



Memorial Day 2011 - In Memory of Those Who Died For Us

Where Your  
Community News Comes First

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2011

VOLUME 5 NO. 22

## TO THE FINISH LINE: 44th Mount Wilson Trail Race



Crossing the finish line - above, Victor Rios of La Puente came in first with a time of 1:06:31. Below, Hannah Briggs of Monrovia came in 4th overall and won the Women's Division. Finish Line Photos by Bill Coburn

Story by Bill Coburn

The 44th running of the Mt. Wilson Trail Race took place today, in commemoration of the 103rd anniversary of the first running of the race in 1908. The field of 265 runners included 56 Sierra Madreans, and runners from as far away as England, as well as Texas, Oregon, Georgia, South Carolina, Colorado, Nevada, and of course California. The race, which sold out in record time this year, covers 8.6 miles, starting in downtown Sierra Madre on pavement for about a mile, than another 3.3 miles on the Mt. Wilson Trail up to the turnaround point at Orchard Camp, and a return trip that is just the reverse of the run up. There is an elevation gain of about 2100+ feet in the 4.3 miles up-hill. The race is said to be the second oldest off-road race in the country.

Twenty-five year old Victor Rios of La Puente won this year, with a time of 1:06:31. Thirty-two year old Sierra Madrean Kevin Koeper, who won the race three consecutive years, 2005 - 2007, came in second with a time of 1:08:32. Third place was taken by 47-year old Alan Reynolds of Sausalito, with a time of 1:09:36.

Hannah Briggs, 27, of Monrovia was fourth overall and won the Women's division with a time of 1:10:56. Five time winner Sharon Pevsner of Sierra Madre came in second in the women's division, at 1:19:15, which was 17th overall. Briggs fourth place overall is believed to be the highest placement ever for a Women's division winner. Sierra Madrean Jill Liston placed third in the women's division, with a time of 1:25:27.

As stated above, Kevin Koeper was first overall among Sierra Madreans. Fifteen year old Aaron Zambrano took first place in the 15 - 19 men's age division, and second place among Sierra Madreans, with a time of 1:11:07. Fifty-one year old Nigel Rini came in third place among Sierra Madreans, with a time of 1:17:40. Pevsner took first place among Sierra Madre women, with Liston taking second, and 41-year old Trish Marshall came in third among Sierra Madre women, with a time of 1:29:08.

For a complete, searchable index of Race Results, visit: <https://www.runraceresults.com/Secure/RaceResults.cfm?ID=RCOK2011>



**MEMORIAL DAY 2011**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars**  
Post 3208

Sierra Madre, California  
Invites the Public To  
**Memorial Day**  
**Ceremonies At**  
**Sierra Madre Pioneer**  
**Cemetery**  
Monday May 30, 2011 At  
11:00 am

Speaker, MaryAnn MacGillivray  
Councilwoman

Refreshments and sandwiches To follow



The night before runners and supported loaded up on carbs at the Pasta Feed in Kersting Court. Photo by Dean Lee/MVNews Just before the race, chair Pete Siberell, inset chats with a few well wishers while last minute preparations are made (below) Photos by S. Henderson/MVNews



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On our way to Niko!

## Niko and Friends Caf

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# America The Beautiful

## Celebrating Memorial Day 2011

by Craig Hakola

I had been traversing New York City for a week and I was checking off the final items on my list before my departure on Tuesday. On this morning I was traveling out to take the Staten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty, and then I would be heading north by foot to snap a few pictures of the Brooklyn Bridge, before spending the remainder of the afternoon celebrating the Memorial Day weekend in Times Square with everyone else. For the past two days the triangle of Times Square had been swelling in the anticipation of the big celebration and I was eager to get down there as well.

I walked several blocks from my hotel and made my way down a flight of stairs to the subway platform where I believed the correct subway was departing for lower Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty. I wanted to double-check my directional skills so I probed a couple passengers to confirm I was migrating in the proper direction. The people of the subway were uncomfortable in giving me any information, which I thought was rather odd, but maybe New Yorkers considered it best to not mingle with strangers in the confines of the subway? I continued my quest and approached a gentleman and his wife. "Am I taking the correct subway for lower Manhattan?" He took a measure of me and then responded in a rich French accent, "Why does an American ask a Frenchman for directions in America," peppering his comment in a wry smile and a shrug of his shoulders? "You know of trains far better than we Americans," I quickly countered. Appearing to appease his half joke, half serious tone. As I further added that I was from California and our diet did not consist of trains. "Where are you going," the Frenchman asked? "I am heading to see a French gift," as I returned his wry smile with a ripe one. Which caused him to reach into his pocket and unfurl a rather large map of the catacombs of the New York subway system. "I was there just yesterday, it is beautiful," he added, with a sense of ownership. Five minutes later and he has given me a tutorial of the entire New York transportation system with a color-coding lesson and extolled the greatness of France and the flowering vineyards which populate the landscape of his country. I thanked him, and he firmly grasped my hand and told me of the treat that was in store for me.

I was the first one in line for the next ferry, so I took the opportunity to make my way to the front of the boat where it was open. The day was a portrait of perfection and the Statue of Liberty appeared ever part the image of the stories I had read of the immigrants discovering the sacred woman of hope upon the completion of a long voyage. How many people had passed beneath her torch and marked her face the place of promise and how many tears had she comforted in her port? My mind lingered in the thought of selling all of one's possessions to pay for passage on a ship and the grief of having a single last embrace for your family and friends that were left behind. It appeared every part the desperate act of a great gamble to me. Forsaking one's history and abandoning one's people for the whispers of a dreamy land across the length of an Ocean, there was a type of strange magic in the thought of it all. Traveling to the ends of the world in the great quest for hope. How their hearts must have sung with joy upon the sight of her torch, and how their burdens must have vanished upon her gaze.

I had touched her spirit as well and saw her torch. There is no beauty like hers in all the world. The ferry docked in Battery Park and I ventured along the water until the Brooklyn Bridge came into view. Off to my left was the bridge, about a half-mile up the river and directly across the street from me was a large landing area for helicopters. Throughout the morning I had seen helicopters buzzing the skies of New York City. They did not

flutter as tourist adventures but navigated upon crisp lines and firm directions. I sat myself upon a slab of concrete and spied the frantic activity of helicopters coming and going. There were five on the landing area in a single moment with a mixture of military, civilian and charter aircraft comprising the grouping. Each pilot counting seconds as the propellers crawled but never ceased to spin, with the captains waited to take on, or jettisoned a cargo of passengers. A large Osprey helicopter landed in the center landing area. Quickly taking on its passengers and flipping its propellers toward the ground and surging from the landing area. So it went, a few choppers would settle and a few would take flight in a pageantry of dragon flies dancing in and out, and then, occasionally, a massive stork would swoop down from the sky and splash upon the middle of the landing area as the other small helicopters sprinkled about on the perimeters. One such stork descended from the sky and landed a single military man in a smart flight suit. He exited the chopper and gave the pilot a nod of his head before rapidly moving across three lanes of heavy traffic, jumping a median and navigating the other side of the street while passing me at arms length. Surly, he was an important man to control such an entrance. There must have been a number of such people lining the streets of New York this holiday weekend.

I had made it a point to venture down to Times Square each day. I could feel the pulse of the city in that place and I wanted to touch the heart of the city for as long as I could. There was a visual excitement leaving Central Park and turning unto 58<sup>th</sup> Street and scanned the long corridor of buildings and the distance signage of Times Square, which rose as a forest of moving lights upon the middle of the street. I had made a game of picking out the New Yorkers and those from out of town as I walked the streets. The New Yorkers brandished oversized purses which had little chance of fitting in an overhead compartment, and they did not consider it a crime to batter pedestrians among the crowded streets of New York with their shoulder hanging purses. The New Yorkers always sprang a step faster from the curb than other people (that is, if they were forced to waiting for a light). They were point A to point B type of people and they didn't lug out as a tired horse when they hustled upon the streets as others did, but stayed upon straight lines. They were the first to range out into the street and dodged traffic as a modern day bullfighters and they proffered their horn to save the effort of a finger.

As I came into Times Square the traffic swelled to a halt. Over the last few days the military personnel had been coalescing in this area and the streets were lined with cleanly pressed uniforms. The navy band was playing in the middle of Times Square and a group of several hundred people circled the musicians as they filled the streets with the jubilant sounds of a post World War II era beat. It was approaching five in the evening and I decided to find a restaurant/bar for a bite of food and a drink.

I located a nice restaurant that had seating available at the bar, close to Broadway. I ordered a drink and sat upon the reflection of the day. A few minutes later and a young married couple from Birmingham, England, took up residence next to me and our conversation quickly moved to soccer and the impending World Cup Match, which pitted America and England. Being from Birmingham, they were born into this world to love soccer, and they gave me the unabridged English strategy against us. Another forty-five minutes later they thanked me for their visit to my beautiful country, and added, "Good luck in the match," as they departed. I spoke with the bartender about New York and the people as they left and another couple took control of their seats. It was an older



gentleman and his daughter this time, and they were from England as well, but called the city of Bristol their home. The two were exceedingly well read and appeared to pry as much from books as the first couple had from soccer. They offered many rays of insight into England and America. We must have spoken for an hour on politics, art, and the topic of the day, healthcare. Halfway through our conversation the gentleman turned to more serious tone, "America is going to have to bail England out of our financial mess." As they reminded me, that they were not part of the European Union. I laughed and added, "We will try, I only hope we can save ourselves as well." They finally rose and wished me a delightful night. They had shared many endearing stories of their various adventures in New York, and said of all their travels across the globe, "There was no place like New York." As certain as they left, and having every sense of timing, a most intriguing couple assumed their still warm seats. They were Brazilian, and he immediately took to quizzing me upon possession of their seats. "Who is your favorite musical artist?" Being in New York and channeling the spirit of the city, "Frank Sinatra," naturally squirted from my lips. I could see by his expression on his face that a key had been placed in a lock. His wife had brought art to New York to display at an exhibit down the block and the two were celebrating their anniversary. They spoke about how much they loved the great City of New York. They considered the Empire State Building a great monument to beauty, and the two dined in the building each year on their anniversary. They repeatedly told me throughout the night, "You don't understand what a great country you have here." There was a dual sense of veneration mixed with desperation in his voice, one that attempted to convey the deeper understating of his heart. He explained where he and his wife had came from and I sensed in his words the belief in his mind that one must travel extensively to understand the singular uniqueness of America. He told me that he needed to go to his room and instructed his wife to stay with me and talk. Ten minutes later and he reappeared with a CD. "I am a singer and these are my Frank Sinatra songs, I would like you to have it for your travels." There was a warmth in these two that bond the human heart and I wished that they would never depart. He offered me a long friendly glance before they left that night. I am sure he was hoping that his words and the deep feelings for the country he loved, and was not a citizen of was somehow imparted to me.

It had been a very long day and I been at the restaurant for over four hours. I was looking forward to the walk to my hotel, but curiosity had become the better part of me, and I could not leave the bar until I discover the next party to sit upon those chairs. Within a few short minutes and I would have my answer. A couple of ordinary Americans plopped themselves in the seats next to me. It appeared the string of luck had ended. Little did I know I was about to discover the greatness of America in its most tangible form. The three groups of foreigners that I spoke with that day had instructed me on the greatness of America. These two were out there fighting for it. The other soldiers that I had previously seen in the city were wearing uniforms, but these two were camouflage in civilian clothes. "I thought military personnel were supposed to be wearing uniforms," I questioned? "Our uniforms were soiled the night before and we cannot discuss it." I chuckled at the thought,

there must have been a humorous story attached to that telling. A few beers in and the stories that Michael King would tell me began to trouble my soul, fighting in Afghanistan. Twice a roadside bomb had blown up the truck he was in. In each case the vehicle he was in was destroyed. One of the bombs had killed his best friend and Michael only survived the explosion because of where he was stationed in the vehicle, the top. He repeated a line several times that night, "You don't know what is like to lose your best friend, see him killed in front of you. I can never explain that feeling to you!"

The two were young kids, and they deserved to be out frolicking on a Saturday night with their girlfriends in Tennessee, instead of the deadly world of Afghanistan. I have met many young men of their age, but I can seldom mark such youth with the decisive word, Character. Here I had found myself spending an evening in the capital of glamour and each person that I had spoken to that night was here for that reason, but they were not here for that alone, for there was an underlining current to each conversation from my foreign friends, the beauty and reality of the American Spirit. Sitting in the seats next to me was the best example of that spirit. These two men had not entered the military to acquire wealth, and whatever sense of adventure the two may have felt as they enrolled was long since stripped by the realities of war. They were purpose driven people and trying to deliver a sense of good to the world. Michael was going to reenlist the following week, and I wondered after all he had told me that night; how he could do it. His burden seemed too much for my mind. Maybe he felt it more a risk to not return and leave the many things undone that he knew must occur to give those people of Afghanistan a place of peace. I knew those two soldieries carried an unfair burden though, and was I certain of that fact. This incredible young man, Michael, would be forced to carry the ghosts, and have to harbor the memory of another, his best friend, for the remainder of his life. These two were thoughtful people and could have been poets in another life and their sense of duty and good made you damned concerned about their wellbeing.

It was well past one in the morning as I walked along Central Park and up 5<sup>th</sup> Street. I am thinking about those last two people that sat next to me. For the first time in my visit to New York City a peace has overtaken the city. There are no cars on this stretch of road and the only noises are the boisterous birds of the trees. It is not like New York at all on this night, it is different!

Before you comfortably place your head upon your pillow each evening, may you find it in your heart to offer them a moment and add the dear people of the military to your prayers. They have promised their names to the struggle for peace on earth and liberty, and some have eternally pledged their life.

craighakola@aol.com

**CELEBRATE WITH US!**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3208**  
Sierra Madre, California  
Invites the Public To  
**Memorial Day Ceremonies At**  
**Sierra Madre Pioneer Cemetery**  
Monday May 30, 2011 At 11:00 am



## WISTARIA THRIFT SHOP

### BROWN BAG SALE

Fill up your bag for only \$3.00

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2011**  
**STARTING AT 11 am to 4pm**  
**THRIFT SHOP PARKING LOT**  
**550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.**  
**Sierra Madre, CA, 91024**  
**626 355-7739**


*Parking lot located on Sunnyside Avenue*

**The shop will be open on**  
**Memorial Day, May 30th**  
**9am to 3pm.**

**Proceeds are donated to the charities supported by the Sierra Madre Woman's Club. .**

**Donations Welcome!**  
Please drop off donated items before  
**3pm Monday-Friday, or Saturday when shop is open.**  
Thank you





## Mark Your Calendars!

### Sierra Madre 4<sup>th</sup> of July Weekend Festivities

**Saturday, July 2nd**  
All-new: SIERRA MADRE COMMUNITY PICNIC AT SIERRA VISTA PARK  
3 PM – DUSK

Bring your picnic basket and join us for an afternoon of games, food, and community. We will have games in the park, a Home Run Derby and softball games at Heasley field, and the pool will be open! There will also be ice cream and snacks for sale throughout the afternoon. AND don't miss the Beer AND WINE Garden at Sierra Vista Park in the Community Recreation Center Patio! What a way to kick off what promises to be an exciting and fun-filled weekend!

**SUNDAY, JULY 3RD**  
BEER GARDEN AND CONCERT IN THE PARK AT MEMORIAL PARK 5 PM – 10 PM  
Tradition continues as the Beer Garden makes it annual appearance, benefiting the Sierra Madre Little League and the Volunteer 4th of July Committee! Mercy and the Merkettes will be performing and promise to keep all of us moving and grooving to hits from today and yesterday. And the evening would not be complete without Sierra Madre's own version of fireworks: Bubble Wrap Fireworks at Dusk!

**MONDAY, JULY 4TH:**  
ALL-NEW: SIERRA MADRE'S FIRECRACKER FAMILY FUN RUN  
This 5k race starts at 7 am and follows the parade route. Check-in begins at 6 am at Kersting Court. Come get your feet moving and be part of what promises to be another amazing Sierra Madre tradition! Register on-site, at the Community Recreation Center or online at [www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration). Do so by June 20th to guarantee your t-shirt!

**SIERRA MADRE'S WORLD FAMOUS 4TH OF JULY PARADE, 10 AM**  
LET'S LINE THE STREETS FOR THE ANNUAL PARADE THAT IS TRUE AMERICANA AT ITS FINEST. THIS YEAR, WE HONOR GAYLE BLUEMEL AS OUR 2011 4TH OF JULY GRAND MARSHAL FOR HER OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND LIFE-LONG DEDICATION TO OUR SIERRA MADRE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY. WE ALSO HONOR SIERRA MADRE RESIDENT JOHN SHEAR WITH OUR HOMETOWN HERO AWARD FOR HIS SPONTANEOUS ACT OF SELFLESS HEROISM IN JUMPING IN FRONT OF A CHARGING HORSE TO SAVE A YOUNG GIRL'S LIFE. TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARADE, REGISTER AT [WWW.CITYOFSIERRAMADRE.COM/ONLINEREGISTRATION](http://WWW.CITYOFSIERRAMADRE.COM/ONLINEREGISTRATION).

**MEMORIAL PARK FESTIVITIES, 12NOON**  
And join us after the parade at High Noon in Memorial Park for games, face painting, balloons, food, and music by the Nightbloomin' Jazzmen. The Beer Garden will also be open!



## Weather Wise

### 5-Day Forecast

#### Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Mon:</b>	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
<b>Tues:</b>	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
<b>Wed:</b>	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
<b>Thur:</b>	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
<b>Fri:</b>	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s

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

May 16 @ 6pm - Community Services Commission

May 17 @ 6:30pm - Special City Council/PUSD Meeting

May 18 @ 7pm - Tree Advisory Committee

May 19 @ 6:30pm - UUT Oversight Committee

May 19 @ 7pm - Planning Commission

May 24 @ 6:30pm - City Council

May 25 @ 7pm - Library Board of Trustees

May 26 @ 7pm - Green Advisory Committee

May 31 @ 6:30pm - Special City Council Budget Meeting (tentative)

## 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](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).

## Registration for 4th of July Parade is Now Open

This year's 4th of July parade will be held on Monday, July 4, at 10:00 am. The parade route will begin on Sierra Madre Blvd, from Sunnyside to Rancho. There is a \$15 fee for all local non-profit entries and a \$25 processing fee for all business entries. There is no charge for individuals wishing to enter the parade; however, an application must be submitted.

It is the 4th of July Committee's hope to make the parade more green and earth-friendly! All participants are encouraged to come up with creative ideas to support this theme. One way to do this is to register online at:

[www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration).

Hardcopy of the application should be completed and return the form with entry fee to:

SIERRA MADRE FOURTH OF JULY COMMITTEE  
c/o PARADE ENTRY  
232 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.  
SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024.

All application are due Friday, June 10, 2011. Due to staging concerns, no late entries will be accepted. Questions can be directed to Matt Bosse at (626) 836-8580 or Elisa Weaver at (626) 355-5278 between 9am and 5pm, M-F.

## NEW SUMMER RECREATION CLASSES Registration Now Open

The Sierra Madre Community & Personnel Services Department is excited to announce that four new classes have been added to their Summer Recreation Program: Water Aerobics, Zumba, Kidz Love Soccer and a special Teen Acting for Theater. These four new programs join the department's already active youth & adult summer schedule that includes: Swim Lessons, Ballet & Tap, Gymnastics, Tennis (adult & youth), Yoga, Swim Team, Karate (adult & youth), Social Dance and Adult Softball.

Registration is now open via the City's online registration at [www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration) Prices and length of sessions vary. To learn more about all the summer activities, please visit the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com) and click on Wistaria Vine Summer 2011 newsletter or call (626) 355-5278 ext. 227.

It is the goal of the Sierra Madre Community & Personnel Services Department to provide quality programs and services to the Foothill Communities. Join us!

## What's Your Vision?

### General Plan Update Survey

The General Plan Steering Committee (GPSC) and the City of Sierra Madre are not conducting a telephone survey. The official survey conducted by the GPSC is available on-line on the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com) – and click on "General Plan Update Survey." The General Plan survey form is also available at Sierra Madre City Hall and at the Library.

The General Plan survey is intended seek the community's input on the future of Sierra Madre as it relates to updating the Sierra Madre General Plan.



**Sierra Madre Public Library  
Homebound Program**

[www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com)  
626.355.7186

The Sierra Madre Library is offering a new program to homebound persons who live in Sierra Madre called "Titles To Go" - Bringing the library to you! The program is free and enrollment is very simple. For more information, please call Anna Valencia at (626) 355-7186

## COMMUNITY YARD SALE

The City of Sierra Madre Senior Community Commission presents a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. located in the Sierra Vista Park Parking Lot (611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.). Community members are invited to come together with their neighbors to participate in a community yard sale. Participants have the opportunity to clean out their garages, attics, storage sheds and closets without sending those valuable items to landfill.

Cost is \$25.00; proceeds will benefit senior programs and activities. Alternatively, you may donate items to the Senior Community Commission booth to help raise money for senior programs and activities. If you would like to participate in the Community Yard Sale, please register online at [www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration) or in person at the Community Recreation Office 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Deadline to register is Tuesday, May 31 or until spaces are filled.

