

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012

VOLUME 6 NO. 6

SIERRA MADRE MEDICAL BREAKS GROUND



L to R: Msgr. Richard Krekelberg, Past of St. Rita Church, Fr Pat Brennan, Director of Mater Dolorosa Retreat House, David Jones, ACME general contractor, Carol Jones ACME general contractor, Dr. Hani Sami CEO of Sierra Madre Community Medical, Norberto Nardi, Nardi Associates, Architect.

First “Ground Up” Construction in Years

Story and Photos by Chris Bertrand

On Thursday afternoon, February 9, Sierra Madre Medical broke ground for their long awaited new, 7000 square foot medical facilities. About 50 well wishers from the community, city council, commissions and staff, Chamber of Commerce members, patients, family and friends joined Dr. Sami, general contractors Carol and David Jones of ACME Construction in Pasadena, and architect, Norberto Nardi, of Nardi Associates in Monrovia for the festivities.

Nearly eight years in the making, Dr. Sami reflected on the long journey to get to this moment, and thanked all who made possible “this new state of the art space for medicine” for the foothill communities. They plan that the sustainable, expanded facilities will offer additional space for primary care and medical specialties, including women’s health and pediatrics.

Carol Jones introduced her project managers to those assembled, putting a face to the project’s contractors, who will do their utmost to deliver the construction project on budget and on time. She indicated ACME’s commitment to minimize the impact to the practice, the business district and neighbors during construction.

Norberto Nardi explained that the design of the building is intended “as a backdrop” and as a sustainable screen, leaving Dr. Sami’s beloved original building in place.

Sierra Madre Mayor Pro Tem, Joshua Moran, spoke as representative for the city, praising the tenacity of Dr. Sami and his team in pursuing the project. “This is one of those rare projects where we as a city, and the city council, listened to the groundswell of support from the public for this project.” Fr. Patrick Brennan, Director of Sierra Madre’s Mater Dolorosa Retreat House, gave the invocation and blessing for the project.



Dr. Hani Sami (R) cuts the cake at Groundbreaking with New Nurse Practitioner, Yi-Ping (Claire) Wen

His invocation verbalized the sentiments of those gathered, “We are here today to bless this ground that serves as an intersection between technology and human service. By God’s grace, in this very place there will be dedicated men and women who have given their lives to science so that they can serve the needs of countless men and women, young and old, who will come to the Sierra Madre Medical Group in need of assistance and loving care... Bless those whose vision has brought us to this moment, especially Dr. Hani Sami and his closest associates, those who will be involved in the construction of this building...all of those who will come here in need of compassion, care, and medical support... (and) this good earth,... as it will be so clearly made manifest in the Sierra Madre Community Medical Center.”

Jones indicated that after a few procedural steps, the official groundbreaking should take place within 24-48 hours. The Sierra Madre Community Medical offices will continue to be open during their regular Monday to Friday business hours. Sierra Madre Community Medical is located at 147 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, and can be reached at 626-355-3443.



SIERRA MADRE ELECTION COVERAGE

On April 10, 2012, voters in Sierra Madre will go to the polls and select three people from a field of seven to sit on the City Council and elect a new City Treasurer and City Clerk. They will also vote on a local ballot measure on whether or not to extend the User Utility Tax and a related advisory measure. The city council race will fill two seats for new four year terms and one seat for the unexpired two year term vacated by former Mayor Joe Mosca. The Mountain Views News will provide our readers with comprehensive coverage of this election. This week, we are covering the two ballot initiatives.

The User Utility Tax Ballot Measure 12-1 and Measure 12-2

Sierra Madre Voters will be faced with making a decision in April regarding two Utility User Tax (UUT) Measures, Measure 12-1 and 12-2. Measure 12-1 will, if approved, extend the current “UUT until its sunset or reauthorization and provide funding for vital city services.” Measure 12-2 if passed, will allow “voters to ask that the City Council use additional tax generated by the UUT to fund the General Fund’s Public Safety Services budgets, including maintaining the Paramedic programs.”

Both are, in essence, an extension of the measures passed in April 2008. At that time, Measure U proposed a temporary increase in Sierra Madre’s UUT up to a total of a 12% tax and extending it to cover a broader range of taxable activities.

Measure UA also passed in 2008. It was an advisory question about what to do with any additional funds raised if Measure U passed, just as measure 12-2 will do if Measure 12-1 is passed.

The User Utility Taxes, which have existed in Sierra Madre since 1993, go to the general fund. With the passage of Measure U and UA in 2008, the specific purpose was to support public safety, i.e., the city’s Police, Fire and Paramedic programs.

The 2008 UUT allowed the rate to be set at no greater than 12%, however, it is currently collected at 10%, less than originally projected. Part of the reason that the rate did not increase to the maximum allowed, has been credited to a ‘windfall’ of cell phone sales over the last 4 years.

The taxes are levied against the following utilities: Telephones, Electricity, Natural Gas, Water, Sewer, Cable TV, and Refuse. The city has created a chart on its website (listed below) which projects how much the UUT currently costs the average household.

Who supports Measures 12-1 and 12-2?

Current Sierra Madre Mayor John Buchanan and Councilpersons Nancy Walsh and Josh Moran submitted the arguments in favor of the measures. Their justification says in part, “Today, the city is faced with even greater external financial challenges; the recent windstorms have placed a \$500,000 (and rising) dent in reserves, the dissolution of the Community Redevelopment Agency leaves us with approximately \$800,000 in potentially unfunded expenditures and the rising energy costs are draining our already whittled down budget. Should the original increases from Measure “U”

be allowed to sunset, the city would face another loss of \$1,000,000 per year, which would lead to a significant loss of the services that make this town what it is”

Who opposes Measures 12-1 & 12-2?

City Council candidate John Capoccia, along with resident John Engle and former Councilman Don Watts oppose the measures. The ballot argument against Measure 12-1 says in part, “The current UUT sunset clause will not revert back to 8% until June 30, 2015. At the next city election in 2014, voters will have the opportunity to extend the UUT if justified.”

According to the city, if the measures fail, “the current, maximum voter approved 12% UUT will remain in place through June 30, 2014.” After that date, the tax will begin to ‘sunset’ (diminish) at a rate of 2% per year until it falls to a base rate of 6%. “The loss of revenue will have significant impacts on the City’s ability to meet its expenditures and will result in service reductions in order to maintain a balanced budget” (City of Sierra Madre UUT Fact Sheet)

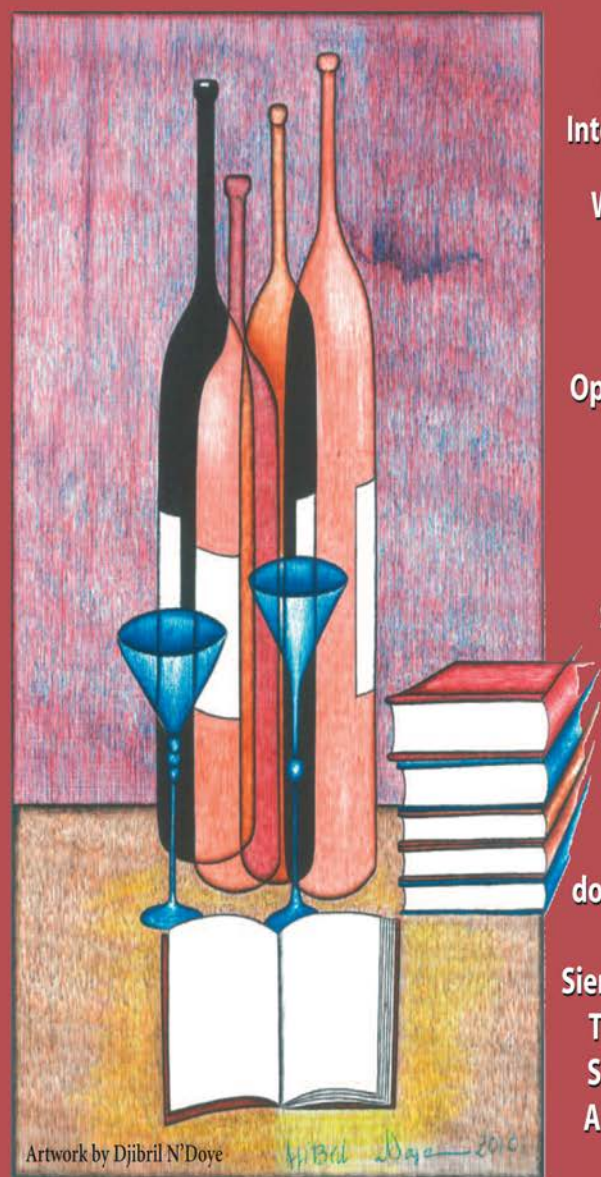
For more information on the UUT measures, go to: www.cityofsierramadre.com

S. Henderson/MVNews

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library 42nd Wine Tasting

Sunday, February 12th, 2012 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Alverno, Villa del Sol d’Oro



Artwork by Djibril N'Doye

Or visit our website at SierraMadreLibraryFriends.org

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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

626-355-7135

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
February 14, 2012 6:30 pm

Thu Feb 16 Third Thursday Book Club-One Book One
City Discussion 11am to noon

Thu Feb 16 One Book One City, Sherlock Holmes'
London 7:30 pm

Arts Commission - 2nd Wednesday @ 6:30

Community Services - 3rd Monday @ 6:00

Library Trustees - 4th Wednesday @ 7:00

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

Senior Community - 1st Thursday @ 3:00

Tree Advisory - 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00

1630 AM

Free on-air publicity for local events

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

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

In a nutshell, your event must:

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

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

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Sierra Madre Rotary Club

Meets Tuesdays 7-8:30 a.m.

Hart House Senior Center at Memorial Park
Hermosa at Sierra Madre Blvd.

As part of our club's lively weekly meetings, dynamic speakers are scheduled on Rotary's service interests, local community topics and general appeal subjects.

Sierra Madre Rotary operates an active high school service group, the Interact Club, participates in Rotary scholarship, music and essay competitions, raises funds for local and Rotary Foundation causes, recognizes exemplary teachers, offers mini grants for worthy projects, hosts the yearly Elvis in the Park concert and donates hundreds of service hours to community events like the Wistaria Festival, Dickens Village and July 4th Parade.

While all Rotary Club memberships are by invitation, visitors are heartily welcomed to meetings. For more information, please visit our website or contact our membership chairperson at RudyHayek@Gmail.com.

www.SierraMadreRotary.com



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THE FOURTH OF JULY
COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

The Sierra Madre Fourth of July Committee is looking for motivated, enthusiastic, creative, and friendly volunteers to serve on the committee as a member or a Co-Chair. The committee seeks volunteers to assist with various tasks to help with the parade and festivities. Join in the fun of hosting Sierra Madre's favorite hometown tradition!

If you are interested in becoming a Committee Member, Co-Chair or volunteering the day of at the 4th of July Festivities, please provide your name, phone number and email address to the following contacts:

Colleen McEvoy, Fourth of July Committee Co-Chair at 626-355-7801

Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278

WISTARIA TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!
ONLINE, FAST AND INEXPENSIVE!

If you're running out the door and just remembered someone for whom you forgot to pick up a gift, don't worry. The Chamber has just what you need! Wistaria Shuttle Tickets are available online now at www.WistariaTickets.com. You can go online, pick your ticket, and pay for it right there at your computer, and best of all - you print it right there on your printer. In a matter of minutes, you've solved your problem! Tickets are \$10 for adults 16 to 61, \$7 for seniors 62 and up and children 6 to 16. Family four-packs are available (two adults, two kids) at a discount, all four tickets for \$30. Or, team up with another couple couples and buy a six-pack of adult tickets for just \$50! This year's festival will be held on Sunday, March 25th. Viewing the vine is free, but if you want to ride the shuttle round trip up the hill from the vine to the festival and back, this is how you do it. Order your tickets today!

CIVIC CLUB TO HOST
CASINO NIGHT

Fun, food, and fantastic prizes all can be yours at Sierra Madre Civic Club's Casino Night being held at the Sierra Madre Community Recreation Center on Saturday, March 17 from 7 p.m. -11 p.m. For your \$25 ticket, you will receive a \$50 stake at the gaming tables, St. Patrick's Day-themed refreshments, such as corned beef sliders, and a chance to win a trip to Las Vegas. Beverages, including soft drinks, beer, wine, and, of course, Irish coffee, will be available at a modest cost.

At the blackjack tables, roulette wheel, craps tables, and poker tables, your winnings will be in the form of opportunity tickets, providing you chances to win such incredible prizes such as a Kindle and a gift card to Amazon, Nordstrom's gift cards, an iPad, restaurant and theater vouchers, tickets to sporting events, and many more tempting items. To increase your odds of winning one of the special prizes, additional opportunity tickets can be purchased for \$1 each.

The Sierra Madre Civic Club, a non-profit, philanthropic organization, last year donated more than \$20,000 back to the community in the form of educational scholarships and grants to such organizations as the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association, the library's One Book One City Program, Sierra Madre Elementary School, Creative Arts, and the Sierra Madre Playhouse. Casino Night is our major fundraiser for this year and we're counting on raising at least as much money to give away this year as we had in 2011.

Join your friends and neighbors for an enjoyable St. Patrick's Day event and you may win that special prize you've had your eye on. Tickets may be purchased by calling 355-2166.

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Bargain Book Sales at the
Sierra Madre Library

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library are having two Bargain Book Table Sales in February in the library during regular library hours. The first will run from Monday, February 13th, through Saturday, February 18th, and will feature books on gardening and travel, Sue Grafton mysteries, fiction, and books for children and teens. The second sale will run from Monday, February 27th, through Saturday, March 3rd. This sale will offer cookbooks and books on sewing as well as many fiction and non-fiction books and books for children and teens. Fans of Clive Custer will find a large number of his books featured at our second sale. Books are replenished daily and are only \$1 each. All proceeds from the sales benefit the resources and programs of the Sierra Madre Library.

The Sierra Madre Public Library, located at 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre is open Monday through Wednesday from noon to 9:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday from noon to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. We will be closed Monday, February 20th, for President's Day. (626) 355-7186. www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us

SIERRA MADRE'S "ONE BOOK
ONE CITY 2012" EVENTS

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, containing the first twelve short stories about the famous detective by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, will be honored during February at the Sierra Madre Public Library as the City of Sierra Madre's One Book One City selection for 2012. All events are free and open to the public.

One Book One City annually engages the community in reading the same notable book at the same time and encourages everyone to come together to explore the literature and join in public discourse. Doyle's tales, along with stage, screen, radio and television adaptations, have made Sherlock Holmes a permanent part of our culture, appealing to readers and audiences of all ages. Copies of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* are available in a variety of formats—print, CD audiobook, e-book, electronic book—from the Sierra Madre Public Library.

What's next?

On Thursday, February 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon, the Sierra Madre Public Library will host a book discussion of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* at the Library during the Library's monthly "Third Thursday" book group.

In the evening of Thursday, February 16, at 7:30, Catherine Addé will present "Sherlock Holmes' London: An Illustrated Talk," an armchair tour of London in the footsteps



of the world's greatest detective.

Ms. Addé is a travel industry veteran and was thrilled to live in London while working on her Master's in Tourism Management. She is a long-time Sierra Madre resident, an active community volunteer, and an avid reader. She serves on the Board of Trustees for the Sierra Madre Public Library.

On Saturday, February 25, at 5:00 p.m., a special screening of a classic Sherlock Holmes movie will take place at the Library. This will be the final event in Sierra Madre's One Book One City 2012 program.

One Book One City 2012 is sponsored by the Sierra Madre Civic Club, the Sierra Madre Historical Preservations Society, and the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library.

For more information, please contact Catriona Shafer or Sophia Duran at (626) 355-7186 or visit the Library's website at www.cityofsierramadre.lib.ca.us. The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., in Sierra Madre, California.

ATTENTION SIERRA MADRE STUDENTS!

Get those paint brushes and cameras in hand and enter San Gabriel Valley Women's Club annual competitions for local students. Award ribbons and gift cards for winners.

ART

Max 2 entries per grade, grade 2-12, no larger than 24x30, stiff backing, NO GLASS, plexiglass ok, Attach info on back: Name of student, Grade, Name of school, Title of piece
Deliver to Sierra Madre Woman's Club, 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Wednesday, February 22 NOON-3:15pm

PHOTOGRAPHY

Max 2 entries per grade 7-12, no larger than 10x12 to 14x16 including matting, NO GLASS
see above info to enter.



