



SIERRA MADRE ELECTION COVERAGE

On April 10, 2012, voters in Sierra Madre will go to the polls and select three people from a field of seven to sit on the City Council and elect a new City Treasurer and City Clerk. They will also vote on a local ballot measure on whether or not to extend the User Utility Tax and a related advisory measure.

The city council race will fill two seats for new four year terms and one seat for the unexpired two year term vacated by former Mayor Joe Mosca.

The Mountain Views News will provide our readers with comprehensive coverage of this election. Each week, as we have done in the past, we will profile the candidates and give each of the candidates the opportunity to introduce themselves to our readers by answering the following questions: (All candidates are being asked to answer the same questions)

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

The revised schedule:

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

March 17th Candidate Colin Braudrick for City Council - 2 year term Website: www.colin4cc.com

March 24th Candidate Chris Koerber for City Council - 2 year term Website: www.chrisforsieramadre.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 JOHN HARABEDIAN



The time has come for a new generation of leadership in Sierra Madre. Now more than ever, Sierra Madre is in need of intelligent, hardworking leaders who will bring an innovative approach to the City's problems while leaving personal agendas aside. As a lifelong resident, attorney, and former local government policy analyst, I am that type of leader, with the vision, knowledge, and skillset to get the job done.

The issue, above all else, in this election is leadership. It is not about the UUT extension or the Kensington Project, as a few vocal residents would like you to believe. It's much more systemic and bigger than that. Voters must decide which candidate has the ability to articulate the larger challenges facing Sierra Madre and, more importantly, which candidate can provide tangible solutions going forward for the next four years. Sierra Madre has many short-term and long-term problems, but two primary obstacles must be addressed immediately.

First, Sierra Madre has become an unsustainable village, with our annual revenues no longer satisfying our annual expenses. This is precisely why the City relies so heavily on the UUT to fund vital services, such as police, fire, and paramedics, and why the UUT extension on the April 10 ballot must be passed if we wish to preserve Sierra Madre as we know it. This extension is a short-term fix, however, as our budget requires an overhaul. Second, we have a community that has grown politically disengaged. A

town that has always thrived on volunteerism, Sierra Madre finds itself at a time when plenty of residents who are willing to help feel underutilized. There are simple ways we can solve both of these problems.

As a councilmember, I will establish a citizen-run Economic Sustainability Committee, which will work to (1) identify additional sources of revenue for the City, (2) implement the City's recent Market Demand Study to attract village-friendly businesses to empty storefronts in downtown, and (3) streamline the City's budget, i.e., prioritize how and where we spend our money. Calling on our informed residents to help Sierra Madre through these tough economic times is necessary, efficient, and cost-effective.

The desired goal will be for Sierra Madre four years from now to continue to be a full-service city, while adding to our reserves instead of depleting them as we are now. One simple fix will be to allow residents to pay all their City bills online, a convenient solution that will save the City personnel costs from not having to physically process each bill. Why hasn't this been done before? I will also establish a Public Safety Commission, which will be run by knowledgeable volunteers and will work with our Police and Fire Departments and paramedics to ensure that Sierra Madre retains its high level of public safety at a fair price. Considering the importance of public safety to this community and the amount of money we invest in it every year, why hasn't this been done before?

I don't have all the answers, but we can work as a community to find them. This will happen only if we have leaders who will listen to all residents and focus on problem-solving rather than political gamesmanship. I promise to be that leader.

www.johnharabedian.com

NAN & JERRY CARLTON
SIERRA MADRE'S OLDER AMERICANS OF THE YEAR

Photo and story by Bill Coburn



The City of Sierra Madre Community & Personnel Services Department and the Senior Community Commission is happy to announce that Jerry and Nan Carlton have been selected as the Older Americans of the Year for Sierra Madre 2012. Jerry and Nan are longtime residents, active members of the Sierra Madre Friends of the Library, Mt. Wilson Trail Race and Wine & Jazz Walk volunteers, past Sierra Madre Athletic Association Board members, strong supporters of the Sierra Madre Civic Club & Senior Lunch Program and much, much more.

These two Sierra Madre residents really live up the the Sierra Madre mantra — Volunteering is Cool. And their work goes back to 1967 when Nan and two long-gone residents set the stage for the beginning of Girls' Softball. The same three women harassed the City Council into naming the plot of donated land in northeast Sierra Madre after Hal Dapper, a recently deceased (at that time) volunteer of the Athletic Association.

Jerry designed the present diner at that field. He was chairman of that association and president of Pony/Colt where he managed The Reds in the latter. Jerry was a member of the Parks ad Recreation Commission and was chairman of the Trail Race then. In the '70s he was Girls' Softball coach and manager. He and another local man ran the Christmas tree lot for 10 years in the '80s, with money going to town athletes.

Then in 2007, Jerry walked the whole town of Sierra Madre, checking all 469 fire hydrants in the City. Why was that necessary? "We need to know (for the Fire Department) if they are painted properly, if they're accessible, are capped, and if the blue dots on the streets, indicating their presence, are there," Jerry explained. The task took him all summer and the City Council commended him for the job.

Jerry recycles clear plastic bottles and aluminum for the Civic Club and he volunteers at the library book sales. He also substitutes for Meals-on-Wheels and works on the Wine Tasting Committee.

In the '60s Nan took third graders from local schools to Bailey Canyon on nature hikes, usually going to the waterfall and back. She and friends in '67 started Summer Little League and "that was the beginning of Girls' Softball," she explained. Nan is past president of Civic Club and has been a long-time worker for that club. She participated on all of the Relays for Life held in Sierra Madre.

"About four or five years ago" Nan started a knitting club. "We meet at Bean Town two times a week, and welcome others who want to knit." She also worked on the Rose Float for at least 12 years, helping youth volunteers.

Both she and Jerry participated in the PTAs for

both Sierra Madre School and Wilson, and taught Sunday School for many years.

Their beginnings? When she was a child, Nan and her mother came by train to Sierra Madre to be with Nan's grandmother, Florence Eakman, who was a well-known poet and children's book author. Nan has lived here ever since.

After Jerry left the Navy, he and Nan met and were married in 1953. Their son, Steve, is a hydro/geologist and has a son and daughter, Wyn and Liz. Daughter Suzi's son is Mike. Sierra Madre lost Sheri Carlton Burnett in 2001, and she left another Carlton granddaughter, Amanda.

Nan is past president of Civic Club and has been a long-time worker for that club. Nan was a Team Captain for the Relay for Life for several years. I am sure there is not anything that they have not been instrumental in helping organize here in our Town. About six or seven years ago, Nan started a knitting club to help raise money for cancer research. She also worked on the Rose Float for at least 12 years, helping youth volunteers. Both she and Jerry participated in the PTAs for both Sierra Madre School and Wilson, and taught Sunday School for many years. It is time that this wonderful couple be recognized for there outstanding commitment to our City.

Nan is recuperating after having had surgery on Nov. 20 last year, and is slowly getting back to activities. "I have to wait until March to resume going to Curves," Nan remarked.

Why do these two volunteer? Nan answered, "I was a Campfire Girl and that's where you learn to volunteer. You're supposed to give back."

Each year the President of the United States, the Governor of California and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors designate the month of May as Older American Month. In recognition of Jerry and Nan Carlton's dedicated volunteer service to the community, Sierra Madre will be honoring them with a local reception held at the Hart Park House Senior Center on Friday, May 11, 2012 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Previous Honorees include: Pat Alcorn, Fran Garbaccio, Ken Anhalt, Eph Konigsberg, Russ Anderson, George Throop, Loyal Camacho, John Grijalva, Joylouse Harte-Smith, James Heasley, Midge Morash, James Tyler, Isbella Paegal, Bonnie Garner, Rose Fafach, Ed Wellman, Celeste McCleary, Dorothy Tillquist, Doris Webster, Elsie Dannmayer, George Mauer & Karl Teigler.

For more information on the Older American Reception or on how you can assist with honoring Jerry and Nan Carlton, please contact the Susan Clifton, Recreation Coordinator at (626) 355-7394.

This Week's Highlights:

4	PASADENA/ALTADENA NFL Use of the Rose Bowl to be Voted On	5	AROUND SAN GABRIEL Joan ClaytonWhat Will You Be Doing? Cal Fire has a message for you.....	14	WORLD Looking Up by Bob Eklund Earth Rediscovered.... Online with Paul	17	SPORTS Harvey Hyde Says: COACHES SHOULD BE TEACHERS TOO.
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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
Wed:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 60s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Showers	Hi 60s	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 & 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.Sierra Madre's Farmer's Market
WEDNESDAYS

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.

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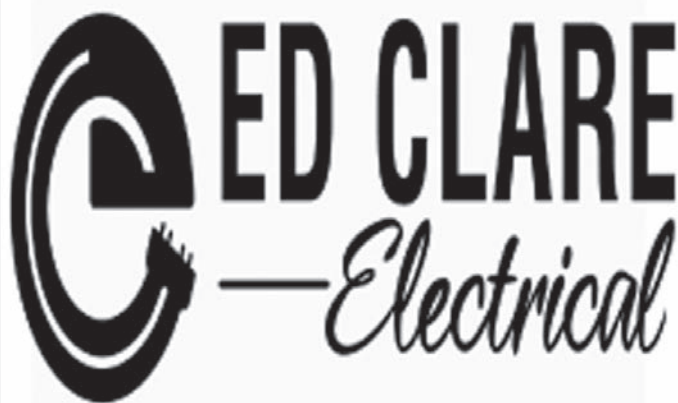
Sierra Madre Rotary Club

Meets Tuesdays 7-8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

While all Rotary Club memberships are by invitation, visitors are heartily welcomed to meetings. For more information, please visit our website or contact our membership chairperson at RudyHayek@Gmail.com.www.SierraMadreRotary.comSIERRA MADRE
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THE FOURTH OF JULY
COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

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

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

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

Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278

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

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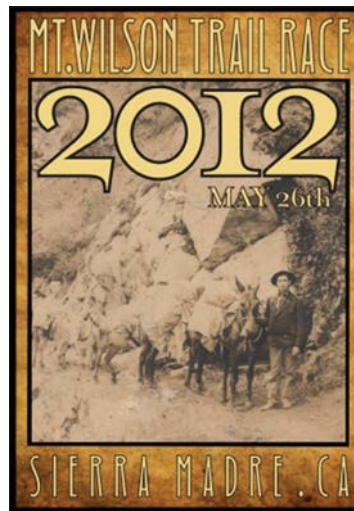
CALL PAT

626-264-2085

SIERRA MADRE
YMCA TEEN LEADERSHIP CLUB
Sign Your Teen Up Today!

The City of Sierra Madre will once again host the YMCA's program which focuses on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

The Teen Leadership Club meets Monday through Thursday at the Youth Activity Center (YAC) and Fridays in Kersting Court.

The program times are: school dismissal -6:00pm. The cost of the program is \$30 per week. Contact Jennifer Sullivan for more information at jennifersullivan@ymcal.org or 213.351.2271.2012 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. Runners are encouraged to register as soon as possible as space is limited. The MWTR sells out on an annual basis, be sure to reserve your spot for 2012! For more information please visit www.mountwilsontrailrace.com or contact the Community Services Office at 626.355.5278.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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Las Vegas vs. Casino Night

Can't decide between going to Las Vegas and going to Civic Club's Casino Night on Saturday March 17th from 7:00 P.M. to 11 P.M.?

By Christine Bachwansky

This un-objective analysis may help resolve your dilemma:

Las Vegas has blackjack, roulette, craps and poker. Casino Night has blackjack, roulette, craps and poker. Las Vegas has professional dealers. Casino Night has professional dealers, and ours are friendlier.

Las Vegas has buffets. Casino Night has a buffet. Our St. Patrick's Day theme offers tasty fare such as corned beef sliders. There's also a no-host bar featuring beer, wine, soft drinks and Irish coffee for a modest price.

Las Vegas is 252 miles, 4 hours and 8 minutes away. That means two tanks of gas and hotels rooms and that comes to \$\$\$.

Casino Night is right down the street at the Sierra Madre Recreation Center leaving you all that extra green to play with at our tables.

Las Vegas has chips. Casino Night has "fun money". By trading your greenbacks for Casino Night fun money you are not only giving yourself more play time at the tables, but are doing good for the community.

Las Vegas takes your money. At Casino Night we give you "money". For your \$25.00 ticket donation we stake you to \$50.00 of "fun money" to play at the tables! The payout is in "opportunity tickets" that you can win stuff with.

