



### 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 Gene Goss for City Council - 4 year term-Below

March 10th Candidate John Harabedian for City Council - 4 year term  
Website: [www.johnharabedian.com](http://www.johnharabedian.com)

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

March 24th Candidate Chris Koerber for City Council - 2 year term  
Website: [www.chrisforsierramadre.com](http://www.chrisforsierramadre.com)  
  
Camdidate 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 GENE GOSS



Every day, I am reminded of what is at stake in the governance of this city; our children, our families, our future. I am running because this town has found a place deep in my heart. It is my family's home and I want to pitch in and help keep Sierra Madre the beautiful, friendly, safe place it is for generations to come. Walking the streets of this town door to door for the past weeks has inspired me further. The warmth and hospitality of our people is unmatched. Our small town atmosphere must be preserved!

My life's work is teaching the fundamentals of good government to students at Long Beach City College. I have been a professor of political science there for 21 years. In that time I have developed my leadership skills as President of the 350 member faculty association, as the first ever Technology Committee Chair and presently I am the Chair of the History and Political Science Department at the college. As a member of the City Council I will apply my knowledge and leadership skills to the challenges we will face.

The City is facing stringent fiscal challenges. After carefully listening to the people of this town, I will be

honest and forthright about what it will take to maintain the services they wish to preserve. Years ago, on the small cattle ranch I grew up on, my Dad taught me that everything has a cost. I am not going to join the ranks of politicians that offer something for nothing so they can secure votes.

Our City government is well run and is not a "bloated" bureaucracy, but it can and should be made more efficient. My first goal is to help manage the City's fiscal resources with an eye on cost savings through careful analysis of each department's budget, elimination of redundancies and simplification of administrative processes. Also, the City needs to invest in technology that can reduce overhead expenses. For example, if we can save money and cut our City offices' power consumption down by installing leased solar systems, I think we should do it.

Careful long term planning and prudent decision-making will be necessary to make sure essential city services are preserved. I will work closely with our fine Police and Fire Departments to make sure that they have the tools necessary to protect our town. I will fight to maintain our Paramedic Service, which has already saved lives in our city. Our Public Works services such as streets and sewers and our water system serve as a backbone for the community. We cannot compromise on the quality of these services.

I have a passion for our Youth and Senior Programs and for our magnificent parks and for our Library.

If I am elected to City Council I will fight to maintain these programs and assets that help sustain our high quality of life and provide our residents, especially our children and seniors, with a crucial link to our community. Also, I will encourage and support sensible policies that will conserve and enhance natural resources such as our water supply, our hillsides and our urban forest.

I will stand strong against any entity that tries to impose development that sidesteps our laws or is out of touch with our "small town" consensus. In keeping with this consensus we must find a suitable project to replace the Skilled Nursing Facility. This is a matter of pride for our community.

I will lead the effort to recruit more small businesses to Sierra Madre that can provide products and services and employment opportunities, increase foot traffic for our current businesses, and can provide much needed sales tax revenue.

My campaign is a door to door grassroots effort because I want to represent the entire city on the City Council, not an ideology, party, camp, or special interest group. I need your help. Please call me to endorse me or put up a yard sign or to volunteer with other tasks at 626-434-9595.

With your help and your Vote on April 10th, together we can ensure that Sierra Madre's future is bright!

Thank you for your consideration.  
[www.genegoss.com](http://www.genegoss.com)

### HAPPY 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY, LUCILLE



On Saturday, February 29th, Lucille M. Hoegee celebrated 100th Birthday, but if you ask her she'll tell you she's turning 25 After all, being born on leap year she only has a birthday every four years. A few days before, family and friends gathered at her home to start the party early!

Lucille Meyers Rasmussen was born in 1912 in Chicago, IL but soon her family moved to Lancaster, CA. She would spend all her childhood there on her father's ranch

and graduated from Lancaster High School in 1931. She then met and married the love of her life becoming Mrs. Vinton A. Hoegee. on Valentine's Day 1932. Vint and Lucille settled here in their beloved Sierra Madre, where the Hoegee family had been in business since 1907 when they opened Hoegee's Campground Resort in the Big Santa Anita Canyon. They would have one son Vinton Arnold Jr, two grandchildren, Karen and David, six great grandchildren, Brandon, Justin, Jessica, Haley, Jake and Ben, and in 2010 a great, great grandson Vinton Robert.

5 generations of Hoegee's and Lucille's beautiful blue eyes have managed to be passed down the line as a distinguishing family trait. Those that didn't get her eye color carry her genuine heart and zest for life. Below, Lucille and her grandson David Hoegee and Mayor Pro Tem Josh Moran.

Lucille has lived in Sierra Madre for over 65 years where she has been very active in many community clubs. While Vinton did service to the community on the city council Lucille was busy with The Elks, Emblem Club, Sierra Madre Woman's Club, Historical Society, Republicans Woman's Club, San Gabriel Fine Arts, Garden Club and her Lutheran Church. She has been through wars, fires, floods, winds, earthquakes, births, deaths, triumphs and tragedies and has never missed a Rose Parade. After Vint passed in 1975 Lucille traveled most of the world. She's seen many countries in Europe including her family's homeland, Holland. She's been all over Mexico and South America as well as The United States and Canada. She will tell you her favorite place of all is right here in Sierra Madre. CA

She enjoys camping, gardening, bowling, sewing and has a passion for oil painting. Her family is very proud of all her accomplishments. She is a truly amazing person and is very loved by those blessed to know her personally. Photos by Bill Coburn



### SOCAL GAS WARNS CUSTOMERS ABOUT UTILITY IMPOSTERS

#### SoCalGas Shares Tips on how to Properly Identify Utility Employees

[Southern California Gas Co.](#) (SoCalGas) is alerting customers to be aware of persons who reportedly have recently posed as SoCalGas employees. According to a news account, the imposters distract an unsuspecting customer by performing "gas leak inspections" while an accomplice burglarizes the customer's home.

SoCalGas wants to assure all customers that all SoCalGas employees carry proper identification when called out to any job. Customers should verify the employee's proper uniform and identification before letting anyone in the home or on their property.

Customer safety is a top priority for SoCalGas and employees will always be happy to wait while the customer confirms their identity.

Here are some tips to help customers identify SoCalGas employees:

- Be vigilant and question anyone who presents themselves as a representative of the utility
- SoCalGas workers who perform in-home appliance

services, work on gas meters or work on gas pipelines wear uniforms. However, some other employees do not. Always ask for identification before allowing anyone inside the home or on the property

• The majority of authorized SoCalGas employees will be in uniform with company logo and carry an official employee badge. Most field employees also drive a company vehicle

• Most of the time a SoCalGas employee visits a home or business in response to a service request. If no one scheduled an appointment, call SoCalGas before allowing anyone inside the home or property

• Never leave the house unlocked and unattended. SoCalGas does not ask customers to leave their homes unattended

• To verify the authenticity of anyone claiming to be a representative of SoCalGas, customers are encouraged to ask for proper identification or call the utility at 1-800-427-2200 (or 1-800-342-4545 in Spanish). SoCalGas customer service representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week

• Visit [socalgas.com/safety](http://socalgas.com/safety) for more information on staying safe

### This Week's Highlights:

3	SEARCH & RESCUE Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Monthly Report on their activities.	4	PASADENA/ALTADENA Dean Lee reports on the latest developments regarding the 710 Freeway Expansion	5	THE ARTS & MORE Meet the "Shock Mom"! She's not what you think!	17	ONE OF A KIND The Pinney House - The 2012 Wistaria Festival will also feature this Historic Landmark.
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## Niko and Friends Café

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Read The Paper Online At: [www.mtnviewsnews.com](http://www.mtnviewsnews.com)

## Weather Wise

## 5-Day Forecast

## Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Mon:</b>	Showers	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
<b>Tues:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
<b>Wed:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
<b>Thur:</b>	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
<b>Fri:</b>	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

626-355-7135

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

Arts Commission - 2nd Wednesday @ 6:30

Community Services - 3rd Monday @ 6:00

Library Trustees - 4th Wednesday @ 7:00

Planning Commission - 1st &amp; 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](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).

## Sierra Madre's Farmer's Market

The Sierra Madre Farmer's Market new location is in Downtown Sierra Madre on Hermosa Avenue, south of Sierra Madre Boulevard to Mariposa Avenue. The hours will be from 3:00-8:00 p.m. during the summer with the exception of major holidays. During the winter/Pacific Standard time the market could possibly end at 7:00 p.m.

## Canyon Canine

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Chris Leclerc

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[chris@canyoncanine.com](mailto: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](mailto:RudyHayek@Gmail.com).

[www.SierraMadreRotary.com](http://www.SierraMadreRotary.com)

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THE FOURTH OF JULY  
COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

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

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

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

Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278

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

If you're running out the door and just remembered someone for whom you forgot to pick up a gift, don't worry. The Chamber has just what you need! Wistaria Shuttle Tickets are available online now at [www.WistariaTickets.com](http://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!

## \$ CASH PAID \$

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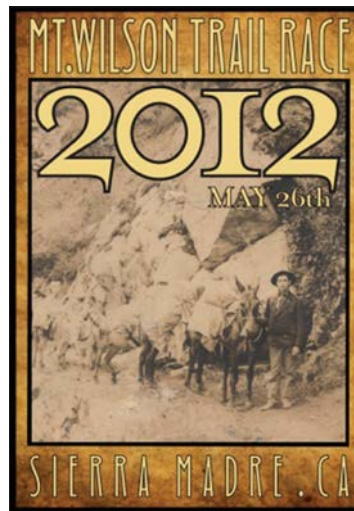
Saturday March 3rd 6 - 8PM

Please stop by our new location and help us celebrate and get a pass for a free class!

There will also be one lucky winner of a 5 class series. We just LOVE our new space and know you will too.

Yoga Madre 16 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. (upstairs)

Enter off Baldwin Ave, behind Happy's.  
Hope to see you there!

2012 MOUNT WILSON TRAIL  
RACE INFORMATIONGet 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/online/registration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration). Runners are encouraged to register as soon as possible as space is limited. The MWTR sells out on an annual basis, be sure to reserve your spot for 2012! For more information please visit [www.mountwilsontrailrace.com](http://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com) or contact the Community Services Office at 626.355.5278.

NEIGHBORHOOD  
WATCH  
MEETING

You are cordially invited to attend the Neighborhood Watch Block Captain meeting. Please stop even if your area does not yet have a Block Captain.

Topics of discussion:

- Theft of Identity Update, related to Valero Gas Station

- Emergency Preparedness – Lessons Learned from the Recent Windstorm

- Significant Auto Burglary Arrest

- The New Overnight Parking Permit Process

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 12, 2012, at 7:00 pm, in the City Council Chambers, located at 232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard.

Your attendance is greatly appreciated.

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

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## REMEMBRANCE

### EARL LaLONE

#### Sierra Madre Native Passes at 86

Earl William LaLone, 86, of Sierra Madre, California, passed away at County Villa Health Services in Duarte, California, at 7:30 pm on Sunday, February 12, 2012, after a year long battle with cancer.



Earl was born to Fred LaLone and Marguerite Vega LaLone on May 5, 1925 in Sierra Madre; he was the youngest of 11 children. Earl is survived by his wife Margaret, daughter Marsha, son Christopher, grandson Philip, granddaughter Melissa, grandson Travis (and his family) and granddaughter Heather (and her family). He is also survived by his sisters Alice McCarron and Francis Finley.

He graduated from Monrovia High School in 1943 and immediately joined the United States Army Air Corps and served to the end of World War II as an airplane mechanic. After the war, Earl joined the California National Guard and again served his country, after being called up during the Korean War.

Earl married Margaret Stevens LaLone on November 10, 1950...they were married for over 61 years. While raising their children, their home on Ramona in Sierra Madre served as an important gathering place for the greater LaLone family, helping to keep a very large family together for decades.

Earl was a manager at Florence Ceramics, where he worked for 25 years. He worked for many more years at an electronics company and then at an oil Company. He was a founding member of the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team where he participated in hundreds of rescues over 22 years.

Earl also dedicated over 15 years to help with the youth baseball program in town, serving as Little League President and manager of several Minor, Major, and Pony/colt League teams. He was active in renovating Heasley Field and the construction of Dapper Field.

He was recognized for his "Outstanding service" to the city in 1973 when he was named Sierra Madre "Citizen of the Year".

Earl was an avid hunter and fisherman who hunted and fished in nearly every state in the west. If he had a favorite place to hunt and fish, it was in Modoc County in Northern California. He also loved to travel with Margaret in their Ford Pickup and Lance camper. Of the 48 states in the continental U.S., they traveled through 46 of them, including a 2 month stay in Alaska.

Earl loved his family and he placed a great deal of importance in his friendships. If there were two positive traits that stood out over all others, it was Earl's ability to connect with people and his desire to give.

Earl's life made a significant impact on the lives of the entire LaLone family and he will be dearly missed.

On Saturday, March 24, from 1:00 to 5:00p.m. , a gathering of friends will be held at the home of Linda Canzoneri, 121 S. Lima, Sierra Madre.

In lieu of flowers, Donations may be made to the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team in honor of Earl LaLone.

## RESCUE LOG

### SIERRA MADRE SEARCH AND RESCUE

During the month of February, Sierra Madre Search and Rescue (SMSR) responded to four calls for assistance.

**Injured Hiker, Big Santa Anita Canyon:** Members of a hiking party at Chantry Flat reported that two of their companions were overdue and possibly injured. Due to darkness and poor weather conditions hypothermia was also a concern. SMSR field crews were immediately dispatched and found the missing subjects, one of whom was injured. A litter and additional personnel were sent to the site and the subjects were evacuated.

**Missing Hikers, Big Santa Anita Canyon:** SMSR was notified of two hikers missing in the Chantry Flat area, and responded along with units from the L.A. County Sheriff and Fire departments and the U.S. Forest Service. Cell phone contact was established with the subjects and Team members were able to determine their location based on their description of their surroundings. While Team members assisted the two lost hikers back to Chantry Flat, two more hikers reported that they, too, needed assistance, and Team members brought them to safety as well.

**Stranded Hikers, Eaton Canyon:** Altadena Mountain Rescue requested assistance in rescuing four hikers who became stranded after dark in a steep, exposed area of Eaton Canyon. Sierra Madre Search and Rescue and

Altadena Mountain Rescue conduct joint trainings for just this kind of situation, and the rescue operation went smoothly. Using ropes and harnesses members of both teams assisted all four subjects safely to the bottom of Eaton Canyon and then out to the road.

A new class of probationary members began their training in February, the first step on the arduous road to becoming a full member of Sierra Madre Search and Rescue. The probationary members will attend class one night per week, plus team meetings and trainings three times a month. The skills they will have to master include high-angle rescue, land navigation, patient packaging, man-tracking, helicopter operations, snow and ice travel, swiftwater rescue, and radio operations. Then once they've qualified for the team they'll head back to school to become nationally-certified EMT's. The entire process takes approximately two years and represents a tremendous commitment of time and effort. But it is all necessary to uphold the team motto: "Anywhere in the wilderness that someone needs help..."

For 60 years the all-volunteer Sierra Madre Search and Rescue team has been responding to calls for help in the local mountains and beyond. Funded entirely by private donations, SMSR provides a range of public programs on wilderness safety in addition to its search and rescue activities. The Team never charges for any of its services.

For more information, including how to arrange a wilderness safety demonstration for your school or group, visit [www.smsr.org](http://www.smsr.org).

## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

*During the week of Sunday, February 19th, to Saturday February 25th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 223 calls for service. See [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com) for updated information.*

**Sunday, February 19th:**  
**1:21 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, Hastings Ranch and Sierra Madre Blvd.** An officer stopped an 18-year old Altadena motorist for a Vehicle Code violation. Further investigation revealed that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Police Department for booking.

**Monday, February 20th:**  
**6:35 PM- Criminal Threats, 242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** This case involves a letter which threatens a Police Department employee.

**Wednesday, February 22nd :**  
**8:40 AM- Vandalism/Graffiti, 100 blk. N. Baldwin Ave.** This case involves an unknown suspect(s) using black spray paint to graffiti a wall. The unknown suspect(s) fled in an unknown direction.  
**9:12 AM- Vandalism/Graffiti, 100 blk. W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** This case involves an unknown suspect(s) using black spray paint to graffiti a wall. The unknown suspect(s) fled in an unknown direction.

**Saturday, February 25th:**  
**12:17 PM- Attempted Residential Burglary, 100 blk. N. Sunnyside Ave.** This case involves an unknown suspect(s) taking the screens off two windows of a residence. The suspect(s) made no entry into the residence.

IMPORTANT DATES	
	<b>MARCH 26 REGISTER FOR APRIL 10TH ELECTION</b>
<b>MARCH 12TH</b>	<b>FIRST DAY TO REQUEST VOTE BY MAIL</b>
<b>BALLOT</b>	
<b>APRIL 3</b>	<b>LAST DAY TO REQUEST VOTE BY MAIL</b>
<b>BALLOT</b>	
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:	
<a href="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">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</a>	
<b>ELECTION DAY -APRIL 10, 2012</b>	

## 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.

## LOCAL GROUPS SPONSOR CANDIDATE FORUMS

*The following organizations are sponsoring Candidate Forums for those seeking office in the Sierra Madre April 10, 2012 Election: (All are free and open to the public)*



#### CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM

Sponsored by Harry L. Embree VFW Post 3208  
Sunday, March 11, 2012  
1:30 PM to 3:30 PM  
Memorial Park Hart House  
Sierra Madre

For additional information, please contact Duncan MacGillivray, Sr. Vice Commander, VFW Post 3208 at [Duncan@smmainurance.com](mailto:Duncan@smmainurance.com) or (626) 355-0762.



#### CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM

Sponsored by The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club  
Tuesday, March 13, 2012  
12:00 Noon

The Lodge in Sierra Madre  
(Formerly the Masonic Temple)  
33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre  
Lunch Optional - Cost \$10

For additional information, please contact Clem Bartolai at 355-0757 or email: [cbartolai@gmail.com](mailto:cbartolai@gmail.com)



#### USER UTILITY TAX FORUM

Sponsored by  
The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club  
Tuesday, March 27, 2012  
12:00 Noon

The Lodge in Sierra Madre  
(Formerly the Masonic Temple)  
33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre  
Lunch Optional - Cost \$10

For additional information, please contact Clem Bartolai at 355-0757 or email: [cbartolai@gmail.com](mailto:cbartolai@gmail.com)

#### SIERRA MADRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CANDIDATE FORUM

Wednesday, March 14th  
6:30 to 8:30pm, moderated by the League of Women Voters, Pasadena Area.  
The forum will be held in City Council chambers in City Hall, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

#### CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET

Thursday, March 15th  
Hosted by the Sierra Madre Woman's Club at their historic clubhouse, "Essick House," located at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 5 to 7pm.  
Attendees will have the opportunity to meet and greet the Council candidates. Each candidate will be introduced and have an opportunity to speak for 2 - 3 minutes, but the rest of the time they will be mingling with the attendees. The admission will be charged, at the reduced rate of \$5/person.

	<b>SELF STORAGE IN SIERRA MADRE</b>	<b>130 E. Montecito Avenue Sierra Madre, CA 91024</b>
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## RADIO DJ'S WANTED

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drop off a CD to  
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Sierra Madre CA 91024

## Laptop Leads to Illegal Assault Weapons



Weapons charges were filed against a 57-year old Altadena man last week following a continuous investigation that started nine months ago with a computer equipped with laptops theft recovery software.

"The use of tracking software for one crime, led to the solving of multiple crimes," Altadena Sheriff's Detective David Gaisford. "My partner and I have recovered several laptops over the last year alone through laptop tracking. They often lead us to property stolen in other crimes."

In January Sheriff's detectives arrested Raymond Jackson at his Altadena residence after finding stolen property from a burglary last May.

During a search of Jackson's residence, the laptop stolen in the Altadena burglary was recovered. A legally banned, unregistered SKS assault rifle with two loaded 30-round magazines duct-taped together, a .32 caliber revolver with the serial numbers scratched off, and six Apple iPhones were also found.

Two of the iPhones were confirmed stolen. One was stolen from a business in Los Angeles and the other was stolen from a business in Simi Valley in Ventura County. Each of the owners said their iPhones had been stolen from their desks. The investigation of four remaining iPhones is continuing police said.

At the end of November, the laptop activated LoJack and the company's monitoring center began tracking keystrokes and screen captures. Gaisford was able to identify Jackson. Personal information was gathered, including his photo.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed, February 24, one count of Possession of a Banned Assault Rifle, Ex-convict in Possession of a Gun, and one count of Receiving Stolen Property.

Jackson was released on \$50,000.00 bond in January. Jackson's next court date is March 12.

## Pet of the Week



Matteo is a two-year-old brown tabby. He's very friendly and enjoys a good belly rub.

Matteo's adoption fee is \$120, which includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. New adopters will receive complimentary health and wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals. Ask an adoptions counselor for more information during your visit.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A301265 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](http://www.pasadenahumane.org).

## 710 Gap Analyses Kicks Off

By Dean Lee

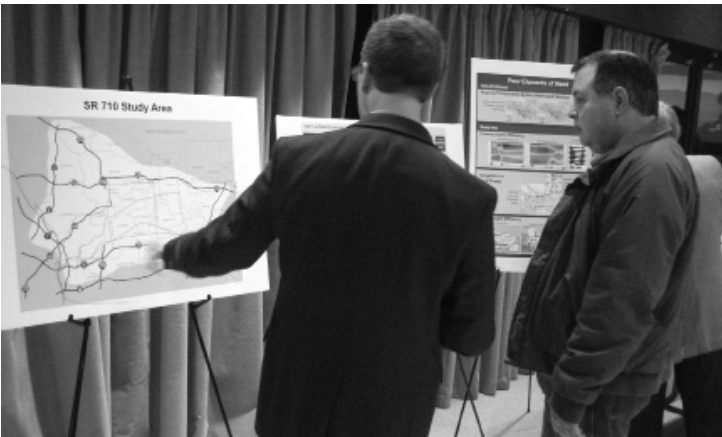
Although representatives from Metro and Caltrans said a meeting Thursday night was the first in a series of public outreach to gather information and ideas surrounding the 710 freeway gap between Pasadena and Alhambra, many at the open house were simply there to express opposition to any new freeway above or below ground.

Most of the two hour meeting at the Ramona Hall Community Center in L.A. was dedicated to public input although organizers gave a quick 15 minute overview of the process.

"What would be a subsurface alternative, a surface alternative, an elevated alternative," said Frank Quon, Executive Officers of Highway Programs for Metro. "And look at those various options, what is the overall impacts, how does it fit with the community, looks at the cost, low build, surface traffic, what about light rail?"

Quon said the alternative analyses was a way to narrow down the alternatives before moving into a full 710 Environmental Impact Report something he said they were trying to move towards by fall.

He said funds for the planning process were coming from Measure R, a half-cent sales tax



passed by voters in 2008.

Trish Gossett, a member of the No 710 Action Committee and Highland Park Neighborhood Council said they, (Caltrans and Metro), needed to look at transportation projects such as railways and bike paths.

"Part of what I voted for in Measure R money is, what I believe, projects that bring us into the 21st century," she said. "Not freeways."

At issue she said was getting cargo from the Port of Los Angeles to the 210 and 5 freeways.

"We should use our money to do things that are multimodal," she said. "Try to come up with an electric rail system that picks up the cargo and then move it into the Inland Empire to these massive trucking hubs that they developed."

Gossett said last year's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico should be a wakeup call.

Bill Sherman, a retired physician and South Pasadena Commissioner said there way no way to escape the heath

## Metro, PCC, Partner Again Offer Students Transit Passes



Pasadena City College and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) have partnered once again to offer low-cost public transportation passes to students. The I-TAP (Institutional Transit Access Pass) allows full-time students enrolled in at least 12 units to ride the Metro for \$32 this semester. Students

can visit PCC's Student Business Services in Room B203 to purchase the passes.

I-TAP is valid on Metro buses and Metro Rail lines seven days a week. Students can use the transit access passes for all other transportation needs, including work, shopping, or recreation. Because they are saving transportation costs, students may be encouraged to take additional college units and can invest the free travel time transit affords them to study or rest.

For additional information on the Institution Pass program, call (213) 922-2811. For transit trip planning assistance over thephone, call 1-800-COMMUTE or visit <http://metro.net>.

## One City, One Story Events Planned

A month long series of programming has been planned celebrating this year's One City, One Story selection People of the Book by author Geraldine Brooks. The community is encouraged to participate and engage in the conversation surrounding the book. All events are free and open to the public.

Brooks will join Jan Sanders, Pasadena Public Library Director, in conversation as they discuss her experiences writing People of the Book. A question and answer session from the audience will immediately follow. Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m. All Saints Church, Sanctuary, 132 N. Euclid Ave.

### COMMUNITY BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, March 3, 10:30 a.m. Allendale Branch Library 1130 S. Marengo Ave.

Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 p.m. Hastings Branch Library 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

Thursday, March 15, 4 p.m. San Rafael Branch Library 1240 Nithsdale Rd.

Thursday, March 15, 4:30 p.m. Santa Catalina Branch Library 999 E. Washington Blvd.



Geraldine Brooks photo credit Randi Baird

Friday, March 16, 2 p.m. Villa Parke Branch Library 363 E. Villa St.

Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m. Linda Vista Branch Library 1281 Bryant St.

Wednesday, March 21, 12 p.m. Huntington Hospital Lunchtime Book Discussion Huntington Hospital Research Conference Hall 734 Fairmount Ave. (across from the Huntington Hospital Outpatient Center). Parking: east parking structure just north of Research Conference Hall. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages will be provided.

Wednesday, March 21, 3:30 p.m. Hill Avenue Branch Library 55 S. Hill Ave.

Saturday, March 24, 1 p.m. La Pintoresca Branch Library 1355 N. Raymond Ave.

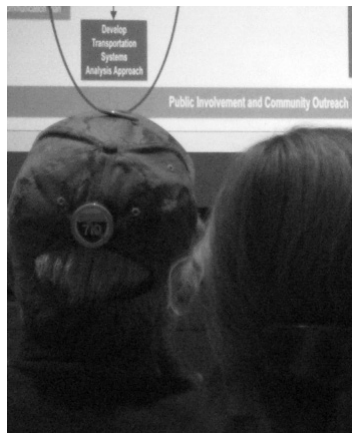
Monday, March 26, 11 a.m. Lamanda Park Branch Library 140 S. Altadena Dr.

risks associated with building a tunnel.

"It can't stay underground forever," he said. "And when it comes to the surface, all those fumes come with it."

He said filtering the air, something Caltrans had mentioned, was to cost prohibitive.

Sherman also said he liked a proposed electric rail cargo system under the San Gabriel River, "It an interesting idea." He added, "We need to find a solution for 2012, 2022, 2032, 42, 52, I think the tunnel is a dead-end."



## JPL March Calendar of Events

**MARCH 8: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - "NASA Celebrates Women"**

In honor of Women's History Month, NASA centers across the country are hosting live events to recognize the role of women in the success of the agency, as well as in space science, engineering and technology. JPL will host a panel of speakers including trailblazer Margaret Kivelson; NASA mission principal investigators Maria Zuber, Amy Mainzer, Carol Raymond and Fiona Harrison; and a Q&A moderated by Patt Morrison.

8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. PST  
**MARCH 15-16: FREE LECTURE - MYSTERIOUS TITAN**

Titan, Saturn's largest moon and the only moon in the solar system enshrouded in a thick atmosphere, has fascinated observers since its discovery in 1655. This free talk will begin with the discovery of Titan by Christiaan Huygens and cover all the major scientific discoveries about this intriguing moon, right up to the amazing results that are flowing back now from the Cassini-Huygens Mission, a joint NASA-ESA-ASI mission launched in 1997 that reached Saturn in July of 2004. The Huygens probe, released from the Cassini orbiter on Christmas day of that same year, drifted down to the surface of Titan on January 14th of 2005, returning spectacular images and data to a worldwide audience. Cassini has gone on to complete almost 80 close flybys of Titan and has revealed the surface, which is normally hidden by a thick nitrogen-rich atmosphere filled with aerosols, to be a complex, exciting and remarkably Earth-like place. There are miles and miles of dunes, lakes of methane and ethane and exotic features that might possibly be ice volcanoes. The atmosphere itself is more dense than Earth's and is a soup of complex hydrocarbons.

**MARCH 15-17: FIRST ROBOTICS REGIONAL COMPETITION IN LONG BEACH**

The FIRST Robotics Competition is a national engineering contest that immerses high school students in the world of engineering. Teaming up with engineers from businesses, universities and research institutions, the students get a hands-on, inside look at the engineering profession as they design and build their own "champion robot."

## City Resets Tree Survey

By Dean Lee

With over 1,500 trees now missing after fierce winds ravaged the area in November/December, the city council voted unanimously Monday night to restart an inventory of the city's urban forest —nearly 60 percent complete— started in 2010.

The council agreed to up the total cost of a contract with Davey Resource Group for \$42,250 and resurvey the effected areas. The original amount was \$200,000 paid for through a State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) grant.

"The project...involves the inspection of each city tree with a GPS device and recordation of information such as tree species, condition and health," city staff said. "The inspection information updates the existing tree inventory and will be incorporated into work history and service requests."

According to staff, an arborist will begin work in the effected areas as soon as March.

"The inspection will document newly vacant sites where trees were either uprooted by the windstorm or removed due to extensive damage, as well as changes

in the condition of existing trees," they said. "The street tree inventory is a crucial step in developing and implementing a replanting plan and beginning an effective recovery of the urban forest."

The re-inventory is expected to be completed by the end of June.

The \$42,250 will come from a Street Tree Deposit Fund Account staff said.

The project also supports the city council's goal to "Improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure," said Darya Barar of the Parks and Natural Resources Division of the Public Works Department. "It also supports the City of Pasadena's adoption of the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords... tree canopy coverage maintained in more than 50 percent of available planting sites."



## Meeting to Give Update on Heritage Square

A community meeting will be held Saturday, March 10, regarding progress on the development of Heritage Square, an affordable senior housing project at the northern portion of the city-owned Heritage Square site at 750-790 N. Fair Oaks Ave. The meeting is set for 10 a.m. to noon at Jackie Robinson Center Auditorium, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave.

City Department of Housing staff and members of the development team from BRIDGE Housing Corporation will provide a

progress update and discuss the implementation of local benefit requirements, which call for a certain percentage of project funds to be used to hire local labor.

Direct transit service to Jackie Robinson Center is provided by Pasadena ARTS bus route 20 and Metro Line 260.

To receive alerts about future community meetings on the Heritage Square affordable senior housing development, e-mail [jwong@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jwong@cityofpasadena.net) or call (626) 744-8316.

## 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

## Public Workshop to Look at City's Future

City planners are once again asking residents to take part in the ongoing process of updating the city's General Plan by attending the next public workshop set for Saturday, March 10, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Pasadena City College's Circadian Room in Building CC.

The city has been working with the community since 2009 to update the Land Use and Mobility chapters of the General Plan, the document that serves as the city's guiding blueprint for the future. The Land Use chapter outlines how and where Pasadena should grow; the Mobility chapter guides the safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout the city.

Since the last series of workshops in fall 2011, planners and city commissioners



reviewed notes from all past public meetings, researched other cities' award-winning general plans, and developed a list of potential updated policies.

The policies seek to answer important questions, such as, "What should new buildings look like?"; "How can we protect neighborhoods?" and "How can we improve the city's economy?" Residents are asked to come and learn more about the potential Land Use and Mobility policies and offer their opinions and insight.

Additional information on the workshops, the update process and supporting documents is available online at [www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan) or by calling (626) 744-6807.

CONGRESSMAN DREIER RETIRES

In an announcement that took many by surprise, U.S. Congressman David Dreier, who represented the 26th Congressional District announced earlier this week that he would not seek re-election. Below is his formal statement in its entirety.

Statement from Congressman Dreier

WASHINGTON, DC – Rules Committee Chairman David Dreier (R-CA) delivered the following statement today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives:

"Mr. Speaker, I have chosen to leave Congress at the end of this term. I take the unusual step of announcing this from the floor of Congress for two reasons. First, this is where my fellow Californians sent me to represent them. Second, I am a proud institutionalist, and I believe that this institution is as great as it has ever been.

"My decision has been a deliberative one. Three years ago I contemplated leaving at the end of the previous Congress, but I ultimately chose to seek reelection for the sake of pursuing four key objectives: (1) to reverse the very dangerous 82% increase in non-defense discretionary spending that we had in the previous two Congresses; (2) to finally pass the job-creating free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea; (3) to enhance our national security by working to strengthen the legislatures of new and reemerging democracies across the globe through the bipartisan House Democracy Partnership; and (4) to ensure, through the Rules Committee, that both Democrats and Republicans have the opportunity to offer their solutions by proposing amendments on the House floor.

"Mr. Speaker, I have been honored to play a part in the effort to accomplish these four goals. Acting in a bipartisan way, we have fundamentally altered the federal spending process, focusing on fiscal discipline rather than profligacy. We not only passed all three pending free trade agreements. We did so with the largest bipartisan support of any trade measure in years. The 17 partner countries of the House Democracy Partnership are making important strides, and the advent of the Arab Spring has brought about the greatest opportunity in more than a generation for democracy throughout the Arab world. Finally, both Democrats and Republicans can offer their ideas on the House floor.

"This work is far from over, and I intend to spend this year working toward greater bipartisan progress. Our economy and our job market remain in peril, and the effort to rein in the deficit has only just begun. Having cleared out the backlog of trade agreements, we must embark on a renewed trade



liberalization agenda to revitalize the worldwide marketplace. The endeavor to ensure that American workers and entrepreneurs are able to grow our economy and increase our standard of living is an ongoing one. It is an endeavor that I look forward to pursuing as vigorously outside of Congress as I have here.

"I have always believed that Republicans and Democrats alike serve the American people best when we find ways to build bipartisan consensus. The framers of our constitution envisioned Congress as a forum for a great clash of ideas. We all have different, sometimes radically different, views of how to build a better and stronger America. I have always believed that our efforts must be rooted in our pursuit of a free economy, personal freedom, limited government, and a strong national defense. Others may take a different view. These differences demand a passionate debate, but that debate must ultimately arrive at consensus.

"As I prepare to follow the Madisonian directive that Members of Congress should one day leave office to live under the laws they passed, there are many whom I would like to thank. Family and friends, volunteers and supporters, and of course the voters who first gave me my party's nomination in 1978 when I was 25 and lived in the Phillips Hall dormitory at my alma mater, Claremont McKenna College.

"I would also like to thank the dedicated public servants in my offices in California and Washington, who have so ably worked in behalf of the people I've been privileged to represent."

PET OF THE WEEK: HEIDI: Animal ID #A4399107

Meet a really awesome dog, the exceptional Heidi (A4399107). Heidi is an easygoing, companionable seven-year-old black and fawn female purebred German Shepherd who was found in West Covina on February 24th and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center. Weighing eighty-two pounds, this even-keeled girl walks perfectly on the leash. She gets along with other dogs. Heidi is even tempered, and very well-behaved. She will be a fantastic indoor pet for an individual or family living in a private home, and we think she will be great with kids, or with an older person who wants a large but easy-to-handle dog. To view a video of Heidi please visit: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=27j\\_yCMHfIU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27j_yCMHfIU)



To meet Heidi in person, please see her at the Baldwin Park Shelter, located at 4275 N. Elton, Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378 or 626-962-3577). She is currently available now. For any inquiries about Heidi, please reference her animal ID number: A4399107. 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 Heidi or the adoption process, contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at [samanthasayon@gmail.com](mailto:samanthasayon@gmail.com) or 661-309-2674. To learn more about United Hope for Animals' partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.

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JIM ROBERTSON, Teacher of the Old Ways



By Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges is the author of "How to Survive Anywhere," and other books. He can be reached at [www.ChristopherNyerges.com](http://www.ChristopherNyerges.com), where there is also a link to his weekly podcast on Preparedness Radio Network.]

Jim Robertson is a practitioner and teacher of the survival skills of Native Americans that have become largely lost and forgotten. He teaches to school children in the Santa Monica Mountains through the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in association with the National Park Service and the Topanga Canyon Docents in association with the California State Parks.

On a recent Saturday morning, Robertson was demonstrating the use of the Piute deadfall, a method used not just by the Piute, but widely among the Native Americans, for capturing small game.