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REMEMBRANCE

VIRGINIA ARLENE TREDER

Virginia Arlene Tredar peacefully passed away, with family by her side, in her home in Ventura, CA in the early morning of February 2, 2012. Virginia, born April 4, 1921, was 90 years old and succumbed as a result of pancreatic cancer. She jubilantly rejoins her husband, Bill Tredar, who passed away six years ago. As a young woman, Virginia attracted the attention of many suitors but found true love with William Tredar. Virginia and Bill were married on July 12, 1941 and enjoyed 64 years of marriage. They established their home in Sierra Madre, California personally building their home together from the ground up. They had 3 sons, 1 daughter, 8 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren with a 7th on the way. She is survived by her four children and their spouses (William and Betty Tredar, Robert Tredar and Rose Calderon, Jon and Lori Tredar, and Kerry Lynn Tredar Ellison and Matt Ellison), her grandchildren (Jenna Phillips, Michael Tredar, Kelly Tredar, Wes Tredar, Jacob Tredar, Ryan Avila, Jamie Lynn Avila, and Linsey Avila) and her great grandchildren (Kennedy, Piper, Aiden, and Caleb Phillips and Serafina and Ahna Tredar). In the last 6 years of her life, Bill and Virginia's black Labrador, Magie, was her constant and loyal companion. Virginia was very proud of her early years growing up on a farm in Mason City, Nebraska with her brother, Max, and parents, Carrie and William Jones. Virginia attended elementary and high school in Mason City. Being a gifted student,



she graduated a year early and earned a college scholarship. Knowing she was moving to California to be with her family who had already relocated there, she discreetly and selflessly gave up her scholarship so that her best friend, Alice, could attend college to become a school teacher. Virginia shared many, many stories of her farm life that provided countless hours of entertainment to her children and grandchildren. She wrote two detailed books to hand down the family history to her children and grandchildren; one focusing on her early farm life and the other chronicling her life and that of her family after leaving the farm as a result of the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. Once settled in Sierra Madre, she and Bill became active members of Bethany Church where Virginia volunteered as the Sunday school secretary for 36 years and was employed as the church secretary for 16 years. How she managed to be a caring and doting wife and mother, a dedicated and inspiring Sunday school secretary, and church secretary extraordinaire is a testament to her deep and abiding work ethic and love of family, friends, and God. Virginia was known to many as an exceptionally good cook and baker. It was not uncommon for friends to drive for many miles just to take part in her famous breakfast of buttermilk pancakes. Her children's friends always seemed to show up at breakfast and dinner time at the Tredar household even well into adulthood. She was also a gifted poet who wrote many beautiful verses to Bill while he served in the US Navy and funny witty ones for her children and grandchildren on occasions of Christmas, birthdays and graduations. Virginia traveled around the world with Bill or her close friend, Imogene. She would often comment that the only continent she had not been on was Antarctica. Virginia was a very doting grandmother and spent many summers hosting her grandkids at either their Sierra Madre home or for several weeks at their Utah cabin. She loved playing card games and talking in pig Latin with her grandkids. Bill and Virginia loved the outdoors and family vacations often included camping, hunting, and fishing. In 2003 they moved to Atascadero to a lovely home on five acres to be near their son Jon, his wife, Lori and their grandsons, Wes and Jake and their families. The big living room window provided a bucolic view of rolling hills, big oak trees, roaming cattle, baby calves, birds, and various wildlife. Virginia enjoyed gazing out that window and reminiscing of her early farm life. Caregivers, Violet Nunes and Susie Johansen, were instrumental in supporting Virginia during her last months in Atascadero. In summer 2011, she moved to Ventura. There she could spend more time with her daughter, Kerry, Kerry's husband, Matt, her closest friend, Sue Ellison, granddaughters, Jamie Lynn and Linsey and be closer to her other granddaughter, Jenna and her family. During the last weeks of her life, Virginia's children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and many friends gathered and filled her home with much love and laughter, affection, singing, piano playing, karaoke, sharing favorite family stories, cooking, watching sunsets, and prayer. Following her diagnosis, Virginia was tenderly and devotedly cared for by her granddaughter, Jamie Lynn Avila, Dr. Mike Datlow and staff, Hospice Assisted Home Living, and nursing caregivers: Cherry Rose Gomez, Pat Cunningham, and Angie Garcia. They provided outstanding care as expressed in their very special and deep interest in Virginia's well being and comfort. Virginia loved her family and friends, seemingly happiest when she was in the midst of them. Her caring love, generosity, joyful attitude, quick wit, committed work ethic, and focus on family, friends, and God will be memories we hold dear. Visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at Chapel of the Roses, 3450 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA. A Graveside Services will follow at Santa Margarita Cemetery in Santa Margarita, CA at 2:00 p.m. I lie of flowers you may donate in Virginia's name to your local Hospice. Please sign the guest book at chapel-cares.com

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, January 29, to Saturday February 4, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 229 calls for service. See crimereports.com for updated information.

Sunday, January 29th:

12:48 AM- Warrant/Outside/Criminal, 3200 blk. E. Foothill Blvd. An officer stopped a 25-year old Pasadena motorist for a Vehicle Code violation. Further investigation revealed that the driver had \$126,000 in warrants for his arrest through the Pasadena Police Department. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police Department Jail.
E. Foothill Blvd. 10:27 AM-Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc. This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's credit/debit card number obtained from the Valero gas station.

Monday, January 30th:

7:02PM- Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc. This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's credit/debit card number obtained from the Valero gas station.
8:19 PM- Attempted Residential Burglary, 500 blk. Ramona Ave. This case involves an unknown suspect(s) attempting to gain entry into a house by removing the window screen. No entry was made inside the house.

Wednesday, January 31st:

9:20AM- Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc. This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's credit/debit card number obtained from the Valero gas station.
1:55 PM- Warrant/Outside/Criminal, Fairview Ave and Sierra Keys Dr. This incident involves a suspicious suspect being contacted. Further investigation revealed that the subject had two outstanding warrants for his arrest. The 25-year old Sierra Madre resident was transported to Pasadena Police Department Jail.
5:22 PM- Petty Theft, 300 blk. N. Sunnyside Ave.

This case involves an unlocked bicycle stolen from the residence.

Thursday, February 2nd:

12:04 PM- Suspicious Circumstances, 10 blk. S. Michillinda Ave. This case involves a house that is under construction, where a window was found broken and both front and rear dead bolt doors were found open. It appeared that no entry was made into the house.

1:09 PM- Tampering/Injuring Vehicle or Contents, 400 blk. North Michillinda Ave. This case involves an unknown suspect(s) scratching a mark on the victim's car.

4:21 PM- Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc. This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's social security number.

Friday, February 3rd:

11:49 PM- Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc. This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's credit/debit card number obtained from the Valero gas station.

4:25PM- Use of Another's Personal Identification to Obtain Credit/Etc. This incident involves the unauthorized use of the victim's credit/debit card number obtained from the Valero gas station.
Saturday, February 4th:
1:51 AM- Warrant/Outside/Traffic, 400 blk. E. Sierra Madre Blvd. An officer contacted a 22-year old Sierra Madre resident for noise disturbance. Further investigation revealed that the suspect had a \$30,000 warrant and was transported to Arcadia Police Department.
11:41 PM- Warrant/Outside/Traffic, 210 freeway and Rosemead Blvd. An officer stopped a 33-year old Pasadena motorist for a Vehicle Code violation. Further investigation revealed that both vehicle occupants had warrants. Both from Pasadena, and were cited and released in the field.

THIS LADY NEEDS OUR HELP

Friends seek community support for Sonia Kosker



You may recognize her face if you have been in Taylor's Meats in the past six years. She is Sonia Kosker and has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

Sonia is the mother of two girls and has no medical insurance. She is no longer able to work and needs our help.

If you would like to make a donation, please stop by Taylor's Meat Market today.

Your love, prayers and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Friends of Sonia Kosker.

DEVELOPER REQUESTS COUNCIL TO PUT KENSINGTON PROJECT ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

By Bill Coburn

Fountain Square West, LLC (FSW), developer of the proposed Kensington Assisted Living project at the site of the former Skilled Nursing Facility, has sent a letter to the City Council requesting that the Council pass a resolution that:

"Following completion of the review by the Planning Commission, and approval by the City Council, the KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING Project be placed on the November 2012 ballot to be voted upon by the citizens of Sierra Madre."

The letter states that FSW is "pleased that our proposal to build a premier assisted living project in Sierra Madre on the site of the former skilled nursing facility is moving forward to the formal public review process," and that "We welcome the Planning Commission's open review process."

FSW goes on to say they believe their project is good for Sierra Madre because it "will allow a growing number of frail and memory impaired seniors to remain in a neighborhood where they can be close to their family and loved ones," and that they have "the experience and have demonstrated quality results in providing for residents' care, comfort, security, and convenience in a first class physical setting."

The Kensington project is on the agenda for the Feb. 16th Planning Commission meeting, to be held in City Hall at 7pm. The letter from FSW discusses their belief that their project does not exceed the Measure V limit of 13 units per acre, because the units in their project do not have kitchens.

FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY 42ND ANNUAL WINE TASTING

A splendid way to show your sweetheart your love is with a visit to the annual Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Wine Tasting. The event is being held on Sunday, February 12, from 2:00-5:00PM at Alverno Villa, 675 W. Highland Ave., Sierra Madre, just in time for Valentine's Day. Picture yourselves strolling leisurely through the Alverno Villa gardens while enjoying fine wine and delectable hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Adding to the romantic atmosphere will be live music performed by Steve Vargas, The Mellow Ds, and Sudbury and Ramos. For your entertainment, magicians from the Magic Castle will perform sleights of hand.

You can even find the perfect souvenir of a lovely afternoon at our Silent Auction where you'll

Some cities require a kitchen in order to have a unit be counted as a dwelling unit. City staff had presented a proposed clarification to the Commission on the Sierra Madre definition of a dwelling unit, which is "one or more rooms in a building designed and intended to be used as living quarters by one person or a family". However, the Commission did not recommend that the proposed clarification be approved by the City Council, declining to further define or clarify the definition.

In its letter, Kensington states that "Assisted Living Projects such as ours do not fit the traditional definition of 'dwelling units' and are more frequently evaluated in California (and other states) as an 'institutional use'". This is primarily because the building is licensed by California (and other states) as a health care facility ("Residential Care for the Elderly" in California). In addition, resident suites are comfortably configured with a bedroom and a bathroom. There are no kitchens, cook tops, or ovens in the individual suites as are traditionally found in a "dwelling unit". In addition to creating a safer environment, this Project will have a state-of-the-art commercial kitchen from which all resident meals will be prepared and catered. Other areas typically found in a "dwelling unit" such as a dining room, living room, TV or activity room, den, or other living spaces will be common areas and shared by all the residents."

A Council member would have to agendize the item for a future meeting, which could be done as early as the next Council meeting, to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 14. A resolution such as FSW proposes could then be discussed as early as Feb. 28th.

have an opportunity to bid on such exceptional items as jewelry, wine tastings and tours, theater tickets, gourmet dinners, art work, Turf Club at Santa Anita, Disneyland tickets, Rose Parade tickets, wine fridge, Temecula B&B, children's birthday party at the Sierra Madre Fire Department, Universal Studios tour, personal chef dinner for 6, SMPD ride along, and fine wines. In addition to the auction, there will be an opportunity drawing for a weekend wine tasting in Paso Robles, a prize valued at more than \$1,000 (ticket holders need not be present to win)

If you wish to purchase tickets in advance, tickets to the Wine Tasting are \$60 and tickets for the drawing are \$5 each. Both can be purchased at the Sierra Madre Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre (telephone 626 355-7186) or you can purchase tickets at the door. Proceeds from the Wine Tasting benefit the resources and programs of the Sierra Madre Library.

WANNA WATCH A WHALE?

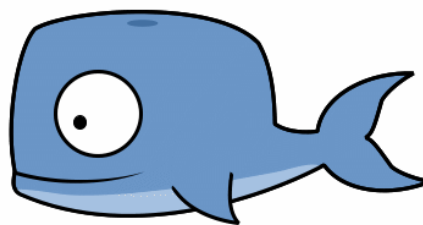
Whale Watching Community Excursion

Join the Community and Personnel Services Department for its annual Whale Watching excursion on Saturday, March 3, 2012. Enjoy a two and a half hour narrated tour by Aquarium of the Pacific staff, charter boat with a two level viewing deck, and transportation to and from Long Beach. Snacks are available for purchase on the boat, or lunches can be brought aboard. For more information call 626-355-5278.

Date: Saturday, March 3, 2012
Time: 10:00am - 3:30pm
Cost: \$28.00 per person

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2012

Transportation leaves from the Community Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA91024.





Ex ToF Director Arrested for Murder

By Dean Lee

Sheriff's detectives Wednesday arrested, Richard Allan Munnecke, a former Tournament of Roses committee member and once director for the alleged 2004 murder of a 59-year-old woman later found suffocated and stuffed in the trunk of her own car.

Police said the arrest ended an eight year investigation into the murder of Donna Lee Kelly, whose body was found by her daughter, in the trunk of her car three weeks after her disappearance.

According to reports a number of fellow Tournament of Roses officials and friends were shocked to hear of Munnecke's arrest saying it was out of line with his graceful personality. Some went so far as to say they might have arrested the wrong man.

Munnecke, 71, was arrested at his Alhambra home, pursuant to an arrest warrant, and booked at Temple Sheriff's Station for Murder. He is being held in lieu of \$1 million bail according to police records.

Detectives said based on their findings, and a DNA match, a search warrant for Munnecke's residence, located in the 800 block of North Almansor Street, Alhambra, was obtained and served Wednesday morning.

During the investigation, detectives learned Donna Kelly was romantically involved with Richard Allan Munnecke, who was married.

Donna Kelly's daughter, Diane, discovered her mother's body on April 15, 2004. She was driving her mother's car through Eaton Canyon County Park and smelled a foul odor emanating from the trunk. She looked inside to find a decomposed body inside.

Detectives said it was later learned the murder had occurred at Donna Kelly's home.

Eight years later, the same Sheriff's Homicide Detectives, Elizabeth Smith and Richard Lopez revisited the case and gathered new information. They obtained the DNA sample from Munnecke and, in part through a Federal grant to fund DNA testing for cold cases, were able to get test results.

Investigators are asking that anyone with information about this case to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau at (323) 890-5500 or anonymously at (800) 222-TIPS (8477).

Pet of the Week



Damon is a three-year-old gray tabby. He loves belly rubs and is very sweet. He can be vocal sometimes too.

Damon's adoption fee is \$70, which includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. New adopters will receive complimentary health and wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals. Ask an adoptions counselor for more information during your visit.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A301148, or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday - Friday, 9-4 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at www.pasadenahumane.org.



Parsons Project to get EIR

By Dean Lee

The City Council took the first steps Monday towards a possible one million square foot project on the Parsons site, adjacent to Old Pasadena, which could include, retail and office or a hotel.

The council unanimously approved authorizing City Manager Michael Beck to enter into a \$455,000 contract with EPA Consulting for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Parsons Planned Development at 100 West Walnut Street.

According to a city staff report, "The EIR will include an analysis of the main project as well as several project alternatives. The project will include up to one-million square feet of new

gross building area, including residential, retail and office. The alternatives will consider different options to reduce environmental effects and will likely include alternative program uses such as a hotel and a bio-science lab element."

A Predevelopment Plan Review (PPR) application will be presented to the city council on February 27.

The EIR will include a comprehensive analysis of all required issues and will include chapters on Aesthetics, Air Quality, Land Use, Noise, Public Services, Traffic, and Utilities (a Water Supply Assessment will be prepared). It is anticipated that several technical studies will be required including Traffic and Parking, Geotechnical/Seismic, Phase I Environmental

Assessment, Sewer and Utility capacity, and a Water Supply Assessment according to staff.

The full EIR is expected to take 18 months which includes meetings to allow for public review and comment.

Parsons Corp. sold the property in July to Morgan Stanley Real Estate Investing in partnership with Dallas-based Lincoln Property Co. Parsons will continue to occupy the existing 12-story tower for 15 years.

Morgan Stanley and Lincoln Property plan to invest \$168 million in the property over the next five to 10 years. Any new development would not break ground for at least three years according to the new owners.

Kimono in the 20th Century



Pacific Asia Museum announced its exhibitions for the spring and summer including Kimono in the 20th Century opening in March.

The 20th century in Japan was a time of economic prosperity and cultural expansion. Elements of Art Nouveau and Art Deco brought new dimensions to traditional Japanese art and design, including fashion. Pieces in Kimono in the 20th Century examine these changing styles and fabrics, demonstrating a strong sense of the wearer's taste, the modes of contemporary fashion, or requirements of the season in which the kimono was worn. Kimono in the exhibition include formal styles, children's clothing, undergarments and light summer wear as well as a gift in 2008 from the June Tsukamoto-Lyon collection, which provided breadth and further quality to Pacific Asia Museum's already substantial collection.

Guest-curated by Hollis Goodall, Curator of Japanese Art at LACMA. Frank and Toshie Mosher Gallery of Japanese Art March 30, 2012 through March 10, 2013. Image: Kimono, Japan, 20th c., Silk, Pacific Asia Museum Collection, Gift of the estate of Joseph Dagnall, 1994.5.36

History of African Drumming

In celebration of Black History Month Drummer Marcus Miller will provide a history of African drumming followed by a drumming demonstration and opportunity for those in attendance to try their skills on Thursday, February 16, 1 p.m. at Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd. and 3:30 p.m. at La Pintaresca Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond Ave. For more information call (626) 744-7268.

Man Charged with Hacking NASA Computers at JPL

A federal grand jury has indicted a Romanian citizen for hacking into the computers of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in an attack that caused more than \$500,000 in damage.

Robert Butyka, who used the moniker "Iceman," 25, of Cluj-Napoca, Romania, was indicted yesterday on charges of hacking into 25 NASA computers at JPL in December 2010. The computers were part of the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder Program, which is used to support climate research and improve weather forecasting.

As a result of Butyka's alleged conduct, researchers were unable to use the computers for more than two months while NASA removed the malicious code in the machines, restored data and took steps to prevent further access by hackers. NASA sustained more than \$500,000

in damages, which includes the costs of completing the work on the computers and the time lost to scientific researchers.

NASA worked with Romanian authorities to investigate the matter. As a result of those cooperative efforts, Romania prosecuted and convicted Butyka. Last month, Butyka received a three-year prison sentence and seven years of probation in Romania for his illegal conduct.

