

SIERRA MADRE WISTARIA FESTIVAL SET FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH

The Sierra Madre Wistaria vine was planted in 1894 by Alice Brugman, who purchased a one-gallon plant from a nursery in Monrovia for 75 cents. The vine grew to a point where it destroyed the original home on the property, growing into the walls and fireplace and causing the roof to collapse. At its peak, the vine covered more than an acre of ground, was estimated to have weighed 250 tons, and featured more than 1.5 luxuriant lavender blossoms. It has been certified by the Guinness Book of World records as the world's largest blossoming plant. Each March, the City of Sierra Madre celebrates the vine by holding a downtown festival, and the vine owners, Nell and Bob Solt and Tony Held, graciously open their property to allow tours of the vine in bloom.

Sierra Madre's Wistaria Festival will take place this year on Sunday, March 20th. The downtown festival, presented by the Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce and featuring more than 150 artists, crafters and food vendors will be from 9am to 5pm, and tours of the 117-year old Wistaria Vine will take place from 9am to 4pm. Viewing the 117-year old vine, which is on private property, is free of charge, however, folks who would like to take advantage of the old-time California Trolley shuttles to get from the downtown festival up the hill to the vine are asked to reserve their seats by ordering tickets in advance at the Chamber's website www.WistariaTickets.com. Presale tickets are \$10, with senior and child discounted tickets at \$7. Readers of this paper can save \$1 off the regular priced tickets by entering the code MVN01 when ordering their tickets. Day of event tickets will be \$12, so order your tickets online now and save some money!

Fifteen musical acts will perform at five outdoor venues during the course of the day, with the grand finale taking place from 4:45 to 6pm at Memorial Park, where all of the day's artists will be invited to participate in an "All-Star Jam" to close out the festivities. For a schedule of entertainers, with links to samples of some of the musician's work, visit the Festival website at www.WistariaFestival.com.

Also in Memorial Park will be kids' attractions and a food court. Downtown restaurants and shops will also be open all day long to serve you. General information about the vine and the festival can be found online by visiting www.WistariaFestival.com, or contact the Chamber at (626) 355-5111.

ROTARY COMPETITION SENDS CELLIST TO REGIONAL DAN STOVER MUSIC CONTEST



Contestants (L to R) Chang, Estes, Little and Bruer stand with Rotary President, Cathy Hundshamer, and Contest Emcee, Rudy Hayek. Photo by Chris Bertrand

High school seniors performed in Rotary's Dan Stover Music Competition on Thursday evening, March 11 at La Salle High School in Pasadena. The top club winner from Sierra Madre will go on to regional competition. The winners of the four regional competitions, to be held by May 1, will compete for the final prize of up to \$5,000 to be awarded to the District Champion which will be held Saturday, June 11 at the La Jolla Marriott Hotel in La Jolla.

First place was awarded to cellist, Morgan Little, a student at Los Angeles

County High School for the Arts (LACHSA), who performed Bach and La Lo. Little is hoping to attend Baltimore's Peabody Institute or The Manhattan School of Music next year. Second place also went to an LACHSA student, violinist Patrice Chang, who performed Kreisler compositions. Chang hopes to attend UCLA in the fall. Third place winner, Lauren Bruer, a guitarist, played a combination of classical and Chet Atkins. Fourth place Daniel Estes, a French horn player, performed Ravel. Both third and fourth place recipients attend La Salle

High School. The competition was named for educator and musician, Dan Stover, who played his "Rotary organ" for club members in Alhambra until his passing in 1987. The contest was first established in Alhambra in 1988, and then graduated to a Rotary District 5300 event. Since then, a generation of talented young musicians has competed against their peers for funds to apply to their musical education. For more information on the contest, visit www.District5300.org/Stover/.

"SIERRA MADRE JAPANESE CULTURAL NIGHT" A Celebration @ the Park

Everyone is invited to drop by Memorial Park, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., on Friday, March 25, from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. to enjoy authentic Japanese food and festivities at "Sierra Madre Japanese Cultural Night."

At 5:30 p.m. the evening's activities will kick off with a Sumo wrestling

demonstration by the Centurian Sumo Club. Sports fans will enjoy meeting and chatting with Troy Collins, former U.S. National Sumo Wrestling Champion, who will be attending the event.

Following the wrestling demonstration, Soma Nomaoui (Samurai Warriors) in historic garb will take center stage, recreating an authentic Samurai battle scene.

At 6:00 p.m., Sierra Madre Mayor Joe Mosca will formally welcome the event's special guests, the Honorable

Junichi Ihara, Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles, Consul Shuichi Matsumoto, Mr. Satoshi Ichikawa and Mr. Hiroyuki Kimura of Tokyo City Keiba from Japan.

At 6:30 p.m., a stirring 45-minute performance of classical Japanese Taiko drumming by the acclaimed Hiroyuki Hayashida Taiko Trio will round out the evening's activities. Performance times are approximate. For more information please call 626-355-7186. This event is sponsored by Tokyo City Keiba (TCK), Yakult USA, Santa Anita Park, and U.S. Equine, Inc.

Fountain Square Development West Interest in Skilled Nursing Center by Bill Coburn

Billy Shields, Executive Director for Fountain Square Development West began his presentation by reiterating what City Manager Elaine Aguilar had stated in introducing the Agenda item at tonight's City Council meeting, that no plan has been presented to the City for the property at the site of the former Skilled Nursing Facility. No formal application has been submitted. His purpose this evening was to present to the community what his firm is in the very preliminary stages of exploring. The idea being that as he later stated, the company would meet with neighbors, particularly the neighbors in back of the site, and could incorporate their ideas into the plan. He emphasized that the designs he was presenting this evening were because they had to start somewhere, but the company doesn't have to stick with what they've put together and was very open to suggestions and feedback from the City and the community.

He then showed a series of slides that would seem to indicate that a fair amount of work has gone into the "very preliminary" design they are considering.

According to Shields, the plan is to create an assisted living community that would have about ninety residents and a staff of about twenty-five. A fully licensed facility with nurses on duty 24 hours a day. He added that the average anticipated age of the residents of the facility would be about 83 years old. I believe he said that about 40% of the facility would be designed to accommodate residents with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.

Fountain West Development's design calls for lowering the grade about three feet, meaning, he said, that the new building maximum height would be about nine feet higher than the existing building. Most of the building would sit on the same footprint as the current structure, with an addition on the west end of the building. The driveway to the parking lot would be located about five feet from where it currently sits.

The design as presented calls for 23 "Neighbor Units" each of which will have multiple suites consisting of a bedroom and sitting area. Each unit will have a kitchenette with a fridge and a sink, but no cooking area.

According to Shields, the company's next step is to contact neighbors and meet with as many as they can. Concurrently they will begin the process of making a formal application to the City, noting that the time needed to complete such a process would be many months and that there would be ample time to meet with the neighbors and synthesize their input. Not sure if synthesize is the right word, the audio was really bad in Council Chambers tonight, and I may not have heard that right.

Mr. Shields invited the community to contact him with questions or input, giving his direct phone number as (858) 748-0201.



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Podley Properties does not guarantee the accuracy of room dimensions, square footage, lot size, or other information regarding the condition or features of the property provided by the seller or obtained from public records or other sources. Buyer is advised to verify that information through personal inspection with the appropriate professionals.





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5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 40s
Fri:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 60s	Lows 40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings listed below are held at City Hall 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 626-355-7135

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
March 22, 2011 6:30 pm

Arts Commission - 2nd Wednesday @ 6:30

Community Services - 3rd Monday @ 6:00

Library Trustees - 4th Wednesday @ 7:00

Planning Commission - 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:00

Senior Community - 1st Thursday @ 3:00

Tree Advisory - 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00

1630 AM

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.

City of Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission Presents:
An Exhibition By Paul Fairbanks

You are invited to view the latest work of the Artist, Paul Fairbanks, who hails originally from the land of the Bean and the Cod. His natural ability to capture nature in its changing moods over the course of 48 years has allowed him to be represented in many private collections. Enjoy the fruits of his adventure!

Paul Fairbanks' Exhibition thru April 1, 2011
Sierra Madre City Hall - 232 West Sierra Madre Bl.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, February 27th, to Saturday March 5th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 340 calls for service. See crimereports.com for updated information.

Monday, February 28th:

5:22PM- Warrant/Outside/Criminal, Montecito and Baldwin Ave. A want/warrant check of a vehicle parked behind Bean Town revealed to have two misdemeanor warrants. The San Dimas resident entered the vehicle and drove away. A traffic stop resulted in an arrest of the suspect for her warrants.

Tuesday, March 1st:

4:28PM- Possession of Marijuana in Vehicle, Mariposa Ave and Ross Place. An officer stopped a motorist for a Vehicle Code violation. Further investigation revealed that the driver was in possession of marijuana. The Sierra Madre resident was cited and released on the field

Wednesday, March 2ND:

1:54 AM- Receiving/Concealing Stolen Property, 2000 blk. Windwood LN. A Sierra Madre Resident notified the Police Department regarding a male trying to enter her car on her driveway. The suspect left the scene in an unknown direction. The suspect was later found at a gas station in Arcadia. Further investigations by Sierra Madre police officer's revealed that a vehicle on Oak Meadow Rd. had also been ransacked. The suspect was arrested and transported to Sierra Madre Police to interview and later transported to Pasadena Police Department Jail for Possession of Stolen Property, Possession of Burglary Tools, Attempted Burglary and Petty Theft.

8:00PM- Attempted Residential Burglary, 100 blk. N. Sunnyside Ave. Unknown suspect(s) tried to force entry into a house through living room window and a closet window but fled the scene once they heard a noise in the house.

Friday, March 4TH:

11:35 PM- False ID to Peace Officer, 70 blk. W. Sierra Madre Blvd. This incident involves the police contacting a subject in regards to a vehicle parked in a parking lot of 73 Montecito CT. The subject told the police he never had a California Drivers license. Further investigations revealed that the subject had given false information to the officer in regards to his identity. The subject prints were run through the Blue-check system which revealed the man's true identity and his name had a \$30,000 warrant. The Los Angeles resident was transported to Pasadena police Department Jail for booking.

Saturday, March 5TH:

12:23 AM- Disorderly Conduct/Drunk in Public, 70 blk. W. Sierra Madre Blvd. An officer responded to a rear parking lot of the Buccaneer Bar regarding a fight in progress. Officers detained two subjects; further investigations revealed that one of the subjects assaulted the other patron in the bar. The LA resident was arrested for public intoxication and transported to Pasadena PD Jail for booking.

1:00 PM- Petty Theft, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Vista Park. This case involves a theft investigation of a victim's property from her car while parked. The victim reported that she left her wallet in the rear trunk area of her SUV. Later, the victim discovered that her Debit card had a \$1.00 charge. It was unknown if the vehicle was left locked. The vehicle was dusted for finger prints.

8:05 PM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, 300 blk. E. Grandview Ave. An officer stopped a motorist for a Vehicle Code violation, and determined that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The Sierra Madre resident was arrested and taken to the Pasadena Police Department jail for booking.

SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY'S FREE PARENT/CHILD WORKSHOPS TO FEATURE LOCAL EXPERTS

Sierra Madre Public Library's new five-week Parent/Child Workshop for families with children ages three and younger will feature noted resource professionals from the community. Each workshop session will feature a different aspect of parenting, including early literacy, speech, hearing and language development, child development, nutrition, music, play, and health. The workshops, which will take place at the Library on consecutive Wednesdays: March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., will be interactive and will include toys, crafts, books and play in addition to discussions of parenting issues and concerns. **Enrollment is free, but in-person pre-registration at the Library is required to ensure a spot in the program.**

The workshop itinerary and speakers are:

March 16: Child Development - Dr. Tina Bryson, lecturer, parenting educator and psychotherapist at Pediatric and Adolescent Psychology Associates. Dr. Bryson is the author of "The Whole-Brain Child." Tina combines practical parenting tips you can use every day with cutting-edge science. She gives parents easy ways to solve parenting struggles, lay the groundwork for whole and happy children, understand their child's development, and be more intentional in their parenting. Come learn how to tame tantrums and build your child's brain at the same time!

March 23: Nutrition - Dr. Edward Laurance, pediatric gastroenterologist specializing in nutrition and in treating children's stomach and digestive disorders, along with Registered Dietician Wendy Crump.

March 30: Music, Play & Health - Melissa Moore Castillo, who holds a master's degree in dance-movement therapy and has led preschool movement groups. Melissa is currently Sierra Madre School PTA President.

This project is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

For more information, please call Meegan Tosh, Youth Services Librarian at (626) 355-7186. The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre. www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us

BARGAIN BOOK SALE

The Sierra Madre Public Library is the place to go in March for the "Savin' o' the Green"—greenbacks, that is! The Friends of the Library will hold a bargain book sale inside the Library, Monday, March 7 through Saturday, March 12, during the Library's open hours. This month's featured topics will include Fiction, Films, TV, Hollywood, Politics, the Military, and Children's and Specialty Books. All books are in good condition and are \$1.00 each. Drop by often--there will plenty of new titles to choose from throughout the week, as books are replenished daily.

TRAVELERS AND COLLECTORS SPEKAERS SERIES:

"Collection the American Old West"

David Goff will present his collection of American Old West art and artifacts in Sierra Madre Library's second Travelers and Collectors program, Friday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard. Pioneers and cowboys remain iconic figures in American culture, much admired for their "true grit" and independent spirit. We never seem to tire of movies and novels set in this time period, and even the everyday, commonplace items unique to this period continue to fascinate us. History buffs will not want to miss this hands-on program with David Goff, who has dedicated years to collecting and preserving the art and artifacts of this colorful time in our nation's history.

This program is free and open to the public. A program schedule is available at the Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., and can also be found on the Library website, www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us. Travelers and Collectors is held on the second Friday of the month, February through May, and is funded by the Friends of the Library. For more information call Catriona Shafer at (626) 355-7186.

Sierra Madre Historical
Preservation Society
and
Sierra Madre Books

Present:

Author Michele Zack

signing her award winning book:

*Southern California Story:
Seeking a Better Life in Sierra Madre*

Sunday March 20th from 1-3pm
At Sierra Madre Books
52 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, Ca.

PASADENA'S ONE CITY, ONE STORY FINALE

The 2011 Pasadena Public Library One City, One Story celebration will conclude Saturday, March 26, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at the Pasadena Convention Center Ballroom, 300 E. Green St. with Theatre Americana's USO Show "One for the Boys" followed by a community conversation with author Hillary Jordan. The author will join Library Director Jan Sanders as they discuss Jordan's experiences first envisioning and then writing *Mudbound*.

A question-and-answer session from the audience will follow.

Jordan's prize winning debut novel tells the story of two families and their struggles in post-World War II Mississippi as the forces of change and resistance collide with terrible consequences.

Jordan grew up in Texas and Oklahoma. She received her MFA in creative writing from Columbia University and a BA in English and political science from Wellesley College. Her short fiction has appeared in numerous literary journals, including *StoryQuarterly* and *The Carolina Quarterly*. She lives in New York.

One City, One Story is designed to broaden and deepen an appreciation of reading and literature in the community, engage participants in dialogue and bring Pasadenans together by promoting greater understanding of differing points of view.

For more information visit www.onecityonestory.com or call (626) 744-7270.

WISTARIA FESTIVAL SHUTTLE TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce reminds you that shuttle tickets to ride up to view the Wistaria Vine at its annual Wistaria Festival are now available online. The 2011 Wistaria Festival will take place on March 20th, 2011.

The Wistaria Festival features tours of the world's largest blossoming plant, certified as such by the Guinness Book of World Records. Each year, the property owners upon whose land the vine sits, the Solts and the Dorrances, open their property to allow thousands to view the vine. Dozens of Sierra Madre residents volunteer to act as docents at the property, telling the story of the vine, which was originally planted from a 1-gallon pot that was purchased for \$0.75 in 1894. At its peak, the vine covered more than an acre of ground, and in the early 20th century was so large that it even destroyed a home that was under it.

In addition to the tours of the vine, the two main downtown streets of Sierra Madre are closed to traffic so that 175 juried crafters and artists can set up booths to display and sell their arts/crafts. Downtown village shops are open, and more than a dozen musical acts perform at multiple outdoor venues. Memorial Park is transformed into a combination Kids/Food zone, as bouncy houses, slides, rock climbing and other kids attractions set up in the park alongside food vendors, both for profit and non-profit alike.

The shuttle to the vine from downtown avoids a long uphill walk from downtown to the neighborhood in which the vine sits. "Day of" tickets for the shuttle have been reduced from \$15 to \$12 this year, and pre-sale tickets are just \$10. This year, for the first time, seniors and kids (6 to 16) receive a discounted rate of \$7. Children under five ride for free. There is no charge to view the vine.

Mountain Views News readers that purchase non-discounted (\$10) pre-sale tickets on line can also receive a \$1 savings on their ticket by entering promo code MVN01 on the ticket order page when prompted.

To order tickets online, visit www.WistariaTickets.com.

THE SIERRA MADRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE ANNOUNCE A SPECIAL POSTMARK CANCELLATION TO CELEBRATE THE SIERRA MADRE WISTARIA FESTIVAL.



This special postmark will be available at:

Event: The Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival,

Date: Sunday, March 20, 2011

Hours: Open 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Location:

The Wistaria Festival Postal Station at Kersting
Court in Sierra Madre
Located at Sierra Madre Boulevard and Baldwin

Bring postcards or letters and mail them from this special event post office and your friends will be surprised when they receive mail with this extraordinary postmark.

This postal cancellation has been announced and printed in the U. S. Postal Bulletin which is distributed worldwide. To accommodate collectors from out of the area, the Sierra Madre Post Office will cancel postcards and letters upon request with the Wistaria Cancellation for 30 days after the event. To postmark a letter after the event go to Sierra Madre Post Office and request the Wistaria Postmark on your mail.

For more information contact:

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (626) 355-5111

E-mail: Info@sierramadrechamber.com

U.S. Post Office Sierra Madre, California 91024

AUTHOR NAOMI HIRAHARA TO SPEAK AT SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY

All are invited to the Sierra Madre Public Library on Thursday, March 17, at 7:00 p.m. to meet acclaimed author Naomi Hirahara. Ms. Hirahara is an award-winning mystery novelist, children's author, biographer, and the author of numerous books on Japanese history, culture and horticulture.

In 2004 Ms. Hirahara began a series featuring one of the most original protagonists in mystery fiction, the "reluctant detective" Mas Arai, an Hiroshima survivor, inveterate gambler, gardener and curmudgeon, who longs for the simple life, but finds instead, murder on his doorstep and wrongs that only he can right. Her highly regarded first novel in the series, *Summer of the Big Bachi*, was included in Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2004, and was featured in the Chicago Tribune's Best Mystery list of 2004. Her second novel, *Gasa-Gasa Girl*, received a starred review and was a Southland best seller. *Snakeskin Samisen*, the third Mas Arai mystery, won an Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Paperback Original.

The intrigue in her latest book, *Blood Hina*, includes the theft of antique "hina dolls." Hina dolls are used to celebrate Girls Day, a beloved Japanese cultural festival held in March. As an adjunct to the presentation, dolls from Ms. Hirahara's personal collection will be on display.