Participants must provide their own tables, chairs, canopies (10'x10' maximum) and cash boxes. No electricity will be provided. Live animals, large canopies, and selling of food or drinks are prohibited. All business must be conducted within your space. Event may be cancelled due to inclement weather. A limited number of spaces are available. For more information please call (626) 355-5278

## FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIE SERIES

The 2011 Friday movies series is beginning on Friday, May 6, 2011. Movies are shown free to the public every other Friday beginning on May 6, 2011 and running through June 3, 2011. Movies are shown in Kersting Court, at the corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Baldwin Ave. The movie line-up is: May 6 – Toy Story 3, May 20 – Despicable Me, and June 3 – How to Train your Dragon. For more information call 626-355-5278.

## SIERRA MADRE ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

Grab your friends and neighbors and sign a team up for our Summer Adult Softball League! Games will be played on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Don't have a team? No worries! Sign yourself up as a free agent and we'll place you on a team. All players must be over 18 to play. The Sierra Madre Adult Co-ed Softball League is divided into an "A" league geared towards the competitive participant, and a "B" league for recreational competition. Due to the limited field space, registration is limited. Be sure to sign up early and don't miss out on the 2011 season! Please note that team sign-ups may have a free agent added to the roster.

Season:  
Late June through August

Cost:  
\$320 per team or  
\$32 per player

Registration: Must be done in person at the Community Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Games Site:  
Heasley Field

Deadline:  
Teams and players must register by Monday, June 6, 2011.

For more information contact 626-355-5278



## RESPECT FOR OTHERS RESPECT FOR SELF RESPECT FOR THE WORLD

Classical Education and Emphasis on the Arts  
An Academic Environment Where Student Competence and Confidence are Developed

K-8 Co-ed School that values Diversity, Character Development and Social Responsibility

Service-Learning Projects at Every Grade Level  
Located in the Foothills 5 Minutes from Pasadena  
Fully Accredited by CAIS & WASC

**THE GOODEN SCHOOL**  
192 N. BALDWIN AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA 626-355-2410  
[WWW.GOODENSCHOOL.COM](http://WWW.GOODENSCHOOL.COM)

*Live from Burger Continental, Pasadena*

## The Harvey Hyde Show

535 So. Lake Ave. Pasadena  
(626) 792 - 6634

Every Thursday 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Hard-hitting, High impact Sports Talk Radio  
KSHP Las Vegas - 1400 AM

## The British Home in California, Ltd.

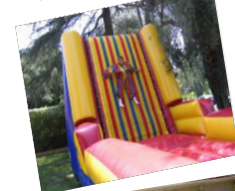
647 Manzanita Avenue, Sierra Madre, California 91024

FREE  
ADMISSION

## June Faire

\$1,000 CASH  
PRIZE

10 am to 2:30 pm • Saturday • June 4 • 2011



*Also Featuring - Victorian Tea Room • English Bangers  
Hot Dogs • Strawberries and Ice Cream • Home Baked  
Goods • Pastries • Savories • Arts • Crafts • Bookstall  
Tools • Garden Equipment • Sticky Wall • Face Painting*

Under the Auspices of the Daughters of the British Empire in the Western States



# SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

From the desk of Phyllis Chapman:

## Civic Club Installs New Leadership

It was the top of the evening when Colleen J. McKernan was installed president of Sierra Madre Civic Club for 2011-2012 at their Installation Dinner on May 19. She chose as her theme the four leaf clover signifying "Love, Faith, Hope, Luck."

Board of Directors installed with her by Installing Officer Marcia Bent were: Carol Cerrina, Susan Clifton, Alice Clark, Chandy Shair, Gwen Robertson, Maria Decker, Ruth Torres, Ellen O'Leary, Pat Alcorn and Nan Carlton.

Marlene Enmark presented an inspirational message for the new board. Joan Spears and Linda Wochnik chaired the festive and gourmet evening.

High praise and lovely gifts were presented to retiring President Carol Cerrina and her Board for the past year, a highly successful year. Among funds raised by Ways and Means Co-Chairs Karma Bell and Jean Coleman was \$15,600 the amount of their big philanthropy giveaway. This was pro-rated by Philanthropy Chair Jane Zamanzadeh and her committee and donated to seventeen local causes researched and voted by the membership. Also, an additional \$4,500 was presented in Education Awards to four graduating high school seniors chosen by Leslee Hinton and her Education Awards Committee. McKernan, besides her ser-



Colleen McKernan

vice in Civic Club, is an active community volunteer and operates a successful Sierra Madre business, Foothill Homecare Partners, providing a vital service for seniors. She will conduct the club's first meeting of the new year Thursday, June 9, 7:30 p.m., in Memorial Park Hart Senior Center. Plans for the coming year will be the main business on the agenda.

## DR. JOHN HULL TO BE ORDAINED AS A CATHOLIC DEACON, JUNE 11 AT LOS ANGELES CATHEDRAL

St. Rita Catholic Community in Sierra Madre eagerly anticipates the ordination of Dr. John Hull, one of their parishioners. Hull's ordination as a Roman Catholic Deacon will take place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 11, at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in downtown Los Angeles. Limited tickets are available through the St. Rita Parish office.

Hull will become the third deacon ordained in the parish, since the reinstitution of the permanent Deaconate ordination in the Roman Catholic Church in the 1960's, after the sweeping changes of Vatican II.

Hull and his wife, Marylee, will join Deacon Manuel and Griselda Valencia as the parish's third Deacon couple. They will all minister to the spiritual needs of the 1135 families of this faith community, under the direction of the pastor, Monsignor Richard Krekelberg. Hull's early mentor, the parish's beloved first deacon, Ernie Nosari, passed away in 2005.

The Hulls, Sierra Madre residents since 1992, have four children, the youngest attending Alverno High School. John Hull has taken an unusual route to the Catholic faith and its deaconate. Formerly an ordained Christian minister in another denomination, as well as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Practical Theology at Fuller Seminary in Pasadena, Hull felt called to reexamine his faith journey in recent years, and joined the Catholic Church in 1999.

Dr. Hull reflects, "I grew up as a Christmas and Easter Christian, then faced the tumultuous college environment of Ohio State at the height of its unrest, where I drifted away from Christianity altogether. After college, seemingly chance circumstances in Boston introduced me to my wife Marylee, and simultaneously brought me back to Christianity in my own St. Paul-like conversion. I then felt called to serve, began study for a Masters in Divinity in 1976.

"After ordination, I ministered in the American Baptist Church until 1984," Hull recounted, "when I returned to study for a second Master's degree, this time in Urban Ministry at Fuller Seminary here in California. After graduation, I pastored two LA churches until 1992, when I assumed an administrative role at



Fuller, entered their Doctor of Divinity program, then taught there at the seminary for a decade."

During his tenure at Fuller, Hull began formal study to become a Catholic in 1998 under Deacon Nosari, becoming a Catholic at Easter, 1999. As he felt called again into the active ministry, Deacon Manuel Valencia and his wife, Chela, mentored and advised Dr. Hull and his wife, Marylee, encouraging them to move forward as a couple, into the Deaconate ministry.

The opportunity to enter the ordained, permanent Deaconate ministry is open to active, practicing Catholic men ages 31-60, married or single. Hull comments, "Very few deacons are paid by the church. Most hold full time 'secular' careers outside the church. It is our particular mission and ministry to bring the 'outside world' perspective to our pastor."

In 2006, the Hulls enrolled together in the Los Angeles Diocese's Deaconate training program, and have dedicated nearly every weekend together to the program's study for John's ordination over the past two years. They will serve St. Rita's together. In the interim, Hull felt "a stirring in my heart to get back to doing direct Christian ministry, in choosing hospice ministry to the dying and their families." He recently accepted a full time ministerial position at Mission Hospice in South Pasadena. Marylee, his wife of 36 years, an MIT-trained scientist and engineer, currently teaches science at the Oxford School, a private, international high school in Rowland Heights.

The Hulls will continue their ministry in several areas of St. Rita parish, including the Liturgy of the Hours service held weekly on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the parish's small Oratory chapel, their ministry to the visually impaired CLIMB residents

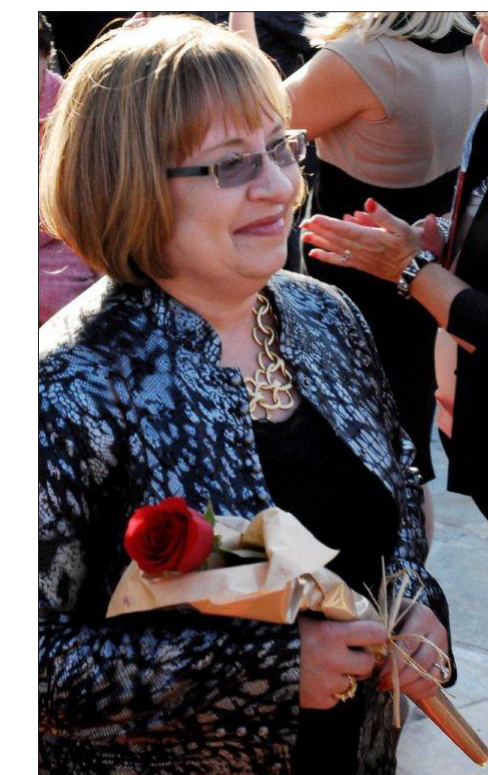
at their Sierra Madre facility and Marylee's position on the St. Rita School board, where their youngest daughter attended elementary school. Their joint hope and ministry is to foster and further ecumenical conversation and outreach, focusing their unique spiritual journey and path on the commonalities of John's Catholic faith and Marylee's Protestant tradition and heritage.

Msgr. Krekelberg reflected on Hull's upcoming ordination, "When I first came to St. Rita Parish, John, in his characteristic humility, shared his personal history of religious experience and ministry with me. I knew from that moment that John and Marylee would play an important role in the unfolding of our own parish story. Because the deaconate formation program takes at least five years, I knew it would be a highlight of our transition into St. Rita's second century. We all rejoice that John has answered God's call to this ministry, via a long searching path, full of spiritual steppingstones."

In honor of Hull's ordination and the Deacon couple's commitment to minister to the St. Rita community, a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by Monsignor Krekelberg, on Sunday, June 12 at noon, assisted by both Deacons.

It will be followed by a reception in O'Malley Hall. All are welcome, and no reservations are required. The Hull family, representatives from Fuller, St. Rita and the local clergy will attend the ordination as well as the St. Rita events on June 12.

St. Rita Church and O'Malley Hall are located at 318 N. Baldwin Avenue, at Grandview, in Sierra Madre. For more information, please contact the St. Rita Parish office at 626-355-1292.



Mountain Views News Contributor Chris Bertrand and (left) and Casa Del Rey co-owner Donna Rey, were recently chosen as "Fabulous Women of Influence" by The Magazine. The honor was bestowed upon women in the San Gabriel Valley who are nominated because of their influence in their respective communities. Also honored this year was Joan Whitenack (not pictured) of the Foothill Unity Center. Photos courtesy of The Magazine

## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, May 15th, to Saturday May 21st, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 273 calls for service. See [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com) for updated information.

**Tuesday, May 17th:**

**4:48 PM- Petty Theft, 500 blk. Lotus Ln.** A resident reported that a hedge trimmer was stolen from her property. The victim stated that a man had been staying at her house and when she asked him to leave he took the hedge trimmer without permission.

**Friday, May 20th:**

**2:12 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, Sierra Madre Blvd. and Kersting Ct.** An officer stopped a 24 year old El Monte motorist for a Vehicle Code violation and determined that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police Department for booking.

**12:20 AM- Robbery, 200 blk. Sierra Madre Blvd.** A victim reported seeing a suspect walk into her backyard where he took recyclables from her trash bin and put them in his truck. The victim confronted the suspect, who punched the victim and drove away with the recyclables in a light gray 2008 Honda Accord, license #6PRA516. The suspect is Jeffrey Stephenson, 48.

**3:26 PM- Make Annoying Telephone Calls, 600 blk. Oak Crest Dr.** A former boyfriend made annoying phone calls and sent text messages to the victim who had ended the relationship.

**Saturday, May 21st:**

**8:19 AM- Grand Theft, 500 blk. W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** This case involves a victim in her 80's receiving a bogus telephone call asking her for money. The suspect identified himself as a police officer and told her that her grandson had been arrested in Haiti and needed money to bail him out of jail. The elderly victim complied and wired \$5500 dollars through Western Union to Haiti. The victim later discovered that her grandson was never arrested and that the call was a scam.

**1:23 PM- Use Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc.** The suspect(s) stole the victim's banking account information and tried to cash three forged checks. The suspect(s) also used the victim's debit card to steal \$907.00.

## "Love In Absentia"



San Marino Community Church welcomes you to Sunday worship on Memorial Day weekend! Seminary Intern Bong Bringas preaches at both the 9:15 traditional service and "The Gathering" at 11:15 am.

Explore the Rev. Dr. N.T. Wright's *Simply Christian*, the acclaimed book on reasonable, applicable faith. The DVD-based series features the author's informative presentations and will be held at 10:30 am on many Sunday mornings from May through the summer. Check [www.smccpby.com](http://www.smccpby.com) for the schedule.

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

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

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## Anti-Piracy Caucus Unveils Watch List

The Congressional Anti-Piracy Caucus, which includes local Congressman Adam Schiff, unveiled Thursday countries on the 2011 watch list — identifying Canada, China, Russia, Spain and Ukraine—where intellectual property theft they say is harming the US economy.

During a press event at the Capitol Visitor Center in Washington D.C, Members of the Anti-Piracy Caucus were joined by Mitch Bainwol, Chairman and CEO of the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), Michael Gallagher, President and CEO of the Entertainment Software Association (ESA), Robert Holleyman, President and CEO of the Business Software Alliance (BSA) and David Israelite, President and CEO of the National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA).

Holleyman, of the BSA, said that together these five countries account for \$13.4 billion worth of PC software piracy. In a statement the BSA also cited a recent report issued by the US International Trade Commission, saying theft of intellectual property in China alone cost the US economy as many as 2.1 million jobs and up to \$100 billion in economic harm.

Holleyman added, "Governments must not only implement strong intellectual property laws; they also should ensure their citizens understand and abide by those laws. I commend the Anti-Piracy Caucus for its leadership in protecting American intellectual property." Schiff said the good news is that legitimate content has gone up although the bad news, he added, was that pirated content had gone up even more. He called for the use of market forces to curb piracy.

Schiff also took aim at ad agencies that allow ads to be placed on websites that are known to house pirated content. In a statement Schiff said, "We are calling on responsible advertisers, search engines, Internet service providers, and other parts of the internet ecosystem to work with us to protect the hard work of American creators from piracy,"

## Pet of the Week



Doubles, a lovely, year old, tortoiseshell cat is in need of a loving home. She is very outgoing and loves people but may prefer to be the only cat in the home. She would be a great companion for someone looking to add a little fun to their household. Come visit with her today! The regular cat adoption fee is \$70 which includes the spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. Please call 626-792-7151 and ask about A286674 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](http://www.pasadenahumane.org)



Puppy mill in rural US. Photo courtesy of PETA

## Committee Discusses Puppy Mills

By Dean Lee

The city's Legislative Policy Committee discussed briefly Wednesday the possible adoption of a Puppy Mill Ordinance that would set guidelines for those, in the city, who breed dogs. The issue was brought before the committee by Councilmember Jacque Robinson after a similar ordinance was passed in March by the County Board of Supervisors.

Assistant City Manager Julie Gutierrez said they plan to get the opinion of the Pasadena Humane Society, local police and the city attorney. The

issue is set to come back to the same committee in June. She said there were no direct instances in the city dealing with puppy mills.

Pasadena Humane Society Spokesperson Ricky Whitman said puppy mills are more of a problem in the Midwest.

"Here in Southern California, we see backyard breeders and puppies coming up from Mexico," she said explaining that the Humane Society has its own task force dealing with puppies brought in the county illegally. She said backyard breeders are minute compared to puppy

mills although have similar issues such as inbreeding. As with puppy mills, dogs illegally coming from Mexico end up in pet stores. In L.A. County all dog breeders must be licensed she said.

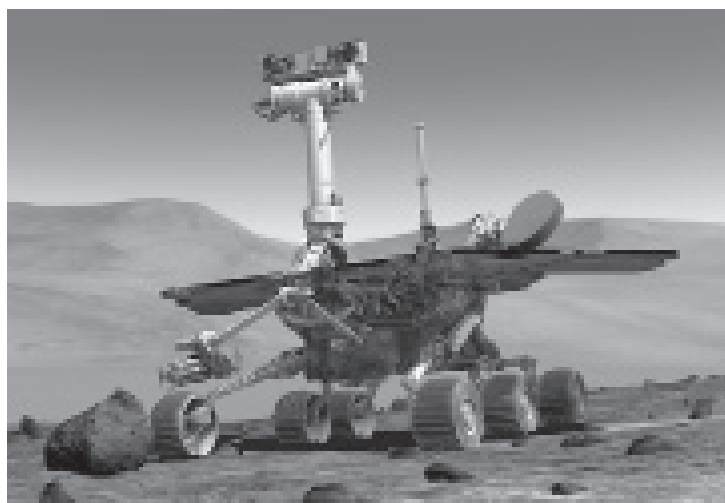
The County ordinance limits the number of adult dogs in commercial breeding to no more than 50 and includes requirements for, staffing, inspections, protection for pregnant nursing dogs and puppies among other things. Violators can be fined up to \$250 for a first time offence. The county may also seek injunctive relief in civil court to enforce compliance.

## NASA Ends Contact Attempts with Spirit

NASA ended attempts to regain contact with the long-lived Mars Exploration Rover Spirit, which last communicated in March of last year.

All transmission ended Wednesday and was the last in a series of attempts. Extensive communications activities during the past 10 months also have explored the possibility that Spirit might reawaken as the solar energy available to it increased after a stressful Martian winter without much sunlight. With inadequate energy to run its

survival heaters, the rover likely experienced colder internal temperatures last year than in any of its prior six years on Mars. Many critical components and connections would have been susceptible to damage from the cold. Engineers' assessments in recent months have shown a very low probability for recovering communications with Spirit. Communications assets that have been used by the Spirit mission in the past, including NASA's Deep Space Network of antennas on Earth, plus two NASA



Mars Exploration Rover Spirit, photo courtesy of NASA

## Measure P Oversight Committee Member Appointed

The Pasadena Area Community College District Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Michael T. Davitt to serve on the Pasadena City College Measure P Citizen's Oversight Committee, which will report on the progress of PCC renovations and construction funded by voter-approved Measure P Bond funds. The passage of Measure P in 2002 authorized PCC to issue up to \$150 million in bonds to finance the construction. Bonds will be repaid through local property taxes.

The 12-member committee meets quarterly to ensure that campus projects are developed and funded as specified in Measure P. The committee also publishes each year a progress report to the community in the fall PCC President's Report to the Community. Davitt was recommended

by Area 1 (La Cañada Flintridge, West Pasadena) Trustee Geoffrey Baum and is serving his first appointment on the committee. He currently serves as councilmember for the city of La Cañada Flintridge. Davitt is also director of real estate for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The Archdiocese is the second largest private landholder in California. Davitt has served as housing development manager for the Community Development and Housing Director for the City of Glendale from 1994 to 1998.

Committee members serve for two years. Members may be reappointed for a second term. They also may return to the committee after an absence of two years. Measure P campus projects have included a new parking structure, a new Industrial Technologies Building, the renovation of the Campus Center building, and technology and safety upgrades to most of PCC's existing buildings. For more information about Measure P, call (626) 585-7258 or visit the Measure P website at [www.pasadena.edu/bond](http://www.pasadena.edu/bond).

## Altadena Bakery Wins Fight to Save Art Mural

By Dean Lee

Patticakes dessert company owner Mike McLellan confirmed Friday that a large colorful mural on the side of his business was given a stay by the county after Supervisor Michael Antonovich's office was flooded with emails from supporters asking that the mural be saved.

"They [the county] said we could either get the complainant to rescind his complaint or please just make it go away and make the emails stop," McLellan said.

At issue was a letter from county officials McLellan received in April ordering him to take down the brightly colored mural of muffins, cake and coffee. Inspectors argued the mural was advertising and did not meet county codes.

McLellan said at first he took the fight to the Altadena Town Council where he said they refused to help even after he gathered hundreds of signatures in support of the mural.

"None of them even looked at me when I spoke," he said.

McLellan said after he fully explained the situation and after a number of community members spoke defending the mural, the council apologized saying it was a county issue and quickly moved on to other business.

After that McLellan said he got the idea to put a cup on the counter with strips of paper giving Antonovich's contact information.

"I put a cup on the table and put 150 slips of paper in there with Antonovich's email on it and I put a sign on the window that said, if you'd like to keep our mural please email Mike Antonovich."

McLellan said the next day Antonovich's planning deputy came in the store saying the mural could stay.

In the end, McLellan said the person who made the original complaint also supported keeping the mural up.

McLellan also said that the amount of local press coverage contributed to saving the mural.

## Public Invited To Air Operations Open House

The Pasadena Police Department's Air Operations Section will host an open house on Saturday, June 4, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Benedict Heliport, 2175 Yucca Lane in Altadena. Food and beverages will be provided.