The one-count indictment returned by the grand jury yesterday charges Butyka with unauthorized impairment of a protected computer. If he is convicted of the computer hacking offense, Butyka would face a statutory maximum sentence of 10 years in a United States prison.

The case was investigated by NASA's Office of the Inspector General, Computer Crimes Division.



Author to Discuss Famed African American Umpire

In celebration of Black History Month, Allendale Branch Library will honor Los Angeles baseball pioneer Emmett Ashford, the first African American umpire to officiate in both minor and major league baseball on Saturday, February 25 at 3 p.m. Author Adrienne Cherie Ashford will discuss her father's extraordinary career and legacy; sign copies of her book; and show video clips of her father umpiring in the 1970 World Series. Co-sponsored by Baseball Reliquary.

For more information, call (626) 744-7260.

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

City Announces Layoffs to Maintain Financial Stability

City Manager Michael Beck announced today that 14 staff members have been notified that their positions are being considered for layoff. The city has 1,953 full- and part-time employees. Those affected employees received notice that their positions may be eliminated in March.

The effects of the recession, which continue to impact city revenues despite recent improvements in the broader economy, growing pension costs and the state's dissolution of redevelopment agencies, make additional staff reductions necessary to ensure the city remains on track to balance its budget.

Since the beginning of Pasadena's five-year budget plan in 2009, designed to address the effects of the recession and a structural deficit, the city has cut nearly 300 positions, most of which were achieved through voluntary separations and the elimination of vacant positions.



Adrienne Cherie Ashford



the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the means to tell the story using the power of video, audio and print along with online social media. The next meeting is Feb. 14 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave.

For more info call 626.794.8585 or visit pasadenan.com.

"In order to maintain fiscal responsibility and stability, additional staffing reductions have unfortunately become necessary" said Beck. "We understand that we're not just talking about numbers on a page, but about real people, good employees, losing jobs."

The elimination of these positions, almost all in mid-level management, is expected to save the city approximately \$3.9 million per year. Beck also noted that the city still must absorb approximately \$17 million in windstorm recovery costs, which will not be reimbursed with state or federal disaster funds.

"But we're hopeful," Beck added, "that the difficult work we've done to make long-term budget corrections, along with positive economic trends, will mean that the worst of this is behind us."

“What’s Going On?”
News and Views from Joan Schmidt



VERY SPECIAL
AWARD FOR
A VERY SPECIAL
LADY

By Joan Schmidt

About eight years ago, I met Gloria Huss. At that time, I was stepping down from the Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte Town Council with a heavy heart. I loved the Town Council and serving the community. However, I no longer had the available time to serve as I had in the past. There were family obligations, health issues and much more was expected at work. Town Council Member Reyna Diaz had also stepped down. That awesome lady is still a Duarte School Board member and hardworking, integral part of Kiwanis. Kim Sanders also left the Town Council at that time. How could the Monrovia-Duarte Town Council function with so few members?

Enter Gloria Huss pictured on the right in front of her store.. With some prodding she came aboard and immediately went to work. Anything that lady decides to do, she does - and even more. Over the last several years, she has been a very important part of the Town Council. Chair Dave Hall told me how great she is with getting news out and keeping the Town Council aware of community events and projects. She serves as secretary, having agendas available and recording minutes.

A few weeks ago, I read that Gloria was receiving the prestigious Dick Lord Award from the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce. I was very pleased, but not surprised. She is a yeomen worker and is involved in SO MANY great causes!

Gloria’s story begins in Whittier where she grew up. She started working at Garret’s Floral Shop in Monrovia. At first Gloria rung up customer orders and answered the phone. Then Gloria assisted in making flower arrangements and

attended trade school to learn floral design.

In 1989, an opportunity occurred. The Garrets were selling the business, and Gloria purchased it right before Valentine’s Day, the BUSIEST time of the year! Mother’s Day is very popular, but Valentine’s Day is Number One. “It was kind of like a whirlwind,” she said.

Over the years, the business has flourished and I have utilized *Monrovia Floral* on several occasions. Its great location, outstanding service and beautiful floral arrangements have made it the place to place your order!

On January 27th, at Monrovia Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner, Gloria was presented with the Dick Lord Award for outstanding contributions to the Chamber. Gloria has donated many volunteer hours to the Chamber over the years, has been a member of the Chamber’s Board of Directors and is currently on the Membership Development Committee.

Gloria has been an active volunteer in many different fields. Take the movie/television industry for example. Fifteen years ago, Gloria began volunteering as a liaison between merchants and the film production companies. If a certain kind of store is needed, Gloria will help the film production company with the location, and if fees are involved, they can discuss how the merchants will be affected.

At the Foothill Unity Center, Gloria has become involved with the pet food bank. Many people are not only down and



out, but have a pet which also needs fed. When Gloria spent time at a local animal shelter, she noted several dogs were classified as “Owner Surrender” because their owners could no longer afford to feed them. At the Center, Gloria helps “package all of the food that is donated and assist in trying to get food donations.”

On a personal level, Gloria and her husband have recently acquired an Austrian Shepherd and also have four cats. Her pets are like “members of the family”.

Gloria loves the Monrovia community and the friendliness of all its residents. “If you walk down the street, people always stop and say Hello”.

Congratulations, Gloria on your special award! Residents of the City of Monrovia and especially your county constituents are happy and proud of you!

PET OF THE WEEK

Brady: Animal ID #A4389407

Meet a really mellow sweetheart, the affable Brady (A4389407). Brady is a calm and serene two-year-old cream male shorthaired Chihuahua who was found in La Puente on January 24th and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center. Weighing twelve pounds, Brady does not mind the leash but is unsure of what he is supposed to do on it. He could use a little training in that area, but other than that, he is an awesome little guy. He is very sociable with other dogs, and wags his tail profusely at every introduction. He absolutely loves people and will appropriate the nearest lap. Brady is a low-energy boy who will be the perfect indoor pet for anybody anywhere!

To watch a video of Brady please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLN1HOGrz80



To meet Brady in person, please see him at the Baldwin Park Shelter, located at 4275 N. Elton, Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378). He is currently available now. For any inquiries about Brady, please reference his animal ID number: A4389407. The shelter is open seven days a week, 12 pm-7 pm Monday-Thursdays and 10am-5pm Friday-Sunday. This is a high-intake shelter with a great need for adoptions. For more information about Brady or the

adoption process, contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at samanthasayon@gmail.com or 661-309-2674. To learn more about United Hope for Animals’ partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.

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KAT HIGH OF HARAMOKNGNA INDIAN CENTER
Shares Her Knowledge of Traditional Ways

By Christopher Nyerges



Christopher Nyerges. Nyerges is the director of the School of Self-reliance, who teaches and writes books on self-reliance and wild foods. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA or www.ChristopherNyerges.com.

Recently, Kat High, pictured left, a director of the Haramokngna Indian Center at Red Box in the Angeles National Forest, recently spoke at the Eaton Canyon Nature Center about the inter-relationship of “the plant-people, the rock-people, the animal-people, and the spirit-people.” Traditional Native American beliefs are sounding more and

more like the latest in physics, as per such books as “The Field: The Quest for the Secret Force of the Universe” (by Lynne McTaggart).

Her talk included a little bit of the history of the cultural clash when the Spanish came to Southern California, and began to build the mission system. She also explained how everything that the Southern California Natives needed was provided by the land. In her hour-long presentation, she showed pictures and actual specimens of many of these plants and told how they can be used today, and grown in the urban garden as a way to preserve them, and keep alive the knowledge of native plants.

“When the Spanish came here,” she said, “they described Southern California as looking like a well-tended garden. That’s because it was,” she told the crowd. The land had been managed for millennia by a series of practices that only-recently have been more studied and described in such books as “Tending the Wild” (by M. Kat Anderson).

There are many benefits of burning the land that have been documented. High, who is Hoopa, said that some of benefits of burning were insect control, modifying plant growth, increasing the soil fertility, increasing biodiversity, game management, making certain shoots grow up straight, and more. Even though we are more aware today of the benefits of fire in the early days of pre-Spanish California, that was not their only method of “passive agriculture.”

“Everyone talks about fire these days,” said High, “but the Tongva and others also had many other methods which helped to promote the growth of desirable plants.” She said that the very act of gathering wild foods would help to scatter seeds, and the processing of food plants near village sites would cause those plants to grow near the villages. There was also the deliberate act of scattering desirable seeds closer to home, and transplants desirable plants close to the villages, like soap roots, broadia roots, toothwort roots, etc. In the past, there was also pruning and coppicing of the wild vegetation, as well as tilling of soil and irrigation. Some plants were simply cut, and rooted and grown near village sites, such as willow, currants, and wild roses, all of which were used for food, medicine, arrows, and craft.

For perhaps 10,000 years, the Natives of Southern California respected the land, and took responsibility for it so that all their needs could be provided. Though High said it takes a lifetime to learn all these plants and how they were traditionally used, she shared how specific plants were – and still can be – used for food, medicine, ceremony, and the material culture (houses, nets, baskets, dyes, soap, etc.).

When the Spanish came here, says High, they saw this land as a park-like paradise, and then recruited the local Indians to build the missions and run the farms, which destroyed the Native way of life. Cattle-raising was most destructive to land and waterways, and the land soon became unable to support the tradition Native lifestyle.

What now? Asks High. How do we regain our balance with the land?

Her advice is to learn about the Native uses of plants, and to use them with respect. “Always offer a prayer when you gather,” says High. “Ask permission from the plant, don’t deplete an area, and give the plant your intent for picking it.”

Prickly pear cactus was one of the Native plants she described. The young pads can be peeled and eaten raw or cooked, and they have been proven to be good for diabetes. It is also easy to grow in the urban back yard.

Another common “weed” is telegraph weed, which is good for healing wounds when made into a wash and applied to the wound.

Kat High asked her audience to consider what each of them could do to regain the balance that has been lost. Besides learning about Native uses of plants, and growing some near your home, she encouraged everyone to “Get involved,” she said, encouraging everyone to learn more about the Haramokngna Center and its activities.

Their web site is www.haramokngna.org. Kat High can be reached at katcalls@aol.com. A schedule of activities will be posted on the web site, and books purchased from Amazon through the Haramonkngna site help to support the center.

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PRESENTATION BY ARCADIA CHINESE ASSOCIATION AND TRIBUTE TO TWO FINE MEN AT ARCADIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

By Joan Schmidt

Over the years, I have heard mention of a Chinese Association working on various fundraisers, offering financial support with educational programs, and doing just kindnesses! When I was involved with the Sheriff's Department, one branch offered financial assistance with special educational prevention programs. Then on another occasion, I learned that on 9/11, they brought a special meal to Temple Station personnel. (This was prior to the 9/11 tragedy. This was to thank Temple station for its response on 9-1-1 calls, hence the annual 9/11 treat.)

At a recent Arcadia City Council meeting, the Arcadia Chinese Association did just that. President Josephine Louie (right) made a special presentation of car wash tickets to City Employees. Mayor Gary Kovacic thanked Josephine and told everyone how much this great nonprofit organization has done for the Arcadia community. Founded in 1982, the Arcadia Chinese Association has dedicated its services and support to an array of different programs, service departments and organizations within the community. Its mission is to help the community better understand and give respect for its cultural diversity in hopes of promoting community development and peace.

During the meeting, there was also a report on the "Sustainable Arcadia"

program, which directs City efforts and actions on environmental programs. This program was adopted by a vote of 5-0.

We all know that City Redevelopment Agencies are being phased out. To me, it's mindboggling. Every city close to us has done so much because of their redevelopment agency. Now there is the issue of how to phase them out. Also at the Arcadia City meeting, there was mention of an "Oversight Board" which is to have seven members. The Mayor is to appoint two members; Supervisor Antonovich, two members, and the last three by the State Chancellor, County Office of Education, and County Sanitation Department. This is all confusing- what this board will exactly do, but it's supposed to be ready by May 1.

The meeting was adjourned in memory of two men, Fire Captain Andy Troncale and Ed Schreiner. First, Mayor Kovacic read a beautiful tribute of Fire Captain Troncale's life and career. (Last week Fire Captain Troncale's tribute was in this paper.) Then Mayor Kovacic then read one about Ed Shriner. Ironically, Ed also succumbed to cancer at the age of 68.

Ed Schreiner was born at St. Luke's Hospital in Altadena. He spent his entire life in Arcadia raising a family, working, owning businesses and volunteering his time, talents and skills to the community. Ed owned Arko's at the corner of Foothill and Santa Anita from 1971-1984. He was a member of the Army National Guard, and later an Arcadia Reserve Police Officer from 1983-1991. He lent his talents to the Youth Safety run sponsored by the Police Advisory Council, spent a decade as a Pasadena Tournament of Roses float mechanic and worked for the Arcadia Unified School District in the warehouse and print shop.

Ed spent the last several years of his life working with the Arcadia High School Band Percussion teams. He assisted in transporting equipment and greatly supported the marching band and



percussion by serving on the Pit Crew and traveling to events all over the country.

This awesome man also is given credit for the great relationship between Arcadia H.S. and the White Mountain Apache Tribe. During the holidays, over a ten-year period, Ed collected and donated AUSD jackets and toys, thus establishing good will and personal bonds with the Apache tribe. Ed even was invited to special celebrations and cultural traditions in Arizona.

Ed is survived by his wife Terry, daughters Anne, Sandra, Carol and Sarah, three granddaughters and many friends and family members who will greatly miss him. A celebration of Ed's life will be held Sunday, February 12th at 1pm at the Arcadia High School North Gym. In lieu of flowers, donations made be made to the Arcadia High School, designated for the *Ed Schreiner Percussion Scholarship*.

CALIFORNIA HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IMPROVES, MATCHING PREVIOUS RECORD HIGH

ARCADIA (Feb. 9) – According to the Arcadia Association of REALTORS®, California's housing affordability rose to its highest level in fourth-quarter 2011, matching a record high set in 2009, thanks to lower home prices and record-low interest rates. This information was obtained from reports furnished by the CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (C.A.R.).

The percentage of home buyers who could afford to purchase a median-priced, existing single-family home in California rose to 55 percent in the fourth quarter of 2011, up from 52 percent in third-quarter 2011 and from 50 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010, according to C.A.R.'s Traditional Housing Affordability Index (HAI). The index was the highest since C.A.R. began tracking this statistic in 1988, and equaled a high set in first-quarter 2009.

C.A.R.'s HAI measures the percentage of all households that can afford to purchase a median-priced, single-family home in California. C.A.R. also reports affordability indices for regions and select counties within the state. The Index is considered the most fundamental measure of housing well-being for home buyers in the

state.

Home buyers needed to earn a minimum annual income of \$57,750 to qualify for the purchase of a \$282,350 state-wide median-priced, existing single-family home in the fourth quarter of 2011. The monthly payment, including taxes and insurance on a 30-year fixed-rate loan, would be \$1,440, assuming a 20 percent down payment and an effective composite interest rate of 4.31 percent. The effective composite interest rate in third-quarter 2011 was 4.63 percent and 4.62 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010.

Visit <http://www.car.org/marketdata/data/haitraditional/> to see C.A.R.'s historical housing affordability data. For first-time buyer housing affordability data, visit <http://www.car.org/marketdata/data/ftbhai/>.

Representing local Realtors® and home owners in the San Gabriel Valley for 88 years, the ARCADIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (www.TheAAR.com) is one of the oldest trade organizations in CA. The AAR is dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate and is an advocate for private property rights. A.A.R. is headquartered in Arcadia.

PARTICIPATE IN READ ACROSS AMERICA

Children and their families are invited to listen to stories read by Arcadia's own fire fighters on Wednesday, February 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Come join in on the celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday as readers and listeners across the country participate in this nationwide event. What better way to send a message that reading is fun and important! It's always a fun time and one you won't want to miss!

For more information, please call (626) 821-5566 or visit the Arcadia Public Library's website at <http://library.ci.arcadia.ca.us>. You can now also follow us on Facebook and Twitter. The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd. Arcadia.

HEART AWARENESS MONTH

Arcadia Senior Services in partnership with Methodist Hospital is having a special health presentation on Tuesday, February 28th at 1:30pm. This informative lecture will take place at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive. February is designated as "Heart Awareness Month". Noted Cardiologist, Dr. Terrence Baruch will speak on the symptoms, diagnosis, and new treatment options of a heart attack.

Dr. Baruch will also talk about the STEMI program and the new 911 transfer program. Methodist Hospital is now offering that may save your life. A heart attack or myocardial infarction (MI), can cause permanent damage to the heart muscle. More than one million Americans have heart attacks each year making it the number one killer for both men and women.

There is limited space for the lecture so pre-registration is required. Call Arcadia Senior Services 626.574.5130 to reserve your space before February 22nd

NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR!

Applications are available at the Arcadia Community Center front desk for nominations for the 2012 Senior Citizen of the Year! Do you know someone who is: caring and at least 55 years of age; an Arcadia resident; actively involved in volunteer work; invaluable to your organization and deserving of recognition? If so, then nominate that special person for the 2012 Arcadia Senior Citizen of the Year Award. Recipient of the award will be honored at the Arcadia Rotary Club's Salute to Seniors luncheon on Tuesday, May 8th. Nominations must be submitted by Tuesday, February 21, 2012 to the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91066-6021.

For more information, please call 626.574.5130.