Attendees are invited to bring personal copies of Ms. Hirahara's books for signing. Following the presentation, Japanese snack foods and Gen Mai tea will be served. This program is free and open to the public.

The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre. For more information call (626) 355-7186, or go to www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us.

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As featured on *Rachael Ray*, *National Enquirer* and *PEOPLE* Mag.

2011 Wistaria Festival

Sunday, March 20, 2011

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2007 Event Photos courtesy of SierraMadreNews.Net

LOCAL MERCHANTS WILL BE OPEN
 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
 KIDS' ATTRACTIONS
 MORE THAN 150 CRAFT AND
 FOOD VENDORS
 OUTDOOR DINING AT LOCAL EATERIES
 FOOD COURT IN THE PARK

TAKE THE

Metro Gold Line

TO THE SIERRA MADRE VILLA GOLDLINE
 STATION, THEN CATCH THE FREE
 GATEWAY COACH SHUTTLE FROM THE STATION
 TO THE FESTIVAL



RIDE THE OLD-TIME CALIFORNIA TROLLEY SHUTTLE TO VIEW
 THE HISTORIC 117-YEAR OLD WISTARIA VINE, CERTIFIED BY THE
 GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS AS THE WORLD'S LARGEST
 BLOSSOMING PLANT.

VINE VIEWING 9AM-4PM

DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL 9AM-5PM

SHUTTLE TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE

WISTARIATICKETS.COM

\$10 PRESALE, \$12 DAY OF EVENT
 SENIORS 62 AND UP, KIDS 6 - 16, \$7
 SHUTTLE TICKETS INCLUDE VINE ENTRY

WISTARIAFESTIVAL.COM

OR (626) 355-5111 FOR MORE INFO
 MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS READERS SAVE \$1 OFF
 NON-DISCOUNTED (\$10) PRESALE TICKETS BY ENTERING THE
 PROMO CODE MVN01 WHEN ORDERING TICKETS

A PARTIAL LIST OF PERFORMERS

- Ron Longo
 - Michael Zubia
 - Dick Bertrand
 - Bruce and Pamela Forman
 - Len Mendoza
 - Horses on AstroTurf
 - Aluminum Marshmallow
 - Tremoloco
 - Chico's Bail Bonds
 - Ocho X
 - Southern California Lyric Theater
 - Troubadours
 - Snotty Scotty and the Hankies
 - Gem City Jazz Cats
 - Homegrown
 - ? And the Wistarians
 - Dave Shelton
- All-star Jam in the park, 4:45 to 6

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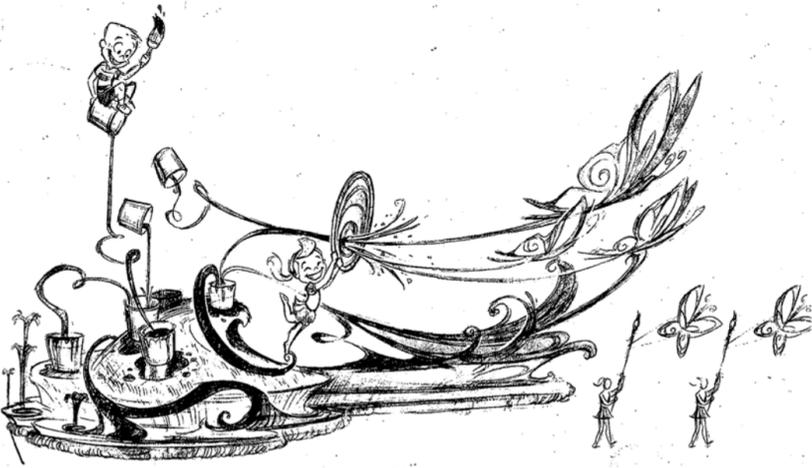
Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

Sierra Madre Rose Float Association Selects 2012 Float Design - "Colorful Imagination"

SIERRA MADRE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION
2012 Tournament of Roses Entry:
"Colorful Imagination"



The Sierra Made Rose Float Association proudly announces that our float entry in the 2012 Tournament of Rose parade will be titled "Colorful Imagination." The Sierra Madre float theme reflects closely the Tournament Parade Theme, "Just Imagine . . ." as selected by newly elected Tournament of Roses President Jackson

As conceived and drawn by Julio Leon, "Colorful Animation" celebrates children's play and their unique ability to use their imaginations to create magical new worlds from ordinary, every day objects. As these children play they envision colorful butterflies soaring from the swirling paint. The 2012 float will be Sierra Madre's 80th float entry, marking a major milestone for the Association.

Julio Leon is a layout animation designer who resides in

Burbank. He was the float concept designer for Burbank's Centennial float in last year's parade. He will be working closely with the Association's Decoration and Construction Committees to make his a floral fantasy.

Please consider giving us a hand with the development of "Colorful Animation." We are already working every Sunday at the Float Barn, 587 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Marde from 10AM to 6PM.

More Tournament Parade Theme Information:

"The Parade theme provokes images of children lying on grass seeing pictures in clouds; scientists searching the stars for new worlds to discover; far away places imagined by the poets and storytellers of the ages; determined athletes giving their

all in service of the ultimate prize; musicians, dancers, painters, actors and sculptors expressing their gifts on the palettes of their vocations; and the visualization of a future in which creativity and innovation are the twin masters of our dreams." Mr. Jackson.

Parade Day, January 2nd, "Never on a Sunday."

"This year, the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game will once again take place on Monday, January 2 according to the Tournament of Roses' "Never on a Sunday" policy. In 1893, officials decided it would be best to avoid interfering with Sunday worship services and decided to move events to January 2nd whenever January 1st fell on a Sunday. The last time the "Never on a Sunday" policy was in effect was in 2006." Tournament Website

WISTARIA BLOSSOMS ON THE RUNWAY



Attending the Fashion Show will be (l to r): Magnolia Boutique Owner, Karen Crisi, Models Betty Mackie and Melissa Shute, and Chair Sheila Pierce.

In honor of the city's 117 year old vine, it will be Wistaria Blossoms on the Runway when the Sierra Madre Woman's Club holds its annual Fashion Show and Luncheon on Saturday, March 25, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. The event will be held in the Es-sick House, the Woman's

Club historic clubhouse, 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

For another blossom choice club members will step out modeling fabulous fashions from Magnolia of Arcadia. The boutique shop owner, Karen Crisi, will be the show's commentator.

Tickets are \$35.00 each with the proceeds supporting club philanthropies. For ticket reservations contact Event Chair Sheila Pierce at 626-355-8332.

Submitted by Phyllis Chapman

RICH Johnson



WISDOM OR WISE-DUMB

My kids are knee-deep in college these days. One of them has not declared a major yet, while the other has declared, changed, and is thinking of changing back. And I say YAY! How can you figure out what you want to do in life if you don't stick your big toe in a few different puddles?

I have offered up only one bit of advice for my children regarding their professions. Whatever it may be, make sure it is something you enjoy doing.

Wow, what a new concept. Actually, it's not very new. I first saw this in a document written about 950 B.C. by the world's smartest man. You might know him. His name is Solomon, son of King David. His writing is the Biblical book of Ecclesiastes. For those of you who don't know the backstory on Solomon, God came to him at the beginning of his reign over Israel and offered him whatever he wanted. Solomon said, "Give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and distinguish between right and wrong." BINGO!! RIGHT ANSWER. God was pumped. He told Solomon since he didn't ask for wealth, long life, or even the death of his enemies, God was going to give it all to him... except for maybe the death of his enemies.

So how does this figure in to your kids, Rich? Well, Solomon's book of Ecclesiastes muses about the futility us of running around, working at something you hate doing and then dying, thus letting someone else inherit all that you built up. He says in chapter 3, verse 22, "So I saw that there is nothing better for a man (or

woman) to enjoy their work." In other verses he adds, "...and enjoy the fruit of your labor." Encourage your children to pursue their dreams; to end up doing something they want to do, even if it means shifting midstream, or even after college. Same goes for you 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 year olds.

Now, let me leave you with some wisdom from closer to home. Texas Wisdom to be exact:

1. Don't squat with your spurs on.
2. Always drink upstream from the herd.
3. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
4. Never slap a man who's chewin' tobacco.
5. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier 'n puttin' it back in.
6. If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
7. If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is to stop diggin'.
8. There's two theories to arguin' with a woman. Neither one works.
9. Good judgement comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
10. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
11. It don't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep.
12. Three kinds of folks: Them that learn by readin', them that learn by watchin', and the rest who learn by touchin' the fire to see if it's really hot.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY TRAFFIC VOLUNTEER

Police Department Traffic Volunteers will serve at community-wide special events and in emergency situations assisting with directing traffic at intersections and on streets, staffing barricades, and assisting pedestrians crossing in crosswalks. Traffic Volunteers will be trained in the proper procedures for directing traffic and provided uniforms for their service.

DUTIES:

- Assist with traffic control at events or in emergency situations.
- Direct traffic by voice, hand or other signal.
- Follow applicable City safety rules and regulations.
- Inform staff of any issues that may arise.
- Interact with the public sometimes under stressful circumstances in a fair, calm and understanding way.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Have a valid Class C California driver's license for the past five years as well as the ability to maintain insurability under the City's Vehicle Usage Policy. Must possess a current American Red Cross certificate in First Aid/CPR/AED for Schools and the Community, or the equivalent, within three months of appointment. Must be available to volunteer evenings, weekends, and holidays. Must complete a background verification process and successfully complete the training provided by the Department.

Please visit the city's website at www.cityofsierramadre.com for more information and to download a flyer and application.

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"THE ART OF THE JAPANESE GARDEN"

Eighty Years of Goodwill: 1931-2011



Students pose in the Japanese Goodwill Garden, c. 1931.

The Japanese Garden at Sierra Madre School is a great source of pride for the students, staff, parents and community. Please join us for a program that will explore the creation, restoration and expansion of the garden, as well as current plans for maintaining this 80 year-old treasure of Sierra Madre. Acclaimed landscape artist Lew Watanabe, teacher Helen Pontarelli, parents and students will share their experiences in restoring and tending the garden.

The program will take place on Saturday, March 19, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Arts Discovery Room at Sierra Madre School, 141 W. Highland Avenue, in Sierra Madre. Free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Debbie Henderson at (626) 355-7186 or by email at dhenderson@cityofsierramadre.com.

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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community



Sid Tyler Pocket Park Dedication



Pasadena City Councilman Terry Tornek will host a dedication celebration at the new Sidney F. Tyler Park on Tuesday, March 15, at 10 a.m.

Located on the median between South Lake Avenue and Lakewood Place (green area in attached map), Pasadena's only officially designated pocket park was named for Tyler by the Pasadena City Council in 2010.

The park features several tree species, including a large oak surrounded by two concrete semi-circles that serve as a seat wall or bench. A rose garden is planted along the perimeter of a grassy area.

Tyler, who represented District 7 on the Pasadena City Council from 1997 to 2009, devoted much of his time and energy to the protection of trees, open space and parks. Pasadena's first tree protection ordinance was adopted during his tenure.

"Sid was a strong proponent for an update to the Open Space and Conservation Element of the General Plan," said Tornek. "He worked diligently to ensure that parks in District 7 and throughout Pasadena were given adequate funding and attention, and he took a personal interest in renovations to parks in the district."

Tyler currently serves on the board of the directors of the Eastern Sierra Land Trust, which protects more than 6,000 acres through conservation agreements.

He will be at the dedication, where a boulder bearing a plaque with his name will be unveiled and refreshments will be served.

For more information call (626) 744-4737.

Pet of the Week



Brandy, a beautiful, six year old, Australian Cattle Dog mix is friendly and likes to play. She is good with kids and looking for an active home where she will receive plenty of attention. Brandy knows several commands and earned the coveted Blue Ribbon in our Shelter School program!

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

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask for A281336 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena CA, 91105.

Our adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-4 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at www.pasadenahumane.org



Crown City News Reporter Tami DeVine and host Barry Gordon interview incumbent Steve Madison (right). Photo D. Lee/MVNews

Madison, Robinson Win; Fosselman, Masuda in Runoff

It was a long night Tuesday as the local elections for seats on the school board and city council came to an end with unofficial results showing both a runoff for council district 4 and PUSD seat 6.

Jill Fosselman and Gene Masuda now face each other in the council district 4 runoff. The seat was held by long time councilman Steve Haderlein, who decided not to seek another term, opening up a five way race.

Masuda received 1,355 (37.9%) of the votes to Fosselman's 1,265 Votes (35.4%). Fifty plus one percent by any candidate was needed to win. Runoff elections will be held April 19.

City council Incumbent Steve Madison was reelected in a close race beating out long time community activist Carolyn Naber with 55.2 percent (2,181 votes) to Naber's 44.7 percent.

The two fought a nasty battle for the district 6 seat that includes much of Old Pasadena, the Art Center College of Design, the Pasadena Playhouse, the Convention Center and Civic Auditorium, part of the Arroyo Seco, the Colorado Street Bridge, the Tournament of Roses House and The Rose Bowl.

The two fought through campaign mailers in which Naber accused Madison of poor council attendance on key issues.

Madison in turn criticized Naber for not showing up to a number of open debates. He also challenged all Naber's statistics on crime and safety in which she said burglaries were up 60 percent in the last four months.

Councilmember Jacque Robinson was also reelected representing district 1 beating James Smith with a landslide 76 percent of the vote.

Both District 2 Councilmember Margaret McAustin and Mayor Bill Bogaard were reelected having run unopposed.

School board member Tom Selinske will also face Sean Baggett in a runoff for PUSD seat 6 on April 19.

Pacific Asia Museum Opens Exhibition

Pacific Asia Museum will host a new exhibition, Meiji: Japan Rediscovered, starting March 31, 2011 through February 26, 2012 and features several rotations throughout the year.

Meiji: Japan Rediscovered explores the vibrant connection between Japan and the West during the Meiji period (1868-1912). Meiji is one of the most dynamic eras in Japanese political and cultural history, as Japanese artists in all fields rediscovered and re-imagined their own history in response to the "opening" of the country to Europe and America. Recently, scholars and collectors alike have a renewed appreciation for the export arts created during this era. The technical virtuosity of these art objects speaks to the formation of a new national identity and the emergence of a vibrant economy at the turn of the 20th century.

The Meiji exhibition focuses on the rich production of art for



Rakusai (dates unknown), Woman with Fan, Japan, Meiji period (1868-1912), Oil on canvas. Gift of Jimmy and Eileen Fukuhara in memory of Paul D. Snyder, 1980.31.1.

export, using little seen objects from the Museum's collection to illustrate new developments in oil painting, woodblock prints, cloisonné, ivory,

metalwork, textiles, picture books and ceramics. Also on view are period photographs made primarily for American travelers which point to the prominence of Western tourists and consumers as the audience for this art. The highlight of the exhibition is a stunning single panel screen with a design of a flower basket in the form of a phoenix boat, constructed out of wood, lacquer, ivory, bone, horn, and mother-of-pearl.

The subjects that recur in these works - Japanese landscape epitomized by Mt. Fuji as well as Japanese femininity as distilled in the depiction of women - signal a refashioning of Japanese "tradition" that resonated domestically in Japan even as it was disseminated abroad. The scale of these works, from intimate to grand, reflect the changes that were happening throughout the entire Japanese culture, from domestic interiors to international exhibition halls.

Pasadena Stories (1940 - 1955) World War II And Its Aftermath

A panel of Pasadena residents, moderated by Larry Wilson, public editor of the Pasadena Star News, will share their experiences during World War II and the post-war period of late '40s and early '50s as part of the 2011 Pasadena Public Library One City, One Story program on Saturday, March

19 at 10 a.m. at the Pasadena Senior Center Auditorium, 85 E. Holly St.

This program is a collaboration between the Pasadena Museum of History and the Pasadena Senior Center. For more information on this event and the One City, One Story program, call Christine Reeder at (626) 744-7270.

Knowing and Growing the Land: Mudbound In The Arboretum

Arboretum Librarian Susan Eubank will present a workshop on Knowing and Growing the Land: Mudbound in the Arboretum Library as part of the 2011 Pasadena Public Library One City, One Story program on Saturday, March 19 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, Library, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Learn how to find

information on gardening and plants at the Arboretum Library.

This event is presented in partnership with the Los Angeles County Arboretum. Call (626) 821-3213 for reservations. For more information on this event and the One City, One Story program, call Christine Reeder at (626) 744-7270.

Antonovich Calls for Investigation into Colleges

In a letter to Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley, County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich has called for an investigation into the Los Angeles Community Colleges and the allegations contained in the recent series of reports in the Los Angeles Times.

The 6-part series revealed numerous transgressions including gross misuse of

taxpayer dollars. In his letter, Antonovich also called for the Grand Jury to investigate.

"If what the Times reported is true, it is another reason why the taxpayers have a legitimate growing distrust of government and their use of public funds," Antonovich wrote. "Those responsible should be held accountable to the maximum extent possible under the law."

Community Welcomes New Planning Director

By Dean Lee

Vowing to put public input above all else, a cheerful group of community leaders, city staff and residents welcomed new city planner Vincent Bertoni during a brief reception Thursday in the grand entrance of city hall.

"I really believe the best planning is really done when you have an open informed and engaged community and you work in partnership to plan together," said Bertoni director of the Pasadena Planning Department. "This is definitely a place where there is both an informed and engaged community."

Bertoni will oversee a \$13 million budget and 73 employees, including community planning services, design and historic preservation, zoning, arts and cultural affairs, and green city programs. Bertoni said he through good city planning starts with a collective vision.

"We start with a vision of where we want to go as a city, we translate that into a good general plan, good specific plans, good planning policies," he said. "Then when we have

development that comes along, we see if that development really fits into what our vision of the city is."

Bertoni said he has a strong connection with Pasadena having lived here for many years.

"I did live here in the early 90s," he said. "It was a very exciting time to me when Old Pasadena was starting to experience a renaissance."

Making good on his word, Bertoni also said he was starting tours of the city with community members.

"Anyone who wants to show me around their neighborhood, any community groups, please contact my office," he said.

Tours would be every other Friday morning when city hall is closed starting March 25.

"It doesn't just need to be neighborhood groups, it could be business groups, groups with interests that cross the neighborhood such as housing or preservation or economic development," he said. "Whatever those issues are I really want to get to know this city."

For more information on tours call (626) 744-4660.



New city planner Vincent Bertoni (left) talks with councilmember Terry Tornek during a brief reception Thursday.

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

PCC Student Art On Display At Museum Of California Art

Original artwork from current Pasadena City College students will be on display at the Pasadena Museum of California Art (PMCA) from March 11 to 20 and April 3 to 24. Titled "Tomorrow Today," the exhibit will feature everything from conceptual projects to traditional crafts, reflecting the generational perspectives and personal idiosyncrasies of the diverse community of student artists. The pieces were selected by a jury made up of the PMCA staff. This is the first exhibition co-organized by PCC and the PMCA.

"PCC is one of the finest community colleges in California and its Visual Arts and Media Studies program is outstanding," said Jenkins Shannon, executive director of the PMCA. "Our museum has collaborated with PCC faculty

members over the last few years, and bringing "Tomorrow Today" to the PMCA seems like a natural next step in that partnership."

