-9244 or visit the website at www.ymcala.org



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FRIENDS OF THE MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY November Saturday to Saturday Sale

MONROVIA - Friends of the Monrovia Public Library announce the Friends November "Saturday to Saturday" monthly sale, November 13-20, 2010. To celebrate a successful year and thank our customers, this is a "Half-Price Thank You Sale." All hard cover and trade paperback books in the Friends Store at the Monrovia Public Library will be half-priced. Books normally selling for \$2 will be \$1 during the sale. Shelves will be restocked daily giving all customers an opportunity to find excellent bargains. 100% of the proceeds benefit the Monrovia Public Library.

Holiday books will be on display beginning November 29! Think devotional along with party planning, decorating, and cooking. The collection is large and varied. We also have lots of children's holiday related story books both religious and secular!

In fact, do some holiday shopping when you visit the store. A limited number of mugs displaying Lynn Fearman's lovely library image are still available for \$10. When the supply is gone, these become a collectable. Give a neighbor the Monrovia history published by the Monrovia Historical Society - just \$20. Use "book bucks" as gifts for neighbors and teachers. These are sold in bundles of \$7 worth of vouchers to use in the store for just \$5 - a 40% discount and there's no expiration date! They can be used for any purchases in the store. Or, make a selection of current, clean copies of popular and interesting books. Even at the regular price of \$2 for hard cover and trade paperbacks, they're a bargain.

The Friends of the Monrovia Public Library promote the Library by stimulating a greater use and appreciation of the literary, educational, and cultural advantages the library offers throughout the community.

Monrovia Public Library 321 South Myrtle Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016. For more information, call (626) 932-5555, Ext. 3124 or visit www.friendsofmonroviapubliclibrary.org

Hillside Wilderness Preserve and Hillside Recreation Area Resource Management Plan: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting

The City of Monrovia, as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Wilderness Preserve and Hillside Recreation Area Resource Management Plan. This Notice was published in the Monrovia Weekly on Monday, November 1, 2010, and noticed to residents within 500 feet of the access points.

The Monrovia City Council adopted the Hillside Wilderness Preserve and Hillside Recreation Area Resource Management Plan (RMP) on January 20, 2009, to guide the long-term management for the Project Area. Subsequently, the City Council repealed the original RMP to permit additional environmental and programmatic review. Since the repeal of the original RMP, various recreational and fire-safety related components have been added to the RMP by the City. For this Project, it is the intent of the City to evaluate the environmental and community impacts of the proposed additional Project components and make the necessary policy choices to implement a complete and final RMP.

It is anticipated that the City Council

will choose from various options ranging from elements substantially similar to the "minimalist" plan adopted in the original RMP to additional uses of the Project Area. Because the City is now completing an EIR rather than a Mitigated Negative Declaration as completed for the initial RMP, which was a "minimalist" plan, the City is now considering all potential uses for the area to ensure every potential opportunity is evaluated. The analysis of various potential Project elements does not mean that each or any of those elements will be included in the RMP that is ultimately adopted, but it does allow the City to examine any of those potential uses in the environmental review.

The City has prepared an Initial Study in accordance with Section 15063 of the CEQA Guidelines to determine if the Project would have significant effects on the environment, and to focus the analyses in the Draft EIR on those issues determined to have the potential for significant effects. As identified in the Initial Study, the following environmental issues listed will be addressed in the EIR: Biological Resources, Hazards (Wildland Fires), Public Services (Fire Protection), Noise, and

Transportation/Traffic.

Copies of all relevant material including the previously adopted RMP and Initial Study are available for review at the following locations:

Monrovia City hall - 415 South Ivy Avenue
Monrovia Community Center - 119 West Palm Avenue
Monrovia Public Library - 321 South Myrtle Avenue

City of Monrovia website: www.cityofmonrovia.org

Responses and Comments

If you would like to submit written comments on the NOP, please send them to:

April L. Soash, Director of Community Services
119 West Palm Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

Or via email at asoash@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Please be specific in your statements describing your environmental concerns. As mandated by state law, the public review period for the NOP is to occur for at least 30 days. The public review period will occur from November 4, 2010 to December 10, 2010. Please submit your response at the earliest possible date, but not later than December 10, 2010.

Duarte Council to Study City Service Charges

Public Hearing Set for Dec. 14

November 8, 2010 - The City of Duarte is in the process of completing a comprehensive review and update of City service charges and fees to be presented to the City Council for consideration of adoption at a public hearing set for Dec. 14.

Duarte's last comprehensive service charge update was completed in 2005. The calculation of services charges is based on the actual staff hours, supplies and overhead related to the actual service provided to the community. State law requires that service charges not exceed the actual cost of providing services. The list

of service charges and fees under review include such things as rental charges for use of the Community Center, garage sale permits, dog and cat licenses, document copy charges, construction and demolition fees, and conditional use permits.

Cities may establish charges for services through the adoption of either ordinances or resolutions. For ease of understanding and to enhance transparency, Duarte gathers service charges into a master schedule and adopts them as part of a single resolution process. This approach allows charges to be updated in a less cumbersome fashion while providing the general public opportunities

through the public hearing process to address the council in person as well as to submit comments in writing.

Reductions in traditional tax revenues have made cities more dependent on service charges for budget balancing. The general public typically prefers that people pay for the services they receive, rather than fund these items through higher taxes. When charges reflect actual cost, market forces are brought into play, making governments operate more like businesses. For additional information on City service charges, contact the City of Duarte Administrative Services Department at (626) 357-7931, ext. 211.

SCHOOL CLOSURES DOWN TO 2

Loma Alta and Burbank Elementary Remain On Chopping Block

Superintendent Diaz discusses his recommendations:



In developing my recommendation I relied heavily on the School Consolidation Committee report, and in the final analysis, supported their recommendation to identify Burbank and Loma Alta Elementary Schools for closure. A vast majority of the committee members supported this recommendation. Besides drawing from the School Consolidation Committee Report I also reviewed current fiscal information, the current size of our elementary schools, impact on students, families, and staff, programmatic needs, and other considerations including the closure of schools not recommended by the SSCS.

WHY CLOSE ANY SCHOOL?

The decision to close any school is difficult and emotional for everyone involved: students, parents, teachers and staff. But given the current and future realities of public education in California and Pasadena Unified School District I believe the following facts support my recommendation to close two schools in 2011-12.

FISCAL IMPACT

Pasadena Unified School District has cut over \$32 million over the last two years. Important programs and services have been reduced or eliminated. Our current budget projections call for \$8 million in further reductions in fiscal year 2012-13. The District has used one time funds; (beginning balance, federal stimulus funds, federal jobs act fund and other grants) to balance our current budget and provide resources for instructional priorities. Compounding this problem is the expiration of furlough days in the next two years. The long term fiscal outlook for public school funding in California is bleak and the state budget recently passed is already reported to be \$25 billion in deficit. This will surely result in reduced funding for Pasadena Unified School District.

EFFECTIVE RESOURCE ALLOCATION

As our available funds continue to shrink, we can no longer afford to support schools with very small student populations. Loma Alta has 185 K-5 students and Burbank has 319 K-5 students; 268 students without the Dual Immersion Program.

In LA County, similar sized school districts, such as Baldwin Park, Lynwood, Alhambra, and San Gabriel operate elementaries within a range of 400-700 students. Neighboring districts, including San Marino, South Pasadena, Glendale and Arcadia also have an average elementary school enrollment of 500-700 students. Even with the recommended closures, Pasadena Unified will continue to offer much smaller, more intimate learning communities for our elementary school students than most districts throughout the region and the county.

The savings from school closures can be used for other critical needs: CSR, library services, summer school, extended instructional time, counselors, school budgets, etc. All programs or services we reduced during the 2010-11 school year. However, in reality, the savings from school closures will result in the District not having to make a similar amount of program reductions in the future.

PROGRAM/INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY

Ensuring that students from any school

scheduled for closure have access to a high quality instructional program has always been of primary concern to me. As mentioned before, even with the closing of two schools, students will still have access to a small, personalized learning environment. My recommendation also includes assigning resident area students to high performing schools as measured by API scores. Every school receiving students from a closed school has a variety of partnerships and programs available to meet the diverse needs of our student population.

SCHOOL PROXIMITY/CHOICE

Providing schools located throughout the district and supporting choice for families was a primary consideration in my review.

The closure of Loma Alta and Burbank will impact all students attending those schools however, less than two hundred resident area students will be reassigned to a new neighborhood school. And because a high number of students attend through the choice process, giving priority to students will help ease the impact of transferring to another school.

LOMA ALTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Loma Alta's current enrollment is 185 (K-5 students) and has been declining. Loma Alta is the smallest school in the District. Thirty percent of resident area students attend Loma Alta and demographic projections indicates that number is likely to decrease. Loma Alta's API score is 692. Specific recommendations include:

- Close Loma Alta Elementary School effective with the 2011-12 school year.
- Continue to offer the LA Up County Pre-school program and investigate expanding pre-school and other early childhood education programs at the Loma Alta site.
- Revise Loma Alta's attendance area and assign students to Franklin (API 786) and Altadena Elementary (API 755).
- Implement the mitigation measures recommended by the School Consolidation Committee to ensure smooth transition for students, families and staff. Included in these mitigation measures is priority in the Open Enrollment process.

BURBANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Burbank's current enrollment is 319 (K-5 students). Without the Dual Language Immersion (Mandarin) program enrollment falls to 268 (K-5 students) making Burbank one of the smallest schools in the District. I am recommending the DLI (Mandarin) program be relocated to Field Elementary School for programmatic reasons. Thirty three percent of resident area students attend Burbank and demographic projections indicate that number is likely to decline. Burbank's API score is 777. Specific recommendations include:

- Close Burbank Elementary School effective with the 2011-12 school year.
- Determine the recommended use of the school site during the same time frame as the District Office feasibility study (April 2011).
- Revise Burbank's attendance area and assign students to Longfellow Elementary (API 817) and Webster Elementary (API 848)
- Relocate the Dual Language Immersion (Mandarin) program to Field elementary School.
- Implement the mitigation measures recommended by the School Consolidation Committee to ensure smooth transition for students, families and staff. Included in these mitigation measures is priority in the Open Enrollment process.

SAVINGS

Anticipated savings of on-going general fund revenues are estimated between \$400,000 to \$450,000 per school per year. There will be some relocation costs and we may experience a loss of ADA (Approx. 6% based on the last round of school closures). Estimated savings in the 2011-12 school year and following two years equal \$2.3 million.

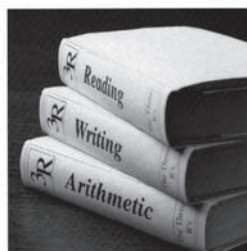
PUSD NEWS FLASH

VACCINES: *The PUSD Health Programs office* reminds parents that state law now requires students in who will enter grades 7 – 12 in the 2011-2012 school year to receive a vaccine booster against the disease pertussis (otherwise known as whooping cough), by July 1, 2011. The vaccine booster against pertussis is known as "Tdap". The new law comes in response to a pertussis outbreak that started in California last spring. A Tdap booster is recommended for adults and children 10 years and older to protect infants who have not been fully immunized. Health officials urge middle and high school parents not to wait until the law takes effect. Tdap is available through healthcare providers and through the Pasadena Public Health Department at (626) 744-6012. For questions, please call the PUSD Clinic at (626) 396-3600 x 88181.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS:

PUSD reminds 12th grade students and their families that applications for admission to California State Universities (CSU) and University of California (UC) campuses is November 30, 2010. Applications can be submitted online at www.csumentor.edu and www.universityofcalifornia.edu. PUSD students are also urged to attend "Admission Matters: What Students & Parents Need to Know About Getting Into College," a free workshop Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Marshall Fundamental Secondary School. Flyer attached.

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

Arcadia High School

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

Barnhart School

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

Bethany Christian School

93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3527 Principal: James Lugenbuehl
E-mail address: jml@bcsliions.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) 255-2410 Head of School: Patty Patano
website: www.goodenschool.org

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

website: www.highpointacademy.org

LaSalle High School

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

Monrovia High School

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

Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

Odyssey Charter School

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

Pasadena High School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

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

St. Rita Catholic School

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School

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

Sierra Madre Middle School

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

Weizmann Day School

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

Wilson Middle School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109
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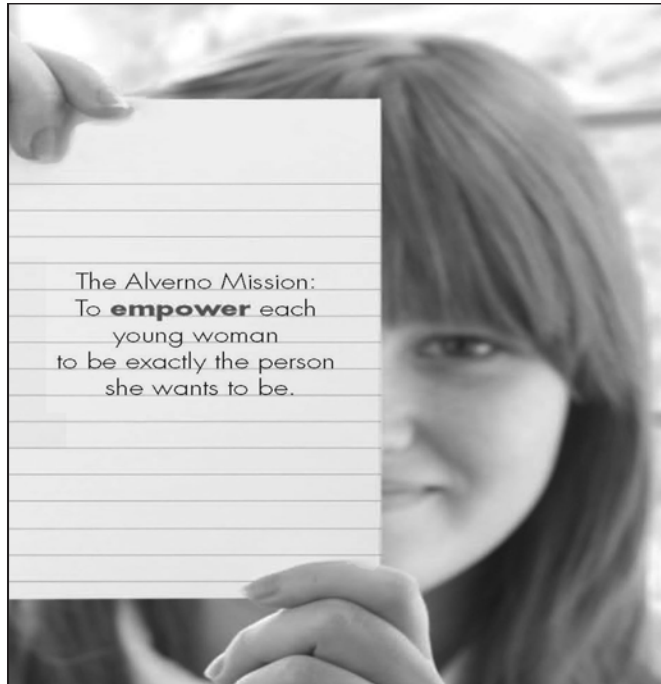


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December 1, 2010

January 25, 2011

The meetings are from 9:00 - 11:00am. R.S.V.P. to 626/286-3108 is appreciated.

Eat Well! Going at It Alone

Do you ever go to the movies solo? How about sitting alone when you go out to eat? I recently had a conversation with a female who works out at my gym. She is a very attractive lady, trust me, she could get a date if she

THE CHEF KNOWS

wanted one. She told me that she often goes to lunch by herself. The reason being is that she demands a first-rate restaurant where she feels confident that she will receive a terrific meal. In a nutshell, she said, that many of her friends don't want to pay \$30 for lunch. Many of us likely believe that the "L" letter is branded on our forehead if we go out alone. But for me, it has become commonplace and the only "Ls" I am coping to are in my last name.

Writing for this newspaper and getting material for my Saturday Night radio show, I am often pressed into action to go it alone. I have no expense account here, my friends, so for me, leaner is the meaner in my business. Frequently, if there is a bar that serves entrees I will just go that route. The football game won't distract LA's #1 aspiring restaurant critic.

Recently, as I was hanging out at a local eatery, I was amazed at how much our local mixologist (creative bartender), can endure. Most of the crowds I encounter are grown men who often become nostalgic over their glory days. Now, I am all for striking up a sports conversation, but you haven't heard modern Shakespeare until you heard a sixty year old tell you about his days of playing football. In fact, I think I saw a tear come into that old curmudgeon's eye. And I hate to tell this one out loud, but men can gossip too!!

Pasadena's Smokin' Good Secret

By LaQuetta M. Shamblee on Special Assignment

Finding good barbeque is always a treat, but finding great barbeque is truly divine. I must say I was somewhat surprised to learn

This is not women gossip, mind you. We talk about how he had to buy his corvette used, or we just know his girlfriend hasn't got her papers. Us guys, we are more certain about these things. All the while, these Bartenders must lean in and give us their ear, or at least be able to fake us with their best Hollywood impression.

Customers sit at a bar for a variety of reasons. They are lonely and want someone to talk to. They are tired and want to be alone. They want to watch the nightly football game. They want to try to pick up a date. Whatever the reason, the bartender needs to be able to interact with customers on their level. The lonely guy who wants to pour his heart out about his recent divorce will need an ear to listen to his problem. If a bartender shows irritation toward that customer, or just ignores them completely, the customer isn't likely to come back. On the other hand, if the bartender insists on chatting up a storm with the guy who just wants some peace and quiet after a long day at work, that guy won't come back either. A bartender needs to know how to read people and interact with them accordingly. Those types of bartenders who can pull that off develop a strong customer following. A good bartender will bring customers in, just because he or she innately understands psychology as equally as mixing drinks.

I did get a little irritated myself last week. I was at the Bowling Alley waiting for someone to show up, and I was alone at the bar and the bartender just carried on his conversation with a fellow employee, oblivious to me. I got the distinct impression that he didn't want to chat about my glory days.

Email me your thoughts thechefknows@yahoo.com. Charter Cable Channel 101 on Saturday Nights at 7 PM, and my radio show at 9 PM on Saturday Night KABC Talk Radio 790.

was laid when a co-owner, Betty convinced a small group of friends to start a catering business from the Small Business Kitchen



about Bonnie B's Smokin' Barbeque Heaven from a close friend who recently moved back home to southern California from Kentucky. At first I couldn't figure out why she chose to conclude her recent birthday weekend celebration with a networking luncheon miles away from her new home in Orange County. Apparently the word has spread far and wide about the delicious cookins' at this local Pasadena eatery, and she simply saved the best for last to convene a group of friends who reside in the Los Angeles area.

"Oh my goodness," "Yum," and long drawn out "Hmmm's" was the chorus around the table after we started tasting individual orders of ribs, chicken, smoked salmon, sliced beef and hot links placed before us. They use a mix of secret family seasonings to prepare meat, poultry or fish slow smoked over oak, hickory or mesquite. "All of our food is health-consciously prepared, we don't add fat, much of the fat drips off as it's smoked," says co-owner Bonnie. Three vegetarians in the group were satisfied with the choice of a fresh garden salad and an array of southern-style vegetables, cooked without any meat products. We all wished we'd stashed away one of the jalapeno corn muffins that were served as a prelim to the main meal.

The groundwork for the 2009 launch of this successful entrepreneurial enterprise

Incubator in Pasadena. The response from the community was both immediate and positive as they began to deliver lunches to businesses, primarily along north Lake Avenue. When they spotted a "For Rent" sign, they made the leap, mortgaged their home, and with a much needed influx of capital from Bonnie's mother, they've made impressive strides since opening their doors. Just two months after Bonnie and Betty Henderson opened their doors, they received a phone call from Zagat, the nation's premier restaurant rating system. "Do you know what just happened to your restaurant?" the person stated, then went on to explain that Zagat generally doesn't rate a restaurant until it's been in business for two to five years.