Las Vegas has prizes. Casino Night has prizes. You might win restaurant or theater vouchers, or an awesome iPad. Maybe you want to go for a Kindle complete with its own Amazon gift card, a flat screen T.V or gift cards for Nordstrom's or Bed, Bath & Beyond. You could even win a trip to Las Vegas!

Las Vegas has fixed odds. At Casino Night you can change the odds. Try doing that in Vegas. Here you can purchase more "opportunity" tickets for a mere \$1.00 donation each. Drop them in the box for the prize you want to win and watch your odds increase with each ticket you put in.

Las Vegas has jackpots, but only a few people win them. At Casino Night everybody wins because your donations go right back into the community. Last year Sierra Madre Civic Club donated more than \$20,000 in educational scholarships to students in town and in grants to organizations such as the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association, the library's One Book One City Program, Sierra Madre Elementary School, Creative Arts, the Sierra Madre Playhouse, and Sierra Madre Little League.

Tickets are limited, so don't wait. Don't miss out! Call 355-2166 and get yours today.

SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA POSTMARKS AVAILABLE AT WISTARIA FESTIVAL

The United States Postal Service and the Sierra Madre Chamber



of Commerce announce a special postal cancellation to celebrate The Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival.

This special postmark will be available at the Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival, Sunday March 25, 2012 at the Wistaria Festival Postal Station located at Kersting Court in Sierra Madre at Sierra Madre Boulevard and Baldwin Avenue.

This special temporary postal station will be open 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Bring post cards or letters. You can send mail and post from this special event post office and surprise your friends when they receive mail with this extraordinary postmark.

The announcement of this postal cancellation has been printed in the U. S. Postal Bulletin which is distributed world wide. To accommodate collectors from out of the area the Sierra Madre Post Office will cancel postcards and letters upon request with the Wistaria cancellation for 30 days after the event.

To postmark a letter after the event go to Sierra Madre Post office and request The Wistaria Postmark on your mail.

For more information contact:
The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce (626) 355-5111
The U. S Post Office, Sierra Madre, California 91024

(Note: The Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival spells Wistaria with an "a" not with an "e").

WISTARIA FESTIVAL TO OFFER TOURS OF HISTORIC 1887 PINNEY HOUSE; Local Artists Featured in House Exhibit

Sunday, March 25, 2012 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

The historic landmark Pinney House, built in 1887, will be open for self-guided tours for the first time ever, during the March 25 Wistaria Festival in Sierra Madre, California.

The Pinney House, designed by Victorian architects Samuel & Joseph Cathner Newsom, is celebrating 125 years, and has recently undergone a major renovation to a lovely estate house. It has six spacious elegant bedroom and bath suites, as well as several common rooms reminiscent of the late nineteenth century.

Tours will be offered to visitors on the Wistaria Festival shuttle, as the bus stops in front of the Pinney House at 225 No. Lima St. Visitors must have a shuttle ticket to enter.

Noted California artists, William Wray and Lynne Fearman, local to Sierra Madre, will be exhibiting their work in the House. Wray's gritty urban landscapes, often referred to as "dirty urban" uses a combination of realism and abstract expressionism. His evocative work exhibits internationally. Plein Air artist Lynne Fearman's paintings portray beautiful serene landscapes of San Gabriel Valley and Southern California.

Wray has designed a commemorative poster for the 2012 Wistaria Festival, which will be offered for sale during the Festival.

The Pinney House was built by civil war surgeon and farmer Dr. Elbert Pinney during the land boom in Los Angeles. It was one of a string of railroad hotels that served as lodging for train passengers who disembarked at the Baldwin depot on their travels from the midwest and east coast. It is one of the last remaining railroad hotels of the Foothills that are still standing.

The Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival celebrates the Guinness Book certified "World's Largest Blossoming Plant." It is estimated that at the height of bloom it has 1.5 million blossoms with 40 blossoms per square foot, a weight of 250 tons and has branches that extend 500 feet. The vine is 118 years old. The first public Wistaria Festival occurred in 1918. Several blocks south of the vine, the village of Sierra Madre celebrates with arts and craft fair, live musical entertainment, a kids' zone, dining al fresco at local restaurants as well as food vendors in the Memorial Park. The Sierra Madre Post Office is offering a special postal cancellation to celebrate the Festival, with a temporary postal station open March 25 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. in Kersting Court of Sierra Madre's downtown.

More information on The Pinney House can be found at www.pinneyhouse.com.

More information on Wistaria Festival and to order Shuttle Tickets, visit www.wistariafestival.com and www.wistariatickets.com.

**YOUR AD
COULD BE
HERE!**

**CALL PATRICIA
626-818-2698
TODAY!**

Friday, March 2nd:
11:03 AM- Commercial Burglary, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd (Aquatic Center). An unknown suspect(s) entered the unlocked location and stole property from the locker rooms that were left unlocked and unattended. The suspect(s) fled in an unknown direction.

Southern California Edison Offers WINDSTORM REBATES AND GRANTS

Need to contact Southern California Edison? Interested in potential rebates or grants? Region Manager Ronald V. Garcia is at your disposal. Ronald can be contacted at ronald.garcia@sce.com. Be sure to check out the Southern California Edison website at <http://www.sce.com/CommunityandRecreation/CommunityGrantsandVolunteerSupport/community-grants-and-volunteer-support.htm> for communitygrant information.

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@smmainsurance.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



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

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.



IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 26

LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR APRIL 10TH ELECTION

MARCH 12TH

FIRST DAY TO REQUEST VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

APRIL 3

LAST DAY TO REQUEST VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

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

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

ELECTION DAY - APRIL 10, 2012



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Chancellor Jack Scott Announces Retirement

California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott announced Tuesday his intent to retire as the head of the nation's largest system of higher education, capping a distinguished 58-year career in higher education and public service. Scott's retirement

In a statement sent to community colleges statewide, Scott said, "I have greatly enjoyed my work since becoming chancellor on January 1, 2009. It is true that it has been a tough time for community colleges because of the financial difficulties of the state of California. But I have been received warmly in Sacramento and on college campuses by trustees, faculty, staff, administrators, and students. I have proudly represented our colleges before the Legislature, the governor, and many other audiences."

"The Board of Governors wishes to express its gratitude to Chancellor Scott for his extraordinary leadership of our system," said Board President Scott Himmelstein. "Chancellor Scott's passion and commitment to community colleges will be evident in the success of our colleges for generations to come. The board will begin immediately the process of selecting a chancellor who can build on the success of Dr. Scott."

Before becoming the California Community Colleges Chancellor, Scott served in the California Legislature for 12 years as a State Senator (2000-2008) and Assemblymember (1996-2000) representing Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, a portion of the city of Los Angeles and other surrounding cities and communities. He served as chair of the Senate Committee on Education.

"Jack has been a great champion of community colleges, both in the Legislature and as chancellor. During a time of extreme state budget cuts, Jack provided stability and vision. He never lost sight of the importance of career technical education, especially in the clean energy and healthcare fields, in keeping our economy strong," former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said. "I supported his appointment by the Board of Governors because he was always passionate about community colleges and a great leader for students."

Pet of the Week



Buddy is a 18-year-old red and white tabby. He's very friendly, mellow and affectionate older fella.

Buddy's adoption fee is \$70, which includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. He's also eligible for the Seniors for Seniors program in which adopters, 60 years old or older, only pay the \$20 mandatory microchip fee. 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 A302740 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.



NFL Use of the Rose Bowl to be Voted On

The city is set to move forward with a controversial plan to allow temporary use of the Rose Bowl as home for an NFL team while a permanent stadium is build either in Downtown L.A. or the City of Industry. The city council will vote to create an EIR Monday night

If passed, the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is expected to take eight months to complete according to city staff. The report is also estimated to cost approximately \$400,000 they said.

Mayor Bill Bogaard has told this newspaper a number of times that no NFL team has been chosen to play in L.A. He has also said that it would be irresponsible for the city not to, at least, consider the idea in anticipation of the city being approached.

According to a staff report

prepared by City Manager Michael Beck and released Thursday, the interim period would not exceed five years and not exceed 13 games per season. There would be no new construction or changes to the Rose Bowl Stadium as a result of any temporary NFL use.

The report also states that the Council would consider a temporary increase in the number of major or "displacement events" allowed under the Arroyo Seco Lands Ordinance. The number of events over 20,000 attendees (Displacement Events) is currently limited by ordinance to 12 and would need to be increased to 20-25 per year.

The EIR is anticipated to include chapters on Air Quality (including a Greenhouse Gas assessment) Land Use, Noise, Recreation, and Traffic and

Transportation.

According to staff, "The Initial Study will be released for public review and seeping meetings will be conducted to allow the public an opportunity to comment on the Initial Study and the issues that should be discussed within the EIR."

The traffic analysis would include a geographically large study area with detailed analysis of up to 60 intersections and 30 street segments the report also states.

"The City Council is being asked to authorize consultant services contracts with Impact Sciences and Fehr and Peers for amounts not to exceed \$139,000 and \$195,000 respectively. Additional costs will include outside legal and other special services. The cost will be shared between RBOC and City."

Change Your Clocks, Change Your Smoke Alarm Batteries

When you "spring forward" and set your clocks ahead one hour this Sunday, March 11, follow the Pasadena Fire Department's advice and check all your smoke alarm batteries, too.

Each year, across the country, lives are lost in house fires due to smoke alarms that didn't sound because of dead or missing batteries.

Once you make sure the batteries are fresh and installed properly, test your alarms every month to make sure the devices still work. A typical smoke alarm will work for 10 years; after that, replace it.

This is also a good time to create a family emergency plan so everyone knows how to respond when the smoke alarm sounds. Locate all possible exits from your home, plan for family members who have special needs, such as seniors, people with disabilities, children and pets, and find out where your utility shut-offs for water, gas and electricity are located and how to work them.

For a full range of information about how to prepare for and respond to emergency situations, visit the Pasadena Fire Department online at www.cityofpasadena.net/fire.

Chamber Annual Tournament at Brookside Golf Club

Join Pasadena Chamber of Commerce members, business and community leaders for the annual Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament on Friday, April 13, 2012, at Brookside Golf Club. Shotgun start is at 12noon following the putting contest. Registration begins that morning at 10:30am.

Anyone wishing information or who wants to sign up to play or sponsor the tournament can call the Chamber at 626-795-3355 or email leanne@pasadena-chamber.org. Information and sign up forms are posted at www.pasadena-chamber.org.

New PCAC Director to Lobby Washington

By Dean Lee

As the new Executive Director of the Pasadena Community Access Corporation, Keri Stokstad, is set to make a trip to Washington D.C. next week to lobby government officials over the Community Access Preservation Act (CAP Act) H.R. 1746 and attend the Alliance for Community Media board meeting.

Stokstad said the CAP Act is critical in future funding of public access television, known as PEG (Public, Education and Government).

"This would define, from a federal level, that any funds coming from franchise agreements, especially state franchise agreements to be used for operating and capital expenses, including paying for staff," she explained. "This defines that."

The bill, sponsored by Wisconsin Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin, was introduced in May last year and is currently waiting to be referred to committee.

Stokstad said local Pasadena Congressman Adam Schiff has not taken a stand on the bill, "I do plan to meet with him while I'm there."

Stokstad also said, if passed the bill would secure funding for station like Pasadena, which operates, KLRN, KPAS, PCCtv

and the Arroyo Channel.

Legislation, which took effect in 2009, allowed cable television companies the option to drop out of a mandate providing free open studios and equipment to the public. Time Warner Cable alone immediately closed 12 studios including nearby Eagle Rock.

Stokstad said the bill could reverse some of the damage by reopening opportunities for future PEG stations not so lucky as Pasadena.

"Each city can put in an ordinance, basically saying that we want this PEG money," she said. "This money earmarked for PEG, then once the city has enacted the ordinance, then the cable company is required to give them the money."

Last year, Long Beach was able to revive their community access station through grant money after Charter Communications ended the franchise agreement.

Stokstad was also reappointed to the Alliance for Community Media board after a one year hiatus, "Prior to that I was on the board five years," she said.

She said the board meets tree times a year.

"We revisit policies like how we get out to the community on a regional level, and what kind of organization we want to be."

Stokstad started Jan. 3 as PCAC executive director.