"This is a unique opportunity [for the students] to see themselves in the realm of a high-end art environment, to visualize what is possible for them and to come to terms with the commitment they will have to make for succeeding in a world that demands, all the time, everything they have," explained Alex Kritselis, dean of the Visual Arts and Media Studies Division at PCC.

For more information, please contact Emma Jacobson-Sive at (626) 568-3665 ext. 12 or emma.jacobson@pmcaonline.org. Also, contact PCC Art Gallery Director Brian Tucker at (626) 585-7238 or pccgallery@gmail.com.

Journalist to speak at Citizen Journalism Speakers Series

Andre Coleman, Journalist & Author will speak at the "2011 Citizen Journalism Speakers Series". Coleman has worked as a professional and freelance reporter for almost 20 years. His work has appeared in Black Voice News, The Daily News, Pasadena Star-News and many more. In 1998, Coleman optioned his first screenplay. Today, he is the city reporter for the Pasadena Weekly, working on his next novel and producing his first independent motion picture. This free lecture event features local and national journalists, telling their personal stories and adventures

in the life of journalism and media. The event will be held on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, 6:00pm, hosted by Pasadena Community Network and Mountain Views News.

Each program includes a presentation by the speakers and an engaging 15-minute question and answer session with citizen journalists and community members in the audience.

The speaker series will be held at: Donald R. Wright Auditorium 285 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91101 (located in the Pasadena Central Library). Door Open at 6:00pm

The King, The Queen and Their Court



King Dave and Queen Grace Cashion, along with the Royal Court, strut their stuff at the 2011 Mardi Gras fundraiser for Emergency Services for Methodist Hospital. The event was chaired by Jan McEachern and Cheryl Wolf, and was as lively and fun-filled as its counterpart in other places around the world, PG rated, of course. Photo by S. Henderson/MVNews

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, February 27, through Saturday, March 5, the Police Department responded to 910 calls for service of which 142 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, February 27:

1. A traffic stop was conducted at Baldwin and Huntington around 1:48 a.m. when officers observed a car swerving between traffic lanes. A 24-year-old male Hispanic driver was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol; a 34-year-old male Caucasian passenger was arrested for disorderly conduct/drunken in public and possession of cocaine; a 26-year-old male Caucasian passenger was arrested for disorderly conduct/drunken public.

2. Units responded to the 1200 block of Magnolia around 5:40 p.m. in reference to a suspicious male subject inside a gated residential construction site. The suspect took lighting fixtures and power tools and then fled in a vehicle. Officers subsequently located the vehicle and arrested a 30-year-old Caucasian for commercial burglary, possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools, suspended driver's license, and a \$5,000 outstanding warrant.

Monday, February 28:

3. Around 8:23 a.m., officers were dispatched to Arcadia High School in reference to an intoxicated male subject causing a disturbance. When the 22-year-old male Hispanic was confronted by campus security, he pushed and scratched a security guard. A private person's arrest was made, and the suspect was taken into custody for battery on a school employee with injury and refusal to leave the school grounds.

Tuesday, March 1:

5. Shortly after 9:00 a.m., a grand theft auto was reported in the 00 block of West Leroy. A 1997 black Pontiac Trans Am was stolen from the location.

6. Around 6:30 p.m., units were sent to the 700 block of West Naomi in reference to an auto burglary that just occurred. While the victim was exercising at LA Fitness, a suspect broke into her vehicle and stole her purse from the trunk. During the investigation, Dispatch advised that Pasadena PD officers had detained a 27-year-old male Hispanic who was in possession of the victim's property. The suspect was taken into custody for auto burglary, receiving stolen property, an \$115,000 felony warrant, and felony parole violation.

Wednesday, March 2:

7. A solo hit-and-run traffic collision was reported at Baldwin and Gate 7 around 2:44 a.m. A vehicle had struck a tree in the center median, but the driver was not found at the scene. Further investigation revealed that the registered owner of the vehicle was employed at the racetrack. A 25-year-old male Hispanic was later found in the stable area and he had bruises to his forehead, shoulder, and a cut hand.

8. Between 9:30 p.m. on March 1 and 4:30 p.m. on March 2, an auto burglary occurred in the 600 block of West Fairview. Unknown suspect(s) stole a catalytic converter from a truck.

Thursday, March 3:

9. A male subject, who matched the description of a suspect who had stolen merchandise from various stores at Westfield Mall, was seen entering Brookstone. He carried a large empty shopping bag and concealed merchandise in the bag. A 58-year-old male African-American was contacted outside the store and was arrested for commercial burglary, receiving stolen property, possession of burglary tools, obstructing/resisting, and felony parole violation.

10. Shortly after 3:00 p.m., a 19-year-old male Hispanic suspect was arrested at Baldwin and Fairview after stealing a \$2,299 wedding ring from Ultra Diamond located inside Burlington Coat Factory.

Friday, March 4:

11. Around 5:30 p.m., units were dispatched to Abercrombie & Fitch in reference to a theft and hit-and-run accident in the parking lot. A man and two women entered the store with shopping bags and attempted to steal six bottles of men's cologne. When they realized that they were being observed, the two women left a bag with the stolen property and walked to the food court area where they were detained. A 35-year-old female Hispanic was arrested for commercial burglary and possession of burglary tools; a 27-year-old female Hispanic was arrested for commercial burglary, possession of burglary tools, and possession of a fraudulent California ID. The male suspect fled in a vehicle and he also struck a parked vehicle while leaving the scene.

12. Officers responded to Wells Fargo Bank, 444 East Huntington, around 5:45 p.m. regarding a fraud in progress. A 39-year-old female Caucasian was taken into custody for attempting to cash a fictitious check. A search incident to her arrest revealed additional fictitious checks in her possession.

Saturday, March 5:

13. Around 1:50 a.m., units were sent to Baldwin and Arcadia in reference to a fight in progress. Most of the involved parties had fled the scene prior to officers' arrival, but a 22-year-old male Hispanic was arrested for 4 outstanding misdemeanor warrants totaling \$85,824.

14. A traffic collision involving two vehicles occurred at Golden West and Arcadia around 1:47 p.m. An 18-year-old male Asian driver was contacted and officers determined that he was operating the vehicle while under the influence of drugs. A search of the vehicle revealed marijuana, several hundred Ecstasy pills, Xanax pills, and a book containing drug sale information. The man was arrested for DUI, possession of marijuana and a controlled substance, and unlawful transport and sale of marijuana.

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Best of Arcadia - Scott Hettrick

Good for Arcadia Mayor Peter Amundson. Good for the protesters of his choice of a speaker from Focus on the Family. And good for Arcadia.

Friday morning's Mayor's Breakfast was a terrific event that drew a sellout crowd of about 300, most of whom were part of a standing ovation at the end. It also drew about 90 people, some from Arcadia, who stood outside in a quite orderly and civil manner to the side of the main front entrance of the Community Center.

Even though at least one City Councilman opted to enter through the back door, no one entering the building was harassed or made to feel uncomfortable by those opposing the speaker because his organization, which was founded in Arcadia in the 1970s but has been based in Colorado Springs for 20 years, is believed to oppose gay marriage. Arcadia police not only maintained control of the group but did so without sparking any friction while allowing the protesters to make their point and generate media attention.

Meanwhile, it was like an alternate universe inside, with very few people even mentioning the protesters or the word "gay," and everyone enjoying a program filled with singing and lots of laughter and poignant anecdotes.

Mayor Amundson introduced four local speakers to offer their thoughts on families in Arcadia: Rose Princess Tatyane Anaid Berrios, incoming school board member Kay Kinsler, Arcadia Chinese Association president Edward Wong, and police volunteer / library board trustee / newspaper columnist Dorothy Denne. Berrios expressed her gratitude and respect for her family; Kinsler defined the meaning of family in her own terms; Wong offered examples of how good families begin with good parenting, including one anecdote that drew a big laugh, and Denne

described her unique non-biological family that includes police chief Robert Sanderson, who needed a "heart mother" when she needed a "heart son."

The Arcadia Ward Choir of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and soloist Catherine Stringer provided lovely music.

Mayor Amundson broke up the crowd several times with humorous references to challenges with his teenage son and, when presenting a key to the city, noting that even as Mayor he doesn't even have a key to the restroom.

But it was Rev. London, a former pastor in Pasadena, who got the biggest reactions from the audience, beginning with a reference to the controversy generated by his appearance that immediately put the audience at ease. Jokes no doubt sharpened in many sermons drew enormous laughter. And though there were multiple references to God, his message was focused on the importance and value of family, no matter what form it may take. He even talked about unconditional love and acceptance, which seemed to be in stark contrast to the concerns of protesters just outside the doors.

Wherever each side may draw the line on tolerance and acceptance, it was nice to see so many people handling themselves with such dignity Friday morning. Regardless of what you may think of the Focus on the Family organization, I give three cheers to Mayor Amundson for having the fortitude to stand by his choice and his convictions and to put together such an enjoyable and successful program that generated a very good feeling among seemingly everyone in attendance.

CREATIVE HISTORY CONTEST TIED TO LOCAL FOREST

The Arcadia Historical Society's third annual Creative Expression Contest is underway and focused on the 75th Anniversary of the Adams' Pack Station and that area of the Angeles National Forest of the San Gabriel Mountains near Chantry Flat with the theme of "History Lives Here: In the San Gabriels."

In addition to being open to students attending school in Arcadia, as always, this year the contest is also open to adult residents of Arcadia. The deadline is March 29 to turn in your poem, essay, painting, drawing, photography, video,

PowerPoint, or deliver your live performance relating to the theme.

Two prizes in each category range from \$25 to \$125. (Contest details and entry form here.)

Winners will be determined by April 15 with some entries being displayed during a Historical Marker dedication and 75th Anniversary celebration at Adams' Pack Station at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 17, and most entries being put on exhibit at Arcadia Historical Museum exhibit May 7 - 28.

Free Kaleidoscope Concert to feature West African Drumming Group

Steve Biondo will perform with his West African Drumming group, Sökö Ensemble on Wednesday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. In the last of this season's Kaleidoscope Concert series, enjoy an evening of exciting and exotic rhythms and learn about the wondrous sounds from the instruments of the Malinke: the djembe, the dununs, and various shakers and bells.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and seating is limited so please come early. You are also cordially invited to meet and speak with the musicians. Coffee, provided courtesy of Starbucks, and light refreshments will be served.

Funded by the Arcadia Public Library Foundation, the concert is free and no reservations are necessary.

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Around the World in 127 Acres:

A Look at the Arboretum's Truly Cosmopolitan Plant Collections

Saturdays, 1:30-3pm - see dates below

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Please call 626.821.4623 or you may pay at the class
Meet in the Arboretum Library, rain or shine.
Instructor: Frank McDonough

This class is held in the garden, and requires walking throughout the collections.

The Arboretum's collection of over 18,000 plants is divided into five geographic sections, two greenhouses, and other specialty exhibits. Botanical Information consultant Frank McDonough will take you onto the grounds to learn more about these extensive collections. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes, a hat and clothes you don't mind getting dirty—and bring drinking water.

March 12 Plants That Changed the World: A tour that takes a look at plants in the Arboretum collection that have had dramatic effects on the history of human beings.

March 26 Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice: An in-depth look at the Arboretum herb garden—a collection of culinary, medicinal, dye, fiber, sacred and spiritual plants.

April 9 Survivor-plant: Swamp: You are a garden petunia dropped into the everglades of Florida; what structures and strategies do you evolve to survive?

April 23 "Ant's: Ants have incredibly interesting relationships with plants; we'll look at some of the more unusual ones that are connected to the Arboretum's collection.

May 7 Cape Coolness: South Africa has long been source of fascinating ornamental plants for Southern California—this tour looks at our extensive South African collection and how it paved the way for today's water-conscious landscaping.

May 21 Mexican Marvels: Hidden on the back-side of Tallac knoll is a fascinating collection of plants from south of the border. This tour takes a look at that collection and some that may even be candidates for Southern California landscapes.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

STEPS TO EMPLOYMENT!

The Monrovia Public Library will host this timely workshop on Tuesday April 5 from 6:00 – 7:30 P.M. in the Community Room. The Library is located at 321 S. Myrtle Avenue, in Old Town Monrovia's Library Park.

Attendees of this workshop will learn how to complete and download an on-line application for unemployment, create resumes and cover letters, and explore a multitude of job listing resources. This program will also include a demonstration of the Career Transitions database, which walks users through the job search process from beginning to end.

Handouts from the California EDD, an

Monrovia Police Blotter

During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 413 service events, resulting in 64 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:

Domestic Violence - Suspect Arrested

On February 25 at 12:40 a.m., officers responded to a family dispute in the 100 block of West Cherry between a husband and wife. The wife was reportedly out of control and yelling, and she had been drinking. When officers arrived, they witnessed the wife slap the husband in the face as she yelled at the officers to take her to jail. The female was arrested, and later in jail, she began to repeat that she was going to kill herself. She was taken to a hospital and held for a 72-hour mental evaluation.

Grand Theft Auto

On February 25 at 2:45 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a business in the 1600 block of South Mountain regarding a stolen vehicle. The victim parked, secured his vehicle and entered the store. He returned a short time later and found his vehicle was missing. The vehicle is a red, 1998 Nissan. All keys are accounted for and there were no signs of forced entry; investigation continuing.

Fight / Drunk in Public - Suspects Arrested

On February 26 at 1:49 a.m., a business in the 300 block of South Myrtle called reporting an intoxicated female hitting another female inside the location. She then fled on foot in the rain to the back parking lot, where she drove off in a vehicle. Officers searched the area for the suspect, but were unable to locate her. However, in the back parking lot, they located two gang members

annotated weblibliography of resources for first time job hunters, and a list of suggested print books available from the Monrovia Public Library are also included.

Registration is encouraged. Stop by the Adult Reference Desk, call 626-256-8274, or visit www.monroviapubliclibrary.org and click on the calendar icon on the top right of the page. Find DATE, click on the event and sign up. Walk-ins welcome.

Tuesday April 5 Library Community Room 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. Free

Sponsored by Friends of the Monrovia Public Library

who were drunk in public, along with a female gang associate who was also drunk in public. All three subjects were arrested without incident.

Hit and Run Collision / Grand Theft - Suspects Arrested

On February 26 at 3:21 a.m., an intoxicated 21-year-old male victim met a female at a bar in the 300 block of South Myrtle and allowed her to drive him home to Azusa. Her male friend drove the victim's car, following them. The female began to drive west on Huntington, but the victim told her to pull over and stop because he did not see the friend following them. The female called her male friend and he eventually drove to their location. The victim saw that his vehicle now had major collision damage and his stereo equipment and some property was missing from inside the vehicle. The victim called police. Officers located the missing property, which the male suspect had hidden nearby, and determined the collision occurred at Ivy and Huntington. The suspects were arrested and the victim had his father drive him home.

Domestic Violence - Suspect Arrested

On February 26 at 11:28 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 400 block of West Palm regarding a domestic violence call. The male suspect had left the location prior to the officer's arrival. The male suspect and female victim are husband and wife, but are separated. The female was at her current boyfriend's house, when the husband entered the residence and assaulted her and broke up the furniture. The suspect fled the scene, but later turned himself in at the police station.

From the desk of the City Manager Scott Ochoa REDEVELOPMENT ELIMINATION EBBS AND FLOWS

We began the week with a pessimistic outlook on prospects for saving redevelopment from elimination by the State. By mid-week, however, it seemed our fortunes might be changing. As the details of the Governor's proposed legislation filtered out, more and more legislators seemed to more fully question the concept. For example, under the Governor's proposal, the redevelopment agencies would be eliminated on July 1, 2011. At that point, "successor agencies" would assume the assets of the RDAs in order to wind up their affairs. These successor agencies would be the local city councils that established the RDAs in the first place. But here's where it gets weird - the elected city councils would not govern the affairs of the expired RDAs; that job would fall to a seven-member "Oversight Committee."

The Oversight Committees would be comprised of one member appointed by the City Council, one member appointed by the local school district, one member from the local community college district, and four members from various county offices. Thus, it is possible and even likely that the will of the duly elected body that governs Monrovia - the City Council - would be subverted by an alternate panel of folks, the majority of whom do not live in Monrovia and are not answerable to the people of Monrovia. And there would be more than 400 of these oversight committees, statewide (one for every former redevelopment agency). That's right - according to the Governor's proposed legislation, the way to combat government ineffectiveness is to add another layer of political appointees on top of a severely crippled local elected city council.

Also, as this byzantine legislative construct became known, lobbyists for organized labor began to realize that there was a big price to be paid by more than just local redevelopers and city councils. That is, the Governor's proposal has been labeled as a boon to public employee unions. However, eliminating redevelopment means the elimination of redevelopment staff - the clerks, the planners, the project manager and analysts - many of whom are themselves members of the local unions. It would seem then, that the Governor and legislative leadership are merely picking winners and losers.

Finally, the middle of the week saw - almost poetically - the live testimony by lawyers from the Office of Legislative Counsel during a committee hearing in which they acknowledged that the taking of redevelopment tax increment appears on its face to be unconstitutional, and would require at the very least a vote of the people. By Thursday evening, it appeared that a negotiated settlement would be the only lawful, practical and fair way for all parties to move forward. Alas, this was not meant to be.

Unfortunately, by Friday morning it became known that the Democratic leadership in both the Assembly and Senate were preparing to hold an up-or-down vote on the redevelopment question on Wednesday or Thursday, the 9th or 10th. Apparently, the plan is to add the RDA elimination into an overall budget package in order to force legislators into voting yes - the operative question being "Do you support K-12 education or redevelopment?" In reality, as Monrovia has proven, this question is a false premise - this need not be a zero sum game. For decades, the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency and the Monrovia Unified School District have shared revenues via "pass through" agreements that return to the MUSD property tax increment funding that they would have received in the absence of an RDA.

At this point, my guess is that the budget package will pass along party lines - remember, following last November's election, California only requires a simple majority to adopt a budget. After the proposal is signed by the Governor, the League of Cities and the California Redevelopment Association will file suit and the entire matter will be litigated - probably on grounds of constitutionality. There is still time for rational thinking to bring about a better plan, but as of today, this seems unlikely.

City Council Recap and Special Council Meeting Next Week

Tuesday's City Council meeting was a straightforward session, touching on redevelopment protections, and updates for the Council on programs enacted last year.

Under MRA PH-1, the Council (acting as the Agency Board) held a public hearing in which the Agency was authorized to sell MRA-owned real estate to the City in order to generate funds to pay off the most recent taking by the State - the 2009-10 SERAF. As we have discussed previously, the MRA is land-rich and cash-poor, as we have assembled considerable holdings in the Station Square project area. When the Supplemental Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (SERAF) payment of \$2.5 million was due in FY 09-10, the Council thought it wiser to not make the payment until we absolutely needed to.

With the State poised to eliminate the RDA, we needed to - or at least we needed to be ready to. To that end, the Board authorized me to execute the transaction at the appropriate time, depending on what the State does in the coming days. Truly, if the State moves to eliminate agencies in the coming week, we likely would not make the payment. On the other hand, if the redevelopment question is negotiated or handled later in the year, we will make the payment in due course.

