

Mountain Views News

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Community News Comes First

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

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Monrovia

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2012

VOLUME 6 NO. 8



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. Each week, as we have done in the past, we will profile the candidates and give each of the candidates the opportunity to introduce themselves to our readers by answering the following questions: (All candidates are being asked to answer the same questions)

1. Why are you running for Office?
2. What are your plans if elected?

The revised schedule:

THIS WEEK: Candidate John Capoccia for City Council - 4 year term-Below

March 3rd Candidate Gene Goss for City Council - 4 year term
Campaign Kick Off: Sunday February 26
Website: www.genegoss.com

March 10th Candidate John Harabedian for City Council - 4 year term
Website: www.johnharabedian.com

March 17th Candidate Colin Braudrick for City Council - 2 year term
Campaign Kick Off: February 29th
Website: www.colin4cc.com

March 24th Candidate Chris Koerber for City Council - 2 year term
Website: www.chrisforsierramadre.com
Candidate Bill Tice for City Council - 4 year term
No website available at this time.

It is our sincere hope that each candidate will submit their answers so that we can share them with our readers. A separate letter has been sent to each candidate asking them to participate.

In addition to the candidate spotlights, we will attempt to cover the various forums sponsored by local organizations. Where possible, the unedited video of these forums will be broadcast on the paper's website. Our reporting on this election will be as fair and objective as possible. However, please keep in mind that our columnists are always free to share their opinions. Their opinions are their opinions and may or may not reflect the position of the paper. This is true in all things, not just this election.

We will also provide for you the calendar of important dates regarding the election. It is our goal to do whatever we can to help you make an informed decision on April 10, 2012.

Susan Henderson, Publisher and Editor

CANDIDATE JOHN CAPOCCIA

I am running to represent the people of Sierra Madre on the City Council because I have the necessary real-world leadership and analytical skills to shape the future of the town that we love in a positive, thoughtful, and collaborative manner.

As a recently retired former engineer, certified project manager and former general manager at AT&T, I am in a unique position to make a difference by working full time to secure Sierra Madre's future by using my skills to:

water and sewers, a n d library services etc., while ensuring that the n e e d s of our citizens, especially our youth a n d seniors are met.



Ensure that development is appropriate, consistent with our general plan and municipal codes, and I'll fight to make sure that voter-sponsored initiatives such as Measure V are not undermined.

Promote policies that conserve our natural resources, such as our water supply and associated watershed, and protect our hillsides so that future generations can enjoy our precious resources as we have.

Fight inappropriate mandates, such as Low-Mod "stack and pack" high-density housing, "Transit Oriented Development" and other programs that do not provide value commensurate with cost.

Appropriately prioritize and allocate funds for city services, keeping in mind that the primary mission of city government is to provide for public safety, essential infrastructure such as roads,

Promote citizen engagement - Sierra Madreans care deeply about our town. They are smart, enthusiastic and articulate - Working closely with our citizens will help us to meet our challenges.

Promote self-reliance. State and federal grants often come with strings attached that drive up our costs and diminish our ability to provide essential services. I'll ensure that decisions made today do not compromise our future.

A quote from President Lincoln sums up my approach to governance: "You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today". As your representative on the City Council, I'll be collaborative, honest and forthright, and will represent Sierra Madre's citizens faithfully.

www.Capoccia4CityCouncil.com

MATHESON DEPORTED FROM CANADA - RETURNS TO SIERRA MADRE

By Susan Henderson

Sierra Madre resident Robert Matheson, who was arrested, convicted and jailed for possessing and smuggling child pornography into Canada last year, was deported by Canadian Authorities earlier this week and returned to his home in Sierra Madre.

Matheson, 66, pleaded guilty to the charges after he was arrested on October 17th at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. The sentence imposed was 120 days with 12 days credit for time served. He was detained in Canada under house arrest from the time he posted bail until sentencing. Prior to his arrest he owned a home in Pictou, Nova Scotia, a small, close knit town, much like Sierra Madre. According to Canadian news reports, that home was sold to cover legal expenses and bail. There is a great deal of concern that after his release he will be deported back to the United States and return to Sierra Madre.

In a press release from the Sierra Madre Police Department, Chief Larry Giannone states,

"Matheson voluntarily came to the police station and met with Interim Police Chief Larry Giannone. Giannone said "Mr. Matheson voluntarily came to the police station to advise us that he was back at his residence and simply stated; "There are two sides to every story". The Police Department has confirmed at this time Mr. Matheson is under no obligation to register as a sex offender based on California law.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials were notified that he would be released at the end of February, but were unsure of the exact date. The ICE investigation regarding Matheson is still on-going.



Robert William Matheson, 66, of Sierra Madre, Calif., enters Dartmouth provincial court Tuesday. He pleaded guilty to possessing and smuggling child pornography.
Photo Courtesy Krochak/Herald

Giannone said "ICE is still actively working on the Matheson case, however it is a lengthy process and I am not at the liberty to discuss details of the investigation. Mr. Matheson is aware of the continuing investigation".

Matheson was caught with more than 2,500 pornographic photos of children and almost 300 video clips.

After Matheson was jailed by the Canadian courts, a search warrant was executed by local and federal authorities of his house on Liliano in Sierra Madre. No information has been made public as to the items removed from the home, nor has any information been made

public as to who the children were or the origin of the photos.

The fact that at this point Matheson does not have to register as a sex offender has many residents upset. However, the Federal Investigation is still underway and may result in additional charges against Matheson.

In another local matter concerning Meaghan's List, MV News learned of the recent passing of a very elderly child molester who lived unnoticed in the community for years. His name and picture were posted on Meaghan's list and the public was encouraged to go to the website to get more information. He was in his 80's when convicted.

SIERRA MADRE'S LEGENDARY PEPPER TREE TO COME DOWN

By Bill Coburn

The big pepper tree in Kersting Court, the one with the crevice in the trunk that you took a picture of your kid standing in, the one that was a "mature" tree long before it was part of a set on the film "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" in 1954, the one that has come to serve as an identity for the downtown, the one that many consider to be an old friend, will be cut down on the morning of Wednesday, Feb. 29th, according to the Public Works Dept.

The tree, which I'm told by town historian Phyllis Chapman was planted in the 1880s (I think she said 1887) by a teacher at Sierra Madre School (which was located there at the time), was recommended for removal by the City's arborist, and the Tree Commission agreed. The tree suffered some damage during the recent windstorm, but interestingly, it actually had a major branch break off the day the winds came, several hours before the winds arrived. SMFD came and cordoned off the area, and then the winds hit later that night.

According to Pat Alcorn of the Community Services Commission, "The Community Services Commission and the Tree Commission met jointly on Tuesday night and even though as a group mourned the demise of the tree, agreed that it had to come down. The wood will be saved, and perhaps some time or another can be used for something in Kersting Court. The Community Services Commission and the Tree Commission will have public hearings about what will be done with Kersting Court once the tree is gone."

A local resident suggested to me that perhaps a bench could be made out of the tree that could go in Kersting Court, and I thought that was a good idea. I asked Public Works Director Bruce Inman if the contractor cutting the tree could cut it in big enough pieces that slabs could be cut to make a bench, and he said they could. Of course, nothing will be done without the Community Services and Tree Commissions approving it.

Also, Patricia Ancona of the Friends



of the Arts has suggested that between now and Wednesday, people take pictures of the tree, with family, friends, animals, etc. to be used in a public presentation as a memorial to the long-time "city elder."

SM POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ENDORSE CANDIDATES

The first public endorsements for candidates for Sierra Madre City Council were announced last week by the Sierra Madre Police Officers Association.

Newly elected President Lt. Ed Delcour and Vice President Officer Esther Doyle announced that the Association had endorsed the candidacy of Colin Braudrick and John Harabedian.

According to Delcour, both candidates displayed a deep concern about the quality of life in Sierra Madre and how to maintain it.

This is not the first time the SMPOA has endorsed council candidates, although it does not happen every election. According to Officer Doyle, Michael Minehart, a candidate in 2006 was the

last person the SMPOA officially endorsed.

Both DelCour who has been with SMPD for 8 years and Doyle who has been with the department for 17 years, said that the Association's endorsement is in no way self-serving. They noted that Braudrick and Harabedian were the only two candidates that reached out to the SMPOA for an endorsement. They also reiterated a statement that has been made many times before, that the men and women who serve in the SMPD do not think of Sierra Madre as just a place to work. They want the public to know that they sincerely care about preserving and protecting the town.

S. Henderson/MVN

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I'm Roadie and I hang out at Niko's all the time with my dad!
Niko's is dog friendly and their food and coffee are GREAT!

Niko and Friends Café

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Bike & dog friendly patio!
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Read The Paper Online At: www.mtnviewsnews.com

Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|--------|----------|
| Mon: | Showers | Hi 60s | Lows 40s |
| Tues: | Sunny | Hi 60s | Lows 40s |
| Wed: | Sunny | Hi 60s | Lows 50s |
| Thur: | Sunny | Hi 70s | Lows 50s |
| Fri: | Sunny | Hi 70s | Lows 50s |

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
February 28, 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.

Canyon Canine

Dog Walking & Sitting Services
Sierra Madre, California

Chris Leclerc

www.canyoncanine.com
chris@canyoncanine.com

626-355-8333 / 626-533-9536



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



SIERRA MADRE
PERSONALIZED AND QUALITY
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626 355-4424

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.

\$ CASH PAID \$

Get CASH for Wood Furniture

Small Tables

Glassware

Knick Knacks

Ceramics

Home Furnishings

Statues

Pottery

Etc., etc., etc.!

CALL PAT

626-264-2085

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.

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.



IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 26 LAST DAY TO REGISTER
FOR APRIL 10TH ELECTION

MARCH 12TH FIRST DAY TO REQUEST
VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

APRIL 3 LAST DAY TO REQUEST
VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

Announcements for the Upcoming Election, April 10, 2012

Below is a direct link to answer questions about the City's Utility Users Tax (UUT) Measures on the April 10, 2012 Municipal ballot:

<http://cityofsierramadre.com/i-want-to/find/agendas/category/13-news?download=338:uut-fact-sheet-february-2012-for-the-upcoming-election-april-10-2012>

ELECTION DAY -APRIL 10, 2012

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We are open daily except
Wednesdays and Thursdays

Business hours are from 8:00 to 4:30.

Closed Sundays - June 1 through December

On rainy days we normally close early, so please call first.



Sierra Madre

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Monrovia

KIWANIS PRESENTS COMMUNITY ELECTION FORUMS

Upcoming Events:

The Kiwanis Club will also present two informative community forums in March.

On Tuesday March 13th the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will hold a Candidates Forum for all candidates running for the Sierra Madre City Council. Candidates will state their positions on important issues and will take questions from the audience.

On Tuesday March 27, the Kiwanis Club will host an informational forum regarding the User Utility Tax. Representatives will present pro and con sides of this issue and will accept questions from audience members.

The forums will be held at The Lodge, formerly the Masonic Temple, at 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre. Lunch will be served at noon. The program will begin at 12.45.

Reservations for lunch (\$10) can be made in advance by calling 626-355-0728

LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM REMODEL BEGINS

Renovation of the Sierra Madre Public Library Children's Room is slated to begin the first week in April. During the makeover, Children's Services will move into the adjacent Reference Room with a limited collection of picture, fiction and non-fiction books. The popular Preschool Story Times will continue during the six-week construction period but school class visits will be suspended for the duration of construction. During the last two weeks of March, staff and volunteers will begin boxing about two thirds of the children's books

for storage.

Improvements will include the removal of an emergency exit, replacement of windows, bookshelves, furniture, paint and carpet. The layout of the room will be changed to create a Preschool Zone, Study Zone and Computer/Technology Zone. Funding for the updates came from private donations raised during a year-long fundraising drive. A ribbon-cutting will be scheduled in plenty of time for the upcoming Summer Reading Club.

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

2012 MOUNT WILSON TRAIL RACE INFORMATION



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

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/onlineeregistration. 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.

SIERRA MADRE COMMISSION VACANCIES

The City of Sierra Madre is starting to recruit for vacancies on commissions with terms beginning July 1, 2012. The Sierra Madre City Council encourages citizen participation in its decision-making process through the use of citizen commissions and committees. These advisory bodies are able to study a variety of issues and problems in detail. After gathering all pertinent information, hearing arguments, and weighing values, they recommend to the Council what they consider the best action to take. In certain situations, commissions are empowered to make specific decisions, subject to appeal to the Council. Public notices on all commissions are prepared in compliance of the Maddy Act.

The terms for the following vacancies would begin July 1, 2012 on the various Commissions:

-Planning Commission – 2 Vacancies

-Senior Community Commission -1 Vacancy

-Library Board of Trustees - 1 Vacancy

Applications may be obtained at City Hall or the City website at www.cityofsierramadre.com should you wish to apply. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled. For more information please call 626-355-7135.

MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 THURSDAY

MEDITATION CLASS in Pasadena & Sierra Madre "Happiness from a Different Source" from 7:30-8:30pm at Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church, 301 N. Orange Grove Blvd, Pasadena; and from 7-8pm at Center for Wellbeing, 31 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre.

Cost \$10. For more info, please call(323) 223-0610 or visit MeditateInLA.org

ATTENTION ALL SIERRA MADRE COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The March Coordinating Council will be held on Thursday, March 1 at 12:00pm. The meeting location is changing from the Youth Activity Center, to the Sierra Madre Room. The Sierra Madre Room is located in Sierra Vista Park, in the building next to the YAC at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

Please be sure to bring your upcoming event/program information to share at the meeting. March will launch the new monthly Coordinating Council newsletter and groups that attend the meeting will have their events/programs highlighted in the newsletter. If you cannot attend the meeting, you can send your upcoming program information and we may be able to include it if I have additional space. Also we can include pictures and logos in the newsletter which you can send to me by email.

I will also distribute the long-range planning calendar at the March meeting. This calendar can be utilized to plan events/programs around other large events that occur at the same time. I have only received events from a small portion of the group, so be sure to email me with your large events and programs through March 2013 so your organization does not get left out! I only need the event name and date for this long-range planning calendar.

Adam Matsumoto,
Recreation Supervisor City of Sierra Madre 626-355-5278

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE TO HOST STATE OF THE CITY EVENT ON FEBRUARY 27, 2012

On Monday, February 27, 2012 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm the City of Sierra Madre will host its 2nd Annual State of the City address at the Community Recreation Center in the Sierra Madre Room at 611 East Sierra Madre Boulevard. This year's theme is "Preserving Our Sense of Community" and this event will highlight programs and services the City has provided over the past year and give residents insight to the City's goals for the next fiscal year.

Mayor Pro Tem Josh Moran will emcee the evening. A special performance by Bethany Christian School Choir Students will precede Mayor John Buchanan's State of the City Address.

Representatives from each City Department will be available to answer any community questions and a City booth will highlight current programs and projects.

Although the event will not air live on SMTV3, the event will be recorded and rebroadcast on Channel 3 for Time Warner customers and can be viewed on the City's website no later than March 5.

Refreshments will be provided by local Sierra Madre restaurants. This event is made possible by the support of our sponsors: Athens Services, Southern California Edison, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, West Coast Arborists, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, and Jan's Towing.

For more information on this event please contact 626.355.5278



RADIO DJ'S WANTED

COMMUNITY INTERNET RADIO STATION

www.radiofishbowl.com

We are looking for a few DJ's to have a weekly show in and about "Sierra Madre".

TALK. MUSIC. INTERVIEWS.

Business, travel , health... you tell us!

Please submit a sample of your show using a standard sound format via email

radiofishbowl@yahoo.com or

drop off a CD to
80 W Sierra Madre Blvd #105
Sierra Madre CA 91024

WANNA WATCH A WHALE?

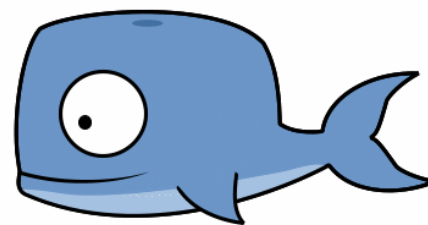
Whale Watching Community Excursion

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, CA 91024.