Displays and demonstrations will include police helicopters, an armored rescue vehicle, a mobile command post and police motorcycles. Fingerprinting will be provided for children. Personnel from the Employment Services, Forensics, Traffic and Community Services will be on hand to meet visitors and answer questions. SWAT and K9 demonstrations will take place at 12:00 noon

and 1:00 p.m.

"We are excited to open our doors and increase the public's awareness and education about airborne law enforcement," said Chief Phillip L. Sanchez. "The Air Operations Section has a proud history of crime fighting and providing public safety services. We want the public to know what we do and why air support and the special operations community is so critical to our mission in today's world." Directions to the heliport: Take the Arroyo/Windsor exit off the 210 Freeway and go north on Arroyo Boulevard, then turn left on Weimar Avenue to Yucca Lane.

## 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

## PCC Teams Up With City to Fill Gap in Workforce

Pasadena City College will be offering an electrical engineering course beginning June 27 to expose students to career opportunities in utilities with the City of Pasadena. The City of Pasadena Department of Water and Power (PWP) is experiencing a severe shortage of highly trained utility workers to fill positions in the water and power utility industry. This course will create a career pathway that will train students for a utility field career.

Electricity 248A, which will run from June 27 through Aug. 4, will emphasize electrical fundamentals for electrical distribution, electrical repair, and pole climbing. The curriculum was designed by Joe Awad, assistant general manager of the Pasadena Power Delivery Division, and Douglas Haines, dean of the PCC Engineering and Technology Division. In the future, the City of Pasadena will join PCC faculty in the design and delivery of other courses to improve skill and knowledge of our current and future employees. For more information, please contact Haines at (626) 585-7114.

## Photojournalist to Speak as Part of Speakers Series



Photojournalist and editor of the Pasadena Independent newspaper, Terry Miller, will speak at the 2011 Citizen Journalism Speakers Series, a free community lecture event. The 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, May 31, 2011 at 6:00pm.

Terry Miller likes to focus in on his news stories to get close and personal, framing his subjects in a sensitive and thought provoking manner, developing an intimacy for the reader. While media competition is fierce and challenging in this digital world, being fair, objective and accurate in local news coverage remains his number one goal. It

is said in journalism, "Tell the story, don't become the story." The proverbial "cardinal rule" of journalism changed in 1991. When a train derailment shut down California's highway US 101 for five days that is when Terry became the story.

Terry known for having "Ink in the Blood" was born in England. In 1965, at the age of eleven, due to his father's work as a Foreign News Correspondent for the London Daily Telegraph, he immigrated to the United States on the famous Queen Mary. As a professional photographer he has had the opportunity to photograph some of Hollywood's finest actors, musicians and comedians in their homes and at public engagements. Whether photographing a riot or a ribbon cutting, train derailment or just a simple mug shot, he puts his heart and soul into the story. The event will be held at the Donald R. Wright Auditorium 285 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91101 (located in the Pasadena Central Library) All Events Door Open at 6:00pm 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.



From Arcadia's Best...

## Caruso backs out of Shops

By Scott Hettrick

Seven years after making a proposal to build a \$500 million open-air, high-end, 825,000 square-foot retail center on 51 acres of the parking lot of the Santa Anita Park race track, developer Rick Caruso has withdrawn from negotiations with track owners.

A representative from Caruso confirmed to ArcadiasBest.com today (Friday, May 20) that reports about discussions ending with Santa Anita owner, Canada-based MI Developments, for the proposed Shops at Santa Anita are true, at least for now.

Neither Caruso Affiliated or Santa Anita Park would comment, with MID expected to release a statement next week.

The original 50/50 partnership agreement between the two companies was dissolved last year by track owners during a reorganization under bankruptcy protection that was initiated in March 2009. Talks between Caruso and MID owner, auto parts magnate Frank Stronach, had continued off and on since then, but Caruso claimed in April 2010 that MID/Santa Anita owed

Caruso Affiliated \$21 million, which had become a sticking point, according to The Daily News and the Los Angeles Business Journal. The joint venture reportedly spent \$25 million during the process that ended abruptly this wee“It is truly a shame when a corporate citizen in our community does not give any consideration to their actions or in this case their lack of actions and what the consequences of that will be to Arcadia,” Arcadia City Councilman Mickey Segal told ArcadiasBest.com. “Mr. Stronach has dragged his feet and not delivered on his commitment to develop the property and that will now create a tremendous shortfall of revenue for our city for many years to come. I respect his rights as a property owner but not to the total detriment of all residents.”

The Shops at Santa Anita was unanimously approved by the City Council in 2007 but was immediately challenged in lawsuits by neighbor Westfield Santa Anita and its community advocacy group Arcadia First! That legal battle continued for two years and was still in full swing when Santa Anita was taken into bankruptcy protection two years ago.

## Retired Teachers to Hear Speaker on Helping the Visually Impaired

The California Retired Teachers' Association #71 (CalRTA) will welcome speaker Rayanne Myers of EYE-DAS (Eye-Diseases are Serious) to its luncheon meeting on Friday, June 10, at 11:30 am. The meeting will take place at the Senior Center Building in Arcadia Park, 405 W. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia, next to the Lawn Bowling Greens.

Formerly a teacher in Early Childhood Education, Rayanne Myers also worked in group sales at the Pasadena Convention Center and major hotels before she lost her eyesight. She will introduce her audience to EYE-DAS, an organization founded in 1975 that is dedicated to helping adults with impaired, partial, or no vision at

all. Sighted individuals are also welcome to join as they play an important role. EYE-DAS offers many resources, social activities, ongoing education, and problem sharing at several nearby locations, including Arcadia. Its goal is to enable independence and to improve quality of life for its members.

Guests are welcome to come enjoy the CalRTA #71 luncheon and to hear the informative speaker. The cost of the luncheon for members and guests is \$10. The reservation deadline is June 3. For luncheon information, please call John Gera at (626) 286-0714. Membership in CalRTA is open to all retired teachers, as well as to those interested in joining.

## City of Arcadia 2011 Senior Citizens of the Year

On Monday, May 23rd, the 46th Annual Older American's Recognition Day Awards Program was held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion at the Music Center in Los Angeles. This event honored senior citizens from the 87 Cities throughout Los Angeles County. The City of Arcadia was proud to announce that their 2011 recipients were Jim and Margaret Barrows.

### ABOUT OUR HONOREES

Jim and Margaret Barrows have demonstrated a life of service and exemplify the spirit of volunteerism. Their scope of experience and commitment is far reaching and passion for the community is unending.

Jim currently serves as the Arcadia City Clerk,

a position he has held since 2004. Working in tandem with his wife Margaret, they serve as the food coordinator for the Arcadia Invitational Track Meet, are members of the Arcadia Police Department volunteers in Patrol, past member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and assist with several City events including the Snow Festival, Penny Carnival, Summer Concerts in the Park and the Easter Egg Hunt.

In addition to the depth of service they have provided to the City, Jim and Margaret have worked with the San Gabriel Valley Special Olympics, American Diabetes Association Walk, Wistaria Festival in Sierra Madre serving as the Traffic Coordinator and Camp McDonald (camp for children with cancer).

## Arcadia Police Blotter

*For the period of Sunday, May 15, through Saturday, May 21, the Police Department responded to 909 calls for service of which 134 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.*

### Sunday, May 15:

Shortly before 8:00 p.m., units were dispatched to the 1000 block of Arcadia Avenue in regards to a fire call. An apartment unit caught fire due to a malfunctioning toaster oven. The kitchen and family room were completely engulfed. Only one neighboring unit sustained minor water damage. The Arcadia Fire Department successfully extinguished the flames and there were no reported injuries.

Between 7:20 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., an auto burglary occurred in the 100 block of North First Avenue. Unknown suspect(s) smashed the rear driver's side window and stole a laptop, camera and various pieces of medical equipment for an approximate loss of \$3180.

### Monday, May 16:

3. Between 7:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., a residential burglary occurred in the 300 block of East Longden Avenue. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the front door, ransacked the home and stole approximately 20 U.S. Savings Bonds. The amount of the loss was unknown.

4. At 1:04 p.m., an officer was dispatched to J.C. Penney at 400 S. Baldwin Avenue in reference to two people in custody for theft. The suspect(s) were observed concealing a pair of sunglasses as well as a sweater. The total value of the merchandise was \$70.00. Both the 23-year-old Asian female and the 20-year-old Hispanic male were arrested for petty theft.

### Tuesday, May 17:

5. At approximately 12:00 p.m., a unit was patrolling the area of Park Avenue and Duarte Road. The officer observed a couple of juveniles sitting on the curb, one of them appeared to be holding a cigarette. An investigation revealed that the 16-year-old White female was smoking. She was placed under arrest for possession of tobacco under the age of 18.

6. About 2:15 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 1200 block of South First Avenue in regards to a residential burglary. The suspects (described as three Black males between the ages of 25-30) forced open the rear sliding door, ransacked the bedrooms and took several items including jewelry and personal documents. The suspects were seen leaving the area in a 2011 Grey Toyota Van.

### Wednesday, May 18:

7. Between 12:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m., an auto burglary occurred in the 600 block of Fairview Avenue. An investigation revealed that five vehicles at the same location, had smashed windows and items taken from the interior.

There were no suspect(s) heard or seen, and the approximate value of the loss is \$1,100.

8. Between 4:00 p.m. May 17th and 6:45 a.m. May 18th, a commercial burglary occurred at Dana Middle School, 1401 South First Avenue. Unknown suspect(s) entered the library by reaching through an unsecured window and pushing open the fire exit door. Once inside, the suspect(s) stole several power tools. The approximate loss is \$1,200.00.

### Thursday, May 19:

9. Shortly after 8:00 a.m., an officer attempted to make a traffic stop on Arcadia Avenue, traveling eastbound, when the vehicle failed to yield. Additional units responded to assist. The vehicle came to a stop in the parking lot located off of Arcadia Avenue east of Baldwin Avenue. The 41-year-old Asian male was cited for evading an officer as well as traveling at an unsafe speed.

10. Shortly after 6:00 a.m., officers were dispatched to Arcadia High School, 180 Campus Drive. An investigation revealed that between 11:00 p.m. May 18th and 6:00 a.m. May 19th, unknown suspect(s) shattered a dual pane window in the science building by rolling a cement trashcan into it. The approximate loss of the vandalism is \$2,000.

### Friday, May 20:

11. At approximately 12:30 a.m., units were dispatched to the area of Huntington Drive and Santa Clara Street in regards to a solo vehicle traffic collision. An investigation revealed that the driver, a 43-year-old Hispanic male, was intoxicated. He was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol.

12. About 3:25 p.m., officers responded to the area of Santa Anita Avenue and Huntington Drive in regards to a female lying on the ground. The 50-year-old White female was conscious but heavily intoxicated. She was placed under arrest for being drunk in public.

### Saturday, May 21:

13. About 2:30 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 2300 block of South Santa Anita Avenue in regards to a deceased person. Upon arrival, officers found an 81-year-old White female in her bed and not breathing. Her son had reported finding her that way, there were no signs of foul play and it appeared she passed away from natural causes.

14. At approximately 10:21 p.m., officers responded to the 300 block of Floral Avenue in regards to a hit and run traffic collision. While making a left turn and entering a driveway, the victim was rear-ended by an unknown vehicle. Immediately after colliding, the suspect vehicle backed out of the driveway and fled the location southbound on North View Avenue. A follow-up investigation is being conducted by the Detective Bureau.

From Arcadia's Best...

## Rose Queen Reunion

By Scott Hettrick

It will be a first-of-its-kind reunion of at least a dozen women who represented Arcadia as a Rose Queen or Princess over a 60-year span when they return to be showcased in the Arcadia's Best Patriotic Festival parade at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 2.

### 1949 Rose Queen Virginia Bower



62 years later, Virginia Bower Nichols is as happy and as radiant as ever.

Queens and Princesses covering at least five different decades have already confirmed appearances, including 1949 Queen Virginia Bower Nichols, who is coming to Arcadia from Walnut Creek near San Francisco for another ride in a parade, this one in her former hometown.

"Arcadia was my home from age four until my marriage in 1950," during which she wore her coronation dress, she says, as did her daughter at her wedding. And it must have been good luck because Nichols has been married for 60 years.

A Princess from 1954-55, Susan Quarness James, will be coming all the way from Montana and will ride in a 1928 Ford Roadster provided by Dick Anderson of Arcadia.

They will be joined by more recent Rose Queens Courtney Lee (2009) and Natalie Innocenzi (2010), as well as 2010 Princess June Ko, all of Arcadia.

"The Rose Court experience was nothing short of extraordinary," says June Ko. "I am very excited and honored to participate in Arcadia's Best Patriotic Festival!"



### 2010 Rose Queen Natalie Innocenzi

Innocenzi today has wonderful memories of her Rose experience.

Others joining the special festivities include 2001 Rose Princesses Crystal Uribe and Nini Wu;

1996 Rose Princess Sarah Clinton Edgington; 1987 Rose Princess Diane Welch Sears; and 1951 Princess June Roan Patterson. Three others are also hoping to attend: Melissa Villagagran Kalie (1991), 1987 Queen Kristin Harris McDonald, and 1980 Princess Linda Wieczorek.

Additional members of this elite group are encouraged to join this celebration of Arcadia royalty that will feature each Queen and Princess getting their own spotlight in a separate special vehicle riding on First Avenue from north of Duarte Road to Bonita Street just north of First Avenue Middle School. A group photo will be taken to commemorate the special occasion.

Royalty from the Arcadia floats in the Rose parade for many years are also invited to participate.



### 1951 Rose Princess June Roan (Patterson)

Details about the free festival in Downtown Arcadia, sponsored by non-profit community events group Arcadia's Best Foundation, and featuring the parade, 10 gourmet food trucks, a car show, street fair, and photo contest, can be found at <http://ArcadiasBestFoundation.org>. To participate, please e-mail [info@ArcadiasBestFoundation.org](mailto:info@ArcadiasBestFoundation.org), or call 626-538-5431.

Sponsors, City and Volunteer Supporters

Founding sponsors include the Gold Line Metro Foothill Transportation Authority, Arcadia Masonic Lodge, Mickey Segal, Waste Management, Post Alarm Systems, Peter Amundson, Santa Anita Park, Matt Denny's Ale House and Restaurant, Foothill Credit Union, The Book Rack/Image Foundry, The Arcadia Historical Society, and Richard Libby.

### 2010 Rose Princess June Ko

Arcadia's Best Patriotic Festival has been unanimously approved by the Arcadia City Council and is supported by the City of Arcadia and the Arcadia Police and Fire Departments.

Other participating and supporting groups include the Arcadia Chinese Association, the Arcadia Education Foundation, Arcadia Republicans, Assistance League of Arcadia, the Arcadia Rotary Club, the Tzu Chi, and many others. Many of those groups and others, along with many individuals, have provided invaluable volunteer support.



## Memorial Day Weekend "AVOID 100" DUI Checkpoint

The Arcadia Police Department, with the assistance of San Gabriel Valley allied police agencies, will conduct a sobriety and drivers license checkpoint at an undisclosed location in the City of Arcadia on Saturday, May 28, 2011 as part of the "AVOID 100" DUI Prevention Task Force. The checkpoint will begin at 6:00 PM and conclude at 2:00 AM. Traffic flowing through the checkpoint will be contacted by uniformed officers, who will be checking for alcohol and/or drug-impaired drivers. Officers will also check to make sure drivers have valid driver's licenses.

The purpose of the checkpoint is to promote public safety and increase awareness of the dangers associated with drinking and driving. The use of checkpoints has proven to serve as an effective deterrent to drivers who are impaired and/or unlicensed.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

*Please direct any inquiries to Sergeant Brett Bourgeois at (626) 574-5475.*

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For inquires please contact our Food & Beverage Director Bill Campbell, (818) 246-5566 ext. 225

## Summer 2011 Registration!

The Recreation and Community Services Department's Summer Registration is underway. Registration is now open to ALL residents and non-residents. Sign up now for our Outdoor Adventure Camp and Swim lessons along with a variety of other classes and activities. The always popular dance, sports, exercise and enrichment programs are available. Several new classes have been added this season including Mad Science Summer Camp, Kiddie Tech classes and the Brit-West Soccer Camp for youth. Try something new this summer or sign up for your old favorites. Hurry the Outdoor Adventure Camp, activities and swim lessons are filling up fast.

For class information, registration forms and to register on-line, go to the City's website at [www.ci.arcadia.ca.us](http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us) under Recreation and Community Services Department. Registration is also being accepted by walk-in, fax and mail. We are located at 375 Campus Drive, fax 626.821.4370. For questions, please contact the Recreation Department at 626.574.5113.

## City of Arcadia 2011 Summer Swim Program

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department will begin the summer swim program on Saturday, June 11 at the Arcadia High School Pool, located at 180 Campus Drive in Arcadia. The pool will open at 1pm and close at 5pm.

Swim lessons for Session One will begin on Monday, June 13th. Online registration is now underway by logging onto "http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us" [www.ci.arcadia.ca.us](http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us)

Walk-in registration for Session I begins Monday, May 9th at the Recreation Department, located at 375 Campus Drive. For more information regarding swim classes and the on-line and walk-in registration dates for Sessions 2-5, please call 626.574.5113.



# MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

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Monrovia

## Dinner and a Movie at Duarte Community Movie Night at Beardslee Park June 3

DUARTE, CA, May 26, 2011 – Duarte Public Safety will host a Community Movie Night on Friday, June 3 at Beardslee Park, 2000 Buena Vista St. The community is invited to enjoy a complimentary BBQ dinner beginning at 6 p.m., followed by a hit family movie and popcorn at 8 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs or blankets.

The evening will also offer an opportunity to learn about the many services and programs available to the community from City representatives, local non-profits and other organizations participating, including the Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept., Santa Anita Family

YMCA, Foothill Unity Center, Foothill Family Service, Marvell West, Los Angeles County Library, and Los Angeles County Fire Dept.

"Movie Night in the Park is a great way for families to kick off summertime fun in Duarte," said Duarte Crime Prevention Specialist, Aida Torres.

Sponsors of the event are the City of Duarte, Think Together, Inflatable 2000, SCE Federal Credit Union, FSP Designs, Riviera Finance, and Rojas Communications.

*For more information, call the Duarte Public Safety Office at (626) 357-7938.*

## Doo Wop Classic '50s and '60s Sounds to Kickoff Duarte Summer Concerts in Park Series, June 29

DUARTE, CA, May 26, 2011– The Doo Wop sounds of summer will be flowing from Duarte Park on Wednesday, June 29, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with the kickoff of the popular Duarte Summer Concerts in the Park series. California America Water will sponsor the evening's entertainment by The Story Tellers and the In Crowd Band featuring classic '50s and '60s tunes for listening and dancing.

Duarte's summer concert series offers a fun and stress-free way to enjoy a warm summer evening in the company of family and friends. Concert-goers are invited to bring along a lawn chair or blanket and pack a picnic dinner, or enjoy something good to eat from one of several food booths that will be open for business beginning at 6 p.m. There will be more than music to enjoy. Each of the four scheduled concerts will also feature an entertainment and play area for

children, and a raffle hosted by the Route 66 Parade Committee.

Duarte Park is located at 1344 Bloomdale Ave., just east of Buena Vista St., and adjacent to the Duarte Teen Center. Free bus transportation to and from the park is available by Duarte Transit.

Other concert dates in the series are The Blue Breeze Band playing Motown, R&B and Soul on July 13; Sean Wiggins country-rock band on July 27; and Los Retoños del Norte & Mariachi Latino on Aug. 10.

In addition to California American Water, sponsors of the series are Rutan & Tucker, LLP; Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich; Burrtec Waste; Foothill Transit; and Performance Nissan.

*For more information, call Duarte Parks and Recreation at (626) 357-7931.*

## Celebrate the Adult Summer Reading Club, Novel Destinations, with advice, skits, song and fashion.

Part one covers global etiquette to avoid international blunders. Denise and friends use skits and song to show what to do, and what not to do, to maintain harmonious social relations with other cultures.

Part two of the series demonstrates how to pack lightly and breeze through TSA security.

Ever wonder how some people can go on a month-long trip with just carry-on luggage? Learn how to pack for versatility and portability. Ever get annoyed by people who hold up the security line because they don't know what's expected? Learn the security ropes and don't miss Denise's hilarious song called Don't Pack the

Knife about the TSA.

Part three explores the lighter side with music and fashion. Denise Harvey and friends sing songs from around the globe. They also go into the wonderful traditional clothing you might encounter on a trip to exotic locations or during a festival. Try your hand at wrapping a sari or a sarong.

Tasty snacks from different countries provided after each program.

*Saturdays, June 25, July 9, & July 23 Library Community Room 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.*

*Free Sponsored by Friends of the Monrovia Public Library*

## Monrovia Police Blotter

*During the last seven day period, the Police Department handled 533 service events, resulting in 88 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:*

### Grand Theft Auto / Vehicle Burglary

On May 13 at 9:12 p.m., police responded to the report of a stolen vehicle in the 900 block of South Primrose. The victim parked his 1994 Honda Accord at the location. When he returned to where he parked his vehicle, approximately an hour later, he discovered his vehicle was missing. The victim did not know his license plate number. The vehicle was located an hour later, half a block away in an alley. The stereo and speakers were missing from the vehicle.