Bonnie B's was also recently lauded with dual honors by *The Pasadena Weekly's* "2010 Best of List." Their "Best New Restaurant" and "Best Restaurant Staff" awards are a testament to the taste and quality of their menu, as well as the welcoming environment. Bonnie is in charge of everything related to the food, and Betty handles the finances and everything related to the front of the restaurant. Of course, they offer take-out and offsite catering is a specialty. Bonnie has planned some special additions for the holidays, including full family dinners with stuffing, smothered chicken, seafood gumbo and other fixins.

Bonnie B's Smokin' Barbeque Heaven is located at 1280 N. Lake Avenue, Pasadena 91104 and their phone number is (626) 794-0132. Visit www.bonniebssmokin.com for their menu and other details.

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HOWARD Hays
As I See It



We've had time to try and make sense of the election results. Now we'll try and make sense of the Republicans. The list of mid-term results over forty years that Susan offered last week shows voters re-electing presidents after having given a House majority to the opposition only two years' prior. This could mean voters agree with an administration's goals, but are impatient to achieve them. Maybe there's discomfort in having one-party dominance over two branches of government. Or, it could be a sign of Republicans' success in realizing that enough voters will fall for the same spiel, campaign after campaign, no matter how discredited by the historical record.

The goal of the Republican leadership is to serve those who bought them their seats, and continue the most dramatic redistribution of wealth since the 1920s. As Ronald Reagan's former Budget Director David Stockman explained on CBS News' 60 MINUTES, "In 1985, the top five percent of the households, wealthiest five percent, had net worth of \$8 trillion, which is a lot. Today, after serial bubble after serial bubble, the top five percent have net worth of \$40 trillion . . . The top five percent have gained more wealth than the whole human race had created prior to 1980." This, while the other 95% remained stagnant, or fell backwards. He notes that this year's Wall Street bonuses, awarded those who two years ago wiped out the savings of millions of the less-exalted, are announced at \$144 billion - the highest in history. The Bush tax cuts "should be extended for everyone, especially for the upper end where lower taxes translate directly into new investment of capital which translates into jobs!", wrote Greg last week. The Wall Street Journal stated that "high taxes interfere with natural human creativity and drive". That was thirty years ago, just prior to the first Reagan tax cuts.

Shareholders did fine in the 1980s, but blue-collar wages sunk, with median family income stagnant. The dynamic in our economy changed from the postwar model of shared prosperity to wealth funneled to the top 5%. Two incomes became necessary for a middle-class household. By 1983 we had the largest peacetime deficit in history. Relative to the size of the economy, both net investment and savings dropped.

To partially make up the difference, Reagan turned to the middle class and hiked payroll (FICA) taxes. The rich got a huge break in the 1980s; the bottom 40% ended up paying a higher tax rate in 1988 than they did in 1980.

By the time George W. Bush took office, Republicans were confident that because of short memories, voters would again fall for the tax-cuts-mean-jobs line. Bush doubled down on the Reagan tax cuts, hedge fund managers used the windfall to gamble on foreign currencies and bet on the failure of collateralized securities, while private equity firms closed factories, parted out the remains and sent jobs overseas. The rest of us suffered the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

Lest we forget, businesses hire not because of tax cuts, but because of middle-class customers with money in their pockets to buy the goods and services those business offer. When all the wealth goes to those who already have plenty, those customers won't be there. So why do Republicans argue that adding \$700 billion to the deficit to lavish more breaks on the richest 2% would bring a result clearly at odds with the historical record? Because their corporate sponsors expect them to, and consultants advise that enough of us are dumb enough to fall for the argument yet again.

It's hard to make sense of the fact that while polls show voters' main concerns are jobs and the economy, Republicans appear to believe we're most concerned about preserving the right of insurance bureaucrats to override decisions made between ourselves and our doctors, and to drop kids from coverage once they smell a "pre-existing condition". As quoted in the San Bernardino Sun, Rep. David Dreier suggests insurance companies have recently raised premiums because of health care legislation that won't be fully enacted for another 3-4 years. He'd probably suggest the increases we've seen over the past forty years since the HMO act was passed under Nixon can also be blamed on "Obamacare".

"We will be pursuing the reform ideas that we believe actually will bring down costs - tort reform, the ability to purchase insurance across state lines, and the creation of small business pools - and we hope that President Obama will give them a second look", says Dreier. As pointed out by Ezra Klein of the Washington Post, the "four planks" of the House Republican Conference (the three mentioned by Dreier along with enabling states to enact their own reforms) have already been given that "second look", and were in fact incorporated in the Senate bill. According to the Senate HELP Committee, the final bill included 161 Republican amendments, the product of "six bipartisan working groups" that "met a combined 72 times" and "30 bipartisan hearings on health care reform" since 2007.

As far as "bringing down costs", we can look at where "tort reform" has already been tried. In Texas, studies show that although there was a drop in malpractice premiums, insurance premiums for consumers continued to rise - in some cases at a higher rate than in areas that hadn't enacted the "reform".

It's hard to make sense of Rep. Dreier, and Republican colleagues, repeating talking points advocating "ideas" be incorporated into legislation that already incorporates them, or hoping to "bring down costs" with measures that have been shown to have the opposite effect.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, David Dreier raised \$1,008,978 over the last election cycle in what is considered a "safe" district. He's collected nearly \$600,000 over the past ten years from the health, insurance and pharmaceutical industries for his services.

Now it's starting to make sense.

Indirect Effects

There's no real need to focus on the results of the 2010 elections, but there is a fairly important campaign issue that warrants some serious attention. The focus in this election was overwhelmingly on jobs and the economy. Nationally and statewide, voters were trying to decide who would do the best to create more jobs, and often times their thinking was muddled by the false and deceptive claims of the candidates.

Carla Fiorina was defeated, at least to some extent, because it was claimed she "shipped jobs overseas". Likewise, many voted Democratic because they believed that more stimulus and government spending would create jobs and improve the economy. These are two sides of the same coin and evidence a misunderstanding of what really creates jobs.

Let's take the case of government spending and the stimulus, since it's the easier one to dissect. While true that government spending can create a job, it is not at all true that government spending will create more jobs than it destroys. In other words, the net effect of government spending is at least neutral, if not negative, in how many new jobs it creates.

To understand this, let's look at a simple example to illustrate both the direct and the indirect effects. Say that Uncle Sam decides to buy more computers for one of its offices. It places the contract with HP or Dell, and that company likely will have to ramp up employment to meet the new demand. The money it receives goes in large part to paying the salaries of the new workers.

But the government has to get that money from someone, either in the form of taxing someone or borrowing from someone. Well, if the government giving money to a computer manufacturer creates a job here, doesn't it stand to reason that the government taking money from someone eliminates a job there? You see, the person who is taxed would have spent that dollar somewhere. Whether the person was going to visit a restaurant, buy a car or paint his house, he was going to spend it somewhere. Wherever the money would have been spent would have sustained a job at the restaurant, car dealership or paint store. But since that money has been taken by the government, the person will no longer be able to spend it and there will be a job loss at the restaurant, car dealership or paint store.

You can't have this both ways. You can't argue that government spending creates jobs but somehow government taxation doesn't decrease a job. This is a fairly common error in economics. It's easy to make because we all tend to see the direct effects and forget about the indirect effects. The press doesn't help matters either. They typically send a camera crew to the new or expanding computer manufacturing facility, and we all see more people walking into their new jobs. But the camera crew can't possibly show up where the job is lost, because nobody knows where that is. The person who was taxed doesn't announce to the world or even tell the IRS on his tax form where he was going to spend the dollar that was just taxed away. The analysis isn't changed if the government borrows instead of taxes to get its money. Money taken away in either form decreases employment somewhere.

Because we don't see the indirect effects, many of us think that government spending increases employment and thus boosts the economy. It doesn't do either of these. The only thing government spending does is to

GREG Welborn



shift a job from one place to another at the whim of the government.

Now let's turn our attention to the claim leveled against Carly Fiorina. Somehow, she conspired to ship jobs overseas by deciding to have some components made in China instead of in the U.S. Here again, though, we are blinded by the direct effects and can't see the indirect effect. The bottom line is that Carly couldn't decrease employment in the U.S. if she wanted to. The direct effect of making parts in China is pretty obvious. Someone in China gets a job to make the part, and the news crew can easily film it. It's also true that someone who was making the parts in the U.S. is now out of a job. So much for the direct effects. But there is so much more to consider. First of all, Carly Fiorina must have saved money by making this decision or she wouldn't have made it, right? So instead of giving \$100 to someone in the U.S. to make a part, she's now giving \$80 to someone in China to make the same part. But Carly still has \$20 left over and will spend that somewhere. Perhaps she will now go to another restaurant or buy another car or paint her house again. Whatever she chooses to do with the \$20, it's going to increase employment somewhere in the U.S. We just don't know where, but at this level of the analysis, it's not \$100 of employment that's left the U.S., it's only \$80.