Find us on
Facebook



RUSNAK TO RUN FOR ASSEMBLY



In an unforeseen move, local auto dealership executive Victoria Rusnak threw her hat in the ring, announcing her intent to run for the 41st state Assembly District seat. According to reports, she filed papers to run last week.

"For any non-politician to decide to run for elected office today requires careful evaluation of several factors... the personal fortitude to enter into a political campaign, the passion and commitment to tackle the tough issues facing our communities and lastly, the experience and knowledge required to make a difference," Rusnak said.

In a letter on rusnakforassembly.com she went on to say,

"After careful evaluation and consultation with many community leaders, I have decided to offer our communities an alternative to the failed political approaches of the past.

As a businesswoman supervising a local family-owned business with over 700 employees, I know firsthand the struggles and hurdles of running a business and where we need to streamline red-tape and bureaucracy. I am the only proven job creator in this campaign.

As a former environmental lawyer, I have fought hard to protect our natural environment. I will continue this personal commitment in Sacramento working with all sides for innovative and practical solutions & policies.

As both a parent and community leader in education, I am determined to support and reform our educational system. One out of four K-12 students in California is not English proficient and half qualify for free or reduced price meals. We have made improvements in test scores but we have a long way to go. I will work to increase education funding, give more authority to teachers and local school districts and support magnet schools and career programs."

Pet of the Week



Leah is an 11-month-old black and white pit bull mix. She loves to play with her toys and go for walks.

Leah's adoption fee is \$120, which includes her spay 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 A301193 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.



Leaders Offer Solutions to PCC Cuts

By Dean Lee

Pasadena City College President Dr. Mark Rocha made a passionate plea Wednesday night for students to work together with the school after days of protests triggered by course cuts that left many students scrambling to find open classes the first day of the spring semester.

"These cuts, 46 sections on 2,300 sections are serious," Rocha said during a packed board of trustee meeting. "But it's not the world coming to an end. There are people out there, who are not in college, and hearing this would think, I'm not coming."

Rocha said he was worried that they were sending a message the school was closed for business, "it is not," he said.

Rocha said cuts were in response to a \$2.8 million decrease in funding, from Sacramento, to the college announced just weeks before the start of classes. He cautioned that more cuts were coming next year, although did not say if the school had plans to nix Summer or Winter intercessions, a move implemented by other nearby colleges such as Glendale.

He called on students to rally Sacramento and support a proposed fall campaign around

an initiative to tax oil to fund education, "You want to do something practical to save your sections, we need to work together."

During the four hour meeting, many students and faculty blamed the schools leaders for mismanagement including the firing of over 20 longtime instructors teaching in retirement.

Jane Hallinger, English instructor and former president of the PCC Academic Senate said the cuts and layoffs were a failure to plan.

"We have been told over and over by the state and pundits this was coming," she said "two years ago we should have been planning in a proactive status rather than a reactive status that we face now."

She said they have an obligation to protect student's future by budgeting, "For the year after and the year after that."

Hallinger also criticized the school's choice to hire five vice presidents something Rocha had defended.

"All of the money that would be saved from the retired faculty that was fired would not pay for one vice president," she said.

Although Rocha did say the vice presidents were necessary he also said that they were looking at reorganization of

Tournament Names Flinn Executive Director



The Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced today that William Flinn will assume the role of executive director, effective March 1. Flinn has been serving as both interim executive director and chief operating officer since September 2011. As executive director, Flinn will be administratively responsible for leading the professional staff and supporting the association's leadership and the 935 volunteers in planning and staging the world-renowned Rose Parade presented by Honda and Rose Bowl Game presented by VIZIO.

"Bill Flinn has demonstrated a unique combination of historical perspective, innovation, relationship building and commitment to excellence that we value," said Tournament of Roses President and Chairman of the Board Sally M. Bixby. "We are excited to work together as we plan for the future."

Joining the Tournament of Roses staff as the director of

Legislators Asked to Pay for Vanity Plates

Assemblymember Anthony Portantino this week introduced AB 2068 to require legislators that have distinctive legislative license plates on their personal cars to pay the same fees that almost everyone else does for personalized license plates.

"I was shocked, but not surprised to see that legislators would carve out a special situation for themselves and I'm determined to put an end to the practice," commented Portantino.

public relations, Flinn served in various management positions before being named chief operating officer in 1997. As COO, he has been responsible for overseeing the Tournament's public and media relations, marketing, licensing, government relations, parade television broadcasting, membership services, procurement, and services to the Tournament's corporate and civic participants.

"I am honored to have been asked to serve in this capacity and I am looking forward to continuing to work closely with our outstanding volunteers, staff members, game partners, parade participants and community leaders associated with the Tournament of Roses," said Flinn. "I am energized by the spirit of our Tournament family and am eager to collectively build upon the heritage of the past 124 years, while utilizing new and creative strategies that will carry these uniquely Pasadena New Year events forward to the benefit and interest of future generations."

In addition to his work with the Tournament of Roses Association, Flinn has been an active volunteer with several community organizations. Most recently, he is the Chairman of the Governance Council for Crestmont College and has served as the President and Chairman of the Board of Pasadena Christian Schools. Over the years he also has directed numerous choral and instrumental groups and is the conductor of The Salvation Army's Pasadena Tabernacle Band.

Under existing law, current and retired legislators can ask DMV for a license plate that designates them as a state legislator or retired state legislator. The cost of these plates is \$12 on issuance, and no additional or annual fees are paid with subsequent yearly registration. The Department of Motor Vehicles has stated that there are 750 of these legislative license plates that have been issued in California. In contrast, average Californians, retired police and fire included, pay \$50 upon issuance and \$35 per year

management, "Everything is on the table," he said.

Students chanted and called for Rocha to step down singling out his \$1 million, four year contract with the school. Towards the end of the meeting he announced plans to create a "graduation fund," to stop future high demand classes from being cut.

As part of an eight step "graduation fund" process, Rocha said the first would be to shut the school down completely for a week during spring break saving the school \$25,000 in utilities and operating costs. He also said he would personally forgo a weeks pay, and donate the \$4,300 to the newly created fund.

Other steps include the executive committee each giving up two days pay, "This will ad approximately another \$8,000" Rocha said. He also called on all managers and classified supervisors donate one day's pay.

The school also has planed, this spring, a new 12 week intersession adding classes for those students affected by cuts.

Antonovich Criticizes Control of Cell Towers



Supervisor Michael Antonovich criticized President Obama's signing of a law that denies local governments' right to reject applications to co-locate cell antennas in their communities - the second such action taken by the federal government recently.

"Once again, the federal government is meddling in local land use and preventing residents from voicing concerns over cell towers," said Antonovich. "Without local control, cell carriers will be able to install in our communities without any public input."

This attack on local land-use control, buried on page 273 of the "Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011" bill reads "a State or local government may not deny, and shall approve, any eligible facilities request for a modification of an existing wireless tower or base station that does not substantially change the physical dimensions."

thereafter.

"Why should current and former legislators get special treatment for the issuance of license plates? It makes no sense for former and sitting legislators to be treated any differently than everyone else," Portantino said.

Portantino did not drive a state purchased district car, does not use an Assembly plate and has no plans to receive one upon retirement.

AB 2068 will be heard in the Assembly Transportation Committee in about six weeks.

Artnight Set for March 9



The city's spring ArtNight will feature paint-splawing army ducks, Japanese folding screens, satiric and seditious animated video shorts, pop-up galleries and teen- scene music and art workshops. The event, set for Friday, March 9, is free.

From 6 to 10 p.m. a dozen cultural venues will open their doors and the city of Pasadena will provide free shuttle service at each location. Walking is also an option as many of the venues are clustered downtown. To join a bicycling group visit

www.cicle.org. For easy treats at modest prices, trendy food trucks will appear at a handful of venues.

While entry to each location is free, many of the host venues will also offer special discounts on merchandise or memberships with proof of Metro ridership, including 10 percent off store merchandise at the Pasadena Museum of California Art or 10 percent off the price of exhibition catalogues at the Armory Center for the Arts. Other venues will offer additional discounts on memberships.

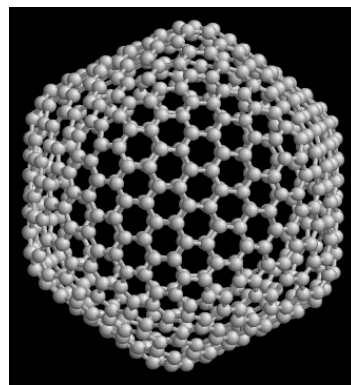
ArtNight is a twice-yearly event made possible through ongoing partnership among many cultural institutions and the Cultural Affairs Division of the city of Pasadena and is sponsored by the Pasadena Arts and Culture Commission. For more information call (626) 744-7887. For accessibility and alternative formats call (626) 744-7062. Para español visite www.artnightpasadena.org.

Spitzer Finds Buckyballs in Space

Astronomers using data from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope have, for the first time, discovered buckyballs in a solid form in space. Prior to this discovery, the microscopic carbon spheres had been found only in gas form in the cosmos.

Formally named buckminsterfullerene, buckyballs are named after their resemblance to the late architect Buckminster Fuller's geodesic domes. They are made up of 60 carbon molecules arranged into a hollow sphere, like a soccer ball. Their unusual structure makes them ideal candidates for electrical and chemical applications on Earth, including superconducting materials, medicines, water purification and armor.

"This exciting result suggests that buckyballs are even more widespread in space than the earlier Spitzer



results showed," said Mike Werner, project scientist for Spitzer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. "They may be an important form of carbon, an essential building block for life, throughout the cosmos."

Buckyballs have been found on Earth in various forms. They form as a gas from burning candles and exist as solids in certain types of rock, such as the mineral shungite found in Russia, and fulgurite, a glassy rock from Colorado that forms when lightning strikes the ground. In a test tube, the solids take on the form of dark, brown "goo."

Citizen Journalism Meet-up

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

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

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

We will put the news in your hands. Learn how to find



the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the means to tell the story using the power of video, audio and print along with online social media. The next meeting is Feb. 28 from 6 p.m. to 8p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave.

For more info call 626.794.8585 or visit pasadenan.com.

Portantino Announces Audit Reform Measure

In his continuing efforts to provide accountability in state government, Assemblymember Anthony Portantino this week introduced a bill to ensure transparency in legislative budgets and auditing.

AB 1887 calls on the State Controller to conduct a comprehensive and systematic audit of the state Legislature's finances for a period of two years (2012-13 and 2013-14). In following years, the Joint Rules Committee would hire an independent contractor to perform the audits but under guidelines set by the Controller. Under current law, the Joint Rules Committee chooses the auditor and sets the parameters for the audit. And, the Assembly does not even follow its own rules by not doing annual performance audits.

AB 1887 requires that the Assembly and Senate return any unused funds to the General Fund at the end of the legislative year. Those surplus monies would then be earmarked, subject to allocation by the Legislature, for the Student Aid Commission for use in the Cal Grant program.

AB 1887 provides that line item monies allocated to the Senate and Assembly cannot

be diverted to other agencies or programs unless such diversion is approved by a vote of the legislature and the signature of the Governor

"It's time to bring in an independent agency to allow for much-needed transparency and accountability in the Legislature," explained Assemblymember Portantino. "This bill will require complete disclosure of the expenditure of monies allocated to both house of the Legislature in the annual budget. And at the end of the year, any surplus goes to help maintain Cal Grants for needy college students. Accountability and preparing our next work force should be top priorities of the Legislature."

During the 2011-12 fiscal year, the State Assembly and State Senate were allocated more than a quarter-billion-dollars to run the state Legislature (\$109,350,000 Senate and \$146,716,000 Assembly). Existing state law allows these funds to carry over from one year to the next where they remain in the Senate and Assembly Operating Fund. The Assembly has been transferring 15% of its total appropriation to various state agencies - \$52 million over the past three years.

FRASER FAMILY DANCE GROUP HAS SECURED 210 1ST PLACE AWARDS AT 10 COMPETITIONS IN 2 YEARS

The Fraser Family Dance Group continue to astound ballroom dance judges as they win a total of 30 1st place awards in International Latin at the California Open Dancesport Championships Feb. 16 – Feb. 19 in Irvine. Thus far the family has secured over 210 1st place awards at 10 competitions within two years. Up next is the San Francisco Open Dancesport Championships March 23 – March 25.

Kari, Grace and Holden started dance lessons as a family activity in 2009 and began competing nationally by 2010. Kari is a former N.Y. actress (Kari Gibson), who initially portrayed Dixie Cooney on the ABC daytime soap All My Children. Grace is a 14-year-old freshman at Pasadena's Mayfield Senior School. Holden is a 6th grader at Clairbourn School in Pasadena and he's 11 years old.

The Fraser's dance instructors are Boris Rudenko and Ekaterina Fedosova. In 2009 they ranked 2nd in the U.S. for Ballroom Sport Dance Pair. During the competition phase Kari and Grace dance with Boris and Holden dances with Ekaterina.

The Fraser's have also enlisted Paul Killick as their private coach. A former professional ballroom dancer, Killick and his dance partners were finalists in all major world competitions. One of his dance partners was Dancing With The Stars dance pro and celebrity, Karina Smirnoff.

The family trains at various ballrooms in Glendale, Eagle Rock and the Westmor Dance Studio in downtown Los Angeles. For upcoming competitions they practice two to three hours a day five days a week. During non-competition dates they practice 1 ½ hours four days a week. It's a balancing act between the children's homework and dance practice, but the Fraser family loves dancing and spending time together.

When the Fraser's began competing nationally they never knew they were part of a wonderful family legacy. As a young man their grandfather, Albert "Scotty" Fraser won several awards in international smooth dancing and competed throughout Scotland. Today "Scotty" is 85-years-old and lives in Westbury, Long Island with his 75-year-old wife, Beverly.

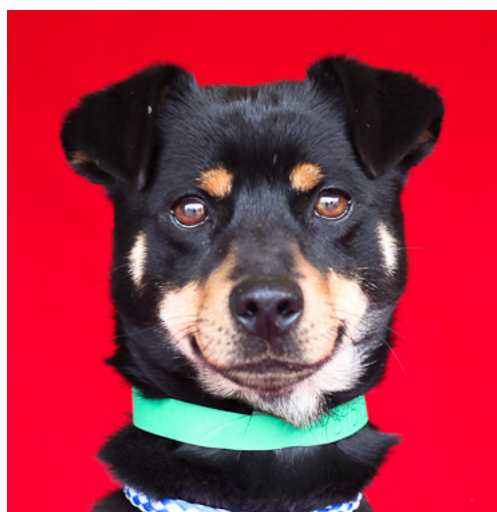
"Scotty's son, Bruce Fraser, Kari's husband and Grace and Holden's father seemed to inherit the dance gene. As a junior in high school Bruce spent one semester abroad in Linz, Austria. He was exceptionally talented and served as an example to the other students on how to properly dance the Waltz. Bruce attended Columbia University and Harvard Law School and today he's a partner at Sidley Austin LLP in downtown Los Angeles.

The ballroom dance circuit has been a blessing for the Fraser Family Dance Group. Grace would like to one day compete at the Blackpool Dance Festival, the world's first and most prestigious ballroom dance competition held every May in Blackpool, England. An avid fan of Dancing With the Stars she would also like to be on the show and teach children ballroom dancing. Holden is 11-years-old and still has his future ahead of him. Kari will always be a ballroom dancer but also loves being an actress and hopes to return to television.