### Attempt Suicide / Mental Evaluation

On May 13 at 9:29 p.m., a female subject came to the police department lobby to report her ex-husband had stated that he was going to commit suicide. He had grabbed the garden hose and left the location in his truck, which has a camper shell. When his son called him, he stated that he was going to park somewhere, connect the hose to the exhaust pipe, and die of carbon monoxide poisoning. The ex-wife had driven around searching for the ex-husband, but when she was unable to find him, she came to the police station. The father refused to tell his son where he was parked. Police dispatchers were able to locate the vehicle by using the cell phone and discovered the vehicle was parked in a parking lot in the 400 block of East Foothill. Officers arrived and located the vehicle with the hose attached to the tailpipe, leading into the camper shell. The officers opened the rear hatch and smelled a strong odor of carbon monoxide. The subject was lying in the bed of the truck, lethargic. Paramedics responded and took the subject to a hospital for treatment, where he was held for 72-hour mental evaluation.

### Assault with a Deadly Weapon - Suspect Arrested

On May 13 at 10:14 p.m., officers were dispatched to a residence in the 100 block of Montana regarding a large party at the location, and someone reported seeing a firearm on a subject. A few seconds later, dispatch received a second call reporting a fight at the location and someone had been stabbed in the neck. Officers arrived and saw numerous subjects running from the location. A stabbing victim was found on the ground. Witnesses reported seeing the victim fighting with another male subject. Sometime during the fight, the suspect stabbed the victim. The suspect was last seen running south through the property. Containment of the area was established. During the investigation, police received a call from a business reporting a subject lying on the ground in front of their establishment between two vehicles. Officers responded and noticed the subject matched the description of the suspect from the stabbing incident. The subject was positively identified as the suspect, and he was arrested and held for bail. The investigation is continuing.

### Assault with a Deadly Weapon - Suspect Arrested

On May 15 at 10:31 a.m., officers responded to the area of Mayflower and Evergreen, where a fight between two male subjects had just occurred. One of the subjects had a pocket knife and slashed at the victim, causing a laceration to the victim's arm. The suspect ran north on Mayflower where he was detained by an officer. The suspect still had the knife in his pocket. The suspect had gone to the location to drop off his child and an argument ensued between the suspect and the boyfriend of the child's mother, which escalated into a fight. The victim was taken to a hospital for treatment of his injury.

### Attempt Suicide / Mental Evaluation

On May 15 at 2:31 p.m., a female subject called to report she had received a telephone call from her mother who told her she had taken an entire bottle of pills. The mother hung up the phone and then would not answer. Officers responded to the residence located in the 400 block of East Foothill and were able to gain entry through an open sliding glass door. They searched the house, which was empty except for one bedroom that was locked, and no one was answering inside the room. An officer forced entry into the room and found the woman unresponsive. The officer performed first responder emergency aid until paramedics arrived. She was then taken to a hospital for medical treatment and held for 72-hour mental evaluation.

### Vandalism / Emergency Restraining Order Issued

On May 16 at 8:01 a.m., police responded to the 800 block of West Olive regarding a disturbance. An adult male that had just moved in with his grandparents became verbally abusive toward them and his mother. The police were called to mediate the situation. While police were at the residence, the subject broke the bathroom window with his fist. He refused medical treatment and was placed under private person's arrest by his family. He was taken into custody and booked. When he was released from custody, he went directly back to his grandparent's house, where he began yelling at them again. The grandmother called back and said she was scared and didn't want him there. She requested an emergency protective order against him and a judge immediately issued a protective order. Officers served the order and removed the male from the home without incident.

### Commercial Burglary - Suspects Arrested

On May 19 at 6:19 p.m., a business in the 700 block of East Huntington advised a theft of alcohol had just occurred. The male and female suspects fled in a black Honda. A witness followed the suspect's vehicle and directed officers to them by phone. Officers apprehended the suspects on the 210 Freeway. The investigation revealed they had stolen alcohol from multiple stores. Four subjects were in the vehicle and all four were arrested and booked for burglary. Several of the suspects were admitted gang members or gang member associates and said they had taken the alcohol for a party. One of the male subjects is on parole for burglary and the female had recently been arrested for theft.

## City Manager's Report

### May Revise Raises Threat Against RDA's... Again

This past week, Governor Jerry Brown released his "May Revise" budget. This exercise provides the Governor with the opportunity to update the budget that he submitted to the Legislature in January. Typically, the May Revise is able to reflect the latest economic trends and information, as well as the latest iteration of the political strategy and maneuvering taking place between the Governor and Legislature.

The most notable update in this May Revise was a \$6.6 billion revenue gain in State income tax receipts since the January budget projections. Of course, given that the State is trying to fill a \$26 billion gap, this "new money" may be seen by the Governor as inconvenient to his plans. That is, the increase is not enough to stave off the massive cuts that the State is contemplating; however, it is enough to detract from the Governor's plan to ask an already skeptical electorate for ongoing tax support.

The Governor outlined the following "highlights" in his May Revise:

Reduce the amount of taxes required to balance the budget - what this means is that the Governor is still proposing a tax plan; however, it will \$2 billion less than he proposed January.

Increase spending on K-12 education. The revised budget increases funds for public schools by \$3 billion. While this is good news for K-12 budgets, it is just the tip of the iceberg compared to the past billions still owed to depleted K-12 school systems.

Spur job creation through tax incentives. The revised budget restricts Enterprise Zone credits to create new jobs only and revamps a hiring tax credit to encourage additional job creation - but it no longer calls for the outright elimination of them (thus, Monrovia may take another run at the Enterprise Zone program).

Local governments have for years been asking the State to regulate its own budget, instead of raiding local coffers. In the wake voter-approved protections for cities and redevelopment agencies, the State has begun to view local government as a partner and not a piggy bank. To that end, the May Revise contains some steps in the right direction:

Cut State government. The revised budget eliminates 43 boards, commissions, task forces, offices and departments that represent non-essential uses of taxpayer dollars.

Restore honesty to the budget process. Last year's budget under-funded the costs of both the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Department of Mental Health by \$465 million. This move directly affected local governments, especially at the county level; and local law enforcement at both the county and city level dealt with increasing numbers of "non-revocable" parolees in their communities.

Of course, the Governor's desire to portray the State-local relationship as a partnership is belied by his continued focus on the elimination of redevelopment agencies. This, even after the California Redevelopment Association and the League of California Cities cultivated a compromise with the State that would get them the funding they desire from the RDAs.

It is difficult to understand where the Governor is going with this. Many folks - including those at the State level - view his plan as blatantly unconstitutional, fraught with administrative problems, and, given this delayed implementation, not securing the amount of money Governor Brown is looking for. Thus, we will charge up the hill again. As former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher once observed, "Sometimes you must fight a battle more than once to win it."



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## SUPERINTENDENT RESPONDS TO CONSULTANT CONTROVERSY

*Without question, the last thing Pasadena Unified School District Superintendent Edwin Diaz wants is a scandal at the end of his tenure as the head of the PUSD. That however, was not to be as an investigation into a district contract with consulting firm SCMC raised questions as to the Scope of Work and associated fees. The fees, which averaged approximately \$275,000 a year for three years, appeared to be excessive to many. The consultants were hired to assist with the administration of the Measure TT funds.*

*To mitigate the damage that may have been done by the publicity regarding the contract, Diaz decided to publicly address the issue. His letter to the community is below:*

Dear PUSD Community,

Recent news articles about the Pasadena Unified School District's (PUSD) contract with Gerald Schober and SCMC have resulted in questions about the oversight and management of District bond funds. On Tuesday, May 24, these concerns were discussed in closed session with the Board of Education and all Board members present concluded that no further investigation is warranted. In addition, the Board asked me to address publicly any concerns about the district's oversight of bond funds that may have been created as a result of the news articles. I will address these issues publicly now.

Because of this community's experience with the shortcomings of the accountability systems in the previous Measure Y bond, we knew four years ago that we had to hold ourselves to a higher standard of oversight and business practices, even more so when voters placed their faith in us by approving Measure TT. And so we instituted a system of oversight and project accounting systems that surpass the requirements mandated by law. In accordance with sound public accounting process, before consultant and spending contracts and renewals are paid, they are verified and signed by department managers; the Board of Education's Facilities Subcommittee, question and forward projects and contracts to the full Board for vote; and finally, to the Board of Education for approval. Documents are placed on the district's Measure TT website for public viewing, and the Measure TT Citizens Oversight Committee reviews spending of district bond funds.

The Board approved SCMC's contract and extensions five times. Additionally, the Facilities Subcommittee approved extensions in December 2009, January 2010 and November 2010. At that time, there were also open discussions about the need to expand internal staff and hire

more Owner Area Representatives (OARs) to meet the growing demands of the construction program, and that our current staff, including Gerald Schober, was working excessive hours.

Under the leadership of former Chief of Facilities Stephen Brinkman, 90 percent of completed Measure TT projects were delivered on time and under budget, and completed with rigorous quality controls. Mr. Brinkman worked long hours managing construction projects and developing the overall program. The number of hours and days worked by Mr. Brinkman, which routinely included weekends, were unmatched by any other employee of the District. Mr. Schober was an important part of the team that in 18 months delivered more than 120 successful projects. I can personally attest to the high standard of performance that contractors have been held to by the many positive comments from school staff and parents. In fact, because of oversight from our facilities staff, I was aware of contractors having to redo work, at their expense, when projects did not meet the District's expectations. Neither the quality of Mr. Schober's work nor the number of hours he claimed is in dispute.

In PUSD, the community's voice is essential, and we are proud of the connections we forged as we sought input from parents, school staff, and neighbors on developing and finalizing the facilities program. OARs cannot successfully execute a project without fully understanding the needs of the community. As the most knowledgeable person actively involved in school construction projects, Mr. Schober did indeed attend numerous parent, community and Board meetings to ensure that the construction of each school site project met the multiple needs of students, teachers and staff, parents, neighbors, and the community. Input and dialogue about the safety and design impacts of construction on sites occupied by school children was a priority issue with parents, therefore the Board and the district directed Facilities staff to be actively engaged in these meetings.

When Mr. Schober/SCMC first contracted to work with the District, he was hired to help identify and clean up the numerous problems of Measure Y. His base contract was \$125 per hour, which included liability insurance and no employee benefits of any kind, a substantially lower rate than what is charged by most construction management firms. His rate of pay was also reviewed by the Citizen's Oversight Committee. Whenever his contract reached the maximum, public accounting practices and our own stringent oversight required that any extensions or renewals be taken to the Facilities Subcommittee, and the Board

of Education for approval. Extensions were approved in this way four times, without any Board member objections.

It is a rigorous system of checks and balances, and it works. The independent bond auditor required by state law found zero audit exceptions; that is, no evidence of fraud, mispending or the kind of poor accounting and management practices that characterized Measure Y.

Based on the experience of Measure Y, the district's bond construction program moved away from contracting construction management firms to the Owner Area Representative (OAR) model, which reduces the overall cost of construction management from 10-12% to 6-7% and requires experienced construction managers to work exclusively for the district. Over the life of Measure TT, using OARS will result in an estimated savings of \$22 million to PUSD.

It is true that we did not renew Mr. Schober's contract after the last extension in November 2010. Although there is no question that Mr. Schober worked the number of hours he claimed, what concerned both his supervisor and me was that he spent some of those hours on administrative and bureaucratic work that could have been done by other staff at a lower pay rate.

He had also sought work with other districts, thus ending the exclusivity the District expects of its Owner Area Representatives. And as the District embarked on a long-term \$400 million bond construction program that required extensive teamwork, and as we hired more OARs to work as a highly functional and collaborative team, it became clear that Mr. Schober's value to the District was at an end.

During the transition since Mr. Brinkman retired last fall and David Azcarraga was hired as Chief Facilities Officer, the facilities team's productivity was hindered by a lack of adequate staffing. We are currently in the process of hiring three additional OARs who work exclusively for PUSD at a lower hourly rate and have added administrative support to address the increased needs as we wrap up for additional projects. Mr. Azcarraga is also committed to delivering quality projects that are fiscally responsible and publicly accountable.

I will state once again that, after the experience of Measure Y, those who are entrusted with the management of public projects must adhere to far higher standards of conduct and judgment than is required by law.

The communities of Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre deserve no less.

Sincerely,  
Edwin Diaz, Superintendent  
Pasadena Unified School District

## ALVERNO HIGH SCHOOL AND ECCO SALON HOST LOCKS OF LOVE EVENT ON MAY 25, 2011

Goal for hair donations set at 1,000 inches

Alverno High School is holding a Locks of Love event, which has become a tradition for the students, taking place every two years. This hair donation event will take place on Alverno's campus and is sponsored by South Pasadena's ECCO Salon. It will take place from 2:00pm - 4:00pm on Wednesday, May 25, 2011. Alverno is looking to collect 1,000 inches of hair from students, family, friends and community volunteers!

This event will benefit Locks of Love, a public non-profit organization that provides vacuum fitted hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis. They meet a unique need for children by using donated human hair to create the highest quality hair prosthetics. Most of the children helped by Locks of Love have lost their hair due to a medical condition called alopecia areata, which has no known cause or cure. Others have suffered severe burns or injuries or endured radiation treatment to the brain stem or other dermatological conditions that result in permanent hair loss. The vacuum fit is designed for children who have experienced a total loss of scalp hair and does not require the use of tape or glue. The prostheses they provide help to restore self-esteem and confidence, enabling these children to face the world and their peers.

The organization, which began operation in 1998, provides the prostheses to children under age 21. These hairpieces require between 6-10 ponytails and take approximately 4-6 months to manufacture. Thousands of bundles of donated hair arrive as a result of the national publicity that Locks of Love receives in newspapers, magazines, and television programs. It is estimated that children comprise over 80 percent of the donors, making this a charity where children have an opportunity to help children.

Alverno students who donate

or who bring a family member or friend to donate will receive a free Angel Hair Pasta lunch the next day. All those who donate will receive a gift bad from ECCO salon as well as a coupon to return to the South Pasadena salon and have their hair styled. Raffle prizes from local Sierra Madre businesses will be included in the event as well.

For more information contact: Candace Siegle or Susana Capra - Alverno High School - (626)355 - 3463

[csiegle@alverno-hs.org](mailto:csiegle@alverno-hs.org) or [scapra@alverno-hs.org](mailto:scapra@alverno-hs.org)

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

**Alverno High School**

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

**Arcadia High School**

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

**Arroyo Pacific Academy**

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

**Bethany Christian School**

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

**Carden of the Foothills School**

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

**The Gooden School**

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

**High Point Academy**

1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road  
Pasadena, Ca. 91107 626-798-8989  
website: [www.highpointacademy.org](http://www.highpointacademy.org)

**LaSalle High School**

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

**Monrovia High School**

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

**Norma Coombs Alternative School**

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

**Odyssey Charter School**

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

**Pasadena High School**

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

**Pasadena Unified School District**

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

**St. Rita Catholic School**

322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-9028 website: [www.st-rita.org](http://www.st-rita.org)

**Sierra Madre Elementary School**

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

**Sierra Madre Middle School**

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

**Walden School**

74 S San Gabriel Blvd  
Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166  
[www.waldenschool.net](http://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](mailto:resseln@pusd.us)

**Pasadena Unified School District**

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



## This Little Piggy...

Last week in my justice and peace course, we watched some videos pertaining to the issue of factory farming. What I saw I wished that I had never seen, yet I wish that I knew even more about the subject. After watching those clips, I decided then and there that I would give up meat cold-turkey - I would not eat meat, I would help save the planet, etc. So naturally, when I got home, my family went to an Italian restaurant for dinner, known for its meats, because my grandma was in town. Let me tell you, it is virtually impossible to resist tender and juicy baby back ribs, but I was able to resist temptation as the clips from earlier haunted my mind.

For the first few days I was fairly successful in my mission, that is, until my friend's birthday party. Without even being aware of it, I ate carne asada, and it was really good. But the saddest part is, it took me about five hours to realize that I had broken my covenant to myself. When I did notice, disappointment and a sense of shame swarmed through my body as I realized the wrong I had done to those poor animals and myself. I realized that this was also not the first time, and probably not the last, that I would set my mind on something and ultimately fail. It was one of the moments in life when you realize the flaws in yourself and mankind, and it inspires you to become a better person. Therefore, I have decided that I am going to re-attempt my mission this summer when I have fewer things on my mind, to help myself stay focused on my goal, and prove that not all things must pass.

## LOCAL STUDENTS INVITED TO SUBMIT WATER-RELATED POSTER ART

In celebration of Water Awareness Month in California, Pasadena Water and Power invites students in grades kindergarten through 12 to submit self-designed posters based on the theme "Water Is Life."

All students who attend public or private schools in Pasadena, or who live within the boundaries of the PWP service area, are eligible.

Judges will select winning poster art based on originality, visual and word clarity, and relevance to the water conservation theme.

The first-place winner in the kindergarten to grade 5 category will receive a voucher for one class at Armory Center for the Arts, a \$120 value; the winner for grades 6 to 8 will be presented with a \$120 gift certificate for art supplies; and the winner for grades 9 to 12 will receive a \$120 gift certificate for art supplies.

The top five entries from each age group will be recognized on a PWP website dedicated to the poster art contest and will advance to the Metropolitan Water District poster art contest with the same theme.

Art must be submitted no later than Monday, June 6; winners will be announced Friday, June 10.

More information, including contest rules and permission forms, is available at [www.cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/artcontest](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower/artcontest) or by calling (626) 744-3715.

**www.mtnviewsnews.com**

## 2011 Summer Fun Programs Will Soon Be Full... Enroll Today! July 5-25

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STUDYING THE STARS AT NIGHT - Astronomer and Author Bob Eklund Speaks



SMS second grade teacher Carolyn Halpern and Author Bob Eklund, along with several other students were lucky enough to also see a shooting star on Wednesday evening. Eklund also writes a weekly column with the Mountain Views News.

Photo by S. Henderson/MVNews

Learning more about the skies above has been one of the many thing that students in Mrs. Halpern's second grade class really enjoy. The class received a mini-grant from the Sierra Madre Rotary Club and took a trip to see the Discovery Cube Star Lab. They also took a field trip with the entire second grade that Mrs. Halpern coordinated to see the Columbia Memorial Space Center. They have learned a lot about space, and so on Wednesday the class decided to make a 'night' of it.

First, the class did an amazing job performing a musical/play from NASA at the school's Spotlight Assembly. More than 130 people were in attendance.

Then, after a great dinner, the students then went into the school yard to gaze at the stars. with Mark Fleischman, who is also known as the Sidewalk Astronomer of Berkeley. The class was actually able to see Saturn, which the class had been learning about through a course for kids from JPL/NASA.

Following the star gazing, Bob Eklund, Astronomer, and Author of the book, "First Star I See Tonight" read excerpts from the book under the stars and it had the children and parents mesmerized. Bob writes the weekly column "Looking Up" in this paper. Bob is also Past President of the Mt. Wilson Observatory Association.

The weather was perfect and the sky was clear. Mrs. Halpern's second grade class, and many of their parents, had a perfect night under the stars!

SMS BOOK FAIR BEGINS



Sierra Madre School Book Fair with books from Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair Company kicked off Friday with a constant stream of students browsing hundreds of books for their favorites. Most students acknowledged spending money they had saved specifically for this event. Parent volunteers were on hand to staff the event including Book Fair Chairperson, Doreen Thomas.