COMEDIAN'S TIPS ON PUBLIC SPEAKING BY ICE HOUSE VETERAN SCOTT SHIMAMOTO

You may not think it's too funny if you get nervous speaking in front of a group, but local comedian Scott Shimamoto will give you a good laugh as he provides tips on public speaking at the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce's monthly Networking Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 16. Shimamoto, who has performed stand-up comedy at many venues in the region, such as The Ice House, and who produces numerous comedy show benefit fundraisers, is also a home mortgage consultant at Franklin Loan Center. He will discuss how to overcome your fears, and techniques for using a microphone and working a crowd.

Networking Breakfasts, sponsored by Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary, are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Santa Anita Golf Course club house on Santa Anita Avenue. A distinguished business leader of the community is featured each month, and attendees are invited at the beginning of each program to introduce themselves and say a few words about their business or organization.

Tickets are \$15 for members who RSVP in advance and \$20 for non-members. To make a reservation, contact the Chamber office: 626-447-2159 or by e-mail: info@ArcadiaCaChamber.org.



Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, January 29th, through Saturday, February 4th, the Police Department responded to 903 calls for service of which 104 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, January 29:

- At about 12:40 a.m., an officer, working a DUI checkpoint on Santa Anita Avenue at Santa Clara Street, contacted the driver of a grey Saturn. The driver provided the officer with false identification. An investigation revealed the subject was driving under the influence of alcohol and had three outstanding warrants. The 42-year-old White male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- At approximately 6:17 p.m., an officer responded to H&M at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a theft report. Two female juveniles concealed several items inside their purses and exited the store without making payment. The 13-year-old and 14-year-old Hispanic females were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. Both were later released to their parental guardian.

Monday, January 30:

- Shortly after 12:13 p.m., an officer observed a male subject standing with his bicycle in the middle of Santa Rosa Road, near Colorado Boulevard. The officer made contact with the subject who explained he skipped school to hang out with friends. The officer located marijuana and drug paraphernalia inside his backpack. The 17-year-old White male was cited for the listed charges and released to his father.
- Around 9:12 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Sephora at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a female adult in custody for theft. The suspect concealed a perfume inside her purse, and another perfume inside her bra. A search of her purse revealed two inactivated credit cards issued to different names. The officer searched her vehicle and discovered additional inactivated credit cards still glued to their approval letters, two possible stolen laptops, and mail containing the personal identifying information of other people. The 23-year-old Black female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Tuesday, January 31

- At approximately 9:33 a.m., an officer responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter in regards to an identity theft report. The victim received a Target credit card statement in the mail for an account he did not open. The victim has no idea how his personal information was compromised and is desirous of prosecution.
- At about 2:25 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the intersection of Huntington Drive and Baldwin Avenue regarding a two-party traffic collision. Party-two was driving on northbound Baldwin Avenue when he was struck by Party-one, traveling westbound on Huntington Drive. An investigation revealed Party-one failed to stop for a red signal. No major injuries were reported.

Wednesday, February 1:

- Around 1:01 p.m., an officer responded to the 000 block of West Leroy Avenue, in regards to a residential burglary report. The victim received a phone call from his alarm company indicating his front door alarm had activated. He returned home and discovered his front door had been forced open. He observed the door was damaged; however, no property was missing. It appeared the unknown suspect(s) became startled at the sound of the alarm and fled the scene undetected.
- At approximately 5:28 p.m., an officer responded to H&M at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a female adult and female juvenile detained for theft. A loss prevention officer observed the female adult select numerous items of clothing, and watched her carry the merchandise to a secluded area of the store with her 11-year-old daughter. The suspect placed the merchandise on a wall display and proceeded to walk away, after which the juvenile placed all of the merchandise in an empty Hollister shopping bag. Both suspects exited the store without making payment. An investigation revealed the suspects also stole items from Claire's. The 32-year-old Hispanic female was arrested for Commercial Burglary and Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. A report was made to the Department of Child and Family Services, and the juvenile was later released to a parental guardian.

Thursday, February 2:

Shortly after 1:31 a.m., officers conducted a bicycle traffic stop on southbound Santa Anita Avenue at Le Roy Avenue for not having a safety reflector. A records check revealed the bicyclist was on parole. The officer searched his person and recovered methamphetamines inside his pants pocket. The 23-year-old Hispanic male was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance.

Around 6:25 p.m., an officer responded to the 1000 block of South First Avenue in regards to a structure fire. When the officer arrived, the residence was fully engulfed in flames and personnel from the Arcadia Fire Department and Monrovia Fire Department were already on scene. The fire was successfully extinguished; however, at the time of the report the cause of the fire was unknown.

Friday, February 3:

At approximately 9:12 a.m., an officer responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter regarding a theft report. The victim explained he received a call from a male subject who identified himself as his son. The subject requested a wire transfer via Western Union to bail himself out of jail in Panama City, Panama. The victim believed the subject and completed the wire transfer. A short time later, the victim received a phone call from her actual son who explained he was at home, and never went to Panama. The victim is desirous of prosecution for Theft by False Pretense.

At about 8:00 p.m., an officer responded to the area of Oakwood Avenue and Virginia Road, in regards to an auto burglary. The victim discovered unknown suspect(s) stole her Luis Vuitton purse from inside her vehicle, which also contained a large amount of cash and checks. The officer did not locate any signs of forced entry.

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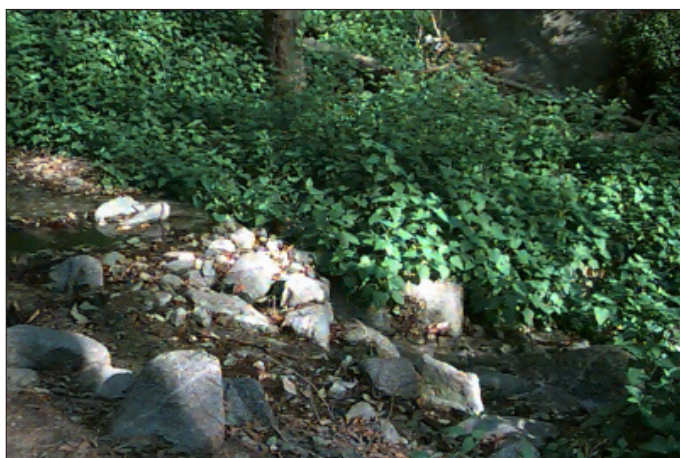
VOTE BY MONROVIA CITY COUNCIL OPENS ACCESS TO WILDERNESS PRESERVE DESPITE RESIDENTS' OBJECTIONS

By Joan Schmidt

One might wonder if the final vote at the February 7th Monrovia City Council was one of the latest at a meeting. (Or perhaps earliest-because the actual vote occurred around 1:30 am February 8th!)

What could the issue be? It concerns access to the Hillside Wilderness Preserve, which was established in 2000 after voters approved Measure A and B, that provided \$10 million to purchase hillside land for public recreational use. The City of Monrovia owns 1336 acres of land which is zoned Hillside Wilderness Preserve (HWP) and Hillside Recreation (HR), one 40-acre parcel and the entire Clamshell Motorway.

In 2004, the Hillside Preservation Campaign and Petition was established by residents Thomas and Pamela Suess to provide a community voice and direction for preserving the Monrovia Foothills. The petition offers a simple and respectable 5-point request of the City to preserve the foothills in a fashion which honors and respects the desire of citizens by not disturbing or endangering families, streets, neighborhoods, homes or wildlife of the Monrovia



Foothills.

In 2009, the City of Monrovia had a plan to open the Wilderness Preserve, but Tom Suess did not feel the City did a thorough study, so he sued the City and won. Judge David Yaffe ruled in favor of Suess and awarded him \$60,000 in attorney fees. Judge Yaffe said, "The lawsuit was necessary to convince the politicians that control the city of Monrovia to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act, obtain an environmental impact report, listen and pay attention to the criticisms of the citizens of Monrovia to that report and then vote on whether to adopt it."

Now the City of Monrovia has a plan. At its February 7th meeting, 35 residents filled out cards to address the City Council. Some favored the plan, others did not.

One Hillside resident, Nancy Matthews, supports access to the preserve. She feels, "The fact that everyone paid for this land means everyone should have access to it...I border one of the access points... I understand the fear of the unknown.... It's critical to move forward now."

Among those voicing objections was Pamela Suess. She and her husband Tom oppose the new plan.

"How many cars are all the parks around here having to deal with weekly? It's going to be Griffith Park up there. You start bringing people up there, animals disappear."

Mayor Mary Ann Lutz and Council Members Tom Adams and Joe Garcia all live within 500 feet of the preserve, so they recused themselves. That left only Council Members Becky Shevlin and Larry Spicer to vote! A "Law of participation" is required, so the Mayor and two Council Members drew straws to see who would remain behind. Joe Garcia won, so Mayor Lutz and Council Member Adams left the chambers. The vote was 3-0 in favor of moving ahead with the plan.

It will be interesting to see what follows. I am sure the City has done an extensive study after the previous lawsuit. I believe Ms. Matthews made a good point. If the residents of Monrovia paid for this Hillside Preserve, they should be able to enjoy it.

FEBRUARY RED DOT HALF-PRICE SALE

Friends of the Monrovia Public Library announce the Friends' February Red Dot Half-Price Sale at the Friends Store at the Monrovia Public Library. Adult hard cover and trade paperback books and media with a red dot on the spine are half price! At half price, most materials will be \$1.00. Selection is varied.

This sale occurs monthly (except for December) with the color of the dot changing.

Children's books and media regularly priced at 25 cents and

mass market paperbacks regularly priced at 50 cents, are not included in the sale. Collectors' Corner and Children's Corner materials remain individually priced at below market value.

These sales offer high quality, slightly used books that are culled from our library shelves or donated, books that you'll be proud to place in your own library or to give to friends and family. So come early and come often to see what treasures you can find.

100% of the proceeds benefit the Monrovia Public Library's programs and services.

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

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

DUARTE STATE OF THE CITY/SCHOOL DISTRICT/ COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TALKS AT DUARTE CHAMBER LUNCHEON, MARCH 6

Duarte Chamber of Commerce will host its annual State of the City, State of the School District, and for the first time, the State of the Community College District as well at a luncheon, Tuesday, March 6.

Mayor John Fasana will present his assessment of the State of the City; while Duarte Unified

School Board President Reyna Diaz will report on the State of the School District, and Citrus College Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D., will update the community on the State of the Community College District.

The luncheon will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Westminster

Gardens' Packard Hall, 1420 Santo Domingo Ave. in Duarte. Tickets to the luncheon are \$25 per person.

For more information and reservations, call Duarte Chamber of Commerce, (626) 357-3333.

FREE MULCH

Available through February!

Recent windstorms generated lots of mulch from downed trees and limbs. Help us to keep this material out of landfills by using the mulch locally. Mulch is great for landscaping planter areas and around trees. Here are just a few benefits of mulch:



- Mulch inhibits weed germination & growth
- Holds in soil moisture
- Protects plants from drying out
- Moderates soil temperature fluctuation
- Keeps plant roots cooler in Summer
- Prevents raindrops splashing soil onto plants; stops soil erosion
- Improves soil structure
- Protects tree trunks from lawn equipment damage
- Prevents soil compaction
- Improves root structure

**Recreation Park - 600 S. Shamrock
(next to the Boys & Girls Club)**

Saturday, February 11, 18 & 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bring your own shovel, containers for transport, gloves and safety glasses or goggles! Take as much mulch as you need.

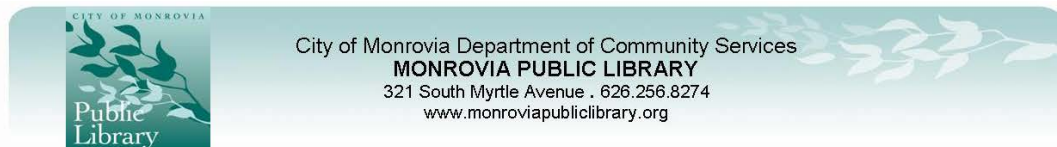
Mulch pile will be resupplied weekly through the month of February & will be available while supplies last!



Questions?

Please call the City of Monrovia Public Works Department at (626) 932-5575

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The Art of African American Quilts & the Underground Railroad



Sponsored by Friends of the Monrovia Public Library



Coded messages from scraps of fabric sewn together to make works of art - how did the household quilt tie into the Underground Railroad?



Anne Batiste, quilter extraordinaire, talks about the role of quilts around the time of the Civil War. She will bring examples of coded quilt blocks and segue into modern African American quilters and the evolution of their designs.



Join us for a stimulating hour after the *Black History Family Cultural Celebration*. Refreshments will be served.



**Saturday, February 18
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Library Community Room**

FREE

To reserve a space, call 626-256-8274, stop by the Adult Reference Desk, or sign up online at monroviapubliclibrary.org

Walk-ins welcome



Monrovia Police Blotter

New Monrovia Police Department Website Goes Live. First it was Crime Mapping - Then it was Twitter - Now, the Monrovia Police Department is continuing to work toward its goal of providing the public with easier access to police information by launching a new website, www.monroviapd.org. Today, February 9, 2012, Monrovia Police Department goes live with its new, user friendly, Police website. The new website is easy to navigate and provides the community with quick access to Police information. Citizens can stay informed on Police activity with the Neighborhood Watch Report; receive real time, up-to-date crime statistics through crime mapping; access information on animal control issues and licensing; and find answers to many other general questions they might be seeking. Whether it be finding out how to obtain a dog license, paying a parking citation online, or simply learning how to become a volunteer, this website is full of informative information. The Department will continue to refine and improve the website. Please visit the new website and Stay informed with what is going on in your community.

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 419 service events, resulting in 77 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to the crime mapping link below <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia>

Vehicle Burglaries. On January 30, officers responded to several vehicle burglary reports at a condominium complex in the 100 block of West Colorado in the secured tenant parking area. Items taken varied from car parts to in-dash radios. Additionally, a garage door opener was taken in one of the burglaries. The investigation is continuing.

Theft From a Vehicle. On February 1 at 3:10 a.m. an officer responded to the 200 block of East Los Angeles regarding a theft from a vehicle. The victim's front bumper was missing from his 2000 Honda Civic. Investigation continuing.

Brandishing a Replica Firearm – Suspect Arrested. On February 1 at 11:35 p.m., police received a call reporting a man with a gun inside a bar in the 100 block of East Olive. The reporting party said the male suspect had displayed a handgun, causing the customers to become fearful. Officers arrived and the man was detained without incident. The weapon was a BB gun that looked like a pistol. The suspect claimed to be a gang member and said he needed the gun for protection. He was arrested and taken into custody.

Grand Theft Auto – Utility Trailer. On February 3 at 7:06 a.m., a utility trailer was reported stolen from an unsecured parking lot in the 200 block of West Foothill. The trailer did not have license plates on it. It was taken sometime between 4 p.m. on February 2 and 5 a.m. on February 3. The investigation is continuing.

Residential Burglary. On February 3 at 6:24 p.m., a female resident in the 400 block of East Olive reported her home had been burglarized sometime between 8:30 a.m. and 5:25 p.m. that day. A laptop computer was taken as well as the resident's black and white Boston Terrier. The dog has a microchip. Investigation continuing.

Theft – Suspects Arrested. On January 31 at 11:27 p.m., a witness called police and reported a male and female suspect stealing his neighbor's bicycle from the 100 Block of West Colorado. An officer stopped a couple matching the description near the location. The witness positively identified both suspects and they were still in possession of the bicycle. The victim desires prosecution. They were both arrested for the theft.

Petty Theft / Drunk in Public – Suspect Arrested. On February 3 at 12:01 a.m., a sergeant on patrol witnessed a male subject come out of a bar in the 300 block of West Foothill, walk across Magnolia, and pickup up the corner resident's potted plant. The male subject began walking away with the plant. The sergeant stopped him. The owner of the property was located, an elderly female, and she desired prosecution. The plant was returned to the owner and the suspect was arrested, not only for the theft, but for being drunk in public.

Mail Tampering / Weapons Offense – Suspects Arrested. On February 4 at 4:56 p.m., officers responded to the 400 block of North Alta Vista regarding a male and female subject in a black car that were taking mail out of mailboxes. Officers located the vehicle and stopped it. The investigation revealed a large quantity of stolen mail, burglary tools, and a loaded revolver in the vehicle. The revolver was found by the battery in the engine compartment of the car. Both the male and female subject were arrested and charged with conspiracy, receiving stolen property, mail tampering, and weapons charges.

Battery. On February 5 at 10:06 p.m., police responded to the report of a battery that occurred in the 200 block of Madeline. The adult male victim was standing in front of his residence when he was approached by the suspect, his girlfriend's former boyfriend. The suspect approached the victim in a friendly manner and asked if he would be willing to speak with him. The victim agreed. Without warning, the suspect punched the victim in the face several times. The suspect then left the location. The victim sustained a swollen left eye as a result of the battery. The investigation is continuing.

Special Enforcement Team Activity

Assault With a Deadly Weapon Warrant – Suspect Arrested. On February 3, the Special Enforcement Team was on patrol and conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. A computer check revealed the driver was wanted by Monrovia Police Department for assault with a deadly weapon. The suspect was arrested and taken into custody.

Detective Bureau Case Follow-Up

Vehicle Versus Pedestrian Hit & Run Traffic Collision – Suspect pleads to Felony Charge. On January 27, a hit and run traffic collision occurred at Huntington and Canyon, where a 12-year-old girl was struck by a vehicle as she tried to cross the street. The driver fled the scene, but through investigation, was located and arrested. The child was severely injured and was taken by helicopter to a hospital in critical condition. Detectives submitted the felony hit and run case to the District Attorney for filing. The suspect pled to the felony charge and accepted a sentence of 180 days in jail and 3 years probation.