Executive Director Keri Stokstad

Police to Enforce Traffic Laws Around Schools

Motorists need to be extra cautious around Pasadena's public schools and police will be watching to make sure they are. That's the simple but important message the Pasadena Department of Transportation and Pasadena Police want to communicate with part of a \$250,000 federal grant.

The Federal Safe Routes to School Program provides grants to local jurisdictions to pay for efforts to teach children about getting to school safely, and for special traffic enforcement activities in school zones. The grant provides funding for overtime pay to conduct these special enforcement activities.

Starting March 7, Pasadena



Police will be on the lookout near schools for drivers who speed, fail to yield to pedestrians, are using cell phones or who are distracted for any other reasons.

For more information, contact Alberto Felix at (626) 744-7662.

Citizen Journalism Meet-up

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

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

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

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



the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the means to tell the story using the power of video, audio and print along with online social media The next meeting is Mar. 6 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave. For more info call 626.794.8585 or visit pasadenan.com.

Free Windstorm Mulch Giveaway Extended

Due to overwhelming demand, the Pasadena Department of Public Works is extending its free mulch giveaway through March 15 or while supplies last. The mulch is the product of the green waste collected by the city following December's hurricane-force windstorm.

So far, Pasadena residents have put more than 72,000 pounds (36 tons) of that green waste back to use as mulch, which is an important organic protective cover placed over soil to help retain moisture, return nutrients, discourage weed growth and promote seed

germination and healthy plant growth.

Any non-commercial Pasadena resident with a shovel and something to carry the mulch away with is welcome to it. Mulch is available through March 15 or while supplies last from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Robinson Park, 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave., in the parking lot adjacent to Morton Street.

Pasadena is committed to sustainability. For more information about free mulch or other city recycling programs, contact Department of Public Works Customer Service at (626) 744-4087.

"What's Going On?"*News and Views from Joan Schmidt***What will I Be Doing, Ten Years from Now?**

Where will I be ten years from now? Many young adults ponder that question. Recently at Santa Teresita in Duarte, Sr. Rosario Therese and the Junior Volunteers presented their second annual Teen Career Fair to help answer that question.

Keynote speaker Kathy Calhoun, High School Teacher/Administrator from Lake Elsinore HS, began by explaining the difference between a career and a vocation. Other speakers included Lori Towles, City National Bank; Shannon Lewallen, Fall Control System; Gabby Romero, Kaiser Permanente; and Sr. Rosario Therese, Teen Career Fair Coordinator. After each speaker, there was a Breakout for discussion and questions.

The occupation fields included Education, Health Care, Human resources, Business, and Public Service. For Education, there was representation from CAL State Long Beach, American Beauty College-Myra G. Mendoza and Duarte retired teacher/school board member, Rose Brooks Mitchell. LA County Firemen, Deputy Frederickson from the LA County Sheriff's Duarte Sub Station and Homicide Bureau Sergeant Luis Nuñez represented Public Service. Business Representatives included Rachel, Paint-A-Play, Sara Sierra, Sierra Hair Extensions, and Jose Mireles, Finance, TIAA-CREF Financial Svcs. Health Services had a Nursing rep.

Rose Brooks Mitchell attended because Sr. Rosario invited her and, "It is an honor and privilege to be here to encourage them to do their best and pursue their passion

to get the best education possible. A good education is a key to success." Rose's handout, Qualities and Traits of Successful Students explained the importance of Self-respect, Self-discipline, Personal Responsibility, Interpersonal Skills and Thinking for Themselves.

The Theme of the Day was to "Make a Difference." Sister Rosario used Difference Makers International, (800-887,8422; www.blueribbonss.com)

Sister ended the day's program with a poignant true story and the 8 Step Blue Ribbon Ceremony. A high school teacher wanted to honor each of her students. She gave each a blue ribbon with gold lettering, "Who I Am Makes a Difference." She had three extra ribbons and asks her students to pass them on and come back with the results. One student chose a junior executive, who helped him with career planning. The junior executive gives one to his boss, who he greatly admired for his career genius. On the way home, the boss decides to give it to his son. After he got home, he went into his son's room. He sat him down and explained the project. He said, "Son, I want to honor you. My days are hectic and when I come home, I don't pay a lot of attention to you. Sometimes I scream at you for not getting good enough grades at school or for your bedroom being a mess. But somehow, tonight, I just wanted to sit here and well, just let you know that you make a difference to me. Besides your mother, you are the most important person in my life. You are a great kid and I love you."

The startled boy looked up and began to sob. He couldn't stop crying. He looked up at his dad and said, "I was planning on committing suicide tomorrow, Dad, because I didn't think you loved me. Now I don't have to."

The program ended with all the participants being pinned with blue ribbons, followed by the presenters being pinned. Two of the students ran over to Sister and pinned her. This program was excellent and is a good tool for teachers to use for their students' self-esteem and confidence.

PET OF THE WEEK:**Lil' Queen:****Animal ID #A4394653**

Meet a happy-go-lucky girl, the adorable Lil' Queen (A4394653). Lil' Queen is an extroverted and affectionate one-year-old tan spayed female Terrier puppy who was brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center. She came to the shelter with seven other dogs and two chickens after her former owner's house burned down to the ground. This puppy has had it rough, but that does not change her personality one bit – she is very loving and playful and is eager to please. Weighing eight pounds, Lil' Queen walks fine on the leash, is well socialized and we think she probably is housebroken. She is gregarious and happy with other dogs and absolutely adores children. Lil' Queen will be the perfect indoor pet for anybody at all! To watch a video of Lil' Queen, Dallas, and Hillary please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6S2p4Xt1BcQ

To meet Lil' Queen 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 Lil' Queen, please reference her animal ID number: A4394653. 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 Lil' Queen or the adoption process, contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at samanthasayon@gmail.com or 661-309-2674. To learn more about United Hope for Animals' partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.

CAL FIRE: CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

On Saturday night, March 10, Californians will be turning their clocks forward in observance of Daylight Saving Time. And when they do, CAL FIRE is reminding them to replace the batteries in all smoke alarms. Firefighters are also urging residents to replace the batteries in the carbon monoxide (CO) alarms as well.

This minimal effort could mean the difference between life and death. Already this year several fatalities have occurred in California which might have been prevented with working smoke alarms.

"CAL FIRE has long advocated the 'Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery' campaign," said Chief Ken Pimlott, director of CAL FIRE. "A smoke alarm is one of the cheapest and most effective ways homeowners can provide year round fire protection for themselves and their families."

Every year lives are lost in homes without

smoke detectors or those homes with a non-functioning smoke detector. In a study conducted by the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA), nearly 96% of households report having at least one fire alarm. Yet the US Fire Administration reports residential fires make up nearly 83% of all civilian fire deaths. The culprit is generally a disconnected or dead battery. Save a life. Change your clocks; change your smoke alarm batteries. Fire officials also remind residents that smoke alarms should be replaced at least every ten years and when residents buy a new one, purchase an alarm with 10-year batteries

"Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms unquestionably help save lives, but they are nothing without working batteries inside of them," said Chief Tonya Hoover, California's state fire marshal. "Just a few minutes twice a year to change that battery can truly mean the difference between life and death."

For more information, visit the CAL FIRE website at www.fire.ca.gov.



ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

It Just Gets Better: Arcadia Chamber of Commerce Monthly Forum

By Joan Schmidt

On the first Thursday of the month, the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce holds a Government Affairs Forum. Representatives from our local officials' offices and agencies, such as The Gas Company and Metro Gold Line, attend and give updates. That would be enough reason to come, but also there's a special speaker. One time it was Supervisor Antonovich, who explained the county's position and provisions regarding the transfer of state prisoners to county facilities. On another occasion, representatives from the FBI spoke about counterfeit money: when it began, how it has continued, and what to look for.

At last week's meeting, we were in for a treat. Steve Scazillo has been a journalist for over THIRTY years; a man who supports SO many great causes-especially pertaining to the preservation of our environment so we can enjoy it. He alerted me to the "Duck Farm Project" via his column. Steve has written of many wonderful natural features in the San Gabriel Valley that need improvement, but there are no funds. In one commentary, he mentioned that while in

Congress, Hilda Solis had proposed making the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers part of a national recreation area so that funding would be available for improvements.

At Thursday's meeting, Steve's topic was one dear to all of us - the water situation. Many of us are not happy with escalating bills, although we use less water! My county area is billed by the San Dimas based "Golden State Water Company". But some cities are responsible for their own water. Steve explained that most of the area gets water from Northern California or the Colorado River. However he pointed out that "We are on top of the San Gabriel Basin-as big as Lake Tahoe, a tremendous asset-we should take better care of it."

Currently, there are two issues we should be aware of. The first is Water Cleanup. In the 50's and 60's, the Aerospace Industry had a lot of waste products and needed to dispose of them. Back then, people didn't realize you should not dump wastes into the environment. As early as 1979, Congressman Dreier was aware of this and a supporter of water clean-up. Irwindale was mentioned and the issue of groundwater is still with us. When the Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte Town Council began, an Annunciation Parishioner came to a meeting and brought up the water issue and breast cancer. I have been a member of the Parish, located ONE block from Irwindale, since '85. The amount of women

who died from breast cancer, or still have it, is quite high. I have attended funerals of FIVE students' relatives (four mothers and one grandmother) who died from breast cancer. One former mother is cured, but two still have it. I have seen a fellow parishioner broken because his wife passed away after a valiant battle. Lastly, as a teacher, we attended an AIDS/HIV Awareness Workshop and the presenter told us that HIV patients are told NOT to drink the water in our area.

The other issue brought up was that 60% of water is imported from Northern California and the conditions of levees, etc. (However certain cities maintain their own water supply. Pasadena is on top of the Raymond Basin.) The Central Valley farmers don't like southern California using the water from the North. They need the water. We have become the beneficiaries of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. There is a proposed huge new Delta Project; Steve mentioned two thirty-seven mile tunnels bringing water to the area. The Project is controversial because who will pay the \$25 billion cost? Part of this project was on the ballot in 2010, but removed because it was too costly. Steve warned everyone to read up on the water issues and be cognizant of what it will cost taxpayers. The Water Companies need to be held accountable.

After Steve's presentation, we heard from Mark Harmsen. He extended Congressman Drier's

gratitude for support during his 16 terms. Mark also thanked Steve Scazillo for educating people in how to make the San Gabriel Valley a better place to live, "Government is successful when citizens are involved and find out information."

David Monroy from Senator Huff's office mentioned the increase of retirement age to 67 years for pensions, which will save a lot of funds. Brian Mejia related that Supervisor Antonovich is not in favor of giving driver's licenses to undocumented residents, because of the high costs of servicing them. Hovanes Gasparian gave a hand-out of all the bills introduced by Assemblyman Portantino. We received an update from Rodrigo Gonzalez stating that Metro Gold Line can FINALLY proceed with the extension; they have reached an agreement with the City of Monrovia and the property owner who had been holding everything up!

Lastly Mayor Gary Kovacic and Mayor Pro Tem Bob Harbicht gave updates. Bob mentioned an update on Arcadia's Water. They have two underground basins and years back, residents were asked to cut back on their use and they have, so Arcadia has been one of the few cities /areas that hasn't seen great hikes in water bills.

The forum was so informative and interesting, that the Arcadia Chamber should be commended. For any informative on upcoming Chamber events, please call 626-447-2159 or www.aracdiachamber.org.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

THIS WEEK IN MONROVIA: THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**Operation Safe Neighborhoods**

Tuesday night's Council meeting was really the Police Department's show. Chief Hunt made the annual presentation on the evaluation of the City's anti-gang injunction. This was the 2nd annual report and there has been relatively good news over this past year. Chief Hunt announced that Monrovia's crime levels were at an all-time low and that they had not received any complaints on the City's injunction program. He also recapped a few of the significant events from the City's Operation Safe Neighborhoods and Gang Task Force efforts. Some of these were:

The recognition of the Monrovia Police Department by the California Police Chiefs' Association as a finalist for the James Q. Wilson Excellence in Community Policing Award.

In January 2011, a Monrovia Nuevo Varrio gang member was arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon and violating the permanent gang injunction. The gang member was sentenced, and a request for probation was denied.

The Monrovia Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department were able to assist in securing a conviction of a gang member in February of this year.

The Graffiti Bounty program was confirmed successful this past year, and even resulted in capturing and the detainment of the individual who was responsible for as many as twenty-eight of the graffiti taggings. We will continue to pro-

mote awareness to the community about reporting graffiti.