So what, you're probably saying. There's still a net job loss in the U.S., right? Wrong! Ask yourself the following question, why would someone in China accept \$80 in U.S. currency to work all day to make a part for Carly Fiorina? The answer is that they will eventually use the \$80 to buy something in the U.S., or they will trade it to someone else in China who intends to buy something in the U.S. Whether the \$80 comes back immediately or goes to the Bank of China who lends it out to someone else who uses it to buy something American, the fact remains that the \$80 will come back into the U.S. And when it does, a job will be created. We don't know where. Perhaps China Airlines will use it to buy airplanes from Boeing. We can't possibly know where it will go, but we do know that it has to come back. The direct effect is obvious. The indirect effect is almost impossible to see, but it's always there. Jobs are lost somewhere, but jobs are gained somewhere else. The net effect is not negative. Carly Fiorina could no more prevent the money from coming back into the U.S. than fly to the moon, and she therefore couldn't possibly ship jobs overseas.

The last point to leave you with, however, is the efficiency factor. The examples above are not simply equal trades between jobs somewhere in the U.S. and somewhere else in the U.S. The simple fact is that when governments spend money, they typically waste it, needing more money to get stuff done than if the money had been left in private hands. So, for those who believe in more stimulus or more government spending, you're actually getting less every time you give the government more.

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

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CITY OF SIERRA MADRE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of Ordinance 1312, establishing Sierra Madre water rates for Fiscal Years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15.

DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 23, 2010
(Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

PLACE OF HEARING

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

At the Public Hearing, the City Council will hear and consider oral and written testimony from any person interested in the proposed Ordinance.

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Publisher/ Editor
Susan Henderson

City Editor
Dean Lee

Sales
Patricia Colonello
626-355-2737
626-818-2698

Art Director
Allison Kirkham

Production Assistant
Richard Garcia

Photography
Jacqueline Truong
Lina Johnson

Contributors
Teresa Baxter
Pat Birdsall
Bob Eklund
Howard Hays
Paul Carpenter
Stuart Tolchin
Kim Clymer-Kelley
Christopher Nyerger
Peter Dills
Hail Hamilton
Rich Johnson
Chris Bertrand
Mary Carney
La Quetta Shamblee
Glenn Lambdin
Greg Wellborn
Ralph McKnight
Trish Collins
Pat Ostrye

Editorial Cartoonist
Ann Cleaves
Webmaster
John Avery

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Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

Mountain Views News
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl. #327
Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
Phone: 626-355-2737
Fax: 626-609-3285
email:
mtnewsnews@aol.com

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.

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



HOW TO SAVE THE WORLD

I think I may have learned something new this weekend. I have always been unsure as to how to evaluate the quality of experiences. How do I know if something is good or bad? Was watching a movie or reading a book really a good use of time? Well, after this weekend I think I am a little closer to being able to answer these questions.

On Friday night my wife and I saw the Clint Eastwood movie entitled 'Hereafter'. The movie begins with a long segment which dramatizes the experience of being caught in a tsunami. For me the sequence was extraordinary. It does not involve explosions or obvious special effects. Instead I am presented with a beautiful, peaceful scene of an ocean resort. Far away I glimpse a huge wave forming which keeps coming towards me but remains at a distance. I see destruction but it is still far away; but the wave keeps coming and it is frightening. I see a woman and a child notice the approaching wave and experience the wave from their point of view. The woman takes the child's hand and they both run from the relentlessly oncoming water. They run; desperately they run harder and harder and it feels as if I am them. Really now I am not watching; but instead I am also running from the wave. I cannot get away and the water overtakes the woman and the child and me and we are no longer able to hold on to the little girl. Eventually we escape the water and I watch as a kind of CPR is performed upon the woman who eventually breathes again. I feel as if I, too, have experienced the tsunami and I am changed.

As I watch the rest of the film I am aware that something within me is different. I think of all the tragedies going on that I usually read about but do not feel. Now I feel the pain of loss and suffering. I am more vulnerable, less secure but somehow more alive. One of the themes of the movies is how the woman in the film is changed by the experience. She can no longer lead her life in the same way and she continues to anguish over the welfare of the lost little girl. What was important before now seems insignificant and she begins to lead a different kind of life.

On Saturday morning I am directed by a friend to a video dealing with attempts at creating

what amounts to a virtual boy in cyberspace. This virtual person is an individual created by its interaction with the viewer. Early in the video the virtual boy encounters a snail. He asks the viewer if it is okay to step on the snail and crush it. I am instructed that my answer to this question will be all important in forming the moral sense of the virtual boy and will strongly influence the type of person he will become. He can be told that hurting other living creatures is not acceptable or he can be told to go ahead and crush the snail. He can even be told to make up his own mind and that no one really is watching what he does. The video explains that the ultimate decision will affect what amounts to the brain structure of this virtual boy although the consequences cannot be exactly predicted; but the interactions together with the modeling presented by significant others such as me are the creator of this new person. Seeing this video had a startling effect upon me. Much like viewing 'Hereafter' I realized I was affected by viewing the video. I had always wondered what happens to all the beautiful and joyful toddlers that I see being attended to by their not so beautiful and definitely not joyful parents. The video helped me to understand that what happens to the toddlers is something called life. It is the interaction with significant others and the models presented to these vulnerable little people which impact strongly upon who they will become. It should not be a surprise that so many of us turn out to be very similar to our parents.

Actually, each of us impacts upon everyone with whom we come into contact. In this way EACH OF US CREATES THE FUTURE by affecting everyone else's development along with our own. Perhaps our greatest contribution to the world is a continuing attempt to live and model an aware life. A life lived consistent with our own values while understanding that often our values change as we experience more of life. That's how we save the world, by allowing ourselves to still be moved and to gain new understanding. Maybe we don't have to be overtaken by a tsunami but we cannot allow ourselves to hide in a shell and refuse to experience the sufferings and joys of others. At least that's what I think I learned this weekend.

HAIL Hamilton My Turn



Regardless of Prop 19 Loss, Legalization is Now Mainstream

I'll admit I was disappointed with the loss of Proposition 19. But it's not the first

time, and I'm sure it won't be the last time, I've watched helpless as voters have voted against their best interests. Yet despite losing this time, a page in history has turned -- drug policy reform is an issue whose time has come, and time is on the side of reformers.

Prop 19, the marijuana legalization "Tax and Regulate" initiative, has been a roller coaster ride for drug policy reformers since it was introduced. In May polls showed Prop 19 in the lead, but not by much and with support under 50%. For the next four months, the numbers did something we didn't expect; opposition to the measure steadily decreased. One pollster said in early October, "If I was in Las Vegas and I was a betting man, I'd bet on Prop 19 to win, but I'd only bet money I could afford to lose." A number of high rollers took that bet last month, adding big bucks to what had been a mostly low-profile grassroots campaign.

The last few weeks have seen support for Prop 19 steadily fall in most polls, a phenomenon common to any controversial ballot measure. Voters might support the general concept of an initiative -- west coast support for marijuana legalization polled 58% in the final week of the campaign -- but some inevitably develop doubts about a given initiative at a given time, especially as opponents raise questions, and when uncertain voters tend to pull the "no" lever.

The reason Prop 19 was defeated was not opposition in principal to legalization, it was the last minute scare campaign beginning just after President Obama's speech condemning the proposition. Perhaps the defeat was inevitable. But last-minute anti-Prop 19 donations funding an ad blitz, and the less than expected voter turnout, turned the tide of what had seemed like a winner into a loser. One late poll, while showing the initiative behind, also found voters who don't usually turn out for midterm elections coming out for Prop 19.

Unfortunately projections that the marijuana vote could change election day demographics didn't pan out. Voter turnout, though relatively high for a midterm election, was not enough to overcome the controversy generated by Prop 19.

Losing, though, in a sense Prop 19 has really won. A partial listing of mainstream organizations that have publicly called for marijuana legalization for the first time by endorsing Prop 19, shows that legalization can no longer be dismissed as from the fringe:

California NAACP
LULAC of California
Latino Voters League
National Black Police Association
National Latino Officers Association
SEIU of California
UFCW Western States Council
ILWU Northern California District Council
California Young Democrats

Those are only some of the larger ones. Current and former politicians in California endorsed Prop 19, from the local level up through Congress. Founders of Facebook, Gmail and PayPal, together with millions of individuals, made financial contributions to the campaign. Widespread positive coverage including editorials in the likes of Newsweek and the New York Times (not to mention the MountainViews News) have made the point, too.

While we didn't bring in enough votes this election to pass Prop 19, we are proud of the tremendous wave of support we received. There are millions of people in California and across the country who are prepared to help finish the job they started here when we come back to the polls stronger than ever in 2012. The fact that 3,412,387 Californians voted to legalize marijuana is a tremendous victory. We have broken the glass ceiling. Prop 19 has changed the terms of the debate.

The fight for drug reform and marijuana legalization continues. In the coming months, reformers will publish and distribute periodic updates on marijuana policy, introducing some of our most vital partner organizations, and providing opportunities for online and offline advocacy so you can stay active and engaged in this movement. So please stay tuned.

We didn't get the result we wanted this time around, but it's clearer than ever to me that it's no longer a matter of if we'll end marijuana prohibition -- it's simply a matter of when.

Editor's Note: The Mountain Views News did not endorse Proposition 19.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The impact of election 2010 goes far deeper than which party controls the House or the Senate. The incivility and tone of the 2010 campaign reached a disturbingly new low in American politics. Not only was this evident in the advertising, but we also saw it in candidate debates and forums and in the public discourse. Voters were overwhelmed by millions of dollars in negative ads but didn't know who paid for many of them.