PET OF THE WEEK: STOKER: Animal ID #4395131

Meet a unique and charming individual, the very handsome Stoker (A4395131). Stoker is a bouncy one-year-old black and brown male Shorthaired Chihuahua puppy who was found in Covina and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center on February 10th. Weighing sixteen pounds, Stoker walks okay on the leash, is well socialized and is most likely housebroken. This playful puppy is great with kids and loves other dogs. Stoker is full of puppy energy. Wiggly and enthusiastic, he adores playing with toys and is curious and alert to his surroundings. Stoker will be a great indoor pet for an active family in any living situation, and would make an ideal running or hiking buddy. To watch a video of Stoker please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ot9tz0eYQv0



To meet Stoker in person, please see him at the Baldwin Park Shelter, located at 4275 N. Elton, Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378 or 626-962-3577). He is currently available now. For any inquiries about Stoker, please reference his animal ID number: A4395131. The shelter is open seven days a week, 12 pm-7 pm Monday-Thursday and 10am-5pm Friday-Sunday. This is a high-intake shelter with a great need for adoptions. For more information about Stoker 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/>.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER PORTANTINO ANNOUNCES AUDIT REFORM MEASURE (AB 1887)

Sacramento – In his continuing efforts to provide accountability in state government, Assemblymember Anthony Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge) today introduced a bill to ensure transparency in legislative budgets and auditing.

AB 1887 calls on the State Controller to conduct a comprehensive and systematic audit of the state Legislature's finances for a period of two years (2012-13 and 2013-14). In following years, the Joint Rules Committee would hire an independent contractor to perform the audits but under guidelines set by the Controller. Under current law, the Joint Rules Committee chooses the auditor and sets the parameters for the audit. And, the Assembly does not even follow its own rules by not doing annual performance audits.

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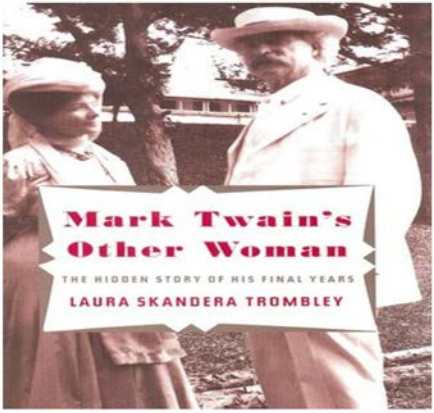
Portantino concluded: "This practice has led to large surpluses at a time when the state is facing huge budget shortfalls resulting in cuts to school funding, increased tuition at colleges and universities and decreases in support for aged, blind and disabled Californians. If the Legislature appropriates more money than it needs, let's help solve this problem by setting a specific agenda for using that surplus and putting in place strict accountability and transparency."



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**Mark Twain's Other Woman:
The Hidden Story of His Final Years**

Sponsored by Friends of the Monrovia Public Library



Learn many of the Twain household's dark secrets in the last decade of his life.

Noted Twain scholar and President of Pitzer College in Claremont, Laura Trombley speaks about the bitter feud between his daughter Clara and the manipulative Isabel Lyon.



Book sales and signing after the program.

**Saturday, March 3
1:00 - 3:00 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

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This material was made possible by funding from the Department of Health and Human Services through the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

ARCADIA

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Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF *BLIND* SUCCESS



By Joan Schmidt

Never mind the pouring rain. That didn't keep away thirty people from attending a special ribbon cutting ceremony at the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce to mark the 20th Anniversary of John Sun's **Budget Blinds**. Among those attending were Arcadia City Council candidates, Chamber Ambassadors, many new members and representatives from local public officials.

There was of course the official "Ribbon Cutting" Ceremony. Many presentations were made and a delicious free lunch was provided by *Tasty to Go*.

Tasty to Go, which is located at the corner of Second Avenue and Duarte Road, brought quite a delicious meal which included Fried Rice, Chow Mein, Beef and Broccoli and Orange Chicken. Beverages were provided by *Au 79*.

Arcadia Chamber of Commerce President Bob Hoffman of Merrill Lynch presented the member plaque to John Sun. Other presenters included Steve Johnson from State Assemblyman Tim Donnelly's office, Hovanes Gasparian from State Assemblyman Anthony Portantino's office, Brenda Daniels representing Supervisor Mike Antonovich, and David Monray on behalf of State Senator Bob Huff.

The Arcadia Chamber of Commerce has great networking meetings on the first Thursday at 8:00 each month. There are always local officials or their representatives who give community members updates on what is happening in our areas. For instance, Supervisor Mike Antonovich was at the first meeting I attended. He addressed the issue of the state's transfer of prisoners to county jails and early release of prisoners. Another Chamber meeting had Secret Service members speak about counterfeit money!

The Arcadia Chamber of Commerce is located at 388 West Huntington Drive, Arcadia. Hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Phone (626) 447-2159.

ARCADIA CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES' FORUM

Meet the Candidates! Hear the Candidates!

The Arcadia Chinese Association (ACA) and the Arcadia Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) are co-sponsoring an Arcadia City Council Candidates' Forum. The Forum takes place on Friday, March 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia. This is a free event. Arcadians are invited to come early at 6:30 p.m. to meet the candidates before the Forum begins.

All five candidates have confirmed that they will

participate. The five candidates vying for two open seats are Mary Dougherty, Gary Kovacic, Henry Nunez, Sho Tay, and John Wuo. A forum such as this gives residents an opportunity to listen to the candidates, to ask them for answers to crucial questions, and to become better informed voters. This year's election will be an all mail-in election, and ballots will be mailed to residents on March 10, a month before the General Municipal Election on Tuesday, April 10. There will be no polling places.

Tao Kuo of ACA is chairperson of the Forum, and Betty Harris of Arcadia AAUW will serve as moderator. Residents are invited to come and hear what the candidates' visions are for Arcadia's future.

A WORKSHOP FOR MIND, BODY, & SOUL

Senior Services Division is offering an exciting, creative, workshop designed for seniors to interact with others through storytelling, role-playing, and improvisation. The group facilitator, Tom Franco, will offer a clear understanding at this free workshop as to the ex-

pectations of this new class that will start in April. Light snacks and refreshments will also be served to those in attendance. The lecture will be held Tuesday, February 28th from 1-2pm at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia.

For more information call Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130 or visit our website at ci.arcadia.us.

HEART ATTACK LECTURE TUESDAY IN ARCADIA

A heart attack 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. The 50+ Senior Connection program at Methodist Hospital, in conjunction with the Arcadia Community Center, will present Heart Attack!, a lecture with important information that everyone in the community should know.

The program will begin at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 28, at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Dr. Reservations are necessary, so please call 626-574-5130. Cardiologist Terrence, Baruch, MD, medical director of Methodist Hospital's car-

diac catheterization laboratory, will present valuable information about heart attacks. Dr. Baruch will describe the symptoms, diagnosis and treatment options for heart attack. He will also provide facts about the hospital's STEMI program and the 911 transfer program that could save your life. About Methodist Hospital Founded in 1903, Methodist Hospital is a 460-bed, not-for-profit hospital serving Arcadia and surrounding communities. Services include comprehensive acute care such as medical, surgical, perinatal, pediatrics, oncology, intensive care (neonatal and adult) and complete cardiovascular services, including open-heart surgery. Methodist Hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission.

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, January 22nd, through Saturday, January 28th, the Police Department responded to 821 calls for service, of which 115 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, January 22:

1. At about 2:22 a.m., an officer observed a vehicle with a broken taillight, and conducted a traffic stop on Huntington Drive, east of Fifth Avenue. Through investigation, the officer discovered the driver had a suspended license. The passenger was in possession of a valid license; however, he neglected to drive because he had been drinking. The 26-year-old Hispanic female driver was cited for Driving on a Suspended License, and the 32-year-old Hispanic male passenger was cited for Permitting an Unlicensed Driver to Drive.

2. Between 5:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., unknown suspect(s) stole a Blue Honda Civic from the parking lot at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue. The victim left the vehicle secured with all doors locked, and no one saw or heard anything suspicious. Mall security was advised to check surveillance video for possible suspect information.

Monday, January 23:

3. Shortly after 12:13 p.m., an officer was patrolling the parking lot of Fresh & Easy, 133 East Foothill Boulevard, and conducted a DMV inquiry on a Ford F-150 truck. The officer discovered the vehicle had expired registration, and made contact with the driver. As the officer approached the rear of the vehicle, he noticed a fraudulent year registration sticker. The 52-year-old White male was cited for False Display of Registration.

4. Around 9:06 p.m., an officer was patrolling the 000 block of Fairview Avenue, in regards to a theft report. The victim discovered his two bicycles had been stolen from his bike rack, which he stored in a designated parking stall. Unknown suspect(s) cut the bike chain by an unknown means, and fled undetected.

Tuesday, January 24:

5. At approximately 11:30 a.m., officers responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter in regards to a fraud investigation. The victim discovered unknown suspect(s) attempted to change the address of her Nordstrom credit account, and opened two Chase credit card accounts using her personal information. The victim has no idea how her information was compromised and is desirous of prosecution.

6. At approximately 4:45 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 000 block of Kingsley Drive in regards to a residential burglary report. When the victim returned home, he discovered two of his bedrooms had been ransacked, and noticed his coins were missing. Unknown suspect(s) forced entry into the home through a sliding glass window. Officers made contact with a neighbor who reported seeing a bluish green metallic truck with two White male occupants, approximately in their 30's. The vehicle was seen driving away westbound from the north curb line of Kingsley Drive, directly in front of the victim's house.

Wednesday, January 25:

7. Around 2:44 p.m., officers responded to the area of Baldwin Avenue and Gate 7 at the Santa Anita Race Track, in reference to a possible drunk driver. An investigation revealed the suspect ran a red light at the intersection of Baldwin Avenue, and attempted to make a left turn into Gate 7 but drove into the racetrack fence. He left the scene of the accident, and was located and detained inside the racetrack parking lot. Officers determined the suspect was under the influence and was never issued a license. The 32-year-old Hispanic male was

arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

8. At approximately 7:11 p.m., an officer responded to CVS Pharmacy, 188 Las Tunas Drive, in regards to a theft report. The cashier observed a male adult exit the store while concealing a bottle of liquor underneath his jacket. She watched him flee west through the parking lot on a silver bicycle. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male with light skin, bald, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, light gray striped shorts, white socks, and tan shoes.

Thursday, January 26:

9. Shortly after 9:20 a.m., an officer was patrolling the area of Peck Road and Clark Avenue, and conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for suspended registration. The driver and passenger provided false identities. Through investigation, the officer discovered the driver had a suspended license for DUI, a no bail felony warrant, two misdemeanor warrants, and was on felony probation. A records check of the passenger revealed an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. The 41-year-old Hispanic male driver and 28-year-old Hispanic male passenger were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

10. Around 2:35 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Nordstrom at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a burglary report. A female adult returned two Michael Kors watches for a cash refund. Loss prevention personnel later determined the watches were stolen from Nordstrom at the Montclair Mall. The suspect was recorded on video surveillance, and matched the description of a suspect in other related cases.

Friday, January 27:

11. At approximately 3:23 p.m., an officer responded to the Santa Anita Mall parking lot, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to two adult subjects possibly having sexual intercourse inside of their vehicle. A search of the female subject's purse revealed she was in possession of narcotics and controlled substance paraphernalia. The 37-year-old White female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

12. At about 8:04 p.m., officers responded to the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to three juveniles involved in a theft. One suspect led officers on a foot pursuit along Baldwin Avenue, and was detained near Gate 9. A second suspect was detained by mall security, however the third suspect was not located. An investigation revealed the suspects stole from Cotton on, and stole shopping bags from Old Navy, which they used to conceal merchandise at Zumiez. The 16-year-old and 14-year-old Hispanic males were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for Booking. They were later released to their parents.

Saturday, January 28:

13. At roughly 12:32 p.m., an officer responded to the 000 block of Encanto Drive regarding a residential burglary investigation. Unknown suspect(s) entered the home by an unknown means and ransacked four bedrooms. Officers discovered two empty cases, and observed the doors pried off. The victim was out of town at the time of the report and was unable to determine what property had been stolen.

14. Shortly after 11:10 p.m., officers were conducting a DUI checkpoint on northbound Santa Anita Avenue at Saint Joseph Street. Upon contact with the driver of a grey Toyota pickup truck, the officer smelled an odor of alcohol emitting from his person. An investigation revealed the 28-year-old Asian male was driving under the influence. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.



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SONGWRITERS AND THEIR SONGS

The third Kaleidoscope concert of the season returns on February 29 at 7:00 p.m. with a fascinating look at what makes theatrical songs tick, musically and dramatically, with performances of songs by Broadway's greatest writers. The versatile singers will be the husband and wife team of Karen Benjamin and KUSC host Alan Chapman.

No reservations are necessary and admission is free. Seating is limited to the first 150 people. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

This series of unique and memorable free classical concerts is generously sponsored by the Arcadia Public Library Foundation. Light refreshments will be served and complimentary Starbucks coffee from Starbucks in Monrovia will also be served.

For more information, please call (626) 294-4808 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.



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.

PARTICIPATE IN READ

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Pasadena

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THE MONROVIA CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

From Our Desk to Yours

California Green Communities Silver Certification

According to Environmental Media Association President Debbie Levin, Monrovia is a leader among Southern California cities who are modeling sustainable practices for others. The City was presented with the honor of achieving the "Silver" status as a California Green Community, and was one of only four cities to be honored. Monrovia was able to achieve this outstanding status by completing projects in each of 10 resource areas, including solid waste reduction, greenhouse gas reduction, energy and water efficiency, and green building. Congratulations to our Public Works staff, and specifically Heather Maloney and Sharon Gallant, for spearheading this effort. Great job, team!

Economic Development Action Plan... Round Two

City Council got encouraging news that staff has been steadily implementing activities described in the Economic Development Action Plan, which is a blueprint for how the City plans on attracting, retaining and growing businesses in Monrovia. This spring, Staff will continue to focus on economic development by launching a campaign aimed at reducing the vacancy rate in Old Town, creating a Business Visitation Program, and finally, revamping economic development marketing efforts to cross-promote all the services available to businesses when they choose Monrovia. These services range from the project coordination to the Fire Department's Business Emergency Response Training Program to rental facilities available at discounted rates at the Canyon Park Cabin.

So where does the City go from here? Well, the future of economic development will look a little different today than it did a year ago without redevelopment funding. Moving forward, the economic development staff will continue to utilize existing resources and focus our energy on proactive ways to help attract, retain and grow business in Monrovia, through things such as the business visitation program and the business blogs.

Gold Line Deal...at the Eleventh Hour.

The City of Monrovia has been working with the Gold Line Construction Authority (Gold Line) for the past two years on a deal that included the sale of land from the City and Successor Agency to the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency to the Gold Line for the use of a Maintenance and Operation (M&O) Facility. The M&O facility is a critical component of the Foothill Extension Phase 2A project, which is an 11.5 mile extension of the Gold Line that will add six light rail sta-

tions in the cities of Arcadia, Monrovia, Duarte, Irwindale, and Azusa. The Gold Line is an independent transportation planning and construction agency created by the State to manage the design and construction of the rail extension.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) will be the agency that will operate and maintain the light rail after construction. One of Metro's stipulations to the Gold Line was the requirement that a site be secured for an M&O facility in order to commence construction of the rail alignment of Phase 2A. The City of Monrovia, recognizing the importance of regional transportation, was the only city in the San Gabriel Valley willing to work with the Gold Line to accommodate an M&O facility. The site is generally located on the block bounded by Evergreen Avenue, Shamrock Avenue, Duarte Road and California Avenue. Throughout the negotiations with the Gold Line, City staff was explicit that a sale of the site to the Gold Line would only be considered if the purchase price included all costs incurred by the City and Agency, as well as the loss of potential future revenues and the mitigation of environmental impacts.

In the midst of signing the negotiated Agreement between both parties, the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency was hit with the ABX1 26 legislation that froze the Agency's activities, and later killed the Redevelopment Agency. In addition, the Agency and the Gold Line were sued by a property owner right next to the proposed M & O facility site.

To date, all lawsuits have been settled, and we are looking to move forward with the plans for the M&O facility and ultimately the Phase 2A project. Since the Redevelopment Agency was frozen last summer, the Gold Line has progressed with obtaining the land that would be used for the M&O facility through condemnation procedures. To that end, the Courts have requested to settle the purchase and sale of Monrovia's land through a settlement, since both parties have a negotiated agreement at hand.