Regardless of the State's actions (or non-actions) next week, we will convene a special meeting of the City Council/Agency Board on Tuesday the 8th. The purpose of this meeting will be the consideration of a cooperative agreement between the City and Agency that perfects the existing financial arrangement between them, and which will further shield Agency's assets.

As for items AR-1 & AR-2, these items were scheduled updates on the City's shopping cart containment ordinance and gang injunction, respectively. Both efforts are having positive impacts and Council voted to receive and file both reports.

As always, if you have questions about any item on the agenda, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sales Tax Gains in 3rdQ of 2010 Correspond to Other Economic Data

With drops in unemployment, increasing orders from manufacturers and suppliers, and positive gains on Wall Street, folks are talking about the economy building the "escape velocity" that will secure our recovery and boost us into a more robust economic climate. This week, we received our 3rd quarter sales tax report (July-September 2010). I am pleased to report that the positive trajectory in our sales tax trend line is continuing. We are doing better than we were a year ago in the same quarter, and we are marching confidently toward our sales tax revenue goals for FY 2010-11. Auto dealers and new soft goods retailers (Kohl's and Living Spaces) are bolstering our numbers. All in all, we are gaining momentum - here's hoping we can pull ourselves out of the doldrums and to up toward a better economy.

Monrovia Department of Community Services
Monrovia Public Library, 321 South Myrtle Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016
www.monroviapubliclibrary.org, 626-256-8272

ALICE'S AFTERNOON TEA

A FUNDRAISER FOR LITERACY SERVICES

You are cordially invited to join Monrovia Public Library for an afternoon of tea, pastries, sandwiches and desserts. Proceeds benefit Literacy Services, a program that trains local volunteers to tutor adults to read and write.



Date: Saturday, March 19th, 2011
Time: 1:00- 3:00 pm
Location: Library Community Room
Cost: \$25 per person

Please make checks payable to the Monrovia Public Library, with "Tea Fundraiser" in the memo line.

Monrovia Library Wii Event

The Monrovia Public Library invites teens to participate in a Wii event on Friday, March 11 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Mixing physical activity and technology, teens will show off their dancing skills playing, "Just Dance" and "Michael Jackson the Experience."

St. Patrick's Day at the Library

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, stories, songs, craft, and film for little leprechauns will be available at the Library - Saturday, March 12 at 2 p.m. Be sure and wear your green!

St. Patrick's Day Senior Party

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Monrovia Community Center on Thursday, March 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided by The Gables Senior Living Home, and will be accompanied by adventures in history, presented by Deborah McIntosh, portraying the Irish Pirate, Grace O'Malley. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the Community Center. For additional information and reservations please call (626) 256-8246.

Women's History Month at the Monrovia Public Library

March is Women's History Month at the Monrovia Public Library. Come check out a book by or about a famous woman through history; a Librarian can help find a book perfect for you! The Library will sponsor a free program for families, Women Who Rock, on Tuesday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m. Local female musicians will be performing a concert in the Library's great hall. Join us for the fun!

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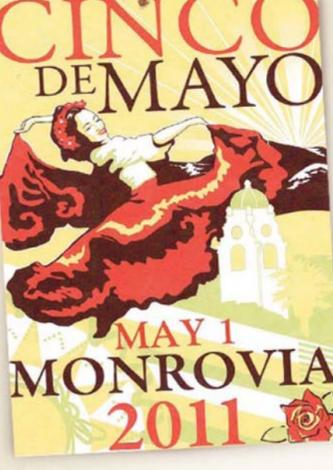
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CINCO DE MAYO



MAY 1 MONROVIA 2011

The City of Monrovia's first ever Cinco de Mayo Cultural Art and Music Festival will take place **Sunday, May 1 from 2pm until 8pm** at Myrtle and Colorado Ave. The free, one-day, family-friendly block party will feature an **array of art, music, dance and culture**. It provides an opportunity for residents to experience Latino food, dance and music and to celebrate the widely popular Mexican holiday with over 100 cities throughout the United States. The festival will feature performances from internationally known artists including local Latin Jazz ensembles **The Delgado Brothers, Banda Brothers** and Latin Grammy Award winning group **Mariachi Divas**.

The Monrovia Cinco de Mayo Cultural Art and Music Festival will bring a diverse crowd, great music and a wonderful ambiance. It will be the **largest Cinco de Mayo celebration in the San Gabriel Valley** with an expected event day attendance of **5,000**. The event targets a **multi-generational and culturally diverse audience** with an average household income of \$40,000 to \$150,000.

Make history and become a viable partner of this one of a kind cultural exchange in Monrovia. This is wonderful opportunity to showcase your community spirit to the thousands of people who will fill the city streets.

www.monrovia5demayo.org

In partnership with Nuvein Foundation for Literature and the Arts (a 501(c)(3) organization), all Cinco de Mayo sponsorships are tax deductible.



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PUSD CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER ALICE PETROSSIAN RETIRES

Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) announced that Alice Petrossian, who has served as Chief Academic Officer for the past three years, will retire at the end of the current school year and serve as the incoming president for the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) in 2012.



"PUSD is fortunate to have benefitted from the more than three decades of experience as an educator, administrator and passionate advocate for public education Dr. Petrossian has brought to our students and staff," said Superintendent Edwin Diaz. "During her tenure, she has consistently focused on high-quality instruction, professional development and a standards-based curriculum, and as a result, academic achievement has soared. Her integrity and dedication to students are unmatched, and her departure is a great loss to students, employees and the community."

While with PUSD, Dr. Petrossian was the instructional leader for 30 campuses, directed elementary, secondary, special education and alternative educational programs, and participated as the member of the executive leadership team responsible for setting and achieving goals for student success and instructional improvement.

Over the course of her career as an educator, reformer and advocate, Dr. Petrossian has shepherded school improvement, created a model continuation high school program and secured "triple-crown" status for a middle school - recognition as a Title I Achieving School, California Distinguished School and National Blue Ribbon School. Since 2008, PUSD's Academic Performance Index score climbed 53 points district-wide, the district was awarded its first National

Blue Ribbon at Hamilton Elementary, and several schools received California Distinguished School and Title I Achievement Awards. "It has been an honor to serve Mr. Diaz along with outstanding colleagues as part of the leadership team for PUSD the last three years. We have been successful with numerous academic challenges including improving dropout rates, increasing student achievement, and addressing the needs of special needs students, whether they are Special Education, English language learners or gifted students," said Dr. Petrossian. "I have enjoyed working with our parent groups and our community organizations, who have become such tremendous partners in the work we do for our students. Last, but not least, my greatest joy has been working for and with our students. They are the focal point for all that we do."

Dr. Petrossian has received numerous local, state and national recognitions for her achievements in school reform, including the Outstanding Administrator Award from the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) and the Legislative Woman of the Year award from Assembly Member Paul Krekorian. "The decision to retire is one of the most difficult decisions I have had to make. Pasadena has provided me great insight into the day-to-day realities of an urban school district and I have honestly loved every minute of my work during these three years. At this time there is an opportunity for me to take what I have learned and make a difference at the state level as the incoming president for the Association of California School Administrators."

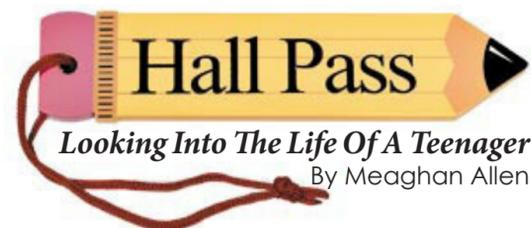
Prior to joining PUSD, Dr. Petrossian served as Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services for Glendale Unified School District, where she was previously appointed Director of Special Projects and Intercultural Education and a teacher of English as a Second Language. She began her career in Hayward, California, as a teacher of elementary gifted programs and middle school English, math, and physical education.

Local Students Make the Grade at Azusa Pacific

AZUSA, CA - The following students made the academic Deans' List at Azusa Pacific University. They join more than 1,700 APU students honored for a fall semester 2010 academic standing of a 3.5 or better grade-point average.

Altadena Calif. resident **Jae Seung Lim**, a Finance Major
Altadena Calif. resident **Brigina D. O'Bryan**, a Music and Worship Major
Altadena Calif. resident **Jordan A. Ruffin**, an English Major
Altadena Calif. resident **Kyle M. Simkovich**, a Nursing Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Tiffany T. Chang**, a Liberal Studies Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Yi No Chen**, a Biology Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Lauryn D. Elffers**, a Nursing Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Kathryn E. Krag**, a Liberal Studies Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Melinda R. Morrison**, a Liberal Studies Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Steven A. Morrison**, a Graphic Design Major
Arcadia Calif. resident **Douglas E. Roberts III**, an Accounting Major
Monrovia Calif. resident **Yasmine S. Baker**, a Nursing Major
Monrovia Calif. resident **Lynsey R. Ruangchan**, a Music Major
Pasadena Calif. resident **Elizabeth Aaron**, a Nursing Major
Pasadena Calif. resident **Kristen N. Demeester**, a Nursing Major
Pasadena Calif. resident **Ellen Jorgensen**, a Liberal Studies Major
Sierra Madre Calif. resident **Nicole A. Moriguchi**, a Psychology Major
Sierra Madre Calif. resident **Amanda K. Mowrey**, a Liberal Studies Major
Sierra Madre Calif. resident **Sarah R. Robison**, a Nursing Major
Sierra Madre Calif. resident **Caitlin A. Carlson**, a Nursing Major
Sierra Madre Calif. resident **Ryan D. Chin**, a Biblical Studies Major
Sierra Madre Calif. resident **Dalia A. Copti**, a Nursing Major

Azusa Pacific University is an evangelical, Christian university committed to God First and excellence in higher education. With 53 undergraduate majors, 37 master's degrees, 21 credentials, 7 doctoral programs, and 5 certificates, the university offers its more than 9,200 students a quality education on campus, online, and at seven regional centers throughout Southern California.
www.apu.edu



The Beast

Every high school student has to take it, despite how much we wish we didn't. The SAT. This weekend, I am going to attempt to tackle the beast and get a decent score. Colleges say that the score isn't everything, that students are more than their numbers. Well, students are 75% numbers and 25% character - the test and its scores are a big deal.

Some kids will say it is easy, others will say it is impossible. I say it's tough and I wish that I didn't have to take it. But in order to get into that dream college, I have to. I have taken the courses, prepared my mind for the four and a half hour strain that it will receive; I can only hope that it will be enough. A month ago I took the test's sibling, the ACT, and did well, but not great. To go where I dream of going, Brown University, I need that above-average score to feel confident enough in myself, to feel that I even have a chance. People have dreams because they need something to aspire to - I hope that one day my dream will become a reality.

In my room I have all my supplies together, ready for the task ahead: extra batteries for my calculator, about five number two pencils, eraser, and an angel that has been blessed by the Pope. I hope that all my studying and preparation for this test pay off. Wish me luck!

Cafe 322 will be supporting our Instrumental Music Performance by sponsoring two performances and making a donation back to our program.

Sunday, March 12 - 1:00 - 3:00 The cast and band from the Spring Musical, *Grease*, will be previewing excerpts from the upcoming musical. A PHS Jazz Combo will also be entertaining.

Monday Evening, March 13 (I think 6:00) - The PHS Jazz Ensemble will be entertaining.

Entrance to each event is \$10 and includes a delicious buffet and top notch entertainment.

Hope to see you there! Tell your friends and family!

Cafe 322 is located at 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd in Sierra Madre

Thanks for supporting the PHS Instrumental Music Program.

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2011 SGV Spring School Games

School Day Athletics Competitions hosted by:
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Special Olympics Athlete oath— "Let me Win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

School Games is a partnership between Special Olympics and Adapted Physical Education Teachers to offer sports training and athletic competition programs for students with intellectual disabilities and other special needs. This year's event will be the culmination of a six week athletics training program that promotes the development of life-long fitness skills that will help student-athletes lead a more productive and independent life.

DATE & LOCATION	SCHEDULE
DATE: Friday, March 25th, 2011	7:00 am..... Volunteer Check-In
LOCATION: San Marino High School 2701 Huntington Drive, San Marino, CA 91108	9:00 am..... School Check-In
	9:45 am Welcome
	10:00 am..... Competition
	1:00 pm..... Closing

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Teresa Borunda | Regional Sports Manager
tborunda@sosc.org | 310-400-3114

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2011 SGV SCHOOL GAMES

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

Arcadia High School
180 Campus Drive Arcadia, Ca. 91007
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: David L. Vannasdall

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

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

Bethany Christian School
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3527 Principal: James 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) 355-2410 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
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 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

Walden School
74 S San Gabriel Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166
www.waldenschool.net

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

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

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

PUSD REOPENS ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR 2011 - 2012 SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Applications Accepted February 28-March 4 for Limited Spots in College & Career Pathways and Spanish/Mandarin Chinese Dual Language Immersion Programs

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) announced that it will accept student applications for its Signature Programs that offer themed or specialized instruction for elementary and high school students during a second priority open enrollment application period from February 28-March 4, 2011.

A limited number of spots remain available for students who wish to attend one of the District's Signature Programs but do not reside in the attendance area for that school. The two Signature Programs are:

- College & Career Pathways at PUSD high schools that offer a college preparatory curriculum with specialized course study in the following areas:
 - o Health Careers
 - o Creative Arts, Media & Design
 - o Information & Technology
 - o Engineering and Environmental Science
 - o Business and Entrepreneurship
 - o Arts, Entertainment and Media
- Dual Language Immersion, starting in Kindergarten, where students learn core academic subjects in English and another language:
 - o Spanish at San Rafael Elementary
 - o Mandarin Chinese at Field Elementary

The 2011-2012 Open Enrollment second priority application period for PUSD Signature Programs begins Monday, February 28 and will end Friday, March 4, 2011 at 5 p.m. Applications are accepted online at www.openenrollment.info.

Families who need internet access or help completing the online application can visit PUSD's District's Welcome Center, located in Room 121, 351 South Hudson, Pasadena. Computers and assistance are available Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To contact the Welcome Center-Office of Permits, call 626-396-3600, extension 88340.

Students must reside within the areas served by PUSD: Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre. Students applying for Pathways must be current 8th graders or current 9th graders who do not reside in the attendance area of the Pathway they are choosing. Students applying for Dual Language Immersion Programs must enter Kindergarten in Fall 2011 and be 5 years old on or before December 2, 2011. Students accepted into a signature program are granted a permit which will not be renewed if the student declines to remain in the program.

FOOTHILL UNITY CENTER CALLS FOR HEART IN HAND HUMANITARIAN NOMINATIONS

Awards to be presented at 2011 Golden Plate Awards Gala June 23 at Santa Anita Park

Foothill Unity Center has opened community nominations for this year's Heart in Hand Humanitarian Award, the top honor to be presented at its Annual Golden Plate Awards Gala. The event, slated for Thursday, June 23, at Santa Anita Park, will celebrate the Center's thirty-one years of providing food and crisis services to local families.

"We're asking everyone in our local communities to help us find and recognize a very special person whose efforts have made an exceptional difference in the lives of others," said Joan Whitenack, the Center's Executive Director. "The activities do not need to be associated with Foothill Unity Center, and they may be done either on a volunteer basis or in connection with the nominee's regular work."

Nomination forms may be downloaded at <http://www.foothillunitycenter.org> or picked up at either of the Center's distribution sites, 415 West Chestnut in Monrovia and 191 North Oak in Pasadena. The submission

deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 15.

The Golden Plate Awards Gala, the Center's only major fundraiser of the year, honors individuals, organizations and businesses that have made a major difference in their communities. This year's evening under the stars at Santa Anita Park racetrack will feature dinner, an awards program, prizes and entertainment.

Local businesses/groups are asked to help by donating prizes for its live and silent auctions. Prize donations valued at \$50 or more received by Friday, May 27, will be acknowledged in the event program. For information on sponsorship opportunities, email linda@foothillunitycenter.org.

About Foothill Unity Center

Since its founding in 1980, Foothill Unity Center has been committed to helping local people in need with love and dignity. Today, the nonprofit secular organization distributes over four million pounds of food annually to more than 4,000 unduplicated very low-income families in eleven San Gabriel Valley cities: Monrovia, Arcadia, Sierra Madre,

Bradbury, Duarte, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Irwindale, Pasadena, South Pasadena and Altadena. All clients are recertified annually. The Center also provides vital crisis services including transitional help for victims of domestic violence, rental and utilities assistance, work experience, and large back-to-school and holiday distributions. Its newest initiative is a comprehensive client health services program in partnership with community care allies.

The organization accepts referrals from over 100 organizations in the greater San Gabriel Valley, is active in coalitions and advocacy groups, and works with virtually every local emergency services provider. In 2008, it was federally designated the Community Action Agency for the Foothill Area. The Center enjoys strong, diversified support from local individuals, businesses, organizations, schools, churches and other community partners, together with funding from federal and foundation grants. For the past nine years, an average of 95% of every dollar has gone to programs, with less than 5% used for administration and fundraising.

RUN OFF LIKELY IN PUSD SEAT 6 RACE

With the final count just days away, the preliminary results of the Pasadena Unified School District races indicate that there are clear winners for two of the seats. The third, it appears, may be required to have a run-off.

Incumbent Renatta Cooper handily beat back a challenge from write-in candidate Cushon Bell, with 94.4% of the vote. Bell entered the race very late, but was able to garner almost 6% of the vote in approximately two weeks. However, the Cooper will retain her place in Seat 2. The race for Seat 4 was much closer, but a clear winner emerged, Kim Kenne. She defeated Gene Stevenson by several hundred votes.

However, in the 3 way race for Seat 6, it appears that a run off will occur between incumbent Tom Selinski and newcomer Sean Baggett.

At press time, the Pasadena City Clerk Mark Jomsky formally announced that "due to the large number of vote-by-mail and provisional ballots received prior to the closure of the polls on election day, Tuesday, March 8, for the consolidated City of Pasadena and Pasadena Unified School District Primary Nominating Election, the post-election machine count of the second batch of vote by mail and provisional ballots has been rescheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. (or thereafter) Wednesday, March 16, in Room S228 at Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Avenue. The required manual tally of ballots for one percent of the precincts will begin at 3p.m. (or thereafter)."

The outcome of the post election count will determine whether or not a run-off will be needed.

PUSD Seat 2
74 of 74 Precincts Reporting

- **Renatta Cooper** -- 11,465 Votes (94.4 %)
- Cushon Bell -- 683 Votes (5.6 %)

PUSD Seat 4
74 of 74 Precincts Reporting

- Gene Stevenson -- 6,186 Votes (44.8 %)
- **Kimberly Kenne** -- 7,604 Votes (55.1 %)

PUSD Seat 6
74 of 74 Precincts Reporting

- Tom Selinski -- 6,785 Votes (47.3 %)
- Sean J. Baggett -- 5,030 Votes (35.0 %)
- Gaylaid Christopher 2,520 Votes (17.5 %)

SEAT 6 - Run Off Likely

TOM SELINSKE



Businessperson/Educator/
School Board Member

SEAN BAGGETT



Teacher/School
Administrator

"Eyes Wide Open"/ "No Going Back"



San Marino Community Church welcomes you to Sunday worship during Lent. Pastor, Rev. Jeffrey V. O'Grady preaches at the 9:15 traditional



service and Worship & Music Assistant and Fuller Seminary PhD candidate Noel Snyder preaches at "The Gathering" at 11:15 am.