Fair Hours:

Tuesday, May 31	9:00 to 3:00
Wednesday, June 1	9:00 to 3:00
Thursday, June 2	9:00 to 12:00
(Open House)	5:00 -7:45 pm

Friday, June 3	9:00 to 3:00
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The Book Fair is located in the Lower Campus Library

## SUMMER CAMP SIERRA MADRE

**FUN DAY CAMP FOR KIDS!**  
STUDENTS IN GRADES K THROUGH 5TH  
JULY 5TH THROUGH JULY 29TH, 2011  
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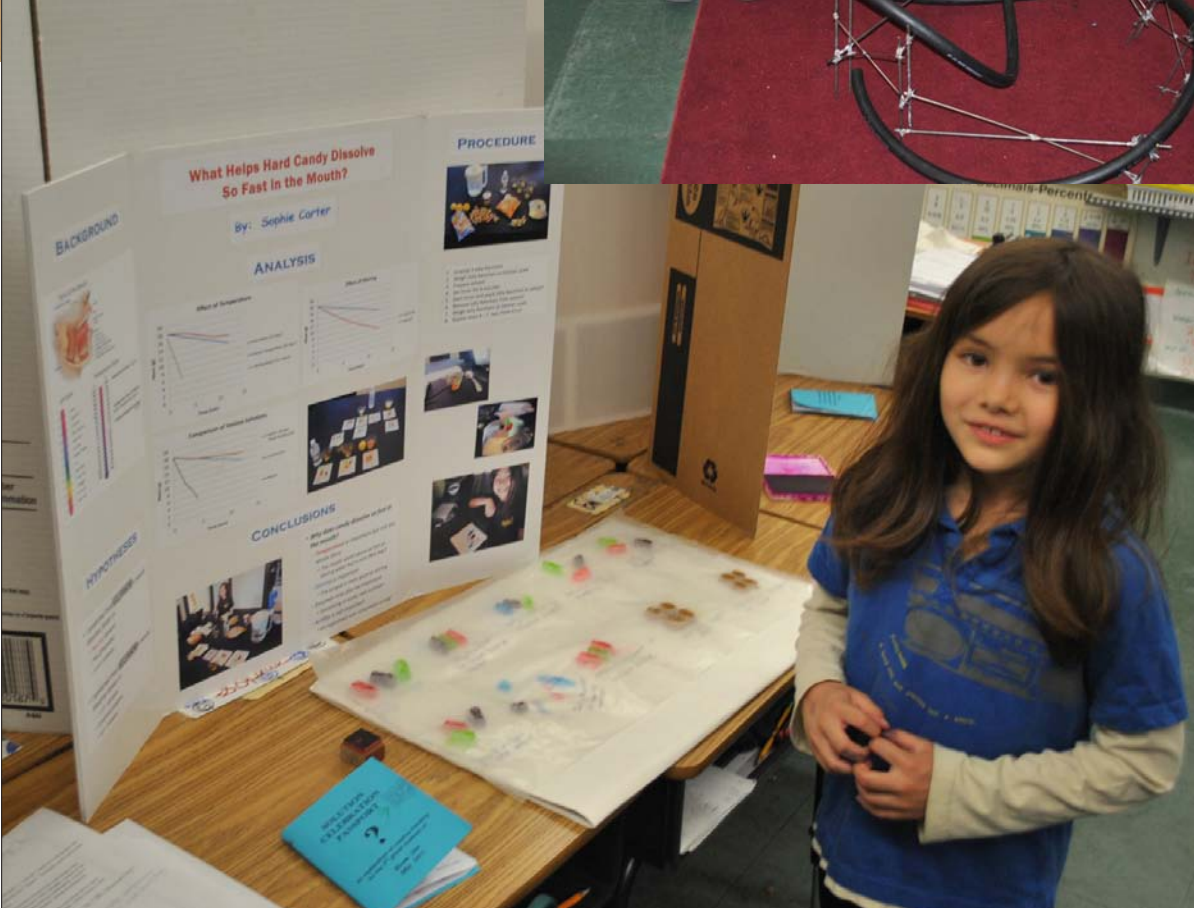
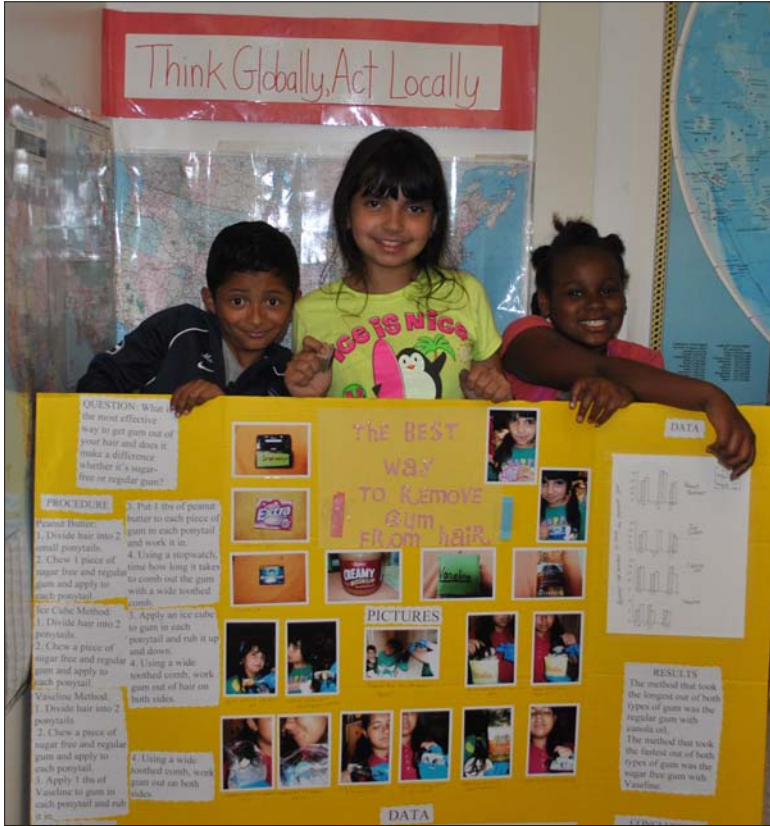
WEEK 1: JULY 5 - 8 MAD SCIENCE AND KIDS IN THE KITCHEN  
WEEK 2: JULY 11 - 15 LEGO TEK AND SPORTS MANIA  
WEEK 3: JULY 18 - 22 MAD SCIENCE AND SPORTS MANIA  
WEEK 4: JULY 25 - 29 LEGO TEK AND SPORTS MANIA  
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(626) 388-1525 / MyHomeworkClub.com  
Located on Sierra Madre Elementary School Campus

SOLUTION CELEBRATION - An Exploration of Creative Thinking

Did you ever wonder, "How Things Fall?" or "How Fast Do Things Mold" or what are "Mice Favorite Foods"? Do you know, "What Helps Candy Dissolve In Your Mouth"? What do you know about evaporating liquids or "How water travels up a tree" Well, if you did, you would have been delighted to attend the solution celebration presented by Mrs. York's 3rd Grade Class on Friday. Mrs. York challenges her classes each year to undertake projects that provide answers and/or solutions to everyday challenges. The Students then put their findings on display at the Solution Celebration and invite all of the other students on the lower campus to come and share what they have learned. Each student, parent or visitor to the exhibit is given a passport to help them navigate through the exhibits. The presenters explain their projects, including their methodology and why they chose their specific topics. Throughout the day, students from other classes excitedly select displays that they are interested in and discuss the theories and solutions presented.

Photos and caption by S. Henderson/MVNews





## PACIFIC DINING CAR

*Old School Steak meets Urban Young Professional.*

If you have been following my columns in the newspaper and watching my segments on CNN, you know that I haven't given into the trends, and you also know that I love a great steak. The given names of these steaks seem populate many of the best area restaurants in Los Angeles: The Baseball Steak, The Kansas City Cut, and the Cowboy Steak, are all found as menu items at various locations. There are many restaurants that I have written about as well that come to mind when discussing great steak, Taylor's in La Canada and Morton's in Burbank are two. Both offer delicious cuts of beef with Old Style service and a real expertise for the craft. But one restaurant that deserves to be in this manager's starting line up is the Pacific Dining Car in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles. This fourth generation owned restaurant has all the swagger and homerun power of all the very best in our city. It doesn't hurt that they serve an incredible Maker's Mark Manhattan as well. You are definitely taking a trip back in time here as you lounge upon Red Leather Booths, the same ones that generations have come to enjoy in comfort.

Most of us Angelinos in the know have been frequenting this fine establishment for years. Enjoying its family style atmosphere, vast menu and availability - 24/7! However, just like everything and everyone in this town, sometimes it's necessary for a little nip and tuck and that's exactly what owner, Wes Idol III, decided to do. Wes told me on my last visit that you could add the Pacific Dining Car to your list of "hot spots." Wes has implemented specials enticements, such as free corkage every Wednesday, wine tasting (check website for scheduling) Fridays, Date Night (couples receive a

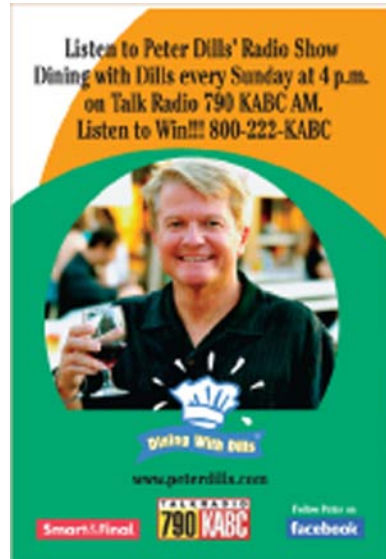
complimentary dessert), REALLY??? And a grand Happy Hour, every Monday through Friday from 6PM-9PM. With a variety of entertainment including live music on Saturday nights. The late night menu, now available every night beginning at 10PM, will still include all your favorites from a great steak; to the health conscience salad, or the extravagant chocolate chip pancakes and unbelievable drink specials for under (\$15). A "What's Happening" section will be added to the website and shared through Facebook as well.

A favorite for everyone in the family, Sunday breakfast still remains a must at the PDC. There are so many delicious dishes to satisfy every palette, whether you're indulging or counting calories. Kids 12 and under can build their own brunch by choosing one egg, turkey or regular bacon, and one crab. It's the perfect balance for a nutritious meal, and only (\$10).

Back to ordering, here are a few of my selections that my guest April, "The Queen of Maker's Mark Manhattans" and I sampled. First we both agreed to share the Crab Cakes made with fresh blue crab meat and the heirloom tomato salad from the great beginnings portion of the menu. For the neophytes in the group, that is an appetizer.

I couldn't wait any longer, so I ordered the Cowboy Steak, and it was delicious, the closer I nuzzled to the bone, the more flavor greeted me. A Steak that John Wayne would have said, put'er here pilgrim. My partner in this downtown journey apparently didn't get enough of the crab as she was talking about ordering more. She moved along to the Filet of Oscar, describing its tenderness to me in each bite. The dish is coupled with Dungeness crab, fresh asparagus and a Béarnaise sauce. All steaks are prime beef, with the burgers using the same prime label as well. For salad lovers, there is a fantastic grilled Shrimp Salad that I will try on my diet days. As far as the Wine List goes, Wine Spectator Magazine gave them very high marks! I shall return!

Pacific Dining Car 1310 W. 6th St. Los Angeles (213) 483-6000. Please e mail your thoughts thechefknows@yahoo.com. Listen to KABC Radio Sunday at 5 PM for My radio show!



## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND BBQ IDEAS

Recipes by Chris Lilly

LOW AND SLOW  
SOUTHERN-STYLE PORK RIBS*Ingredients:*

2 slabs baby back ribs  
1 cup KC Masterpiece® Southern-Style Barbecue Sauce  
Dry Rub:

¼ cup dark brown sugar  
4 teaspoons garlic salt  
4 teaspoons chili powder  
2 teaspoons salt  
1 teaspoon black pepper  
½ teaspoon celery salt  
¼ teaspoon red pepper  
¼ teaspoon cinnamon  
¼ teaspoon white pepper  
Liquid Seasoning:

½ cup apple cider  
¼ cup apple jelly  
¼ cup honey  
¼ cup brown sugar  
1 tablespoon dry rub mix (above)

*Instructions*

Remove the membrane from the back of the rib slabs. In a small bowl, combine the dry rub ingredients and mix well. Reserve one tablespoon of the rub for the liquid seasoning mixture. Generously apply the dry rub onto the front and back sides of the ribs.

Build a charcoal fire for indirect cooking. Add a small aluminum pan to the void side of the grill and fill in halfway with water. When the charcoal grill reaches 250°F, place ribs meat-side up on the grill grate and cook over indirect heat for two hours and 15 minutes.

Remove the ribs from the grill. Place each slab meat-side down on its own doubled aluminum foil square. Mix the liquid seasoning in a small bowl. Pour ½ cup of the liquid over each slab. Then, tightly wrap and seal each slab with aluminum foil. Place the wrapped ribs back in cooker for one hour at 250°F.

Remove the ribs from the charcoal grill and discard foil. Brush sauce on both sides of the ribs. Place the ribs back on the grill for 15 minutes, or until sauce caramelizes.

SMOKED STUFFED CHICKEN  
WITH RANCH VEGETABLES*Main Dish:*

1 large roasting chicken (5-6 pounds)  
1½ teaspoons kosher salt, divided  
1½ teaspoons freshly ground black pepper, divided  
2 tablespoons KC Masterpiece® Barbecue Seasoning  
4 large garlic cloves, quartered  
1 cup chopped red onion  
1 cup sliced zucchini  
½ cup diced red bell pepper  
½ cup diced celery  
½ cup cherry tomatoes, halved  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
3 tablespoons Hidden Valley® Original Ranch® Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix  
4 medium red potatoes, chopped  
1 cup KC Masterpiece® Barbecue Sauce Original

*Instructions*

Light grill using Kingsford® Charcoal with Sure Fire Grooves®. Rinse inside and outside of chicken. Season inside with salt and pepper. Season outside with barbecue seasoning.

Place garlic and all vegetables, except potatoes, into a bowl and drizzle with olive oil. Sprinkle vegetables with dressing mix, salt and pepper; mix together.

Stuff cavity of chicken with half of vegetable mixture. Place chicken in shallow baking dish.

Mix potatoes with remaining vegetables. Place onto pieces of foil; fold sides over and seal tightly, forming small cooking pockets. Poke a few holes top of pocket.

Mound coals on one side of grill. Place chicken on side of grill without coals; grill. Baste outside of chicken with barbecue sauce every hour of cooking. Grill for 3 hours until internal temperature of chicken reaches 165°F.

After 2 hours, place foil pouch with potato-vegetable mixture on grill. Remove from grill with chicken.

RED BELL PEPPER STUFFED WITH  
HICKORY BROWN SUGAR BAKED BEANS*Ingredients:*

8 red bell peppers  
Hickory Brown Sugar Baked Beans mix (see below)  
Aluminum foil  
Hickory Brown Sugar Baked Beans:

1 large onion, chopped  
5 strips uncooked bacon, chopped  
2 cloves garlic, chopped  
3 cans pinto beans (16 ounces each)  
3 cans kidney beans (16 ounces each)  
½ cup brown sugar  
½ cup maple syrup, real  
½ cup KC Masterpiece® Hickory Brown Sugar Barbecue Sauce  
¼ cup ketchup  
1 tablespoon mustard

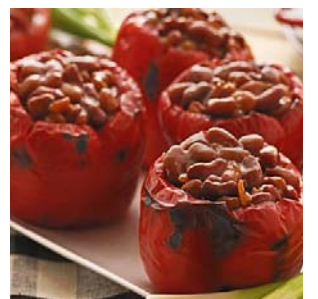
*Instructions*

With a paring knife, cut a circle around the top edge of each bell pepper. The top of each pepper should then lift off like a lid. Remove pepper core, veins and seeds and discard.

Wrap a doubled sheet of aluminum foil around the outside of each pepper leaving the top of the peppers uncovered. Fill each pepper with ¾ cup baked bean mix.

Preheat charcoal grill to 400°F. Place peppers on the grill uncovered and cook for 45 minutes. Remove pepper from the grill, unwrap the foil and serve.

In a small frying pan, sauté onion and bacon for 3-5 minutes. Add garlic and sauté an additional 30 seconds. Drain bacon grease from mixture. Combine contents of frying pan with all remaining baked bean ingredients into a large bowl and mix well.



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What Do YOU Think?

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## IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES AT THE BRITISH HOME FAIRE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

This year's June Faire at The British Home promises to be even bigger and better than ever. The annual event will be held on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Admission is free and readers are invited to enjoy the beautiful grounds of The British Home which serve as the perfect setting for the Faire.

The whole family is provided for with many booths, games, and refreshments. During the Faire there will be live displays of Scottish and Irish dancing as well as a performance by the Rising Phoenix Morris Dancers. Children can enjoy a sticky wall, inflatable bouncy castle, face painting and game booths.

The British Consul-General, Dame Barbara Hay, will open the Faire at 10 a.m. following the parade of flags which will be accompanied by a Scottish piper. There will be a variety of booths selling books, garden plants, birdhouses, jewelry, collectibles, cards and lots more. Refreshment choices all emphasize the British influence on the Faire from English bangers, a Victorian style tea on the patio or a ploughman's lunch to home-baked goods including sausage rolls, Cornish pasties, cakes and scones.



In September The British Home will celebrate 80 years of providing personalized care to its residents. It is a non-profit organization which, as a licensed Residential Care Facility for the Elderly, welcomes seniors who come from all nationalities, races and religions. The Home is located at 647 Manzanita Avenue, Sierra Madre.

If you would like more information about this event please visit [The British Home website at www.britishhome-ca.us](http://The British Home website at www.britishhome-ca.us) or email Mary Beadle at [thebeadles@earthlink.net](mailto:thebeadles@earthlink.net)

## SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS: THE ANTHEM



Sean Kayden

The Antlers made huge waves in 2009 with their concept album, *Hospice*. It told the narrative of an emotionally dispiriting relationship, expressed through the analogy of a hospice worker and fatally ill patient. That record was on an array of best of the year lists from different publications. At the time of its release, I didn't immediately dive head first into the compilation. I'm not objecting to the overwhelming praise *Hospice* received, but I can't honestly say I agree either. Given my lack of knowledge of the band's most profound material to date, I went into their follow-up album, *Burst Apart* with an open and uninfluenced mindset. While the ambition may not have been quite as high this time around, *Burst Apart* is an often subtle, perceptive, and emotive display of music. The record isn't perfect, but The Antlers easily deliver some of the most personal, compelling, and heartbreaking songs of the year.

Founder/vocalist behind The Antlers, Peter Silberman's voice is as soothing as they come by these days. It's the kind of tone that can mend a broken heart. He sings in a crooning manner that floats on top of the delicacy and intimacy of the often times majestic arrangements. It is very easy to get immersed into the incontestable beauty of the songs. Tracks like "No Widows" and "Corsicana" will leave on the brink of tears. "No Widows" delves into the territory of solitude and death, while "Corsicana" speaks about two people trapped inside a room on fire. However, it's Silberman's tender voice that will shake you up and the overall aesthetics of these tunes that will have you recalling repressed memories. Where the album takes a few missteps is with songs like "Parenthe-

ses" and "Rolled Together". The songs out of sync presence and/or possible resemblance to tracks off *Hospice* have them interrupting the incredibly fluid flow of the record. It's an unfortunate scenario since *Burst Apart* could have been deemed

Artist: The Antlers  
Label: Frenchkiss Records  
Release Date: May 10th, 2011  
Key Tracks: "I Don't Want Love", "No Widows", "Corsicana", "Putting The Dog To Sleep"  
Grade: 8.9 out of 10

an equal masterpiece to their previous landmark opus. Overall, there is too much good stuff here to wallow in slight disappointment over some misguided tunes.

"Putting The Dog To Sleep" is the ideal fitting cap to a record that will deeply affect you in more ways than initially imagined. The final track showcases Silberman's reflective understanding of the parallels of life and death spoken with such clarity and of the likes of an old, wise soul. That's saying a lot for a guy that's still in his twenties. There is a very special feeling you'll experience while listening to *Burst Apart*. It will effortlessly tug on the strings of your heart and gently guide you back to previous moments in life. My biggest problem though is that this elated sensation is short-lived due to the album clocking in at 41 minutes over the span of ten tracks (two tracks being ill-fitted for the record). Despite that minor imperfection, The Antlers' forth record (second as a full band) is quite the unparalleled achievement in not only indie rock, but also all music across the board. *Burst Apart* will lift those heavy eyelids, alleviate that tiresome mind, and facilitate a wounded heart. If you're in need of all or any of the aforementioned, do yourself a solid and pick up this amazing record.

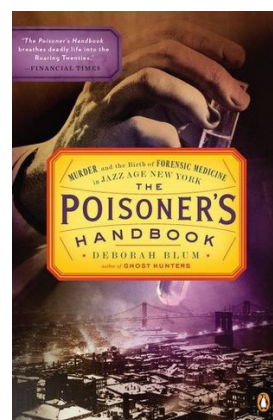
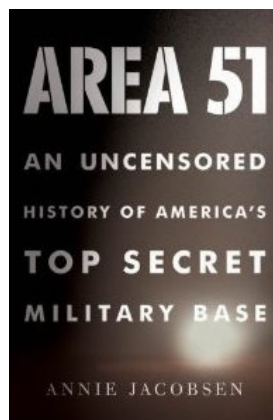
## Jeff's Pics The Book Report

**Area 51: An Uncensored History of America's Top Secret Military Base** by Annie Jacobsen

It is the most famous military installation in the world. And it doesn't exist. Located a mere 75 miles outside of Las Vegas, the base has never been acknowledged by the government, but Area 51 has captivated imaginations for decades. Myths and hypotheses about Area 51 have long abounded, thanks to the intense secrecy enveloping it. Some claim it is home to aliens, underground tunnel systems, and nuclear facilities. Others believe that the lunar landing itself was filmed there. These rumors stem from the fact that no credible insider has ever divulged the truth about his time inside the base. Until now. Annie Jacobsen had exclusive access to 19 men who served the base proudly and secretly for decades, and unprecedented access to 55 five additional military and intelligence personnel, scientists, pilots, and engineers linked there, 32 of whom lived and worked there for extended periods. In *Area 51*, Jacobsen shows us what has really gone on in the Nevada desert, from testing nuclear weapons to building super secret, supersonic jets to pursuing the War on Terror. This is the first book based on interviews with eye witnesses, which makes it the seminal work on the subject. Filled with formerly classified information that has never been accurately decoded for the public, *Area 51* weaves the mysterious activities of the base into a gripping narrative, showing that facts are often more fantastic than fiction, especially when the distinction is almost impossible to make. Annie Jacobsen is a contributing editor at the Los Angeles Times Magazine and an investigative reporter.