As part of the previously negotiated agreement, the Gold Line agreed to contribute funds towards necessary public improvements throughout the 80-acre Station Square Transit Village area, and to construct a 350-space parking structure. Staff brought both of these Agreements (the Parking Facility Agreement and the Public Improvements Funding Agreement) to Council Tuesday night. There was a 4-to-1 vote that approved each of the Agreements. These approvals, however, are subject to approval of the Stipulation for Entry of Judgment for ongoing litigation associated with Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 476000.

For more information on these items, or for more information on the meeting Agendas, please contact our City Clerk at (626) 932-5505.

MONROVIA HONORS SIX BLUE STAR FAMILIES



By Joan Schmidt

Last November, I attended the special Veterans Day ceremonies at Duarte and Monrovia. While at the Monrovia ceremony, I found out about the Blue Star Families. I had never heard about them or their organization. Recently I contacted Kristen from the San Gabriel Valley Chapter of Blue Star Families and she shared the following information with me.

The Blue Star Program is nothing new. The Blue Star Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by United States Army Captain Robert L. Queissner of the Fifth Ohio Infantry, in honor of his two sons who were serving in World War I. It was quickly adopted by the public and government officials.

A Blue Star Flag displayed in the window of a home has become an American tradition. This banner lets others know that a member of the household is proudly serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

On September 24, 1917, an Ohio congressman read into the Congressional record: "The Mayor of Cleveland, the Chamber of Commerce and the Governor of Ohio have adopted this service flag. The world should know of those who give so much for liberty. The dearest thing in all the world to a father and mother: their children."

The Blue Star Families Support Group was created with this in mind. They all have family members who have chosen to fight for our country and freedom. And although there are not enough words to describe their pride, they have many fears and questions. It is their hope, that if they come together, they can give each other strength and understanding, so they can be strong for their family and country.

This group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at the Monrovia Coffee Company, 425 S. Myrtle Ave. at 7pm. All family members of service men and women are welcome.

At the special February 21st meeting, the families of Captain Alexander White, United

States Army; Corporal Thomas Wheeler, United States Army; Private First Class Ronald L. Lynam, United States Marine Corps, Private First Class Adrian Velasco, United State Marine Corps; Lance Corporal Lewis C. Keith, United States Marine Corps; and Airman Basic Lauren Casey Blowers, United States Air Force were recognized and each were presented with a bag of donations.

From American Legion Post #44 were Commander Earle Sweeney and Service Officer Chuck Keene. Chuck reminded everyone of the windstorm and the damage it caused-especially to many of the Blue Star banners honoring Monrovia's military. The City of Monrovia had generously supplied these banners. However funds are being sought to cover the cost of replacing the banners:

"The City of Monrovia has always paid for our banners. (Thank you, Monrovia!) Now it is time that we pitch in and try to help the City pay for the replacements. We'd love to see all our banners back up."

There are TWO ways that we can help. First of all ANY donation would be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to the "City of Monrovia" and on the subject line, write "banner replacement". Then either drop off or mail the check to City Hall at 415 South Ivy Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016 Attn: Rachel Hughes.

Another way to help this cause is the Fundraising Breakfast to be held at Immaculate Conception Church on Shamrock in Monrovia on Sunday, March 4, from 9 a.m.-12 noon.

There were two special ladies representing Blue Star Families, Joy Smith and Isabella Aragon. Isabella recently received a special Certificate in recognition for her support of her son's troop in Iraq. Isabella was very happy to say the troop is now back in the states.

Our service men and women make great sacrifices for us. Let's show our gratitude by making a donation or attending the breakfast at Immaculate Conception, so ALL the banners can be replaced!

OPINION:

DUARTE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING RAISES QUESTIONS AND CALLS FOR RESIGNATIONS

By Joan Schmidt

The February 9th meeting of the Duarte School Board brought out a record number of attendees-more than fifty teachers and fifty residents, many of whom were angry and wanted answers.

During the last school board election campaigns, there was mention of mismanagement of school funding. The people who were seeking answers were labeled as "trouble makers" and when a meeting was called to address these issues, the incumbents who were running for office were "no-shows". (I attended that meeting and only David Hall, Tom Reyes and Dolores Ortiz attended)

The election happened and Tom Reyes was elected. Tom made a promise during his campaign, and he felt that these issues needed to be resolved. The teachers are angry because their health coverage package is \$6,000 per year, has not been increased in years and is approximately \$2,000 less than

surrounding districts.

The issue is that two current board members have spent more than \$40,000 over that amount during the last five years. The two members are Ken Bell and Reyna Diaz. Ken Bell and Reyna Diaz are two fine community members who have done much for Duarte over the years. Reyna is a personal friend - she would give you the shirt off her back. She helped form the Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte Town Council and helped the Hispanic community in southern Duarte so much. She has done so many fundraisers over the years to send money to areas hit by natural disasters. She and her husband would bring toys and clothes to Mexico and El Salvador every year during Christmas.

When questioned about spending more than the teachers on health insurance, both Reyna and Ken said they did not realize this was happening.

I believe them because no one can be the person that Reyna is and do something that would hurt other people. She started the "Our Lady of Guadalupe" celebration at Annunciation many years ago, because so many Hispanics live in this area. And she got Bishop Zavala to officiate at the special Mass.

Monrovia Police Blotter

Highlighted Activity for the Weekdays of February 20-22, 2012

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 443 service events, resulting in 81 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping.

Burglary

On February 20 at 9:59 p.m., a burglary of a garage was reported in the 500 block of West Foothill. The burglary occurred sometime between Sunday night and Monday night. The suspect(s) used bolt cutters to cut the hasp of the garage door to gain entry. The interior cabinets were ransacked, but there was no loss.

Vehicle Burglary

On February 20 at 10:36 p.m., an officer responded to a vehicle burglary that occurred in the 700 block of East Huntington. The burglary occurred in the parking lot of a gym. The suspect vehicle is a newer, grey Toyota Corolla. A male suspect punched the lock on the driver side door and stole an I-Pod from the vehicle. The suspect vehicle drove off southbound. Investigation continuing.

Detective Bureau Case Follow-up

2008 Attempt Murder Case Follow-up - Suspect Jimmy Santana Convicted

In February of 2008, a male subject/victim was riding his bicycle in the 2500 block of South Peck Road. He was approached by a suspect with a gun who walked up to him and shot him. The suspect, Jimmy Santana, is a known gang member. The incident was found to be gang related; however, the victim is not a gang member. This incident occurred in the county area of Monrovia and was investigated by Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau detectives. Monrovia Police Department detectives and officers played a major part in the conviction of this suspect in testimony regarding gang affiliation.

In February of 2012, the suspect in this case, Jimmy Santana, was convicted of willful, deliberate and premeditated murder; the jury also found he personally and intentionally discharged a firearm, causing great bodily injury to the victim. Santana was also convicted of shooting from a motor vehicle and assault with a firearm. The jury found the gang allegation true as to all counts. Sentencing is set for March 15, 2012.

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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PUSD NEWSFLASH

February 27-March 2 is National Read Across America Week and PUSD schools are celebrating with reading activities to mark the birthday of children's author Dr. Seuss. Check with your school for specific dates and times.

Got cavities? Children between the ages of 2-18 who don't have dental insurance can get free dental care from the USC Mobile Dental Clinic, which returns to PUSD March 2-9. To pre-register, call Young & Healthy at 626.795.5166.

PUSD students and families can visit local museums for free! Through PUSD's award-winning My Masterpieces, families with PUSD students at the 14 participating schools can visit local museums like Kidspace, the Gamble House, and the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens free of charge. Just pick up the family pass from the school office at the following campuses: Cleveland, Don Benito, Field, Franklin, Hamilton, Jackson, Longfellow, Madison, McKinley, Norma Coombs, Roosevelt, San Rafael, Sierra Madre, and Webster. For more information, please contact Jennifer Olson at the Pasadena Educational Foundation, 626-396-3600 x88372.

My Masterpieces invites families with children in PUSD's first grade to visit the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens free of charge on three upcoming Saturdays: March 24, April 21, and May 19. Admission flyers were sent home with students at 14 "My Masterpieces" schools. The flyer must be presented at the Huntington's admission desk. If you need a flyer, please contact Jennifer Olson at the Pasadena Educational Foundation, 626-396-3600 x88372.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, February 25
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Parents as Leaders: Building Collective Leadership PUSD school teams representing principals, teachers, and parents from PTA, ELAC, AAPC, School Site Councils and any other community of interest will participate in cross-cultural leadership training. Facilitator Diane Burbie will introduce skills and approaches for administrators, teachers, and parents from different backgrounds to work together effectively, and each team will apply those skills to creating an action plan for collective implementation of key school goals. For more information or to register for this event, contact info@penfamilies.org or the PUSD Welcome Center 626.396.3600 ext. 33840. Edison Professional Development Center, 119 W. Palm St., Altadena, CA

Monday, February 27
6:15 p.m. The SELPA/Special Education Community Advisory Committee will meet. This month's topics include: the search for a new Executive Director of Special Education and an update on the Special Education Task Force. Translation and childcare provided. Edison Professional Development Center, 119 W. Palm St., Altadena, CA. Go to <http://cac.pasadenusd.org> for more information.

Tuesday, February 28
5:30 p.m. The Board of Education meets in public session. Board Room, 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena. Spanish translation provided. For more information, go to www.pusd.us

Wednesday, February 29
5:30 p.m. PUSD students in grades 3-8 will compete in the annual African American History Bee sponsored by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. Student teams will be quizzed on notable African Americans, events, and culture. Eliot Middle School, 2184 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena.

Friday, March 2
All day Friday, March 2, 2012 is the deadline to submit applications to receive financial aid for college. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and get more information about grants and scholarships at www.calgrants.org

7:00 p.m. PUSD middle and high school students perform in the annual All District Music Festival at Pasadena High School, 2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena.

Saturday, March 3
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. March is Parenting Awareness Month and PUSD encourages parents to attend DayOne Pasadena's Parent Conference 2012: It Starts at Home. Discuss hot topics, learn about parenting tips and trends, connect with valuable resources available in the community, and engage with other parents. Inspirational guest speakers, workshops in English and Spanish, resource fair, breakfast, lunch, raffles, and childcare. Register for this free event by calling DayOne Pasadena at 626-229-9750 or go to www.dayonepasadena.com

9:30 a.m. The PUSD Board of Education will meet in joint session with the Altadena Town Council. Altadena Community Center, 730 East Altadena Drive, Altadena. www.pusd.us

1:00 p.m. The PUSD Districting Task Force invites you to attend this meeting on developing new sub-regional districts to elect school board members. The taskforce and technical team will present information about the districting process, mapping methods, and how you can participate. Tekeyen Cultural Association Center, 1901 N. Allen, Altadena. For more information, please email us at pusdtaskforce@gmail.com or follow us on Twitter: @pusdtaskforce

OVER 30 PURVEYORS OF FINE FOOD AND DRINK AT LA SALLE MARCH 24

La Salle's Alumni Association to Host "Taste of La Salle" on Saturday March 24, 2012

The La Salle High School Alumni Association is hosting a food and beverage tasting event on campus on Saturday, March 24th. All members of the community are invited to attend.

The "Taste of La Salle" will feature over 30 food, beer, wine and tequila vendors offering a taste of their signature item including classic favorites like Philippe The Original, Porto's Bakery & Café, The Derby, San Antonio Winery, and Patron Tequila. Exotic foods from Chakra, Mediterranean Garden Grill and Choza Mama Peruvian Cuisine & Bakery and new establishments like London Gastropub, Sugar Fix, Beyond the Olive, and The Bruery will delight the palate, to name a few.

An Opportunity Drawing will also take place with the chance to win fabulous prizes including wines and kitchen appliances plus the Grand Prize "Eat Out for a Year" basket which features an array of gift cards totaling over \$1,000 to local eateries.

"Taste of La Salle" tickets are \$30 in advance or \$40 at the door. Proceeds from the event go to the Alumni Scholarship Fund for a graduating Senior.

For reservations or more information please call La Salle High School at 626.696.4362 or go online at www.lancernetwork.com/Taste2012.



SUCCESS

I do not think that I have ever been more nervous in my entire life. For days I was anticipating this interview, looking up questions, how to dress, act, etc. but I still felt I wasn't prepared enough. For the one block I was at school, the clock seemed to stop and time dragged on. I was to be at USC by 2 for my interview with Lt. Matt Stewart of the Air Force, even though it was scheduled for 2:15. I left school at 9:50 so I had time to take deep breathes and change into appropriate attire. Everyone told me to relax, that it was going to be okay, but I don't think they understand how much I have riding on the outcome of that interview. If I am granted a scholarship with Air Force ROTC, all my colleges will remain an option, but if I don't, my college option pool shrinks drastically.

The drive to USC wasn't bad at all, and I arrived to the USC campus at 1:15, but parking was a nightmare. As I walked up the Physical Education building steps at 2, home of USC's ROTC, I was so glad I had left home at 12:30, especially because it took me about five minutes to find the AFROTC office. As I entered, my nerves seemed to melt away, and once Lt. Stewart took me into his office for the interview, I was ready. Talking was easy, and although I could have been more coherent in some of my explanations, he said I interviewed very well. He even introduced me to his Captain before I left, something I don't know how to feel about.

As I left campus my outlook on my future brightened and I couldn't help but feel confident in my success. In three weeks I will know, all I have to do now, is wait, and think, "Air power!"

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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: pclarke@arrayopacific.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

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...less sticky and have less sugar.

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Brushing Up On Teeth!

"Hang Five!" Er, wait a minute, I think it's "High Five" for good dental health. Like all dolphins, I don't use a toothbrush, but I do have some teeth. I use them to catch fish, but then I swallow the fish whole.

You (hopefully) use a toothbrush to clean your teeth. You don't catch fish with them, do you? If so, do you swallow the fish whole? What a good, tasty snack!

Come to visit my office twice a year. We'll clean and check your teeth!

Meanwhile, you can sink your teeth into my dental puzzle below.

Choosing Snacks and Treats

Speaking of good snacks, here are a few ideas for healthy treats between meals.

Choosing snacks that are less sticky and have less sugar are better for your teeth.

Fill in the vowels to spell out good treats:

1. fresh fr ___ ts - apples, grapes
2. p ___ pc ___ rn or rice cakes
3. v ___ g ___ t ___ bl ___ sticks - carrots, celery
4. n ___ ts and s ___ ds
5. m ___ lk instead of soda
6. ch ___ s ___ cubes

These grouchy guys love to see plaque on your teeth. They like teeth Sticky and Dull...but we don't!

Hey, Dull . . .let's hide this kid's t ___ thbr ___ sh.

Plaque Pests

Oh yeah, Sticky . . . like he's going to notice that it's missing anyway!

1. holes in teeth

2. person who takes care of teeth

3. 32 of these

4. brush with this to clean teeth

5. worn to correct a problem

6. makes teeth sticky and dull

toothpaste teeth

dentist braces

cavities plaque

Yay!

Free Puzzles!

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DO ONE DON'T DO THE OTHER

Must admit with all the past weeks Presidential food notes and trivial trivia, I almost missed National Margarita & Chili Days, and what type of foodie would I be, but fear not friends, I did partake in a Margarita and a hot bowl of beanless chili. I have to take my Andy Rooney Card out again and give you my fellow diners the rules of Etiquette 101. I love my daughter, and some of my friends kids. But here goes. I am I am asked frequently asked about etiquette and table manners, so I compiled this simple list based on the most common questions.

- Your napkin goes in your lap, folded in half, as soon as you sit down. Many people wait until the food arrives, but the proper form is to be prepared.