Chief Hunt also gave an Update on AB109 Realignment. In 2011, the Governor signed Assembly Bill (AB) 109 that closed the revolving door of low-level inmates cycling in and out of state prisons. For Monrovia, this meant that our Police Department would heighten public awareness of those non-violent offenders being put back on the streets. Chief Hunt reported that since the enactment of AB109, there has been an uptick in vehicle and residential burglary. We will continue educating and promoting awareness in our community. We hope to encourage participation in neighborhood watch programs and encourage our residents to report suspicious activities.

For more information on Operation Safe Neighborhoods, please contact the Police Department at (626) 256-8000.

**YOUR AD
COULD BE
HERE
CALL PATRICIA
(626) 818-2698**

Monrovia Police Blotter

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 447 service events, resulting in 99 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping.

Grand Theft Auto

On March 6 at 7:36 a.m., officers were dispatched to the report of a stolen vehicle in the 1800 block of South Fifth Avenue. A female victim parked her silver, 2005 Dodge Stratus in front of her apartment complex on the street at approximately 8:00 p.m. The victim returned to her car the following morning and discovered the vehicle was missing. The vehicle was entered into the Stolen Vehicle System and the investigation is continuing.

Residential Burglary - Suspect Arrested

On March 6 at 5:51 p.m., a residential burglary was reported in the 900 block of West Colorado. The female resident had received a phone call from her friend/suspect while she was in the hospital. The friend told her the window of her house was open and that she should be more careful.

When she was released from the hospital on March 1, the victim went home and found her cell phone and some jewelry had been stolen. She called the number of her cell phone and a female friend who lives in San Diego answered. The victim asked her friend how she acquired the phone and was told her son obtained it from the suspect; the son also had the victim's jewelry. The victim subsequently confronted the suspect, who admitted he went into her home and took the items. The victim desires prosecution.

A wanted person was placed on the suspect by the investigating officer for burglary and receiving stolen property. On March 7, an officer was searching for the known suspect and located him on the city streets. The suspect was arrested and taken into custody. He admitted to taking the property to teach the victim a lesson for leaving her residence unlocked. The property was returned by the friend in San Diego to the victim. Additional property was also recovered, which was not related to this case. Investigation continuing.

Tip of the Week

Parent's Guide to Internet Safety From the FBI "Our children are our Nation's most valuable asset. They represent the bright future of our country and hold our hopes for a better Nation. Our children are also the most vulnerable members of society. Protecting our children against the fear of crime and from becoming victims of crime must be a national priority.

Unfortunately the same advances in computer and telecommunication technology that allow our children to reach out to new sources of knowledge and cultural experiences are also leaving them vulnerable to exploitation and harm by computer-sex offenders."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation offers parents an information packed Parent's Guide to Internet Safety. The guide offers tips on watching for behavior changes or indications that a child may be the target of online predators. Arm yourself with knowledge - be a part of your child's online life!

PUSD NEWSFLASH



At a special meeting on Tuesday, the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Board of Education authorized reduction in force notices for 78 teaching and administrative positions due to a deficit that could reach up to \$17 million for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. For information about PUSD's budget, documents, and more, visit www.pusdbudget.org

- Superintendent Jon R. Gundry announced the appointment of Michael Jason, Ph.D. as Executive Director of Special Education, filling a post critical to the execution of academic improvement strategies to raise achievement among students with special needs. Dr. Jason joins PUSD from the Monrovia Unified School District, where he has served as Director of Special Education since 2008. Visit here for more information.
- Pasadena High School's Boys Basketball 72-55 victory over South Torrance High School on Wednesday moves the Bulldogs to the second round of the CIF State Division III Championship playoffs. The number two seeded Bulldogs will play Bell High School at

PHS on Saturday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m.

- After months of meetings and community input, the PUSD Districting Task Force has developed a consensus map to create sub-regional districts to elect future school board members. Before it is completed and presented to the PUSD Board on March 27, the Task Force invites stakeholders to participate in its completion at a series of five meetings:

- o March 13, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Altadena Senior Center, 560 E. Mariposa St., Altadena
- o March 15, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Jackie Robinson Community Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena
- o March 17, 2012 at 12:00 p.m., Madison Elementary, 515 Ashtabula St. Pasadena
- o March 20, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1757 N. Lake, Pasadena
- o See the consensus map and demographic information at tww.districting-task-force.pasadenausd.org or send an email to pusdtaskforce@gmail.com or call 323-349-0661, ext. 18. Facebook: PUSD Taskforce and Twitter: @pusdtaskforce.

- PUSD announced that John Muir High School has named Muir alumnus and former National Football League player John L. Hardy as its varsity football coach. Mr. Hardy served as assistant head coach of the Mustang varsity football team last year and head coach of the school's junior varsity team from 2009-2011.

- Pasadena High School senior Ali Jakobczyk's banner design (left) won first place as PUSD's entry in the Bob Hope Airport's 2012 Tower Banner Student Art Contest. The winners were chosen from 148 entries among the Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena school districts. Designs by first place winners from each district will be displayed for 3 months on the airport's tower, with Jakobczyk's design scheduled for January-March 2013.

- More than 150 elementary and middle school students participated in the annual African American History Bee sponsored by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa's Gamma Lambda Chapter. In the elementary division, student teams from Sierra Madre won first place, Longfellow and Field tied for second, and Hamilton placed third. In the middle school competition, McKinley placed first with Eliot second and Wilson in third place.

- My Masterpieces invites families with children in PUSD's first grade to visit the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens free of charge on three upcoming Saturdays: March 24, April 21, and May 19. For more information contact Jennifer Olson at the Pasadena Educational Foundation, 626-396-3600 x88372.

- Donate a prom dress! PUSD's Families in Transition office is accepting donations of gift cards and new or gently used formal dresses for teen girls in need to attend from this spring. Gift cards should be of no more than \$20 from stores such as Target, Wal-Mart, DSW, JC Penney, Ross, Claire's, etc. The annual prom dress project is co-sponsored with the Salvation Army. For questions, to volunteer, or to make a donation, visit the Families in Transition office at PUSD, 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena or call 626.396.3600 ext. 88250. Donations accepted through March 23.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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. 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. Contact NSGT at (800) 572-6748 or by e-mail at 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.



WORDS

They are nothing but symbols that we call letters. Those letters create words that make sentences that become sentences that eventually evolve into poems and books. But these words have the power to evoke emotions and thoughts and inspire people to change their lives. But the craziest part is that when I read these words, I don't feel like I am reading, I feel like I am living the lives of the non-material beings. They exist only in my imagination, but I feel so connected to them, and when I leave a chapter or finish a book, I sometimes feel as though I have lost a part of myself.

So much of what I read or 'experience' impacts who I am as a person. Harry Potter showed me to stay true to myself until the end and not give up, the Hunger Games to stand for what I believe in, Walden to appreciate the beauty of life and nature and live deliberately, and so many others in so many ways. When we read, we tap into our subconscious and can't help but place ourselves in those situations, and from that we learn who we are as a person. It sounds cheesy but it's true. The books we choose to read have an impact on who we are as a person, just the same way as the clothes we wear and the music we listen to and the people we choose to associate ourselves with impact who we are. Words, nothing but sounds and symbols, yet they are an almost essential part of who we are as human beings.

LOCAL RESIDENTS MAKE THE DEAN'S LIST

Several local residents made the academic Dean's List at Azusa Pacific University. These students are honored for a fall semester 2011 academic standing of a 3.5 or better grade-point average. They are joined by more than 1,750 other students receiving the same honor.

Monrovia: Accounting Major Samuel L. Aluyon
Music Major J. Richard B. Carey
Political Science Major Amber E. Fields
Nursing Major Erika C. Mendez
English Major Amanda M. Piccari
Liberal Studies Major Grace Tungate

Pasadena : Nursing Major Elizabeth Aaron
Nursing Major Kristen N. Demeester
Nursing Major Jessica M. Enriquez
Liberal Studies Major Ellen Jorgensen
Journalism Major Jasmine C. Rodgers
Social Work Major Cielo Ruiz
Global Studies Major Jennifer B. Yackley

Sierra Madre: Nursing Major Caitlin A. Carlson
Liberal Studies Major Amanda K. Mowrey
Economics Major Christopher M. Siraganian
Liberal Studies Major Tiffani Trypucko

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E-mail address: agillick@alverno-hs.org

Arcadia High School

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

Barnhart School

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

Bethany Christian School

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

Carden of the Foothills School

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

The Gooden School

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

High Point Academy

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Pasadena, Ca. 91107 626-798-9899
website: www.highpointacademy.org

LaSalle High School

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

Mama Pete's Nursery School

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

website: www.mamapete.org

Monrovia High School

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

Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

Odyssey Charter School

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

Pasadena High School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

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

St. Rita Catholic School

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(626) 355-9028 website: www.st-rita.org

Sierra Madre Elementary School

141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
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Sierra Madre Middle School

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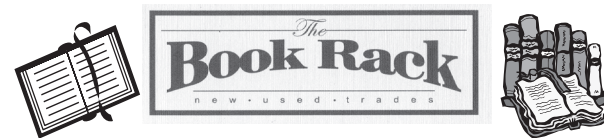
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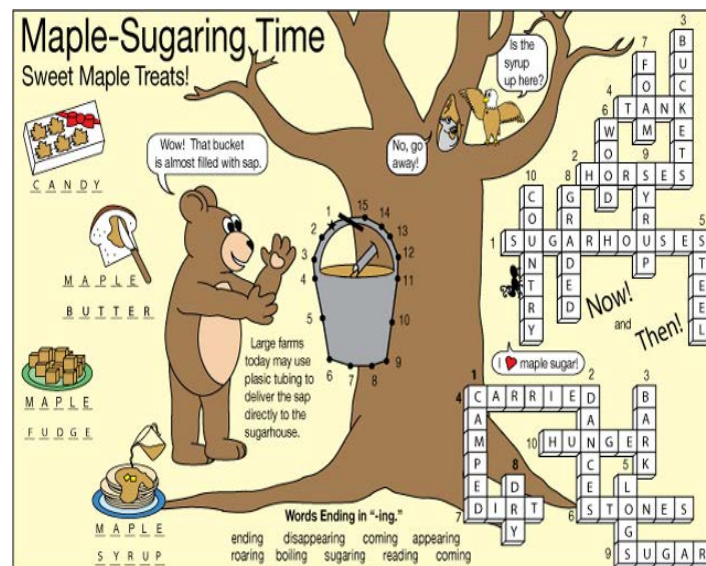


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KING CRAB

The Discovery Channel is full of great shows, and I turn to it when I have exhausted my usual programming, such as that critically acclaimed, The Chef Knows. One show that has increasingly captured my attention is "The Deadliest Catch?" I'm not moving from restaurant reviewer to TV Critic mind you, but there is something about the show that just keeps my interest. I have no idea who the stars are but it appears to me the treacherous weather is one of them. The entire show is dedicated to life threatening pursuit of catching Crabs off Alaska and the Russian Border, the Baltic Sea to be exact. The ships are equipped with every technical gadget in the business, but like so many things in life, it comes down to instinct and in this case it is the captain's instinct that directs the ship to fortune, failure or even death. Unlike the "Bachelor," here I don't have to wade through 10 episodes for the count or the discard, as nearly every episode they are pulling up Crabs in five minute intervals. Crew members battle the crippling Eskimo like conditions and sheer walls of mountainous sea to bring up a treasure chest of crabs that is as welcome as gold to the pirates of a distant age.

The season is brief so each mistake, each lost moment of time is magnified as the crew must force themselves through fatigue and lack of sleep to race against the ticking clock. Maybe I find a special delight in the show since I love King Crab but it is more, as the show turns my stomach in knots as I watch with childlike fear and anticipation as the crew of the boats challenge the harshest elements of nature. Here is a sample of the shows description.

"Relive the dangers, adventures and disasters of the original miniseries. Meet the salty sea captains and greenhorns who risk their lives on the job to earn part of a 90 million dollar King and Opilio Crab payoff. Set sail and learn all about crab fishing" Yea, that's the whole premise and I can't get enough of it!!! If they are willing to risk their lives for this, I feel obligated to support these courageous soldiers and their imprisoned catch? This week is dedicated to those crews and their delicious prisoners, so let's see where we can catch our own crab and not lose a life or wallet in the process.