- 9:15 am Traditional & Student Worship Services
Sunday school (K-5) and childcare provided
- 10:30 am Adult Spiritual Formation
- 11:15 am "The Gathering" worship service
Casual worship, multi-voice ensemble, childcare provided

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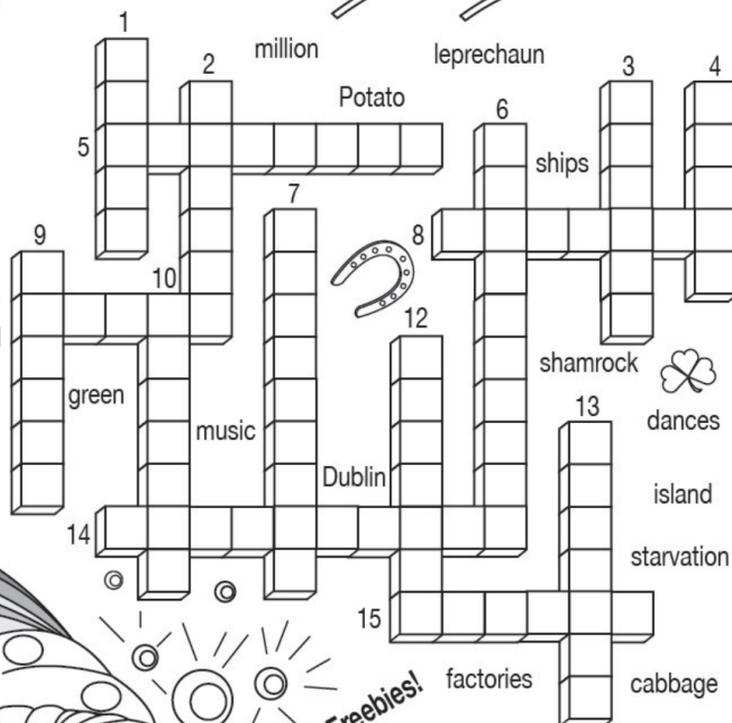


Celebrating St. Patrick's Day

You won't see me, but I'll be part of all the fun and festivities for St. Patrick's Day. I love the Irish dancers and music of the harpists, bagpipers, fiddlers and drummers. I follow the floats and bands in the parades. I even pop into a few homes to taste the family's special treats and meals like corned beef and cabbage. You can look for me if you want...I'm the knee-high guy wearing green and holding a 4-leaf shamrock. **Meanwhile, fill in my puzzle about Ireland and celebrating St. Patrick's Day.**

- 12 is a beautiful "Emerald" 9 in the Atlantic Ocean. It is west of England, separated by the Irish Sea.
- The capital and largest city in Ireland is called 15.
- In the mid-1800s, an important crop suffered a terrible blight, causing what is now called the "Great 3 Famine."
- To escape 6, about one and a half 13 people left Ireland and sailed in 11 to get to America.
- Most arrived in large cities and took jobs in 7.
- Today in America, the Irish people share their joy of 1 and 2, like the Irish jig, with everyone else on St. Patrick's Day.
- People like to wear something that is 4.
- You might hear a story about how lucky it is to find a four-leaf 5 or to catch a 14.
- Some cities dye a river or the water in a fountain green and people line the streets to watch 10.
- Everyone can enjoy an Irish-American dinner of corned beef and 8.

Ireland
parades



Freebies! Visit our web site to print out our new fun crossword puzzles: **Winter Words** (synonyms) and **Cooking is Cool!** While there, print out the newest reading log and certificate set:
www.readingclubfun.com

PASADENA SHINES FOR RESTAURANT WEEK

Pasadena's restaurant community opens its doors for the first *Pasadena Restaurant Week* which takes place from Sunday, March 27 through Friday, April 1, 2011.

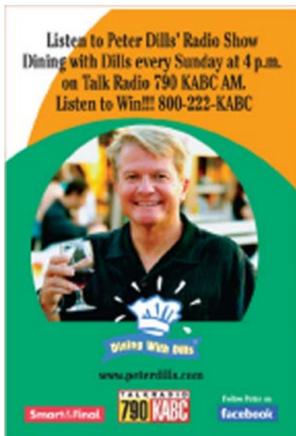
Pasadena Restaurant Week is a citywide event featuring the cuisine of many of Pasadena's top dining establishments. Participating restaurants will offer at least three fixed price dinner and/or lunch menu items for visitors. Dinners will be three-course meals while lunches will be two course meals. Depending on the venue and menu offered, meals will be priced at \$23, \$34 or \$45 for dinner or \$15, \$20 or \$25 for lunch. (Some prices may vary for lunch and dinner, depending on the venue. Alcoholic beverages, gratuity and tax are not included in the price unless specified by the individual restaurants.)

Pasadena Restaurant Week was conceived to reintroduce Pasadena as a restaurant destination and remind local residents and visitors that Pasadena offers dining experiences to satisfy foodies of all tastes at all price ranges. Participating restaurants will be preparing special meals at extraordinary introductory prices.

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills

Restaurants that are participating include some of the city's finest eating destinations including:

- 1810 (eighteen ten), a/k/a An American Bistro
- Bar Celona
- Celestino Ristorante
- Derek's Bistro
- El Cholo
- El Portal
- Elements Kitchen
- Green Street Restaurant
- Japon Bistro
- Malbec
- Maria's Italian Kitchen
- Mijares
- Noir Food and Wine
- Pie 'n Burger
- Robin's Woodfire BBQ and Grill
- Ruth's Chris Steak House
- The Terrace at the Langham
- Trevo's at the Hilton
- Villa Sorriso and Ix-Tapa.



It is anticipated that more than 30 local dining establishments will take part in Pasadena Restaurant Week.

"It is very exciting to have so many fine restaurants taking part," said Paul Little, president and chief executive officer of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. "The event is generating a lot of enthusiasm from our restaurateurs who are excited to be able to showcase their extraordinary menus for visitors during Pasadena Restaurant Week."

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce and Civic Association is a professional business organization. Since the earliest days of Pasadena, the Chamber has played a major role in the development of this internationally renowned city. Since 1888, when the organization was founded as the Board of Trade, the Chamber's primary purpose has been the enhancement of both the business climate and the quality of life in Pasadena. The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce serves 1500 members.

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THE GIRL SCOUT COOKIE CONSPIRACY

By Rev. James L. Snyder

I am not a great believer in conspiracies.

I do not believe Bigfoot really exists except in the strained imaginations of some people. Some want to believe in Bigfoot, and some need to believe in Bigfoot. I'm not one of them.

I do not believe in the Loch Ness monster. I am sure some Scotsman, after a few nips at the jug, saw something. One thing about the Loch Ness monster is it has been good for tourist trade in Scotland. Who but a Scotsman could figure out a way to make money out of some illusionary figment of someone's imagination?

I do not believe in UFOs. The only UFO I have ever seen was right after the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I were married. Often when coming home from work I was treated to a UFO (Unidentified Fried Object). I am not complaining because whatever they were, they were delicious. I really do not have to know what I am eating to enjoy what I am eating.

But when it comes all these conspiracies, I cast a jaundiced eye toward them.

None of these so-called conspiracies has ever registered in my book. This past week, however, I have discovered that there is a real conspiracy afoot.

It was a Saturday afternoon and I had just finished some work at my office and was headed home. My wife asked me to pick up a few things at the grocery store on my way home, and I proceeded to do so. I had no idea what I was headed for or what was in store for me.

I parked and then headed for the entrance to the grocery store. Halfway across the parking lot I spied them. At first, it sent a chill up my spine because there was no way to get into the grocery store without passing them. I glanced to my right and then looked to my left but there was no other entrance into the grocery store.

I approached the store entrance slowly and the closer I got to it the bigger they became. There were six of them and they had spied me right off. It was enough to cause me to lose my nerve.

I had never seen such a sight before. There before me were six of the biggest, brown eyes I had ever seen. The closer I got, the bigger they became. And the bigger they got, the smaller my nerve got.

But I was determined. Nothing was going to flag my gait into the grocery store. Then I heard them. It was bad enough to see them but now I was close enough to hear them.

"Hey Mr., want some Girl Scout cookies?"

Those words cut deep into my soul as nothing I had ever experienced before. I thought if I just could ignore them, they would disappear.

"What's the matter Mr., don't you like Girl Scout cookies?"

Don't I like Girl Scout cookies? I'll say. I love them.

These six large brown eyes came in pairs and adorned three very adorable young girls dressed up as Girl Scouts.

If only they would have been boys, I could have handled it better. If they were boys I could have said, "Not today, boys. I'm in a hurry."

But, they were Girl Scouts. Cute, little Girl Scouts with big brown eyes.

"Mr., it's only \$4.00 a box. How many boxes do you want?"

How many do I want? That is not the question. The question is, how many boxes do you have? Better yet, how many can I hide from my wife when I get home?

I stood at their table and pretended to look at the variety of cookies they had for sale. But as everybody knows, one Girl Scout cookie is as good as any Girl Scout cookie. Besides, it does go for a good cause.

Now that I was at their table, I had a dilemma. All I had in my pocket was a \$20 bill. As those large, brown eyes looked at me, all six of them, I just did not have the heart to buy one box and ask for change.

"They all look so good I don't know which one to pick," I said to them.

"We'll help you pick them out."

That solved that problem but I still had the problem of the \$20 bill. As I pulled the bill from my wallet, I could feel those eyes piercing into my soul. Why do Girl Scouts have to be so cute and why do they have to have such big brown eyes? This is a conspiracy if ever I heard of a conspiracy. Finally, I did what anybody else would have done.

"Give me five boxes," and I hesitated slightly, "here's \$20."

All six of those brown eyes danced as the rest of the bodies cheered quite loudly.

On my way home with my Girl Scout cookies I thought of a verse of Scripture. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38 KJV).

Not only did I have the delight of five boxes of Girl Scout cookies but also I had the joy of giving, which can never be minimized.

Editor's Note: The Moral of this story: Support Your Local Girl Scout Troop! Buy Cookies!



SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB BOXES UP CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR TROOPS



Sierra Madre Kiwanis members, l to r: Susan Henderson, President; Marc Van Cleave, Clem Bartolai, Jacki Raymond, George Maurer and Gordon Caldwell



Above, George Maurer and Gordon Caldwell have a good laugh before they get to work. The Sierra Madre club purchased 200 pairs of thermal military socks for the troops.

Left, a Glendora Kiwanis Member is surrounded by Marines from WWII, the Vietnam War, the war in Afghanistan and a Korean War Marine.

cluding they youthful Key Clubbers present for the 'stuffing as well as Marines in uniform from every generation including one Marine from World War II. Many of the volunteers were also veterans of the armed forces.

Music News

By Sierra Madre Sue Behrens

I hope I didn't miss anything! Keep those cards and letters coming....

SUN. 3/13 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. Sunday BLUES Brunch! <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

SUN. 3/13 - "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!

TUES. 3/15 - MATT DENNY'S ANNUAL ST. BALDRICK'S DAY FUNDRAISER - HAVE YOUR HEAD SHAVED TO RAISE MONEY FOR KIDS WITH CANCER. A VERY WORTHY CAUSE. CALL 626-462-0250 FOR MORE INFO.

TUES. 3/15 - "TUESDAY NIGHT TRIVIA" @ CAFE 322 with QUIZMASTER DEANNA, 8pm. \$2 per person to play, up to 4 on a team, CASH or gift certificates to the top 3 teams. Fun and educational! 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414.

...with music immediately following, as ALUMINUM MARSHMALLOW & THE AGE OF AQUARIUS HORNS hold band practice in front of a live audience! Watch and listen as they work out the bugs and get a sneak peek at their Wistaria Festival set.

WED. 3/16 - LISA FINNIE & JOHN PALMER re-duet @ RED CARPET WINE & SPIRITS IN GLENDALE, 7 - 8pm. 400 E. Glenoaks Blvd. Indoor musical delights and three-option tastings in the in-house Enomatics in the Red Carpet Wine Bar. Outdoor temptations available just outside courtesy of Vizzi Food Truck. www.redcarpetwine.com

WED. 3/16 - The Mellow D'z @ Oceanview Bistro in Montrose from 7:30-10:00 PM. 3826 Ocean View Blvd. 818-248-2722. Great food and drinks to go with cool acoustic jams. www.ovbistro.com

"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. 3/17 - ST. PADDY'S DAY PARTY @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE with THE MELLOW D'z (Dave Osti & Deanna Cogan) 5:30 - 7:30, SNOTTY SCOTTY & THE HANKIES, 8 - 10pm and more... 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414.

THURS. 3/17 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 6 - 9pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. Burgers, Brews & BLUES Every Thursday. <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

THURS. 3/17 - St. Patrick's Day at Matt Denny's Ale House in Arcadia, with The Nackers Irish Band, 6 - 11pm under the ginormous tent in the parking lot. 21 & over with I.D. after 4:00 p.m. 145 E. Huntington Dr., between 1st & 2nd Aves. 626-462-0250. Always a heck of a party!

THURS. 3/17 - ST. PADDY'S DAY PARTY with GROOVY LEMON PIE @ T. BOYLE'S TAVERN IN PASADENA, 9pm. 37 N. Catalina Ave., just N. of Colorado Blvd. (formerly Toe's Tavern and the Handlebars) Gregory James, Tom Jenkins, Jorge Mena, Gary Putman. Classic Rock and beyond! www.glpie.com

FRI. 3/18 - THE MELLOW D'z (Dave Osti & Deanna Cogan) @ Cafe 322 in Sierra Madre, 5:30 - 7:30pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Great happy hour discounts on food and drinks from 4:30-6:30. Acoustic Rock faves.

FRI. 3/18 - Day After St. Patrick's Day Rock and Roll Patio Party and Dinner with Horses on AstroTurf Trio @ The American Legion in East Pasadena. Featuring a traditional Irish corned beef and cabbage dinner. Raffle prizes including a 50/50 cash prize, a steamer trunk filled with a variety of assorted spirits and more. \$7 donation for dinner and the band or \$3 donation just to see the band. Band begins at 7:30...dinner begins about 5:00. Band will be on the patio...heaters provided...weather permitting. 179 N. Vinedo Ave. 626-792-9938.

FRI. 3/18 - MERCY & THE MERKETT'S DANCE PARTY @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm - Midnite. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. R&B, Disco, Motown, Rock, Blues. Last month was a gas!

SUN. 3/20 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. Sunday BLUES Brunch! <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

SUN. 3/20 - ANNUAL WISTARIA FESTIVAL IN DOWNTOWN SIERRA MADRE, 9am - 5pm. Arts & crafts fair, food booths, tons of live music and purple blossoms! ALUMINUM MARSHMALLOW, HORSES ON ASTROTURF, ? AND THE WISTARIANS, LEN MENDOZA, DAVE SHELTON and many more. I drove by the world-famous vine today and I think it's going to be a great bloom this year.

SUN. 3/20 - "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!

TUES. 3/22 - "JC & Friends Songwriter Serenade" @ MATT DENNY'S ALEHOUSE & RESTAURANT IN ARCADIA, 7 - 9:30pm. 145 E. Huntington Dr., between 1st & 2nd Aves. 626-462-0250. Full bar & kitchen, all ages. A weekly acoustic show of songwriters playing original songs, either as a solo or duo act, outside on the covered, heated patio. This week's artists: Brooke Williams, Jeffrey Michaels, and Sweet Potatoes. <http://www.jchyke.com/>

WED. 3/23 - LISA FINNIE & JOHN PALMER re-duet @ RED CARPET WINE & SPIRITS IN GLENDALE, 7 - 8pm. 400 E. Glenoaks Blvd. Indoor musical delights and three-option tastings via the in-house Enomatics in the Red Carpet Wine Bar. Outdoor temptations available just outside courtesy of Vizzi Food Truck. www.redcarpetwine.com

FRI. 3/25 - THE MELLOW D'z (Dave Osti & Deanna Cogan) @ Cafe 322 in Sierra Madre, 5:30 - 7:30pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Great happy hour discounts on food and drinks from 4:30-6:30. Acoustic Rock faves.

FRI. 3/25 - SWING DANCE PARTY with FLAT TOP TOM & HIS JUMPCATS @ CAFE 322, 8 - 11pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar, great Italian food, dance floor.

SUN. 3/27 - "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!

WED. 3/30 - LISA FINNIE & JOHN PALMER re-duet @ RED CARPET WINE & SPIRITS IN GLENDALE, 7 - 8pm. 400 E. Glenoaks Blvd. Indoor musical delights and three-option tastings via the in-house Enomatics in the Red Carpet Wine Bar. Outdoor temptations available just outside courtesy of Vizzi Food Truck. www.redcarpetwine.com

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****NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES FOR THE 2011 DOO DAH PARADE! Parade Day is Saturday, April 30th, 11:00am in East Pasadena. Be part of one of the most colorful and unique experiences around! Go to: pasadenadoodahparade.info -- and under "Entry Form" sign up now! Queen tryouts will be held on Sat. 4/2 @ the American Legion.

ADAMS' PACK STATION at Chantry Flat, Angeles National Forest is now booking music for the Spring/Summer season. Email Deb Burgess for info. dburgess@burcon-group.com (From the 210 Fwy in Arcadia/Sierra Madre, Take Santa Anita Avenue North until it dead-ends at the parking lot.) Stay tuned to the Music News for artists, dates and times. JC Hycle, Jeannie Willets, 2 Frets Lower, Tom Renaud, Lisa Turner & Friends, Tim Tedrow and many more!

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



Sean Kayden

SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS

Without hesitation, "The Fighter" is the most outstanding boxing movie since "Rocky". In many ways, it even triumphs over the timeless classic. "The Fighter" stars Mark Wahlberg as Micky Ward,

a down on his luck boxer from working-class town Lowell, Massachusetts. He is all heart, but unfortunately isn't living up to his complete potential. His half-brother, Dicky Eklund, played meticulously by Christian Bale is Micky's trainer. While Dicky was a prominent fighter in his own day (proclaiming throughout the movie that he knocked down Sugar Ray Leonard), he took a turn for the worse by quickly falling into the drudgery of hard drugs that ultimately wasted any chance of a promising career. The astonishing Melissa Leo plays Alice Ward, Mickey's controlling mother and manager. She may be difficult and a true pain to deal with at times, however in the end, she does have the best intentions for her son. Lastly, there is Charlene Fleming, characterized by the beautiful and ultra talented Amy Adams as Micky's love interest and muse. She's one tough chick that packs her own one-two punch. Adams is intoxicating to watch in a role she's really never tackled before. Toward the third act, "The Fighter" does drift into familiar inspirational movie territory. However, it really doesn't matter because by the end, you're rooting and cheering for not only Micky, but also the entire family. "The Fighter" is less about boxing and more about a struggling family trying to stick together and make something truly special happen. To say the absolute least, the acting performances by the entire ensemble are the year's unequivocal best. It's the small and intimate moments in "The Fighter" that truly make it an undisputed winner.