Search Warrant – Additional Victim Identified. A proactive investigation by patrol officers gave Monrovia Police Department's Detective Bureau enough information to secure a search warrant for a residence in the 200 block of West Olive, which was served on January 25. The residents are suspected to be selling stolen property and narcotics from the residence. An additional victim was identified this week from this case. That brings the total to six victims of theft.

PRAYERS OF REMEMBRANCE



Students From Uekusa Gakuen Bunka High school in Japan pray the "Our Father" together with students from their sister school Alverno. The prayer service was held in remembrance of the earthquake and tsunami that took place one year ago. From Left to right, Hisano Sato, Tomoko Takahashi and Estafania Alvarez. Photo by Lina Johnson

On Monday, February 6, Alverno welcomed 80 visitors from the Uekusa Bunka Girls High School in Tokyo, Japan. For the past nine years, the girls have been making the visit to California to see Alverno, their sister school, as well as get a taste for traditional American culture.

The morning of the visit began with a 9:00 AM prayer service organized by Alverno's Campus Ministry in remembrance of the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami that claimed more than 15,000 lives and displaced more than 300,000 people in March 2011. The prayer service was a joint collaboration between Alverno's Campus Ministry and the girls from Uekusa Bunka. During the prayer service, the entire community signed an Alverno flag that visi-

tors from Uekusa Bunka will take back with them to Japan and share with the rest of their school. Campus Ministry provided every student with a special prayer to commemorate the lives lost and inspire hope as Japan continues in a period of transition.

Following the prayer service, the Japanese visitors will tour the Alverno campus visiting classrooms, meeting new friends, and showing Alverno students the different aspects of Japanese culture through calligraphy, origami, and traditional archery and women's martial arts. Additionally, each student will be paired with a member of the Alverno student body who will provide a small, American gift to her visitor to welcome her to campus.

Sierra Madre student ARTISTS & PHOTO-GRAPHERS!

Enter Sierra Madre Woman's Club annual competition. Entries must be delivered to clubhouse Wednesday, February 22 NOON-3:15pm. Ribbons and gift cards will be awarded.

Winning entries to be displayed at SM public library.

SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY'S FREE PARENT/CHILD WORKSHOPS SLATED FOR FEBRUARY

Sierra Madre Public Library's latest five-week Parent/Child Workshop for families with children ages three and younger will feature noted resource professionals from the community.

Each workshop session will feature a different aspect of parenting, including early literacy, speech, hearing and language development, child development, nutrition, music, play, and health.

The popular workshop series, which will take place at the Library on consecutive Wednesday evenings: February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., will be interactive and will include toys, crafts, books and play in addition to discussions of parenting issues and concerns. Enrollment is free, but in-person pre-registration at the Library is required to ensure a spot in the program.

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

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



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Help shape the future of Pasadena Unified School District Elections

A Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Task Force is drawing geographic districts that may be used to elect the PUSD School Board of the future.

The task force wants your input on what communities, neighborhoods, and regions should be drawn together to ensure everyone has a voice in PUSD elections.

The time to participate and give input is now!

Please attend one of our meetings to share your thoughts and shape the future of PUSD.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Feb. 11, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., Jackie Robinson Center, 1020 Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena, CA.
- Feb. 13, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Sierra Madre City Hall Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA.



More info: <http://districting-task-force.pasadenausd.org>
Email us at pusdtaskforce@gmail.com

Twitter: @pusdtaskforce
Facebook: PUSD Taskforce
Phone: 323-349-0661

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

Arcadia High School

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

Barnhart School

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

Bethany Christian School

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

Carden of the Foothills School

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

The Gooden School

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

High Point Academy

1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road
Pasadena, Ca. 91107 626-798-8989
website: www.highpointacademy.org

LaSalle High School

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

Mama Pete's Nursery School

71 Suffolk Avenue, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-9567

website: www.mamapete.org

Monrovia High School

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

Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

Odyssey Charter School

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

Pasadena High School

2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.
(626) 798-8901 Principal: Gilbert Barraza, Jr.
website: www.pasadenahigh.org

Pasadena Unified School District

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

St. Rita Catholic School

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School

141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
Phone: (626) 396-5890 - Fax: (626) 355-0388
Principal: Esther Salinas

Sierra Madre Middle School

160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
Phone: (626) 396-5910 - Fax: (626) 836-2964
Principal: Garrett Newsom

Walden School

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

Weizmann Day School

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

Wilson Middle School

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



LIFE... IS A KUMQUAT

It's always nice to lose oneself in a fantasy world. Where things go your way every day and life just seems so good. Sometimes, we catch glimpses of this perfect world; getting great grades on tests you didn't study for or catching every green light when you're already running late. But, then there are those moments, days, and weeks where everything is just off and nothing is working out the way you want and sometimes need it to, like the Patriots winning the SuperBowl.

I didn't bet or have anything riding on that game other than pure interest for the game and the hope that the Patriots would emerge victorious for my father, a fan of thirty-seven years who could have used something great during a time of quiet struggle. But, alas, my dreams were not meant to be from the moment Tom Brady touched the football and gave the Giants a safety, leading to a nail-biter and

ultimate disappointment. After the game I turned to my current book of interest, Bridget Jones' Diary, and lost myself in the narrator's personal struggles and woes. But even that book, one that had helped me relieve my frustration, because it was so simply true, turned out to be more cinematic and over-the-top than I believed, and, of course, ending happily. Even something that is supposed to relate so well to normal people ends in fairytale. There are endless quotes and sayings that argue life is only what we make it, no more no less.

But what about the things we can't control that still alter our lives so drastically? I don't have the answer, but I think that it lies somewhere in between having a fantasy that is achievable, going for it, and understanding that sometimes life is going to throw you a bump that you can't escape.

Happy Valentine's Day

Are you ready for this Tuesday? If your answer was, why? What's happening you are in deep trouble? First of all, let's agree to agree, Valentine's Day should be a full week. A single day is not long enough to fully express one's love. What do you say about having an evening at home with a bottle of champagne and a candlelight table for dinner? You may wonder why a restaurant critic would dare such treason. In all truth, it's an impossible night for restaurants. Service is less than optimal and even the guarantee of a reservation can lead to a long wait and the siphon of romance.

Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefknows@yahoo.com

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

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

actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. His love for love lives on each February.

I realize that the stay at home experience will not fly with everyone's better half, so let's go dining.

One of my favorite restaurants in Pasadena is The **Central Park Café** on S. Fair Oaks. The menu offers a variety of meats, poultry and seafood. I am a major fan of their crab bisque soup. (626) 449-4499

Noir on North Mentor next to the Ice House? Chef Claud Beltran is one of the best in town, in fact Noir was just named best new restaurant in Los Angeles by Zagat. (626) 795-7199

Avanti Café, The restaurant like the owner is small and very charming. Nice pizzas and pastas and you won't go broke eating at Avanti. (626) 577-4688

How about **Café Beaujolais** in Eagle Rock, I dined there recently and was very pleased with the dishes, plus their prices are reasonable. The crème brulee will make the most stubborn woman swoon. (323) 255-5111

One of the best-kept secrets is **A/K/A Bistro** in Old Pasadena. Owner Robert and Debbie Simon are truly at the top of their class when it comes to special days. The Portobello Shrooms are a must and the Pan Roasted Mary's Chicken is exceptional. (626) 564-8111.

Join me every Sunday Afternoon at for Dining with Dills on KABC TalkRadio 790 AM, or email me your thoughts *thechefknows@yahoo.com*



INGREDIENTS:

For lamb:

1 heaping tablespoon whole cumin seeds
1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder
1 tablespoon mild-roast coffee, finely ground
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1 (8-bone; 24-to 26-ounce) rack of lamb
3 tablespoons canola oil
1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 garlic cloves, peeled and smashed with back of knife
3 sprigs fresh thyme

For salad:

Juice of 1 blood orange (about 1/4 cup)
1 tablespoon shallot, minced (from 1 small shallot)
3/4 teaspoon flaky sea salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 firm but ripe Haas avocado, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices
2 cups (1 ounce) loosely packed baby arugula leaves
1 blood orange, peeled, segmented, and seeded

Preparation

Make lamb:

Pre-heat oven to 400°F.

Using spice or coffee grinder, grind cumin to semi-fine powder, then transfer to small bowl. Whisk in cocoa powder, coffee, and pepper.

Rub exposed lamb bones with 1 tablespoon canola oil, then wrap each bone in foil, covering bones completely and leaving meat uncovered. Sprinkle both sides of uncovered lamb with kosher salt, then rub with spice mixture.

In heavy, 12-inch oven-safe sauté pan over high heat, heat remaining 2 tablespoons canola oil until hot but not smoking. Sear rack, meat side down, moving occasionally to prevent sticking, until deep golden brown and crust forms, about 2 minutes. Flip to sear underside in same manner, about 2 minutes, then sear bottom of rack in same manner, 2 minutes more.

Flip rack back to meat side up, then transfer pan to oven and roast 7 minutes. Add butter, garlic, and thyme to pan and continue roasting until thermometer inserted 2 inches into thickest part of lamb (do not touch bone) registers 130°F (for medium rare), 7 to 8 minutes more. Tilt pan to collect juices and spoon those over meat. Transfer lamb to rack with pan or plate underneath to catch juices and let rest 10 to 15 minutes.

Make salad:

In small bowl, whisk together blood orange juice, shallot, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Gradually add olive oil and whisk vigorously to combine. (Vinaigrette can be prepared ahead and refrigerated, covered, up to 2 days. Whisk thoroughly before using.)

To plate:

Divide avocado between two plates, fanning out slices over half of plate. Top with arugula and drizzle with vinaigrette. Top with blood orange segments and sprinkle with remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper.

Remove foil from lamb bones. Slice rack into 4 double chops and transfer to plates alongside salad. Serve immediately.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



THE TWILIGHT SAD

Scottish indie rockers The Twilight Sad demonstrate a complete overhaul to their wall of sound on their third

opus, "No One Can Ever Know." With added synthesizers, the under-the-radar outfit adds extra layers, darker tones, and an ominous vibe to their dense sonic borders. As a result, "No One Can Ever Know" is a taut, menacing, foreboding record that will surprise most supporters of the band. The Twilight Sad's latest outing is something of an impenetrable mystery. The shift in artistic direction may have some raising questions, but at any rate, the searcies behind the record only add to the supremacy of it. While the band has always received much praise for their work, the group's recent effort may finally put them on the map as a true force to be reckoned with.

Frontman James Graham's heavy accent sometimes makes his lyrics indiscernible, but often the unawareness only contributes to the ambiguity of the songs. The record launches off to a promising start to say the least. "Alphabet," the opening track and best of the bunch, sets the mood right from the beginning. A simple, but haunting synth beat masked behind the gaunt lyrics gives you an indication how the rest of the record may play out. "Dead City," a close runner-up for the best track, is an unequivocal distressing piece of music. The closing lyrics, taken straight from the album title, "No one can

ever know," establishes the theme of the record to be a secret that most may never be able to unravel. In essence, this is not your typical TTS album and proves the band is no one trick pony. Whatever Graham is feeling, he puts it on full blast with each and every track. The perceived tormented soul of a man is on display with an

Artist: The Twilight Sad
Album: No One Can Ever Know
Label: Fat Cat Records
Release Date: February 7, 2012

honest, moody, and cathartic reverberation that will continue to haunt you well after you stop playing the record.

"No One Can Ever Know" begins irrefutably strong. However, I think with the last two tracks it loses some of its glow. "Another Bed," the weakest from the playlist, feels oddly off. Maybe it's because the aforementioned song isn't nearly as gloomy as the other tracks. Whatever the case may be, something about the arrangements didn't do it for me. The closing song, "Kill It In The Morning" provides heavy synths, an aggressive blend of rock and electronics that have the record coming to a jarring finish. Despite the relatively disappointing conclusion, The Twilight Sad have crafted an intense, memorable, and evocative piece of work that's a definite surprise in the way it sounds, but not a surprise in quality since this is a group that continues to produce powerful and original music with each sequential release. Key Tracks: "Alphabet," "Dead City," "Sick," "Don't Move" Grade: 8 out of 10



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HOWARD Hays As I See It



"By denying contraception as part of employee health plans, what the bishops seek is more like religious fascism than religious freedom."
- Daniel C. Maguire, Professor of Moral Theology, Marquette University

It's no coincidence that Republicans routinely create controversies over emotional issues, even to presume government jurisdiction over a woman's health, around election time – especially when it's hard to argue the relevant issues.

When George H.W. Bush ran in 1988, the issue was black inmates paroled under Gov. Michael Dukakis. As Bill Clinton moved to strengthen our economy and confront al Qaeda, Republicans obsessed over marital infidelity. With Al Gore, the threat was he'd confiscate guns from fellow Tennesseans. John Kerry seemed "French" and doubts were manufactured over the legitimacy of medals earned in Vietnam. Now, the issues are religion, contraception and reproduction.

Our troops are coming home and the economy is rebounding. As Vice President Biden put it, "Osama bin Laden is dead and General Motors is alive". In this context, no candidate appears capable of sufficiently firing-up even those disappointed with President Obama.

Mitt Romney is a candidate worth a quarter-billion, with a \$100 million trust fund set up for his kids, who asks us to believe he shares the anxieties of the unemployed; a candidate who urged we bail out the banks but let car manufacturers go under; who'd rather speed up foreclosures than help families keep their homes.

Newt Gingrich offers moon bases and another Middle-East war. Rick Santorum dismisses basic science (global warming is a "hoax") while advocating a Fundamentalist Sharia. Ron Paul faces an electorate not ready to turn our national parks over to private developers (and would permit morning-after contraception only in cases of "honest rape").

Republican options are limited. One is to block efforts they know would spur the recovery, such as investing in infrastructure or breaks for middle-income taxpayers. Another is to hearken back to the days when Spiro Agnew was a familiar name, disco had yet to break out of gay nightclubs, and contraception and women's reproductive rights were still unsettled controversies.

Last month when the Susan G. Komen Foundation cut ties with Planned Parenthood, they claimed it was non-political. Karen Handel, the individual who carried out the move, came to the organization with little foundation experience but a long record in Republican politics, having ran unsuccessfully for Georgia governor under a rigid anti-choice, anti-Planned Parenthood platform. She was recruited for the Komen job by former Bush press secretary Ari Fleischer.

Within days of the announcement, Planned Parenthood, which provided 170,000 breast exams and 6,400 mammogram referrals through Komen support over the past five years, received a flood of donations which surpassed the amount they would've gotten from Komen. Handel resigned and the Komen Foundation reversed its

decision.

The Affordable Care Act is based on the premise that prevention is cheaper than emergency treatment. Preventive measures are to be offered without co-pays. Twenty-eight states (including California) already mandate the inclusion of family planning in health coverage, as does Medicaid. The new HHS regulations exempt religious institutions from these contraception requirements; those nonprofits whose "primary purpose" is the "inculcation of religious values" and that "primarily" serve and employ those who "share the religious tenets". Churches and seminaries are exempt. Women working for a large university or hospital, though, are not to be denied contraception coverage because of the institution's religious affiliation.

Were it not for the election, this wouldn't be controversial. According to a recent Public Policy Polling survey, 57% support coverage for contraception, including at Catholic-affiliated universities and hospitals. Support among Catholics is 53%, with 60% support among Catholics identifying themselves as "independent".

Rick Santorum denounces contraception as "a license to do things in a sexual realm that is counter to how things are supposed to be." The Institute of Medicine within the National Academy of Sciences sees it as a means of reducing the risk of endometrial cancer and pelvic inflammation disease in women, and in preventing infant and maternal mortality. President Obama decided to go with the Institute of Medicine.

Twenty-three Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders wrote, "We believe that women and men have the right to decide whether or not to apply the principles of their faith to family planning decisions, and to do so they must have access to services. . . . Hospitals and universities across the religious spectrum have an obligation to assure that individuals' conscience and decisions are respected and that their students and employees have access to this basic health care service."

Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), said on the Senate floor, "For the first time in a long time, our nation is talking about women's health . . . but unfortunately, too much of it isn't really about women's health. It is politics disguised as women's health."

Newt Gingrich characterizes it as an "outrageous assault" on religious freedom.

Prof. Daniel C. Maguire of Marquette University (a Catholic / Jesuit institution) writes, "Catholic theologians overwhelmingly support contraception. Dozens of Catholic hospitals and universities cover prescribed contraceptives. Ninety-eight percent of Catholic women have used contraceptives. Only 2 percent of Catholic women use the 'rhythm method' of birth control favored by conservative Catholics. Therefore the decision of the Obama administration, rather than threatening Catholic teaching on contraception, is actually more attuned to actual Catholic teaching than are the American Catholic bishops with their idiosyncratic taboo on contraception."

Those who'd exploit such an intensely personal matter in an attempt to score cheap political points are undeserving of participation in the discussion, let alone being considered for high office.

Independent's Eye by CAN MITT ROMNEY MOVE TO THE CENTER IF HE'S THE REPUBLICAN NOMINEE? JOE Gandelman



KANSAS CITY, Kansas – Barring some big political development that again upends the conventional wisdom, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney still seems poised to win the 2012 Republican presidential nomination. Here in the center of America newspapers are filled with stories about the Republican political nomination battle.