King Crab Legs can be very expensive, so I suggest checking out Albertson's. Typically, they have a great selection at a very reasonable price. If you are a Costco member they have some of the freshest crab and some of the lowest prices anywhere. On sale you can expect to pay about (\$16.95) per pound. How about Crab Cakes? If done right they can be very tasty, but many restaurants do not use the traditional method or lack a quality in their crab cake to capture the heightened glory that this dish can achieve. The traditional method is done with Dungeness lump crab meat. Some places in our region are: **Cameron's Restaurant**, McCormick and Schmick's, and Ruth Chris'. For this crab lover though, the very best Crab Cake by far is at The Front Runner Restaurant located at the Santa Anita Race Track in Arcadia. There they use real lump crab meat with a light breaded cover. With this dish all those thoughts of slow horses disappear in a Heaven filled plate of Crab Cake. What's your favorite place for Crab Cakes? Send me an email to the chefknows@yahoo.com Join me every Sunday evening at 8 PM on KABC radio

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Websters Fine Stationary presents Real Irish- a Celebration of everything Celtic on March 9th, 2012.
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INGREDIENTS:

- 1-1/4 pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts, cubed
- 3 teaspoons canola oil, divided
- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 medium green pepper, chopped
- 1 medium sweet red pepper, chopped
- 2 portobello mushrooms (3 ounces each), chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2-3/4 cups hot water
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 package (8 ounces) red beans and rice mix
- 1 can (14-1/2 ounces) Hunt's® Original Diced Tomatoes, drained
- 1/3 cup shredded Asiago cheese

DIRECTIONS:

In a large nonstick skillet, brown chicken in 1 teaspoon oil over medium-high heat until no longer pink; remove and set aside. In the same skillet, saute the carrots, onion and peppers in remaining oil for 10 minutes. Add mushrooms and garlic; saute 1-2 minutes longer or until vegetables are tender. Stir in the water, beans and rice mix. Return chicken to the pan; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 30-35 minutes or until liquid is absorbed and rice is tender. Stir in tomatoes; heat through. Just before serving, sprinkle with cheese. Yield: 6 servings.

Editor's Note: This recipe was prepared with Zatarain's New Orleans-style red beans and rice.



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Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

I love to visit the island of Ireland. It is a beautiful, emerald green land surrounded by lovely ocean water, which makes it easy for me to travel all around it. I really like to visit on the holiday of St. Patrick so I can watch the celebrations.



The Christian holiday honoring the patron saint of Ireland is religious as well as fun. St. Patrick, who was not Irish, came to Ireland as a missionary to teach Christianity. He used the three-leaf shamrock as a symbol to explain how the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were 'three, yet one.' Each year, there is a day to remember St. Patrick and enjoy the customs and foods of the Irish. Many cities hold parades and many people wear green to join in the fun. Do you know any Irish folktales or songs?

I think talking dolphins might be real. After all I can talk!



Real or Not Real?
Circle "R" if it is real and "N" if it is not real.

1. shamrock	R	N
2. leprechaun	R	N
3. rainbow	R	N
4. Saint Patrick	R	N
5. corned beef	R	N
6. talking dolphin	R	N

Ireland is the island of the Irish! The Irish are well-known for many things called "Irish." Can you fill in this puzzle with some of them?

1. light, finely handwoven cloth used for collars, handkerchiefs
2. folks like lively jigs and reels
3. breed of large hunting dog; has long, silky, reddish-brown hair
4. mutton, potatoes, onions, other veggies
5. extinct species of deer; remains were found in Ireland (and Europe); they had antlers up to 11 feet from tip to tip. The "Irish" ____
6. leprechauns play a role in these
7. flies with three colors: green, white, orange (Republic of Ireland)
8. bishop named Patrick who taught Christianity
9. like the English kind, but with larger leaves
10. heavy lace with rose or leaf designs

folktales
music
setter
saint
ivy
linen
stew
crochet
flag
elk



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HOWARD Hays As I See It

"I thought this election was going to all be about the economy, but the economy started doing better, so Republicans went to Plan B - calling women whores."
- Bill Maher

The economy is improving and consumer confidence is growing. An A.P. survey shows economists predicting faster growth than they did two months ago, with unemployment expected to drop to 8% by Election Day. Consumer confidence is at a four-year high. The Hill reports influential Republicans are recommending a focus on Congressional races as prospects for the White House dim.

Accepting the futility of debating the issues, Republican operatives resort to tactics they've relied on in the past.

One is voter suppression. In 2000, Florida scrubbed black-sounding names from voter rolls and had state troopers manning roadblocks leading to minority community polling places. In 2004, Ohio Secretary of State Ken Blackwell said he'd go to jail rather than comply with an order to provide provisional ballots to those requesting them.

Republicans created the myth of "voter fraud" to rationalize I.D. requirements affecting students, the elderly and the poor. In Tennessee, Dorothy Cooper was denied a voter I.D. because she couldn't produce a marriage certificate. As a black woman, she said she'd never before had problems voting, even in decades prior to the 1964 Voting Rights Act. (Ms. Cooper is 96.)

Under new Ohio laws, WWII veteran Paul Carroll, 86, was denied a ballot because his Dept of Veterans Affairs photo ID didn't include an address. "I went to war for this country, but now I can't vote in this country."

Another tactic is diverting attention by inventing threats – coming from hippies and "Harvard intellectuals", "Welfare queens" and Latino immigrants, gays, gun-confiscators, the goddess and "union thugs". And when all else fails, the fall-back tactic is to make stuff up.

Today, the threat comes from women – those Rush Limbaugh describes as "overeducated". The made-up stuff was repeated by Bill O'Reilly for the Fox camera: "You want me to give you my hard-earned money so you can have sex?" (O'Reilly supports insurance coverage for Viagra.)

This isn't about sex or taxpayer money. It's about a chain of events begun when Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA) convened his House Oversight Committee to consider a ruling from the Dept. of Health and Human Services that contraception be included under preventive care offered by private insurance companies.

This isn't about science or women's health. At a hearing of the Energy and Commerce Committee, HHS Sec. Kathleen Sebelius referred to "scientists and doctors" when Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA) cut her off and set her straight: "Ma'am, we're not talking about scientists here, we're talking about religious belief."

Allowing employers at church-owned establishments to opt-out of providing certain coverage was not enough. Sen. Roy

Blunt (R-MO) proposed an amendment

that would allow any employer to refuse to provide any coverage for any service for any "moral reason"; whether that service is HIV/AIDS testing, prenatal care for single women, or vaccinations for children.

The Blunt Amendment failed on a 51-48 vote. Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) provided the only Republican vote against it, and then announced her retirement. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) told the Anchorage Daily News, "I have never had a vote I've taken where I have felt that I let down more people that believed in me." She explained that what began as an issue of "religious freedom" regressed into a battle over contraception. "The wind had shifted, and Republicans didn't have enough sense to get off of it."

Rep. Issa refused to allow testimony from a third-year Georgetown law student, deeming her "not appropriate or qualified". At a separate hearing called by House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Sandra Fluke told of a fellow law student who was denied coverage for prescribed contraception to treat polycystic ovary syndrome. A subsequent operation led to removal of an ovary, risking early menopause which would render her permanently incapable of becoming pregnant. Another was denied contraception to treat endometriosis, because existence of the condition could not be confirmed without surgery.

Fluke explained that although Georgetown has an exception for medical necessity, "when you let university administrators or other employers, rather than women and their doctors, dictate whose medical needs are legitimate and whose are not, women's health takes a back seat to a bureaucracy focused on policing her body."

Rush Limbaugh had his own take: "She wants to be paid to have sex. She's having so much sex she can't afford the contraception. She wants you and me and the taxpayers to pay her to have sex."

Fluke responded, "... this is historically the kind of language that is used to silence women, especially when women stand up and say that these are their reproductive health care needs."

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) termed the language "inappropriate". George Will responded to Boehner's response, "Using the salad fork for your entrée, that's inappropriate. Not this stuff . . . what it indicates is that the Republican leaders are afraid of Rush Limbaugh. They want to bomb Iran, but they're afraid of Rush Limbaugh."

As one of dozens of advertisers severing their relationship with Limbaugh, Carbonite CEO David Friend issued a statement, "No one with daughters the age of Sandra Fluke, and I have two, could possibly abide the insult and abuse heaped upon this courageous and well-intentioned young lady. Mr. Limbaugh, with his highly personal attacks on Miss Fluke, overstepped any reasonable bounds of decency."

As another father thinking of his two daughters, President Obama called Fluke to offer his support.

"I thought about Malia and Sasha, and one of the things I want them to do as they get older is to engage in issues they care about..."

As for the coming election, "Women will make up their own mind". But as the other side relies on name-calling, voter suppression, invented threats and simply making stuff up, they'll agree with the president that "Democrats have a better story to tell women."

IT'S ABOUT OUR FREEDOM GREG Welborn

Last week, I offered 7 specific issues on which all of the Republican candidates could agree. Even in the micro, there is amazing continuity in the conservative's sometimes squabbling camp. But let's step back a bit further and look at the macro issue that will most likely decide this election. To borrow a phrase, originated by Clinton strategist, James Carville, to explain the main driver of the 1992 election, "it's about freedom, stupid".

The Republican candidate who really gets this is Rick Santorum. Say what you may about him, but he understands the big picture in this election. If you listen to any of his campaign speeches – rather than the caricature of them so often reported in the press- he doesn't take long to start talking about the freedoms we're losing under President Obama and those that will disappear should he win re-election.

The list starts with regulation and the typical over-reach characteristic of so many government bureaucrats. Business people in the audience can always give ample personal anecdotes about the vast increase in regs with which they have to deal just to stay in business – let alone to open a new plant, launch a new product or hire more people. But the rubber really meets the road when the topic turns to Obamacare.

It is in Obama's one signature legislative accomplishment, and the interpretations of the bill which are being released almost daily, that Americans can most clearly see the vision of increased government control and reduced personal freedoms which is reflexive in the character and personality of this president and all his followers.

It has almost become an overworked argument that Obamacare is going to interrupt the normal personal relationship between doctor and patient. Nonetheless it's true! In addition, though, Obamacare is going to create a culture of dependence in this country that we can't even imagine. If fully implemented, every single American will become dependent on government. One way or the other, every American will have to rely on the government to pay their medical bill and thus define what procedures they can have.

Of even greater concern should be the restrictions that Obama seeks to impose on arguably our most primary and important freedom – the freedom to practice religion as each of us interprets our own sacred scriptures. Last month's dust-up over Obamacare requirements that the Catholic Church pay for contraception and abortion-inducing drugs could have been written off as the missteps of a naïve and over zealous underling. That is except for the fact that Obama himself reiterated to the Catholic Bishops last Friday that no loosening of the mandate's exemptions would be allowed.



As Cardinal Timothy Dolan wrote in his open letter on religious freedom, "we have made it clear in no uncertain terms to the government that we are not at peace with its invasive attempt to curtail religious freedom" and its attempt "to define what constitutes ministry and how it can be exercised". It's a pity that the leaders of other faiths and denominations have not signed on to this letter, vocally supported it, or penned their own version.

Can they really be so clueless as to not remember the lessons of the past. Those who seek to curtail the individual freedoms of their citizenry always start with the sub group who they believe is least in favor with the public. Then they move on to other groups until the whole of a population has been brought to heel. To put it in simpler terms, power given to government when Liberals are in power remains power given to government when Conservatives are in power. All Americans – liberal or conservative, religious or secular - should understand what's disappearing right before our eyes. It's our freedoms.

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@mtviewsnews.com.



Independent's Eye by RUSH'S FLUKE CONTROVERSY WAS NO FLUKE JOE Gandelman



The controversy over talk show king Rush Limbaugh's sexually-insulting and innuendo-filled three day rant against Georgetown University law student Sandra Fluke for her advocacy of health plan coverage for contraceptives was....no fluke.

Limbaugh is the 21st century's most powerful talk show host. He spawned Rush wannabes on local talk radio stations who can't duplicate Limbaugh's success since they don't have his broadcasting smarts and talent. He became the Republican Party's de facto strategist after Senator John McCain's 2008 Presidential defeat, and the GOP has increasingly merged its brand into his.

Now, as Limbaugh loses sponsors and some radio stations, the GOP brand is likely to take a hit with women voters due to its leaders' timidity in denouncing Limbaugh's abusive and creepy comments about Fluke. Conservative columnist George Will flatly said: "Republican leaders are afraid of Rush Limbaugh. They want to bomb Iran, but they're afraid of Rush Limbaugh."