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefknows@yahoo.com

- If you leave the table, place the napkin to the left of your plate, loosely draped.
- A napkin is never for blowing your nose or wiping your mouth. Use it to dab at the corners of your mouth or your fingertips. If you need to cleanse further, leave the table and use the appropriate products in the restroom.
- In formal dining, a charger will be under the place setting. It remains there during the starter course and is removed at the main course.
- Your eating utensils go in the order of use, starting from the outside (furthest from the plate) and working their way in. Forks go on the left; knives and spoons on the right, as you face the plate. Dessert utensils are placed at the top of the plate, sideways.
- The bread and butter plate goes to the left,

above the forks.

- The water glass goes above the knives (behind the wine goblet, if there is one).
- Food should be passed counter-clockwise.
- It is considered impolite to start eating before everyone is seated and served, including your host.
- Only the meal settings and food belong on the table. Do not place your elbows, eyeglasses, notebook, pen or other objects on the table.
- Cut no more than two bites of any item at a time. When it comes to bread, tear off one bite at a time and butter it, rather than buttering a whole roll.
- Do not season your food until you have tasted it.
- It is permissible to use a piece of bread to wipe up excess gravy, as long as you use your fork and not your fingers.
- If you need to leave the table, place your utensils on the edge of your plate so that the tips point to the plate's center, in a V-shape. To signal when you are finished, lay your utensils side by side diagonally on the plate.

Listen to Talk radio KABC's Dining with Dills weekends with Peter Dills



INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup chopped ripe plums (about 2 plums)
- 1 small jalapeno pepper, seeded and diced
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil
- 2 tablespoons chopped red onion
- 2 teaspoons fresh lime juice
- 3/4 teaspoon salt, divided
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 4 (4-oz.) chicken breast cutlets
- 2 teaspoons olive oil

DIRECTIONS

1. Stir together plums, next 4 ingredients, and 1/4 tsp. salt in a medium bowl.
2. Stir together brown sugar, cumin, and remaining 1/2 tsp. salt in a small bowl. Rub chicken with brown sugar mixture.
3. Cook chicken in hot oil in a grill pan or nonstick skillet over medium heat 3 minutes on each side or until done. Serve with plum mixture.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Memoryhouse



Review by: Sean Kayden

After an EP record and a few singles, the attractive duo behind Memoryhouse finally releases their debut LP, "The Slideshow Effect". Does it live up to expectations for a band with such a dreamy sound that you're often put into another world of utter bliss? In a

Artist: Memoryhouse
Album: The Slideshow Effect
Label: Sub Pop
Release Date: February 28, 2012

nutshell, yes, it lives up to most expectations, but I firmly believe Memoryhouse could have benefited slightly more by not releasing two old tracks on this record, which ends up having the album only consisting of eight brand new tunes. If it holds any merit, they did slightly tweak the two previously released songs, "Heirloom" and "Bonfire". "The Slideshow Effect" is a very intimate record that is delicate, but rather celestial in nature. The vocals of Denise Nouvion are a thing of incomparable beauty. Her singing is heightened by the magnificent background work of composer, Even Abeele. The two together are a match made in heaven, much like how the album sounds, heavenly-like.

A zestful vibe embodies the entire record. Deeply romantic and intoxicating stunning, Memoryhouse's sound has never sound so gracefully refined. I would think that's mostly contributed to being signed by Seattle's well-known indie label, Sub-Pop. However, despite the slick production values, the record isn't overproduced and still carries a tone that could have been created in the artist's bedroom. "The Kids Were Wrong", undoubtedly the most upbeat track off the record is an absolute gem. Idyllic vocals, passionate lyrics, and an infectious guitar riff over a subtle synth pad gives the song not only heart, but a soul. The standout track, "Walk With Me" is starkly blissful and exquisite. There's rarely anything to complain about with each consecutive song off the record. Each track is a story in its own right where nostalgia, remembering the better times, and yearning for something out of reach play vital roles. Keep in mind you won't be blasting this record while driving, but listening to it when you're at total ease. As an upfront warning, you may become vulnerable when listening since these songs are reflective and wistful.

I'm well aware sometimes it may difficult to completely enjoy a record with a solemn sound such as "The Slideshow Effect". These are songs that'll have your mind traveling to different places, familiar and foreign. Most mainstream and commercial bands these days don't produce the same effect. The music from Memoryhouse is the kind you can revisit anytime because there will be always room for it in your life and heart. It has such an everlasting and timeless sound. It's a new world out their people, so the time has come to embrace emerging artists such as Memoryhouse. Do yourself a big favor and discover the undiscovered. I hope success is imminent for this band because they deserve every bit of it.

Grade: 8.4 out of 10
Key Tracks: "The Kids Were Wrong", "All Our Wonder", "Walk With Me", "Old Haunts"

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HOWARD Hays As I See It



“(A)bundant evidence proves that the agenda . . . includes sexualizing young girls . . . Denver Auxiliary Bishop James D. Conley . . . warned parents that ‘membership . . . could carry the danger of making their daughters more receptive to the pro-abortion agenda.’ . . . Liberal progressive(s) will indoctrinate the girls . . . promote homosexual lifestyles . . . role models . . . are feminists, lesbians, or Communists.”
- Rep. Bob Morris (R), Indiana State Legislature

I left a number of blanks in the above quote, to see if you can guess the organization Rep. Morris was referring to.

I considered different topics for this week's column. There's that issue, foremost in voters' minds, of whether President Obama is really a Christian. In Ohio, Rick Santorum described the president's agenda as based on “some phony theology, not a theology based on the Bible.”

The Rev. Franklin Graham, asked if he could rule out the president being a Muslim, replied, “I can't say categorically because Islam has gotten a free pass under Obama.” According to Islamic law, he asserted, “Islam sees him as a son of Islam”.

(Asked about Rev. Graham's comments, Obama spokesman Jay Carney replied, “I did meet with the president this morning for about 45 minutes, and amazingly he didn't bring this up.”)

Another topic is the ongoing battle for the White House, with the field narrowed down to Paulson, Adelson and Friess. (Hedge fund manager John Paulson, worth \$16 billion, behind the “Restore our Future” Super-PAC backing Mitt Romney, made \$3.5 billion betting against the housing market in 2007. Casino tycoon Sheldon Adelson, worth \$21.5 billion, behind the “Winning Our Future” Super-PAC backing Newt Gingrich, is under federal investigation for bribing foreign officials and involvement with organized crime in China. Wall Street investor and supporter of Islamophobia Foster Friess, worth \$530 million, behind the “Red, White and Blue” Super-PAC backing Rick Santorum, made news by recalling Bayer aspirin as an effective contraceptive when “the gals put it between their knees.”)

I had to return to a topic addressed last week, though, when I found the above comments of Rep. Morris, contained in a letter explaining his refusal to sign a resolution passed by the Indiana Legislature acknowledging the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America.

In an astonishing development, we see a national debate targeting not a race, religion, ideology, economic class or sexual orientation, but an entire gender.

This became apparent at a hearing called by House Oversight Chairman Darrell Issa (R-CA), to address contraception coverage in employees' health plans. The hearing was notable not for who was present to give testimony, but for who was not.

The panel of witnesses was not comprised of

health and medical professionals, but of clergy. Testimony was not offered as to medical need, but on religious tenets. Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) noted that the witness list was further limited by excluding representatives from the many Catholic organizations supporting the administration's proposal.

The key question was asked by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY): “What I want to know is, where are the women? I look at this panel and I don't see one single individual representing the tens of millions of women across the country who want and need insurance coverage for basic preventive health care services, including family planning. Where are the women?”

Rep. Maloney decried efforts “in dozens of states to roll back the fundamental rights of women to a time when the government thought what happened in the bedroom was their business and contraceptives were illegal. Tens of millions of us who are following these hearings lived through those times - and I can tell you with certainty - we will not be forced back to that dark and primitive era.”

She addressed the clergy: “. . . though you have every right to follow your conscience and honor all the dictates of your faith - no one should have the power to impose their faith on others - to bend them to your will - simply because they work for you. That in itself - is an assault on the fundamental freedoms enshrined in our Constitution.”

Responding to a Defense Department report on an increase of violent sexual assaults on women in the military, Fox News commentator Liz Trotta remarked, “Now, what did they expect? These people are in close contact.” She went on to dismiss the issue as the product of “pressure from the feminists”.

Former Marine Corps officer Anu Bhagwati of the Service Women's Action Network responded by pointing out it's a matter of “power and violence, not about women's presence”. She says although perpetrators constitute a small minority, the problem is that they have successful careers with no repercussions, that victims fear almost certain retaliation if they report abuse. As for Trotta's comments, they are “grossly ignorant”.

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell (R) has gone on record opposing TSA pat-downs at airports as too invasive. He's also recorded his support for a measure passed by Virginia's Republican legislature calling for the insertion of a probe in a “transvaginal procedure” to obtain an ultrasound image. This is not at the patient's request, nor at the recommendation of her physician, but imposed by the state upon women who seek an abortion.

I also noted a story last week covered here in the MVN; A Pasadena resident was arrested on suspicion of domestic violence towards his girlfriend. Regardless of family ties and affection, his father condemned the son's actions and expressed concern for the girlfriend. At least one individual in the news seems to have it right when it comes to gender issues – and it's Hugh Hefner.

GREG Welborn



public office and probably of the right to vote.

It's a ridiculous claim. One can support the rights of any two people to associate with one another, live with one another or engage in consensual relations while at the same time supporting a religious institution and bedrock principle of every major culture and religion in history. Pro-marriage is not anti-gay!! How odd and down right deceitful it is to call those who want to defend the 4,000+ year norm as being the extremists and radicals. The truth is the other way around.

On the broader scale, the mainstream elites are opposed to anyone who supports normative, Judeo-Christian social and moral values. Hence when an artist puts an image of Christ in a jar of urine, it's called artistic expression. When a Westerner dares draw a cartoon about Mohammed, it's called hate-speech and offered as evidence of the intolerance of Western Christians. Never mind the fact that not a single riot, burning or protest march was ever launched in reaction to the Christ-in-urine episode. At the very worst, thoughtful voters wondered why their tax dollars had to be used to support something so obscene. Thousands of Muslims, on the other hand, went apoplectic at the Danish cartoons, fatwa's (sanctioned death threats) were issued against the cartoonist and publishers, and several very nice eco-friendly cars were burned.

Returning to Obama Vs. Santorum, the President used the annual prayer breakfast to state that Luke's Gospel mandated raising taxes on the rich. Rick Santorum had the poor taste to point out the theological stupidity of that statement, and he's called extreme, intemperate and hateful. Go figure.

These are just a few of the examples to date. As the campaign gets into full swing, I'm sure we'll many more examples of just how biased our press has become.

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@mtnewsnews.com.

DOUBLE STANDARD FOR RICK SANTORUM

Any Republican candidate who rises in the polls and starts to challenge the presumptive nominee, Mitt Romney, gets a place squarely in Mitt's crosshairs. That's the nature of political contests, and ultimately will make the actual nominee that much stronger a candidate. But what should bother us is the double standard the press employs as it targets conservative candidates if they rise above a certain base line level of electability.

This time it's Rick Santorum's turn. Not too long ago, candidate Obama declared unequivocally that marriage is between a man and a woman. This assertion and promise to defend traditional marriage was largely ignored by the press. It was a non-issue, a complete non-starter. A dog getting a bad flea infestation would have been a bigger story.

Rick Santorum says the same thing, and you'd think he just suggested we go back to the bad old days of the Spanish Inquisition. Some might be confused as to why Obama was ignored and Santorum crucified. The reason is that the mainstream press knows Santorum means what he says; whereas, Obama was assumed to simply be mouthing a cultural piety in order to placate the great unwashed hordes of common voters in what's affectionately referred to as “fly-over country” – in other words, those voters with good old-fashioned traditional Mid-western values.

I can't think of a more obvious and significant double standard in public life or of a more obvious example of the condescension with which the mainstream press regards the average American. Consider a few inconvenient facts on this issue.

According to the most recent CBS News/New York Times poll, taken this month, 60% of Americans oppose gay marriage. That leaves only 40% approving it. This isn't an extremist position. To date, voters in 31 states, including deep blue California, have rejected same-sex marriage. The media elites would have us believe that 60% of the population are homophobic, hateful, backward and extremists – unworthy of

MARTHA Randolph Carr



LEAP YEAR IS UPON US AND ACCORDING TO 800 YEAR OLD LORE DATING BACK TO ST. PATRICK THE TIME IS RIPE FOR ANYONE HOPING FOR MORE LOVE OR MONEY.

To all the dreamers out there, get ready because your day fast approaches. Get some rest, dust off your plans and start talking up your new idea. The cosmos are on your side, and in this instance, it only happens once every four years.

After a Great Recession that has dragged on for almost four years the desire to finally hope for more and grow our lives a little probably includes just about all of us..

The one day stuck on the end of the month, February 29th, which makes this a leap year, is also thought to be particularly good for making money and finding love. Children who are born on this day are also thought to have a shot at a more abundant life. It's all good.

The practice of a leap day started as more of a simple solution to an accounting error that was finally noticed in 1582. Ironically it was the 13th pope, Pope Gregory XIII who mandated the new calendar because the old Julian calendar had strayed by ten days over the years.

Every four years the Gregorian calendar self-corrects with an extra day stuck on the end of February, the shortest month as a means to keep us on the straight and narrow. It doesn't sound like much but eventually the growing season would have been stuck in November on Black Friday, which could throw off shoppers.

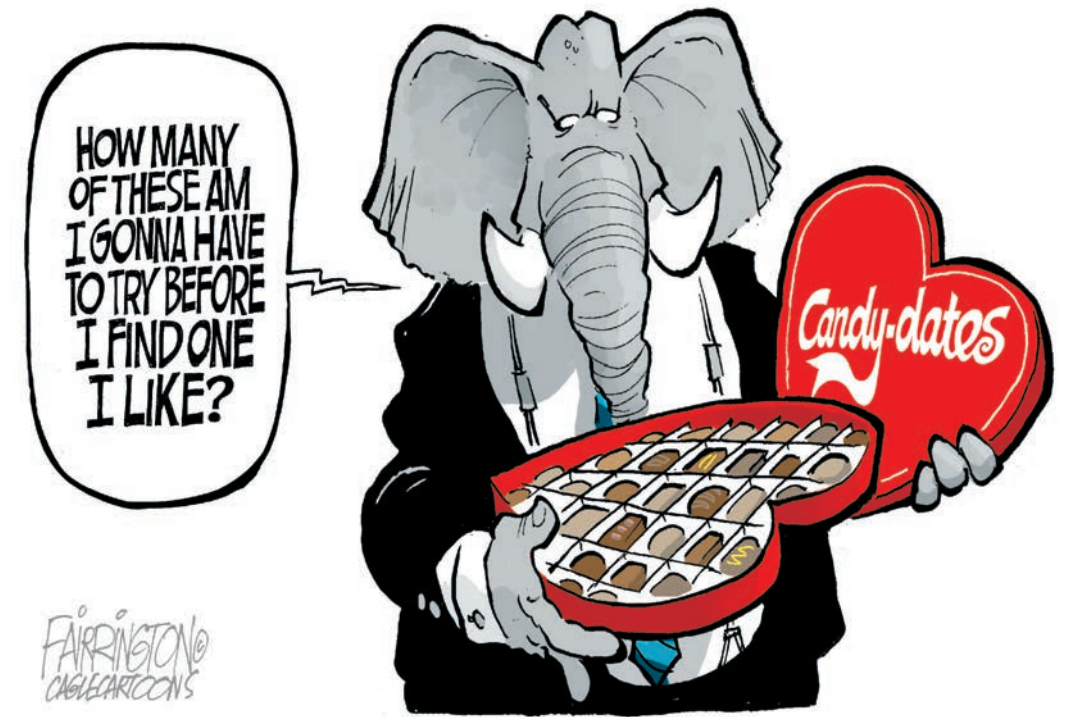
There's a certain order to things. Tomato and squash seedlings in May and bargains on electronics in November.

Besides, there's already very little that's predictable to just being human and having the seasons stick to the months they were originally assigned is a little comforting. Spring will come again in May and the first leaves will start to drop somewhere in October, at least here in Chicago. My mother takes a little bit of pleasure in pointing out that she's blissfully unaware of that in Florida.