The hard part is the trigger mechanism, which supports a large rock or log. Once the class is gathered around, Robertson shows how the various pieces are made. There is one vertical piece, whose top is chiseled. Another diagonal piece pivots on top of the vertical twig, roughly the size of a pencil. So far so good. Robertson shows how the pieces are to work. The rock will be held up by the diagonal piece of wood, which is held in place by a string tied to its lower end, to which a small toggle is tied. The toggle wraps around the vertical piece. And then there is a long bait stick that holds the toggle in place, which is pressed against the rock.

If that sounds very complicated, well, it is! Yet, millennia of Native Americans used this method, and several variations of it, to capture the small game that comprised the bulk of their meals.

Robertson is concentrated and intense as he demonstrates how to secure the large flat rock in place above the trigger mechanism.

"It has to be just-so," explains Robertson. "Too secure and it won't topple when an animal eats the bait. Too loose and it

will fall in the wind." After a few attempts, Robertson shows how it's done, and each student gets to try.

Everyone likes to learn how to use these primitive traps, there are many that Robertson teaches. However, he always emphasizes that he does not actually set any traps up with

students, since these devices are often illegal. "The one exception to this is a genuine survival situation," explains Robertson. Still, he does not condone causing unnecessary suffering of any animals due to poor



workmanship with the snares and traps.

"Do your practice with stuffed animal toys," suggests Robertson.

"When I am practicing all-out survival in an area where it is legal to use dead fall traps, the killing of wildlife is still kept to the bare minimum because I regard the animals as a part of our family and, as with all life, they deserve the utmost respect, reverence, and consideration," says Robertson.

Robertson regularly teaches wilderness and survival skills privately and through various local groups. Not only does he teach, but he is constantly learning new skills as he attends the various survival skills schools offered throughout the country. He has taken classes with Jim Lowrey's Earth Skills in Frazier Park, California; Boulder Outdoor Survival School (BOSS), in Utah; Tom Brown Jr.'s Tracking and Wilderness Survival School, and many other notable schools.

As a young child, Robertson would sometimes sneak out of the house before dawn for a full day of adventure and not return until after dusk, to the consternation of his parents, though he thinks his father was secretly pleased.

"As I got a little older, my many natural athletic abilities and pursuit of a professional baseball career kept me kind of distracted

from my beloved wild lands until I sustained a strange, painful, life altering illness," explains Robertson. "The illness forced him to slow down, and to re-evaluate his life. One of his new priorities was to get back into the wild more often.

"It was here, in the wild, that mother nature performed its

healing magic on me, in its own time, at its own pace, teaching me the quiet lessons necessary for me to grow and move on. It was largely due to this powerful illness and healing experience that I felt compelled to become a naturalist, environmentalist, aboriginal skills, wilderness/survival instructor," explains Robertson with a big infectious grin.

For six months in 1970, Robertson lived in a large tent in a hidden little canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains.

"An old high school buddy of mine owned the land and he loved the idea of me living on his wild, raw land. I absolutely loved living there," explains Robertson. "The outdoor showers were phenomenal, the rattlesnakes were friendly as were the deer, rabbits and quail. The nightly music of the great horned owl, crickets and frogs was majestic as they lulled me to sleep at night."

Robertson had no phone, television, or radio during this time, and would drive into town every few days to work on his insurance business. His tent living came to an end when he and his girlfriend returned from a five week trip to Europe, and found everything destroyed by the Santa Ana winds and the winter rains.

Robertson said that the only downside to this camping experience was that occasional curious hikers would stumble upon his place when they weren't home and invite themselves in to our living quarters, burning incense, etc. He said this was disconcerting and that ironically he sometimes felt safer in the city than he did in the wild. "Regardless," says Robertson, "the whole experience was among the best in my life!"

Robertson can be reached through Aboriginal Skills, at [j3brbts@dslexreme.com](mailto:j3brbts@dslexreme.com) or (310) 395-0943. You can also check his Facebook.

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# ARCADIA

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Arcadia

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## METHODIST HOSPITAL'S MARDI GRAS RAISES \$79,000 FOR ITS STROKE PROGRAM

About 500 guests honored neurologist Dr. Kenneth Wogensen as Mardi Gras King 2012 last week at the 17th annual Mardi Gras at Sirona's, Santa Anita Park.

Over \$79,000 was raised in support of Methodist Hospital's stroke program. Guests were treated to delicious food provided by 24 top area restaurants. The traditional Mardi Gras parade, led by Arcadia High School band members, included Dr. Wogensen dressed in royal garb and members of the Mardi Gras committee.

Ernest and Gunde Posey were top "Mardi Gras" sponsors. Other top sponsors were HealthCare Partners Medical Group – Region 1 and Kindred Healthcare/RehabCare. As Dr. Wogensen "reigned" over the festivities, committee co-chairs Lindburgh McPherson and Sherri Taylor greeted folks and ensured that guests had a fun time. They and their committee of 28 volunteers spent many hours planning the event. Julie Maldonado won the iPad2 drawing, and awards were given to restaurants in the Best Presentation Contest. Dave and Buster's won first place, and The Derby and Opera took second place.

The support provided from the Mardi Gras proceeds will help with



Mardi Gras Committee – (top row) Leandra McCormick, Barbara Lyle, Jan McEachern, Kimberly Johnson, Janet Hansen, Debbie Wilkie, Cheryl Wolf, John Reilly (middle row) Ulanda Lee, Grace Cashion, Clara Howard, Melissa Fuentes and David Neal (bottom row) Gloria Rico, Noemi Biely, Lindburgh McPherson, Renee Weaver, Cris Quesada

the expansion of the hospital's stroke program, which greatly impacts the lives of those afflicted by a stroke as well as their loved ones. Stroke is the leading cause of death and primary cause of adult disability within the United States.

It is imperative to immediately call 911 if someone appears to have stroke symptoms. When the brain can be preserved, the subsequent quality of life for a person afflicted by a stroke can change vastly. Emergency response teams will take a patient to an approved stroke-receiving center like Methodist Hospital. The certified, interdisciplinary team will give immediate, interventional care, striving to have stroke patients back home, resuming quality of daily life with their loved ones.

## Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, through Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department responded to 966 calls for service of which 114 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, February 19:

1. Around 1:36 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for speeding on Las Tunas Drive at Live Oak Avenue. Upon contact with the driver, the officer noticed an odor of alcohol emitting from his breath and person. An investigation revealed the 32-year-old White male was driving under the influence. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

2. At approximately 4:25 p.m., a male adult suspect entered Bose at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, and stole a pair of headphones from a display rack. The suspect was caught on video surveillance. He is described as a Hispanic male with dark hair, medium build, in his mid-thirties, wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans.

Monday, February 20:

3. At about 1:40 a.m., an officer conducted a vehicle check on a red Ford Mustang parked on the north side of Clark Street at Peck Road. A vehicle search revealed the driver was in possession of credit cards and identification cards issued to different people and three laptop computers, which were suspected to be stolen. The 24-year-old Hispanic male was arrested for Possession of Stolen Property and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

4. Shortly after 4:21 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Rite Aid, 39 West Las Tunas Drive, in reference to a theft report. The cashier observed a female adult suspect select a recyclable shopping bag from a display unit and fill the bag with merchandise. The suspect exited the store without making payment and fled the parking lot in a blue Chrysler. The suspect is described as a Hispanic female, approximately 25-years-old, 5'4" tall with brown hair.

Tuesday, February 21:

5. At about 3:41 p.m., an officer responded to the 000 block of Hugo Reid Drive regarding a residential burglary report. Unknown suspect(s) forced entry through a rear window and ransacked all of the bedrooms. The amount of loss was unknown at the time of the report due to the family being away on vacation.

6. At approximately 6:59 p.m., an officer responded to Zumiez at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. An employee set her cell phone on a display shelf to help a male adult customer retrieve a jacket. While retrieving the jacket, the employee noticed the customer's female friend, a Black female adult, approximately 30-years-old, wearing dark clothing, was near her phone. Within minutes, she discovered her phone was missing and noticed the female subject quickly left the store. The employee believes the subject took her phone and is desirous of prosecution.

Wednesday, February 22:

7. Around 4:03 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 000 block of West Lemon Avenue regarding a residential burglary report. The victim returned home and discovered her jewelry was missing. Unknown suspect(s) forced entry through a side door and fled undetected. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.

8. At approximately 5:39 p.m., an officer responded to Sephora at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a female adult in custody for theft. The suspect concealed merchandise inside her purse and left the store without making payment. The 20-year-old Hispanic female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, February 23:

9. Shortly after 8:55 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 000 block of West Norman Avenue in regards to a theft report. The victim was notified by FedEx that two packages had been delivered to her home; however, the packages were nowhere to be found. The officer determined unknown suspect(s) stole the packages from the resident's front porch and fled undetected.

10. At about 5:37 p.m., officers responded to a three-party traffic collision on West Duarte Road, west of South Baldwin Avenue. While party two was stopped for traffic ahead, she was rear-ended by party one, which caused her vehicle to move forward and collide with the rear of party three. No major injuries were reported.

Friday, February 24:

11. Around 2:30 p.m., a reporting party observed a mountain lion walking southbound on Canyon Road from Carolwood Road. Officers conducted an area check but were unable to locate the animal.

12. At about 11:27 p.m., an officer conducted an enforcement stop on a vehicle for a broken headlight in the area of Second Avenue and Huntington Drive. The officer discovered the driver's license was expired. He was cited and released in the field.

Saturday, February 25:

13. At roughly 3:12 a.m., an officer observed a silver BMW sedan swerving between lanes on Foothill Boulevard, and conducted a traffic stop at Santa Anita Avenue. Upon contact with the driver, the officer noticed an odor of alcohol emitting from his breath and person. An investigation revealed the driver was under the influence of alcohol, and had a suspended license due to a previous DUI. The 35-year-old Chinese male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

14. Shortly after 10:11 a.m., an officer was dispatched to Arcadia High School, 180 Campus Drive, in regards to a commercial burglary report. While the band members were at rehearsal, unknown suspect(s) entered a secured classroom and ransacked their backpacks. One student discovered his backpack had been stolen while fourteen others reported several items missing. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.

## 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.

To help offset severe state budget cuts to neighborhood schools and keep Arcadia schools among the best in California by providing funds which cannot be taken away by Sacramento; to retain and attract quality teachers; keep schools safe and clean; and protect quality math, science, reading, art and music programs, shall Arcadia Unified School District levy \$ 228 per parcel annually for 5 years, with senior exemptions, mandatory audits, and independent oversight?

### ALSO ON THE BALLOT:

### LOCAL JURISDICTION MEASURES:

### ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE A —ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION PROTECTION MEASURE.

## KID'S NIGHT OUT – ARCADIA COMMUNITY CENTER MARCH MADNESS FRIDAY, MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> – 6-11PM

Recreation Staff and Volunteers will offer themed games, a movie, a delicious dinner and supervision so mom and dad can have a night on the town or a quiet evening at home. Children must be at least four years of age to attend. All activities will be geared toward elementary school children; anyone younger must be potty trained. The cost is \$15.00 per child and also includes snacks and beverages. Registration for Kid's Night Out can be done on-line, by fax, 626.821.4370 or by coming into the Recreation Office, 375 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007. For more information please call 626.574.5113!

## A MAN OF MANY FACETS: TONY GEX HONORED AT CELEBRATION OF HIS LIFE

By Joan Schmidt

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, I attended the celebration of the life of Harold Leon ("Tony") Gex. The Celebration began with a beautiful Mass at Holy Angels, Arcadia and ended at Santa Anita Race Track! Tony was as awesome man with an infectious smile! There were so many facets of his life- and he was greatly loved and admired in each by an abundance of friends!

Besides the former students, faculty members and even principal that came to celebrate Tony's life, there were friends from the Tournament of Roses Association, Santa Anita Race track, the Theater Group and both Churches (His parish, Holy Angels and his beloved wife Audrey's, Arcadia Friends Church). Tony was preceded in death by Audrey and leaves behind his three sons, Steve, Ken and David, daughters-in-law Beth, Susie, Sylvia, grandchildren, Ryan, Rob, Aimee, Anna, Alex (and husband Jeremy), Megan, Kayla Jordan, Noelle, Anthony, and great-granddaughter, Keira, (born the night before services.)

The main celebrant of the Mass was Father Peter Dennis, from San Dimas, assisted by Father Michael Evans, Pastor of Holy Angels.

Father Dennis gave an upbeat homily. He told us not to be sad, "Tony's up and off on his way to God...when we come to the end of the road, let there be no rites of gloom, let me go... Tony was a family and friends' man, true romantic, loved his sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren, loved music and theater, stories and story-telling... He leaves lives changed and inspired others. He encouraged others... His spirit, attributes and life lives on in your midst...He leaves us a challenge-we strive to do better because of him: "You shall pass through this world only once; you have one chance to do good."

After the Prayers of the Faithful by Fred Nahra, there was the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and a beautiful rendition of *Ave Maria* as Jordan, Anna, Noelle and Anthony Gex presented the Gifts.

Following Communion, Tony's eldest son Steve gave the Eulogy. Steve began by thanking all who attended (400+), "The great number of people here today is quite a tribute to our Dad."

Steve continued with a short bio of Tony: "Dad was born in New Orleans and had many aunts and uncles who loved him. They gave him a nickname,



"Dunni" and it evolved to "Tony" over the years. Tony loved to go crabbing. He went on to high school and then entered World War II, serving mostly in France. That was great, because "Gex" is actually a French name and there is a "Gex" in France. After the war, Tony began college in Chicago but transferred to San Francisco College where he met the love of his life-Audrey and they eloped. After college, Tony was offered a teaching position by the Arcadia School District. He actually began at Dana Middle School-taught there till '59, and then moved on to Arcadia High School. He taught a total of 35 years in Arcadia Schools. He taught English and loved Shakespeare and theater.

In the 1960's, Tony became involved with the Tournament of Roses association and was on committees for forty years. Tony loved his ten grandchildren and teaching them how to crab in Oregon. He loved the Race Track-was a \$2 better, had so many friends there-even the workers loved him and treated him like royalty.

David, Tony's youngest son, spoke, "What a tribute. My Dad was the ultimate people's person. Look at this group of people: former students, faculty, principal, Tournament of Roses members, neighbors, friends from Holy Angels Parish and Arcadia Friends Church, and race track buddies. Everyone at Santa Anita was great to him. The women who helped him with programs were "My girls" and the Valets who popped his trunk, and got his wheelchair out before the car door was opened and then brought him to the entrance!

Ken, Tony's middle son, who had presented him with a First Great Grandchild Keira the night before, spoke highly of his father also.

The Sixth race at Santa Anita that day was in Tony's memory and everyone bet on "Pork Chop". Pork Chop didn't win, but I'm sure everyone left the race track as I did. It truly had been a Celebration of Tony's Life.

# MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## DUARTE'S GOOD NEWS OF \$578,900 MID-YEAR BUDGET SURPLUS TEMPERED BY UNCERTAINTY OVER THE FUTURE OF FORMER REDEVELOPMENT FUNDS

**DUARTE, CA, March 1, 2012** – For the first time in several years, the City of Duarte is looking at a substantial budget surplus at mid-year. What was originally projected to be a \$134,400 surplus when the 2011/2012 budget was adopted has grown to a surplus of \$578,900, increasing the year-end General Fund reserves to \$12.5 million, equating to 109% of General Fund expenditures.

The surplus is attributed to many factors such as program reductions, cost savings from recently negotiated union agreements, staff vacancies, higher than expected building permit revenues, lower than expected expenses and several grants.

"It's been a team effort over the past three years to right the ship and find ways to trim, cut, conserve and live within the new normal of this economy," said City Manager Darrell George. "A lot of work has been done in the last two years to make fiscally responsible adjustments and this budget reflects the fruits our labor. However, there continues to be a lot of uncertainty over how the city's finances may be further impacted as a result of decisions yet to be made over former redevelopment funds and that will need to be dealt with in our next budget and probably several budgets thereafter," said George.

Approximately \$7.5 million of the \$12.5 million General Fund balance represents a transfer made in February 2011 as a repayment of the City's loan advance made to the Redevelopment Agency in prior years. In the event that this transfer is deemed invalid, and ordered surrendered to the State, reserves would be reduced to \$5 million, which represents 44% of General Fund expenditures. At year end total General Fund expenditures are projected to be \$11,439,100, an increase of only \$18,000, as compared to the adopted budget. A majority of the General Fund departments are projecting to spend less than their budgeted amounts.

One of the larger reductions in expenses is due to \$130,000 in cost savings related to personnel changes and vacancies. Although the City has not implemented any employee layoffs, three staff positions were vacated and left unfilled in the last quarter of 2011. A retirement in March will leave another position temporarily unfilled, reducing the City staff count from 43 to 39.

As a result, the City, historically known for its lean, efficient staffing, is down 13 full-time staff over the past three years, from a high of 52 full-time employees.

Other mid-year budget highlights:

- Legal expenses are expected to be \$71,000 less than originally budgeted.
- Supplemental Law Enforcement Safety Funds of \$112,000 will be used to offset costs associated with Los Angeles County Sheriff's contract.
- The December windstorm resulted in \$88,000 of unanticipated costs to the City for clean-up and repairs.
- Building permit fees are projected to increase by \$50,000 to a new total of \$350,000, due to remodels conducted by Wal-Mart, the soon-to-open new 99 Cent Only Store, and the new Fiat dealership, as well as new construction at Phase two of the Huntington Courts housing development.
- Duarte was awarded a \$54,000 grant to implement a recycling program for Multi-Family housing.

• Duarte's Promise – The Alliance for Youth has been expanded to include additional Promise Fellows who are funded through the Duarte's Promise grant and partnering agencies matching grants. As a result, program revenues and expenses will increase in the amount of \$45,000.

• Reimbursements of approximately \$250,000 were received in conjunction with an Energy Efficiency Upgrade of City facilities completed in 2011.

• A Cal Recycle Grant of \$150,000 that can be used toward street resurfacing when recycled asphalt rubber is used will be used to offset costs related to the Highland Avenue rehabilitation project as well as the Area 1 slurry and cape seal projects.