This election demonstrated the critical need to improve our governmental structures. Because of the failure of Congress to act, there are no disclosure requirements governing the huge amounts of money that the Supreme Court recently turned loose in American politics. Voters don't know if their elected officials are in Washington to serve the public interest or the special interests. Congress must pass the DISCLOSE Act which would restore transparency to U.S. elections by requiring disclosure of corporate and union spending in candidate elections.

"Our democracy belongs to people -- not special interests," says Elisabeth MacNamara, president

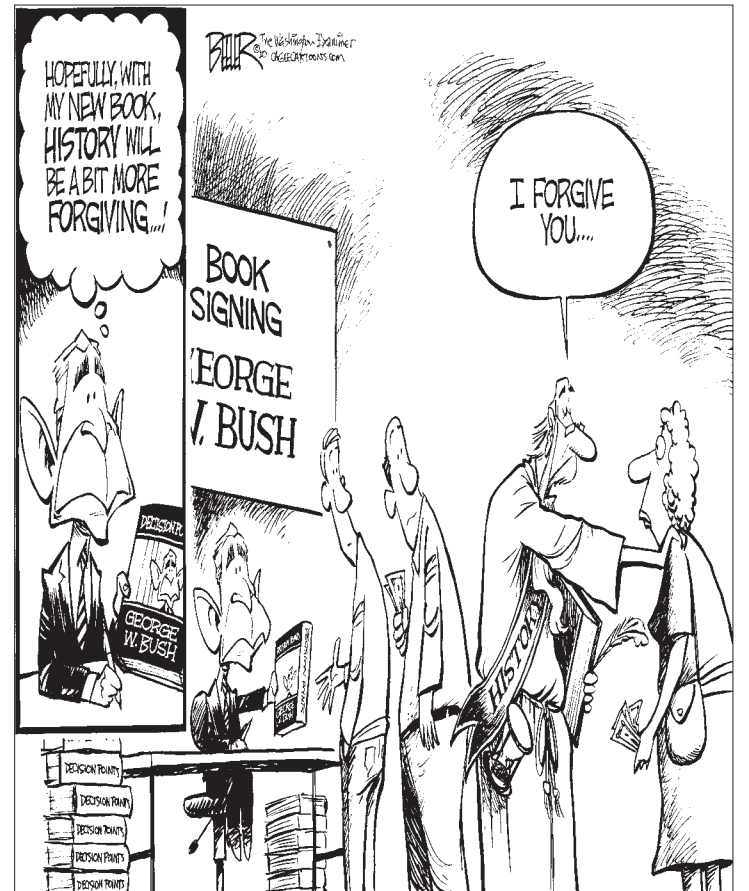
of the National League of Women Voters. "The League of Women Voters strongly urges Senators to support quick action to enact the

DISCLOSE Act this year." Voters, not money, should be at the center of our democracy. The challenges we face together in our towns and in our nation, will require our continued vigilance. As a leader of the Pasadena Area League of Women Voters, I work year-round to safeguard democracy and improve civility at all levels of government. As the League's work continues, I invite others in the community to commit to civic improvement by joining the League. Together we can keep our community strong, healthy, and vibrant.

Further information is available on the internet: www.lwvpasadenaarea.org The League office at 1353 N. Hill Ave., Pasadena, is open weekdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Information also is available by calling 626-798-0965 during those same hours.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Pine, President
League of Women Voters
Pasadena Area



What DO You Think?

We'd like to hear from you!

Contact us at:

editor@mtnewsnews.com

or



www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews

This week astronomers from twelve countries will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI) by beginning a coordinated series of observations of several nearby stars—including two stars that were the target of the first search.

To demonstrate the advances in SETI over the past half century, on November 5, astronomers in Australia, Japan, and Korea began coordinated observations for radio and laser signals from civilizations circling these stars, followed over the next day by SETI searches in Italy, the Netherlands, France, Argentina, and the United States. More international observations will take place later this month.

The first SETI experiment, Project Ozma, was conducted in April 1960 by astronomer Frank Drake, now at the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California. Project Ozma—named after the book “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz”—listened for radio signals from extraterrestrial civilizations and started a new field of science. To commemorate this first search and the advances in SETI science and technology over the past half century, astronomer Shin-ya Narusawa of Nishi-Harima Astronomical Observatory in Japan launched Project Dorothy, named after the heroine of

the same story.

“It is thrilling for me to witness the beginnings of Project Dorothy, the continuation of my search of fifty years ago,” said Drake. “To have so many talented people using so many telescopes in this new search, with the electronics and computer equipment of today, is a joyful thing to me. The equipment of today is far better than what we could have fifty years ago, and will result in both very much better and very much more data than could be obtained then.”


“Two of the original stars from Project Ozma—Tau Ceti and Epsilon Eridani—are the nearest solar-type stars visible in the northern hemisphere,” explained Narusawa. “Therefore, these two stars were the best SETI targets a half century ago. They remain the symbol of project Ozma and are two of the target stars for Project Dorothy,” he added. “But astronomy has improved over the last five decades, and about five hundred planets have been discovered around other stars. Some of these stellar systems have planets located the right distance from their stars to support life. We also included such stars among the targets of Project Dorothy.”

“Project Dorothy vividly demonstrates just how far SETI has come in the past fifty years,” said the SETI

Institute’s Douglas Vakoch, who is a member of Project Dorothy’s Working Group. “Astronomers can now do SETI research at observatories from South Africa to the Netherlands, from Argentina to India, from Japan to Italy, as well as from the longstanding American projects at the SETI Institute, the University of California at Berkeley, and Harvard University. The lessons learned through Project Dorothy provide critical preparation for the day we finally detect a signal from another civilization,” Vakoch explained.


Because of the daily rotation of the Earth, many stars are visible for only a portion of the day from a single observatory. “By learning how to coordinate international SETI observations now, we’ll be better prepared to track a signal continuously, around the world, after first contact,” he said.

“Over the past fifty years our searches have not yet produced the discovery we all hope for,” said Drake. “This is understandable—in our vast and awesome universe it will take long, painstaking, and comprehensive searches before we will have a good chance of success. This is the major lesson learned from previous searches. Project Dorothy is



a major step in meeting the challenge created by this lesson.”

Contact Bob Eklund at: b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com.



Ask jai.....

Ask jai is a weekly column that will strive to honestly answer your job search questions relating to job searching techniques, networking skills, resume writing and interviewing. The employment situation is getting better, however, it is still a challenge finding where the jobs are located and how to get pass the “gate-keepers”. As an Executive Recruiter I was privy to working directly with Corporate Recruiters and understanding their process in selecting which candidates to interview and hire. I will candidly answer your questions, possibly bluntly answering your questions, but I will be totally honest. My objective is to help you achieve your employment goal.

Q: What are the right steps to take when I see a position posted on the internet that I would really like to do but I do not meet all the requirements? I Want That Job

Dear “I Want That Job”,

Ask yourself if this a great position that I would like to do or is this a great position that I really can do? “Can do” are the operative words. Many job seekers make emotional decisions when seeking employment rather than logical decisions as for which positions they really do have the skill sets, education or experience when submitting their resume or application. Employers base their candidate selections on logic. Their logic is to find and hire a person who meets all of their requirements and qualifications. I advise you to review the job description line by line and check off every line that you actually have the experience, skills and education that match the job description. If you check off over 80% of the line items then I would say that you might have a good chance of being contacted by the employer for an interview. But keep in mind the employer is really looking for a 100% match. However, nothing is impossible or set in concrete. Let’s say you only checked off 50% or less of the job description line items and you still want to apply for the position, then go for it! These are some steps that you could take if you really feel passionate about pursuing a position for which you do not meet the employers’ entire requirements.

(1) Write a dynamite cover letter that will

highlight your skills and experience that you feel will add value to their organization.

(2) Telephone the organization and ask to speak to the hiring manger for that position or the Human Resource Department. Be prepared to be really aggressive in telling them why you feel that you are the right fit for the position.

(3) Expand your network of contacts and find someone who works for the organization and ask them for a referral. It takes a considerable amount of time to find employment which matches your interest, experience, skills and education. I highly recommend that you spend your job search time effectively seeking and applying for positions for which you meet all of the employer’s requirements and qualifications.

Q: What are the best ways to prepare for an interview? Marsha

Dear Marsha,

Employers only contact people who they feel are the right match for their position. Anyone who gets scheduled for interview is already approximately 50% in the door. However, this is where a lot of job seekers blow it. Prepare for an interview by getting to “know thy self”. Review your resume and develop talking points that relate to your accomplishments and work experience. Work on your listening skills so that you answer only the questions that the interviewer is asking. Research, research, research. Find out all about the company, the product or services they provide. Relax, focus and be very positive.

KATIE TseThis and That ?