It was always perilous for a political party to be so closely linked to a talk show host. Political parties must aggregate interests and build coalitions. Talk show hosts must saw off a specific demographic and deliver it to advertisers. These two goals don't necessarily converge. But Limbaugh wasn't always a demonizer and polarizer.

When he went national in 1988, Limbaugh was truly funny. He sparked one controversy by talking about women "farding (putting on makeup) in cars." He blasted then President George H. W. Bush, but once Bush invited him to sleep over in the Lincoln Bedroom, Limbaugh turned more supportive and serious. His show evolved into the Republican Party's most important town hall where Limbaugh's partisan perspective is heard and later repeated by listeners at dinner tables and on conservative weblogs. He successfully pushes hot buttons to motivate the GOP's base to get out and vote.

Limbaugh's defenders liken what he did to Fluke with liberal talker Ed Shultz calling conservative Laura Ingraham a "bitch" in May. It's a phony comparison. Schultz gave an unconditional apology, called Ingraham

to apologize and took time off without pay, then moved totally on. After the first day's controversy, Limbaugh continued and escalated it for two more days. It was like he was saying, "I can say whatever I want any way I want and you can't stop me!" He faced no consequences -- until some advertisers started to flee.

Limbaugh's first apology on his website seemed somewhat conditional. And once he got on the air again it continued to seem that way. He suggested the controversy was only over "two words." (It was over more than that). And he said he erred by descending to the left's level. (The left made him do it.)

In the space of a week Limbaugh went from being a de facto symbol of the 2012 Republican Party to being pointed to by critics as the embodiment of the late 20th century's phrase: "male chauvinist pig."

Loyal conservative bloggers vilified Fluke by making suggestions about her sex life that will make some libel lawyer drool. Some bloggers are scrambling to find things to discredit her, but any findings can't negate Limbaugh's three-day attack. Others are blasting companies that pulled ads from Limbaugh, trying to discredit them.

Limbaugh committed the same sin as the late Senator Joseph McCarthy of not knowing when to stop. Joseph Welch had this line that many feel deflated McCarthy: "You've done enough. Have you no sense of decency?" In Limbaugh's case, the key quote came from Carbonite's CEO David Friend in announcing that his company would pull ads from Limbaugh's show:

"No one with daughters the age of Sandra Fluke, and I have two, could possibly abide the insult and abuse heaped upon this courageous and well-intentioned young lady. Mr. Limbaugh, with his highly personal attacks on Miss Fluke, overstepped any reasonable bounds of decency. Even though Mr. Limbaugh has now issued an apology, we have nonetheless decided to withdraw our advertising from his show. We hope that our action, along with other advertisers who have already withdrawn their ads, will ultimately contribute to a more civilized public discourse."

Mr. Friend, may I use the word? Ditto...

Joe Gandelman is a veteran journalist who wrote for newspapers overseas and in the United States. He has appeared on cable news show political panels and is Editor-in-Chief of The Moderate Voice, an Internet hub for independents, centrists and moderates.

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee,



WOMEN & BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

Business ownership remains as one of the most viable options for women to achieve economic and professional equality in the U.S. Despite decades of gains across a wide landscape of industries and occupations, the masses of gender-majority women in the U.S. are clearly in the gender-minority when it comes to the highest paid and most prestigious positions in corporate America. Although women comprise 46.7% of the workforce and almost 52% work in management or professional positions, the following statistics describe the Fortune 500 business environment for women. (www.catalyst.org, March 2012)

Women account for:

- 14.1% of all high-level executive positions
- 16.1% of all board seats
- 7.5% of top earners
- 3.4% of CEOs

This may explain why more women than ever are deciding that its time to strike out on their own as entrepreneurs. For those who aspire to create their own statistics, the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership (OWBO) is a great resource. Established by a federal executive order in 1979, the OWBO provides a variety of services and referrals through a network of Women's Business Centers (WBC) located throughout the United States and its territories.

Each WBC offers comprehensive training and counseling on a variety of topics, with services tailored to the needs of the respective community. The program offers services in four main areas: Training and Counseling, Financial Resources, Federal Market Opportunities and Local SBA Resources.

Training is offered in marketing, finance, management, the use of the internet for business and other areas. The WBC is a point of access to learn about all the SBA's program for loans programs and to get information and assistance with getting contracts to provide goods and services to the federal government. This is of paramount importance since the federal government has a goal of expanding business opportunities to have a minimum of 5% of all contracts with women-owned businesses.

The survival rate for businesses that have received assistance from WBC's is substantially higher than that for businesses that launch and operate without this type of support.

Visit the SBA's WBC homepage at: <http://www.sba.gov/about-offices-content/1/2895>

WBC's are located in most U.S. states, and there are three in the Greater LA area, including two in the City of Los Angeles and one in San Bernardino. Contact info is provided below. Visit their websites to review their offering of programs and schedules for upcoming events.

Inland Empire Women's Business Center at The Foundation for Cal State University San Bernardino. Phone: 909-890-1242 - Website: www.iewbc.org

Asian Pacific Islander Small Business Program WBC. Phone: 213-473-1605 Website: <http://www.apisbp.org/wbc.html>

PACE Women's Business Center. Pacific Asian Consortium Employment. Phone: 213-353-9400 Website: http://www.pacelabdc.org/Womens_Business_Center.php

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Mountain Views News Mission Statement

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

HAIL Hamilton My Turn



AMERICA IS NOT A CHRISTIAN NATION!

It annoys the hell out of me every time I hear the claim that America is a "Christian nation." And I am not just referencing this to America since I am equally miffed by statements about any nation being a one-religion nation--or be it a Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, or Buddhist nation. A theocracy is the antithesis of democracy--They just don't mix!

Religious zealots love to trot out the 'Christian Nation' line. They use the expression to try and prop up support for their lame ideas, and they try to imply that being a supposedly Christian nation gives them justification for imposing chaplains upon school kids, funding catholic youth day, Presidential Prayer Breakfasts, etc.

To me it is a meaningless concept and not only meaningless but also demonstrably untrue. So I would like to give an analogy to show why I think it is a silly idea:

Suppose I have a box of fruit. Most of the contents is apples, but there are a reasonable number of oranges, and some pears etc. It would clearly be incorrect to describe this as a box of apples. I could describe it as a box which consists predominantly of apples. Or even more accurately as a box consisting of a mixture of apples, oranges and pears. But under no circumstances would it be correct to simply refer to it as a box of apples.

So why do Christians think it is acceptable to label a country consisting of many different religions, and of course atheists, as a Christian nation? To label America as a Christian nation when most probably 40% or more are not Christian is inappropriate.

Christians may defend such a statement by saying it refers to a country founded on Christian values (conveniently putting aside such notions as stoning to death for cursing your parents). Admittedly America does have a significant Christian background. Historically Christianity has been the dominant religion, and in times gone by the church had far more power than it has today.

Had another religion dominated then America would most likely have a somewhat

different culture, for example, sharia law may be present in this country if Islam was the dominant religion historically. So it would be silly to deny a Christian influence, but such an influence has waned and is no longer relevant in our modern society.

With only 23% going to church regularly we can see that the influence of Christianity is becoming a thing of the past, except in the eyes of the devout Christians and some American politicians pandering to the Christian Right.

Let me make another analogy to illustrate another of my objections to the "Christian nation" concept.

America is a white dominated country, but obviously there are many people of different races living here. Most people would regard it as racially offensive to label America as a "white nation".

So if it is offensive to label Americans as a "white nation" because it ignores the significant presence of various other races then why is it regarded as acceptable to label America as a "Christian nation" and offend atheists and other religious groups? And it makes no more sense to call America a Christian nation than it would to call America a "heterosexual nation" just because there are fewer homosexuals.

A country is a collection of individuals, and while a country may have characteristics (such as 'sport loving') trying to lump us all into a single category is crazy. Even saying America is a country which is predominantly Christian (according to the last census) would be to miss the point that religion is NOT a dominant force in the lives of the majority of Americans.

So to all you Christians zealots out there I say: wanting America to be a Christian nation does not make it so. So stop labeling all Americans as part of your deluded belief system and accept that you no longer have things your own way.

America is NOT a Christian nation and was never intended to be one by our Founding fathers. Thomas Jefferson, a product of the Enlightenment, the author of the Declaration of Independence, and an outspoken Deist, disdained Christianity. He said: "There is not one redeeming feature in our superstition of Christianity. It has made half the world fools, and the other half hypocrites."

OUT TO PASTOR A Weekly Religion Column



KEEPING CLOSE TABS ON MY INVESTMENTS

I find it quite amusing that some of the brightest and richest people in our country do not seem to have a clue as to what they are doing. Most do not have the common sense that God gave to a caterpillar. As Abraham Lincoln used to say, common sense is not as common as it used to be. Amen, to that one.

The financial experts are telling us that we need to buy gold or silver to safeguard our investments. I am way ahead of the game. Several years ago, I got a gold tooth. Fortunately, for me, I got it before the financial crisis in our country. I cannot tell you what a remarkable feeling it is to walk around with your fortune in your mouth.

I hear about all of the investment schemes that are supposed to make me rich. I have a sneaking suspicion that the only people getting rich are those with the investment schemes. They want us to buy stocks and bonds and futures. I never heard of anything so silly in all my life.

What would I do with stocks, bonds and futures, whatever in the world they are, in my portfolio. I have no idea what a portfolio is but I am certain it has something to do with these investment schemes. I just do not want anybody folioing around with my port, thank you very much, sir.

If I got my facts right, and I looked it up in the dictionary, port has something to do with wine. Why would I want to put a bottle of port into my folio and pretend it is some kind of an investment?

I really have to give it to these investment schemers. They really know how to pull the wool over our eyes. I want to go on record as saying that they are not pulling any wool over my eyes. Just leave my wool alone. If I want my wool pulled, it certainly will not be over my eyes, I will tell you that right here. This wool pulling sounds more like sheep fleeing to me, and I want nothing to do with it.

For me I have discovered a way of safeguarding my wealth. My basic financial philosophy is simply spend less than I make. I know that is a revolutionary concept in today's world, but it has stood me in good stead for many a year.

We live in a culture that has absolutely no spending control whatsoever. This culture does not know the relationship between saving money and spending money.

For example. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came home the other day and in a very exuberant tone told me how much she saved at the grocery store. "I saved \$119.23 today at the grocery store. Isn't that terrific?"

Being the humble, demure sort of guy that I am, I did not ask her a question that was buzzing around my head at the time. The question

was, how much did it cost me to save you that much money?

Having a happy home is more important to me than exploring truth at its core. Especially in this area.

My financial strategy down through the years has been a very regular and wise investment plan. I am not quite sure how I came up with this marvelous plan, but one day it just hit me. Ever since that time, I have been using my financial investment plan.

My investment plan only cost me \$19.79 back in the year of our Lord 1986. Since that time, it has faithfully served me and I have no complaints. I have through the years thought about upgrading my investment plan, but then what would the purpose be?

Back in 1986, I saw in the men's department of the JCPenney store in our community a very nicely tailored navy blue and gold striped gentleman's vest. It immediately caught my attention and as I examined it, I noticed that inside this vest was a variety of pockets. I looked at them and that is when it hit me.

Down through the years I have often wondered why somebody else did not come up with this idea. I guess I am just a genius.

I bought the vest and brought it home and hung it in my closet after I first labeled each of the inside pockets. There was a pocket for dollar bills, one for five-dollar bills, one for ten-dollar bills and one that I do not use as often for \$20 bills. Every time I have a little bit of change left over I go to my closet turned to my best and invest that money where nobody can find it.

My investment plan is more or less an in and out exchange program. When I have a need, I sometimes divest some money. Through the years, it has been a great blessing in my investment plan and is something that I am rather proud of.

Solomon put it in great perspective concerning wealth when he said, "Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain" (Proverbs 30:8-9 KJV).

My investment plan is well buttoned up for future security.

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 james-snyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE WE AREN'T GOING TO GET ANY STRONGER



One of my oldest friends in the world died last week and the Rabbi conducting the services called on me to be the first one to speak at the funeral. There had been a message the night before requesting that a written speech be submitted, which the Rabbi would review to be sure there were few duplications or something. I really didn't understand the purpose of the writing, but I reluctantly wrote some paragraphs and e-mailed them to the Rabbi.