• The City now qualifies for approximately \$36,000 in National Transportation Department funding which will partially offset the ongoing increases in fuel and repair costs associated with the free-to-the-public Duarte Transit system. Duarte City Council members and administrative staff will convene in a budget workshop on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm to discuss 2012/2013 fiscal year budget. The workshop is open to the public.

For more information about the mid-year budget and upcoming budget workshop, call Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931.

## IT'S A.....BIRD!



Armed with binoculars and cocked ears, an expedition will set out on April 22 in search of the endangered Bell's Vireo. Led by Ornithologist Kimball Garrett, the walk will cover Encanto Park and nearby trails along the San Gabriel River, convening at the Duarte Historical Museum, 777 Encanto Parkway, Duarte, at 8 a.m. The Museum will serve coffee and donuts at 7:30 a.m. before the walk.

"The Bell's Vireo usually arrives by the first week or so of April, so our walk is scheduled for a good time to find them," says Garrett. "We are also likely to spot Yellow-breasted Chats, and other nesting birds which should be in full song," he adds.

In previous local searches for the Vireo, the song of the elusive bird has been heard from the Puente Largo Bridge. However, none of the small arboreal songbirds were actually seen. The Vireo song is distinct, inflecting upward and then downward as if asking then answering a question. As described in "Birds of the Los Angeles Region," a book co-authored by Garrett, the Vireo may be found in "larger flood control

basins and along unchannelized creeks and rivers." Although endangered, their habitats are showing some recovery due to management of quality riparian habitat and localized cowbird trapping.

According to Garrett, because the walk will take place close to the peak of spring migration, "we might see a variety of warblers, swallows, flycatchers and other migrants. There ought to be Western Tanagers, Bullock's and Hooded Orioles and other colorful birds."

Garrett is Collections Manager at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. "We are fortunate to have Garrett, an expert in his field, lead this birding expedition. It promises to be fun, exciting and educational. The participants will learn a lot about our local natural history," says Claudia Heller, president of the Duarte Historical Society, which is sponsoring the event in celebration of Earth Day.

The walk is free to the public. It will take place rain or shine. For more information, call (626) 358-0329.

*Submitted by Claudia Heller*

## SWAG, SERVING WITH A GOAL: THE SECOND ANNUAL MONROVIA/DUARTE YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

By Joan Schmidt

On Saturday, Santa Fe Middle School, Monrovia, was the site of SWAG, the second annual Monrovia/Duarte Youth Leadership Summit. Last year about 150 attended, but this year, 385!

What is the purpose of "SWAG"? Its name means, "Serve with a Goal". Guillermo Chavez, the Monrovia/Duarte Youth Leadership Team and the event committee designed activities to connect youths with career professionals, higher education, and internship opportunities within a dynamic leadership growing session. The goal of SWAG was "to have all today's participants walk away both inspired and equipped to achieve their personal educational and career goals."

The session began with the "Welcomes" by Tiffany Scott, Monrovia Youth Commission; Dominique Rodgers, Duarte Youth Council; Mary Ann Lutz, Mayor of Monrovia; and John Fasana, Mayor of Duarte.

The Keynote speaker was Rhonda Luna and what an awesome lady she is! Rhonda is a Counselor at Santa Fe Middle School, Monrovia, Recreation Leader at the Duarte Teen Center and a Professional Boxer!

After Rhonda's inspiring speech, there were two class sessions, followed by a lunch break. The Mexican style lunch was provided by Rudy's Mexican Restaurant. In between there was great entertainment by DJ Blvd, Informational Booths and a raffle.

After the lunch break, there were two more sessions followed by the closing ceremony. Paul Dols, Government Teacher and Renaissance Program Coordinator at Monrovia High School was the closing speaker.

During the SWAG Summit, there was quite an array of sessions available. I was able to sit in on the "Make-up Artistry" one and it was so popular they had to hold morning sessions too. When I asked how the session was, the students said they "loved it" and it was "awesome".

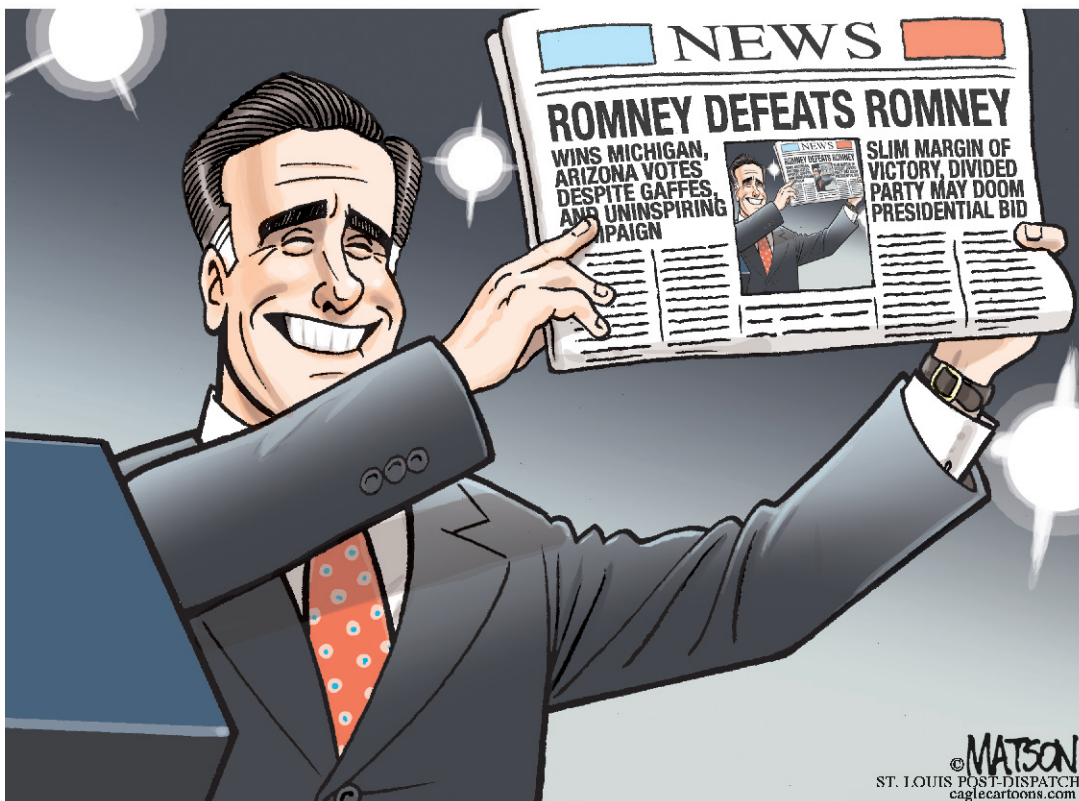
Other sessions included "How to Go to College and Receive Financial Aid", (Norman Anderson, Counselor, DUSD); "How to Get a Job", ( Jeff Lambert, Librarian II, Adult Sessions, Monrovia Public Library); "How



to Have a Healthy Relationship", (Gloria Crudginton, M.A./MSCC, Marriage and Family Therapist); "Money Talks", (Jeff Chang, Vice President, Citizens Business Bank of Monrovia); "Evil Weed", (Ann Scott, Department of Health, Pasadena); "Volunteerism: Making a Difference in Your Community", (Rudy Martinez, Recreation Leader and Renee Estephan, Duarte Youth Council President); "Bullying: It Affects Everyone", ( Renee Houlemarde, Counselor, DUSD); "How to Start Your Own Business", (Lisa Magna & Joe Naylor, CEO's Joe's Place and Leven Oaks Retirement Home); "Art Expressions", (Michael Olivares, Outreach Coordinator, Glendale Adventist Medical Center); "Mixed Martial Arts", (Fernando Isais, Old Town Fight Club); "Make Up Artistry", (Carolyn Simon, Professional Make-up Artist); "Boxing", (Duarte Boxing); "Zumba: Dance Your Way to Health", (Dr. Maggie Pezeshkian, Duarte Family Chiropractic); "Cooking", (Chef Rice, Cooking Instructor, Duarte High School); and "Social Media: Today's Most Popular Communication (Yolanda Gutierrez, Agent, Monrovia PD).

Sponsors included Rudy's Mexican Food, Burrtec Waste Industries, SO CA Edison, Citizens Business Bank, Athens Services, the Y Life, Monrovia Rotary International, Duarte Kiwanis International, Duarte Unified School District, Monrovia Unified School District, Think Together, L.A. County Sheriff's Duarte's Sub Station, SO CA Gas Company, Sempira Energy Company, Foothill Federal Credit Union, Community Hope, and Donna Baker, Director of Heritage Homes, Podley Properties.

*Above: Keynote speaker Rhonda Luna and Mayor Mary Ann Lutz*



## Monrovia Police Blotter

### Highlighted Activity for the Weekdays of February 27-29, 2012

*During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 412 service events, resulting in 74 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping.*

#### Attempted Residential Burglary

On February 28 at 3:20 p.m., a 15-year-old male subject that lives in the 200 block of Violet observed a male suspect tampering with the window screen on the backdoor of the apartment where he lives. The suspect eventually left the area. Police were not called until the subject's stepfather arrived home, a few hours later. The window screen appeared to have been cut, but the suspect did not make entry into the home. The suspect is described as a male, 6'0", thin build, wearing dark pants and a gray or black hooded sweatshirt, which covered his face and hands. Investigation continuing.

#### Detective Bureau Case Follow-up

Gang member, Gary Sanchez, was convicted of murder in the Pasadena Superior Court last week. Sanchez was convicted of several gun and gang enhancements, and is facing fifty years to life in prison. He is scheduled to be sentenced on March 23, 2012.

This case stems from an incident that occurred on December 15, 2009, at approximately 8:04 p.m. Sanchez shot and killed Jason Gentile near the intersection of Colorado and California in Monrovia. Sanchez also wounded Gentile's girlfriend, who has completely recovered from her wounds. Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Homicide Detectives investigated this case, but Monrovia Police Department personnel played a major role in the investigation and prosecution.

#### Tip of the Week

#### Mail Theft Prevention

If you order items over the phone, via the Internet, or by mail, chances are those packages will be delivered straight to your front porch. The majority of deliveries do not require a signature and are generally left at your door, even if no one is home to accept them. Some thieves look for crime of opportunity, but other thieves actually target your delivery. Thieves will follow or watch for the UPS, FedEx, US Mail, or other delivery trucks, and then target a home after a delivery is made.

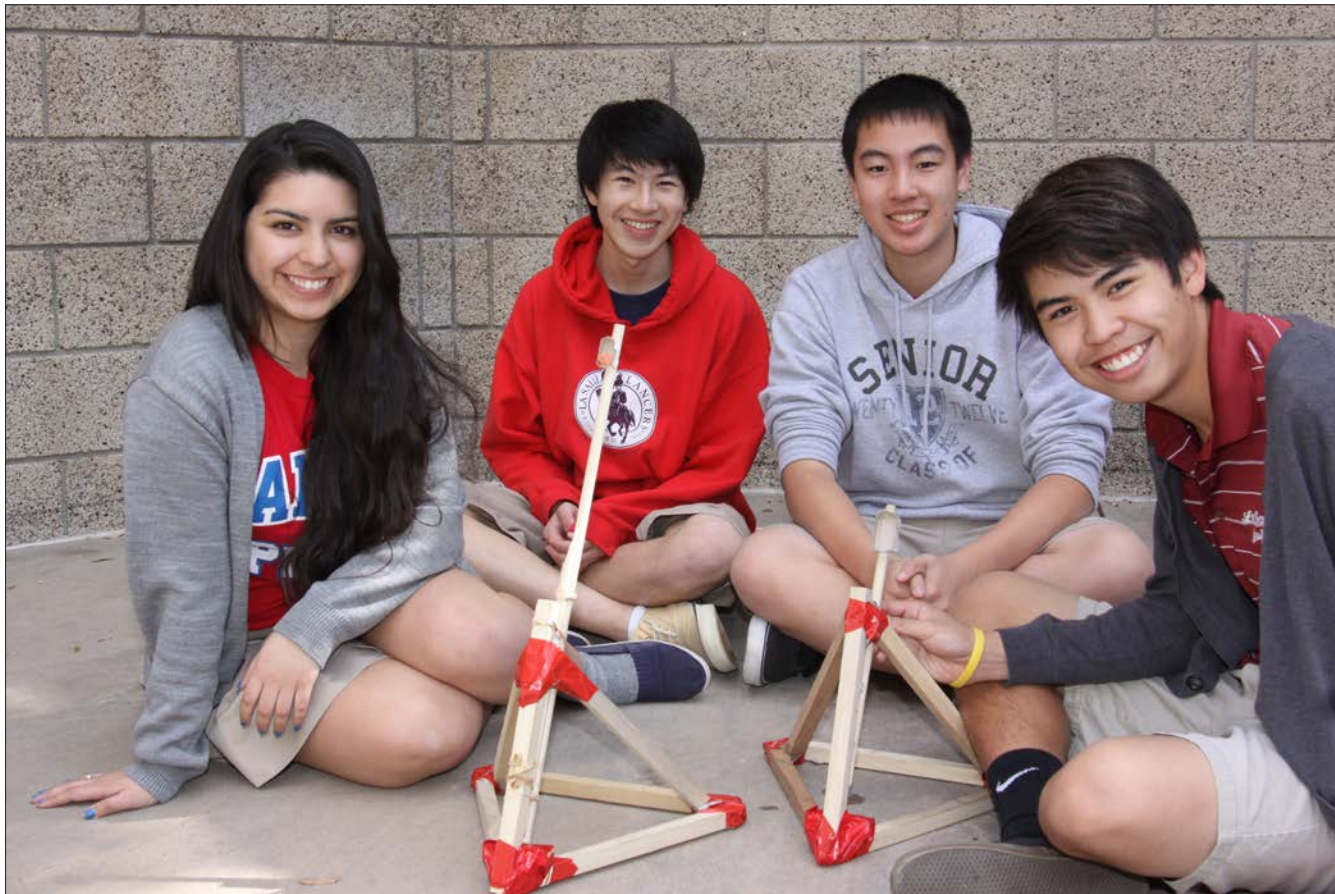
Here are some suggestions for helping to prevent a theft of your packages:

- If possible, use your workplace as the shipping address.
- Track your shipments by phone or online so that you know what day they should arrive.
- Ask your neighbor to watch for your delivery and then hold the items until you arrive home.
- Keep an eye on your neighborhood and report suspicious persons or vehicles in the area.
- Request a signature delivery option if available or request the shipment be held at the shipping facility such as a UPS office.
- Check with "mailbox" businesses in your town and see if they will accept shipment of your item for a fee.
- If you do not receive your shipment on time, check with the company of origin and confirm the delivery. If the item was delivered and you did not receive it, report the theft or loss to the original company, the shipping company, and your local police.

#### Stop Graffiti Bounty Program

One of the methods the Monrovia Police Department is using to combat graffiti in the community of Monrovia is the Stop Graffiti Bounty Program. If a citizen reports an incident of graffiti in the City of Monrovia that leads to the arrest of the suspect, the citizen will receive a \$100 bill. Help keep Monrovia looking great!

## LANCERS STUDY PHYSICS OF CATAPULTS



Left to right: Lauren Perez, Brendan Wong, Vincent Feng, Johnny Guinto. Photo by John Blackstock

Pasadena, CA – On February 17, Mrs. Chija Bauer's honors physics class at La Salle High School got to put what they were learning in class about energy and momentum into practice. The students worked in teams of two to build a catapult that would launch gumdrops 10 meters into a 30cm bull's-eye.

The design criteria for the projects catapults were as follows: Maximum height of device with arm at lowest position – 0.4 meters. Maximum height of arm extended upwards – 2 meters. The throwing action must be the free action of the device. In other words, you may use human power to set and release the device, but you cannot hold the propulsion arm in place once it is set nor can human power be used to propel the gumdrop. There was no restriction on the

orientation of the throwing arm. The catapult may throw the gumdrop overhand, side arm, or even underhand.

Materials used were restricted to typical household items with a \$5. maximum expenditure for purchased items. No hazardous materials, rat traps or explosives were permitted. Typical materials included spoons, string, glue, rubber bands, Popsicle sticks, wooden dowels, chopsticks, mousetraps and wire hangers.

Students also tested how attaching a sling to their throwing mechanism, putting the catapult on an incline, and putting the entire catapult on wheels affected their accuracy and distance.

## 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 24<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://www.lancernetwork.com/Taste2012).

## GIFTED SUMMER PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR SIERRA MADRE AREA STUDENTS

**Deadline is April 1**

STAMFORD, CT, The National Society for the Gifted and Talented (NSGT) is pleased to offer \$10,000 in scholarships for Sierra Madre area students to apply towards selected summer programs.

Ten scholarships are being offered by the NSGT Board of Trustees - six at \$1,000 each, six at \$500 each and four at \$250 each - and will be used by the deserving student to help pay tuition for gifted summer program of their choice. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2012.

Each year, the award is given to outstanding students who demonstrate excellent ability in their field of interest. Students can download and complete the scholarship application at [www.nsgt.org/scholarships.asp](http://www.nsgt.org/scholarships.asp). A team of educators in the field of gifted education will review the applications and choose the scholarship winners. Applications must be received by April 1, 2012. Winners will be notified on April 15, 2012.

The Summer Institute for the Gifted (SIG), a not-for-profit program of NSGT and renowned gifted summer program, has welcomed several recipients of the Board of Trustees Scholarships in the past. The NSGT scholarships have also afforded students the opportunity to participate in such programs as iDTEch, the Cambridge College Program, Duke TIP, and Northwestern CTD, among others.

"SIG is delighted to work collaboratively with NSGT to help provide gifted students with extended opportunities to participate in programs that nurture and develop their abilities," states Barbara Swicord, President and CEO of SIG. "With gifted education struggling in this country, supplemental programs like SIG - and subsequent scholarships - are more important than ever."

Interested students, parents and educators can apply online at [www.nsgt.org/scholarships.asp](http://www.nsgt.org/scholarships.asp). Contact NSGT at (800) 572-6748 or by e-mail at [info@nsgt.org](mailto:info@nsgt.org).