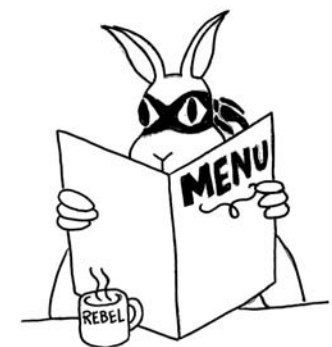


Are you a food conformist or make it yourself at home. Last week one of my coworker friends was

MENU NONCONFORMISTS

are you a menu renegade? Perhaps you’ve never spent [or wasted] time considering it, but there’s a definite continuum of pickiness upon which everyone falls when ordering food. For example, some people need to know whether their chicken was free range, and if the vegetables in their salad are organic and locally grown. Some folks (like me) don’t necessarily care about their food’s pedigree, but have ideas about how the chef could make this dish better... or at least better in my opinion. “Could I have the almonds on the side?” (They’re good, but I have a figure to watch.) “And could I please get the onions grilled?” (Who wants to be tasting onion for the rest of the day?) These are a few of the requests I’m guilty of making.

Other people feel it’s the customer’s duty to eat whatever is brought from the kitchen, and to be mum about it. These people could walk into a restaurant and tell their waiter, “Surprise me” Members of this group get particularly annoyed by people in the previous categories, arguing that if you want your food “just so,” then you should



telling me about going to dinner at one of the restaurants I frequent. “So we were with my husband’s friends,” she said. “And the wife had all these questions about whether she could get the lunch portion, and if she could have brown rice instead of the pilaf, and if they could steam the vegetables instead of sauté them. I was ready to scream!” I nodded sympathetically.

“And what’s worse,” she continued, “is that our waitress was tied up on the phone for a long time with someone who wanted their fish cooked special, a bunch of things on the side, and a different dressing.” “What a nut!” I said, realizing that I had ordered dinner from that restaurant on the same night she was there.

Well, my friend might’ve unknowingly disclosed her status as a “Surprise me” restaurant go-er, but I thought it best not to mention that it was probably me on the other end of the line that night. Good thing she didn’t see me when I came to pick it up.

“By the way, what do you get when you go there?” she asked. I tried to think of something that didn’t involve fish or dressing. “Just their regular burger,” I fibbed. “See,” she said with finality, “I don’t understand why people can’t be like us and just order off the menu!”

The holiday season is approaching quickly and many of us will be shopping online. Estimates are that in one day alone last year --Cyber Monday on December 1 (the cyber version of Black Friday)--\$846 million was spent in online shopping. With the increased volume of online shopping, it’s important that consumers understand the potential security risks and know how to protect themselves and their information. The following tips are provided to help promote a safe, secure online shopping experience.

Secure your computer. Make sure your computer has the latest security updates installed. Check that your anti-virus/anti-spyware software is running and receiving automatic updates. If you haven’t already done so, install a firewall before you begin your online shopping.

Upgrade your browser. Upgrade your Internet browser to the most recent version available. Review the browser’s security settings. Apply the highest level of security available that still gives you the functionality you need.

Ignore pop-up messages. Set your browser to block pop-up messages. If you do receive one, click on the “X” at the top right corner of the title bar to close the pop-up message. NEVER click on a pop-up! If you are interested in what the pop-up is promoting, go to the website on your own, not through the link in the pop-up. Legitimate companies do not use pop-ups.

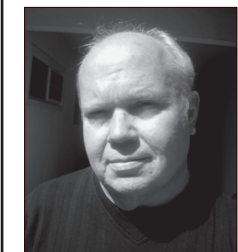
Secure your transactions. Look for the “lock” icon on the browser’s status bar and be sure “https” appears in the website’s address bar before making an online purchase. The “s” stands for “secure” and indicates that the webpage is encrypted. Some browsers can be set to warn the user if they are submitting information that is not encrypted.

Use strong passwords. Create strong passwords for online accounts. Use at least eight characters, with numbers, special characters, and upper and lower case letters. Don’t use the same passwords for online shopping websites that you use for logging onto your home or work computer. Never share your login and/or password.

Do not e-mail sensitive data. Never e-mail credit card or other financial/sensitive information. E-mail is like sending a postcard

RICH Johnson

More Help For Guys



In my continuing effort to improve the quality of relationships worldwide, I offer some new awareness of how men might continue to make the significant woman (or women) in life happy as clams.

Fellas, there is a point system hitherto unknown to most men. Do something she likes and you get points. Dislikes subtracts points. Something she expects nets you zero. Here is a guide to this point system:

Make the bed (+1), forget the decorative pillow (0), throw the bedspread over rumpled sheets (-1).

Buy her something she wants (+5), in the rain (+10), return with beer (-5).

Stay by her side during a party (0), leave to chat with an old school friend (-2), if the friends name is Tina (-10), if Tina is a dancer (-20).

You take your wife out to dinner (+2), not to a sports bar (+3). If it’s a sports bar (-2), if it’s all you can eat (-3), if it’s all you can eat and your face is painted the colors of your favorite team (-10). Take her to a movie (+1), it’s a movie she likes (+3), if it’s a movie you hate (+6), if it’s a movie you like (-2), called “Death Cop” (-3).

You develop a potbelly (-15), you exercise till its gone (+10) you cover it up with baggy jeans and Hawaiian shirt (-30), you say, “it doesn’t matter cause you have one too.” (-8000).

She asks, “Do I look fat?” (-5) (btw, there is no way you can get plus points in this discussion), any hesitation in responding (-10), you reply, “where?” (-35). Any other response (-20).

She wants to discuss a problem and you listen looking concerned (0), you listen for over 30 minutes (+5), you listen for 30 minutes without looking at the TV (+500), you fall asleep (-4000).

On a political note, George W. Bush is on a speaking tour promoting his new book. I want to publicly credit and acknowledge him showing class in two areas. First, he is openly and candidly admitting to mistakes made during his presidency. And second, he is refusing to throw stones or make negative comments about President Obama. That’s classy and a spirit we could all strive to have.

One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them* Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand



Chris Bertrand

Always An Adventure in Finding Unique Home Remodel Bargains: Habitat's ReStores

Recently, I had the opportunity to tour the newest ReStores serving the San Gabriel Valley, Habitat for Humanity. Located in Azusa on 410 S. Irwindale, this is the second location for our local chapter of the wonderful charitable organization, known the world over for building simple homes in partnership with families in need.

The chapter's Monrovia homes completed in 2010 took some problem properties prone to unsavory activities, razed them and built a complex of four homes. Habitat employed a cadre of volunteers and donors, sweat equity from the four selected families and the support of the city of Monrovia.



Other San Gabriel Valley projects have been completed in Glendale, Pasadena, El Monte and Duarte, with a new project for "Brush with Kindness" minor remodels, planned for several Temple City and Azusa residences expected in the near future.

ReStores manager, Bill Anderson, runs a tight ship of employees and volunteers at both the Azusa location and the original Pasadena location, who happily pick up donations of construction materials, new and used but serviceable, home maintenance items, appliances plus some furniture in their recently acquired panel truck with a lift, great for loading those heavy, awkward items. The Habitat construction projects get first "dibs" on donations that come in to RESTORE, thereby reducing the materials costs for the homes they build or remodel. From what doesn't get sequestered for Habitat construction, the basic construction materials, drywall, lumber, etc. goes the fastest. Items are regularly donated from builders, contractors, home remodelers and retailers with overstocks, and



this is a great, green alternative to landfill fees for saleable items that can be re-used.

ReStore is a place for "finds" of all manner of tile, old and new doors and windows... Think... "Golly gee, that new window we ordered doesn't actually fit!" Sprinkler and plumbing parts, ceiling fans, lighting fixtures, flooring of all kinds, bath vanities, cabinetry, counter tops, door and pulls and handles, locks, and more. It's best to allow time to browse and be inspired.

On the afternoon I toured the Azusa facility with assistant manager Eric Bridges, ReStores staff was busy unloading television donations from a local Marriott hotel, after the property changed to flat screens. In many cases, as quickly as something is unloaded and priced, savvy buyers purchase and haul it out the front door. In another part of the clean and well organized store, Ellen DeGeneres had donated some items that were left over from audience giveaways at her show, including small household items and gadgets.

I always make a habit of stopping at the ReStore when I'm headed to Costco in Azusa. It's just down the road, using the same Irwindale freeway exit off the I-210. And if you've tired of Costco hot dogs and frozen yogurt, one of the few restaurants in Irwindale is worth a stop, too. Picasso's Café at 6070 N Irwindale Ave #A (www.picassoscafe.com/), is located in the heart of an office park with only minor signage. It is one of those places that are hidden treasures. Everything is made from scratch there, including the baking. Get there early in the lunch hour if you want one of the awesome daily specials, or after 1 p.m. if you're not fond of crowds of happy business diners. I find it's always better to shop for that special "find" on a full stomach!

Habitat for Humanity's ReStores are located at 410 South Irwindale Avenue in Azusa, 91702 (626-387-6900) and at 770 North Fair Oaks Avenue in Pasadena, 91103 (626-792-3838). Both stores are open Monday-Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, to volunteer or donate to this not-for profit organization, visit their website at www.SGVhabitat.org.

CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC AND REAL ESTATE SUMMIT

The real estate community and the public are invited to attend the Fifth Annual Economic and Real Estate Summit scheduled for Thursday, November 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Road in Arcadia. The forecast will be presented by Robert Kleinhenz, Ph.D., Deputy Chief Economist for the California Association of REALTORS. A continental breakfast will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Kleinhenz will discuss what lies ahead for the future real estate market. Will there be more changes in the market? What will happen to all the foreclosed properties? You will receive pertinent information regarding the current and future outlook of residential real estate and trends that could change that outlook. Come and hear about this and much more regarding residential properties.