Prior to calling on me to speak the Rabbi spoke and, it seemed to me, had basically given my speech. I realized that he had probably never met my deceased friend and perhaps had used my writing gain a sense of who my friends was. It's all understandable, but I felt kind of naked and used. What was I going to say? I wish I could tell you what I said, but I really don't remember much of it. I know I was tearing but I had the feeling that most of my emotion was stuck inside me and not being communicated to the audience.

Maybe I was thinking too much about me and not enough about my friend. Really, I didn't want to think about my friend. He was now gone and the last months had been pretty horrible as his body was bloated by medications and he had lost most of his mental facility-but this person and I had grown up together. We met in junior High School and went to High School, College, and Law School together. He brought me notes from class while I was hospitalized in College, he let me use his apartment in Law School as a place for my secret girl friend and I to be alone. After Law School we travelled the Country together and attended our respective weddings. After our divorces we both became single parents and travelled around with our kids. He helped to conduct my next wedding to my present wife.

Right before we knew anything was wrong he was staying with my wife and me and we went out to play golf. He had been my golfing mentor and was always better than me, but that doesn't really say much. On this particular day he had real trouble teeing up the ball. It wouldn't stay balanced on the tee. The next day he stepped on his computer and lost his cell phone. We, mainly my wife as

I recall, prevailed upon him to go to a doctor. He was operated on the next week and a brain tumor was located. The news was not good, and there were four more operations as and his daughter travelled around the Country hoping he could be cured. Last year my son and I took him from the hospital to my mother's funeral and then to the memorial at my sister's house. I was glad he was there and other than a slight limp and a little befuddlement he seemed mainly like his old self.

The next day he went home from the hospital but soon there was a seizure and a couple of more operations. He travelled to Europe with his daughter and her husband but things got worse, and now he's gone. At the funeral I was one of nine pall-bearers who carried the casket from the hearse to the grave. Before we pulled the casket from the car the funeral director asked, "Who has a strong back?" No one spoke up and eventually someone said, "We aren't going to get any stronger. Let's do this." We nine white haired-old men carried the casket to the grave. As I returned to my wife, son, and friends my son was crying. I tried to comfort him and later asked my friends if they knew what particularly had caused him to break up. My friend's wife said, "I think it was because you all looked so old." Who knows? We are old and my friend was gone. Really, we aren't going to get any stronger or any younger. So what is there left to do or to say in this life?

My only way of living consists of just telling others how I see daily life. My aim in this and all my other articles is to share the truths that come to me as I, along with everyone else, struggle along trying to make the best of things. No, I am not getting any stronger or any younger, but I hope maybe a little wiser. This life that I have lived and shared with my family and friends is uniquely my own - and yet it is all of ours. My generation had the best of intentions and now we look around and wonder if we had made mistakes. What has happened to the world and to our values? Are we about to enter other wars and watch the destruction of our whole planet? I like to think that if we lasted this long we must be doing something right and the best thing we can each do is to share that sense of right with everyone else so "Let's do this".

RICH Johnson ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Saturday the 17th of March is St. Patrick's Day. The first St. Patrick's Day Parade was held March 17, 1783 in Dublin (of course). Interestingly the celebration appealed to both the Roman Catholic and Irish Protestants in Ireland. One of the big reasons to celebrate the holiday was it was made an official "feast day" which permitted lifting the Lenten restriction of eating and drinking alcohol. St. Patrick's Day is not a legal holiday in the U.S. but it is well celebrated with a mix of displays of the color green, feasting, drinking of alcohol, numerous parades and religious observances.

According to legend, St. Patrick drove what reptile from Ireland? Snakes. Ireland never had snakes cause they don't like the cold and, oh yeah, they can't swim well. By the way, there are also no snakes in New Zealand and Hawaii.

What sugary breakfast cereal features a dancing leprechaun who claims his cereal is "magically delicious?" Lucky Charms.

What are the colors in the Irish flag? Green, white and orange. The green represents the Gaelic tradition of Ireland; the orange represents the followers of William of Orange; and the white represents the truce between the two.

Name a college sports team with the name "Irish" in it. Fighting Irish (Notre Dame) The team had also been given the nicknames "Rovers" and "Ramblers." "Fighting Irish" became the official name in 1927.

Where is the biggest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the world? New York. 150,000 marchers travel the 1.5 mile parade route in New York City. 20 major cities in the U.S. have parades on St. Patrick's Day.

What does "Erin Go Braugh" mean? Ireland forever.

What is the name of the Irish

Gryffindor student in the Harry Potter series? (Hint: He attends the Yule Ball with Lavender Brown). Seamus Finnigan.

What happens when you "Kiss the blarney stone?" The gift of eloquence or skill at flattery.

Almost 25% of people from what state are descended from Irish immigrants? Massachusetts.

What happens to a leprechaun if you look away? The leprechaun will disappear.

Several sports teams adopt special St. Patrick's Day jerseys. These teams include in baseball, the Los Angeles Dodgers, Detroit Tigers and Philadelphia Phillies (all done during spring training). Basketball teams that have "third" jerseys exclusively for St. Patrick's Day include the Boston Celtics, Chicago Bulls, Toronto Raptors and the New York Knicks.

What it means to be Irish:

You will never play professional basketball.

At least one of your cousins is a firefighter, cop, bar owner, funeral home owner or holds political office.

You think you sing very well.

You have no idea how to make a long story short.

Much of your childhood meals were boiled.

You never hit your head on the ceiling.

You're strangely poetic after a few beers.

You will be punched for no good reason...a lot.

Many of your sisters and/or cousins are named Mary, Catherine or Eileen. At least one is named Mary Catherine Eileen.

Someone in your family is incredibly cheap. It is more likely you.

You may not know the words but that won't stop you from singing.

There is not a huge difference between your last Wake and your last keg party.

And finally, why did God invent whiskey? To keep the Irish from ruling the world. So, from the 15% or so representing my Irish Ancestry, Happy St. Patty's Day.



SOFT SWELLS

Review by Sean Kayden

Newbies Soft Swells pour their sorrowed heart and soul into a summer induced album in the midst of a winter season. The poppy rock duo evokes youthfulness that's becoming more and more ubiquitous with today's emerging indie acts. Tim Williams and Matt Welsh have a proclivity for creating laidback, pleasing to the ears, accessible tunes. However, their self-titled debut record offers little differences to comparable acts. While the songs here are all relatively sweet and simple, the pot of gold you may be looking for at the end of the rainbow has already been looted. In other words, the cutesy approach of Soft Swells wears out its welcome a bit too quick. The package here is perfectly put together, but the gift inside is something you'll either have little use for or already own.

Maybe I've become slightly jaded over time because if Soft Swells released this album years ago, I may have more love for it. Unfortunately, that's not the case because the band sounds like "Foster The People" meets "Young The Giant." Sure, those are two successful bands of the past year, but an album such as this one merely feels trapped within the shadows of those now heavy hitters. Lately, debut records such as this one feel like a dime a dozen. Despite the glaring familiarity, Soft Swells do assemble a few commendable songs. "Say It Like You Mean It" (an incredibly overused title for songs) offers a chilled out melody with contagious guitar riffs. It's a fun, but a harmless track. Nothing special to report here that hasn't already been said before on such a tune. "Don't Cut It Off," both lyrically and musically, reminds me of "Taking Back Sunday" circa 2009. While I enjoyed the song to a certain degree, it did appear considerably dated. I was purely captivated by what the song reminded me of rather than what it was trying to aim for in 2012. "Never Leave Home" is sung in such a plaintive manner. It easily becomes the sole highlight of a record that has a mixed bag of expendable treats. When Soft Swells show off their soft side, it's actually quite satisfying. More of these songs are found in the later half of the record. If it's any consolation, the second half of Soft Swells' debut is fairly better than the first half. In a rare case, I almost wish Soft Swells released an EP with the last few songs rather an LP with too much filler in the beginning.

The closing song, "Decisions" shows an empathetic side to the duo that's both endearing and welcoming. If the direction of the album's sound palette were more like this song, then maybe Soft Swells would be worthy of a closer look. Regrettably it's not. It leads us to deciding or not if our time should be invested in such an album that has some strong points, but the derivative style is difficult to ignore. It really boils down to a toss up. Maybe fans of the pop-rock sound mixed with considerable earnestness will find something I didn't. All I know is, Soft Swells takes bits and pieces from other bands I already support and attempt to make an album all of their own. They come up short, but there is still a chance that Soft Swells can head down a road less traveled next time around.

Key Tracks: "Never Leave Home", "Make It Go Away", "Decisions"
Grade: 6.7 out of 10

CROWN CITY SYMPHONY PRESENTS LINDAY DEUTSCH

On Saturday, March 17, 2 PM at the Altadena Senior Center, 560 E. Mariposa, and 2 pm, Sunday, March 18 at the First Baptist Church of Pasadena, 75 N. Marengo, the symphony will present soloist is Lindsay Deutsch. She will perform the Khachaturian Violin Concert.

Lindsay has been soloist with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, The Colorado Symphony, and numerous other symphonies across the United States. As a recitalist, she has played for the Da Camera Society in Los Angeles and the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago.

The 55 piece symphony under the baton of Marvin Neumann, will also perform "Prometheus Overture: by Beethoven, and "L'Arlesienne Suite #2" by Bizet.

Both concerts are free and there is validated parking for the Sunday concert at the stacked parking on Holly

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-030808 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MOUNTAIN TRAIL RECORDS, 371 N MOUNTAIN TRAIL AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ARTHUR MORENO JR., 950 TERRACE 49, L.A., CA 90042, MARIO THOMPSON, 4708 TEESDALE AVE., STUDIO CITY, CA 91604. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: ARTHUR MORENO JR. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 02/24/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: March 03, 10, 17, 24, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-022665 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MOUNTAIN TRAIL RECORDS, 371 N MOUNTAIN TRAIL AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JEAN SUDBURY 371 N. MOUNTAIN TRAIL AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JEAN SUDBURY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 02/08/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: March 03, 10, 17, 24, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2012-030823 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: UNTIE MEL FAMILY CHILDCARE, 11162 GONSAIVES PL., CERRITOS, CA 90703. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SHERMAL JEFFERSON, 11162 GONSAIVES PL., CERRITOS, CA 90703. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SHERMAL JEFFERSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 02/24/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 06/18/2006. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: March 03, 10, 17, 24, 2012

EXIT SMILING

Pasadena Christian Center Theatre will present Exit Smiling, a “poignant farce” by Sandy Boikian. The play centers on the director of an amateur acting troupe who recalls past stage disasters as she awaits medical test results and decides to stage one final masterpiece. Critics called this production “Broadway-caliber!” and “A must-see if you need a good laugh and to be uplifted.”

Performances are March 16, 17, 22, 23, 24 at 7:30 pm, and March 18 & 25 at 4:00 pm. Admission is \$10. Tickets go on sale 30 minutes prior to each performance.

The theatre is located at 2588 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, 91107. Free parking is available ¼ block southwest in the lot on Virginia, as well as on the street.

For further details, please visit www.pasadenachristian.com.



ADAMS' PACK STATION

(Chantry Flat, Angeles National Forest)

2012 Live Music Events

Beginning April 22nd and continuing on the 3rd Sunday of each Month through October. We are looking for musicians who would like to play in this unique atmosphere on the following dates: 4/22, 5/20, 6/17, 8/19, 9/16 and 10/21. Please see the list of current openings and schedule. If you would like to play, email Deb Burgess (dburgess@adamspackstation.com) With your preferred date and time slot. www.adamspackstation.com

4/22/2012	12:00-5:00 76 TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY		4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30 12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30 12:00-5:30	
	12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30	45 Fingers		
5/20/2012	12:00-5:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00	John Zipperer (www.johnzipperer.com)		
			12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00 5:00-5:30 12:00-2:00 2:00-4:00 4:00-5:00	Lisa Turner & Friends (www.lisasongs.com) Bryan Chan John Zipperer

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

City of Sierra Madre

ORDINANCE NO. 13-28

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE AMENDING CHAPTER 6.04 (“ANIMAL CONTROL”) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 6.04.080 (“USER FEE FOR AREAS DESIGNATED AS DOG PARKS”) AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 6.04.090 (“PROHIBITING DOGS ON DESIGNATED PLAYING FIELDS”)

WHEREAS, the City’s playing fields are limited and valuable public facilities for the recreational use and enjoyment of citizens of all ages and for organized ball clubs, such as the Sierra Madre Pony League, Sierra Madre Little League, and Sierra Madre Girls Softball Association;

WHEREAS, in the past when dogs have been permitted on the playing fields, whether on or off leash, field damage has resulted from some dogs digging, as well as un-removed dog feces and urine, all of which pose a health and safety hazard to the youth who participate in baseball and other games;

WHEREAS, there are other more appropriate venues than playing fields for citizens to exercise their dogs, such as designated dog parks;

WHEREAS, the City desires to preserve its playing fields for the use and benefit of all its citizens, while still permitting citizens and their canine companions to enjoy the use of designated dog parks; and

NOW THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Municipal Code Amendment. Section 6.04.080 (“User Fee For Areas Designated As Dog Parks”) of Chapter 6.04 (“Animal Control”) of Title 6 (“Animals”) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code is amended to read as follows: “6.04.080 User fee for areas designated as dog parks.