Mark Wahlberg had been physically training for the movie for over four years. It had been an uphill battle to get this story on to the big screen, but fortunately, director David O. Russell, best known for his superb satirical Persian Gulf War movie, "Three Kings", took the reins (after the departure of Darren Aronofsky) and guided Wahlberg and company in the making of this film. This is Wahlberg and Russell's third collaboration together. Arguably, Wahlberg's best work has come from under Russell's direction. In this particular

case, it's no different. Wahlberg throws it all out on the table and convinces the audience that he does possess some acting prowess despite a string of less-than-average films over the past few years. After both Brad Pitt and Matt Damon dropped out due to scheduling conflicts, Christian Bale entered the scene to play Dicky Eklund. Allow me to say, Bale IS Eklund. Bottom line, Bale seeps into the role perfectly and effortlessly and produces his best acting performance to date (recently awarded his first Academy Award for the role). There is a perfect rhythm to his portrayal of Eklund. Bale does such an incredible job mastering and mimicking all of Eklund's mannerisms, nuances, and quirks. The movie is terrific, but it's Bale's presentation that is stellar, poignant, heart

The Fighter

Theatrical Release Date: December 17, 2010
Directed by: David O. Russell
Screenplay by: Scott Silver, Paul Tamasy, and Eric Johnson

DVD/Blu-ray Release Date: March 15, 2011

wrenching and utterly spectacular. This is what Oscar performances are made of.

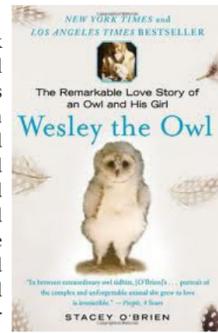
Filmed in 33 days for less than \$20 million and shot on location, the movie accurately depicts the working-class life of Lowell. Additionally, David O. Russell does an exceptional job in keeping a raw, yet authentic appearance within all of his scenes. It truly creates a definite mood and distinctive setting for the viewer to feel as if they're right at home with the actors. For a movie about the relationship of two brothers and the core of the story being more directed toward family life than boxing, one could easily write off the movie as another tired cliché, underdog sports drama. However, be it as it may, "The Fighter" throws you punch after punch that you never see coming. It's an original piece of storytelling that will bring you sadness and heartache, but also provide you with laughter, happiness, motivation and most of all, inspiration. In the end, "The Fighter" is a brilliantly beautiful and rare movie with a plethora of powerhouse performances that will have you both smiling and possibly shedding a tear or two. Now when's the last time you felt that way watching a film? Do yourself a favor and go watch (or preferably purchase on DVD or Blu-ray) the best movie of 2010!

Grade: 5 out of 5

Jeff's Pics

Wesley the Owl: The Remarkable Love Story of an Owl and His Girl by Stacey O'Brien

In this book biologist and barn owl expert O'Brien relates her rescue of an adorable, abandoned baby barn owl and their amazing and unprecedented nineteen year life together. Told with both wit and wonder, this memoir relates the touching, frustrating, and funny events of Wesley's growing up. After being rescued from a fall that ensures he will never be able to survive in the wild, Wesley finds a new home with biologist O'Brien. With affection and a scientist's eye, O'Brien narrates Wesley's growth from a helpless ball of fuzz to a playful and clumsy adolescent and finally to an adult owl. Along the way, Wesley's caretaker makes important discoveries about barn owl behavior, intelligence, communication skills, and emotions. Ultimately, the biologist who saved the life of a helpless baby bird is herself rescued by the insistent love and protective strength of this wild animal. O'Brien's anecdotes are enhanced by wonderful photos. This is a surprising story of a complex non human being capable of reason, love, communication, and loyalty, sure

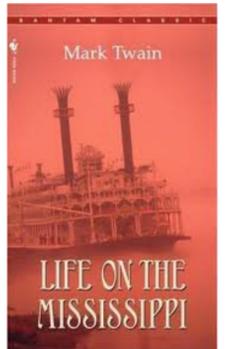


The Book Report

to be cherished by animal lovers everywhere. O'Brien is a biologist, wildlife rescuer, and animal rehabilitation expert specializing in owl research.

Life on the Mississippi by Mark Twain

The book begins with a brief history of the river from its discovery by Hernando de Soto in 1541 and then describes Twain's career as a Mississippi steambot pilot, the fulfillment of a childhood dream. The second half of Life on the Mississippi tells of Twain's return, many years after, to travel the river from St. Louis to New Orleans. By then the competition from railroads had made steamboats passe, in spite of improvements in navigation and boat construction. Twain sees new cities on the river, and records his observations on greed, gullibility, and bad architecture. This is a romantic history of a mighty river, an autobiographical account of Twain's early steambot days, and a storehouse of humorous anecdotes and sketches, here is the material from which Mark Twain wrote his finest novel, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Told with insight, humor, and candor, Life on the Mississippi is an American classic.



JOHN WALKER OF THE WALKER BROTHERS AT CAFÉ 322

Fans of 60s music are in for a treat: Local resident and Universal recording artist John Walker will be performing his hits from the 60s and 70s at a special engagement at Café 322 in Sierra Madre. This show will mark his first since being diagnosed with advanced liver cancer in 2010. It will also mark the first show with his newly formed "The John Walker Band".

Walker, who usually tours in the UK, Europe, and the east coast, was forced to cancel his scheduled concerts abroad when he learned of the cancer and began treatment. Through it all, he has put together a show featuring top Walker Brothers hits, originals, and audience favorites from the 60s and 70s. His "The John Walker Band" will kick off the evening at 8:00. *Reservations for the event are required.*

Walker formed "The Walker Brothers" in 1963, after having already established himself as a recording artist, bandleader, singer, songwriter, and guitarist. Rock and roll was taking America by storm then, and John, with fellow "Walker Brother" Scott Engel, made regular appearances on the early music shows like "Shindig" and "Ninth Street A GoGo". *News-*

week Magazine featured their press photo in an article about the new rock and roll craze.

The band, which included Al "Tiny" Schneider on drums, also became the house band at the legendary "Gazarris" on La Cienega's Restaurant Row. Audiences lined up around the block each night to see them play. John and Scott signed to Mercury in 1964 and began recording their songs in a radically new style, known as *The Wall of Sound*, that was emerging on the west coast with other artists like The Beach Boys, The Righteous Brothers, and producer Phil Spector. At the invitation of local drummer Gary Leeds, the singing duo moved to England and continued recording a series of dramatic chart topping ballads, including the iconic NO. 1's "The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Anymore" and "Make It Easy On Yourself", and top hits like "My Ship Is Coming In" and "No Regrets".

Walker moved back to America in the 80's and has lived in the LA area for several years. He is the only Walker Brother still performing, recording CD's, and making television

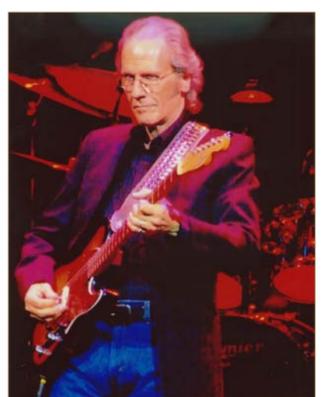


Photo by Mike Abbott

appearances. In 2009, John Blake Publishing in London released Mr. Walker's autobiography ("The Walker Brothers No Regrets Our Story by John Walker and Gary Walker"), a fascinating collection of stories recalling the early days of the LA music and club scene, and living in London and the south of France in the "Swinging 60s" during the group's height of popularity.

Official sites: www.thewalkerbrosjohnwalker.com www.johnwalkerinternational.com European Site: www.john-walker.org

OUR TOWN

by Thornton Wilder

March 11 - April 16
Directed by Sabina Ptasznik

Our Town explores the lives of people living in Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, a small quintessentially American town in 1901. It is a timeless story of life that is still being played out. *Our Town* was first produced in 1938 and received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

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

HAIL Hamilton **My Turn** The Real Reagan Legacy: Part IV



Having been forced to endure a week celebrating the 100th anniversary of President Reagan's birth and listening to conservatives tripping over themselves trying to outdo each other's recollections of the "The Gipper" was almost more than I could bear. What is all but forgotten by these neocon revisionists are the views expressed at the time by some of his contemporary peers and associates -- loyal admirers and critics alike. I thought it would be a fitting conclusion of this series to hear what some of these people had to say about him:

Jim Cannon (an aide to Howard Baker) reported that Reagan's underlings told him stories about how inattentive and inept the President was.... "They said he wouldn't come to work -- all he wanted to do was watch movies and television at the residence."

Lee Hamilton (Representative from Indiana) in an interview with Haynes Johnson, told him: "Reagan's only contribution [to the subject of the MX missile] throughout the entire hour and a half was to interrupt somewhere at mid-point to tell us he'd watched a movie

the night before, and he gave us the plot from WarGames, the movie. That was his only contribution."

Columnist Richard Cohen said, "This President treated is by both the press and foreign leaders as if he were a child.... It is major news when he honors a political or economic discussion with a germane remark and not an anecdote about his Hollywood days."

President Mitterrand of France Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau about Reagan: "What planet is he living on?"

Author Mark Hertsgaard, wrote that "During Mr. Reagan's trip to Europe... members of the traveling press corps watched him doze off many times -- during speeches by French President Francois Mitterrand and Italian President Alessandro Pertini, as well as during a one-on-one audience with the Pope -- that they privately christened the trip "The Big Sleep."

David Nyhan, Boston Globe columnist wrote: "He demonstrated for all to see how far you can go in this life with a smile, a shoeshine and the nerve to put your own spin on the facts."



Reagan's good friend, **British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher**, "Poor dear, there's nothing between his ears."

Columnist David Broder, "The task of watering the arid desert between Reagan's ears is a challenging one for his aides."

Actress and Author Patti Davis (formerly Patricia Ann Reagan) talking about her father, "He has the ability to make statements that are so far outside the parameters of logic that they leave you speechless."

Larry Speakes (Reagan's former press secretary) describing what it was like preparing the President for a press conference: "...like reinventing the wheel."

Public Interest Author Mark Green, "This loathing for government, this eagerness to prove that any program to aid the disadvantaged is nothing but a boondoggle and a money gobble, leads him to contrive statistics and stories with unmatched vigor."

Former President Jimmy Carter observed, "President Reagan doesn't

always check the facts before he makes statements, and the press accepts this as kind of amusing."

James David Barber, presidential scholar, "Ronald Reagan is the first modern President whose contempt for the facts is treated as a charming idiosyncrasy."

British Journalist and Broadcaster Simon Hoggart: "His errors glide past unchallenged. At one point... he alleged that almost half the population gets a free meal from the government each day. No one told him he was crazy. The general message of the American press is that, yes, while it is perfectly true that the emperor has no clothes, nudity is actually very acceptable this year."

Reagan's macabre and farcical sense of humor: As a sound check prior to a speech while running for reelection in 1984, Reagan made the following joke (later leaked) to a radio technician: "My fellow Americans, I'm pleased to tell you today that I've signed legislation that will outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes."

And there we have.....Ronald Reagan

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



Oh no; it's already election time again. Help, I'm just not ready for it. Republican candidates are already testing the waters - (frankly I would not be too upset if they all fell in) and we are about to be bombarded with their endless campaigns. Campaigns for what? Why would anyone want to be President or Governor during these impossible times? Meg Whitman spent something like \$180,000,000 of her own money in an attempt to be elected, when she had never before even taken the trouble to vote.

I just finished reading a pretty terrific book called the 'imperfectorists' (the title isn't capitalized), written by Tom Rachman. The second chapter of the book describes a fictional formerly famous writer talking about the silliness of her own life. Basically, she describes her life as being an attempt to say to the world, "SHUT UP AND LISTEN TO ME". I had thought about using that statement as the title of this article but, alas, I lacked the courage. You might have thought I was serious; but that's the dilemma. I do want the world to shut up and listen to me - despite the fact that I know I have little to say and really don't even believe I know what I'm talking about. Still I want the world to listen to me but perhaps not listen too closely or do any fact-checking.

Seriously, what am I doing writing this thing at three o'clock in the morning when I have to be at work in just a few hours? And, not only this one time, this is my 172nd article, and each time I write I am not certain that I have anything to say. So why don't I just shut up, get out of the way and let the world go on its merry

way to destruction? I kind of don't know the answer to the question but it's the kind need that is discussed in the book. The character in the book states, "Here is a fact: nothing in all civilization has been as productive as ludicrous ambition. Whatever its ills, nothing has created more. Cathedrals, sonatas, encyclopedias: love of God was not behind them, nor love of life. But the love of man to be worshipped by man."

The love of man to be worshipped by man. What does that mean? Later, the character declares, "I say that ambition is absurd, and yet I remain in its thrall. It's like being a slave all your life, then learning one day that you never had a master, and returning to work all the same... I know all this but I can't get it through my head."

I too know all this, but can't really get it out of my head. Like the character in the book I feel like my life has been inadequately realized. I should have done more, achieved more. Perhaps if I had tried harder, or was more talented I could have swindled mortality and lived eternally. No, I don't believe that-it's just that I wish I had accomplished more. Still, I have not given up. These little articles, surprisingly, have touched some people and in a way have opened me to new experiences.

Really, I have been touched by the knowledgeable staff at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in North Hollywood. The clerk, after some conversation, actually went to the shelves, picked out the book, and said "Read this!" My wife was a witness. This little incident is one of the reasons that I grieve at the closing of Bookstores. The opportunity to discuss books with people who care about them is one of the great joys of my life. The holding of the book in my hands somehow weds me to

GIVE ME YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE

other readers and to the loving effort that the author put into his or her creation. I do not want Bookstores to disappear and I want the world to pay attention to me and to keep Bookstores alive.

People - please buy and read books! And while you are at it, please take the time to know and appreciate other people. It is all connected and I fear we are all going to lose ourselves in the vast ephemera of cyberspace. One of the great and unanswerable cosmological questions for me is, "How do you get something from nothing?" Perhaps the answer is ambition and motivation and need. Mankind has expressed the craving for an enlightened civilization through the creation and existence of books. Books, for better or worse, have been vital in the construction of what we are, and what we are should not be lost. Does this make any sense? You and I have great needs to affect the world, even though we know, deep down, that the world will indifferently go on its way without us.

Two hundred and fifty years ago (1763) Samuel Johnson described this need as follows:

*There lurks in every human heart
a desire of distinction
which inclines every man
first to hope
and then to believe
that nature has given him
something peculiar to himself.*

Best of luck to all the candidates - win or lose - we understand.

LEFT TURN/RIGHT TURN

HOWARD Hays As I See It



I didn't have to prepare an itinerary for an out-of-state guest last week; from recollections of his last visit, he knew just what he wanted to do his first night in town. So - we enjoyed a set of great jazz at Cafe 322 (Harry Smallenburg Jazz Nonet), then walked down the street to join the crowd at The Buccaneer. Everyone there was having a good time, but in overhearing snippets of conversations I sensed an undercurrent of concerns; whether family problems, boyfriend/girlfriend issues, employment anxieties, prospects for the Lakers in the playoffs, etc. I realized most columns such as mine are inclined to simply bring further worries to readers who already have enough of their own. For this reason, I decided this week to instead mention a few things to feel good about.

1. State pension funds are in fine shape. Funds are stable and have recovered nicely, along with Wall Street, from the recession. Alarms to the contrary have come from those funded by the likes of the Koch Brothers, using gimmicks like pegging anticipated returns to the lowest T-bill rate rather than more typical investments, or taking a fund's liabilities, the amount it expects to pay to enrollees over their lifetimes, and showing it as a percentage of a state's budget for a single year. Some might feel good to know few are getting rich off their pensions. According to AFSCME, the average public pension is \$19,500 yearly - and for many it's in lieu of, rather than in addition to, Social Security. 1,600 California state retirees are pulling in pensions exceeding \$100k yearly, but that's less than 1% of the total. The average CalPERS pension is \$25,000 - with no Social Security to supplement it. Where there are problems, we know the cause. In New Jersey, with one of the country's weakest funds, the problem goes back twenty years to financing tax cuts for the rich by cutting state contributions to the pension fund. (States contribute about a quarter of a fund's income, with the rest from employee contributions and investment). Now, after pushing through another billion

in tax cuts for the wealthiest, Gov. Chris Christie (R) refuses to make his state's contribution to the fund (less than 2% of the state's budget) unless workers agree to a tax hike and a cut in benefits.

In Wisconsin, site of the current capital showdown, the pension fund remained strong with 99.7% of liabilities funded (the GAO regards 80% as a good mark of stability). There again, the problem isn't with the fund but with a new governor, Scott Walker (R), ramming through tax cuts for the wealthiest and expecting to pay for it by raiding workers' retirements.

2. There's no problem with Social Security. According to Robert Reich, former trustee of the Social Security trust fund, until last year Social Security was taking in more than it was paying out, with the surplus loaned to the government. Collecting on those loans, Social Security would remain fully solvent for another 26 years. The situation after 26 years is easy enough to prepare for. Back in 1983, a formula was devised where 90% of the nation's wages would be taxed for Social Security. A ceiling under which annual wages would be taxed was established, to be adjusted for inflation. Today that ceiling stands at \$106,800, above which income is exempt from Social Security taxes. The problem lies in growing income inequality. In 1983, the richest 1% had less than 12% of the nation's income; today it's more than 20%, so more income is above the ceiling, exempt from taxes. Only 84% of the nation's income is now beneath the \$106,800 ceiling. Raising it to \$180,000 would again subject 90% of income to Social Security taxes. No cuts in benefits. No increase in the retirement age. No problem.

3. Cuts can be avoided. There's concern about cuts in services for those most in need. Rather than accepting them, we can look at trade-offs. A list of the costs of at-risk programs, alongside ways to cover them, was recently prepared by Donna Cooper of the Center for American Progress, including: \$11.2 billion for early childhood programs instead of \$11.5 billion in cuts to millionaires' estate taxes. \$8.9 billion for low-income housing instead of \$8.9 billion in mortgage interest deductions for vacation homes. \$4.1 billion for job training for unemployed and (cont. page 17)

Muslim Radicalization Alive And Well

One of the primary characteristics of the Left is their denial of reality. If they dislike a fact or piece of evidence, they simply deny that it is a fact. Likewise, if they feel that something should be true, they just say it is and form policy around their wishful thinking. It is on just such a basis, that the left claims the hearings on Islamic radicalization being held by Representative Pete King are racist, prejudicial to Muslims and will lead to hate crimes against Muslims. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Consider the following hard facts. (1) Recent analysis of terrorism statistics released by our own Justice Department showed that more than 80% of all convictions tied to terrorism since 9/11 involved defendants motivated by a radical Islamic agenda. (2) Low end estimates of the number of Muslims worldwide that believe in Jihad against the west are in the 20% range. On a world Muslim population of 1 billion, that's 200 million people who believe in terrorism.

These statistics alone prove that Muslim militancy in the U.S. is responsible for a disproportionate share of the terrorism crimes and that, worldwide, there is an even bigger problem with the affect of Islamic radicalization. This in no way implies that all American Muslims are terrorists or want to be terrorists. I will be the first to state that the vast majority of Muslims in the U.S., and in the world for that matter, are peace-loving individuals who want the same for their kids as I do for mine.