The event is sponsored by the Arcadia Association of REALTORS Education Committee and is free for Arcadia Association REALTOR and Affiliate Members. All city officials receive complimentary registration. Registration for members of the public is \$10 paid by check or credit card. Pre-registration is required. Call (626) 446-2115 to reserve your place.

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Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed
by Luther Tsinoglou

SHORT SALES GET A TUNE-UP

Federal foreclosure-prevention tactics have recently been expanded to encourage delinquent borrowers to avoid foreclosure by streamlining the short sale process. Cash incentives are also being offered to the homeowners, as well as to the lenders and the buyers.

Perhaps the best feature of the new legislation requires the lenders to advise the sellers what their minimum acceptable price is before listing the home for sale. Then if the sellers secure an offer for the agreed price, the lender must accept it within 10 days.

This speeds up the short sale process tremendously, since the lender is also required to consult with local real estate agents in order to determine a fair price. Of course, "fair" is a relative term here, because in a short sale, the bank is agreeing to sell the property for less than the total amount due on the mortgage.

However, it is definitely in the lender's best

interest to expedite a short sale instead of allowing the home to foreclose, because on average, the bank loses 50% on a foreclosure, but only 30% on a short sale.

These new standardized procedures, called the Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternatives Program (HAFA), is a new option for homeowners who have been unsuccessful under existing programs. If you're facing default, I strongly urge you to contact a real estate agent today to discuss the alternatives.

Luther Tsinoglou has just been named the top producing sales agent in Dickson Podley Realtor's Sierra Madre office for 2009, making the top 10% at the company overall. Luther has been licensed and practicing real estate since 1992. He specializes in residential and income property in Southern California. Luther can be reached at his direct line (626) 695-8650 or at luther@tsinoglou.com.

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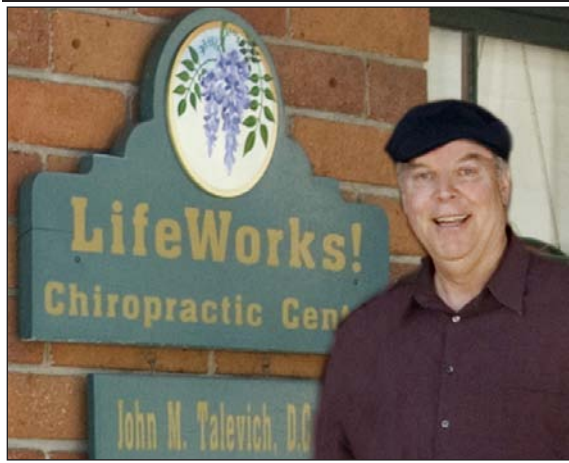
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YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Today's Subject: ESSENTIALS



Dr. John Talevich, D.C. has practiced in Sierra Madre for thirty years. His clinic, LifeWorks! Chiropractic, offers patient-specific approaches to the alleviation of pain and individually tailored wellness programs.

Think about it: Health problems most often arise from either 1) a deficiency of some kind where the body's functional requirements are not met (ie. trace mineral deficiencies from depleted soils) or 2) from an excessive intake of substances such as non-nutrient foods (sodas, refined sugars, caffeine and the like) which can build up in the body and interfere with normal function. Over time, poor nutrient availability, along with toxic congestion, contributes to the development of chronic illness. If we keep this simple, elegant model in mind when we seek to resolve our own health problems, we will experience less confusion with information that we encounter.

A well-armed, informed consumer is going to be aware of this simple directive when it comes to resolving health issues: Lifestyle

changes first, natural therapies second, and drugs/surgery last. More often than not, it's the other way around, with serious side-effects, including death, being the outcome.

Simply put: Are we getting the correct nutrients for optimal body function? Are we taking in too much "stuff" the body cannot use, that may be harmful?

Whenever we reach for a medication as a first choice, we are essentially blocking the body's message network, ignoring the engine warning light. Instead, let's ask ourselves, "What is my body telling me? Do I need to get more sleep? Should eliminate a particular food from my diet? Am I carrying around anger and resentment?" In other words, it is important to acknowledge our body's intelligence. Even if we seek help for a condition, it is important to maintain ownership of our bodies and selves, thus avoiding the tendency for others to be in charge of our lives. By choosing to empower ourselves through lifestyle first, natural therapies second, and drugs or surgery last, we are much more likely to be successful in our quest for good health.

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626-355-4710

Orthostatic Hypotension Screening

The Parkinson Support Group will have Neurosearch and The Hazel Hutchman Memorial Neuroscience Center providing a free health screening for Orthostatic Hypotension, or OH for short on Friday November 19 at 2:00pm. The screenings will take place at Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive and are for adults 50 years and over. According to the National Institute of Health, OH it is the #1 reason why Parkinson patients end up in the hospital. It is a significant fall risk; there is a significant drop in blood pressure when a person changes

positions. For example, going from lying down to standing up not enough blood gets to the brain and a person is at risk of falling and causing harm to themselves. The screening takes approximately 10 minutes; your blood pressure will be taken lying down and again when you stand up after a short duration of rest. There are only a limited number of OH screenings available so please call Arcadia Senior Services 626.574.5130 before November 12th to register. For additional information please call 626.574.5130

Don't Be a Victim - What You Need to Know About Senior Fraud!

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department in partnership with the Arcadia Police Department is offering a workshop for seniors on ways to protect themselves from becoming a victim of fraud. An old scam that preys primarily on the elderly, sometimes called the "Grandparent Scam", has found it way back to the area. In recent weeks, the Arcadia Police Department has taken a couple of reports on this type of scam, one of which involved an actual loss of money. Don't become the next victim! Sergeant Davis from the Arcadia Police Department will be talking to seniors on ways to protect themselves. Consumers lose billions of dollars each year to fraud. People over age 50 are especially vulnerable and account for over half of all victims, according to a study conducted by American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). People who commit these types of crimes, "con criminals," often

target older people knowing they have spent a lifetime earning their savings. Con criminals go wherever they can to find money to steal. They use everyday tools—the mailbox, the telephone, the Internet—to reach into your pocketbook. You can help educate your friends, parents, and others by becoming familiar with some of the more common scams and how they operate. Then share that information with others. The workshop will inform you on what to do if you have questions on how to handle a situation and also give you tips on what to do if an unfamiliar person approaches you at home. The workshop will be held at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007 on Tuesday, December 7th at 10am. Don't miss this event.... Very important information will be provided! For more information or to register, please call Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130.



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Gary R. White, DVM

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. MENU BELOW

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



Sponsor Bingo Prize

Pasadena Highlands, an independent and assisted living community, is proud to provide a special gift basket on the first Tuesday of each month. Accredited In-Home nursing care will provide a special prize on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Bingo takes place every Tuesday at 1:30 pm in the Hart Park House / Senior Center in Memorial Park. The game begins at 1:30 pm but those wishing to play must arrive 10 minutes before to secure your Bingo cards. Join us on the 1st & 4th Tuesday of each month for your chance to win these special prizes.

DIAL - A - RIDE TICKETS

Tickets can now be purchased at:

Sierra Madre City Hall
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Recipe of the Week:

PUMPKIN PANCAKES

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups biscuit mix
- 2 tbsps. brown sugar, firmly packed
- 2 tsps. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. ground allspice
- 1-1/2 cups evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup solid pack pumpkin
- 2 Tbsps. vegetable oil, more for skillet
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- butter, maple syrup or honey

DIRECTIONS:

Combine first 4 ingredients in a mixing bowl. Add remaining ingredients, except butter and maple syrup, and mix thoroughly with an electric mixer until smooth. Heat a heavy griddle or skillet over medium high heat. Lightly oil griddle and pour about 1/3 cup of batter per pancake. Cook until edges are dry and top is bubbly. Turn cakes and cook until golden. Serve with butter and maple syrup.

Sierra Madre DECEMBER EXCURSION - SOLD OUT-

Friday, December 17th - Christmas Show - 10:30 am to 4 pm at the Candlelight Pavilion Theatre in Claremont.

Cost per person is \$58.00 for lunch, show, transportation & tip. Waiting list is available for this excursion, please call 355-7394

November Birthdays:



Alberta Curran, Carmela Frontino, Lena Zate, Valerie Howard, Janice Kacer, Flo Mankin, Dollie Morant, Joan Ruggles, 'Mike' Ruggles, Lois Stueck, Jean Wood and Shirley Yergeau

Healthy Eating

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department in partnership with Royal Oaks Manor is offering a free cooking demonstration for adults, 50 years of age and older, "Simple Strategies for Healthy Holiday Eating." The class will be held at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive on Thursday, November 18 at 10:45am. At this presentation, participants will learn: *How to use the hunger scale to manage holiday eating *Balance Healthy eating while enjoying holiday treats *Modify recipes to create healthful holiday deserts The class will include recipes, food samples, nutrition information and a question and answer period with a Registered Dietician. For more information or to register, please call Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130.