The former moderate-but-now-conservative Romney is dominating the national political news cycle here in America's geographical center. But his biggest battle lies ahead: can Romney win the country's political center in what increasingly is shaping up to be a toss-up presidential election? And can he do it without risking the wrath of the GOP's distrustful conservative base?

By most measures, these should be happy days for the man who would have been the perfect late 20th century Republican candidate. Despite gaffes suggesting his mouth is a powerful magnet and his feet are made out of metal, Romney is the race's current front-runner (but unloved). The way Romney unleashed his PACs and used his own rhetoric to politically dismember chief rival, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich in Iowa and Florida proved he has the ruthlessness to go all the way.

But this has taken a huge toll on Romney. Press scrutiny and increased coverage haven't been kind to him. The media has chronicled his often clumsy and unconvincing move to the right and dutifully covers an outraged Gingrich, now pursuing what Gingrich's former colleague Dick Army calls a "first-class vendetta" against Romney. Stories about the low taxes Romney pays plus his gaffe about not caring about the poor got widespread coverage and provided material for TV comedians.

The result? An ABC News/Washington Post poll finds that 52 percent to 24 percent the more Americans learn about Romney, the more they don't like him. Why is this important? The public already knows what can be known about Barack Obama. Romney faces the prospect of more erosion as more unflattering info about him seeps out.

It's a truism of American politics that to win a nominee has to move to the center to attract independents after wooing the more ideological party base in primaries. But can Romney? If he does he'll have to do it slowly or risk angering conservative GOPers. Given the nature of 21st century communications, it will be harder for him than ever.

More than ever, Romney's every word and breath will be analyzed and draw a response from not just Democrats but 24/7 cable news, new and old media, You Tube posters, bloggers, and the growing number of activists among the 300 million worldwide who Tweet -- and link to the new and old media. Candidates used to be able slowly tip toe towards the center. No more. Plus, team Obama has a wealth of footage of Romney in his moderate incarnation waiting to be aired that'll be new to many Americans. If Romney tries to shift too much to the center, conservatives could stay home. Analysts point to lower turnout in the Republican primary in Florida and the Nevada caucuses compared to 2008 as partially due to a lack of conservative enthusiasm.

Romney must keep his party's conservative base, run an aggressive campaign taking it to Obama, positively redefine himself, offer solid policy alternatives, and perceptively edge to the center to win independents. Polls show that as he battles Gingrich his negatives go up -- and his appeal to independents goes down.

What can Romney do to soften his image while playing hardball? More often than not when attempting humor he stumbles or brings to mind part of the lyric from "Oh What a Beautiful Morning" from the musical Oklahoma: "The corn is as high as an elephant's eye, An' it looks like its climbin' clear up to the sky."

From the look of it, it'll be easier for the corn to climb clear up to the sky than for Mitt Romney to easily move to the center.

Joe Gandelman is a veteran journalist who wrote for newspapers overseas and in the United States. He has appeared on cable news show political panels and is Editor-in-Chief of The Moderate Voice, an Internet hub for independents, centrists and moderates. CNN's John Avlon named him as one of the top 25 Centrists Columnists and Commentators. He can be reached at jgandelman@themoderatevoice.com and can be booked to speak at your event at www.mavenproductions.com.

UTTER STUPIDITY OR SOMETHING ELSE?

Any politician who takes on the Catholic Church over one of their most fundamental doctrines is presumed at face value, with no other evidence needed, to be utterly stupid. Such is the common explanation for why President Obama signed off on the Health and Human Services ruling that Obamacare would force Catholic institutions to provide and pay for health insurance which covered contraceptives, abortions and sterilizations. I don't buy into that explanation. Unfortunately, I think it's something else much more insidious.

Most of the time when a politician flubs a speech or public event, it's along the lines of some of Mitt Romney's most recent ones. Usually, the politician says something like, "I like being able to fire people" or "I'm not concerned about the very poor". In hindsight, they always look stupid, the context always tells you that the quote is out of context, nobody really believes that's what was meant, and the politician apologizes and survives. These are the normal growing pains of the politically naïve on their way to becoming the experienced national leader. These are not at all similar to what President Obama has just done.

First of all, I don't believe President Obama believes it was a mistake. The evidence shows that an awful lot of thought and calculation went into this decision. Secretary Sebelius did not make this decision on her own. This was approved by the President himself, and it's obvious Obama believes now is the time to try to make a game changing point.

The impact of this ruling is stunning. It announces to the nation that the federal government has the right to tell the Catholic Church that it cannot be Catholic anymore. The Catholic Church has as long a tradition as you can possibly have telling its adherents that contraceptives, abortions and sterilizations are sin. They are forbidden as a bedrock provision of the faith. To contradict this is to give the government the power to coerce all faiths.

Our country has long relied on what's known as the "conscience clause". It's a provision of law, stemming from the protections of the first

GREG Welborn



amendment, which exempts legitimate religious institutions from rules that clearly violate the tenets of their faith. The first amendment prohibits the establishment of a state religion, but it also prohibits the government from restricting the free exercise of religion. Our laws and court cases have reaffirmed this principle since our country's founding.

To further prove that Obama couldn't possibly have simply made a mistake, I'd point to last month's Supreme Court decision in the *Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School* case. The church fired an employee because they found her beliefs and practices contrary to their religious mission. The employee sued based on anti-discrimination employment laws, but the Supreme Court decided in favor of the church in a unanimous decision. Sadly, President Obama had his solicitor general file a brief with the Supreme Court insisting that employment law should trump church doctrine. Whatever you think of the wisdom of this argument, the fact that Obama lost the argument in a unanimous decision and then still proceeded with the contraceptive ruling afterwards tells us that this was not naivety or political miscalculation. This was a fight purposely picked and a battle to be won if possible.

But to what end, you might ask. We need look no further than the President's own words as a candidate. He intends to fundamentally transform the U.S. He believes in a secular state where the government is supreme and faith is stripped from the public square. The election of 2012 is about so much more than the economy, taxes and deficits. This election is about the soul of this country.

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

TINA Dupuy



'THE MARKET' HAS CHOSEN THE WINNER IN THE CULTURE WARS

"Gen X" was popularized as an advertising term.

Marketers used the label to describe young people of the late 80s, and the focus was on how to sell goods to the MTV generation.

Advertisements at that time, just as one example, started to feature unmarried couples to appeal to this group of consumers. This was a first and in the early 90s it was pushing the envelope. It apparently resonated. The advertisers gauged correctly: They successfully sold their products to Americans with the now documented lowest marriage rate in history.

The argument could be made (mainly by those who want to take us back to a mythical innocent time of the supposedly recent past) that it's advertisers who've corrupted our culture and changed what's socially acceptable through their manipulations. Or, if you have sold your proverbial soul to the gods of unfettered commerce – like the rightwing self-described Culture Warriors, or the (formerly) Moral (former) Majority – advertisements are the market speaking for the greater culture at large. And the greater culture, funny enough, largely disagrees with the rightwing.

Here's how it works: Advertisers put out an image or an idea – the greater public concurs by buying those products. Successful ads equal agreed upon ideas. Marketing is, after all, the definitive pandering.

And here is what the culture is saying through advertisements: We like racial diversity. Why can I say that? Because commercials not only have racially diverse groups of friends and co-workers – they now regularly feature bi-racial couples in ads. In a Budweiser Super Bowl spot this year, there were black men flirting with white women sans scandal. If those spots are moving widgets it means consumers agree with the message. It's a type of voting. Even if some viewers don't notice or don't have a visceral reaction one way or another – it's an indicator of a new cultural norm.

Also Americans are okay with homosexuals. The American Family Association, an association for

only pre-approved families, threatened JC Penney with a boycott after they hired Ellen DeGeneres as a spokesperson. Now, DeGeneres, besides being a comedic genius, is also a successful talk show host and a popular pitchperson for brands like Covergirl and American Express. The market has spoken time after time, and Ellen is adored and sought after. She also happens to be a lesbian, which has made her the target of the AFA whose influence is clearly eroding.

What else does the market proclaim? Well, Americans widely approve of birth control. And yes, even legal abortion. In the dust-up last week between Susan G. Komen for the Cure and Planned Parenthood the market picked the winner. It was Planned Parenthood. The nonprofit health care provider saw a spike in private contributions after Komen announced they would no longer give Planned Parenthood a grant to screen for breast cancer. And Komen's brand has been forever tarnished by putting politics before their cure-finding goal. It's already resulted in one resignation of the Vice President of Public Policy, Karen Handel.

You can think of the market as a leading indicator of our social mores and the Republican primary as a lagging one.

Disgraced former Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, has been trying to play the well-worn Goldwater Southern Strategy to rile up the base. He calls Obama the food stamp president and said he wants to go talk to the NAACP about "why the African-American community should demand paychecks and not be satisfied with food stamps." He also said immigrants should learn English and not use the "language of the ghetto." That phrase hurt him in the Spanish-named (former Spanish colony) state of Florida. Why? Because the market has spoken, we have our first biracial president and we no longer care for these antiquated wedges Gingrich peddles.

The GOP-worshipped market has chosen the winner of the culture wars, and it hasn't looked favorably on its most devout.

Of course, the market for Republicans is just like the Bible or the Constitution. They worship it piously as long as they believe it agrees with them.

If their deified market is all-knowing and all-powerful – it clearly favors a progressive social agenda...and not the GOP's.

Yeah...tough sell.

Tina Dupuy is an award-winning writer and the managing editor of Crooks and Liars. Tina can be reached at tinadupuy@yahoo.com.



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009220 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: R. N. MOLONEY, 14748 LUCINDA DR., WHITTIER, CA 90604. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) RICARDO OROPEZA, 14748 LUCINDA DR., WHITTIER, CA 90604. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: RICARDO OROPEZA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/17/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 06/16/2011. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009715 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, 19700 VAN NESS AVE., TORRANCE, CA 90501. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ALMA RODRIGUEZ, 8444 LUXOR ST., DOWNEY, CA 90241. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ALMA RODRIGUEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/18/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/18/2012. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-008182 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: RSDRRC SERVICES, 2136 N. SAN ANTONIO AVE., POMONA, CA 91767. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ROSHANN REESE, 426 S. ROSEMEAD BLVD., PASADENA, CA 91707. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROSHANN REESE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/13/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009047 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: S & M BURGERS & M DESSERTS, 9801 VERMONT AVE., L.A., CA 90044. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) TRINA SIMMONS, 17836 BELLFLOWER BLVD., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TRINA SIMMONS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/17/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009687 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SELLING ONLINE SEARLENO SURVIVE ANYTHING, ARTWORKS4U, COLLAGESENPHOTOS4U, ILLNESS PREVENTION, 11742 206th ST., LAKEWOOD, CA 90715. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) FREENEE V. DELLOSA, 11742 206th ST., LAKEWOOD, CA 90715. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: FREENEE V. DELLOSA. This statement was

filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/18/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-007719 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SEXY SECRETS, 1902 W. EL SEGUNDO #8, GARDENA, CA 90249. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) TRACEY JONES, 1902 W. EL SEGUNDO #8, GARDENA, CA 90249. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TRACEY JONES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/13/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-010528 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SK ENTERPRISES AND WHOLESALE, 3018 E. OLYMPIC BLVD., L.A., CA 90023. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SULEMAN MASUD, 3018 E. OLYMPIC BLVD., L.A., CA 90023. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SULEMAN MASUD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/19/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-010466 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SUSAN'S MASSAGE CARE, 408 S. ROSEMEAD BLVD. STE 202, PASADENA, CA 91107. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SUYIN W. GROESBECK, 950 ARCADIA AVE. #5, ARCADIA, CA 91007. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SUYIN W. GROESBECK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/19/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/01/2012. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-008168 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SWAGG ENTERPRISES, 10637 JEFFERSON BLVD., L.A., CA 90755. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) PABLO ZETINA, PATRICK BRADLEY, 8242 HAMILTON GREEN, BUENA PARK, CA 90621. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: PABLO ZETINA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/13/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-008904 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TATTOO ARMY, 6038 AUTRY AVE., LAKEWOOD, CA 90712. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) VAN MOLONEY, 6038 AUTRY AVE., LAKEWOOD, CA 90712. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) BRIAN GALLAGHER, 4543 E. 14th ST., LONG BEACH, CA 90804. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: VAN MOLONEY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/17/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009794 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE ONES COORDINATORS, 5111 N. MUSCATEL AVE., SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JONACEL LEEH B. AGUILIN-LOPEZ, AGNES A. MAGPANTAY, 5111 N. MUSCATEL AVE., SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776. This Business is conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. Signed: JONACEL LEEH B. AGUILIN-LOPEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/18/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/28/2012. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-008541 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TOM CARR PRODUCE, 1904 LANDIS ST., BURBANK, CA 91504. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JAMES THOMAS CARR, KATHERINE CARR, 1904 LANDIS ST., BURBANK, CA 91504. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: JAMES THOMAS CARR. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/17/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009422 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: UNLEASH ENTERPRISE, 107 N. NICHOLSON AVE. #B, MONTEREY PARK, CA 91755. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SUPAREK PRASERTPHONG, 107 N. NICHOLSON AVE. #B, MONTEREY PARK, CA 91755. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SUPAREK PRASERTPHONG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/18/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009748 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: WEST COAST INSTALLATIONS SERVICES, 15019 AMAR RD., LA PUENTE, CA 91744. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) RUDOLFO VALENCIA, RUDY VALENCIA, 15019 AMAR RD., LA PUENTE, CA 91744. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: RUDOLFO VALENCIA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County

on 01/18/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-009612 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: WESTBOUND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, 578 WASHINGTON BLVD. #205, MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JAMES KAINOA, 578 WASHINGTON BLVD. #205, MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JAMES KAINOA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/18/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/10/2012. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-010665 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: INTERMEDICAL SPECIALISTS, 10148 KLINGERMANN ST., SO. EL MONTE, CA 91733. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 12/02/2009, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2012010666. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/19/2012. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: DANG NICOLE OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 04, 11, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-010683 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VISTANTE RENTALS AND LEASING CO., 80 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD., #178, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ANTHONY W. MEDINA 80 West Sierra Madre Blvd., No. 178, Sierra Madre, Ca., 91024. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ANTHONY MEDINA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/19/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on n/a. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-018649

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SELF STORAGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 130 E. MONTECITO AVE., SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MARIE A. SULLIVAN, 130 E. Montecito Avenue, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024. This Business is conducted by: A TRUST. Signed: MARIE A. SULLIVAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 02/01/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 8/1/1994. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 11, 18, 25, and March 3, 2012

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF KIMBERLY NOELLE BIRD Case No. GP016465

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of KIMBERLY NOELLE BIRD

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Darrell D. Drake in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Darrell D. Drake be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 2, 2012 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. A located at 300 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91101.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
LOWELL H ORREN ESQ
SBN 152894
ORREN & ORREN
1100 E GREEN ST
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Call 626.836.8353
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PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR UNEMPLOYED PROFESSIONALS

The days when looking for a job entailed a Sunday newspaper, index cards to take notes and a telephone are long gone. That has become crystal clear to thousands of well-educated and accomplished baby boomers who have lost their jobs as a result of company downsizings and closures in recent years. Most of them are confronted with two challenges: 1) Realizing their “old school” job search skills have become virtually obsolete as a result of internet social media tools like LinkedIn and 2) Finding employment that offers the level of compensation to which they’ve grown accustomed.

Apparently, no category of professionals has been exempted from this reality, including human resources professionals who establish the standards and manage the processes and systems for personnel recruitment, hiring, training, and employer/employee relations. Two human resources (HR) experts, Dana Mayhew and Paola Alvarez are leading the charge to help job seekers update their job search skills and to make the connections needed to get back to work.

Mayhew and Alvarez are Co-chairs of the Human Resources Transition Committee (HRTC) for District 3 of the Professionals in Human Resources Association (PIHRA). Southern California has the largest number of PIHRA members. This organization is comprised of HR directors, corporate recruiters and other HR personnel from major companies, government offices and various businesses. The local chapter is referred to as “PIHRA D3” (Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley), which basically includes everything in the 626 area code.

They encourage professional development and HR certification. A monthly PIHRA District 3 Breakfast typically attracts about

forty people who mix and mingle with corporate executives and business leaders.

In January 2011 Mayhew and Alvarez led the charge to launch the HRTC. This group is focused on getting members up to speed with strategic networking and updated skills for job search via the internet. It is paying off for members who find themselves without jobs after seven to fifteen years in what had been a solid career. More are getting interviews and most importantly, more full-time, part-time and contract jobs. Both Mayhew and Alvarez are among the success stories of those fortunate to return to full-time employment.

“We also educate people about the span of opportunities in HR,” said Mayhew, “It’s not just about hiring and firing; there’s expertise needed in benefits, payroll, HR information systems and more.” When questioned about why they felt it necessary to start the HRTC, they spoke about the extra support, resources and encouragement that was needed to help people get through the shock, and in many instances, the shame and embarrassment of not being able to find another job in their profession. Alvarez stated, “I understood exactly what people were going through since I had also been laid off and was finding it challenging to land a job after working as an HR professional for almost 20 years.”

In an impressive show of corporate support, several companies have stepped up to demonstrate their commitment to helping the community. Bolton & Company is the primary sponsor for PIHRA District 3, providing meeting space for meetings and networking events at their Foothill Blvd. location in Pasadena. Aerotek, a staffing agency, provides funding to support HRTC’s quarterly networking mixers. Their support has made it possible to extend an invitation to non-PIHRA members who have had the opportunity to meet and hear business mavericks like Bob Kurliko, CEO of PriceDoc.

com. This group benefits from a wealth of HR expertise that is focused on job search strategies, networking, interview tips and other tools.