But another reality is also present. As many news reports have made abundantly clear, the peace-loving Muslims in the world are intimidated into silence by the radical minority. This isn't to blame them; when threatened with death or worse if you speak out, most people will remain quiet. But doesn't this also mean that any efforts we make to identify the intimidators and stop the radicalization process would be a benefit to Muslims? The Congressional hearings are on the "radicalization process" not on Muslims or even Islam. If Representative King can help figure out why a disproportionately greater percentage of U.S. Muslims are turning to violence, isn't he doing Muslims who want to live in a peaceful country a favor? Instead, groups like the Council on

GREG Welborn

American-Islamic Relations and the Muslim American Society claim that by focusing on Muslims, Congress is painting a negative stereotype of Muslims. If that is the criteria to be used, then why didn't we hear any complaints when Congress held hearings on the Italian mob, black and white prison gangs, white racists, and Hispanic drug cartels? The evidence is pretty clear that Congress has simply pursued investigations where the facts warranted investigation. The sad fact is that we do have black and white prison gangs, we do have white racist groups, we do have Italian mobsters and Hispanic drug lords. We also have an Islamic terrorist problem. You have to be willingly oblivious to the truth not to see that there is an attempt to radicalize American Muslims. Should there ever be an effort to radicalize Scandinavian Lutherans, I'll be the first to call for Congressional investigations of that effort.

What's so ironic in all this is the fact that the very efforts to arouse Muslim Americans in anger against these hearings is itself an attempt at radicalization. Most Muslim Americans would be very happy if the terrorists that are trying to infiltrate their Mosques and neighborhoods were identified and stopped. The racist and inciting agents here are the self-appointed Muslim groups, like the Council on American-Islamic Relations, not Representative King or the U.S. Congress. In point of fact, at the recent trial of the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, an FBI expert testified that the Council on American-Islamic Relations was a front for Hamas, and that they, together with the Islamic Society of North America were listed as undicted co-conspirators in terrorist funding efforts.

We live in a difficult and dangerous world, which of course the world has always been. History is resplendent with examples of various groups, movements, and sometimes whole cultures that were warped by hatred and pursuit of evil. I won't deny that the Spanish Inquisition (a Christian thing) (cont. page 17)

Looking Up

with Bob Eklund



Scientists Study 4 1/2 Billion-Year-Old Meteorite

Scientists have performed a microprobe analysis of the core and outer layers of a pea-size piece of a meteorite some 4.57 billion years old to reconstruct the history of its formation, providing the first evidence that dust particles like this one experienced wildly varying environments during the planet-forming years of our solar system.

The researchers interpret these findings as evidence that dust grains traveled over large distances as the swirling proto-planetary nebula condensed into planets. The single dust grain they studied appears to have formed in the hot environment of the Sun, then may have been thrown out of the plane of the solar system to fall back into the asteroid belt and eventually to be recirculated back to the Sun.

This odyssey is consistent with some theories about how dust grains formed in the early proto-planetary nebula, or protoplanet, eventually seeding the formation

of planets.

"This has implications for how our solar system and possibly other solar systems formed and how they evolved," said Justin I. Simon, a former University of California, Berkeley, post-doctoral fellow who led the research, published in the March 4 issue of the journal *Science*. "There are a number of astrophysical models that attempt to explain the dynamics of planet formation in a proto-planetary disk, but they all have to explain the signature we find in this meteorite."

Meteorites have puzzled scientists for more than 100 years because they contain minerals that could only form in cold environments, as well as minerals that have been altered by hot environments. Carbonaceous chondrites, in particular, contain millimeter-sized chondrules and up to centimeter-sized CAIs (calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions) that were once heated to the melting point and later

welded together with cold space dust.

"These primitive meteorites are like time capsules, containing the most primitive materials in our solar system," Simon said. "CAIs are some of the most interesting meteorite components. They recorded the history of the solar system before any of the planets formed, and were the first solids to condense out of the gaseous nebula surrounding our proto-sun."

Perhaps the most popular theory explaining the composition of chondrules and CAIs is the so-called X-wind theory propounded by former UC Berkeley astronomer Frank Shu. Shu depicted the early proto-planetary disk as a washing machine, with the Sun's powerful magnetic fields churning the gas and dust and tossing dust grains formed near the Sun out of the disk.

Once expelled from the disk, the grains were pushed outward to fall like rain into the outer solar system. These grains, both

flash-heated chondrules and slowly heated CAIs, were eventually incorporated along with unheated dust into asteroids and planets.

"If you were this grain, you formed near the proto-sun, then likely moved outward to a planet-forming environment, and then back toward the inner solar system or perhaps out of the plane of the disk," Simon said. "Of course, you ended up as part of a meteorite, presumably in the asteroid belt, before you broke up and hit the Earth."

In terms of today's planets, the grain probably formed within the orbit of Mercury, moved outward through the region of planet formation to the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and then traveled back toward the Sun again.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: beklund@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 past 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.

I think one of my references is keeping me from getting hired. I am not sure who it is and I don't want to embarrass anyone. I get 2nd and 3rd round in-person interviews from employers. So, I assume they are really interested in hiring me. So, the last step is their request to check my references. Within the week, I usually receive a telephone call or e-mail saying that they have hired someone that they felt was more qualified. I really think that I am not getting a job because I have chosen the wrong people to be on my reference list. What should I do and who do I ask to be a reference? Suspicious

Dear Suspicious

It could be your references that are not helping you get a job. Try asking the employers if you did not get the position because of a bad reference. However, they probably will not disclose that to you. It is very important to select the appropriate people to list as your references. You should choose at least three very outspoken and positive people to include on your reference list.

Start by asking and interviewing at least five or more people who you feel could testify about your skills, accomplishments and personality. Let the intended references know that you are job searching and asking them for a good recommendation. Find out what areas that they would feel comfortable speaking about you to employers. References can include current supervisors or co-workers as long as you feel that you have their confidentiality. Instructors, customers, former supervisors and co-workers, clergy and business executives are also great references. Some employers will even ask for a personal reference. Add to your reference list a close personal friend or family member. Your reference list should include the name, title, company, address, telephone number and e-mail. Tailor your reference list for every position and company. Choose at least three references from your list and submit them only upon request from the employer. Please note that you must include your references, if requested, when filling out Employment Application forms. A general rule of thumb is to never include your references when submitting your Resume and Cover letter. Please do not add "references upon request" to your resume! That will date you. Create a Reference List and submit it separately and only when requested by an employer.

Always let your references know which companies and positions that you have applied. Keep them posted and let them know when they should expect a call from that company and the name of the person. Send your resume to your references so that they become familiar with your work history, skills and accomplishments. It would also be very beneficial for you to give your references information about the position and employer. This type of information will help your references to appropriately tailor their responses and give you a great referral. *Everything you ever wanted to know about how to get a job...but didn't know who to ask. Ask jai! Send your questions to: jai@resumeandcareerservices.com or visit her website www.resumeandcareerservices.com.*

Everything you ever wanted to know about how to get a jobbut did not know who to ask. ASK jai. Send your questions to: jai@resumeandcareerservices.com or visit website www.resumeandcareerservices.com, or call 310-858-85821.



Earlier this week the 2011 "Pwn2Own" Computer Hacking Contest took place at the CanSecWest security contest in Vancouver, British Columbia. The conference itself focuses on issues of importance in the field of applied digital security. The "Pwn2Own" (said: pone-2-own) hacking contest offers cash and prizes to the hacker who successfully can access and read/write information to a computer\smartphone\tablet computer on a variety of hardware and software platforms, outside of the prescribed security operating parameters. Contestants are limited to accessing the target device through the web browser running on the hardware and to users of their technical caliber this makes the challenge all the more enticing. As more and more of the hardware that we use to access digital information becomes web-enabled (basically the Windows, Mac or many other interfaces we use on our gadgets are in fact browsers) browser security is more crucial than ever and this particular event is turning into one of the premier proving-grounds for all the big players in the browser development market. Microsoft (Internet Explorer), Google (Chrome), Mozilla (Firefox), Apple (Safari) and other browser were all in attendance and running on a variety of hardware platforms. Also on the firing line were browsers for the various smartphone OS's (Blackberry, Apple OS, Android, Symbian and HTC Windows Phone).

The contestants taking part in this competition are security experts and all had time prior to the contest to make preparations for their attempt at cracking the presented targets. Many entrants were teams composed of the employees of various security firms and hacker groups. The browser manufacturers were also represented by the most updated and patched versions of their respective browsing technology. Smartphone manufacturers were also in attendance to see how their products fared. Written into the Entrance \ Participation Agreement is the provision that no exploits that were successful in breaching the security of the various target hardware and software platforms would be published until the manufacturers have published a fix for the exploit. As of this writing, Google's Chrome was the only undefeated browser still standing.

At first glance it might seem a little odd that these big companies would be such willing participants in this hackfest, especially since their most popular and lucrative offerings are being picked apart by the best that the hacker world has to offer. But another way to look at the whole thing is to realize that this would be going on whether they participated in the activities or not. The only difference would be that the big companies would miss out on the opportunity to see what their products are up against "in the wild" and to benefit from the valuable information and knowledge gained in order to better secure their products in the future.

KATIE TseThis and That

FUN WITH ENGLISH



I used to love Friday nights, not only because it was *Friday*, but also because "Says You" came on at 7:30. I still love Friday nights because they are better than Sunday nights, but since KCRW dropped my beloved word play show I feel like a piece of me is missing. I love that show! It's based on the British show "My Word" (might just be me, but doesn't it seem that most good literary things come from Britain?). My favorite part is when a panel of three is given an obscure word; two of the players have about a minute to bluff definitions and one player is given the real meaning of the word. The opposing team has to decide which is the true definition. For example, "famulus" --is it A) possessing notoriety due to scandalous behavior, B) a primordial fin used to scoop nutrients into the oral cavity of early gastropods, or C) a private assistant or secretary to a magician or scholar? Have fun making up your own meanings for this and other gems like "mumpsimus," "growlery," and "omphaloskepsis." (skip to the end for the real definition for these and "famulus").

Then there are the words you sometimes read, but rarely hear. When you're faced with the necessity of speaking these phonetic enigmas you might wind up embarrassing yourself with "epi-toam" and "aloom-nus" for epitome and alumnus. Perhaps even worse is the situation wherein someone misheard a word long ago and has been confidently using their neologism in public ever since. This is how we come across terms like "Old timer's" and "expresso." Usually there's a grain of truth in these mistakes. Most people with Alzheimer's are old timers. Most people ordering espresso want it *express!*

"Euthanasia" was my word of misunderstanding. As I child, it didn't pop up in any of my reading material, but I heard adults talking about it in relation to dying pets or the very old and ill. With my limited world knowledge I determined the term was "youth in Asia," a practice started in an overpopulated country by which the elderly are left to die so only the youth are left. Luckily I corrected this mistake early in my academic career.

Thanks to the pseudo marriage of pop culture and technology, our American lexicon is ever expanding. Sarah Palin contributed "refudiate," (to rebut someone's argument), but eventually recanted her creation. For a while, though, she was on talk shows throwing "refudiate" around with all the assurance of the folks who grimly state "The doctors say it's Old Timer's for sure."

And now for the spoiler, if you haven't come up with your own definitions already! Famulus --An assistant or secretary to a magician or scholar. "If I don't make it in Hollywood, I can always be a famulus for my old Sociology professor." Omphaloskepsis --"Navel gazing," figuratively, intense introspection by which one becomes oblivious to the outside world. "The teenager absorbed herself in the pastime of omphaloskepsis."

Growlery --A solitary place to go when one is in a bad mood or upset. "Every kindergarten has a growlery where the kids go for time out." Mumpsimus --A view or stubbornly insists go correct even when proven wrong. "Some people hold on to the mumpsimus that it is 'Old timer's,' even when the report says 'Alzheimer's'."

Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc



RAPTOR'S RAPTURE

Last weekend my husband and I decided it had been far too long since the last time we'd gone "out to country", so we put everything else aside and drove to Lake Matthews in Perris, CA to spend the day at the Animazonia Wildlife Foundation's big cat refuge. Animazonia opens the gates to their gorgeous sanctuary for public visitation and site tours on the first Saturday of each month. If you have never visited the Animazonia Wildlife Refuge, or the Lake Matthews area for that matter, I highly recommend it. Steep, rounded rolling hills with huge boulders & dramatic outcroppings add remarkable beauty to the wide open country as you wind your way up passed the lake and you'll enjoy the fabulous view of (currently snow-capped) Mount Baldy in the distance, to the north. You'll see herds of sheep on the hillsides and small farms along the way with horses, chickens and goats. But to me, the best part of the drive was seeing numerous big birds soaring in the sky around the lake and over the meadows. If you do decide to take that drive, be sure to stop by and say hello to the ladies who work so hard at Animazonia Wildlife Foundation.

This month's feature event at Animazonia, entitled "Raptor Release" was sponsored by the Orange County Bird of Prey Center (OCBPC) and presented by veterinarian Dr. Scott Weldy, director of the organization and owner of Serrano Animal & Bird Hospital in Lake Forrest, CA. Raptors, or birds of prey, include owls, eagles, falcons, condors, hawks, ospreys, kites, and vultures. They have strong grasping feet with sharp talons for catching and holding prey, their hooked upper beak tears and kills their catch, and their binocular vision allows them depth perception for hunting. Raptors are very important to our environment because they help maintain the balance of nature by controlling the population of rodents, reptiles, insects and other prey. Because of the important role they play in the balance of nature, raptors are now protected by state and federal laws, but if you ask me, their beauty and elegance alone is enough reason to protect them.

Well-known for his sincere heart-felt dedication to rescuing and rehabilitating orphaned, injured or ill birds of prey, Dr. Weldy brought with him 5 raptors, 3 of which had been rehabilitated and were ready for re-introduction to the wild. The other 2 were "Hank", a gorgeous red tail hawk, and "Gus", a sweet petite screech owl. Both had been rescued as youngsters and had spent their formative weeks as babies being cared for by humans, so they came to know the humans as their parents. This phenomenon of nature is called

"imprinting" and it can be the reason why some wild birds in captivity will never have a chance to be released and fly free again.

Dr. Weldy and the Animazonia staff volunteers gave a very interesting and educational presentation which was quite a treat, but the best part of the event was when the 3 raptors were released. For me, it was an emotional experience to watch them take to the sky, after having been in captivity for treatment & care that allowed them to become healthy enough to fly again. As each bird flew away, I couldn't help thinking of how it was like they were being lifted up to the heavens and given a second chance at life, much like the "rapture" described in the Bible. All 3 birds had their own story to tell, whether it was being pushed out of the nest too early by a larger sibling or falling from the sky after flying into an electrical wire or some other obstruction. All 3 had been rescued at a crucial time, when it was touch and go, life or death. They were the lucky ones who were found by someone who cared enough to rescue them. As I watched each raptor being "raptured" up, it gave me new hope that wild creatures are way more tenacious and durable than I sometimes think they are. It is true that they can be rendered vulnerable due to habitat encroachment, or various other causes of injury or illness, but the raptor is one tough bird who will not give up without a fight, and that is yet another lesson learned from nature's wild creatures that I can live by!

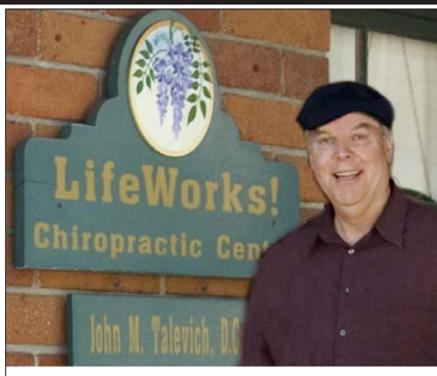
If you should happen to come across an injured or orphaned raptor, or bird of prey, please call the local Animal Control Department, or contact OCBPC @ 949-837-0786 to report it. Do not attempt to care for an injured or orphaned raptor yourself. Not only is it against the law to do so, but it may result in serious injury to you and/or the bird. If it is necessary to handle the injured bird, use heavy gloves and a towel or blanket for easier handling. Grasp the bird on the sides, over properly folded wings and place it in a cardboard box just slightly larger than the bird itself. It is important to keep a record of the time, date and location of the capture. Some raptors have been "banded", meaning they were in captivity at some point, and are now wearing an identification bracelet that will provide important information and maybe even a phone number to call. Be certain that any baby bird you might find is truly orphaned before removing it from the area. It may have fled its nest, but is still being cared for by the nearby but not visible parents, in which case it is much better off being left alone in its natural habitat.



YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Today's Subject:

THE POWER OF TOUCH



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.

with me, I had an awareness that I needed to change my job, that it is making me sick!" What this implies is that the body, and our way of thinking and feeling about the world, are intertwined. What about those areas of tension between the shoulder blades, the low back, those headaches? To the body worker, these are indicators of stress and, if they can be reduced, the stress associated with them can also be alleviated. The person may begin to see life in a clearer light now that the "blockage" is cleared. This is the essence of healing, the recovery of wholeness as experienced by the individual.

The gold standard for pain reduction is the two-cent aspirin. Originally derived from white willow bark, this medicine is often the first thing that many consider when pain is experienced. Fair enough, why would anyone want to spend \$65 or more when over-the-counter medicines relieve pain? Let's pause a moment. If the aspirin (or Tylenol or Ibuprofen) relieves the pain, is that all there is to it? Most would answer resoundingly, "Yes!" Look a little deeper now: We can ask, "What is the pain communicating to me? Did I eat something I'm allergic to? Am I angry with my boss? Am I just exhausted?" All of these concerns, and more, are tied to the symptoms our bodies exhibit. By following the breadcrumbs back to the source, you have information that can resolve the underlying problem for good. The hands-on approach can promote a higher level of awareness and aliveness. This is the opposite of the suppressive influences of painkillers and narcotics.

In closing, the body's signals of discomfort may lead to true breakthroughs in how we live. Deep in the recesses of the human body lives the information we need and have been longing for, encouraging us to experience our unique qualities of wholeness.

To your health! Dr. John

Bodywork fills a need in the world of health care which is, well, untouched by other approaches. In it, we find the capacity to move along cares and concerns, pain and suffering. Why is such a simple, ancient way of promoting healing so easily overlooked? Several reasons come to mind: Our society's unhealthy attitudes around touching one another; technology's promises to resolve the messy issues of disease and dysfunction in more precise ways; touch is low-tech, therefore seemingly outdated and ineffective. We aren't well informed about what deeper healing feels like ~ in other words, we may believe that, if the physical symptoms disappear, the underlying influences are resolved as well.

Most body therapies work on a different premise. Yes, the goal is to reduce pain, and these therapies work well in doing just that. There is, however, often an additional level of well-being experienced when the body is "moved through" a healing crisis. We often hear, "I haven't felt this good in years!" or "The last time you worked

John M. Talevich, D.C.

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TAI CHI CHUAN

Don't forget!! - The next Tai Chi series begins again on Monday, March 14, so do call us at 626.821.4623 to register.

Master Mo Chi Sasian Yau, Instructor
 MONDAY NIGHTS at the Arboretum
 Ayres Hall

Beginning and Intermediate: 6:30-7:30pm
 8 Mondays, March 14 - May 2 (3/21 - held in Bamboo Room)

Ayres Hall: Enter through the side gate next to the main entrance of the Arboretum,
 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007

\$56 members/\$64 non-members for 8 sessions
 Call 626.821.4623 to register for the class.