*The National Society for Gifted and Talented, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization was created to honor and encourage gifted and talented children and youth. The goal of the NSGT is to provide a structure where gifted and talented children and youth are identified, and as members, can expect to find information and opportunities that directly relate to and cultivate their abilities and desires to achieve at a high level. Visit NSGT at [www.nsgt.org](http://www.nsgt.org).*



### SENIORITIS

The season has come. The lack of motivation. The endless procrastination. Consistent checking of the mailbox outside and email, waiting for those letters that will determine our future. School days seem to drag on endlessly because they hold no more value to us anymore; the grades are sent to college. Now, all we do is wait.

Senioritis affects everyone, or at least everyone that I know. It starts to creep on you about late January/ early February, and by Valentine's Day you're itching with the restlessness of not knowing. Sitting in class filling out simple worksheets is torture and all forms of homework seem to be cruel jokes. In my AP classes we beg our teachers to not give us tests

or quizzes as our grades have minimal impact on our college decisions. Half of our classes consist of watching movies or free periods where we do nothing but talk and wait for the bell to ring, releasing us from our misery. Some people are starting to discover where they are going while the rest of us grumble to ourselves, "Lucky buggars. Few more weeks."

Only a few more weeks. Only a few more weeks, then I will know. It will be decided and done and the real senioritis will kick in, which I can't even imagine.

On another note, this is my 52<sup>nd</sup> column – one year of writing this column. I just want to say thank you for supporting my column and reading my little blurbs every weekend. It means a lot to me.

## GIRLS NIGHT OUT TO BENEFIT SIERRA MADRE SCHOOL

A great way to support Sierra Madre School and check out fabulous Stella and Dot Jewelry and a Designer Clothing and Purse Trunk Show! Join in on **Friday, March 9, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at The Stuart** 3360 East Foothill (corner of Foothill and Sierra Madre Villa).

It's an evening filled with sparkly jewels, great looking clothes and purses too! The new Stella and Dot Spring line has a ton of items under \$50 and designer clothes for \$10 and \$15, and of course the

Jenna Pacini Homecoming Trunk Show with handbags and clutches. Proceeds benefit Sierra Madre School's Annual Fund.

Want a sneak peek or can't make it, but still want to order? Visit [www.stelladot.com/rosegonzalez](http://www.stelladot.com/rosegonzalez) search for hostess on the check out page and enter Lisa Brault.

For more information on please contact Lisa Brault at [libauction@yahoo.com](mailto:libauction@yahoo.com).

## THE CAT IN THE HAT GOES TO SCHOOL



Yes, *The Cat In The Hat*, along with members of the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club visited the Lower Campus on Thursday for an early celebration of Dr. Suess's Birthday. The activity was party of the National Read Across America Week. The Cat In The Hat, aka Third Grade Teacher Suzanne York, and her class shared their morning with Kiwanis President Susan Henderson who read Dr. Suess' "Oh The Places You Will Go" to the children. Other Kiwanians, Nancy Lockwood and Judy Webb-Martin along with Kiwanis helpers Fred and Doreen Thomas, also read selected works of Dr. Suess to the students.

Similar activities were held throughout the PUSD including Superintendent Jon R. Gundry reading to students at Madison Elementary.

Photo courtesy MVNews

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

### Alverno High School

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

### Arcadia High School

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

### Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

### Barnhart School

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

### Bethany Christian School

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

### Carden of the Foothills School

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

### The Gooden School

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

### High Point Academy

1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road  
Pasadena, Ca. 91107 626-798-9899  
website: [www.highpointacademy.org](http://www.highpointacademy.org)

### LaSalle High School

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

### Mama Pete's Nursery School

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

website: [www.mamapete.org](http://www.mamapete.org)

### Monrovia High School

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

### Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

### Odyssey Charter School

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

### Pasadena High School

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

### Pasadena Unified School District

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

### St. Rita Catholic School

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

### Sierra Madre Elementary School

141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
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](http://www.waldenschool.net)

### Weizmann Day School

1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 797-0204

Lisa Feldman: Head of School

### Wilson Middle School

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



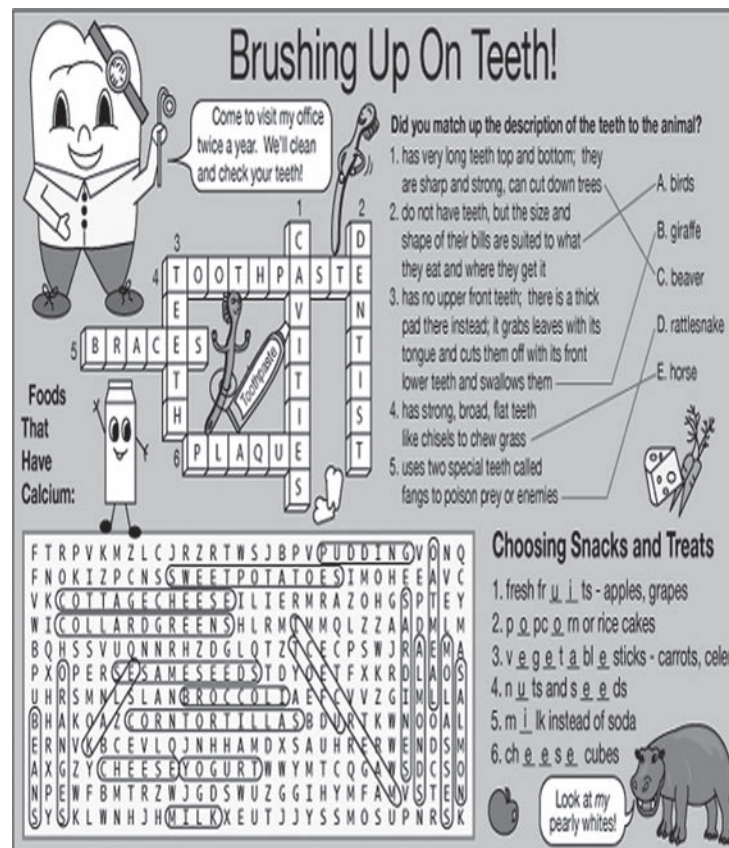
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BIG SHRIMPS IN MONROVIA

Wrote about my experience last summer, I thought I'd check it out again, just a stones throw away from Sierra Madre is Monrovia, enough of the geography lesson. I have made the ultimate discovery in the seafood arena, it reminds me of the very popular Fisherman's Wharf that you may remember on Kerstings Ct., and believe me, the prices are about the same as Fisherman's Wharf some fifteen years later. Let's start off with a cup of Clam Chowder for (\$2.95)!! Yes it is a cup but, but what a cup, it battles many of the soups that I have had at five star Steakhouses. Sure there is no Maitre De here, but we are paying like paupers, right? All entrees are in the (\$8 to \$13) range, I was able to sample many of the dishes. I recommend ordering from the Big Shrimps favorites: Cajun & Garlic Butter Grilled big Shrimps or the garlic butter pan seared big Shrimps at (\$10.45). Both are worthy of a try. From the grill, seven to eight varieties of fish are there for sampling. March is always a great time for fish, and most of the items are fresh from the boat. I



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TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills  
thechefknows@yahoo.com

devoured the fresh grilled Salmon at (\$10.95) and was very impressed. Cooked to a perfect medium rare, and again, the texture recalls an upscale seafood restaurant charging double. Also available are fish and shrimp burritos/tacos (\$2.45 to \$6.75). Do you know the difference between Day Boat scallops and regular Scallops? I didn't until I asked, Regular Scallops can be on the boat up to 15 days, yes 15 days sitting in the boat frozen 100 miles from shore, however a Day Boat Scallop is brought in fresh everyday from the Ocean. Yep, that is what Big Shrimp specializes in Fresh Day boat Scallops. If you are a Fish Fan every week they have a rotating Fresh Fish Special, always cooked on the grill, last week I enjoyed a Fresh Idaho Trout, Delicious!!!

How do they keep prices so reasonable? Good question! The restaurant is extremely clean but no frills and seating at the counter is available. Owner Adam Chu has been importing shrimp from the Far East for over 10 years and has taken his expertise in buying seafood and has shared his knowledge with us. He continues in that business but as the owner of the restaurant, he transfers those incredible savings to us.

For salad fans, I prefer the grilled shrimp Caesar salad for (\$7.45). There is a kids' menu available and they now offer beer and wine as well. Get in here before the owner comes to his senses and raises the prices. If you see me walking around Sierra Madre, thank me, it motivates me to get you this discovery.

Big Shrimps Fish Grill 123 E. Colorado Blvd. Monrovia (626) 359-8962

Listen to my radio Talk Show Sunday at 8 PM. KABC 790 AM. www.peterdills.com

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INGREDIENTS

1 pound skinned and boned chicken breasts, cut into thin strips  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/4 cup cornstarch  
4 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided  
1/2 pound Broccolini, cut into 1-inch pieces  
1 cup chicken broth, divided  
1 red bell pepper, cut into thin strips  
1 small yellow squash, thinly sliced into half moons  
1/4 cup sliced green onions  
2 teaspoons cornstarch  
1 tablespoon fresh lime juice  
1 1/2 teaspoons soy sauce  
1 teaspoon Asian chili-garlic sauce  
Hot cooked rice

DIRECTIONS

1. Sprinkle chicken with salt; toss with 1/4 cup cornstarch.
2. Stir-fry chicken in 3 Tbsp. hot oil in a large skillet or wok over medium-high heat 5 to 6 minutes or until golden brown and done. Transfer to a plate, using a slotted spoon; keep warm. Add Broccolini and 1/4 cup broth; cover and cook 1 to 2 minutes or until crisp-tender. Transfer to plate with chicken, using slotted spoon.
3. Add remaining 1 Tbsp. oil to skillet. Sauté bell pepper and next 2 ingredients in hot oil 2 minutes or until crisp-tender.
4. Whisk together 2 tsp. cornstarch and remaining 3/4 cup broth until cornstarch dissolves. Add broth mixture, chicken, and Broccolini (with any accumulated juices) to bell pepper mixture in skillet. Cook, stirring often, 1 minute or until liquid thickens. Stir in lime juice and next 2 ingredients. Serve over hot cooked rice.



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## HOWARD Hays As I See It



Senator Carol Liu  
California State Senate, 21st Dist.  
Sacramento, CA

Dear Sen. Liu;

I wanted to follow up on our brief conversation last week. Hope you don't mind this appearing as an "open letter," but with the approaching deadline for my weekly column, I thought I'd get both out of the way.

Most are aware of redrawn legislative districts and the new "open primary" procedures. It wasn't until last week's meeting of the Foothill Community Democrats, though, that the reality sunk in that come June 5, here in Sierra Madre we'll be given ballots with unfamiliar names of those wanting to represent us, final selections will be made in November, and in January Sierra Madre will have new representation both in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C.

Whether or not the individuals who spoke at the meeting will ultimately prevail on Election Day, I'm confident, at least, that Sierra Madre will be served by those seeking to encourage the economic recovery rather than block it for partisan purpose; who'll serve the interests of We the People rather than those of the highest bidder.

The first speaker, Rep. Judy Chu, brought her background as L.A. Community College professor, Monterey Park mayor and State Assembly member to the U.S. Congress in 2009 to succeed Hilda Solis, now Secretary of Labor under President Obama. In congress, Rep. Chu has distinguished herself as an advocate for women's reproductive rights, public service, education, and in encouraging the developing green economy - having received a 100% rating from the League of Conservation Voters. A welcome relief from retiring Rep. David Dreier.

Might be genetics, but Chris Holden has shown the same enthusiasm for public service in his hometown of Pasadena as his father, Nate Holden, showed as an L.A. City Councilman. As longtime Pasadena councilmember and former mayor, he's seen to the continued vibrancy of Old Town and charter reform at City Hall. At the meeting, he expressed his desire to see successes such as that of Old Town replicated in communities throughout the state. As a potential constituent, I'd rather be hearing about such successes of my State Assemblyman than about charges brought against an incumbent for packing loaded guns at an airport.

I was also impressed with your own record of accomplishment, Sen. Liu, from a career in education to the La Canada Flintridge City Council, from the Assembly to the State Senate representing Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena - and now maybe Sierra Madre. It's a record not just of promoting quality of life for all, but of focusing on the protection of those most vulnerable - children, the elderly and disabled - constituencies least likely to have high-priced Sacramento lobbyists promoting their cause.

I also had the opportunity at the meeting to chat with Dr. Janice Nelson, longtime activist and wife of a former mayor of Sierra Madre. Dr. Nelson was collecting signatures on a petition to bring health insurance under the purview of the State Insurance Commissioner. Among other things, hikes in insurance premiums would have to be justified to the Commissioner, as is now required with car insurance. A bill with similar goals died in the State Senate last year. This is the issue I said I'd be following up on with you.

The bill, AB52 by Assemblyman Mike Feuer, would've given either the Insurance Commissioner or the Dept. of Managed Health Care authority to stop excessive rate hikes. It passed the Assembly last June with the support of Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones.

In the Senate, Health Committee Chairman Ed Hernandez (D) initially supported AB52 but, as reported by the Center for American Progress, let it die because he "could not support the bill in its current form." The Center also reported Sen. Hernandez' income is boosted by \$69,000 a year by payments from Kaiser Health Plans on property he owns. Kaiser spent \$5 million lobbying Sacramento since 2009; along with Anthem Blue Cross spending \$2.5 million, UnitedHealth and Health Net a million each, and Blue Shield California \$724,000.

(In an irony not lost on health advocates, the lobbying firm retained by Kaiser, Carpenter Hawkins Sievers LLC, was active for over a decade battling efforts to curtail smoking in public places and tobacco marketing aimed at children.)

In comments addressed to Rep. Chu, I mentioned that fully two-thirds of my state retirement payments goes to health insurance premiums, with between a quarter and a third of that going not to healthcare but skimmed off for corporate profit and overhead - feeding multi-million-dollar bonuses for execs at WellPoint and UnitedHealth - while state tuitions are hiked, teachers are laid off and the safety net for our neediest is shredded.

Were a single-payer system established for state retirees and/or employees, there would be no pension problem - or at least not the gutting of needed services we're seeing today.

A single-payer plan for all Californians nearly passed in early February, and would've become a reality had it garnered the support of only two of the six Democratic senators who were bought off. The six, Sens. Calderon, Correa, Padilla, Rubio, Vargas and Wright, received a total of \$1.4 million from the insurance, pharmaceutical and health industries.

This would've been routine had Republicans been in charge. What makes it noteworthy is that this sacrificing of our state's well-being for the benefit of narrow corporate interests took place under a Democratic majority.

By June 5, we should know enough to base our decisions on more than whether a name is followed by a "D" or an "R." I hope my neighbors in Sierra Madre will have the opportunity to meet you and the other candidates in person as I did, and I trust that in the next several weeks the Mountain Views News will play a crucial role in helping us become familiar with those who would represent us in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

My Best,  
Howard Hays, Sierra Madre, CA

## REPUBLICANS AND AMERICA'S FUTURE

Political theatre sells advertising, so it's no surprise that media coverage of the Michigan and Arizona primaries focuses on the Republican intra-party battle and the wounds each candidate is inflicting on the others. Come November, however, these squabbles will be consigned to the history channel and the great debate over our future will take center stage.

Primary coverage paints a picture of irresponsible siblings fighting with one another. Sadly, the results from last Tuesday were not conclusive, although Romney now seems to have a somewhat significant competitive edge, but the squabbling has many Republican voters still wary of Romney. They seem to doubt whether he's true to conservative principles, and this showed most dramatically among Tea Partiers.

Candidate Romney is going to have to shore up support among this critical component of the electorate, not because they represent the conservative base, but because they are the most vocal and visible manifestation of the deep resentment most "independents" feel toward President Obama's policies and hard-left-leaning vision for America. These independents and these Tea Partiers are looking for the candidate who will truly deliver on the promises of fiscal restraint and a secure future - themes that candidate Obama espoused in the last election but abandoned in office.

Obama doesn't have these voters now, and they should be an easy win for any Republican. The fact is that on every major issue the real disagreements among the Republican candidates are over style and tone, not real policy differences. With the exception of Ron Paul, whom nobody is seriously considering as a challenge at this point, the following are principles which any of the Republican candidates would endorse and every independent would embrace.

1. The size of government and the debt (\$15 trillion) are too damn high. This President

## GREG Welborn



wants to increase both. Any Republican would reduce them both.

2. This President lost our AAA credit rating and doesn't even care. Any Republican would take steps to restore it.

3. Real unemployment stands at 15%. This President's policies have done nothing to significantly reduce unemployment. Any Republican would loosen the reins on American business and put millions back to work.

4. Obamacare promises to increase the cost of healthcare and eliminate a patient's ability to make decisions about their own healthcare. Instead, a government panel will decide what care is provided. Any Republican would repeal this monstrosity.

5. Medicare and Social Security cannot meet their obligations. This President refuses to even touch the issue. Any Republican would put these programs on sound footing.

6. This President is on record saying he supports higher gas prices (his energy secretary wants \$8/gallon, like Europe). Any Republican would allow more domestic production and bring down the price of gasoline.

7. This President dismisses America's unique role in the world, apologizes for our past and is willing to let the Iranians to get the bomb. No Republican would do this.

It seems trite at this point to claim that 2012 will be the most important election of our lifetime, but it's true. It's a choice between squandering America's greatness and restoring that greatness. Principles any Republican or independent will support.

*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@mtnviewsnews.com](mailto:gwelborn@mtnviewsnews.com).*

## TINA Dupay



## GOP 2012: THE PRO-FICTION CAMPAIGN

This campaign season can be summed up by one interview on conservative talk radio last August. It was with Iowa Straw Poll-sweeper

Congresswoman, Michele Bachmann, in which she proclaimed: "What people recognize is that there's a fear that the United States is in an unstoppable decline. They see the rise of China, the rise of India, the rise of the Soviet Union and our loss militarily going forward." Yes, Bachmann warned us of a foreign boogiemer rising ... one that's been dead for over 20 years.

Boo!

But warning of a zombie nation feasting on the metaphorical brains of the U.S. is consistent with a party now completely untethered from basic American history, science or any other evidence-based practice: The GOP is now a party standing proudly on a pro-fiction platform. Yes, in their party, as an aide to Senator Jon Kyl put it last year, whatever they say is "not intended to be a factual statement" but to illustrate a point.

For example, this week Mitt Romney brought a Michigan tea party audience to tears recalling the 50th anniversary of the American automobile event he attended as a child ... even though it took place months before he was born.