True to our nature, however, no one would listen to Pope Gregory, and it wasn't until the 18th century that most of Europe agreed to finally fix the calendar. That's another truly human characteristic. We don't care to change until the error personally affects us and we're uncomfortable enough. It's not very often that we're inspired en masse to set out and mix things up just because we're hoping for something better. First we have to hate where we are just enough to risk the familiar.

It's also a part of human nature to look for signs. No matter how much we pooh pooh the whole notion, we all still do it.

For once, though someone wanted to attach something good to this odd little bonus day and the two biggest motivators, love and money got a nod. The straight-laced Victorians who were big on social conventions and following the rules saw that this day was already outside of the norm and designated it as the one day a woman could as a man to marry her without breaking the rules.



Independent's Eye by JOE Gandelman



With former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, you know that what you see is what you're going to get. And that's going to be the problem for Republicans if the most popular anti-Romney yet is nominated.

Santorum is surging. A new Gallup Poll now finds that even though a majority of Republicans consider former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney more likely to beat President Barack Obama, Santorum leads him 36 to 26 percent nationally.

Santorum heading the GOP ticket would be to Democratic strategists what candy from a shattered pinata is to sugar-loving kids at a birthday party. And reports indicate top GOPers know it. One unnamed Senator told ABC News that if Santorum got the nomination the GOP would lose 35 states. Predictions like that won't halt his ascent, since he talks the talk from his heart and connects with conservatives.

But Santorum is scaring off women and independent voters. Every day his spin mavens scramble to defend or partially walk back controversial quotes. In the past two weeks he questioned Barack Obama's “theology” (later insisting he meant environmental theology) and came out against contraception, pre-natal care, women in combat and public education. He should do well in upcoming primaries due to his views, moderate Republicans' exit from the GOP, talk radio's positive reinforcement, approving tweets from News Corporation's Rupert Murdoch, and his contrast with the sincerity-challenged Romney.

While some pundits insist Romney will still be nominated, former Bush Press Secretary Ari Fleischer reportedly thinks Santorum could win it. If so, Santorum will face problems on several fronts.

He'll be easy to define. Remember Democrat Michael Dukakis defined by Republicans in 1988 as Snoopy in a military tank? Or Democrat Sen. John Kerry defined by GOPers in 2004 as a flip flopping wind surfer? Or Barry Goldwater defined by Democrats in 1964 as a right wing extremist who could unleash a

SANTORUM: A (RISKY) CHOICE, NOT AN ECHO

mushroom cloud? Just imagine the imagery fun Democrats will have with Santorum.

Also: his controversial comments will be vetted and highly publicized by the news media, Internet websites and social media now in the controversy-loving, mega-instant news cycle mode. A quote becomes a day long narrative that can obscure a planned political theme. He'll be defended by GOPers but can't move to the center without looking like a flip flopper.

And perceptions increasingly count. Pat Buchanan was axed by MSNBC after an outcry over his latest book, which was actually not much different than what he has said before. Some conservatives are upset at Fox News for becoming too moderate after network boss Roger Aisles nudged it to be a mite more fair and balanced.

If Santorum gets the nomination can he beat Barack Obama? He has blue collar appeal, knows how to motivate the base with social issues and is an experienced campaigner and debater. But many agree with Rep. Ron Paul, who when asked about Santorum being elected said: “I don't see how that can be possible.”

That's the conventional wisdom as well. But the conventional wisdom also that suggested Texas Gov. Rick Perry would zoom to the top to get the nomination and wrote off Newt Gingrich several times. It once suggested we could see Rudy Giuliani or Fred Thompson as Republican nominees and that the Clinton political machine would be unstoppable in the 2007-2008 Democratic primaries.

Many 21st century conservatives, Tea Partiers and conservative talk show hosts insist the Republican Party could win the White House and control of Congress if the Republican Party only offered a real, hard-right choice, not an echo.

Wasn't “A choice not an echo” used by 20th century conservatives when Barry Goldwater ran in 1964?

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.

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Mountain Views News has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles in Court Case number GS004724: for the City of Sierra Madre; in Court Case GS005940 and for the City of Monrovia in Court Case No. GS006989 and is published every Saturday at 55 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., No. 302, Sierra Madre, California, 91024. All contents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. All submissions to this newspaper become the property of the Mountain Views News and may be published in part or whole.

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HAIL Hamilton My Turn



Rick Santorum is the former two-term Republican senator from Pennsylvania. He was first elected to Congress in 1990, and was elected to the Senate in 1994, at the age of 36. Rick ascended top GOP leadership during his time in the Senate, and distinguished himself as a staunch social conservative. Rick's meteoric rise ended in 2006, however, when he lost reelection. Since then he has made ends meet practicing law, and serving as a senior fellow at the conservative Ethics and Public Policy Center.

Now Rick wants to be the next President of the United States. Here's where he stands on the issues:

Jobs: Rick's jobs plan rests on lowering tax rates, cuts to government spending, repealing the Dodd-Frank and Sarbanes-Oxley regulatory reform laws, and allowing increased domestic energy production.

Balanced Budget: Rick has said that the size of the federal government should match 18 percent of gross domestic product. He would seek changes by way of a Balanced Budget Amendment.

Entitlement Programs: Rick suggested at a September debate that he would prefer to see Medicare administered privately. Proposed partial privatization of Social Security and raised retirement age during congressional career.

Foreign Policy: Considered a "hawk," Rick had urged President Obama to act more decisively in Libya, and was a strong supporter of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, although he never served in the military himself.

Energy/Environment: Rick favors an energy policy using oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear energy. He opposes new regulations on natural gas, and would allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Same-sex Marriage: Rick is a vocal opponent of same-sex marriage, and would seek a Constitutional amendment banning such marriages.

Taxes: Rick would halve the corporate tax rate, and reform the individual tax code. He would permanently extend current rates on dividends and capital gains, and end the estate tax. He would tax repatriation of companies' foreign earnings at a rate of 5 percent.

Regulations: Rick says he would freeze all Obama regulations and reverse any antibusiness executive order. He says he would tell the businesses around the world that "America is open for business and you have a president who wants you here."

Health Care Reform: Rick has pledged to repeal President Obama's health care law, and would

seek to do so using the budget reconciliation process.

Immigration: Rick opposes in-state college tuition for the children of illegal immigrants, and favors making English the official language of the U.S., along with building a fence along the border between the U.S. and Mexico.

Abortion: Rick opposes abortion rights even in the case of rape. He also opposes government support of family planning and contraception.

Climate Change: Rick has called the notion of climate change "junk science."

Rick's positions are clearly not mainstream, even for conservative Republicans. Moreover, his long, colorful history of making bizarre, inflammatory and just plain ridiculous statements about all sorts of important issues should give any voter pause for concern.

"The reason Social Security is in big trouble is we don't have enough workers to support the retirees. A third of all the young people in America are not in America today because of abortion, because one in three pregnancies end in abortion."

- On Social Security, 3/29/11

"I find it almost remarkable for a black man to say 'now we are going to decide who are people and who are not people'."

- On President Obama's race and pro-choice beliefs, 1/19/2011

"Is anyone saying same-sex couples can't love each other? I love my children. I love my friends, my brother. Heck, I even love my mother-in-law. Should we call these relationships marriage, too?"

- Comparing his love for his mother-in-law to the love that same-sex couples share, 5/22/2008

"I think it's harmful to our society to have a society that says that sex outside of marriage is something that should be encouraged or tolerated, particularly among the young. I think it has, as we've seen, very harmful long-term consequences for society. So birth control to me enables that and I don't think it's a healthy thing for our country."

- Saying that birth control is harmful to women, society and our country. CN8 s "Nitebeat with Barry Nolan", July 28, 2005.

"The notion that college education is a cost-effective way to help poor, low-skill, unmarried mothers with high school diplomas or GEDs move up the economic ladder is just wrong."

- Arguing that poor, unwed mothers don't really need college educations. *It Takes a Family*, Pg. 138, July 2005.

OUT TO PASTOR A Weekly Religion Column



MY LEAP YEAR QUANDARY: ANY-BODY HAVE A DAY TO SPARE?

During the last political election cycle, we were promised change but I have not seen any of it, especially in my pants pocket.

Then something wonderful happened. I was taking some mail to the post office and as I got out of my truck, I noticed a penny on the ground. At my age, if I have to bend down I make sure there are at least two or three things to do while I am down there. A single penny just will not do it for me. After all, what can you do with a penny?

As I looked at that penny, I saw another penny, then another, then several. By the time I was done, there was a pile of 20 pennies there. Now that is something to bend down for.

I know what they say, "a penny for your thoughts." Here was 20 pennies and I did not have to think too much about bending down and collecting all 20 and put into my pants pocket. Nothing is quite as melodious as change jingling in my pants pocket. I walked into the post office with my pocket jingling with some spare change.

Some may complain that 20 pennies does not really amount to very much. I remember what wise old Benjamin Franklin said, "A penny saved is a penny earned." I am not sure what he would say about a penny rescued or even 20 pennies rescued, but I think he would have had something very witty to say about it.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would say to me something to the effect that 20 pennies cannot buy a good lunch. Who needs a good lunch when you got 20 pennies jingling in your pants pocket? The better part of wisdom on my part would be to allow these 20 spare pennies be my little secret.

A few days after finding this penny cache, my wife made a comment that changed my week.

"What are you going to do with the extra day this year?"

I had no idea what she was talking about. Normally, I have no extra days to spare. Even if I happen to catch up on my chores on one day, there are always the next day's chores staring me in the face.

I was not a Beatle's fan but I did understand their one song that talked about "eight days a week." I have often thought I might be able to get caught up if there was an extra day in the week. Then, on scrutiny of the facts at hand, my good wife would find something for me to do on that eighth day.

Getting back to her "extra day" question. I had no idea what she was talking about and so I responded with a very sophisticated, "huh?"

"What are you going to do with the extra day we have this year?"

I searched the cobwebs of my memory and could not find anything resembling her comment. She saw the quizzical look on my face, more quizzical than normal, and realized I had no idea what she was talking about.

"Don't you know we have an extra day this year?"

I did not know that so I pled with her to explain what she was talking about. I was thinking she was going to give me a day off so I could do nothing, then on second thought I do not believe she would do something like that. Not her!

"This is leap year and the month of February has 29 days instead of the normal 28."

I thought for a moment and understood what she was talking about. I had forgotten this was leap year, which gives us an extra day. Instead of 365 days this year, we will enjoy 366 days. I am not quite sure who arranged this phenomenon but the extra day is tacked on to the end of February.

I have often thought it would be great to be born on February 29. That way you only celebrate your birthday every four years. Instead of being 60 years old, I would be 15.

Then a very terrible thought rumbled through my mind. I remembered what it was like to be 15. No way in the world would I ever want to be 15 again. Imagine taking 60 years to get to 15 and then staying there for four years. Talk about dragging out your misery?

My wife gave me, as usual, some fodder for my thinking. What would I do with an extra day?

The more I thought about this the more things I thought I could do on that extra day. By the time I got through thinking about all the things I could do with an extra day I was exhausted and needed to sit down for a cup of coffee. In order for me to satisfy all my proposed projects, I would need at least one extra day a month, and I would not complain about one extra day a week.

I really do not think having an extra day is going to make much difference for me. The Bible says, "This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalms 118:24 KJV).

Someone said, today is the first day of the rest of my life. And so it is. Enjoy the day you have, is my philosophy of life.

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE WITH NO DIRECTION HOME



This morning I had a conversation with a client that really started me thinking about the future of our society. The facts of the case are not important here: what is interesting is the view of this young man's life that I received as we talked about his case. One of the great benefits of my work as a defense attorney appointed by the County to represent indigent people is that I have the opportunity to speak with people who inhabit very different life spaces from the rather privileged place I live in. You probably live there too, here in friendly, safe, a little removed Sierra Madre. Yes we have our fires, floods, windstorms, evacuations, and loss of electricity but I feel pretty fortunate to have lived here for over thirty years and really have no great desire to go anywhere else.

This is not the life lived by my client. He grew up in the barrio and was raised by a single mother of three. His teenage gang involvement was very typical - I have heard the same story many times - but there was something about this conversation that really reached me. For almost fifteen years this young man has worked as a carpenter. The company he works for encourages him to recruit young men from the barrio who are looking for the opportunity to change their lives and, allegedly, that was what he was doing when the arrest occurred. Listening to the young man I really got the sense of how hard it is to pull yourself up by your own bootstraps and how important it is to have the feeling that there is someone you can always count on.

Like most of my friends and colleagues I grew up in a two-parent family. In my day, many mothers were not required to work out of the home and most of us were pretty closely supervised as kids. Sure, there might have been problems resulting from being too sheltered or too indulged. In fact, a friend of mine sent me a study that found evidence showing that no matter what parents do, they will ruin their kids in one way or another. Still most of us felt that we were cared about. This was not the experience of my client.

As I left the Courthouse, I heard a statistic on the radio that reminded me of what my client had said. According to NPR, over half of the women under thirty who have kids are unmarried. Thinking about it, I realized that in my lifetime there have been great changes. The instability that formerly was characteristic of the ghettos and barrios has now become typical of the rest of society. I have lived here, in the same house, in the canyon for over thirty years and during that time I have seen the marriages of almost every person in town break-up. Really, how important is this? Certainly, being married does not guarantee happiness. I bet you knew that already. Well, I venture a guess that in every broken marriage the kids somehow think that it is their fault and yearn for their parents to get together. Furthermore, I think that most break-ups involve a bunch of lying to the kids. Maybe the kids learn they can never trust anybody, or maybe they can accept it they way they learn there is no Santa Claus. As I think about it, the sadder I get for my own kids and everybody else's kids. Maybe it is better to just play video games and tweet to your friends. Maybe there is some stability there, but I really don't think so.

All right, I reach the same point again. Divorce is bad just like war is bad and poverty is bad and so is dependence on foreign oil I guess. So what is to be done? What once was a problem mainly for the lower class is now a problem for all classes. Perhaps the whole society has become classless - often it really seems that way. Maybe I should just learn to adjust and to understand that the paradigm has shifted and that mommies and daddies don't have to stay together for a lifetime. Really, we can't go home again. Everything is different and I have learned that wisdom does not automatically come with age.

I like to imagine that somewhere we can get some help learning to adjust to the changes in life. I heard once on Prairie Home Companion that in Minnesota, students are provided with Storm Families, where they can go when they cannot reach Home. Maybe this was a joke, but I like the idea. Perhaps each of us can become a stable foster-parent committed to the welfare of one younger person and that commitment would be life-long and unchanging. Is that too far-fetched? Maybe it should become a part of some candidate's platform along with plans for a moon colony?

RICH Johnson The Rat Pack and Humphrey Bogart



Who gave the Rat Pack its name? I'll tell you in a minute. There actually were two Rat Packs. The 1950s Rat Pack centered around Humphrey Bogart and was referred to as the Holmby Hills Rat Pack (where the Bogarts lived). The first Rat Pack included among others: Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Judy Garland, David Niven, Katharine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Cary Grant, and Rex Harrison. Associate members included Errol Flynn, Nat King Cole, Mickey Rooney and Cesar Romero.

The 1960s Rat Pack included Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Joey Bishop and Peter Lawford. These guys never referred to themselves as The Rat Pack. They called themselves "The Summit," or "the Clan." You never knew when or where this group would meet up. Over a seven-year period beginning around 1960, whenever one of the group had a performance, the rest of the Pack might show up for an impromptu show. In fact, the Marquee of the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas would read, "DEAN MARTIN - MAYBE FRANK - MAYBE SAMMY." The Rat Pack Mascots included Marilyn Monroe, Angie Dickinson, Juliet Prowse and Shirley MacLaine. I guess I should list members of the 2001 "Rat Pack" actors who remade the film "Ocean's Eleven". That would include Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Matt Damon, Andy Garcia, Julia Roberts, Don Cheadle and Bernie Mac. Clooney wisely said at the time, "we're not as cool as those other guys."