**The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York** by Deborah Blum

This book is equal parts true crime, twentieth century history, and science thriller. A fascinating Jazz Age tale of chemistry and detection, poison and murder, *The Poisoner's Handbook* is a page turning account of a forgotten era. In early twentieth century New York, poisons offered an easy path to the perfect crime. Science had no place in the Tammany Hall controlled corner's office, and corruption ran rampant. However, with the appointment of chief medical examiner Charles Norris in 1918, the poison game changed forever. Together with toxicologist Alexander Gettler, the duo set the justice system on fire with their trailblazing scientific detective work, triumphing over seemingly unbeatable odds to become the pioneers of forensic chemistry. Deborah Blum is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, the author of *Ghost Hunters*, and co-editor of *A Field Guide for Science Writers*.



## ART MILLIONAIRE'S ROW

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**Mountain Views News Saturday, May 28, 2011**

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## HOWARD Hays As I See It



"Congress [http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/dire-warnings-on-debt-limit-hark-back-to-reagan/2011/05/14/AF0Pjp3G\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/dire-warnings-on-debt-limit-hark-back-to-reagan/2011/05/14/AF0Pjp3G_story.html)" consistently brings the government to the edge of default before facing its responsibility. This brinksmanship threatens the holders of government bonds and those who rely on Social Security and veterans benefits. Interest rates would skyrocket, instability would occur in financial markets, and the Federal deficit would soar." - Ronald Reagan on raising the debt ceiling, 1987

Congress is at it again. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner came up with a temporary fix last week, where bills would be paid by borrowing against the pension funds of federal employees. (You remember pensions - where funds are contributed for a secure retirement, rather than to subsidize Wall Street gamblers.)

This should work until August 2; then there'll be no more pension funds to borrow against. When that happens, the reality might sink in that this involves more than shutting down public radio and Planned Parenthood; this is not about expanding government, but of paying debts we've already incurred. There's the threat to Social Security and veterans' benefits mentioned by President Reagan, as well as payments to Medicare providers, Medicaid help for states, and "skyrocketing" interest on credit cards, car payments and mortgage loans.

The "full faith and credit" of the United States would be sacrificed in an effort to make President Obama look bad for 2012, and to further the concentration of wealth accelerated under President Bush. Intentions become apparent when you look at those targeted - seniors, veterans, middle-class consumers - while Republicans vehemently protect Bush's billionaire tax cuts, and those billions in taxpayer subsidies for the oil companies that reported \$35 billion in profits for the first quarter.

Long-term goals of the corporatocracy have been advanced by union-busters taking over statehouses, a Supreme Court writing its own update of our Constitution, and a Senate minority insisting things go its way or no way at all. The only thing standing in the way is the fact people are becoming wise to it.

Lawmakers face increasing hostility from constituents demanding to know how Republicans can back a Medicare plan where seniors face an additional \$500 a month out-of-pocket, while defending a 15% tax rate for hedge fund managers making that much an hour. They want to know how Congressional Republicans like Joe Walsh (IL), Tom McClintock (CA), Dan Webster (FL) and Jamie Beutler (WA) can tell voters back home they oppose oil industry subsidies right after having voted to maintain them. They want to know what they might have done in a past life to deserve Rep. Ben Quayle (R-AZ), who denies in front of them that oil industry subsidies exist at all.

There's a threat posed by people knowing too much, or at least of developing the research skills necessary to find out what's happening. That might explain Republicans' focus on favorite targets: education and, more specifically, teachers.

Two weeks ago, John and Ken on KFI spent days railing against teachers who, they claim, "make

over \$100,000 a year - more than a lawyer!" (the statewide average in 2010 was \$68,000). Hector Tobar in The L.A. Times wrote about L.A. Unified doing away with 85 teacher-librarian positions. Author Andrew Sorkin noted on HBO's Bill Maher show that American companies are now going overseas not just for cheap factory labor and call centers, but for doctors, scientists, engineers and computer technicians - talent our educational system no longer adequately produces here at home.

Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) introduced the LEARN Act to promote literacy, noting that only 42% of eighth graders are proficient in reading. At the same time, Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA) introduced legislation to slash 43 federal education programs, including Teaching American History, Excellence in Economic Education and Reading Is Fundamental.

Bill Allen, former Editor-In-Chief of National Geographic, hurled a particularly stinging insult our way when he accused California of trying to "out-dumb Texas" in our schools. Texas has long been a laughing-stock for insisting its schools downplay our Founding Fathers' separation of church and state, explain that Sen. Joe McCarthy wasn't such a bad guy, rename the "slave trade" as the "Atlantic triangular trade", and teach "creationism" alongside science in biology class.

The target of Allen's jibe was just down the freeway at the Los Alamitos Unified school board. With a planned advanced placement course in environmental science to be offered this fall, board member Jeff Barke complained he's "not a big fan of global warming" and feared teachers would "impose their liberal views" - presumably by teaching only science in a science class. Henceforth, teachers will have to assure the board they're presenting the "opposing view" of "controversial" subjects. (A blogger asked if teachers would also be required to present the "opposing view" on such topics as the moon landing and the Holocaust.)

In the field of economics, such an "opposing view" might come from the halls of Florida State University. As reported in the St. Petersburg Times, the billionaire Koch brothers, funders of Gov. Scott Walker's assault on public workers in Wisconsin, gave millions to FSU's economics program, but with strings attached: Koch would have to approve professors, curricula and materials used in the program, have the right to review the work of the economics faculty and could terminate those exercising unacceptable independence. In 2009, 60% of FSU's recommendations to fill slots in the program were rejected by Koch.

Other Koch-financed academic programs include those at George Mason University, where the Bush anti-regulatory policies were developed; West Virginia University, where an economics professor argues that mining regulations make coal miners less safe; and Brown University, which produced a study showing how banking deregulation helped the poor.

It's no wonder why so many today show less understanding of economic realities than that shown by President Reagan 24 years ago, and why some would rather we stay uneducated. Now would be an especially good time for Rep. Hunter to reconsider his efforts to gut federal support for our schools - and in particular that program, "Excellence in Economic Education".

## GREG Welborn



## Smart Money & The GOP Agenda

There are those who want to revisit the 2010 election and pretend that the results were not what they were. Those wishful dreamers are pointing to the Democrat's win in Tuesday's special Congressional election as proof that 2010 was a spasm and that voters really don't want to unwind all the delicious spending that Obama and Congressional Democrats unleashed upon the land last year. The smart money now says that Obama, Congressional Democrats and Obamacare are cruising to election redemption in 2012. The problem is that the "smart" money is usually pretty dumb.

New York's 26th Congressional District has been solidly in Republican hands for 50+ years, and the district voted for decisively for George W. Bush and John McCain, so to see a Democrat take the seat is pretty big news. Lending some credence to the claim and promise of electoral redemption is the fact that the Democrat in this race made the Republican's support of Medicare reform a central issue.

The Democrat won the race with 47% of the vote. This is a plurality, not a majority, and the difference is significant. The third party candidate ran as a Tea Partier (ie: on a platform of fiscal restraint and limited government) and took 9% of the vote. Together with the Republican's 43%, the vote against the Democrat was 52%. It's more likely that this election was decided by the siphoning of votes by the third party candidate than by the Democrat's Medicare argument.

In fact, several post-election surveys show that more than 55% of the electorate agrees with the basic GOP argument of fiscal restraint and Medicare reforms, while only 36% agree with the Democrat's spend-at-full-speed approach. Nationally, the numbers are even more convincing where a huge majority of Americans across the spectrum say that their primary concern is the out of control pace of spending in Washington and the resulting national debt. We remain a basically conservative nation whose citizens are appalled by the fiscal insanity which has ruled Washington politics.

The 2010 election was as clear and concise a message as politicians are ever going to receive. Americans want fiscal sanity restored. They are tired of the red ink, and they will not stand by and watch their children's and grandchildren's futures be leveraged to the point of national bankruptcy. What's more, they are tired of the arrogance which allowed the Democratic administration and Congress to push Obamacare forward over the massive complaints of the citizenry. How quickly the bloodbath of 2010's Congressional elections have been forgotten.

The bigger message still remains. Conservatives have the winning argument. They just need to find their confidence and their voice. Thus, it is heartwarming to hear Speaker of the House John

Boehner tell the Economic Club of New York that "the big myth of the current budget debate is the notion that in order to balance the budget, we have to raise taxes. The truth is we will never balance the budget and rid our children of debt unless we cut spending and have real economic growth. And we will never have real economic growth if we raise taxes on those in America who create jobs."

2010 was a great beginning to the monumental task of taming the federal beast. Speaker Boehner's endorsement and support of the Ryan Medicare reform bill showed that the Republican leadership is willing to listen to those conservative and independent voices which gave so much energy to the Tea Party movement and caused 2010 to be the political earthquake that it was. And Boehner's speech to the New York Economic Club demonstrates that he's not throwing in the towel just because the going is getting tough.

2012 will be another significant and brutal election. There is absolutely no evidence in sight that Liberal forces, which want to increase the size, power and reach of the government, have learned the lesson of 2010 or that they are even taking it seriously. We can count on them to be emboldened by the false reading of Tuesday's New York election and to redouble their rhetoric about the mean, uncaring Republicans who simply want to fix a system which is broken before it takes down other aspects of the country. Conservatives will have to stand tall in this debate and weather the full frontal assault they will face. Conservatives will have to draw strength from the basic morality of their key arguments: promising people what cannot be delivered is wrong, placing key medical decisions in the hands of 15 unelected members of a national medical board is wrong, restoring financial soundness to Medicare, Social Security and the rest of the federal government is right, as is returning control to the American people.

2010 has not been repudiated. In so many ways the battle to return America to her founding principles is gaining strength and urgency. The next 18 months are going to show just how out of touch the smart money can be in trying to understand the American people.

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 [mailto:gregwelborn@earthlink.net](mailto:mailto:gregwelborn@earthlink.net).

## A BARKING GOOD TIME FOR A GREAT CAUSE

Photos and Story By: Chris Leclerc



The American Cancer Society's Bark for Life of Arcadia event, held last Sunday in Eisenhower Park turned out to be quite a success.

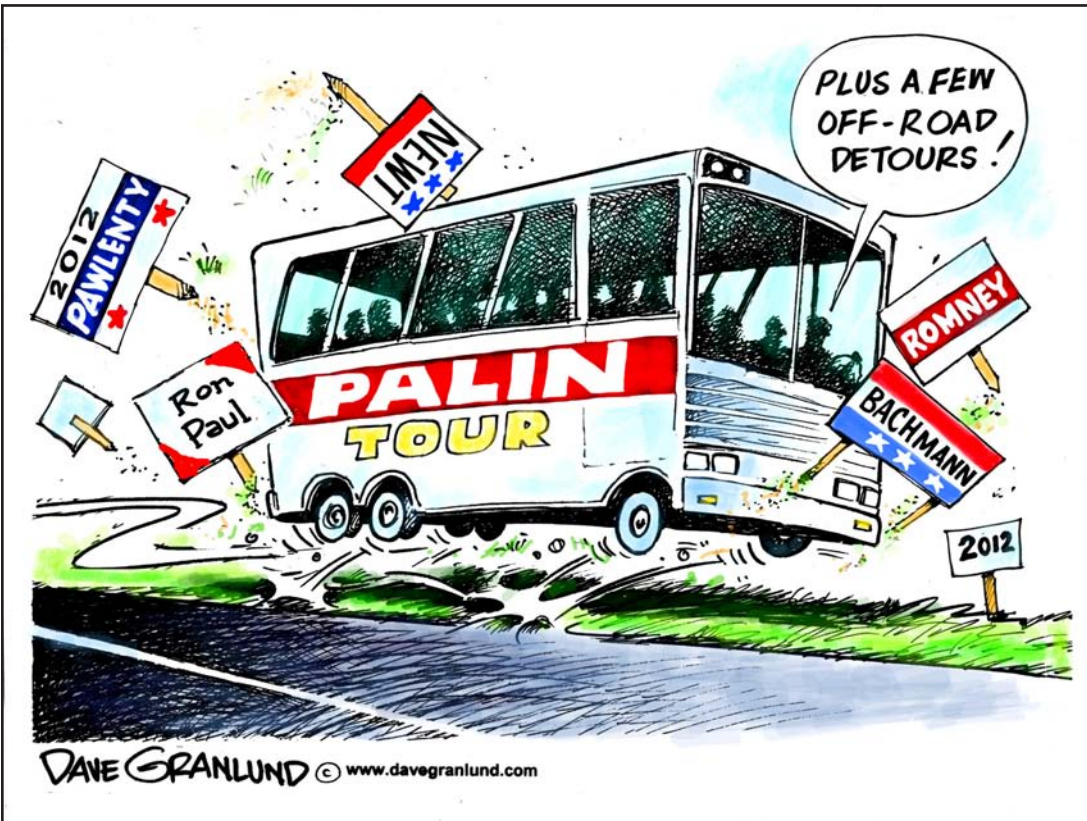
It was the first annual Bark for Life event to be held in Arcadia, so the total turnout of 100+ human and canine participants was a welcomed beginning for what is hoped to become a long-term on-going annual event.

Eager participants were cordially greeted at the gate by Bark For Life of Arcadia event chairman Carter Spruill, event coordinator Sherrie Powell-Russo and several young volunteers from Arcadia High School's "Affinity for Animals" Community Service Club. Event activities were officially kicked off with an opening ceremony hosted by event staff, followed by a brief presentation from Marianne Cortland of Lending A Paw Therapy Dogs. By the time the start whistle blew, the huge crowd of enthusiastic participants were more ready to roll!

Following the relay walk, canine agility games, contests, and a raffle were enjoyed by all. It was quite a festive day! Sincere thanks to all who participated! We hope to see you at our next up-coming Relay for Life event to be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> in Recreation Park in Monrovia.



Top: participants prepare for the race. Above: Charlee, the official dog of the Mountain Views News with contributor Chris LeClerc



## Announcing: The Opening of...



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(626) 355-1972  
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Due to the high demand for her tutoring and education services, bookstore owner, Sally Morrison, is opening a new learning center here in Sierra Madre. **Mindspring Education Center** will cater to students (children and adults) interested in furthering their **reading, writing, math, spelling, and comprehension** skills. In addition, Sally offers assistance in **study skills, homework, and test preparation**. She also specializes in helping students with **dyslexia** and other learning difficulties. Those interested in **summer sessions** should contact Mindspring soon because space is limited.

As a result of this business expansion, Sally Morrison and Jeffrey Ingwalson, owners of Sierra Madre Books, will be **closing the bookstore in June 2011**. "We appreciate all the support we've received from our customers over the past few years, but are excited about our new venture. We look forward to continuing to be part of this community."

For questions about **Mindspring Education Center**, please call (626) 355-1972. For questions about **Sierra Madre Books**, please call (626) 836-3200.



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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.

## STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



### WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS THING CALLED LIFE?

After all it is the name of this column and probably for that reason alone it merits a little thought. Oh there are other reasons. Being alive is something we all share until we don't. It is a gift we have all received and, like so many other gifts, it is a present that we are not exactly clear on how to use it. I have for a long time been amused by the fact that the word "L I V E" spelled backwards is "E V I L".

Yes, evil or the experience of evil is definitely a part of life. But everything can't be evil because if everything is evil than there is no evil if you understand what I mean. In order for evil to exist there must be its opposite—let's call it "G O O D".

Americans, and just about everybody else I guess, have been struggling with questions about good and evil from the very beginning. Recently, I have become immersed in the works and life of Thomas Paine, one of the most important, and today one of the most forgotten, of our founding-fathers. Since most of us are American-History challenged I'm sure you will forgive me for reminding you that no political writer ever made a more immediate impact on his own time than Tom Paine. Today he is acknowledged to be the spokesman, the pamphleteer of the American Revolution. He explained in direct and simple words why Freedom was a worthy goal, a goal worth fighting for. His Pamphlet entitled Common Sense is said to have been read by or read to everyone who adhered to the cause of Independence.

During the winter of 1776 George Washington's troops were in such miserable conditions that even Washington himself expressed private doubts about their prospects. Paine, serving under Washington was asked by the Commander to write something to give energy to the exhausted, freezing, and unpaid troops. Legend has it that by firelight and writing on the head of a drum Thomas Paine composed the following:

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly."

Contrast these words with the words attributed to Robert Redford's character in the film The Way We Were. "Like his country, everything came too easy to him." These words written by Thomas Paine and uttered by Robert Redford's character (I love the juxtaposition of such unlikely bedfellows) always are bouncing around in my head and together comprise a significant portion of my overall view of life. What is Good is to act in service of one's highest principles, I substitute this set of principles for the concept of "Country" although I maintain a deep belief that my principles are the same as the basic principles upon which this country was founded although these principles are chronically obscured. They remain obscured today by the constant deluge of misinformation that surrounds us. Many of us, I am sure, are so confused that we have little awareness of our own core values.

The problem today for many of us is that things have come to us too easily. We believe ourselves to be entitled to Comfort and ease and even security as an inalienable right; and we are all too ready to abandon our principles, even when we are aware of them, when they conflict with our comfort. This is not what is said in the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence or anywhere else. The Gift of Life spoken of above carries with it some responsibilities. I believe this gift requires that like the Hippocratic Oath taken by Doctors that we first strive to do no harm and that secondly we have some sense of what is good and direct our life's efforts toward that good.

I believe that to fight tyranny and be on the side of Good we have the responsibility to notice what is going on around us. We must be informed and we must try and educate ourselves and not rely on others to do it. For me life is not about amusement and diversion. It is not about maximizing profits and wealth for ourselves. It is about taking care of loved ones, and maintaining strong relationships, and keeping oneself healthy and, whenever possible, being considerate of one another as we recognize and value the life of every other individual. Time has shown that these simple goals are not easily achieved. It is necessary to make the effort to stay awake and aware and to stand for something. As far as I am concerned, that is pretty much what is to be pursued during that brief time between birth and death which is our life.

## Curbing Bad Behavior: THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

by Ron Carter

The famous French poet, statesman and human rights activist

Victor-Marie Hugo said "There is nothing as powerful as an idea whose time has come." Prepare yourselves my fellow Southern Californians, we will soon have to change our behavior to embrace a mass transit system. Considered the capital of American car culture, Southern California is well known for motorists who love their automobiles. The shift in behavior from independent private mobility to public mass transit will not be easy.

We, Southern Californians, live in the most populated state in America. Since there is no "extensive" mass transit system available in Southern California, it is understandable why millions of us drive our automobiles to and from our daily activities. We endure the negative effects of traffic, angry motorists and carbon emissions while pondering when will a paradigm shift - in terms of our mobility - occur from the use of our iconic automobiles to a much needed mass transit system.

Recently, I had the enviable task of driving southbound on Southern California 405 Freeway. After driving about five minutes in bumper to bumper traffic (5 miles per hour), I decided to move over into the car pool lane, since my friend Bobby Holland was riding in the car with me. Once in the car pool lane, we drove non stop at about 50 miles per hour passing over 500 cars. I remembered observing that 99.5% of the cars we passed had one passenger - the driver. As much as I have driven on California Freeways, it has now become very evident to me that there are too many one passenger cars (mine included) on our highways. Something has to be done since California is a sprawling state connected by many freeways and no new highways are being built.

Even though some community outreach campaigns are taking place regarding mass transit future in California, much more has to be done to reduce the appetite we have for driving our one passenger automobiles. The Transportation Officials, who are promoting the benefits of shifting to a mass transit system, must do a better job connecting with the masses of motorists who are reluctant to use public transportation.

In the meanwhile, the elephant remains in the room and it is growing larger.



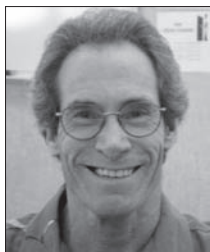
## What's On YOUR Mind? What Do YOU Think?

We'd like to hear from you!

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## HAIL Hamilton My Turn



### Failing Charter Schools: Do we really want business-managed education for our kids?

Make no mistake about it charter schools are about money -- saving money for school districts and making money for charter school operators. Don't be misled

by buzzwords like "school reform", "cost efficient", or "high performing". Charter schools, which are publicly funded but run independently by private operators, are about one thing -- the bottom line

In order for investors to make profits, charter schools, which are funded on the same basis as public schools, have to cut operating costs. Proponents argue that this can be done by eliminating waste, running schools more efficiently and innovating.

The evidence suggests it is done by hiring less experienced teachers, paying teachers and non-teaching staff less, reducing equipment and book budgets, having larger classes, and avoiding high cost special education, which public schools are obligated to provide.

Few charters offer a school lunch program or bus transportation for students in outlying areas. Expensive extracurricular programs such as sports are limited, if not altogether non-existent.

Because the public funding of charter schools does not cover the cost of infrastructure such as school buildings, and most investors are unwilling to pay these large capital costs up front, charter schools either lease space from districts in existing schools (preferably new ones) or house themselves in buildings that are inappropriate, such as disused warehouses or churches.

Charter school companies also cut costs by centralizing administration costs and standardizing the curriculum across a number of school districts so they can take advantage of economies of scale in their purchase and distribution of educational materials and equipment. For this reason there is a tendency for franchises to develop.

There have been several examples in recent years of charter schools failing on financial grounds and experiencing various financial problems. In 2003, 31 charter schools in California "had their charters revoked for fiscal improprieties, substandard academic performance or other shortcomings."

In 2010, Stanford University Department of Education's prestigious New School in East Palo Alto, founded by Professor Linda Darling-

## RICH Johnson There, I've Said It Again



Having started my column in early 2007, your intrepid columnist is a little fuzzy on exactly what he has covered over the span of 200+ submissions. It is certainly inevitable, from time to time, that yours truly might be redundant. And for that I apologize.