Former Senator Rick Santorum asserts public schools are an "anachronism" of the industrialized era as the reason they should be privatized. He said at the CNN debate last week:

"Not only do I believe the federal government should get out of the education business, I think the state government should start to get out of the education business and put it back to the local and into the community." Just when millions of Americans have lost their homes comes a candidate in favor of home schooling.

Public schools are arguably what made us a country. The colonies had one of the highest literacy rates in the world at the time. In James D. Hart's "The Popular Book: A History of America's Literary Taste" published in 1950, he notes that in 1650 New England there were laws requiring "reading and writing schools." Education was thought to thwart Satan at that time (note to Santorum there). Hart goes on to include a popular ditty of the era: "From public schools shall general knowledge flow, For 'tis the people's sacred right to know."

Also, the principal writer of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, was (gasp) publically educated. Santorum, as a pro-fiction candidate, also dismisses colleges as "indoctrination mills." One man's indoctrination is another man's accreditation to work in the sciences.

The four candidates still vying for the nomination are pro-fiction to the core: Somehow the President who okayed the assassination of Osama bin Laden, sent drone attacks into Libya and kept Gitmo open is an apologetic pansy - soft on our enemies. Obama has deported more illegal immigrants and spent more money protecting the border than any of his predecessors - but he's ignoring the issue of illegal immigration. Romney keeps on promising if elected he'll make the military so powerful no other country would dare attack us even though we have the biggest military in the world. Gingrich who says if given any power he'll send U.S. Marshalls to compel radical judges to explain their rulings, deems "the pill" to be the epitome of radical government overreach. Taxes? Too high even though they're historically low (especially during war time). Tax cuts? A pay-for-themselves panacea even though the Bush Tax Cuts didn't pan out.

Challenge their narrative and brace for the ad hominem attacks. You only believe this because you're at least one of the following: liberal, socialist, unemployed, commie sympathizer, elite, dupe, European, journalist, gun hater, Muslim, Obama-bot, or (my favorite from my inbox) silly little girl. Because in fiction you must create an enemy or there's no story.

The pro-fiction party will tell you their ideas will lower gas prices, cut the deficit, end poverty, cut the size of government and make everybody super free by allowing the states to decide which rights to take away.

No matter how completely impossible - no matter how divorced from evidence or precedence - the GOP will continue to make claims not to be factual - but just to illustrate a point. Possibly that you should vote for them.

The Soviet Union must be watching this race right now and just laughing their heads off.

*Tina Dupuy is an award-winning writer and the managing editor of Crooks and Liars. Tina can be reached at [tinadupuy@yahoo.com](mailto:tinadupuy@yahoo.com).*

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Susan Henderson

CITY EDITOR  
Dean Lee

EAST VALLEY EDITOR  
Joan Schmidt

SALES  
**Patricia Colonello**  
626-355-2737  
626-818-2698

PRODUCTION  
Richard Garcia

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Lina Johnson  
Ivonne Durant

WEBMASTER  
John Avery

### CONTRIBUTORS

Jeff Brown  
Pat Birdsall  
Chris Leclerc  
Bob Eklund  
Howard Hays  
Paul Carpenter  
Stuart Tolchin  
Kim Clymer-Kelley  
Christopher Nyerges  
Peter Dills  
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Deanne Davis  
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Mountain Views News  
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl.  
#327  
Sierra Madre, Ca.  
91024

Phone: 626-355-2737  
Fax: 626-609-3285  
email:  
[mtnviewsnews@aol.com](mailto:mtnviewsnews@aol.com)

### Mountain Views News Mission Statement

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

## HAIL Hamilton My Turn



### NATIONAL SECURITY STATE

The National Security State means the ideology and institutions (Dept. of Homeland Security, Dept. of Defense, CIA, NSA) established by the National Security Act of 1947 and thereafter expanded by later presidents, is an enduring legacy of then President Harry S. Truman, in support of what came to be called the "Truman Doctrine" to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures," which explains the transformative process that ended in the ultimate demise of the New Deal state with its emphasis on social spending and ushered in the militarist National Security State with its support of "Predatory Capitalism."

In his book "Brave New World Order," Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer identified seven characteristics of a National Security State: ■ The first characteristic of a National Security State is that the military is the highest authority. In a National Security State the military not only guarantees the security of the state against all internal and external enemies, it has enough power to determine the overall direction of the society. In a National Security State the military exerts important influence over political, economic, as well as military affairs.

■ A second defining feature of a National Security State is that political democracy and democratic elections are viewed with suspicion, contempt, or in terms of political expediency. National Security States often maintain an appearance of democracy. However, ultimate power rests with the military or within a broader National Security Establishment.

■ A third characteristic of a National Security State is that the military and related sectors wield substantial political and economic power. They do so in the context of an ideology which stresses that "freedom" and "development" are possible only when capital is concentrated in the hands of elites.

■ A fourth feature of a National Security State is its obsession with enemies. There are enemies of the state everywhere. Defending against external and/or internal enemies becomes a leading preoccupation of the state, a distorting factor in the economy, and a major source of national identity and purpose.

■ A fifth ideological foundation of a National Security State is that the enemies of the

state are cunning and ruthless. Therefore, any means used to destroy or control these enemies is justified.

■ A sixth characteristic of a National Security State is that it restricts public debate and limits popular participation through secrecy or intimidation. Authentic democracy depends on participation of the people. National Security States limit such participation in a number of ways: They sow fear and thereby narrow the range of public debate; they restrict and distort information; and they define policies in secret and implement those policies through covert channels and clandestine activities. The state justifies such actions through rhetorical pleas of "higher purpose" and vague appeals to "national security."

■ Finally, the church is expected to mobilize its financial, ideological, and theological resources in service to the National Security State.

Open government is based on the American constitutional form of representative government. Government is the servant, not the master, of the people. Open government requires an informed citizenry. Additionally, by delegating authority, citizens do not give public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know.

Which form of government do we have today. Before you answer think about the Patriot Act. Section 224 (Sunset) is a sunset clause. Title II and the amendments made by the title originally would have ceased to have effect on December 31, 2005, but, with the exception of the below sections, was extended to March 10, 2006:

### TITLE II SECTIONS THAT DID NOT EXPIRE ON MARCH 10, 2006

Section	Section title
203(a)	Authority to share criminal investigation information : Authority to share Grand Jury information
203(c)	Authority to share criminal investigation information : Procedures
205	Employment of translators by the Federal Bureau of Investigation
208	Designation of judges
210	Scope of subpoenas for records of electronic communications
211	Clarification of scope
213	Authority for delaying notice of the execution of a warrant
216	Modification of authorities relating to use of pen registers and trap and trace devices
219	Single-jurisdiction search warrants for terrorism
221	Trade sanctions
222	Assistance to law enforcement agencies

Since 2006 the Patriot Act has been extended or reauthorized by Presidents Bush and Obama, the last time being on May 26, 2011 when President Obama signed a 4-year extension of the act which included the above sections.

## OUT TO PASTOR A Weekly Religion Column



### JUST BECAUSE IT'S FREE DOESN'T MEAN IT'S FREE

Whenever somebody mentions the word "free" in my presence, my right eye turns a vivid jaundice. It is not that I have anything against the word free; just against the word free; just the person who is trying to use it to gain some kind of an advantage over me. I know anybody employing this mono-verbiage, is hiding some very long strings.

My father taught me a long time ago that there are no free lunches. Occasionally somebody will advertise a free lunch and I go and find out the lunch is free, but they are going to charge you to get out of that restaurant. In the end, it would have been cheaper to buy my own lunch.

My philosophy is simply this; if I cannot afford it, I do not want it. In my vast experience down through the years, I have discovered that I cannot afford free. And I think I know why. My understanding of the word "free" and the person employing that word is not the same.

When I use the word "free," I am insinuating that there is absolutely no cost associated with this product whatsoever.

When others use the word "free," they often are insinuating that I am just a free market for them to take advantage of in the neighborhood of my money. Unfortunately, I do not live in that neighborhood anymore.

I especially do not accept any "free offers" via the telephone. If someone has something to give me for nothing, let him come to my door, hand it to me, shake my hand and get out of Dodge. To me, that's what free is all about.

Just the other day I received one of those telephone calls. I must confess that I was in a rather curmudgeonly attitude and was just looking around for someone on which to spit my scorn.

Then the telephone rang.

When I answered the phone, it turned out to be someone offering me, absolutely free, with no cost to me absolutely, a free crime prevention program for my blessed domicile.

"No thank you, sir," I said as politely as I could. "I'm not really interested."

I assure you I have no PhD or DD attached to my name whatsoever and yet as simple as I am, I understood what the phrase "I'm not really interested" was all about. Not so my affable telephone caller.

"But I assure you, sir, that this program is absolutely free to you. It's our way to say thank you to some of our customers." He rattled on as though we were having only a one-way conversation. If this is going to be a one-way conversation, who will take up the offering? I think I know.

After five long minutes of him telling me how important it was for me to have security in my home and how his product was absolutely free to me, I finally got a word in edgewise.

"But I have my own security system, thank you."

There is a slight pause and then he said, "What is your home security system, if I may ask?"

All right. I will confess right now that I had a wee bit of naughtiness on my mind, but in my own defense the telephone caller opened the door. I always believe where there is an open door somebody ought to step in.

"My home security system is called, Napoleon-two-Claws, and furthermore I'm quite satisfied with it."

There was another pause on the other end of the phone and I heard someone clear their throat and then ask, "I've never heard of that program. What is 'Napoleon-two-Claws'?"

You know what it is like when you are trying not to laugh and it is about all you can do not to laugh? For a brief moment, I felt a little bit guilty but then I remembered who was on the other end of the phone. Somebody that was trying to con me with some kind of free thingamajig.

"The 'Napoleon-two-Claws' home security program that I have in my house is my cat. I call him Napoleon because he walks around with his right paw stuck in his coat between two buttons."

There was an extended pause on the other end of the phone and finally he said, "What would you do, sir, if someone broke into your house?"

"I'd send flowers to the funeral."

"The funeral? Who's funeral?"

"Why, the funeral of the guy who tried to break into my house while 'Napoleon-two-Claws' was on duty. The first moment an intruder would enter into my home, good old Napoleon would claw that sorry person to death."

Then feeling good about my momentum at this point I continued, "I live there and I have a hard time getting in my house without being clawed to death by Napoleon. And I feed the cat. My cat is the meanest, grumpiest, most cantankerous animal on God's green earth. If anybody, and I mean anybody, can get past Napoleon they can have anything in my house. Absolutely free."

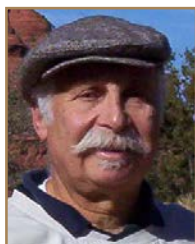
At that moment, I heard a distinctive "click" and I realized our conversation was over. I guess whatever he had that was free did not measure up to good old 'Napoleon-two-Claws'.

The only one I trust to give me something is God. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

What Jesus gives is absolutely free.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail [jamesnsnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamesnsnyder2@att.net). The church web site is [www.whatafellowship.com](http://www.whatafellowship.com).

## STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



### PERHAPS YOU DIDN'T NOTICE

Maybe you didn't even watch the Academy Awards

Awards Presentations or maybe you don't even care about movies but, for what my opinion is worth, I think the Award Show was a complete embarrassment that typified what is wrong with the United States. First of all I am not saying that the whole four hours was completely unentertaining—it wasn't. What I am saying is that the show missed many opportunities for relevance, education, and even significance. In that way it was very much like the present American political process which wastes time and millions of dollars discussing insignificance while much of the world's population struggles for survival.

One of the things I found troubling is that the whole thing emanated from someplace in the Universe referred to only as the Hollywood and Highland Center. Up until a couple of days earlier the place was known as the Kodak Theatre but since Kodak, is now defunct I guess the name cannot even be used. Kodak, how ironic? Is this the handwriting on the wall? Is this our future? What does this tell us? I think the Master of Ceremonies, Billy Crystal, did actually make one relevant and topical comment about the place, calling it the Chapter 11 Play House or something like that.

Speaking of Billy Crystal, I am told he was selected in an attempt to go back to the Glory Days of the Academy Awards and rehash some of the old Bob Hope and Jerry Lewis stuff that had once been so successful. Billy is in his sixties now and his singing and dancing demonstrates a kind of self-parody that was still much more diverting than last year's attempt at entertainment. If you can recall that far back, last year the Emcees were the youngsters Ann Hathaway and James Franco as the show attempted to appeal to a "younger demographic". Well, it certainly didn't appeal to me and I sincerely doubt that it very much appealed to anyone else. This year there was more of an attempt to go for nostalgia and to recreate the glory days of Hollywood.

To this end the theatre was dressed up like an old-time Movie House and there were pastel colored usherettes passing out popcorn. What a waste of time!

If they wanted nostalgia why not focus on real connections and memories. In the past year Elizabeth Taylor left us. During my life-time Elizabeth Taylor was the most radiant and glamorous and Award-nominated of actresses. In the whole four hour marathon she was only momentarily mentioned.

## RICH Johnson



### LAWS OF THE LAND

In this politically charged season I consider it apropos to examine the function and role of politicians. I have recently met council candidates Chris Koerber, Colin Braudrick and Gene Goss. Articulate gentlemen who could easily, in my estimation serve the city well. Whether we agree or disagree with council members or candidates, we should never forget these people are volunteering (or offering to volunteer) massive amounts of their time to serve the good of our community. They're not in it for the money folks.

Colin Braudrick at his kick off party, the primary role of government is to insure public safety. He has lots of insight and experience when it comes to public safety as he is a Police Sergeant with the LAPD. One of the key ways of insuring public safety is passing laws. Some of the laws on the books give us pause to wonder what the politicians were thinking:

A number of states and municipalities have a law against carrying concealed weapons. In Seattle, Washington it is illegal to carry a concealed weapon more than six feet long.

Don't eat candy an hour and a half prior to going to church in Salem, West Virginia. It's illegal. Storing snowballs in a refrigerator is illegal in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Speaking of public safety it is illegal to walk down any street in Maine with your shoelaces untied. Talk about public safety

If your car drips on the pavement in Green Bay, Wisconsin you'll pay a dollar per drop in fines. Tie your elephant to a parking meter in Orlando, Florida (who hasn't) you better put money in the meter. You can cook in any bedroom in California but don't think for a moment you can sleep in a kitchen. It's agin' the law. As is falling asleep in a bathtub in Detroit.

Personal hygiene is an issue of public safety. It's against the law to blow your nose in public in Waterville, Maine. What's more sneezing on a train is against the law in West Virginia. So, hold it in til you cross the border.

Throwing a banana peel on the sidewalk is unlawful in Sherman, Texas (I actually researched and discovered that no emergency room of any hospital in the United States has ever reported an accident caused by slipping on a banana peel.)

I wonder if candidate Colin Braudrick (who is from Carmel, California) knows it is illegal for a woman to take a bath in a business office in Carmel. And driving a car while sleeping is against the law in Memphis.

Radiofishbowl.com. Local Sierra Madre radio on the internet. When you are on your computer log into Radiofishbowl.com and listen to great music and wonderful funny programming like the Barry, Lisa, and Rich show Monday and Saturday mornings at 10:00 am. The rest of the time enjoy wonderfully diverse music programmed by James Faulkner. The Live365 radio app will give you access via your iPhone.

Cinderella has a few more Saturday morning performances. 11:00am at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. Geared for kids it is also heartwarming for adults to enjoy. Watch little girls dressed as princesses dance with Prince Charming. \$18.00 for adults and \$12.00 for those 12 and under.

Finally, my oldies band, JJukebox has the honor of performing at Café 322 on the last day of March. Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 followed by Jane Fuller band, The Real Jane, performing rock music.





FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 2012-032947  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
MY AUTO ANGEL, 12000 W. PICO BLVD., L.A.,  
CA 90064. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JOSHUA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No. 2012-034509  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
 FILE NO. 2014-0226665

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
 1781 N. MOUNTAIN TRAIL AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024.  
 full name of registrant(s) is (are) JEAN SUBBURY  
 1781 N. MOUNTAIN TRAIL AVENUE, SIERRA  
 MADRE, CA. 91024. This Business is conducted  
 by: AN INDIVIDUAL Signed: JEAN SUBBURY.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of  
 Los Angeles County on 02/08/12. The registrant(s)  
 is (are) not a partnership, corporation, or other  
 fictitious business name or names listed above  
 on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement  
 is in use in this state as of the date it was filed at  
 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  
 its use in this state as 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).

Printed: Mountain View News  
 Date Published: March 03, 10, 17, 24, 2012

#1 producing Century 21  
Walnut, California and she  
properties throughout the San  
can be reached at [rena@](mailto:rena@)

Always to be found at the forefront of creative community activities, Rena is involved with Monrovia's first-ever "May Cultures, One Family" celebration scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup> at Monrovia Historical Museum. She serves on the Board of KGEM, a local public access TV station. She is also on the Public Relations Committee for Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, which raises funds to introduce youth to classical music.



SLEIGH BELLS

Review by: Sean Kayden

Noise-pop aficionados, Sleigh Bells, grandly return with “Reign of Terror,” the follow-up to their critically praised opus, “Teats.” Guitarist/producer Derek Edward Miller and vocalist Alexis Krauss burst onto the scene over two years ago and got the attention of the artist M.I.A. Soon after, their awareness became known and a record contract was set.

The Brooklyn duo’s sound was appealing, electrifying, and frankly, all over the place. For this outing, Sleigh Bells set their sights on crafting a good album rather than a body of work to stand the test of time. “Reign Of Terror” is loud and vehemently ferocious. It’s in your face and packs a strong punch with its intensity and digitally hardcore approach. Sleigh Bells rely heavily on electronics to deepen their previously reputable panache. However, at the end of the day, you must take in consideration if Sleigh Bells are more concerned with image, pompous style, and popularity than originality, freshness, and leading a crowded pack rather than just flowing side by side with it. The scattered pleasures found on “Reign of Terror” are irrefutably wonderful. But when Sleigh Bells merely settle for trendiness, red flags are raised, which makes one think, is this band the real deal or simply just MTV-bound?