Please enter through the side gate near the main entrance of the Arboretum; be sure to wear comfortable clothes and rubber-soled shoes. The class is for both beginners and intermediate students, and begins at 6:30pm on Monday evenings. Pre-registration preferred...jill...

Tai Chi exercises increase energy, enhance flexibility and mobility, develop self-discipline, release stress, help to lose weight, lower your blood pressure, bolster self-confidence and control balance! Try it! Master Mo Chi has extensive professional credentials, and is currently teaching this very popular class at the Arcadia Community Center.

For more information contact jill.berry@arboretum.org.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

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: City Hall & Hart Park House/Senior Center Closed on February 21

- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café: Come enjoy a hot meal with others. Donation for seniors (60+) of \$2.00; visitors \$3.75. Please call 355-0256 to make your daily reservation.
- 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
- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
- 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
- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
- Free Income Tax assistance - 1 pm to 2 pm. For an appointment, please call 355-7394
- 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:

- 12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
- 1:00 to 3:30 pm: Game Day. Join us for 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 355-52

Friday: City Hall Closed on February 11 & 25

12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256

Saturday:

11:30 am: Senior Club brown bag lunch and BINGO at 12:30 pm. The Senior Club always welcomes new members (\$5 membership dues per year) so please stop by to learn more.

BINGO

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.

MORE ACTIVITIES

The Sierra Madre Library is offering a new program to homebound persons in Sierra Madre called "Titles To Go" - Where volunteers bring the library to you! For more information, please call Ana Valencia at (626) 355-7186.

- Sierra Madre Aquatic Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., will be open for spring lap swimmers & walkers starting March 14 through June 12. Hours: 12 noon to 2 pm (Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday) and 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (Tuesday & Wednesday). Cost is \$100 per person for a spring pass (no daily admission). This is a great opportunity for low impact exercise in a heated pool. For more information, please call (626) 355-5278.

Recipe of the Week:

BAKED RED SNAPPER WITH GARLIC

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 red snapper fillets, about 6 to 8 ounces each
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 medium clove garlic, pressed or minced
- 3 or 4 drops Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon Creole or Cajun seasoning, or your own favorite seasoning blend, with salt
- 1/8 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- 1 to 2 teaspoons minced fresh parsley
- 1 teaspoon snipped fresh or frozen chives, optional
- 3 to 4 tablespoons plain or seasoned bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoon freshly grated parmesan cheese, optional

DIRECTIONS:

Place snapper fillets in a baking dish which has been sprayed with a butter-flavored baking spray.

In a skillet, melt butter with garlic, Worcestershire sauce, Creole seasoning blend, pepper, parsley, and chives, if using. Cook on low for 2 minutes, just to blend flavors. Brush both sides of fish fillets with the butter and herb mixture. Toss bread crumbs in the remaining butter mixture; sprinkle over the fillets.

Bake at 400° for about 12 minutes, depending on thickness of fillets, until fish flakes easily and is no longer translucent.

Serves 2.

March Birthdays



Ella Guttman, Santos Ruiz, Viky Tchatlian, Mary Cooper, Georgina "Snooky" Greger, Sun Lui, Helen Wallis

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.

INCOME TAX TIME

Don Brunner will be volunteering his time once again to assist seniors with filing their 2010 tax return. The service is free but appointments are necessary.

Every Wednesday - February 9th to April 6th 1 pm to 2 pm Hart Park House / Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre (in Memorial Park). Please call the Senior Desk at (626) 355-7394 to make an appointment.

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LUNCH & LEARN

Join the Senior Community Commission at the Sierra Madre Hart Park House / Senior Center for a FREE presentation. Lunch is available for a \$2 donation by calling (626) 355-0256 by 12 noon the day before.

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Tickets can now be purchased at:

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Hart Park House / Senior Center
Sierra Madre Library

Everyday is an open house:  www.huntvh.com



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CAHSAH
 Shaping the Future of Home Care

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



The north Monrovia home that was once the residence of author, Upton Sinclair, came on the market recently. Though he wrote dozens of novels, non-fiction and drama, Sinclair was best known for *The Jungle*, his 1906 meat-packing industry exposé, and his book *Oil!* which was the subject of a recent movie.

The Spanish Colonial style, 2380 square foot home with separate guest home and other outbuildings, was originally designed by Frederick H. Wallis for ironwork and hotel tycoon, Louie B. Vollmer. The home was registered in both the US National Register of Historic Places and as a US National Historic Landmark in 1971.

The home passed to Sinclair as second owner, who owned it between 1942 and 1965, and wrote many of his later works at the residence. Sinclair is said to have remarked it was the "perfect peace to write in ... a garden path to walk up and down while I planned the next paragraph."

Sinclair built a new garage during his ownership, on the south side of the home, as his wife was reputedly concerned about Sinclair negotiating a tight turn in the old driveway. The original garage, on the northeast corner of the property, is now converted to a stunning guest house.

Sinclair constructed another concrete structure in the backyard, a fireproof vault, for his and others' manuscripts and valuable papers, many of which went to the University of Indiana, when The Huntington rejected their purchase back in the 60's, according to today's owner. Today, "the vault" begs for a wine cellar and tasting room.

The historic home is so "perfect", it almost feels like a movie set. Yet it is wonderfully comfortable. There is something about the ambiance of the home that exudes warmth and relaxation and welcome amid the gorgeous ball and ribbon molding, vintage fixtures and Batchelder tiled baths. Certainly the stunning color palette plays an integral part. The original Honduran mahogany pocket doors, set into intricately carved and arched door casings, are truly awe inspiring.

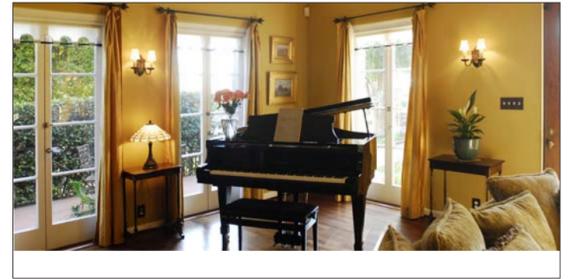
Noted Monrovia contractor, Vicki Novell, of the Design Group, purchased the 1923 home after it had been boarded up and fenced after the Sierra Madre earthquake in 1991. Her ensuing project of meticulously restoring the home to its former glory earned Novell an award from the California Preservation Council.

During that restoration, a new kitchen, electrical and plumbing services were installed. Yet the innate essence, the soul of this magnificent, (though not huge) home was carefully guarded and lovingly preserved.

The home self-ventilates through a beautifully shaded side patio which protects the living spaces from the southern sun exposure. French doors from the dining room make it a perfect extension of the living and entertaining space.

The back yard could easily host a meditation or yoga class, with a gurgling fountain and peaceful aura. The current owner's avocation is Southern California native gardening. In the past few years, the landscape has incorporated much of the finest low water landscape around.

In addition to its landmark status, the Upton Sinclair home also currently holds Mills Act status, a renewable tax reduction



vehicle, which significantly reduces the property tax rate, in deference to the responsibilities of maintaining a historic home.

Vicki Novell, the contractor who restored the home commented, "The house had been boarded up a long time because of the Sierra Madre earthquake. Due to the damage, its previous owners had people doing exploratory work on repairing the fireproof "poured in place" concrete house, and decided they wanted to bulldoze it."

Due to its landmark status, a lawsuit ensued, and the owners put it up for sale. It sat as an eyesore, fenced, for a time. Novell purchased the property and reattached the structure to the foundation, then started to repair and restore the damage, much of which was a result of the exploratory phase after the earthquake. "We had engineers onsite constantly. We tried to keep it (the home's restoration) looking within the historical era," said Novell.

Novell found the exquisite iron work grille with the original owners' V initial incorporated into the ironwork. "We were lucky, and found it in the weeds in the back yard."

Another find were those magnificent mahogany pocket doors. "They were non-functional and buried in the walls. Thank goodness they were broken and locked inside the wall!" Now they glide effortlessly to open or close the two rooms.

All the dentil moldings were poured in place castings, some of which were destroyed during the exploratory phase of the damage estimate. "Some were broken and others were missing," Novell said. "We had to make some new onsite. It was an education and learning experience."

A job well done. The initial open house had historic home lovers drooling over the stunning and gracious home. One worked for the Department of Agriculture, commenting "We likely wouldn't have had a Department of Agriculture without Upton Sinclair. I just had to see this house!"

464 N. Myrtle in Monrovia is listed at \$1,500,000 by Cecilia Farnum of Century 21 Adams and Barnes. visit the home's website at www.UptonSinclairHouse.com or call Farnum at 626-688-6668. For more information on the restoring contractor, visit www.VickiNovell.com or call 626-757-7400.

Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

THE PRESSURE COOKER

Phew! After more than four years of declining home sales, the numbers appear to be finally turning back upward, with closed sales and pending contracts at above-normal increases. In particular, first-time buyers helped buoy the market by taking advantage of low prices and interest rates, as well as the \$8,000 tax credit offered by the federal government.

At least for now, home prices remain attractively low, and mortgage payments as they relate to income are very comfortable. All the information seems to point to the fact that home prices have actually overcorrected downward. What does that mean? It indicates that many markets may experience a price "snap back," with values increasing a lot more than the historical average of 4% appreciation per year.

Some factors may continue to make buyers cautious, mostly declines in retirement savings and a lukewarm economic recovery with unemployment hovering around 10%

nationally. Now is not the time to hesitate, however, as mortgage interest rates are expected to rise in 2010.

We can expect the momentum of home sales to continue, especially with the extension of the tax credit through April and the fact that qualification is no longer limited to just first-time buyers. Prices and interest rates will rise this year, so buyer confidence should be at an all-time high. The pressure cooker of pent-up demand is about to blow its top!

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.

SOCAL GAS OFFERS SAFETY TIPS FOLLOWING 8.9 EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN

LOS ANGELES, March 11, 2011 – Following yesterday's devastating 8.9-magnitude earthquake that hit the northeast part of Japan, Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) is reminding customers that advance preparation is critical in getting ready for the next major earthquake.

SoCalGas offers these safety tips to help reduce the chance of injuries or property damage from the next quake:

Before an earthquake:

- Securely strap water heaters to prevent them from moving or toppling over. The water heater should be fastened securely to the wall studs in two places -- the upper and lower one-third of the tank -- with heavy bolts and metal straps.
- Replace semi-rigid (aluminum or copper) gas appliance connectors with approved connectors made of corrugated metal. These are less likely to crack during an earthquake. Connectors and water heater strapping kits are available at most hardware and home improvement stores.
- Know where the natural gas meter is located. Gas meters are commonly located above ground next to the home on the side, front or back, but may also be in a cabinet or underground.
- Have a 12-inch or larger adjustable wrench handy to manually turn off the gas meter should it be necessary if a gas leak is suspected after an emergency.

After an earthquake:

- Do not turn off the gas meter after an earthquake unless you smell gas, hear the sound of gas escaping or see other signs of a gas leak and only if it is safe to do so. Once the gas has been turned off, it may take SoCalGas several days to restore service, depending on the magnitude of the emergency. Do not attempt to turn the gas back on yourself.
 - If there is an apparent gas leak, remain calm. Do not light a match, candle or cigarette, and do not turn electrical devices -- not even a light switch -- on or off, or use any other device or equipment that may cause a spark. Note that gas leaking from a plastic pipe can cause static electricity which can ignite the gas. From a safe location, call SoCalGas at 1-800-427-2200 or 1-800-342-4545 in Spanish, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; or call 911.
 - If a gas leak is suspected and it is safe to do so, turn the gas off at the meter. Using an adjustable wrench, make a quarter-turn of the valve, moving it from a vertical position to a horizontal position. This will shut off the flow of gas. (A diagram and instructions for turning off the gas meter are printed in the "Survival Guide" section of most telephone directory white pages and is also available at socalgas.com).
 - If the gas is shut off at the meter, do not turn it back on without the help of SoCalGas. Gas service should not be restored until SoCalGas determines that the customer's facilities, appliances or other gas equipment are safe.
- For more natural gas safety information, visit SoCalGas' website at socalgas.com/safety.

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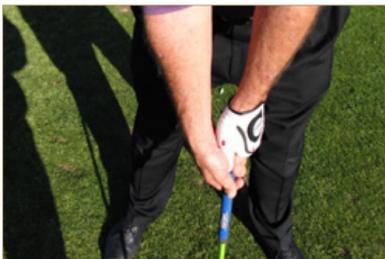


The Proper Golf Grip - Check Your Knuckles

In order to hit the golf ball further and more consistent, after you grip the club-check your knuckles EVERY TIME. I have a question for you that you have to answer in two seconds. Is gripping the golf club an art or a science? Think about it for 10 seconds if you want to. Do you know why I am giving you 10 seconds to think about it? Ten seconds is longer than you take to think about gripping the club when your on the golf course.

When most amateur golfers struggle with their golf game it can be traced right back to the grip the golf club. What I have heard for the past 35 years is "I am really struggling with my swing"-DON'T TOUCH MY GRIP. "I keep coming over the top"-DON'T TOUCH MY GRIP. "I can't stop hooking the ball"-DON'T TOUCH MY GRIP.

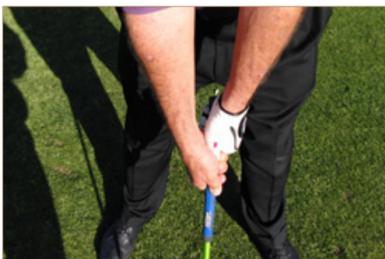
Here is the problem. Changing your grip can be a nightmare. I don't care if you have played for six months or 30 years, for you to make a grip change, it can be a long and painful process. I started playing golf when I was 2 years old, by the time I was 13 I was bigger and stronger and I had a very strong grip. I hooked the ball way too much. My mom told me it was time to weaken it, it was the longest year of my life.



Above: Neutral Golf Grip

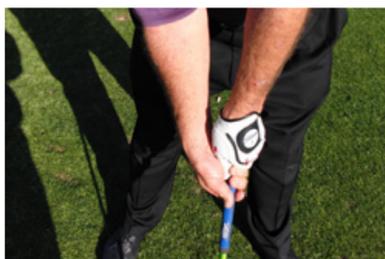
I am going to let you in on two little secrets that nobody talks about. If you slice the golf or if you hit weak fades to the right, changing your grip will be the most exciting and rewarding thing you will do for your golf game. You will fall in love with me in five minutes. (OK, maybe a little overboard-can you tell I am excited)? On the other hand. If you hook the ball you will want to wrap that driver around my neck for about three months AND then you will also fall in love with me.

That is secret number one. Now for secret number two. Whether you are a slicer or hooker of the golf ball, changing your grip can be very uncomfortable. I have a saying that I have used with my students for 20 years. As soon as they change their grip and make solid contact they always say to me "it doesn't feel good". And I always say to them "you have a choice, you can either hit it poorly and feel good or hit it great and feel poorly".



Above: Weak Golf Grip

Let me tell you why the knuckles are so important. Let's talk about slicing first. After you grip the golf club and address the golf ball, when you look down at your left hand, you probably don't see any knuckles. Of the left hand. You see the top of the left thumb. The problem is the clubface will not close in time for you to hit a draw. This next part is really important. Before you start your backswing, simple turn BOTH hands to the right the same amount. Do it in baby steps. Turn the hands on the club so you can see one knuckle, and hit some balls from this position. If you get rid of your slice then stop. You have hit gold, that is the correct grip for you. This is a very powerful change, that is why you will love it.



Above: Strong Golf Grip

On to the golfers that hook the ball. After you grip the club and address the golf ball you will look down and see three or four knuckles of the left hand. The clubhead will close way to fast in the downswing from with this grip. You have to move BOTH of your hands to the left the same amount. Do it in baby steps, one knuckle at a time. The reason this is more painful than the grip change above is because you are going from a stronger position to a weaker position.

You will not feel the love for some time. I know you can do this, I did. In closing after you grip the club-check your knuckles EVERY TIME and you will begin to see the ball start flying straighter and further. Want to learn more? Go to: www.igolffixes.com

ARCADIA CITY TRACK AND FIELD MEET

The Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department announces the City Track and Field Meet sponsored in part by the Civitan Club. Students should attend the meet which corresponds with their year of birth. Participation is open to elementary and middle school-age boys and girls born in years 1996-2004 who are Arcadia residents or attend Arcadia Schools (public or private). The Track Meet for Middle School students will be held on Wednesday, March 23rd for students born 1996-1999. For Elementary School students the track meet will be held on Wednesday, March 30th for students born 2000-2004. The rain date for both meets will be Wednesday, April 13th. Elementary students who are interested in participating should register with a Playground Recreation Leader. Middle School Students should check with their PE teachers about participating in the track meet. Participants must compete in the age division in which they were born. Boys and girls will compete in separate gender divisions. Participants may compete in only one Running Event, one Field Event and one Relay. Pre-registration is mandatory.

For more information please contact the Arcadia Recreation Department at 626.574.5113.

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HAYES (continued from page 13)

new workers instead of \$4.1 billion in tax breaks for offshore operations of U.S. financial corporations. \$2 billion in homeless assistance grants instead of \$2.3 billion in tax loopholes for hedge fund and private equity managers. \$4.6 billion in teacher training and afterschool programs instead of the \$5.2 billion cost of removing the limit on itemized deductions for high-income taxpayers. \$44 billion to maintain funding for all at-risk programs instead of the \$42 billion one-year (FY2012) cost of extending the Bush tax cuts for the top brackets.

4. "America isn't broke"
Speaking last week at the capitol in Madison, Wisconsin, filmmaker Michael Moore pointed out that 400 Americans now control as much wealth as half the entire population, and concluded, "WE HAVE HAD IT!" We reject anyone who tells us America is broke and broken. It's just the opposite! We are rich with talent and ideas and hard work and, yes, love. Love and compassion toward those who have, through no fault of their own, ended up as the least among us. But they still crave what we all crave: Our country back! Our democracy back! Our good name back! The United States of America. NOT the Corporate States of America. **The United States of America!** Pension funds and Social Security are in good shape, and we know how to fix problems should they arise. There's money to help those who need it, if we get our priorities straight. And, there's a reawakening among those who cherish their community and country more than their tax shelters.

It's something to feel good about. Let's join Tony at the Buccaneer and celebrate.

WELBORN (continued from page 13)

was pretty horrible. But the fact is that we don't have one of those in Christian culture at this point in time. If we did, I - along with a great many other Christians - would be darned happy if our government came along side to help us stand up to the bullies who would silence our truth. Today, it is the Muslim community that faces an evil from within. That doesn't mean all Muslims are bad. It does mean that many peace-loving Muslims are being intimidated, tortured or even killed when they stand up against the Muslim terrorists in their communities. Right now, most of the torture and killing is being done outside the borders of the U.S.. For that, we can be thankful. But if we don't figure out who within our borders is trying to radicalize the Muslim community, we will ultimately see much more blood-letting of Americans: Muslim, Jewish and Christian. By facing this reality now and coming along side those who truly seek peace, we are helping them, not hurting them.

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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