Who gave the Rat Pack its name? Humphrey Bogart's wife, Lauren Bacall, gave the name to Bogie and his friends after seeing them return from a night in Las Vegas.

When asked how he got the nickname "Chairman of the Board" Frank Sinatra responded. "I'm trying to figure it out, chairman of what board? People come up to me and seriously say, 'Well, what are you chairman of?'" And I can't answer them.

Speaking of Humphrey Bogart, permit me to share a few of the famous quotes from the film, Casablanca:

Illsa (Ingrid Bergman): 'Play it, Sam. Play "As Time Goes By".'

Rick (Bogart): 'Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine.'

Illsa: 'Kiss me. Kiss me as if it were the last time.'

Captain Renault (Claude Rains): 'Realising the importance of the case, my men are rounding up twice the usual number of suspects.'

Captain Renault: 'I'm shocked, shocked to find out that gambling is going on here!' (Then, after he is handed his winnings) 'Oh, thank you very much.'

Rick: 'We'll always have Paris.'

Rick: 'Here's looking at you kid.'

Rick: '...it doesn't take much to see that the problems of three little people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world.'

Rick: 'Louis (Renault), I think this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship.'

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. 2012-016525
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SCR MOBILE FLEET SERVICES, 5122 CLARA ST., CUDAHY, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) GABRIEL MARTINES BARAJAS, 5122 CLARA ST., CUDAHY, CA 90201. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: GABRIEL MARTINES BARAJAS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/30/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/14/2012. 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: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2012-018398
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SPORTSCENTER, 6640 HOLLYWOOD BLVD., HOLLYWOOD, CA 90028. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MOHAMMAD YASSINE, 6825 ROSEMEAD BLVD. #23, SAN GABRIEL, CA 91775. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MOHAMMAD YASSINE. 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 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. 2012-018066
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: STRATEGIC CONSULTANT SOLUTIONS, 1627 W. 27th ST., SAN PEDRO, CA 90732. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) STEVEN E. JOHNSON, 1627 W. 27th ST., SAN PEDRO, CA 90732. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: STEVEN E. JOHNSON. 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 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. 2012-017171
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SUPERIOR LINK, 19105 FAIRMAN DR., CARSON, CA 90746. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) OKECHUKWU J. EIJEKE, 19105 FAIRMAN DR., CARSON, CA 90746. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: OKECHUKWU J. EIJEKE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/31/12. 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. 2012-016422
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE ONE BODY FENDER AUTO REPAIR, 4982 FIRESTONE BLVD., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) GABRIEL CALVILLO, 514 S. MARIPOSA AVE. #103, L.A., CA 90020. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: GABRIEL CALVILLO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/30/12. 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. 2012-015998
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE OZMAR GROUP, 530 S. LAKE AVE. #827, PASADENA, CA 91101. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JAVIER D. ORTEGA, 70 S. LAKE AVE. #10, PASADENA, CA 91101. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JAVIER D. ORTEGA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/27/12. 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. 2012-017688
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE ROLLING TACO CATERING, 5269 CALICO AVE., PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JESUS ANGULO, 5269 CALICO AVE., PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JESUS ANGULO. 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 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. 2012-018206
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE WOOD CLASS, 124 E. 101st ST., L.A., CA 90003. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) GUADALUPE DE JESUS GONZALEZ, DAVID GONZALEZ, 124 E. 101st ST., L.A., CA 90003. This Business is conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. Signed: DAVID GONZALEZ. 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 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. 2012-015124
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TITO O. RUIZ TRUCKING, 2633 111th ST., LYNWOOD, CA 90262. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) TITO ORLANDO RUIZ, 2633 111th ST., LYNWOOD, CA 90262. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TITO ORLANDO RUIZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/26/12. 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. 2012-017927
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TRENDY BEAUTY SALON, 1300 E. MAIN ST. #103, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) EMILY PENG, 320 E. RAMONA RD., ALHAMBRA, CA 91801. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: EMILY PENG. 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 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. 2012-017567
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: UR BUSINESS HERE, 705 E. ARTESIA BLVD., LONG BEACH, CA 90805. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) EBONY HODGIE, 340 E. ELLIS ST., LONG BEACH, CA 90805. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: EBONY HODGIE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/31/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 06/21/2011. 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: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-015990
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VEZA CONSTRUCTION, 2458 OLIVE AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90806. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ANA V. TORRES, 2458 OLIVE AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90806. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ANA V. TORRES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/27/12. 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. 2012-016669
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VIETNAM HOUSE SAN GABRIEL, 710 W. LAS TUNAS DR. #5-7, SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) VIETNAM HOUSE, INC., 710 W. LAS TUNAS DR. #5/7, SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776. This Business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. Signed: HUUY VO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/30/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/30/2012. 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: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-017251
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: YUSUKI'S 99 CENTS DISCOUNT STORE, 621 E. MANCHESTER AVE., L.A., CA 90001. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) LUZ A. RENDON, JOSE M. GODOY, 8854 S. HOOPER AVE., L.A., CA 90002. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: LUZ A. RENDON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/31/12. 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

FILE NO. 2012-016787
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: GOLAZO MUNDIAL, 4568 DUANE WAY, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 08/22/2011, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2011086152. The business was conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/30/2012. 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: NESTOR MEDINA/PARTNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-016207
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: GREENLAND MARKET POST OFFICE, 17643 SHERMAN WAY, VAN NUYS, CA 91406. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 11/29/2011, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2011138436. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/30/2012. 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: YUN YE KIM/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-017405
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: L.A. KAITE GROUP, 139 W. ARROW HWY., POMONA, CA 91767. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 08/01/2006, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2006070212. The business was conducted by: A CORPORATION. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/31/2012. 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: SHARON ZHANG/VP. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-017516
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: MONTGOMERY CONSTRUCTION CO., 8514 AVALON BLVD., L.A., CA 90003. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 10/21/2011, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2011120252. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/31/2012. 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: DEWAYNE MONTGOMERY/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-017452
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: THE SOLAR GUY, 8217 BIRCHBARK AVE., PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 05/04/2011, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2011022230. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/31/2012. 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: VICTOR CRUZ/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-017572
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: UR BUSINESS HERE, 629 E. 4th ST., LONG BEACH, CA 90802. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 07/25/2011, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2011070181. The business was conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/31/2012. 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: EBONY HODGIE/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-017256
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: YUSUKI APPAREL, 621 E. MANCHESTER, L.A., CA 90001. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 09/26/2011, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2011106062. The business was conducted by: A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/31/2012. 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: LUZ A. RENDON. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Feb. 04, 11, 18, 25, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-010683
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VISTA VILLAS, 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

February 22, 2012

Dear Editor,

Recently Fountain Square Development commissioned a national polling group to conduct a random survey of Sierra Madre households. On behalf of the proposed Kensington Assisted Living project we would like to thank those people who were kind enough to spend some of their valuable time providing responses.

As you may be aware, we recently asked the City Council to allow our project to be placed on the ballot in November, subject to the review by Planning Commission and approval by City Council. We are prepared to make a large investment in Sierra Madre and it is important for us to understand what the citizens of Sierra Madre want developed on the old nursing home site across from City Hall and whether the citizens felt our project was a good addition to the community. We did this by asking the public, in a scientific and even-handed manner, what they think about The Kensington.

We were pleased with the results and we look forward to continuing to demonstrate our desire to be a thoughtful, honest, open, and hardworking citizen of Sierra Madre. Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,

The Kensington Assisted Living

William Shields

William Shields

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Looking Up

ROCKET LAUNCHED INTO NORTHERN LIGHTS TO STUDY GPS EFFECTS

with Bob Eklund



As the brilliant colors of the aurora borealis, or northern lights, delight skygazers, researchers are discovering how they affect GPS satellite signals here on Earth.

A NASA-funded collaborative research team led by Steven Powell, Cornell University senior engineer in electrical and computer engineering, launched a sounding rocket from Alaska's Poker Flat Research Range on Saturday, Feb. 18, to collect data straight from the heart of the aurora.

The project - the Magnetosphere-Ionosphere Coupling in the Alfvén resonator (MICA) mission - involves 60 scientists, engineers, technicians, and graduate students from several institutions and NASA. Researchers from Dartmouth College, the University of New Hampshire, the University of Oslo (Norway), Southwest Research Institute, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks also are making significant contributions to the mission.

"We're investigating what's called space weather," said Powell, who has been stationed at the rocket launch site, 30 miles north of Fairbanks, since the end of January. "Space weather is caused by the charged particles that come from the Sun and interact with the Earth's magnetic field. We don't directly feel those effects as humans, but our electronic systems do."

These include global positioning systems (GPS). One of the scientists' main goals is to investigate the effects of space weather on GPS satellites.

The rocket is a 46-foot Terrier-Black Brant model that was sent arcing through the aurora 217 miles above Earth, sending a stream of real-time data back before landing 200 miles downrange. Instruments on board sampled electrons in the upper atmosphere that are affected by a form of electromagnetic energy called Alfvén waves. These waves are thought to be a key driver of "discrete" aurora - the typical, well defined and famously shimmering lights that stretch across the horizon.

The rocket payload separated into two parts once launched. One extended antennas to measure electric fields generated by the aurora. Other antennas and sensors measured electrons and ions interacting with the Earth's magnetic field. In this period of high Sun activity, called



solar maximum, gases from the Sun are likely interfering with GPS transmissions, satellite Internet and other signals.

"We are becoming more dependent on these signals," Powell said. "This will help us better understand how satellite signals get degraded by space weather and how we can mitigate those effects in new and improved GPS receivers."

The precision measurements from the rocket's instruments will also shed new light on the physical processes that create the northern lights and further our understanding of the complex Sun-Earth connection.

According to Marc Lessard, an associate professor at the University of New Hampshire Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space (EOS) and Department of Physics, the "Alfvén resonator" is a structure in the ionosphere that acts like a guitar string when "plucked" by energy delivered by the solar wind to Earth's magnetosphere high above.

"The ionosphere, some 62 miles up, is one end of the guitar string and there's another structure over a thousand miles up in space that is the other end of the string," Lessard said. "When it gets plucked by incoming energy we can get a fundamental frequency and other 'harmonics' along the background magnetic field sitting above the ionosphere."

As for the significance of continued investigation into auroral processes, Lessard noted, "It's all about understanding how the energy of the solar wind gets coupled to Earth's magnetic field and eventually gets dumped into the our upper atmosphere."

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

On Line

By PJ Carpenter

THE 8TH OF MARCH

I don't know if you've already heard, but there is a very real chance that the FBI will be shutting down the Internet for possibly millions of users whose computers are infected with the one of the many variants of the DNSChanger virus. This particular brand of malware works by replacing the DNS (Domain Name System) server entries with fake values that direct a victim's computer and internet searches to malicious servers operated by the same bad guys who deployed the virus in the first place. As a result, visitors are unknowingly redirected to websites that distribute fraudulent software or display ads that puts money into the bad guys' pockets through a pay-per-click arrangement.

One particularly nasty feature of the virus is that it alters the victim's system in such a way that the computer is unable to

download and install security updates and an already infected machine will disable already installed security software. The FBI took steps to contain the damage caused by this outbreak by replacing the rogue servers with legitimate ones.

The plan is to leave these servers in place for 120 days and those 120 days are scheduled to expire on March 8th of this year. So the real problem isn't so much that the FBI stopgap measure will be expiring in a few days and this action may affect potentially thousands of users, but that many people and organizations haven't removed the malware from their computers. As many as half of Fortune 500 companies and government agencies are delinquent in updating according to some reports.

So how do you know if your computer or router is infected with DNSChanger? One way is to have a security/malware scan done on your machine by your computer professional or other service provider. Most reputable anti-virus \ anti-malware software packages have updated security definitions that detect and remove the infection. You can also contact the DNSChanger Working Group at <http://www.dcwg.org> for a list of additional resources in removing the infection from an infected machine.

Since this particular malware affects the way computers find resources on networks and the internet it is an equal-opportunity threat and infects Mac OS, Linux and Windows systems equally. This is one particular instance where all internet-connected machines should be checked for infection.



NED & PRINCE

My dear Auntie Evelyn turned 97 years old this past November, and believe me when I say that you would never know it if I hadn't told you. She is remarkably healthy for her age, she has a "steel-trap" mind that is as sharp as a tack and she still lives on

her own! Evelyn Swallow-Leake was born in 1913 in Worcester, Massachusetts. She spent her years as a teen-ager growing up during the Great Depression, which as we all know was a rather difficult time in history. On the other hand, it was a time that seems purely ethereal to me, at least, from the way my Aunt Evelyn describes it. She really enjoys sharing her childhood memories, and I truly enjoy hearing them. I try to write most of what she shares with me down in my journal, and I treasure many of her memories as if they were my own.

In one of my recent conversations with Aunt Evelyn, she recounted a very vivid memory of the many times she accompanied her Uncle Carl Woods (my great uncle) on a horse-drawn carriage, during his lumber deliveries from one area of town to another. Evelyn, who was about 12 years old at the time, would wait by the road side after school had let out, knowing that was when Uncle Carl was expected to pass by with two horses towing a load. She would ride along with him during the latter part of the day, until it was time to take the horses back to the barn.

Even as a young child, Aunt Evelyn was an avid animal lover who was fortunate enough to have had pets of her own. Her face lights up every time she reflects on her memory of showing her appreciation and affection to the two work horses that pulled the lumber truck Uncle Carl drove. She delights in remembering the fact that she made sure each horse got a carrot and a friendly pat on the nose before she was hoisted up and assumed her position in the seat next to Carl, then off they would go. Among the many specific details that my aunt remembers about this experience, most amazing to me is the fact that she recalled the name of the company that Uncle Carl worked for at the time. It was "Stone & Berg Lumber Company" of Worcester, MA. Even more amazing is the fact that Auntie remembered the names of the two horses that pulled the loaded lumber cart. Their names were "Ned" & "Prince".

The day after Aunt Evelyn shared this fascinating story with me, I decided to do a little research on Stone & Berg Lumber Co., just to see if there was any history available on the internet that I could connect to Auntie's childhood memory. Well, I am happy to say that my Google search rendered way more than I had expected to find. First of all, I was so surprised to discover that Stone & Berg Company is still in business! I called the phone number provided on the website, and I was directed to the current owner of the company, Jennie Berg. Jennie was very cordial and kind, taking the time to listen to my story of how my Aunt Evelyn had vivid memories of having been on several Stone & Berg lumber delivery excursions back in the mid 1920's. Needless to say, Jennie was as please as I was with the fact that Auntie had such clear memories about the early days of the Berg family's business, including such specific details as the names of the horses that pulled the cart and delivered the lumber. Jennie confirmed that Evelyn's memories were perfectly consistent with the history of their company, and amazingly accurate down to the last detail. She was pleased to know that my Auntie was able to remember and share her story of having been there when the Berg family business was in the hands of her grandfather, so many years ago!

Soon after we talked on the phone, Jennie was thoughtful enough to send me a package of Stone & Berg Lumber Company memorabilia items, most important of which was a photograph of the two horses Auntie remembered, Ned and Prince, hitched and harnessed to a fully loaded lumber cart parked in front of the Stone & Berg building with a gentleman standing beside. I forwarded the photograph to my Auntie Evelyn as part of her Christmas package this year, and after comparing the face of the man in the Stone & Berg picture to a family photo taken around the same time, we all agreed that the man standing next to the hitched horses is indeed my great Uncle Carl! I can't begin to describe how happy it made me to be able to bring my Auntie's story to life and "full circle"! All it took was a listening ear, a little research and a bit of random kindness from someone I have never even met face to face. As you can well imagine, my Aunt Evelyn and Jennie Berg were also very pleased to have found a bit of their own family history in a place and time where we might have least expected it!

KATIE Tse.....This and That



Big Kiss

If you haven't already seen "The Artist" I highly recommend it! Sometimes I just like to plug great films, such as "Forks over Knives" and "The Last Man on Earth,"

although both for very different reasons. "The Artist" is everything the name implies. It's a black and white, (mostly) silent film produced in France, shot in L.A., starring a Frenchman and an Argentinean. And John Goodman's in it, too! The plot borrows heavily from the 1950's "Singing in the Rain," a love story set at the juncture of silent and "talkie" films. However, director Michel Hazanavicius' imitation is the sincerest form of flattery and does not diminish his film in the least.