The upcoming monthly District 3 breakfast is February 14th. The next HRTC meeting is April 25th. For more information, visit www.pihra.org (select “Districts & Communities” and click “Pasadena”)



Paola Alvarez (above) and Dana Mayhew below.

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



FROM EMPTY HOUSE TO SHOWCASE HOUSE 2012 Showcase House of Design – The Robbins House in La Cañada Flintridge

The gracious owners of the 1927 built, Spanish Colonial Revival estate scheduled to be the 2012 Showcase House of Design (PSHA) have turned over the Robbins House in La Cañada Flintridge for three months of frenzied transformation into one of the area's most beloved home tour opportunities. In fact, last year's home tour drew 35,000 visitors in 25 days.

Designed by John Winford Byers for Mr. and Mrs. Hunter S. Robbins nearly nine decades ago, the estate includes 6429 square foot main house with eight bedrooms and baths, an 1100 square foot guest cottage, a writer's retreat and greenhouse. The Spanish Colonial Revival villa incorporates elements from not only Spain, but Mexico, Italy and North Africa.

Byers, an engineer by education, was a self taught architect. He attracted much attention with his designs during his era, and designed projects or homes for celebrities and business leaders including Buster Crabbe, Shirley Temple and J. Paul Getty.

Mario Saverino's firm MK and Company Interior Design and Decoration, a design participant for over a decade, has been chosen to oversee the interior progress of the transformation, as an advisor this year. The Pasadena Showcase House organization's interior and exterior chairs and their teams select advisors to help them ensure that things go smoothly, according to Saverino.

The project goes through several steps well before construction starts, according to Saverino. When a homeowner or charity agrees to offer their property for the year's showcase house, they commit to be out of the property for six months. In exchange, usually at little or no cost to them, the property gets new finishes inside and out, extensive interior remodels in areas like the kitchen and baths, landscape and hardscape work.

There is an informal presentation by designers, followed by a more formal review refining a cohesive overall design thread. Sometimes, the homeowner will elect to use an upgraded material, like hardwood floors over carpet, and those incremental costs will get negotiated.

Unusual things always happen, according to Saverino, and this home is no different. Every remodel is a guess and an estimate until you saw into a wall, or pull up the entire carpet. For instance, this year, the current family room used to be a garage. In working in the rooms above the old garage, they expected to see hardwood under the carpet, as a sample closet area with hardwood floors led them to believe.

"Some communities, like La Cañada Flintridge may help us out by forgiving the work permit

costs, those stickers required on the trucks." Construction permits are another matter, however, and are always a significant cost of the process. "It's going to cost you \$12 for a permit for every outlet or switch, and this cost is absorbed by the designer or general contractor."

The Robbins House has over twenty design or contractor firms coordinating different interior areas this year. Designer Paul Devine of Interior Devine, a repeat "performer" year after year in this showcase "stage play", is taking on a portion of the project again. This year, his firm will redesign the sleeping porch, a staircase and an upper hallway.

"We took the theme from the design painted on the three Murphy Beds built into the wall. They were painted with three ships, which we assume are the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria," said Devine.

"There are areas in the molding, where I want to have my decorative artist, Ken Moffat, do scroll painting around the ships, to add more detail. In the heavy wooded ceiling, I want him to add painted scrollwork; to add 'lipstick' but not overdo it."

"Our business, which is geared to both the decorator and art connoisseur as well as beginner aficionados, includes one of the largest collection of antique prints on the west coast" he continued, "as well as an impressive collection of vintage paintings. The gallery carries frame moldings from around the world, but we also make our own frame moldings," he pointed out, allowing them to fully customize the look for the area, as well as add appropriate artwork throughout the estate.

"The theme for my space is all nautical, from mermaids and sea monsters to navigational charts", he chuckled. We are loading these walls down with artwork, clustered and layered like a woman's charm bracelet. The homeowner, of course, gets first right of refusal, but there will be plenty for sale."

Devine has completed the minimal demolition in their area, removing old carpet, repairing and sanding the wood floors and preparing for the staining process. "Because the time is so compressed, as soon as one workman is finished, it's next, next, next! They literally step on top of each other to get it all done on time" he reflected.

Meanwhile, that same compressed timeline is repeated twenty times over with the other designers, all working in the same home, on the same deadline.

Saverino reflected about the twofold objective of the event. "Our goals are to allow the designers showcase their best work," he said, "and for



PSHA to generate money for their organization." So both sides work together.

In some years, two charities work together for the month long event, such as with the Bodie House at Descanso Gardens and last year's Red Cross Headquarters in Pasadena, the Craven Estate.

According to Saverino, designers and contractors often get hired based on personality. "When potential clients get to meet the Showcase house participants in person," he said, "then see their work right in front of them, and get to hear them explain their process, it's a win-win."

"It's a great process, concluded Saverino. "They (PSHA) know what they're doing, and it's always a very successful show. The public responds very favorably. It really helps with their music programs and it really helps the designers to have their work seen.

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts (PSHA) is a non-profit, all volunteer-run organization,

bringing arts and music enrichment programs to the greater Pasadena area of Southern California. They have funded over \$18 million dollars in gifts and grants supporting the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Hollywood Bowl, over sixty schools and other non-profit organizations for symphonic, cultural and educational programs plus the PSHA Instrumental Competition.

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts will be open April 15- May 13. Tickets, which cost \$30-\$40, can be purchased beginning Monday, February 13, online at www.PasadenaShowcase.org.

Mario Saverino can be reached at 626.791-7653 or through their website, www.MKandCompany.net. Visit Interior Devine at 20 S. Oakland, Pasadena, or contact them at 626-795-5025 or www.InteriorDevine.com.



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

PROTECT YOUR HOME AND YOUR WALLET

If you own or plan to purchase a home, then you know that insurance is not just a luxury, it's a requirement. While you should not skimp on certain coverage items, there are some steps you can take to reduce your overall premium.

If you have a security system installed (and operating!), you might lower your premium by 5% or more. You'll just need to provide your insurer with a copy of your contract or latest statement. Also, while newer homes have smoke alarms already installed, hooking them up in an older

home might also reduce your premium by as much as 10%.

Just like health or auto insurance, if you increase your deductible on homeowners insurance, you'll reduce your premium. Just be sure you're prepared to pocket smaller repairs like broken windows or damages from leaks.

If your policy is held by a company that also offers auto or health insurance, look into discounts for multiple policies. You could save a percentage on both your homeowners and auto policies, for example.

Another money (and time and stress) saver is to

document everything in your home with a photographic inventory. Store photos, cds or videos in a fireproof box or, preferably, a safe deposit box off site, better yet, look into online back-up services. This will reduce the time and effort required to complete a claim, and guarantee an accurate replacement payment.

Luther Tsinoglou has been licensed and practicing real estate since 1992. He specializes in residential and income property in Southern California. Luther can be reached at his direct line (626) 695-8650 or at luther@tsinoglou.com.



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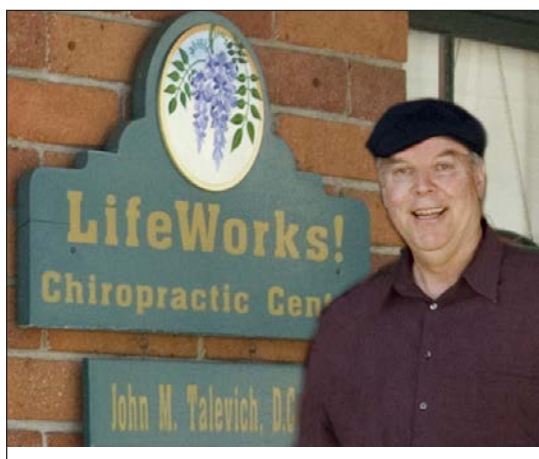
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YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Today's Subject:
Another Teachable Moment

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.

On January 26th, the California house bill SB 352 passed by a margin of 34 to 1. This bill seeks to prohibit chiropractors from treating allergies. In California, testing allergies is defined as practicing medicine. Seems fair ~ any clear-minded individual can appreciate the special training that goes with the use of pharmaceuticals. The oversight of complex drug interactions and dangers of possible severe reactions requires an extraordinary degree of adeptness and vigilance. Chiropractors are simply not trained in these matters.

The whole idea of this bill conjures up the image of the wild-eyed, irresponsible, crazy, renegade practitioner, out there practicing on those near and dear to us. Let's move on, clear this up once and for all.

The essence of chiropractic, the founding principle, is that we seek to remove interference within the nervous system. This is usually done by hand or with an instrument along the spine. Additionally, California state law provides us with the privilege of using "all necessary mechanical, hygienic, and sanitary measures incident to the care of the body, but not limited to, air, cold, diet, exercise, heat, light, massage, ultra-sound, physical therapy techniques in the course of chiropractic care."

Bottom line? The treatment of allergies using pharmaceuticals is most certainly the domain of medicine. Within it, doctors are prepared to subscribe medications and respond to the complex reactions that can occur with this approach. However, there is no reason why chiropractors cannot approach the same issues using their modalities. This attempt to deny the public clear access to non-medical, non-drug systems of healing is monopolistic and contrary to the very spirit of freedom of choice.

Dr. John

John M. Talevich, D.C.
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HOW TO HELP ELDERLY DRIVERS LIMIT OR STOP DRIVING

Dear Savvy Senior:

I'm worried about my father's driving. At age 84, his driving skills have diminished significantly, but I know he's bound and determined to keep going as long as he's alive. What tips can you recommend that can help me help my dad stop driving? Nervous Daughter

Dear Nervous, For many families, telling an elderly parent it's time to give up the car keys is a very sensitive and difficult topic. While there's no one simple way to handle this issue, here are a number of tips and resources you can try to help ease your dad away from driving.

Take a Ride

To get a clear picture of your dad's driving abilities, the first thing you need to do is take a ride with him watching for problem areas. For example: Does he drive too slow or too fast? Does he tailgate or drift between lanes? Does he have difficulty seeing, backing up or changing lanes? Does he react slowly? Does he get distracted or confused easily? Also, has your dad had any fender benders or tickets lately, or have you noticed any dents or scrapes on his vehicle? These, too, are red flags.

Start Talking

After your assessment, you need to have a talk with your dad about your concerns, but don't sound alarmed. If you begin with a dramatic outburst like "Dad, you're going to kill someone!" you're likely to trigger resistance. Start by gently expressing that you're worried about his safety.

For tips on how to talk to your dad about this touchy topic, the Hartford Financial Services Group and MIT AgeLab offers some guides titled "Family Conversations with Older Drivers" and "Family Conversations about Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia & Driving" that can help, along with an online seminar called "We Need to Talk" that was produced by AARP. To access these free resources, visit safedrivingforalifetime.com.

Like many elderly seniors, your dad may not even realize his driving skills have slipped. If this is the case, consider signing him up for an older driver refresher course through AARP (aarp.org/drive, 888-227-7669), your local AAA or a driving school.

A VALENTINE TIP FROM SOCIAL SECURITY

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, making this a popular time of year for proclamations of love. Such displays of affection can be as simple and sweet as a heart with a "be mine" message, or as life altering as a vow before the altar.

If you happen to be a newlywed who is head over heels in love, you may not be focused on things such as taxes or Social Security, but you should be. If you plan to exchange your maiden name for a married name — including hyphenated names such as Smith-Jones — be sure you let us know. Telling us about your name change shortly after your marriage will help us accurately keep track of your earnings and will ensure that you and your family get the Social Security retirement, disability, and survivors coverage you're entitled to. Also, if the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security records do not show the same name and Social Security number, your Federal income tax refund could be delayed.

If you continue to use your maiden name consistently throughout your working years, you do not need to contact us. However, if you decide to change your name at a later time, you should let us know so that we can update your Social Security record and send you a Social Security card with your new name.

There's no need to pay someone else to mail in the information for you. Changing your name with Social Security is a quick, easy, and free service. Just go online to www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber, learn what documents you need, and click on "Fill Out and Print an application (Form SS-5)." You also can call us at 1-800-772-1213 to obtain the form. We will need the completed application along with a marriage certificate or divorce decree verifying your old and new names. If you were born outside the United States, you also need proof of your U.S. citizenship or proof that you are lawfully living in the U.S. You can bring or mail these documents to us.

You may be focused on the one you love, and we don't blame you. But if you like us (we hope you do) please click on the Facebook icon at our homepage and "like" us on Facebook. Also, you can follow us on Twitter too. Look for our Facebook and Twitter icons at www.socialsecurity.gov. We share information daily that can help you and all your Valentines. Happy Valentine's Day from Social Security.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

Senior Programs have returned to the Hart Park House Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Memorial Park - Come by and see the changes!!

MONDAYS: City Hall & Lunch Café

12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café: Come enjoy a hot meal with others. Donation for seniors (60+) of \$2.00; visitors \$3.75. 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.

TUESDAYS:

FREE blood pressure checks by Methodist Hospital Nurse; 11 am to 12 noon.

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

5:15 pm to 6:45 pm: Yoga; \$6.00 - 50 & over. Please call 355-5278 for more information

WEDNESDAYS:

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

2nd Wednesday of the month: FREE Legal Consultations: 10-11:30 am. Appointments call 355-7394

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

THURSDAY:

1:00 to 3:30 pm: Game Day. Join us for Poker with Bridge on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays; so please call for more information.

FRIDAY: City Hall closed on Dec. 16, 23 & 30 and Lunch Café closed on Dec. 23

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 will return to the Senior Center starting on Saturday, February 11, 2012

2012 EXCURSIONS

SAVE THE DATES
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH - San Antonio Winery Tour & Tasting. Come enjoy a tour of this historic Los Angeles Winery, taste their wine, visit the gift shop and savor the flavors of their onsite restaurant.

Cost per person is \$10 (includes transportation, tour & tasting). Lunch will be on your own.

Bus leaves the Hart Park House Senior Center at 10:30 am and will return around 3 pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3RD - Community Whale Watching Trip; \$28 per person. The bus will leave the Community Recreation Center at 10 am and return at 3:30 pm. Cost includes transportation and a 2 1/2 hour charter boat tour out of Long Beach.

Registration can be done either in person or online at www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineeregistration

February Birthdays



Lorraine Bush, Hilda Pittman, Susan Henderson, Sylvia Lorhan, Ann Luke, Janet O'Day, Ana Ptasiński, Jan Reed, Winifred Swanson



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.)

Meals are delivered to the home-bound seniors by drivers through the YWCA Interval Lunch Program M-F (with frozen meals for the weekend.)

Call the YWCA at (626) 214-9460 for more information.



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DIAL - A - RIDE TICKETS

Tickets can now be purchased at:
Sierra Madre City Hall
Sierra Madre Recreation Center
Sierra Madre Library



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 at the Sierra Madre Recreation Center while the Hart Park House is under remodeling. 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

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Looking Up

with Bob Eklund

SPACECRAFT RETURNS FIRST VIDEO FROM MOON'S FAR SIDE

A camera aboard one of NASA's twin Gravity Recovery And Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) lunar spacecraft has returned its first unique view of the far side of the Moon. MoonKAM, or Moon Knowledge Acquired by Middle school students, will be used by students nationwide to select lunar images for study.

GRAIL consists of two identical spacecraft, recently named Ebb and Flow, each of which is equipped with a MoonKAM. The images were taken as part of a test of Ebb's MoonKAM on Jan. 19. The GRAIL project plans to test the MoonKAM aboard Flow at a later date.

View the 30-second video clip: <http://go.nasa.gov/zZXAPs>

In the video, the north pole of the Moon is visible at the top of the screen as the spacecraft flies toward the lunar south pole. One of the first prominent geological features seen on the lower third of the Moon is the Mare Orientale, a 560-mile-wide impact basin that straddles both the Moon's near and far sides.

The clip ends with rugged terrain just short of the lunar south pole. To the left of center, near the bottom of the screen, is the 93-mile-wide Drygalski crater with a distinctive star-shaped formation in the middle. The formation is a central peak, created billions of years ago by a comet or asteroid impact.

"The quality of the video is excellent and should energize our MoonKAM students as they prepare to explore the Moon," said Maria Zuber, GRAIL principal investigator from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge.

The twin spacecraft successfully achieved lunar orbit last New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Previously named GRAIL-A and GRAIL-B, the washing-machine-sized spacecraft received their new names from fourth graders at the Emily Dickinson Elementary School in Bozeman, Montana, following a nationwide naming contest by students.

Thousands of fourth- to eighth-grade students will select target areas on the lunar surface and send requests to the GRAIL MoonKAM Mission Operations Center in San Diego. Photos of the target areas will be sent back by the satellites for students to study. The MoonKAM program is led by Sally Ride, America's first woman in space. Her team at Sally Ride Science, as well as undergraduate students at the University of California, San Diego, will engage middle schools across the country in the GRAIL mission and lunar exploration. GRAIL is NASA's first planetary mission carrying instruments fully dedicated to education and public outreach.

"We have had great response from schools around the country—more than 2,500 signed up to participate so far," Ride said. "In mid-March, the first pictures of the Moon will be taken by students using MoonKAM. I expect this will excite many students about possible careers in science and engineering."