Artist: Sleigh Bells  
Album: Reign of Terror  
Label: Mom + Pop and Sony Music  
Release Date: February 21, 2012

I find it increasingly difficult to really compare the band’s two albums. The problem is that they’re really not all that different from one another. Therefore, is Sleigh Bells trying to capture upon the success of their first record with a retreaded sound? After listening to the album all the way through, I realized their sound has become less aggressive. Personally, I prefer it because I enjoy the consistency within the songs more so than the frenzy approach the former record had to offer. When you reach the fourth track, “End Of The Line,” you’ll be listening to the finest song off the album. It’s a genuinely personal track that displays an 80s ballad driven pop sound. It’s definitely one of the more somber tunes off the record. “You Lost Me” is another ineffaceable tune. It leads one to believe that when Sleigh Bells want to be good, they can be truly great. Unfortunately, the path from track one to track eleven is at times problematic. Sometimes you’ll enjoy the sights and sounds in one area and other times, find yourself apprehensively waiting for the next frontier.

Sleigh Bells have immense potential even if it wasn’t on display here to its fullest. They can sparkle and dazzle when they feel like it, but also fall into their own depths of derivativeness. “Reign of Terror” is not a great album. However, it’s a collection of songs to demonstrate how Sleigh Bells are good at what they set out to do. Now if only the listener knew exactly what their motives were, they could devote a little more to their cause, whatever it may be for. Hopefully, it’s less for glory and fame and more for stepping out of the box and exploring the unexplored.

Grade: 7.1 out of 10  
Key Tracks: “End of the Line”, “You Lost Me”, “Leader of The Pack”

FORGET THE SHOCK JOCK. MEET SHOCK MOM. EMBRACING “SHOCK” THERAPY TO BRING HEALING TO FAMILIES OF ADDICTS

By Chris Bertrand on Special Assignment

Jacqui Brown wants to break down barriers, bulldoze the walls of silence, relegating that game face of “I’m OK; You’re OK” back to the closet. To that end, Brown, author of Recovery’s a Bitch... as if Menopause Alone Wasn’t Bad Enough! brings her raw, in your face and purposely unnerving style to your nearby Kindle, paperback and blog. By page three, she she has you asking yourself, “What the..?”

Then, you find you’re committed. Envision picking glass shards from your body after an explosion. You’re horrified. You can’t stop, but neither can you look away. It’s also unclear if leaving the shards in or taking them out will cause more pain, or even death. So you keep reading.

Yet, when all the bloody pieces are laid on the table, and the catharsis is done, you’re the better for it. Her nonstop rant has accomplished its goal. Brown has shouted and sworn all those words and the previously whispered behind the door concepts of teenage addiction, rehab and relapse out loud for long enough, that the inability to speak of it disappears.

A few years back, Brown, a stay at home mom with two children and a music producer husband, Paul Brown, were living a privileged So Cal life. Then the “devil” took up residence. Their teenage daughter became addicted to drugs. Gallows humor and a game face sufficed for a while, as she made offhanded remarks to friends in carpool and at Starbucks about the latest extrication of their daughter from a nearby drug house and near death experiences.

When full blown menopause met the tornado of her daughter’s addiction, the Jacqui Brown perfect storm hit. The gloves came off. The game face was shoved in the closet, but thankfully the humor stayed.

Her critical message is that in order to recover, one must be willing to change. The Encarta Dictionary defines “recover” as “to regain something, to get back something previously lost” but also to “control or correct yourself, to return to a composed state.”

Brown decided she could change her life, and recover in both definitions of the word... from menopause, and from her



daughter’s addiction. From the wild highs, lows and hormonal fluctuations of menopause, and from being completely and utterly responsible for her daughter’s every move, error, her ultimate happiness or unhappiness, even of her existence.

Jacqui Brown’s path to her own recovery involves an unfiltered, gut wrenching, guffaw-filled intimate look inside. The pain, the laughs, the sagging neckline and drooping breasts can be felt right through the pages written as though the reader were on the other end of a longwinded telephone conversation.

The result is feeling like you’ve lived it, and can perhaps learn from her journey. Brown’s passionate stream of consciousness book performs “shock” therapy without a medical license, but in full control of the ultimate trump card, motherhood. The taboo topic of surviving a family member’s addiction has just been thrust into everyday conversation, brought into the bright light... by a mom. Thanks, mom!

<http://www.amazon.com/Recoverys-Bitch-Menopause-Alone-Enough/dp/1453781706> Plus The Book I’m Writing On Line <http://www.jbwritergirl.wordpress.com>  
The Next Book I’m Writing On Line <http://jbrownauthor.blogspot.com/>

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[www.adamspackstation.com](http://www.adamspackstation.com)

4/22/2012	12:00-5:00 76 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PARTY 12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 45 Fingers 4:00-5:00
5/20/2012	12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 John Zipperer ( <a href="http://www.johnzipperer.com">www.johnzipperer.com</a> )
6/17/2012	4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30 12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00
7/22/2012	5:00-5:30 12:00-5:30 Lisa Turner & Friends ( <a href="http://www.lisasongs.com">www.lisasongs.com</a> )
8/19/2012	12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30
9/16/2012	12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30
10/21/2012	12:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 Bryan Chan John Zipperer 4:00-5:00

Don't Forget About Pulled Pork Sandwiches on these Weekends!

Remember to “spring” your clocks.

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...ahead one hour on Sunday, March 11th.

Maple-Sugaring Time

When winter is ending and snow is disappearing; when spring is coming, before buds are appearing; When the temperatures rise to warm the day; when the temperatures drop to freeze the night; When the sap begins to flow from the maple trees; when farmers tap the trees to collect it in their buckets; When the sap is gathered into tanks on sleds; when a team of horses pulls it to the sugarhouse; When the sugarhouse is opened and roaring fires are built; when the sap is boiled, skimmed filtered and canned; When the first syrup is poured sweet and warm over pancakes...

It's maple-sugaring time!

Visit our web site to print out new puzzles: **Where Things Come From, Sink Your Teeth Into This!** and **United States Presidents**. Don't forget to print out the new reading log and certificate set, too: [www.readingclubfun.com](http://www.readingclubfun.com)

Wow! That bucket is almost filled with sap.

wood sugarhouses

steel

graded

1 maple sugari

Now! (Farmers)

Large farms today may use plastic tubing to deliver the sap from the trees directly to the sugarhouse.

Free Puzzles!

syrup

horses

country

Is the syrup up here?

No, go away!

tank

foam

buckets

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are built in groves to store equipment and for boiling sap

2. teams of \_\_\_\_\_ are prepared to pull sleds to gather the sap

3. holes drilled in trees, spouts placed, tin \_\_\_\_\_ catch sap

4. sap gathered into a \_\_\_\_\_ on horse-drawn sled, pulled to camp

5. sap boiled in shallow, rectangular stainless \_\_\_\_\_ pans

6. a roaring \_\_\_\_\_ fire kept going in firebox under pans

7. sap filtered, temperature checked, amount of sugar in sap measured, \_\_\_\_\_ carrying dirt skimmed off the top

8. sap flows through pans as it thickens, temperature checked, filtered, \_\_\_\_\_ “A” or “B” and canned

9. \_\_\_\_\_ used on pancakes, in beans, on meats

10. family uses, sells on farms, trucks deliver around the \_\_\_\_\_

Mountain Views News 80 W Sierra Madre Blvd. No. 327 Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 Office: 626.355.2737 Fax: 626.609.3285 Email: [editor@mtnviewsnews.com](mailto:editor@mtnviewsnews.com) Website: [www.mtnviewsnews.com](http://www.mtnviewsnews.com)

Looking Up

PULSARS: THE UNIVERSE’S GIFT TO PHYSICS

with Bob Eklund



Pulsars—fast-spinning, superdense neutron stars—are perhaps the most extraordinary physics laboratories in the universe. Research on these extreme and exotic objects already has produced two Nobel Prizes. Pulsar researchers now are poised to learn otherwise-unavailable details of nuclear physics, to test general relativity in conditions of extremely strong gravity, and to directly detect gravitational waves with a “telescope” nearly the size of our galaxy.

Neutron stars are the remnants of massive stars that exploded as supernovae. They pack more than the mass of the Sun into a sphere no larger than a medium-sized city, making them the densest objects in the universe—except for black holes, for which the concept of density is theoretically irrelevant. Pulsars are neutron stars that emit beams of radio waves outward from the poles of their magnetic fields. When their rotation spins a beam across the Earth, radio telescopes detect that as a “pulse” of radio waves.

By precisely measuring the timing of such pulses, astronomers can use pulsars for unique “experiments” at the frontiers of modern physics. Three scientists presented the results of such work, and the promise of future discoveries, at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Pulsars are at the forefront of research on gravity. Albert Einstein published his general theory of relativity in 1916, and his description of the nature of gravity has, so far, withstood numerous experimental tests. However, there are competing theories.

“Many of these alternate theories do just as good a job as general relativity of predicting behavior within our solar system. One area where they differ, though, is in the extremely dense environment of a neutron star,” said Ingrid Stairs, of the University of British Columbia.

In some of the alternate theories, gravity’s behavior should vary based on the internal structure of the neutron star.

“By carefully timing pulsar pulses, we can precisely measure the properties of the neutron stars. Several sets of observations have shown that pulsars’ motions are not dependent on their structure, so general relativity is safe so far,” Stairs explained.

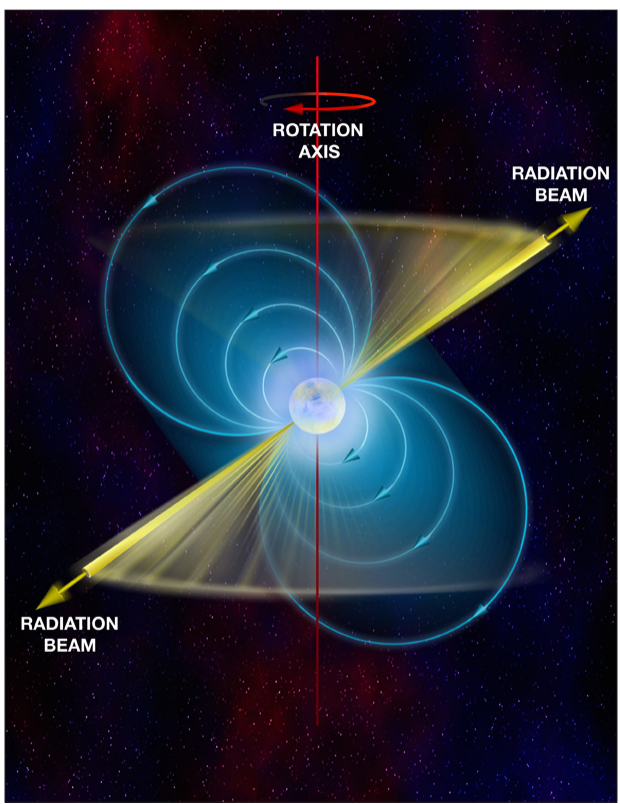
Another prediction of general relativity is that motions of masses in the universe should cause disturbances of space-time in the form of gravitational waves. Such waves have yet to be directly detected, but studies of pulsars in binary-star systems have given indirect evidence for their existence. That work won a Nobel Prize in 1993.

Now, astronomers are using pulsars throughout our Milky Way Galaxy as a giant scientific instrument to directly detect gravitational waves.

“Pulsars are such extremely precise timepieces that we can use them to detect gravitational waves in a frequency range to which no other experiment will be sensitive,” said Benjamin Stappers, of the University of Manchester in the UK.

By carefully timing the pulses from pulsars widely scattered within our galaxy, the astronomers hope to measure slight variations caused by the passage of the gravitational waves. The scientists hope such pulsar timing arrays can detect gravitational waves caused by the motions of supermassive pairs of black holes in the early universe, cosmic strings, and possibly from other exotic events in the first few seconds after the Big Bang.

Pulsars were discovered in 1967, and that discovery earned the Nobel Prize in 1974.



You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com).

On Line

By PJ Carpenter



“WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE.....

Imagine that you were on the verge of a professional and personal breakthrough that you had worked on for years and that all of your toil and determination were about to pay off in a way that you could’ve never imagined when you first began your journey. Imagine that you tended this manifestation of your vision for years with exacting care and diligence, successfully navigating the hazards that could derail or outright destroy your project.

During this journey you’ve endured the highs and lows that come with the dedicated pursuit of a singular focus and now it looks as if your investment in sweat and sleepless nights is about to bear real fruit. And just then one of the “friends” that you picked up along the way decides to do something very ‘un-friendlike’. The thing your friend does strikes you as very out-of-character.

Up until this point, the nature of your friendship had been one of mutual benefit and it may be very difficult for you to figure out exactly what it is you did to deserve this type of behavior from someone you once considered a friend. Whatever the real cause of this behavior may have been, you now are in the position of having to deal with the dual problems of a broken relationship and broken trust. For the sake of your own progress you’re going to have deal with

this tender state of affairs quickly and dispassionately in order to continue moving forward. It may hurt you personally and it may be costly to fix what’s been damaged in your organization, but for your own survival this situation will have to be dealt with.

After years of apparently positive relations, friendly blog posts and referral traffic with Yahoo, Facebook finds itself the target of a potential lawsuit by Yahoo that claims that the social media giant has infringed upon a number of its patents and is demanding a settlement for perceived wrongs. This action comes on the eve of an IPO by Facebook that could potentially be worth hundreds of billions of dollars to the company. To add further insult to injury, Facebook is reporting that it had only heard of the complaint after Yahoo had made their grievances to the New York Times in an effort to get publicity and positive PR for a potential legal action.

As cold as this move might seem, this isn’t the first time that Yahoo has charged a collaborating partner with infringing upon its intellectual property. In 2004, Google was coerced into giving Yahoo 2.7 million in a patent settlement before the search giant could move on with its 2004 IPO. This type of maneuver might be called a good example of Leverage in an MBA class, if it happened maybe one time in response to a particular set of unforeseen circumstances. Two times might be justified if business conditions called for it as a survival measure.

I guess we’ll have to wait and see if Yahoo pulls this stunt again with a third pre-IPO internet company. Then we would definitely know that this is nothing more than a business plan.



KATIE Tse.....This and That

THE IDES OF APRIL



It’s the burning question on everyone’s lips --”So, have you started your taxes?” This is sort of the grown up version of the questions you’d ask in college, such as “Have you started your term paper yet?” Do they still do term papers? It’s been a while since I’ve been in school (Thank goodness!). You only ask this question of people you suspect are in the same boat as yourself, or perhaps in one that is sinking even faster. If the other person says they’ve started already, you bristle and make some lame excuse. “My computer crashed last week, so I’m waiting to get it fixed and then I’ll devote my time to TurboTax.” On the other hand, if they haven’t started, they’ll grasp your hand and say, “Oh, you haven’t either? I thought I was the only one!”

In this tanked economy, everyone who has to file taxes should be thankful that they have an income to account for. However for most of us, there’s still a smoldering animosity at having to fork over a sizable chunk of your hard earned cash. This is especially true if you’re pretty sure your tax dollars aren’t going to worthy civic causes, like road maintenance or public parks. I might’ve included education among noble causes, but then I remembered my teacher friend’s district. They trashed a barely touched K-6 grade level reading program, for no good reason! I was helping her clean out her room when she retired, and we noticed a semi truck hauling away new, many unopened, text books on big wooden pallets. “They’re going to be recycled,” one of the crew members told us. “Oh, great! Other schools will be able to use them!” “No,” he said, “They’re being made into paper towels and toilet paper.” To say we nearly retched is putting it lightly. I felt like Michael Moore coming across the jack pot of civic injustice, Education-gate! Couldn’t the books be resold, or donated, or just given to the students? No one had a clear answer for me. That day I didn’t feel like my tax dollars for education were working for anyone’s benefit --except maybe “Charmin,” and I doubt even that. Just think, the next time you visit the loo you may be drying yourself with part of the California fourth grade literature anthology. But I digress...

It’s a bit embarrassing to admit, but I’ve never figured out my own taxes. When I was young and living at home, my dad always did the tedious parts for me (and my mom). Now my husband handles my taxes, his parents’ sister’s, and her family. He’s a real trooper. And no, he’s not for hire. Although perhaps that wouldn’t be a bad idea...

What continues to amaze me are the numbers of smart, successful professionals who still pay someone to do their taxes! I have an excuse. The math part of my brain has been undeveloped since conception. But why do my high powered colleagues have to seek outside help? One of them told me her tax guy said, “You need to buy a house, get married, and have a kid.” “You find me the man,” she answered. “Okay,” he said, “Just have a kid. That’ll help your refund enough.”

Yes, it’s a sad, calculating world we live in. But there’s always something to be thankful for, and sometimes you even get a refund from the state or the Feds!



YOU DON'T SAY!

OR, DO YOU?

As a youth, I was taught to treasure my native language, which happened to be English. I was encouraged at a very young age to learn as many words as I could, and to use those words as properly as I knew how. In retrospect, I realize how fortunate I was to have had parents and educators who instilled in me a strong appreciation for the value of the vernacular. This is most likely why I showed a higher aptitude for the language arts in elementary school and on through college, than I did for most other disciplines. English, reading, writing and literature were always among my favorite subjects. By the time I graduated college, it was quite clear that I would be more likely to succeed by applying my skills in communication, than by pursuing a career in a mathematic or scientific field of interest.

In spite of the teachings I received as a child, to revere words and hone my grammatical skills, I recently realized how rarely I question the meanings or origins of numerous coined phrases that I’ve heard and used throughout my life. I’m referring to those metaphoric household sayings that mom and dad used to throw in the middle of a lecture, hoping to convince me to be more responsible for my actions. You know, those expressions that somehow snuck in while the elders were sharing a wanton word of warning about who, or who not to befriend, to avoid “getting in with the wrong crowd”. Somehow, without even asking what they meant by what they said, or even looking up the definitions of the phrases they used, I knew exactly what they were trying to convey. Their sayings were by no means conventional, in terms of the traditional use of the English language, but I understood what they meant, and it wasn’t long before I found myself using the same phrases to make a similar point of my own.

Among the culturally-connected coined phrases that were passed down from earlier generations, many have become commonly used components of our modern day dialogue. Those less-than-conventional comments, whether comical or corrective, somehow wiggled their way into our vocabulary without so much as a smidgen of scrutiny, and I find that fact quite fascinating. My favorite currently used, ‘quip-quotes’ are those that involve animals. For example, who hasn’t heard the phrase, “Don’t look a gift horse in the mouth.”? Or, “It’s raining cats and dogs!”? Or, how about, “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.”? The list goes on and on, of abstract adages that possess no true literal meaning, yet metaphorically, they offer a potential answer to just about every challenge in life.