To concisely define its appeal, I would say "The Artist" achieves its charm, poignancy, humor, and romance by mastery of suggestion. Suggestion: this is a foreign concept to the typical American movie goer (Ha ha! "Foreign" Get it?!). To master suggestion is to intrigue through restraint. For example, one of the film's most touching scenes is when Peppy Miller (Berenice Bejo), sneaks into George Valentin's (Jean Dujardin) dressing room. Seeing his tuxedo jacket hung on a coat rack, Peppy strokes the fabric and then envelops herself in it as in an embrace. Suddenly a hand appears from inside the sleeve and grasps Peppy's waist. At first, Peppy looks up startled, but then coyly smiles as the arm hugs her closer. Of course it is Peppy pretending to be caressed by George. So "wrapped up" (Wow, I'm on a pun roll this week!) is she in her fantasy that she initially fails to notice George watching her from the doorway. The gestures are seemingly simple, yet the finesse with which Bejo pulls it off imbues it with such romantic longing. This is just one small example of the film's artistry.

The concept of storytelling through subtlety and restraint isn't just for love stories. Fritz Lang's chilling film, "M," about a serial murderer, is told more through what is unseen than what is visible. In one scene, the viewer first sees the villain in the shadows, followed by a shot of a young child with a balloon. The view pans to the balloon floating away; and the audience is left to their own gruesome imaginations.

In comedy as well, even the most mundane

subjects can create humor. In Laurel & Hardy's "The Piano," the pair finally pushes a crate containing a piano up a long set of stairs. Once at the top, the wind catches Hardy's hat. He grabs for it, making the piano lurch. The hat delicately hops down the stairs and lands upright, just beyond the sidewalk --only to be smashed by a car. The shot looks down the stairway, with the hat settling at the extreme top of the frame. All we can see of the car is its tires, gently rolling over Hardy's bowler.

At the risk of sounding like a total prude, American cinema on the whole has lost any art of subtlety it may have had. I was going to write that the climactic kiss in "The Artist" will probably go down as one of film's iconic romantic moments. And then I realized there was no "big kiss." I was amazed that such passion could be achieved without even the locking of lips! There was a big hug, but that's hardly the same thing. If this were an American movie, it would likely have relied upon a heaping dose of adult content to create a similar emotion.

The same goes for special effects. Granted, many films use them to an appropriate degree. And some stories simply could not be conveyed without them. However, I'm not the first to say many directors use technology as a crutch rather than a tool. (I mean you, James Cameron!) Apologies to any Cameron fans reading this. Of course I don't blame all this on

him, or directors like him. Speaking broadly, the American audience has been dumbed down to the point of needing the plot spoon fed in simple, digestible chunks. We recoil at characters who don't fit nicely into familiar prototypes. And unresolved endings are heretical! Have you noticed that it's possible to enter a movie half way, leave periodically, and still have a good sense of what's going on? As you've probably gathered, I am a cinematic old person. There are many good new movies, "The Artist" being one of them. And I'm sure there are even some good new American ones, as well. But I haven't seen any recently. It's a good thing the Oscars are coming up so that I can be informed of all the great new films I missed over the year. Now if I only had a TV on which to watch them...



© 2012 Katherine Tse

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



LOCAL CONTRACTORS BEGIN SIERRA MADRE’S 1ST GROUND UP BUILD SINCE 2007

Sierra Madre Community Medical’s new facilities construction began just last week at 147 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard. The construction fences went up, as the first step, new handicapped ramping to the current building’s entrance began. It’s the long awaited first ground up construction in five years for the city of Sierra Madre.

Carol Jones is CEO at ACME Construction of Pasadena. The ACME selection has been viewed as a “plus” by many, a highly qualified “hometown” selection, generating income and jobs for and in the San Gabriel Valley community.

At the recent groundbreaking, Jones acknowledged the trust Dr. Sami, CEO of SM Community Medical, the architect and the community put in them. She also pledged to bring the long awaited project to fruition on time and on budget, with respect and sensitivity for the residential and commercial neighbors around the tight fit, in-fill project.

She also put faces and names to the project managers who will be onsite day in and day out for the project, (L to R in photo) Robert Anguiano, Project Manager and Gary Muller, General Superintendent. In a small town community as Sierra Madre, it’s very much about the personal connections that make this town work. And ACME seems to understand that.

Though the ACME entity is relatively new, created in 2007, Carol and David Jones’ combined experience brings decades of diversified knowledge and expertise in construction and commercial building.

Their long history in the commercial real estate and construction industry traces back to Carol’s ten years at Dynamic Builders, a downtown LA-based firm focused on owner occupied, build-to-suit, ground up construction and her husband, Dave’s 32 years licensed in the industry. . Carol also spent a decade with Grubb and Ellis commercial real estate, so offers the ability to see transaction, projects and builds from both sides of the table, a rare perspective.

In addition to the string of affiliations with US Green Building Council, Construction Management, Project Management, LEED certified professionals, other councils and investment associations, Jones is part of a growing, but still very small band of women-owned construction businesses.

“Women are in the minority in the construction industry”, she said, “but I don’t feel shut out in any way. I think it’s great to be a breath of fresh air; to be a woman in a sea of men.”

“The reverse is much more common here in LA,” she continued. “We first build the personal relationship here, and base the rest of the business relationship on the basis of that foundation. I love it. It plays directly to our strengths, to work as partners with our clients, sharing our knowledge and expertise for the best outcome for all.”

I met Carol Jones at the site of one of their recently completed

projects in downtown Pasadena, a new restaurant, Settebello, at 625 E. Colorado. It was clear the post project relationship remained strong and positive, as owner, Brad Otton, happily reflected on the project’s challenges and successes amid the lively lunch crowd.

“The thing that most impressed me about ACME,” Otton reflected, “was the care they showed towards my project. Most contractors that I have worked with are interested in getting done on time and on budget but do not spend a whole lot of time worrying about making sure the project comes out the way the client wants it. From the very beginning I felt like they really cared about the final product and doing whatever it took to make the restaurant fit our initial vision.”

The project did present some significant challenges. Since the building was already completed when the restaurant site was chosen, x-rays and core samples were needed to confirm the strength of the floor, located above the building’s parking garage in order to bring in Settebello’s signature 5,000 pound wood fired pizza oven. Handcrafted in Italy, and shipped to Los Angeles by container ship, the cost to bring the oven the last twenty miles into the restaurant, exceeded the cost to send it across the ocean. But everyone was pleased in the end.

According to David Jones, the required tests climbed to 60 concrete cores and 120 x-rays in an excruciating process. Eventually, all parties were comfortable to perform the installation, a tribute to the patience and care ACME commits to each project.

To everyone’s relief, the floor was properly and substantially capable of handling the load, and the nail biting exercise was successfully completed without incident. The Pasadena restaurant, Otton’s third, in addition to Henderson, Nevada and Salt Lake City locations, opened in October, 2011. In another 2011 project in Torrance, clients Western Psychological Services, a publishing and testing company, were equally pleased with ACME, posting praise in the business networking site, LinkedIn. “ACME recently completed a total renovation of our new office space updating it from a drab five decades old building into a sleek and modern office environment” said Jeff Manson of Western Psychological Services. “Although the job was challenging at times, as all major construction projects are, Carol and her team were patient, professional and extremely



CEO Carol Jones at Sierra Madre Community Medical groundbreaking (above). Project site managers (below)



knowledgeable in overcoming any and all obstacles. Their ability to think flexibly and provide economical/practical solutions were fantastic. Never did they make us feel rushed in our decision making and were there as true partners in our important project. Lastly, it is clear that Carol and her team at ACME really care about the work they are doing. They understand the buildings they are working on are environments for people to work/live/play and their attention to detail really shows they care about the end results.” More information about ACME Construction, 80 S. Lake, Pasadena, can be found at www.ACMECos.com or by calling 626-227-1188.



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

THINKING OF SHRINKING?

It's not just the economy - there are lots of reasons that people choose to downsize. It could be retirement, a recently emptied nest, or just plain "maintenance fatigue." Whatever the reason, plan your new lifestyle carefully.

When you search for a smaller home, don't forget that Location is still the key ingredient. Even if you don't have kids or they've flown the coop, a good school district and proximity to public transportation and recreation are still the best bets for retaining value.

If this will be a retirement move, think about the future and seek out homes on one level, or at the very least, with the master bedroom on the ground floor. For practicality's sake, at least one bathroom should be handicap-accessible or eas-

ily remodeled as such. Even if you don't think you'll need it later on, your visitors might appreciate the convenience.

If downsizing to you means less maintenance, you may be tempted by town home or condominium living, but be aware of "hidden costs," like annual or monthly homeowners association fees. Check recent association meeting reports to see if there is a building renovation planned, as you could be hit with an assessment fee in the future, too.

There are a lot of considerations in advance of your move, so ask an agent for more advice and enjoy your new lifestyle!

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee,



EMPLOYMENT IS MOVING ON UP!

Recent economic indicators from the State of California's Employment Development Department point to a slight improvement in the unemployment rate. At the end of January, California's rate had settled to 11.1%. This is an improvement compared to a little more than a year ago when the rate hit an astounding 12.5% in December 2010. The Los Angeles County unemployment rate of 11.6% is only lagging ½% behind that of the state. However, the current 8.5% national unemployment rate is outshining us here in the Golden State by a whopping 4%.

Residents in the San Gabriel Valley have several reasons to be optimistic about the future

of the employment market as the region continues to attract major investments positioned to capitalize on the extension of the Metro Goldline. The new line is driving property values upward as astute investors make purchases adjacent to this corridor.

After voters approved a tax for transportation projects, last year officials in Los Angeles County proceeded with the announcement of a broad-based employment program. This will provide another boost to employment in the San Gabriel Valley as new jobs become available to residents who live in the proximity of new transportation projects.

The tide seems to be headed in a positive direction overall, and

the saying goes, “A rising tide raises all boats in the harbor.” The Golden State has weathered the recent years of economic storms along with the other 49 states, but it is time to regroup and refocus on identifying , pursuing and building upon the economic opportunities that being presented.

New unemployment data for January 2012 will be released on Friday, March 9th and for February 2012 on Friday, March 23rd. The complete schedule for the announcement of 2012 employment data is available on the Labor Market Information section of the EDD website at www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov.



LOVELY SIERRA MADRE LOCATION, READY TO MOVE IN, PRIVATE CORNER LOT

304 Sunnyside Ave., Sierra Madre | Offered at \$739,000

Beautiful, bright, open floor plan. Located in lovely Sierra Madre. This is a large corner lot; the home is 3 good sized bedrooms, 2 baths. The kitchen is open to dining room. There is an indoor laundry room located off the kitchen. The home has just been painted inside and out, pretty hardwood floors, the roof was put on in May 1999. All the windows have gorgeous wood shutters-. This home is ready for you and yours! Showing is easy, just call me!!! No need to preview, great condition!

Features: 1,590 sqft | 9,647 Lot Size | 3 BR | 2 BA



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Call Patricia - 626-818-2698

YOGA IS JUST STRETCHING.

RIGHT?



by René Quenell

Many people say to me, “Yoga is about stretching, right?” or “All you do is lie around and stretch and contort your body into weird positions, right?”

Well, one element of yoga is stretching. There is also strengthening and breath work and the list goes on. As a matter of fact a yoga practice can tone all 10 systems of the body, starting with the muscular system (strength and stretching) and moving on through the skeletal system (alignment and bone strength).

Yoga also improves the digestive, endocrine, nervous, energy and mental systems. Did you know yoga does all that? Still not convinced? The list is huge. Ask any yogi, they'll tell you how it helped them. AND you don't need to be flexible. Yoga helps you become flexible.

Yoga is not about putting the body in all kinds of weird positions. It's about the art of healing, the art of finding your inner

strength, the art of getting to know yourself better. And oh, getting stronger, more flexible, *losing weight* and looking better just happen to be by-products. You see, when you address all 10 systems of the body the body starts working together - a union, hence the word YOGA (which literally means union).

Ah, yes, then there is stress reduction. Learning to cope a little more effectively in the world today is essential. In case you did not know, yoga was mainly designed for *men*, so don't think it's just for the ladies. It benefits us both.

Depending on the class you take you can get the toughest workout you've ever had or the most relaxing. You can help your back or your PMS. Do some research. Find a good, credentialed teacher that knows their stuff. Tell them your ailments and find the right class for you. You'll be amazed at the transformations that can take place and the piece of mind.

So next time someone tells you yoga is just stretching, you can say “well, actually.....”.

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.



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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LUNCH & LEARN

Join the Senior
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for a FREE presentation. Lunch is
available for a
\$2 donation
Call (626) 355-0256 by
12 noon the day before.

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



Dear Savvy Senior:

What tips can you recommend to help me save on my drug costs? I'm 62 years old, and currently take six different prescription medications that I can barely afford.
Poorly Insured

Dear Poorly:

There are actually a variety of ways you can reduce your medication costs without cutting quality, but you'll need to take a proactive approach. The following tips can also help seniors with a Medicare prescription drug plan avoid the “donut hole” coverage gap, or reduce their costs once they reach it. Here are some cost-cutting strategies to try.

Check your insurance: If you have drug coverage, your first step is to find out what your plan does and doesn't cover. You can do this by visiting the insurer's website or by calling their 800 number on the back of your insurance card. Once you have this information, share it with your doctor so (if possible) he or she can prescribe medications that are best covered by your plan. You also need to find out if your insurer has a mail-order service. This would help you to purchase your medications for 20 to 40 percent less.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist: Find out if the medications you're taking are available in a generic form or a less expensive brand-name drug (you can also look this up online at sites like destinationrx.com). About 75 percent of all premiums drugs on the market today have a lower-cost alternative. Switching could save you between 20 and 90 percent. Many chains like Wal-Mart, Target, Costco, Kmart, CVS, Walgreens and Kroger sell hundreds of generics for as little as \$4 for a 30-day supply and \$10 for a 90-day supply.

Another cost cutter is to buy your medications in bulk. Many pharmacies give discounts if you buy a three-month supply of drugs versus a 30-day supply. Also, find out if the pills you're taking can be cut in half. Pill splitting allows you to get two months worth of medicine for the price of one.

Shop around: Drug prices can vary from drugstore to drugstore, so it's definitely worth your time to compare prices at the

HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

different pharmacies in your area. Using U.S.-based online pharmacies are another way to save 25 percent or more. Drugstore.com and familymeds.com are two good sites that provide solid savings, but there are dozens to choose from. If you opt for an online pharmacy, be sure you purchase from ones that have the “VIPPS” seal of approval (see vipps.info) from the National Association of Board of Pharmacy. Seniors enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan also need to make sure the online pharmacy they're buying from is included in their network. Otherwise, the purchase may not count toward their deductible.

Get a discount card: Many pharmacies have free or low-cost discount card programs that will let you buy generics for \$4 or qualify for steeper discounts on other drugs. Other drug card programs worth a look include togetheraccess.com, rxsavingsplus.com, yourrxcard.com, rxfreecard.com, pscard.com and familywise.com.

Search for drug assistance programs: If your income is limited, you can probably get help through drug assistance programs offered through pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and charitable organizations. To find these types of programs use benefitscheckup.org, a comprehensive website that lets you easily locate the programs you're eligible for, and will show you how to apply.

Buy from Canada: This option offers savings between 50 and 80 percent on brand-name drugs, but it's important to understand that it's illegal to import drugs from Canada. The FDA, however, does not prosecute anyone who imports prescription drugs for personal use. If you're interested in this option, see pharmacychecker.com, an independent resource that finds the lowest prices from licensed and reputable Canadian pharmacies. (Note: This is not a good option for Medicare Part D beneficiaries because it will not count toward their deductible.)

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.

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