Launched in September 2011, Ebb and Flow are periodically performing trajectory correction maneuvers that, over time, will lower their orbits to near-circular ones with an altitude of about 34 miles above the lunar surface. During their science mission, the twin spacecraft will answer long-standing questions about the Moon, and will give scientists a better understanding of how the Earth and other rocky planets in the solar system formed.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: beklund@MtnViewsNews.com.

On Line

By PJ Carpenter

"WHEN THE HEADLINE HITS HOME"

Earlier this month news outlets and computing security sources reported a major security breach at Symantec Corporation and the theft of valuable source code that has left millions of its users possibly vulnerable to the internet and network security threats that the software claims to provide protection against. Source Code is the basis for modern computer programs and as such is protected under Intellectual Property legislation in this country and around the world.

A computer programs' source code is what makes it unique among other similar programs in the marketplace and contains proprietary secrets as to how a program works. Often the source code is replicated through multiple versions of a software program and among different products from the same software manufacturer.

If you get your hands on the source code and know what you're doing, you have an effective tool for use in developing software and techniques for neutralizing security softwares' effectiveness. In the world of computer security the name Symantec is as big as they come. They've been around since the early 80's and they have long enjoyed a large consumer and business customer base numbering in the millions.

As the nature of personal and business computing has changed over the years, Symantec has adapted their products to match industry needs and earned a degree of trust that many modern business would do well to match. Earlier this month that trust was put to the test as the company was forced to admit that they themselves had been the victims of a security breach which resulted in the theft of the source code for several of their best-selling computer security and remote access products.

News of this breach hit particularly close to home for your humble columnist as I have installed several of the affected products for various home and business users, including the company that I currently work for now.

Symantec's public response didn't do much to allay my fears about the depth and breadth of the possible damage done by the security breach. Symantec began its PR response to the rumors by denying that anything of real concern had taken place at all and ended up by participating in a police sting to catch the perpetrators and shelving one of its flagship products – all over the course of two weeks. Many, including myself, are beginning to believe that things are far worse than we've been told.

Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc.

Canyon Canine Dog Walking & Pet Sitting Services

In August, 2011 a tragic turn of events took place on Washington D.C.'s capital hill, resulting in the maniacal massacre of countless Northern Gray Wolves residing in the wilderness across three states. Through an underhanded, un-scientific, politically manipulated bit of legislature that is sure to render the Gray Wolf population sparse at best, and cause an unpredictable ripple of wild animal population imbalance, our nation's loving leaders ordered the aerial killing of thousands of gray wolves at the tax payer's expense. Three questions came to my mind when I heard the news of this gruesomely grim development. The first was "Why?", followed immediately by "How?.. on earth could such an irrational injustice be imposed on an indigenous animal that has survived so many human attacks in the past, and has been tenacious enough to repopulate and continue to do their part in keeping some semblance of balance in the natural food chain on our continent?" The third and most blatantly obvious question came to me with a sense of vengeance; "Who are the idiots behind this hair-brained idea?" Or, to put it more politically-friendly terms, "Who is afraid of the big bad wolf?"

Apparently there are 2 interest groups who harbor a virtual vendetta against the American Gray Wolf , a top-pier predator with an environmentally important mission. Mainly to blame are the livestock & agriculture lobbyists who have managed to convince our nation's most powerful legislators that wolves have posed a threat to their livestock, causing irretrievable profit losses. The other groping, grappling group of would-be wolf haters are gun-packing hunting enthusiasts who approached the issue from another asinine angle, purporting a significant lack of "game" during open hunting season due to the wolf's natural need to prey in order to survive. I say to both of these special interest groups, the arguments you've made are nothing but pure poppy-cock!


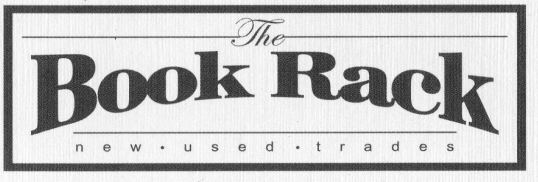

First of all, the wolf is only accredited for 1% of lost livestock over the past several years, which can hardly equate to a major profit loss or a significant reduction in our nation's marketable meat supply. Let's face it, considering the mass over production of food in our country, where

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG BAD WOLF?

one could just as easily dine by diving in a garbage bin behind a grocery store at closing time, versus shopping inside, 1% is a drop in the bucket, and certainly no excuse for the mass murder of a beautiful beast we nearly caused to be extinct just a couple of decades ago. Secondly, to the hunters I wish to say, anyone who considers the act of killing a "game" might not even deserve the right to vote, much less lobby on the hill! I know, that's a narrow-minded opinion, but I'm just saying, think about! You're telling me that because there aren't enough elk to kill, to satisfy your blood thirsty need for "game", we have decided to start killing the wolf as well? Something about that logic just does not add up in my mind. But, that's just me.

I view this new legislation as yet another example of the human's narrow-minded negligence to think globally and responsibly on behalf of the whole. Somewhere along the line, we Americans lost our way. The fact that our country's leaders have declared what I call "open season" on the American Gray Wolf just to satisfy the needs and greed of folks who have learned to pull the right strings on 'the hill', sets a precarious precedent for annihilating any ole species that might get in the way, which brings to mind yet another final question; When will the killing end? How far along the food chain must we go before we realize the damage we have done?

If you have similar sentiments to mine, regarding this legislation, please take the time to log on to The Animal Rescue Site at: www.theanimalrescuesite.com and sign the petition asking President Obama to stop the aerial killing of American Grey Wolves in Idaho. Although this initiative impacts only one of the states effected, at least it is a start. If you get on board and do what you can to help save the American Grey Wolf from being shot down in cold blood by gun-runners in the sky, you will also be playing a part in helping maintain a healthy balance among wildlife populations on our continent. Sometimes a little loss (1% in this case) is worth it, to allow some time for nature to heal from previous wounds caused by the human's need to intercede and satisfy their greed.



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KATIE Tse.....This and That



THE DENTAL SIDE OF FEBRUARY

Besides the familiar cultural and religious holidays, February is also the month to promote children and pets' dental care! With eleven other months to choose from, you'd wonder why children and pets have to be lumped together into the shortest month of the year. Surely our offspring and loyal best friends are important enough to warrant their own months. Online, I found a resoundingly greater number of references to dogs and cats than to children. One hopes that this discrepancy is due to parents' ongoing concern for their children's hygiene, and not the lowering of children to pet status or the elevation of pets to human status.

Perhaps another reason pet dental care is highlighted above that of children's is because, if you can achieve brushing your cat or dog's teeth without losing a digit, your toddler's little tooth buds will be a piece of cake! One video I watched explained the methodical steps necessary for getting Fido from tolerating the smell of canine toothpaste, to loving enthusiasm of having your hand stuffed in his mouth. It's a painstakingly gradual progression. The first objective is your dog's acclimation to the sight and smell of the doggy toothbrush.

Then, slowly introduce the concept of toothpaste by smearing a bit on his nose for him to lick off. Apparently it comes flavored as bacon, fish, or mint. The first two might even be popular with some adults I know. Tell me, however, how many dogs are drawn to the scent or taste of mint? But I digress. Some pet brushes are rubber bristled things that fit on your finger. These are for people who have faith that their pet won't take the opportunity to clamp down on their hand. Others brushes are nearly identical to their human counterparts. Needless to say, it is a long tedious road leading from your dog's sniffing to brushing tolerance.

Though the video stressed the importance of feline dental hygiene as well, there were significantly fewer videos of cats getting their teeth buffed than dogs. Most of the clips of cats were very short, suggesting that Fluffy only put up with a minute or so of brushing before resorting to violence. Come to think of it, in the longest continuous segment of a cat getting it's teeth brushed, the victim looked somewhat catatonic (Ha ha! CAT-atonic!). I think perhaps the vets gave it a "happy cat" shot before attempting to pull back its lips.

All said, if you master the art of brushing your pet's teeth, you're bound to at least feel confident attempting to brush your children's. Of course, one must consider some of the main differences between the two groups. Unlike your dog or cat, your kid doesn't have fangs or claws. (If they do, they might be one of the X-Men, switched at birth with your biological child.) It's safe for your pet to ingest toothpaste (although it is not a food product), but swallowing too much may send your kid to the E.R.

Finally, regarding both humans and animals, be sure to keep your toothbrushes and toothpastes separate. You might not gag after using your kid's toothpaste, but you'll probably retch if you mistake Fido's brush for your own. Of course, considering the bacon-flavored toothpaste, it's hard to predict owners' reactions one way or the other. Some might retch, while others might entertain the thought of squeezing it over nachos. And you thought February was all about heart-shaped chocolates!



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HUDDLE UP!



By Harvey Hyde

I'm not writing about the Lakers this week, even though I had mentioned in last week's column that I would. Here's why. Since leaving coaching, I have enjoyed watching many of my former staff and players as they continued on in football or moved into business and service professions. One of those young men is my former quarterback at UNLV, Randall Cunningham, who went on to a highly successful 16-year NFL career.

In Indianapolis the day before the Super Bowl, Randall was presented with the NFL Alumni Association's Lifetime Achievement Award for community service. Randall told the Las Vegas Review Journal he was surprised by the award because he never talks about his charity work. "Everything I do is behind the scenes," he said.

Randall, who turns 49 on March 27, is a strong Christian, and quiet about his accomplishments. When he was with the Philadelphia Eagles, he financially backed the construction of a 15,000-square-foot youth facility for a church in Camden, N.J., that included a basketball gym and classrooms.

He is currently the pastor at the very well-attended Las Vegas-based Remnant Ministries. In fact, he plans to move his church from its current 17,500 square-foot building to an 80,000 square-foot facility within six months. That building will include a basketball gym, athletic and workout facilities, three sanctuaries, a wedding chapel and a full kitchen.

He is also a youth coach of football and track and field for his son and for Bishop Gorman High School. His son Randall II is also a quarterback. And, while only a freshman, won the state high jump title with a leap of 6-foot-8. Athletically, he seems to be following in his

father's footsteps. Randall thinks he's even better, but we'll see.

Randall was a delight to coach and usually a lot of fun. However, I vividly recall his junior year when he came into my office, sat down and said, "I'm coming out early."

Of course I turned pale but calmly said, "Randall, you have to do what you have to do." He had just lost both of his parents, and this was an important decision for him.

The truth is I was devastated. I didn't sleep a wink that night. The next day he returned to my office looking sad and said, "Coach, I need to talk to you again." He walks over to me and says, "Hey, I'm not leaving. I was just kidding," and gave me a big hug. He's lucky he survived that incident. I could have killed him.

I was the coach of the West all-stars in the 1984 Japan Bowl and Randall was our starting quarterback. Doug Flutie of Boston College who had just won the Heisman Trophy was the East all-stars' starting quarterback. During the game, Randall threw an interception and then ran across the entire field to make the tackle. As he came to the bench, I grabbed him and said, "You realize how many pro scouts are here? That's the worst thing you could have done." He said, "Sorry coach, I thought the receiver was open." I said, "I'm not talking about the interception. I'm talking about you running that guy down. Now they're going to want to make you a safety."

Randall's football achievements at UNLV are unmatched. He still owns school career passing records. He threw for 8,020 yards and 59 touchdowns from 1982 to 1984. On draft day on April of 1985, Randall waited in my office. The first round finished and he wasn't drafted. He said,

FOND MEMORIES OF RANDALL CUNNINGHAM

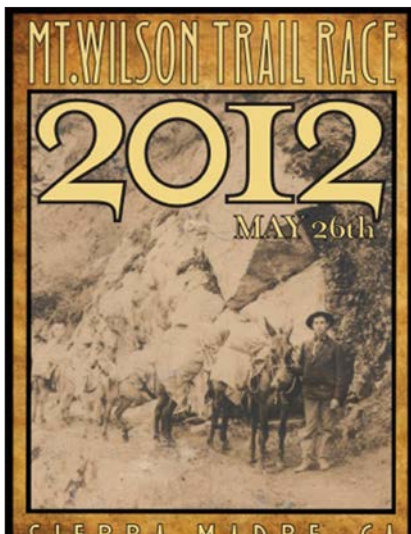
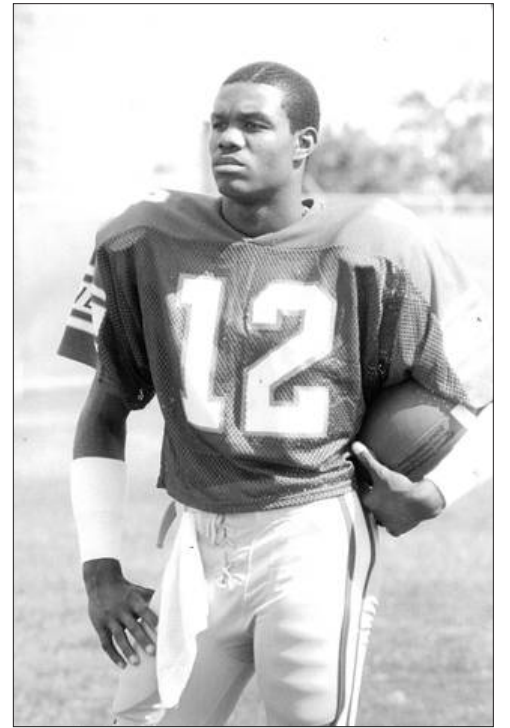
"Coach, they don't want me" I said, "They sure should." He took off and went shopping or something.

After he left, Lynn Stiles, an assistant coach for the Eagles, called and said, "Coach, now tell me. We'll draft him based on your comments." I said, "If you don't take him, he'll beat you." His answer was, "I'll get fired if he doesn't make it." I said, "You're going to get a pay raise."

They made a wise decision. While with the Eagles, Randall was the NFL's MVP in 1990 after passing for 3,466 yards and 30 touchdowns. In 1998, he led the Minnesota Vikings to a 15-1 regular-season record and helped them advance to the NFC championship game.

The honor bestowed on Randall Cunningham by the NFL Alumni Association was well deserved, and shows that good things can happen to good people.

Randall Cunningham at UNLV (right) and as an alumni encouraging children in 2011. Photos courtesy of Las Vegas Sun



Get Ready for the 2012 Mount Wilson Trail Race with Team CrossFit Academy!

The 2012 race will be here before you know it: Saturday, May 26.

Coach Eric LeClair and Team CrossFit Academy will be returning for their seventh year to provide free Saturday

morning training runs for this challenging event for any interested trail runner. The training is a 16-week program designed with three different ability groups: Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. The first training session will begin Saturday morning, February 4th at 7:00A in Kersting Court. It is recommended that all interested runners begin their training on this date; each Saturday morning will feature a different training run.

Coach LeClair has had hundreds of runners and racers within the ranks

of the training team over the past six years. The training program has been so successful that it has resulted in over 20 Top 3 finisher medals!

From the beginning trail runner to the experienced veteran racer, all will be welcomed into this fun group and will be assisted in accomplishing his or her desired goal. To contact Coach Eric LeClair or Team CrossFit Academy directly, please call 626-437-8739 or search for either on Facebook.

Registration

Registration for the 2012 Mount Wilson Trail Race will begin on Monday, March 5 at 9:00am. Registration is available online at www.cityofsierramadre.com/online-registration. Runners are encouraged to register as soon as possible as space is limited. The MWTR sells out on an annual basis, be sure to reserve your spot for 2012! For more information please visit www.mountwilsontrailrace.com or contact the Community Services Office at 626.355.5278.

2012 MOUNT WILSON TRAIL RACE INFORMATION

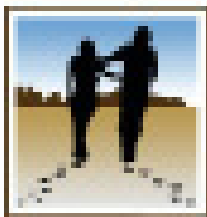
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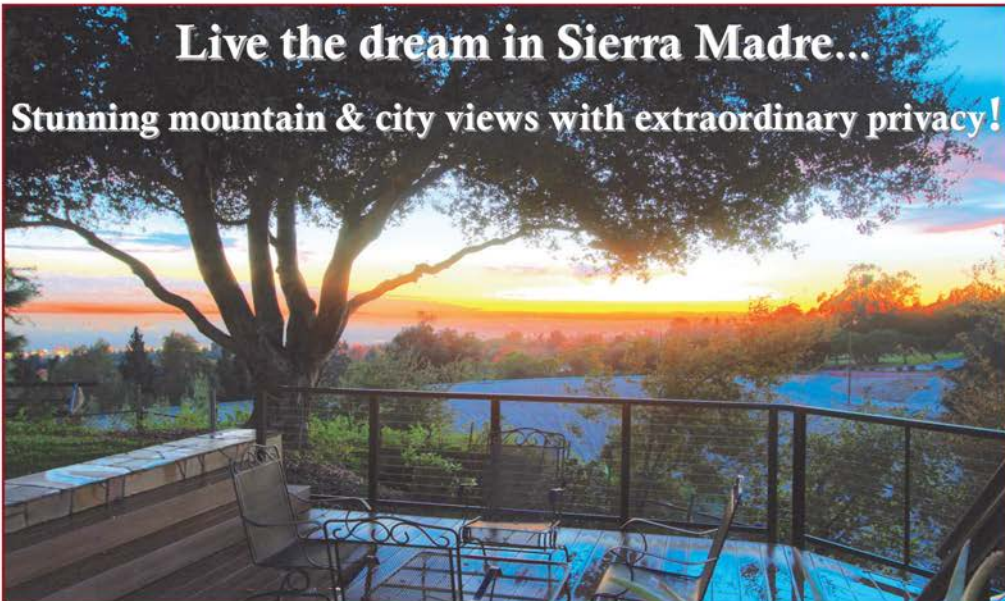
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