That being said, I want to pontificate on a subject that is near and dear to me: The issue of conflict. Don't worry as I will end this column with a few memorable, and hopefully, funny, inane questions.

With the possible exception of the true sociopath, most of us employ considerable time and effort working to avoid, eliminate and minimize conflict. And that is a good thing especially the conflict that comes as a byproduct of our stupidity. However, not only is some conflict unavoidable, in the bigger picture conflict is necessary. I want to shift your paradigm regarding conflict. In other words I want to radically change your underlying beliefs regarding conflict.

What is the opposite of conflict? Not so fast. I can see you in the back waving your hand. What's your answer? Louder! Did you say "Peace and serenity?" Well, that's the paradigm I am trying to shift. The opposite of conflict is boredom. Really! Think about it. What happens when you master a video game. It becomes boring. What happens when you play tennis with someone who has no chance of beating you? It becomes boring. So, we get the new version of the

## REV James L. Snyder



I have long been an avid reader of Webster's New World dictionary of the American language. My well-thumbed copy suggests I have done a lot of reading in it. It is the one book within easy reach of my study. Although I enjoy reading it, it does not have much of a plot.

Whenever I get the idea that I know many words, and people can be proud of stupid things like this, I pull down my dictionary and begin reading. Although I have read it many times before, I always run across an unfamiliar word. I cannot tell you how many words there are in my dictionary, but suffice to say there is a lot.

I am always interested in new words. I like to research the history of a new word, what it means and how to use it in conversation and writing. Then, like the egotistical fool I am, I like to mystify some of my friends by dropping this new word casually into the conversation whether it fits or not.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage has a word for this, but I am not allowed to repeat it in polite company. Quite often, she will say, "You know what you can do with that new word, don't you?" I really don't, but I don't let on that I don't. It is not that I am at a loss for words; I just have a growing appreciation for life.

Of all the words in my vocabulary, only a few I refuse to use. In fact, some of them have been deleted and defriended from my memory.

The main word I refer to as the "B" word. It is absolutely anathema in my presence. Not only do I refrain from using it, but also I appreciate people around me not using it either. As far as I am concerned, it has no place in the English language.

All was going well until several weeks ago some friends of ours and my wife and I went out for dinner together. My wife and I do not often treat ourselves to a leisurely lunch where we can just enjoy fellowship.

We were seated at a very nice table and the waitress came around and took our drink orders. In the meantime, we set back, relaxed and prepared ourselves for a nice time together of dining and fellowship.

When two preachers get together there just is no way to stop them from talking until somebody says, "I think it's time to take up an offering." That is the key phrase for every pastor to be quiet. It is a well-established phrase in all pastors vocabulary.

It was not long before the waitress came back to

Hammond, a leader in the school reform movement and President Obama's advisor on education during his transition, was denied extension of its charter after ranking in the state's lowest 20% of schools.

The stats on charter school failures is telling. According to the California Department of Education website which lists every charter school in the state, 25% of the 1,152 charter schools opened since the first charter opened in 1992 have either been closed or had their charters revoked.

Looking at charter high schools covering grades 9-12 the figures are much worse. Currently there are 112 active and 45 closed, inactive or revoked charters. That means only 157 of the 1,152 charter schools in California are charter high schools. And of those 157 charter high schools, 29% have been closed for one reason or another. The numbers are not much better for charter high schools just getting started -- for example, this year there have been 19 charters with just grades 9 and 10, but nine months later only 12 are still active.

There is also the temptation for profit-driven charter companies that are having difficulty making a profit, to exercise fraud in order to maintain or increase their funding. If this means cheating on state tests or fraudulently inflating student performance the attitude is "just don't get caught." Oversight and accountability clearly have not caught up to the growth of the Charter Movement.

With all this loose change laying around, is it any wonder that a few in the charter business succumb to the temptation of stealing some of it for themselves? Take the case of Edward Peter Fiszer, principal at New Academy Canoga Park Charter School -- one of Los Angeles Unified School District's 152 charters. According to authorities, in 2008 and 2009, Fiszer embezzled a whopping \$2.8 million! And lest we forget, this was our money he stole.

My point is this: Charter schools are not the silver bullets they're cracked up to be, and that the bottom line -- earnings over expenditures -- is not a good enough reason to turn over our public schools to a bunch of politically well-connected, greedy, often disreputable, sometimes criminal, education entrepreneurs.

Our kids deserve better than a business-managed education whose primary objective is not nurturing learning but making money!

video game that moves faster or has meaner baddies. And we seek out a tennis partner who can clean our clock. Folks, we have reintroduced conflict into our midst. The more we can successfully view our conflict as challenge the more manageable it becomes. Now, if only I could get there : (

Now some imponderables to munch on:

Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?

Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack?

Why does 'fat chance' and 'slim chance' mean the same thing?

Why do we call them 'stands' at the ballpark when they are made for sitting?

Why is it called 'after dark' when it is really 'after light'?

Doesn't 'expecting the unexpected' make the unexpected expected?

Why is 'phonics' not spelled the way it sounds? Why is bra singular and panties plural? How come abbreviated is such a long word?

Why do we put suits in garment bags and garments in a suitcase?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word lisp? How do dead bugs get into enclosed light fixtures?

Finally, they say statistically, that one out of every four persons suffers from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're okay, then it's you. Have a good week.

## ONE WORD IS NOT IN MY VOCABULARY

take our meal order. Everybody ordered and then my turn came. All I really wanted was a nice roast beef and a salad. However, I needed to order a second side dish with my meal. I did not want anything else.

It was at this time that my wife spoke up. "Order a vegetable medley and I'll eat it." I am not too keen when it comes to vegetable dishes but I decided to go along with the plan. It is important to have a plan. More important is the one who makes up the plan. And since it was my wife, how could I refuse.

Having taken our order, the waitress whirled around and took our order back to the kitchen for preparation. We all went back to our delightful conversation. It is at times like this when I am not too concerned about how fast the meal comes out.

It was not long before the waitress returned with our meals in hand. She gave each one their plates and mine was last. Being too busy talking, I did not realize what she set before me. After all, I knew what I ordered. Then someone prayed.

When I opened my eyes and looked at my plate all I could do was gasp. The "B" word came leaping to my lips and it was all I could do to bite my tongue to keep from pronouncing it in public. When tragedy strikes it usually strikes out with me.

There on my plate next to my roast beef was the vegetable medley. Now, a vegetable medley can be many things. I never stopped to think or even to ask what the vegetable medley was all about. After all, I was not going to eat it.

There on my plate, in plain sight for everybody to see and sneer at, was a mixture of vegetables that included BROCCOLI. The horrid "B" word. To make matters worse, as if they could get any worse, this vegetable medley was actually touching my roast beef.

All I can say is, that vegetable medley was not singing my song. My good wife came to my rescue and removed the entire vegetable medley. Who is the rational-challenged chef who dreamed up such a concoction of vegetables?

At that moment, I needed a word, but from my dictionary. I needed a word from the Bible. "And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him" (Psalm 37:40 KJV).

Some words have a way of catching up with you, but God's Word has a delightful way of holding us up in the most difficult of times.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail [jamesnsnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamesnsnyder2@att.net). The church web site is [www.whataffellowship.com](http://www.whataffellowship.com).



Looking Up with Bob Eklund

Searching for Intellignet Life on 86 Earth-Like Planets



Now that NASA's Kepler space telescope has identified 1,235 possible planets around stars in our galaxy, astronomers at the University of California, Berkeley, are aiming a radio telescope at the 86 most Earth-like of these worlds to see if they can detect signals from an advanced civilization.

This new UC Berkeley search began on May 8, when the Robert C. Byrd Telescope at Green Bank, West Virginia—the largest steerable radio telescope in the world—dedicated an hour to eight stars with possible planets. Once the UC Berkeley astronomers acquire 24 hours of data on a total of 86 Earth-like planets, they'll initiate a coarse analysis and then, in about two months, ask an estimated 1 million SETI@home (<http://seti.berkeley.edu/>) users to conduct a more detailed analysis on their home computers.

"It's not absolutely certain that all of these stars have habitable planetary systems, but they're very good places to look for ET," said UC Berkeley graduate student Andrew Siemion.

"We've picked out the planets with nice temperatures—between zero and 100 degrees

Celsius—because they are a lot more likely to harbor life," said physicist Dan Werthimer, chief scientist for SETI@home and a veteran SETI researcher.

Werthimer also leads a 30-year-old SETI project on the world's largest radio telescope, the Arecibo receiver in Puerto Rico, which feeds data to SETI@home for a detailed analysis that could only be done on the world's largest distributed computer (consisting of a million individual computer users).

"With Arecibo, we focus on stars like our Sun, hoping that they have planets around them that emit intelligent signals," Werthimer said. "But we've never had a list of planets like this before."

The Green Bank radio dish in rural West Virginia was needed for the new search because the Arecibo dish cannot view the area of the northern sky on which Kepler focuses.

The 86 stars were chosen from the 1,235 candidate planetary systems—called Kepler Objects of Interest, or KOIs—with the help of Kepler team member Geoffrey Marcy, professor of astronomy at UC Berkeley. UC Berkeley's targets



include the 54 KOIs identified by the Kepler team as being in the habitable temperature range and with sizes ranging from Earth-size to larger than Jupiter; 10 KOIs not on the Kepler team's habitable list but with orbits less than three times Earth's orbit and orbital periods greater than 50 days; and all systems with four or more possible planets.

A coarse analysis of the data by Werthimer and his team will be followed by a more thorough analysis by SETI@home volunteers. The complete analysis for intelligent signals could take a year,

Werthimer said.

"If you extrapolate from the Kepler data, there could be 50 billion planets in the galaxy," he added. "It's really exciting to be able to look at this first batch of Earth-like planets."

SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) is a scientific area whose goal is to detect intelligent life outside Earth. One approach, known as radio SETI, uses radio telescopes to listen for narrow-bandwidth radio signals from space. Such signals are not known to occur naturally, so a detection would provide evidence of extraterrestrial technology.

Previous radio SETI projects have used special-purpose supercomputers, located at the telescope, to do the bulk of the needed data analysis. In 1999, the approach known as SETI@home was launched, replacing supercomputers with a "virtual supercomputer" consisting of a very large number of Internet-connected computers in the homes of volunteer participants.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: [beklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto: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 pass the "gate-keepers". As an Executive Recruiter I was privy to working directly with Corporate Recruiters and understanding their process in selecting which candidates to interview and hire. I will candidly answer your questions, possibly bluntly answering your questions, but I will be totally honest. My objective is to help you achieve your employment goal.

*I am a sales and marketing associate with a high tech firm. I have been with the company for 3 years and like my job. However, I feel that I am not growing and I do not see any place to advance up the ladder or to increase my salary. Do I tell my manager that I am looking for employment outside the company and why? How do I look for a job while currently employed and not jeopardize my current situation? Puzzled.*

Dear Puzzled

It's a balancing act. It can and of course has been done. You will have to keep your current work situation and job seeking process separate. I would suggest that you discuss your job performance and career aspirations with your current Supervisor and try to glean any future positions that would meet your needs.

I would be hesitant about letting your supervisor and company know that you were seeking employment. There are two schools of thought about this. One is that you could be coming from a position of strength and that the company might do whatever it takes not to lose you. Another is that you could be putting the company on alert that you are ready to leave and they might be looking forward to letting you go sooner than you think. I personally would keep the fact that you are looking for employment to yourself. I would suggest that you do not let anyone at the company know including your co-workers, possibly even those you consider your friends.

It is somewhat difficult seeking employment while employed. You will have to be very organized and be able to create a scheduling system. When you have made that decision to start seeking a new job, go for it with full force and commitment! Because, when you start posting your resume on-line, networking, and applying for positions you are making a statement to the universe that you are looking for employment. The inevitable is that your supervisor and company will find out. So, be prepared with a great response if they should ask you why you are no longer happy with them and seeking new employment.

These are the paramount rules for looking for employment while employed: Do not use your employer's computer or telephone system. Do not use your company e-mail address. Maximize your break and lunch times. Use the time to make and return telephone calls or use your personal lap-top computer to communicate. Scheduling interview time can be a little tricky. Lunch time is good and you can request a little extra time. This would be a good time to use your personal, vacation and sick time. Frequent time-off activity could become red flags to your current employer.

This is the right time for you to stay committed to your goal and not to your current employer. Lucky for you some employers love to hire people who are currently employed and will totally understand your situation and will do whatever it takes to accommodate you in arranging time to meet and interview with them. Be prepared to discuss with the employer why you want to leave your current position. Keep your energy high, be very positive and let them know the added value you will bring to the table to help make them successful. Be very clear about your career and salary aspirations. Remember you have a job so you really have nothing lose. This is the appropriate time and situation to praise your skills, experience and education. Keep your job search confidential until you have a firm offer letter from another employer.

Everything you ever wanted to know about how to get a job ....but did not know who to ask. ASK jai. Send your questions to: [jai@resumeandcareerservices.com](mailto:jai@resumeandcareerservices.com) or visit website [www.resumeandcareerservices.com](http://www.resumeandcareerservices.com).

Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc.  
Canyon Canine Dog  
Walking & Pet Sitting Services



Calming Cure of the Canine

"Dogs are amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. They are the role model for being alive."

~ Gilda Radner

"There is no psychiatrist in the world, like a puppy licking your face."

~ Ben Williams

"Dogs are not our whole lives, but they make our lives whole."

~ Roger Caras

Numerous accounts of physical and mental health benefits resulting from canine interaction have been documented throughout history. It pleases me to know that I am not alone in my recognition and appreciation of the physical, psychological and even spiritual benefits of spending time with a cuddly canine. Loving and being loved by a dog is not only a heart-warming, comforting experience, but the fact is that dogs can play a part in prolonging and enhancing the quality of life for the human being. I would be hard-pressed to understand and try to explain just exactly how it works, but I believe in my heart that dogs are God's gift to mankind, and I take it for face value based on my own experiences and those of many others.

One example of how a canine can positively impact the health and well-being of the human is clearly shown by the work of a certified health-care therapy dog. The first documented therapy dog was a Yorkshire terrier named "Smoky". Smoky had been abandoned on the battlefield in New Guinea during WWII, when Corporal William Wynne took him in, cared for him and gave him his name. Smoky proved to be a major asset to Wynne's military outfit, lending comfort to the troops and playing a part in saving their lives by running a telegraph cable through an underground pipe, completing in minutes what would have been a 3-day, very dangerous operation for the soldiers responsible for the project. Dr. Charles Mayo (of the famed Mayo Clinic) was Corporal Wynne's commanding officer who allowed Smoky to go with him on hospital rounds, to visit injured troops. The little pup's popularity grew so strong; that he became the troop's mascot and eventually continued his work for 12 years, even after WWII had ended. Who knew that Smoky, a would-be abandoned mutt, would become a famous fore-runner for a prolific program that makes a major positive impact on the lives of so many people today?

Last weekend, I had the privilege of participating in

the American Cancer Society Bark for Life of Arcadia event where I met Marianne Cortland, who greeted me with warm smile at the "Lending a Paw Therapy Dogs" information booth. Marianne and several other volunteers, as well as a group of therapy dogs accompanied by their owner/handlers, were there as a team to help support the event. The fact that dogs are often used as health-care therapists has been common knowledge to me for years, but this was the first time I had the chance to meet real-life therapy dogs in person, and I have to say it was the highlight of my day! Marianne is absolutely delightful, and she was kind enough to share the details about how their program works. I thought it would be an excellent topic to share with my readers.

Lending A Paw Therapy Dog's objective is to form a network of caring individuals who are willing to share their animals in order to bring happiness to all whom they serve. They are responsible for training and certifying the dogs that make their mission possible. Their therapy dogs must be at least 1 year old, and must meet the criteria of the required obedience training and be capable of consistent harmonious interaction with humans and other dogs. Their volunteer animal assistance activities include, but are not limited to hospital visits, special needs centers for seniors and home visits.

Requests for dog therapy services can come from patients, family members or facility staff members. Often times, a dog therapy team will even go from room to room, to see who is up for a visit. Interestingly enough, there are times when the therapy dog will let the handler know who needs their brand of therapy by pulling toward the door of their room! Group sessions are the typical scenario at retirement homes, where patients or residents gather together in one room to enjoy the presence of the therapy dogs. Whatever the circumstances may be, therapy dogs always bring big smiles and renewed hope to those whom they visit. One stroke victim patient, named Dorothy, had not spoken for a year, but after a therapy visit from Maggie and Marianne, she somehow found the energy and desire enough to speak. When she did finally speak, amazingly enough, it was to say the name of the therapy, "Maggie"! That is what a caring canine can do for a stroke patient who may have never otherwise spoken again.

In addition to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life events, Lending a Paw Therapy Dogs also participates in other community activities with the local fire departments and libraries. For more information about Lending a Paw Therapy Dogs, and to participate in their activities or events, please contact Marianne Cortland via e-mail at: [twokuute@gmail.com](mailto:twokuute@gmail.com). I personally benefit in many ways from my dog's company each day, but I also think there may be a time when I will be the one in need of a therapy dog, and it comforts me to know that organizations such as Lending a Paw will be there for me. Thank you for all your efforts in bringing life and hope to those in need, Marianne and the other volunteers at Lending a Paw Therapy Dogs. God bless you.

On Line By PJ Carpenter



GOOD TO BE GEEK

As our lives become more intertwined with the technology we use on a daily basis and large groups of us come to define who we are by who we are online, there seems to be one group of people who are benefiting from this change in the world is the "Geek". What used to be a term describing a circus performer in the old days has certainly come along away from its derisive origins. A recent survey found that while "Boomers" (55+ and up) were still likely to view the term "geek" as negative "Millenials" (ages 18-34) are more likely to self-identify as geeks and tend to view the label as complimentary and it seems as if the world is following the millenials' lead in the way that geeks are viewed. Due to their prowess with technologies of all types, and a public perception that goes a long way in reinforcing that image, geeks are typically perceived to be better in jobs involving IT, the Sciences, Engineering and deep thinkers in other non-technical fields.

While geeks are a distinct breed unto themselves, they are closely associated with another group that's looked upon less favorably - "Nerds". While the nerd's most certainly have their own charms, self-identified geeks and non-geeks preferred the label "geek" than "nerd". Though Americans in general evidently value and respect geeks for their smarts and potential for success, many non-geeks consider self-proclaimed geeks to be socially awkward. By contrast, only a small percentage of self-identified geeks consider themselves to be socially awkward. To a degree, social grace is in the eye of the beholder. In wider social circles geeks' inability to connect with non-geeks (and vice versa) could prove to be an obstacle in the workplace and in general life. When asked about their interactions with IT Professionals they identified as geeks most non-geeks rated mastery of technology was further down the list on skills they most admired in their IT geek. The ability explain technology in layman's terms was ranked first. Third on the list: the ability to understand the objectives of the business as a whole. In short, a good grasp of social skills and the ability to help their audience understand the solutions to their technical problems is what makes these people stand out in an ever-increasingly technical world.

KATIE Tse .....This and That



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TREE?

I was a little embarrassed the other week when, driving down Baldwin to the

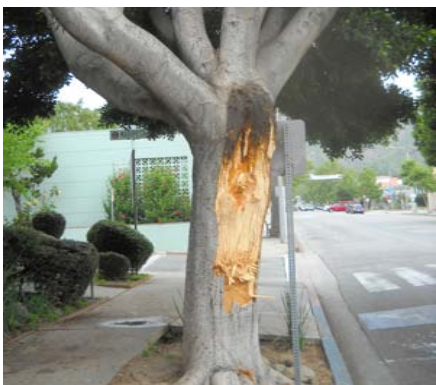
Sierra Madre Post Office, I sailed past it and had to go around the block. "How could I miss the Post Office?" I asked myself. And then coming round the corner I saw it –a pathetic blond stump marking the spot where a majestic Ficus stood just days before.

I love trees and I love Sierra Madre. Part of the reason I love Sierra Madre is its trees. Have you ever Google-Earthed Sierra Madre and seen how green with trees it is compared to surrounding areas? Barbara Streisand might worry about people seeing her property from above, but in Sierra Madre you could have a nudist colony in your back yard with no fear of outsiders seeing you! So you can imagine my dismay at the loss of our postal tree! After wiping my eyes, I emailed James Carlson to inquire further into the tree's disappearance. James is the Management Analyst for City Hall and is a great resource for local information! (See past article "What Happened to the Horn?") I'm thinking of



writing a series of "What Happened to the....?" featuring James' observances around town. James told me that sometime in the later hours of April 28<sup>th</sup>, a big branch fell from the Ficus without warning! (Ficuses are so mean - not warning people about these things). The fallen limb

spanned the street and was later estimated to weigh 40% of the tree's total volume. We can all be thankful that this happened in late April, at night, rather than at noon sometime in the week before Christmas. Apparently the "crotch" where the branch connects to the trunk had rotted out and couldn't bear the weight of the branch any longer. A colleague of the city's contract arborist examined the tree and found that it was extremely out of balance



and would be unable to recover from the loss of the branch. Further investigation of the wound revealed that the center of the trunk had also rotted, indicating rampant decay throughout other parts of the tree. The ficus would have to go.