Meals-On-Wheels

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

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

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Lunch Café — November Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Squash Soup & BBQ Pork Sandwich	2 Lentil Soup & Baked Chicken	3 Salmon or Stuffed Bell Pepper	4 Vegetable Soup & Burgundy Beef	5 Chicken Soup & Sub Sandwich
8 Tomato Soup & Turkey ala King	9 Soup & Salmon or Pork Chop	10 Navy Bean Soup & Roast Beef	11 Veterans Day Center Closed	12 Split Pea Soup & Hawaiian Chicken
15 Corn Soup & Oven Fried Chicken	16 Albondigas Soup & Tostada Salad	17 Beef Stew with Boiled Potatoes	18 Tomato Soup & Tuna Sandwiches	19 Broccoli Soup & Spaghetti
22 Soup & Hot Roast Beef Sandwich	23 Baked Ham & Sweet Potatoes	24 Thanksgiving meal Turkey & Corn-bread Stuffing	25 Closed Happy Thanksgiving	26 Center Closed
29 Navy Bean Soup & Salisbury Steak	30 Soup & Chinese Chicken Salad			Reservations, please call (626) 355-0256



What Does Your Putting Stroke and Green Reading Have in Common?

If I had an opportunity to stand up in front of the entire golf world and I was only allowed to say one sentence, what would it be? "EVERY PUTT IN GOLF IS A STRAIGHT PUTT"... Since I would only be allowed to say one sentence, maybe the powers to be would let me repeat myself, "EVERY PUTT IN GOLF IS A STRAIGHT PUTT".

If there is one thing that I am 100% sure of it is this. Most amateur golfers have acceptable putting strokes. Keep in mind that there are two parts to our sport. One part is in the air and the other is on the ground. The one on the ground (putting) is so precise at times that it can drive you up a wall. It is kind of like the Red Zone in football. You go 85 yards in two plays and then it takes four plays to go one yard. You hit a towering tee shot, followed up by the best 5 iron of your life, and then you 3 putt from 10 feet.



The reason I say acceptable putting strokes is because you don't do this for a living and the putting strokes that most of you have is good enough for you to shoot lower scores. The problem begins after you read a putt. This article is all about matching your putting stroke up with reading the green correctly.

No questions asked, the number one putting mistake that I see amateurs golfers make is they don't aim the putter where they want the ball to start. Most amateur golfers that struggle with their putting, aim the putter at the hole and then they either swing out-to-in (pull) or roll the face closed for putts that break right and in-to-out (push) or roll the face open for putts that break left.

Therein lies my favorite quote in golf "EVERY PUTT IN GOLF IS A STRAIGHT PUTT". If you have a putt that breaks 10 inches right to

left, you have to aim the putter face 10 inches right of the hole and swing the putter straight back and straight through to that exact spot. You have to start that putt STRAIGHT and allow the ground to curve the ball from left to right into the hole. You can not start that putt at the hole and then swing the putter in-to out and push it on line.

Of course this applies for putts that break left to right. You have to aim the putter left of the hole, swing the putter straight back and straight through, allowing the ground to curve the ball, not your stroke or clubface.

The next time you're struggling with your putting, remember this mantra: WHAT DOES YOUR PUTTING STROKE AND GREEN READING HAVE IN COMMON-EVERYTHING!!!

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Breaking News at press time: The Turkey Gets Stuffed!

John Muir Beats Pasadena High 66 - 6

For the 12th consecutive year, the John Muir High School Mustang football team has beaten the Pasadena High School Bulldogs at their 57th annual "Turkey Tussle".

The Turkey Tussle football game is an annual tradition between Pasadena High School and cross town rival John Muir High School. This tradition began in 1947 when the game was played between Pasadena Community College and John Muir Junior College. These two schools played until 1953. In 1954 the annual rivalry was played between what is now Pasadena High School and John Muir High School.

The winning school takes possession of a ceremonial Victory Bell. One of the highlights for the winning team is to rush to the end zone, celebrating their win, by ringing the Victory Bell. In June 2005, the John Muir High School campus was burglarized and

the Victory Bell was stolen. On February 7, 2006 the Victory Bell was found near a road in the Angeles National Forest.

In November 2007 a documentary about the Turkey Tussle

was produced and featured on Fox Sports West cable channel. Although it didn't tell the entire story of the Turkey Tussle, it did showcase the cross town battle that has been going on for 60 years between Pasadena High School and John Muir High School.



La Salle's Come From Behind Win



Huge come from behind win over South Hills this week. La Salle's Girls Volleyball faced South Hills High School, nearly 3x the size of LSHS in the Duffy Lewis Gym. This would prove to be a tough battle. After losing games 1 and 2, the girls rallied in the 3rd to squeak out a close win. Game 4 ensued, and the girls dominated. The final game showed the determination of our undefeated Del Rey Championship team. La Salle won 3-2. Girls were pretty happy at the end.

Photos by John Blackstock

Alverno X-Country Headed to CIF Prelims

Story and Photo By Lara L. Larramendi

The Alverno X-Country Varsity team is headed for another appearance at the CIF Southern Section Division 5 Prelim races at Mt. San Antonio College on Saturday November 13th. There will be 3 heats for Division 5 Girls; each heat will have 13 schools, 5 runners from each school. Alverno is scheduled to compete in Race # 6 Girls Division 5 Heat #3 @ 8:52 AM. Representing the Jaguars are Eryn Blakely, Audrey Davy, Ashley Haylett, Bianca Melkonian and Miranda Akkari. Alternate runners are Adrianna Martinez and Sascha Rosemond. The team ran the rugged and hilly 3-mile course at the 63rd Annual Mt. Sac X-Country Invitational on October 22nd and all runners posted times that were personal bests.



Alverno's 1-2 finishers, Eryn Blakely & Audrey Davy lead the Jaguars on to the CIF-SS Division 5 Girls Prelim races at Mt. Sac.



Alverno's X-Country Graduating seniors, left to right, Sakhara Assafiri, Audrey Davy, Bianca Melkonian, Sascha Rosemond and Miranda Akkari.

As a nice farewell gift to its graduating seniors, the Alverno X-Country Varsity and Junior Varsity squads were victorious in the Horizon League Finals held November 4th at Eaton Canyon. The finals were rescheduled from November 3rd due to high temperatures that exceeded CIF Southern Section regulations.

In contrast to the rainy and wet conditions at the previous meet at Eaton Canyon on October 20th, the League Finals meet was held under drier and much hotter conditions and it was reflected in slower times for all the runners competing. The top two runners that finished the race didn't change. Alverno's Eryn Blakely and Audrey Davy continued their 1-2 finish domination in Horizon League meets this year. Followed by Ashley Haylett, Bianca Melkonian and Jessica Lopez, the Jaguar Varsity squad finished on top over San Gabriel Mission and League leading Sacred Heart. Helping their teammates score that victory were Miranda Akkari and Francesca Rueda.

Not to be left behind, the Junior Varsity team was also victorious. Led by Adrianna Martinez, Bella Daniels-Campos, Sascha Rosemond, Victoria Pintado and Devny Osuna with assists from teammates Reagan Dowd, Andrea Gochez-Wilson, Holly Coates, Nicolette Rodriguez and Madi Daniels-Campos, the JV squad will have to "step up" to fill the sneakers of the graduating seniors.

At the conclusion of the meet, the Jaguars bid farewell to graduating seniors Miranda Akkari, Sakhara Assafiri, Audrey Davy, Kelly Janzen, Bianca Melkonian and Sascha Rosemond with songs, flowers, balloon, and beautiful sentiments expressed by their teammates.

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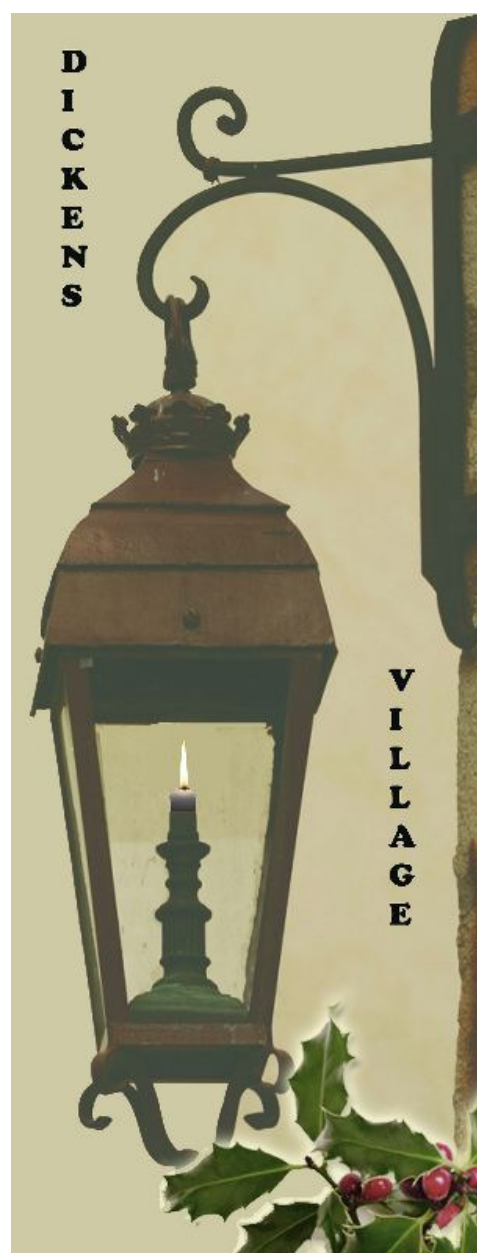
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