I recently looked up the meanings of some of the culturally coined quips commonly used today that include animals, and my findings were quite enlightening. Thanks to a good group of “e-scholars” at [www.phrases.org.uk](http://www.phrases.org.uk), I found lots of interesting morsels about many metaphoric morals that had me mystified in the past. I’ll start with the “don’t look a gift horse in the mouth” expression, because even though most folks already know what it means, my guess is that few are aware of its origin. It made its first appearance in written English as part of John Heywood’s A dialogue containyng the number in effect of all the prouerbes in the Englishe tongue, where it read: “No man ought to looke a geuen hors in the mouth.” It is assumed that Heywood obtained the phrase from a Latin text of St. Jerome, The Letter to the Ephesians, circa AD 400. The intended message is, to not question a good thing when it happens, just as one should not check a horse’s teeth to determine its age, if it performs well.

One of the more satirical sort of sayings that I never understood until I looked it up, is “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush”. This one refers to medieval falconry where a bird in the hand (the predator) was a valuable asset and worth more than two birds in a bush (the prey). A citation of this phrase was first printed in 1670, in John Ray’s A Hand-book of Proverbs. The gist of this jocular jest is, it’s better to have a lesser but certain advantage than the possibility of a greater one that may come to nothing. Advice well taken by most, but not what a gambler wants to hear during a weekend in Vegas!

One potentially patronizing proverb that had me puzzled before my research, is the old saying, “Don’t buy a pig in a poke”. Little did I know that this one is actually more literal than most. It’s a throwback from the days when pigs were commonly sold in town square farmer’s markets, and the advice offered is, don’t purchase a pig sight unseen. A poke was another word for a bag, and pigs were apparently bagged before going to market, so a smart buyer would ask the seller to expose the pig before making their purchase. The modern day message behind this strange yet savvy saying is, don’t buy into a deal before examining it closely first. Who can’t benefit from heeding this bountiful bit of advice?

I could go on forever, talking about animal-themed adages, but due to space restraints, I must limit my list to a select few, so here are just 3 more sayings, along with their origins and meanings. Enjoy!

“A leopard cannot change its spots.” - Jeremiah 13:23  
- a being cannot change its innate nature.

“A fly in the ointment” - Ecclesiastes 10:1 - a small irritating flaw with the potential to spoil the whole.

“A fish out of water” - Samuel Purchas’s Pilgrimage, 1613 - Being in a situation that one is unsuited for.

And last but not least, I will close with a cute but rather corny quip of my own, which came to mind while I was sweeping my kitchen floor the other day; “Oh the rugs that I could weave, with the hair I just retrieved!” It seems the warm weather has caused an early onset shedding process for my beloved bloodhound, bless her hairy little heart!

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



PINNEY HOUSE WILL OPEN TO WISTARIA FESTIVAL TICKET HOLDERS  
RARE PEEK INTO SIERRA MADRE’S 125 YEAR OLD “GRAND DAME” VICTORIAN

Sierra Madre’s Wistaria Festival will have an added treat for attendees this year. The Pinney House owners, Greg and Judy Asbury, will open their 10,000 square foot home to ticket holders during the once yearly celebration. Vine and Pinney House viewing will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 25.

The Asburys have spent nearly a decade restoring and rehabbing what’s known as “the Grand Dame of Sierra Madre” and formerly the Hotel Sierra Madre, back in the 1880’s.



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The home’s faded and dreary white exterior has been transformed into a sophisticated yet very Victorian, multicolor palette. Many of the home’s current Victorian accoutrements are vintage, yet not original to the home, like the parlor fireplace surround, transported back from an Asbury excursion to Arizona.

In charmingly antiquated vernacular, the local Valley Vista newspaper of July 31, 1889 advertised that the hotel was “a quiet and comfortable home for sojourners and tourists. The Building and Furnishing Entirely New. Reached by carriages from station on the Santa Fe railroad one mile distant. There is from this House a fine view of the beautiful San Gabriel Valley, extending from on end of the valley to the other and from the mountains to the sea, presenting a picture grand, inspiring and never tiring, revealing to the observer new beauties each day.”

Since then, the Pinney House, named for its original owner, Dr. Elbert Pinney, has seen many storied chapters in its 125 year history. They include its use as a sanatorium, boarding house and apartment building. The home was also the location of movies like the Seven Little Foys starring Bob Hope and Barbara Stanwyck’s Great Man’s Lady.



Tips of the Trade:  
Real Estate Revealed  
by Luther Tsinoglou

DON'T GIVE IT AWAY

While indicators show that housing is making a comeback, the glut of negative reporting is still making people skittish about buying a home. This has created a hot rental market, with few places available to lease and rising rent rates. Consider some reasons why it’s always better to own than to rent.

First, as owner, you are your own landlord. You won’t be kicked out for any reason other than not making your mortgage payments. You control every other aspect of how you choose to live in your home.

Even more important, those monthly payments are a kind of forced savings, helping you to build equity. Although it’s

possible that home values could fall further, the same could happen to your 401(k). But over the long term, both types of investment are more likely to see gains.

Right now, interest rates are still very low, which means that if you choose a fixed-rate mortgage, that rate will never change, and you will build equity at an even quicker pace.

Another reason to opt for the ownership route is that you’ll find - particularly now with so few leases available - that the nicest homes in the safest neighborhoods with the best schools will be offered for sale and not for rent. Consult with an agent and turn that rent payment into savings and security instead.

CALIFORNIA PENDING HOME SALES HIGHER IN JANUARY; SHORT SALES RISE TO HIGHEST LEVEL IN THREE YEARS

According to the Arcadia Association of REALTORS®, pending home sales in California climbed in January from both the previous month and the previous year. This was obtained from data collected by the California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.). Additionally, distressed home sales rose in January, comprising about half of all homes sold.

SHARE OF DISTRESSED SALES TO TOTAL SALES (SINGLE-FAMILY)

Type of Sale	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
REOs	30.8%	24.6%	25.9%
Short Sales	22.2%	22.2%	23.8%
Other Distressed Sales (Not Specified)	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Total Distressed Sales	53.5%	47.3%	50.1%

*Pending home sales:*  
C.A.R.’s Pending Home Sales Index (PHSI)\* rose from a revised 91.0 in December to 102.4 in January, based on signed contracts. The index also was up from the 93.1 recorded in January 2011, marking the ninth consecutive month that

pending sales were higher than the previous year. Pending home sales are forward-looking indicators of future home sales activity, providing information on the future direction of the market.

*Distressed housing market data:*

- Equity sales made up 49.9 percent of home sales in January, down from 52.7 percent in December but up from 46.5 percent in January 2011.
- The total share of all distressed property types sold statewide increased to 50.1 percent in January, up from December’s 47.3 percent but down from 53.5 percent in January 2011.
- The share of short sales rose to its highest level in three years since C.A.R. began tracking this statistic. Of the distressed properties sold statewide in January, 23.8 percent were short sales, up from the previous month’s share of 22.2 percent and up from last January’s share of 22.2 percent.
- The share of REO sales rose in January to 25.9 percent, up from December’s 24.6 percent, but down from the 30.8 percent recorded in January 2011.

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



Local lore suggests the distinctive and intricate front porch was redesigned with pieces from a house in the Wilshire area, to the current design during its use in Stanwyck’s movie in 1942. Ahhh, Hollywood! The three story, 10,002 square foot, Queen Anne home was designed by noted and prolific West Coast architects, Samuel and Joseph Cather Newsom, and originally contained up to thirty rooms for guests. Visitors often arrived by rail, and took advantage of drayage transportation by mule by “Uncle Henry” as Sierra Madreans called the owner of the service.

Today, the floorplan has been lovingly reconfigured, to a magnificent estate home with six one and two bedroom suites, formal rooms with three fireplaces, a library, sun room, English garden, a main level studio plus a self-contained, 2500 square foot, staff, home office or extended family quarters on the top floor.

The “open house” for Wistaria Festival ticket holders will help celebrate the 125th birthday of the structure, and offer the public a rare, “two-fer” opportunity to view another of Sierra Madre’s Treasures. “We want to share our progress on this very special home with Sierra Madre, and this seemed the perfect time to do it,” said the Asburys. “As stewards of this unique property, we have appreciated the encouragement, cheerleading and appreciation from the community as we journeyed through this decade long project.”

The Pinney House, located at 225 North Lima in Sierra Madre, is located about four blocks from the Wistaria Vine site. For more on the home’s history and vintage photos, visit [www.PinneyHouse.com](http://www.PinneyHouse.com). Tickets can be purchased online at [www.WistariaTickets.com](http://www.WistariaTickets.com), by contacting the Chamber of Commerce at 626-355-5111, or on the day of the event in downtown Sierra Madre.

Tickets are \$10/Adults; Seniors and children 6 -16,\$7, age 5 and under free. Ticket price is the same, for one way or round trip shuttle use, and there are no refunds or exchanges. Vine and home viewing will be from 9-4. Street fair with 150 artisans on Sierra Madre Boulevard is open 9-5. A shuttle bus stop has been added to the Wistaria Vine route, for drop offs and pickups at the Pinney House.

Know of an interesting home, garden, or person who helps create them? Send the contact information to [C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com) today!

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## YOGA IS JUST STRETCHING. IN THE BEGINNING.....



By Rene Quenell, Proprietor Yoga Madre - Sierra Madre

People ask me all the time how I started doing yoga. A friend took me. We took our babies. I hated it. And then another friend took me to my second class -- I had a great teacher -- and I fell in love. Well maybe not at first, exactly. But day by day and year by year I fell in love with my practice.

I know, sounds strange. But it's really true. The first time I actually did downward dog, I kind of liked it. The first time my knees didn't have to touch the ground in plank, I was thrilled, and the first time, well, there are still first times, all these years later. And each time I feel that wonder - "Wow, I did that!". It is so powerful. It made me want to keep going. I wanted to eat right and enable myself to do even more. I learned things I didn't like about myself too. Big things. But through yoga we can learn and then transform. And that is the whole enchilada: we have the POWER to transform ourselves.

The mat is our playground, or practice ground, where we learn to breathe through challenging situations. We learn to adapt. We learn to be flexible. We also learn integrity and strength.

We learn what our tendencies are. We learn how we resist, how we avoid, how we compete and how we beat ourselves up. We learn how we breathe, how we eat, how we think and feel. We learn we are connected to our minds, body and spirit and to each other. We learn about our hips and shoulders, aches and pains.

Then we learn what our inner strengths are. And the first time we work it through, the first time we come out on the other side, we are free - because we transformed. If we can do it on the mat, we can do it anywhere. We are powerful beings. Learning to love and nurture all aspects of ourselves so that we can live our lives to the very best and make a difference! This is the teaching of yoga.

So unroll that mat and TAKE A FRIEND. And next time you are in class remember to ask yourself "what did I learn about myself today?"

## COMPUTER-FREE VIDEO CALLING HELPS SENIORS STAY CONNECTED

Dear Savvy Senior:

Can you recommend any easy-to-use products for video calling? I live in a different state from my mother, who's now 78, and would like to see her more often. But mom doesn't have a computer or a smartphone for video chatting and she's intimidated with technology. Living Afar

Dear Living:

Video calling is a wonderful way to stay connected and get that important face-to-face time with your mom when you can't be there. Here are some good video calling products to consider for technology-challenged seniors who don't use a computer.

### Home Videophones

If you're not familiar with them, home videophones are a nice option and very easy for seniors to use. Basically, they work like a regular telephone but come with a built-in camera and video screen that gives you the ability to see the person you're talking to in real-time. All you need is a high speed (DSL or Cable) Internet connection and you're ready to go.

While there are various types and styles of videophones on the market today, some possible options to consider are the Grandstream 3140 and VoSKY videophones that work with Skype (see skype.com) - a free software application that lets you make free video calls via the Internet.

Retailing anywhere between \$150 and \$250, the big advantage of using a Skype certified videophone is that after you purchase it, there are no monthly service fees to use it. Skype-to-Skype video calls are completely free, and you can use your personal computer (if you have a webcam), Android smartphone or tablet, iPhone, iPad or Mac to call your mom's videophone (and vice versa), which means you don't have to buy a second videophone to converse with her like you do with other services.

These videophones will also let your mom make unlimited calls to other landlines and mobile phones in the U.S. and Canada for only \$3 per month. To learn more or to purchase these products visit amazon.com or shop.skype.com/phones.



Another good product to check out is WorldGate's Ojo Vision Digital Videophone which you can buy through ACN (myacn.com/digital, 877-226-1010) as the IRIS 5000 Video Phone. With a bright 7-inch LCD screen and excellent audio and video capabilities, this videophone is a higher grade product than the Skype phones, but it's more expensive. The cost: \$179 for the phone with a two-year contract and a \$30 monthly service fee for unlimited calling.

This phone will also only let you place video calls to other Ojo/IRIS videophones. That means that you and your mom will each have to buy your own phone in order to video chat with each other, which adds to your costs.

### TV Video Calls

Another great option you need to know about are the new "TV compatible webcams" that have a built-in HD camera, speakers and microphones that will turn your mom's TV into a videophone - no computer required.

She will, however, need a television set with an HDMI port (most HDTVs have them) and wireless Internet access installed in her home to use one of these devices. If she has an older TV that doesn't have an HDMI port, converter boxes can be purchased for around \$50 to adapt most sets.

If you like this option, check out the Biscotti TV Phone (biscotti.com), a new product that costs \$199 and, at the press of a button, will let your mom make and receive unlimited free video calls from her TV, to any computer, smartphone or tablet that uses Google video chat (google.com/chat/video), or to other Biscotti owners.

Or, if you're a Skype user, consider the new tely-HD webcam (tely.com). This device costs \$250 and works similarly to the Biscotti, but provides its free video calling via Skype.

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.

## 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.



### March Birthdays

Ella Gutman, Santos Ruiz, Viky Tchatlian, Mary Cooper, Carla Duplex, Terri Elder, Georgina 'Snooky' Greger, Rita Johnson, Helen Wallis, Dorothy Webster



### 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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HART PARK HOUSE  
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

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By Harvey Hyde

## LET KIDS BE KIDS!

In this week's column I want to offer this advice to parents: Allow your children to play a variety of sports.

I bring this up because I recently had legendary Los Angeles Ram barefoot kicker Mike Lansford on my radio show to talk about the football camp he and former Ram quarterback Vince Ferragamo are holding Saturday, March 24, at Veteran's Stadium in Long Beach. (For information, go to [fnlcamps.com](http://fnlcamps.com)).

As a youngster growing up in Arcadia, Lansford enjoyed playing all sports. It wasn't until his late teens that he began to concentrate on kicking, a skill that brought him fame and fortune.

When I asked him how soon kids should start learning a certain skill, Mike told me he had heard of a toddler at 18 months being taught how to placekick a football. Now that is just plain ridiculous. Many other experts and even private coaches have told me that focusing on one talent, skill or sport should not come until kids are at least teen age, or old enough to decide "this is going to be my sport."

Young athletes, both boys and girls, need to be given the opportunity of having fun and playing different sports. I think it is wrong for a parent or club sports coach to select a specific sport for the child at a young age and not allow him or her to diversify and enjoy different experiences. In the effort to refine and expand specific skills, this often happens.

At a young age it is difficult to tell what sports fit a young talented athlete. And you limit their growth, agility, knowledge, skills and ability to establish a wide variety of team and personal friendships, some of which might last a lifetime.

Unfortunately, there is for some the belief that simply enjoying the sport and the competition is not enough. One needs to excel in the game, and the only way to demonstrate excellence in a sport is to get a college scholarship – or better yet, become a professional athlete. And in order to do that one must concentrate on that sport and play it year-round.

But my belief is that by playing several sports you become more coordinated in using different muscles and skills, not to mention stronger and more sociable. Also, limiting your child to one sport puts undue pressure on that youngster and delivers the wrong message. Winning is a good thing, but it is not the only thing.

The development of a child during his or her growing years is very important and it is the parents' responsibility to protect bones, ligaments and tendons, and, we are learning, brain function. We all know that over-practice and over-use can cause injuries.

Then, there is the potential for what we call burnout. A youngster will get fed up and announce, "I just don't like doing this anymore. And I don't have any friends." A child needs to identify with being your son or daughter, not just your highly skilled athlete. Let your child grow up naturally and be a kid.

And it is important to remember this, although it is obvious to most people: A child does not have to be an athlete to be successful. Let your children discover their own talent, whatever that might be, and encourage them to pursue it.

Harvey Hyde's Peristyle podcast can be heard on [uscfootball.com](http://uscfootball.com) and his radio show on Las Vegas station KSHP AM 1400 can be heard via the Internet.



## HOW TO CHIP THE GOLF BALL WITH PRECISION

If you want to improve your short game you have to learn how to chip the golf ball with solid contact. I am going to explain to you exactly how to just that. The address position for chipping the golf ball has three components. Today I am going to tell what they are and how to apply them.

**#1.** Ball position is critical for consistent impact. It has to be in the middle to middle back of your stance. If it is too far forward you will hit up on it and top the ball or hit it thin most of the time. The other reason you want it in the middle to middle back of your stance is so the clubhead will approach the ball on a steep angle.

**#2.** The second part is to make sure you have 75% of your weight on your left foot at address. Once you place the weight on your left side, leave it there during the backswing and downswing. If you stay put during the swing the clubhead will swing steep into the back of the golf ball and it

will have the same flight and roll every time.

**#3.** After you have placed the ball in the center of your stance and you leaned over to the left with 75% of your weight on your left leg, it is time now to move the handle over to your left side. Remember when you address the golf ball the handle of the club is in the center of your body. When you moved your weight over to the left, the center of your body is now on your left side. That is why YOU HAVE TO MOVE THE HANDLE OVER TO THE CENTER OF YOUR BODY.

When you move the handle over to your left leg it will allow the club to swing UP in the backswing and DOWN in the downswing, thus creating a steep and consistent impact.

If you follow these steps you will chip the golf ball better than ever.

For more information go to: [www.bobbyeldridgegolf.com](http://www.bobbyeldridgegolf.com)



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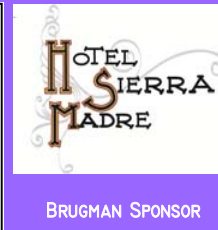
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