Although I'm glad the decision to remove the tree was for safety rather than aesthetics, it's a little sad to hear that a tree I've admired so long had become "rotten to the core." As you've noticed, the Ficus has been reduced to a small stump, wearing an orange caution cone like a dunce cap. It will be removed, but James explained that stump removal is expensive. So for that reason, the city will most likely wait until there are other public stumps around town in order to maximize their stump grinding opportunity. It's kind of sad to think that more trees must be cut down before progress can be made on the postal site. But if it's between that and saving someone (or their car) from getting squashed by a branch, I'll take it! And hope springs eternal! James informed me that at a recent meeting of the Tree Advisory Commission, they said they hope to consider a replacement species at their June meeting. Most likely it will be years before the new one provides the ample shade that the ficus gave, but that's okay –I don't plan on leaving soon. In the mean time I'll just have to get used to identifying the new tree when driving down Baldwin to the P.O.

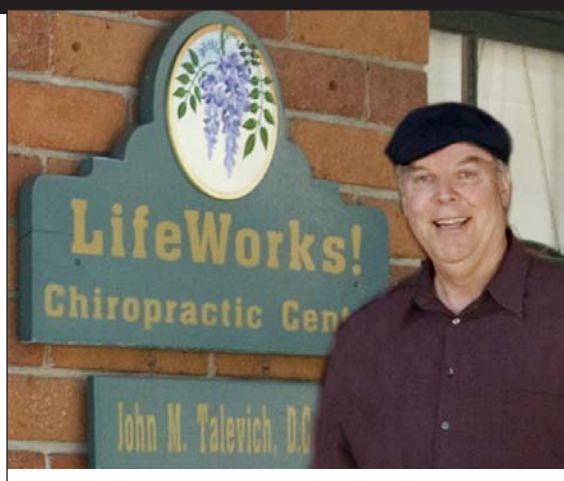
\*Footnote regarding images: Well, this is a little embarrassing. James sent me this dramatic picture of the tree and all its rottenness, and I wanted to superimpose the rabbit to make it look as if he was peeking out from behind the tree. But I didn't realize the graphic editing involved would take several hours. Let this be a lesson to my fellow procrastinators! So, please use your imagination to combine these two images.



## YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Today's Subject:

## Coffee Revisited



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.

Is it good for us, or isn't it? Is it a guilty pleasure or is it an essential health food? The latest research from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm suggests that, at least for women, it's heads up. Susanna Larson, Ph.D. analyzed data from 34,670 women who were initially free of cardiovascular disease and cancer, and followed them for ten years. At the end of the study, 1,680 strokes were recorded and, after adjusting for other stroke factors such as smoking, researchers found that

women drinking at least one cup of coffee daily were 24% less likely to suffer a stroke. There was no distinction made between decaf and regular; however, few people drink decaf in Sweden. It was also noted that drinking more than three cups a day demonstrated no increased benefits.

Larson commented in "Stroke Magazine": "Given that coffee is one of the most popular beverages consumed worldwide, even small health effects of substances in coffee may have large public health consequences." Some of those substances include compounds such as polyphenols which improve blood vessel function and insulin sensitivity. It is unclear whether caffeine contributes to the value of the brew, but in other studies there are indications that decaf is just as effective.

Does coffee do as much for men as women? The Swedish studies couldn't say, but an English study done on both men and women showed a 30% decrease in stroke risk from a twelve year study.

So, should we drink up? Leaded or unleaded? One cup or two? If the research is any indication, we may want to reconsider our relationship to that cuppa joe. If we can't handle caffeinated (you know who you are, and if you don't, ask a loved one!) why not try on a little decaf?

Have a healthy week! Dr. John

**John M. Talevich, D.C.**  
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## SIMPLIFIED COMPUTERS FOR SENIORS

Dear Savvy Senior

Do you know of any home computers that are specifically designed for senior citizens? I would like to get a computer for my 73-year-old mother, but she's not computer savvy at all.

Look Around

Dear Looking,

There are actually several computers on the market today that are designed specifically for older boomers and seniors who want, and need, things simple. Here are some top options to check out.

Telikin: For seniors that have little or no computer experience the new Telikin "touch-screen" computer is a wonderful option. Ready to go right out of the box, this innovative computer comes pre-loaded with simplified software that makes accessing the web, e-mail, games, video chat, photo sharing, news, weather and more, just a touch of the screen away. And since it runs on Linux software instead of the standard Windows or Mac OS, it's a virus-free computer too.

The Telikin comes with a sleek 18.6-inch LCD touchscreen (a 20-inch touchscreen will be available in mid to late June), 320-gigabyte hard drive, built-in speakers, webcam, microphone, wired keyboard and mouse, and provides a unique "tech buddy" feature that can help seniors get computer assistance when needed. Priced at \$700, (the 20-inch model will retail for \$995) Telikin comes with a 60-day trial period, 1-year warranty and free support for the first 60 days. Visit [telikin.com](http://telikin.com) or call 800-230-3881 to learn more.

It's also worth noting that Telikin has a partnership with firstSTREET (firststreetonline.com, 800-704-1209), a senior product direct marketing company which is also selling this computer rebranded as the "WOW! Computer for Seniors."

Senior PCs: Sold through Enablemart (enablemart.com, 888-640-1999), Senior PCs are Hewlett-Packard computers that also come completely set-up and ready use, but depending on your mom's needs, you'll have several options to choose from.

If you're your looking for simplified "goof-proof" operation, the Autopilot desktop is the best model. This PC comes equipped with QualiWorld software that provides one-click solutions for tasks like letter writing, preparing a document, surfing

the Internet, sending and reading e-mails and much more. The Autopilot also comes with On-TimeRx medication and appointment reminding software, HOYLE Crossword and Sudoku puzzles, a high contrast keyboard, mouse, 17-inch monitor, speakers and a color printer all for \$1,125. They also offer this same Autopilot computer in a laptop edition for \$1,165.

Or, for seniors with low vision their Vision Plus



model may be a better fit. This computer comes pre-configured with everything you need to see your PC, including state-of-the-art screen magnification software, a high visibility keyboard, and an all-in-one printer/scanner for scanning in books, mail and other reading materials for magnification. It also comes with OnTimeRx medication reminder software, HOYLE Crossword and Sudoku puzzles, a 17-inch monitor, mouse and external speakers. The price: \$1,255 for the Vision Plus desktop, or \$1,895 for the laptop edition.

Kiwi PC: If you're looking for something more affordable, the new Linux-powered Kiwi PC for seniors is another option to consider. Priced at just \$380, this user-friendly computer provides a simplified navigation system, with oversized tool bar, large icons and text that makes it easier to see and use. Other features include a customizable "Me Menu" that provides quick and easy access to frequently visited websites, e-mail and programs straight from the desktop, a color-coded keyboard, 19-inch monitor, and a toll-free phone support line that's available 24/7. See [kiwipc.com](http://kiwipc.com), or call 855-255-5494.

Savvy Tip: While it's not designed specifically for seniors, the Apple iPad2 (\$499) is another user-friendly option that has gotten great reviews from older users. See [apple.com](http://apple.com) to learn more.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](http://SavvySenior.org). Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

## 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:

• 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 April 8th &amp; 22nd

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.

## EXCURSIONS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8TH — The Rose Story Farm. Join us as we take a deluxe coach bus to Carpentry to see this beautiful 15 acre rose farm and see over 18,000 rose plants including 150 varieties of roses.

Cost per person is \$46 - which includes transportation, driver's tip, and a catered lunch in the garden. This is a walking tour so you are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes and to wear a shade hat.

This excursion will leave & return from the Hart Park House Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. (Memorial Park) 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

To register for the excursion, please visit the Senior Center or go online to: [www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration)

To register for the excursion, please visit the Senior Center or go online to [www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration). Save the Date: FRIDAY, JULY 8th — The Pageant of the Masters - Laguna Beach. Registration will open online and at the Senior Center starting May 1st



## 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.

## Recipe of the Week:

## FRESH STRAWBERRY UPSIDE DOWN CAKE

## INGREDIENTS:

2 cups crushed fresh strawberries  
 1 (6 ounce) package strawberry flavored gelatin mix  
 3 cups miniature marshmallows  
 1 (18 ounce) package yellow cake mix, batter prepared as directed on package  
 Directions

## DIRECTIONS:

Preheat an oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Spread crushed strawberries on the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking pan. Evenly sprinkle strawberries with the dry gelatin powder, and top with mini marshmallows.

Prepare the cake mix as directed on the package, and pour on top of the marshmallows. Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, about 40 to 50 minutes. Cool in the pan for 15 minutes. Run a knife around the pan to loosen the sides, and turn the cake out onto a serving tray. Store cake in the refrigerator.

## May Birthdays



Juanita Loera, JoAnn Serrato-Chi, Barbara Soulanille, Joanne Anthony, Carole Axline, Kika Downey, Shirley Hall, Dorothy Murphy, Annie Scalzo, Janet Ten Eyck, Jayne Thomas,



## Meals-On-Wheels

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

## MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO DELIVER MEALS TO OUR HOMEBOUND NEIGHBORS

\*\*ONCE A MONTH OR WEEKLY\*\*

Please contact Darlene Traxler at 626.355.6220 or (626) 355-0256.

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Tickets can now be purchased at:  
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## One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes and gardens and the people whoe create them.* Story By Chris Bertrand Photos courtesy of Terra Bella

### LEGENDARY DEVELOPMENT COMPLETES 28 TERRA BELLA CONDOS IN OLD TOWN PASADENA



I was lucky enough to attend THE Pasadena and Foothills Magazine's 50 Fabulous Women event as a 2011 honoree this week. The gala was held in the rooftop gardens atop the newly completed Terra Bella project at 155 Cordova Street in Old Pasadena. Over 400 people enjoyed the luxury venue's elegant entertaining spaces designated for use of the future homeowners, as a result of the generous support of local, family-owned development company, Legendary Developments, LLC.

The following day, Podley Properties agent, Pamela Cimino, took me on a "backstage" tour of the project. Cimino, based in the Sierra Madre office, is one of the agency's designated team of buyer's agents who staff Terra Bella each weekend from 2-6 p.m. Important components of the building are its privacy and security, driven by design and technology that allows residents and their guests access to only the specific floor on a specific elevator, with only two units per floor for each of the three elevator banks.

A key fob system and video security, coupled with a mobile technology, allows door and elevator release onsite and remotely. This generates the secluded feeling of a single family residence, plus the easy control of who comes in and out, and easy last minute changes demanded by today's buyers in super luxury buildings.

Legendary Development has opted for technology and amenities instead of a concierge system, which significantly reduces the HOA fees from the typical \$1200 for nearby concierge buildings to a monthly fee under \$600 for typical units.

Milena Soni, wife of one of the developers, has been intimately involved with Terra Bella and with Sabine, and shared some of her personal insights on the company's projects. "I've been onsite through construction, here almost every day. I give them the woman's touch." Cimino commented, "If you look at the storage and cabinetry, there's no wasted space at all in these two projects. That's Milena's doing."

Everywhere you'll see the mark of the "features and amenities typically reserved for the rich and fa-



mous or extravagant resorts" to use the Legendary verbiage. In fact, Soni collaborated with Beth Ann Shepard of Dressed to Close, Los Angeles, the design firm known for their work at the Beverly Hills Montage.

With several floorplans and two styles of build-out, modern and transitional, no two units opening on the same elevator stop will look similar. Inside, you'll find Viking Professional appliances, sumptuous exotic marbles and stone utilized in slab and unusual designs and cuts, sleek black custom cabinetry, dramatic dark hardwood floors, steam showers or jetted tubs and nine foot ceiling in most rooms. In the main floor's common areas, residents can reserve the conference/dining room with adjacent catering kitchen, the salon and outdoor

seating area for personal or business events. Up on the roof, nearly 10,000 square feet of recreation and relaxation and entertaining space awaits residents' every whim. A fitness center, of course, looks out to the pool and mountain views. Six cabanas provide shaded respite and three barbecue areas, including a catering station allow for an elegant, chef quality, "back yard" barbecue.

Other projects on the horizon? Milena Soni indicated that their next Pasadena project in the works is a 45,000 square foot commercial space on 130-40 N. Fair Oaks, which is currently in the planning process. A Century City project on Beverly Glen is on track for August completion, and an 80 unit Glendale tower on N. Central is scheduled for a 2014 completion.

The 27 remaining Terra Bella residences are listed for \$895,000 to \$1,525,000 for the units from 1569 s.f. to 2344 s.f. and at \$2,850,000 for the 3949 s.f. penthouse, which includes 1344 square feet of patio/balcony space. Cimino, who is also on Terra Bella's sister project's team at Sabine, indicated that all but six units of the Sabine on Lake project at 633 S. Lake in Pasadena are sold or in escrow at this point, offered from \$995,000 to \$1,495,000.

*Terra Bella, 155 Cordova Street in Pasadena, is open every weekend from 2-6 p.m. For more information, contact The Ratliff Team at Podley Properties, 626-408-1430 or visit the project's website, <http://www.LegendaryDev.com> or [www.LegendaryDev.com](http://www.LegendaryDev.com).*

## 2011 ALHAMBRA HISTORIC HOMETOUR TO SHOWCASE SIX DISTINCTIVE HOMES IN THE "PACIFIC ELECTRIC SUBURB" NORTHWEST REGION OF ALHAMBRA

*Ian Whitcomb & His Bungalow Boys & Sweet Adelines Headline Festivities*



This 1924 Colonial Revival home is one of six featured homes on the 2011 Alhambra Historic Home Tour presented by the Alhambra Preservation Group on Sunday, June 12, 2011.

Alhambra, CA -- Alhambra Preservation Group will open a selection of architecturally diverse and historically evocative homes in Alhambra's distinctive northwest neighborhood to the public on Sunday, June 12, 2011 in conjunction with its 2011 Alhambra Historic Home Tour.

The 2011 Alhambra Historic Home Tour will be in the area bounded by Huntington Drive and Pine Street on the north, Alhambra Road on the south, Bushnell Avenue on the west and Atlantic Boulevard on the east.

Tour hours will be 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tickets will be sold on the day of the tour only at Alhambra Historical Society Museum, located at 1550 West Alhambra Road. Tickets are \$20 per person.

Tour-goers will be guided through the homes by docents knowledgeable about the fun facts and architectural highlights of each -- and will be provided with an informative keepsake booklet by which to remember and revisit the details of this historic neighborhood and its homes.

Rich in local history, this picturesque neighborhood (originally the Wuest, Bushnell, La Marguerita, Souders and La Senda housing tracts) was developed shortly after the turn of the 20th Century by real estate speculators eager to capitalize on the close proximity of a Pacific Electric Red Line, which traveled along present-day Huntington Drive to and from downtown Los Angeles.

In the early 1990s, Alhambra was a sleepy farming community. Railroad magnate Henry E. Huntington owned much of the land in northwestern Alhambra, and he utilized his Pacific Electric Railway system to market this land. The first red car rolled down Huntington Drive in 1902, followed by an advertising campaign encouraging people to "Profit with the Prophet" by purchasing Alhambra lots.

This neighborhood, with charming homes built in the newest architectural styles. Was one of many San Gabriel Valley suburbs that popped up all along this Pacific Electric Red Line. Today, the neighborhood remains largely unchanged and features many of Alhambra's most beautiful homes. (See attached home tour descriptions).

Rounding out the tour will be live musical performances by several ensembles and a

window restoration workshop:

**Ian Whitcomb and His Bungalow Boys**

British invasion veteran and Grammy-award winning recording artist Ian Whitcomb & His Bungalow Boys. With his unique performance style and eclectic repertoire of period music, Whitcomb, a British icon and music historian, has garnered a large and devoted following and, in 2008, was recognized by Los Angeles Magazine among the "Best of L.A." In addition to maintaining a busy schedule of live performances, his music can be heard on the soundtracks of Hollywood films such as The Cat's Meow and Stanley's Gig.

**Sweet Adelines Quartet from the Verdugo Hills Showtime Chorus**

The Sweet Adelines Quartet from the Verdugo Hills Showtime Chorus (VHSC), an award-winning women's chorus specializing in the art of four-part a cappella, barbershop style. Based in Southern California, the VHSC is comprised of women from across the greater Los Angeles area who join together weekly to perfect performing skills. Known for its singing excellence, the VHSC is a 13-time regional chorus champion who has also competed and medaled internationally.

**Window Restoration Workshop**

Ed Sanchez, owner of Window Restoration and Repair, will present a workshop on preserving and maintaining windows at the 2011 Alhambra Historic Home Tour on June 12, 2011. Ed Sanchez began his business in 2000 after working with windows since 1983. He demonstrates that restoring original windows is a wiser financial decision for homeowners than replacing them with new ones. His business specializes in the restoration of both wood and steel windows.

*For more information about the 2011 Alhambra Home Tour, please call 626-755-3467, visit [www.AlhambraPreservation.org](http://www.AlhambraPreservation.org) or follow us on Facebook.*

*The Alhambra Preservation Group is a non-profit organization formed in 2003 by Alhambra residents eager to promote and protect Alhambra's rich and historic architectural heritage.*

## Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

### IF THEY SHOULD ASK

When you tell friends and family you're going to buy or sell a home, and they ask, "Why are you working through a real estate agent when you can just use the internet," how will you respond? Your first answer should be to have a professional handle all the paperwork - disclosure forms, inspection reports, deeds and titles, settlement statements... they'll get the picture.

You could describe your representative's knowledge about the area - schools, zoning, and property values. You want to know that the neighborhood matches your needs, and that your home holds resale value for the future.

Tell them there's more to advertising than websites, and that your agent will more likely find a buyer instead through their relationships with other agents and past and current clients. Not to mention the fact that you don't want complete strangers visiting your home, and you're more comfortable knowing that your representative has screened and qualified all potential buyers.

And once you're on either side of an offer, you trust a professional's ability to negotiate successfully when it comes to terms like price, financing, inspections and repairs, and other contractual commitments.

Your final argument might be that most people may buy or sell a handful of homes in their lifetime, but your agent has been successful hundreds of times, on both sides of the transaction. Case closed!

## Podley Properties is proud to recognize Realtor Sue Lamb for receiving the 2011 Readers Choice Award

Sue was voted Best Real Estate Agent in the San Gabriel Valley by subscribers of the Pasadena Star News, San Gabriel Valley Tribune and the Whittier Daily News.

Known by her clients for her strong involvement within the community as well as her great expertise on home sales in the Pasadena, Sierra Madre and Monrovia areas. Sue has also served as a member of the La Salle High School parent and athletic board, Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce, Monrovia Chamber of Commerce and many other volunteer organizations.

She has been a top producer with Podley Properties, year after year, earning the trust from first time buyers to multimillion dollar estates.

We congratulate Sue on her "Best Realtor" award for the San Gabriel Valley!



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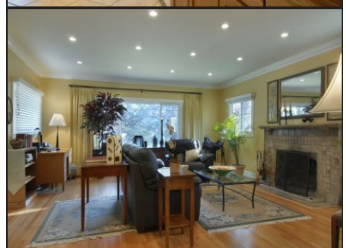






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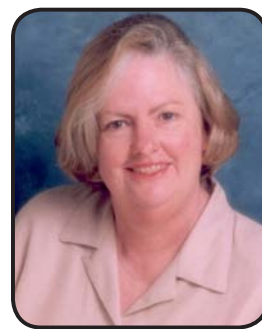
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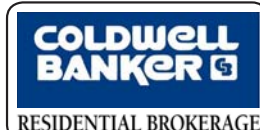


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### 465 N Canyon Blvd., Monrovia | \$699,000

Situated on a large level lot, this unique 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath home with craftsman features and the ambiance of a mountain retreat, is located at the end of a cul-de-sac. Most rooms have beautiful hardwood floors; the bathrooms have teak floors. Large terraced patio leads to an over-sized 3 car garage. If you value privacy and love nature, this could be your new home.



### “Love In Absentia”



San Marino Community Church welcomes you to Sunday worship on Memorial Day weekend! Seminary Intern Bong Bringas preaches at both the 9:15 traditional service and “The Gathering” at 11:15 am.

Explore the Rev. Dr. N.T. Wright’s *Simply Christian*, the acclaimed book on reasonable, applicable faith. The DVD-based series features the author’s informative

presentations and will be held at 10:30 am on many Sunday mornings from May through the summer. Check [www.smccpby.com](http://www.smccpby.com) for the schedule.

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

**San Marino Community Church**  
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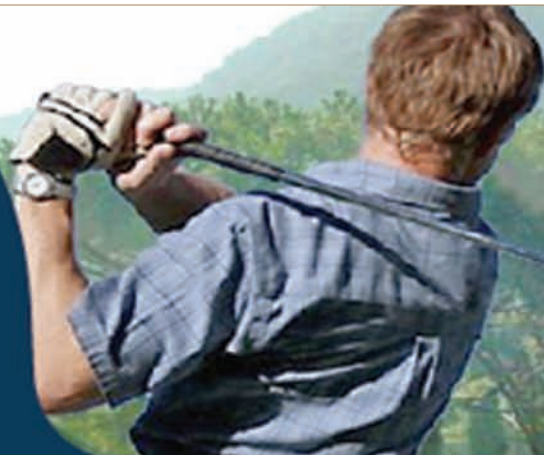
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