A. Use of any area designated by the city council as a dog park for off-leash exercise of dogs is subject to the payment of a user fee. The amount of said user fee shall be set by resolution of the city council.

- a. The following areas are designated as dog parks for off-leash exercise of dogs, subject to the requirements of this section::
- The Sierra Vista Park small dog park;
 - The Sierra Vista Park large dog park;

B. The Director of Finance is authorized to adopt such administrative regulations that are necessary to facilitate the payment of said user fee. Such regulations shall require that prior to issuance of evidence of payment of the user fee, the applicant shall sign a waiver of liability approved by the City Attorney and agree to be bound by the “Official Rules of Use for Dog Parks” as approved and amended from time to time by the Community Services Commission. The presence of a dog in a designated dog off-leash area shall constitute a waiver of liability, on behalf of the person either owning or controlling the dog, to the City of Sierra Madre, as well as an agreement and undertaking to protect, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City of Sierra Madre for any injury or damage caused by the dog.

C. Upon satisfying the requirements of subsection B of this section and any other administrative regulations adopted by the Director of Finance, the payer of the user fee shall be provided with evidence of payment or waiver of payment of the user fee. Said evidence of payment or waiver of payment must be shown upon demand to any city official.

D. Persons who have obtained the age of sixty-five years may receive a waiver of payment of the user fee specified in subsection A of this section, but must still sign a waiver of liability as specified in subsection B prior to use of the dog park for off-leash exercise of a dog.

E. It shall be a violation of this Municipal Code to use any area, designated as a dog park or permit a dog entry to said areas without first paying the user fee required by this section.

F. Any person who takes a dog into an off-leash area must have physical control of the dog by means of an adequate leash when entering and leaving the off-leash area and must maintain voice control over the dog at all times while in the off-leash area. All dogs in an off-leash area must be licensed and must display valid license tags attached to the dog collar.

G. Any violation of this section shall be processed as a violation of this code.

Section 2. Municipal Code Amendment. Chapter 6.04 (“Animal Control”) of Title 6 (“Animals”) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding a new Section 6.04.090 (“Dogs Prohibited on Designated Playing Fields”) to read as follows:

6.04.090 Dogs Prohibited on designated playing fields. Except seeing eye or other certified service dogs on leash or dogs used by public law enforcement agencies, no person owning, having a proprietary interest in, harboring or having the care, charge, control, custody or possession of a dog shall permit such dog to be upon any designated playing field grounds, regardless of whether the dog is on or off leash. Designated playing fields include:

- Dapper Field
- Heasley Field, including the t-ball field

Section 3. California Environmental Quality Act. This ordinance qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under Section 15061 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a code text amendment is not a project and it can be seen with certainty that it will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Section 4. Severability: Continuation of Provisions. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance or the rules adopted hereby. The City Council of the City of Sierra Madre hereby declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases hereof be declared invalid or unenforceable. To the extent the provisions of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code as amended by this Ordinance are substantially the same as the provisions of that Code as they read immediately prior to the adoption of this Ordinance, then those provisions shall be construed as continuations of the earlier provisions and not as new enactments.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its passage and adoption pursuant to California Government Code section 36937.

Section 6. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published according to law.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of February, 2012.

Ayes: Buchanan, Moran, MacGillivray, Walsh

City of Sierra Madre

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

From: The City of Sierra Madre
Subject: MUNICIPAL CODE TEXT AMENDMENT 11-05 (MCTA 11-05)
Applicant: City of Sierra Madre
Project Location: Properties in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider recommending adoption of a text amendment to Chapter 17.82 of the Municipal Code to allow adaptive reuse of historic single-family residential properties as bed-and-breakfast inns pursuant to the approval of a Conditional Use Permit and additional findings by the Planning Commission. Following a Planning Commission recommendation, the proposed text amendment will be forwarded to the City Council for their consideration.

DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre
Planning Commission meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2012
(Hearing begins at 7:00 p.m.)

PLACE OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre
City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the Planning Commission will hear them with respect thereto.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The amendment qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to Section 15303(a), (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), as it involves conversion of single-family residences to bed and breakfast inns.

APPEAL: A decision to deny the amendment by the Planning Commission is subject to a 10-day appeal period to the City Council. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7138.

Looking Up

with Bob Eklund

LIFE ON EARTH REDISCOVERED BY LOOKING AT OUR MOON

By observing the Moon using the Very Large Telescope (VLT) at European Southern Observatory (ESO) in Chile, astronomers have found evidence of life in the universe—on Earth!

Finding life on our home planet may sound like a trivial observation, but the novel approach of an international team may lead to future discoveries of life elsewhere in the universe. The work is described in a paper in the March 1 issue of the journal Nature.

“We used a trick called earthshine observation to look at the Earth as if it were an exoplanet,” says Michael Sterzik (ESO), lead author of the paper. “The Sun shines on the Earth and this light is reflected back to the surface of the Moon. The lunar surface acts as a giant mirror and reflects the Earth’s light back to us—and this is what we have observed with the VLT.”

The astronomers analyze the faint earthshine light to look for indicators, such as certain combinations of gases in the Earth’s atmosphere, which are the telltale signs of organic life. This method establishes the Earth as a benchmark for the search for life on planets beyond our solar system.

The fingerprints of life, or biosignatures, are hard to find with conventional methods, but the team has pioneered a new approach that is more sensi-



The crescent Moon and earthshine over ESO’s Paranal Observatory

tive. Rather than just looking at how bright the reflected light is in different colors, they also look at the polarization of the light, an approach called spectropolarimetry. By applying this technique to earthshine observed with the VLT, the biosignatures in the reflected light from Earth show up very strongly.

Co-author of the study Stefano Bagnulo (Armagh Observatory, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom) explains the advantages: “The light from a distant exoplanet is overwhelmed by the glare of the host star, so it’s very difficult to analyze—a bit like trying to study a grain of dust

beside a powerful light bulb. But the light reflected by a planet is polarized, while the light from the host star is not. So, polarimetric techniques help us to pick out the faint reflected light of an exoplanet from the dazzling starlight.”

The team studied both the color and the degree of polarization of light from the Earth after reflection from the Moon, as if the light was coming from an exoplanet. They managed to deduce that the Earth’s atmosphere is partly cloudy, that part of its surface is covered by oceans and—crucially—that there is vegetation present.

When light is polarized, its component electric and magnetic fields have a specific orientation. In unpolarized light the orientation of the fields is random and has no preferred direction. The trick used in some 3D cinemas involves polarized light: separate images made with differently polarized light are sent to our left and right eyes by polarizing filters in the glasses. The team measured the polarization using a special mode of the FORS2 instrument on the VLT.

Earthshine, sometimes called the old Moon in the new Moon’s arms, can easily be seen with the unaided eye and is spectacular in binoculars. It is best seen when the Moon is a thin crescent, about three days after new Moon. As well as the bright crescent the rest of the lunar disc is visible, dimly illuminated by the bright Earth in the lunar sky.

THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE a slim crescent Moon, look for that twice-reflected sunlight. Reflections can be wonderful—out in the Universe and here at home.

The Moon’s unlit side
Is glowing with light tonight—
The light we give off.

Someone’s gloomy side
Lights up because of your smile—
The light you give off.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: b eklund@Mtn-ViewsNews.com.

On Line

By PJ Carpenter

“6 MINUSES AND ONE PLUS”

Like most IT pros I know, I occasionally have friends or family ask me to get them a job in IT. For some reason, a lot of the people who ask me this have a perception that everyone who works in IT is making great money or is on their way to becoming the next Bill Gates. Aside from having an incorrect perception about IT salaries, few people outside IT seem to understand just how tough working in IT really is.

In order to clear up a few misconceptions I’ll share with you some of the inside info that only us IT pros know about our chosen career.

1. The hours are long. - There are all sorts of IT jobs, but most of them have one thing in common: They involve working long hours. If you want to work in IT, you better be prepared to work nights and weekends.
2. Your personal time will be interrupted - If

you handle a critical support role within your organization, you will likely be tied to a cell phone. And that means you could be called upon to deal with an emergency at any given time.

3. You have to deal with a lot of angry people - One of the worst things about working in IT (especially for helpdesk roles) is that you encounter a lot of angry people. Almost everyone who calls you is upset because they have a problem and they expect you to fix it right now. Often, there is a great deal of hostility behind these calls. Those who are calling are under pressure to get a job done — and the problem your system caused is preventing them from doing it.

4. People (friends, family and co-workers) expect you to fix their home computers - ...all the time.

5. You have to keep your education current – If you didn’t like school then this is not the field for you because the schooling never ends.



this to be in this field. There are probably more specialties than one can count to work in and overall IT has changed the face of the modern world in ways that geeks from earlier times could never have imagined. Plus One!

6. Things don’t always work the way that they’re supposed to - Believe me when I say that there’s nothing worse than trying to complete a project by the deadline you have been given only to have things come to a grinding halt as a result of technical problems. Computer systems are complicated and sometimes in spite of your best efforts, things just do not work the way they’re supposed to. Something as simple as an inconsistent chip version on a series of system boards can derail an entire project. Naturally, it’s up to you to find the problem and fix it.

If you still have your heart set on a career in IT the plus side is that there’s never been a time quite like

Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc.

Canyon Canine Dog Walking & Pet Sitting Services

Who’s Whoof?

My Favorite Hollywood Canine Cast of Characters

I’ll never forget how embarrassed I was, when at age 7, I cried openly, while watching the movie, “Lassie Come Home”. I was spending the night at a friend’s house, and we were watching the last scene of the movie, where Lassie appears at the hilltop and runs down to meet Timmy, who takes her into his arms and begins crying his own tears of joy over having her back home. Well, there I was, centered between my friend and the rest of her entire family of 5, sobbing sloppily about a fictional dog who’d gone missing and ended up as the harrowed hero of the show. I was a basket case! The next morning at breakfast, I was ribbed by my friend’s two older brothers for my open display of emotions, after which I packed my bag and headed home. The hardest part was living it down at school the following week, when my girlfriend’s two brothers shared the ordeal with the rest of my class mates. At the time, I guess I considered myself to be a big baby, blubbering over Lassie, but now I give myself a break, and even a pat on the back for caring about the welfare of a dog, any dog, even an actor dog!

This recent nostalgic memory inspired me to look up some of my favorite famous canine characters, hoping to find as information much as I could about who they really were. I started my search with Lassie, since she was my first favorite dog in film and I found out that although the Lassie character was a female in the movie, the dog who played her part was actually a male Rough Collie named “Pal”! Pal was born on June 4, 1940 at Cherry Osborne’s Glamis Kennels in Hollywood, and had his first film debut in “Lassie Come Home” (1943) - the one that brought on my embarrassing blubbering ordeal. He went on to play the same part in 6 more MGM “Lassie” features, after which he starred in two pilots of the TV series, retired and finally died in 1958. During his life of 18 years, Pal must have touched the hearts of more youngsters than any other canine ever cast in film.

My second favorite famous dog was “Duke” on *The Beverly Hillbillies*. The part of Duke was played by a wrinkly purebred Bloodhound named “Stretch”. At 13 years of age, Stretch was replaced by a younger bloodhound who continued to play the part of Duke until the final episode. Following his 10 year career as Duke on *The Beverly Hillbillies*, Stretch appeared in the military comedy film entitled *No Time for Sargents* (1958), starring Andy Griffith as newly recruited army private Will Stockdale. I couldn’t find any information about who owned Stretch, or how he was discovered, but I will say he is the reason I fell in love with bloodhounds, and chose that breed as my own pet. My dog Tater is so much like Duke. The resemblance is undeniable, and like Duke, Tater would much rather lay around than take a walk or perform a service, such as hunting or searching, as bloodhounds are bred to do.

During my quest to identify the canines that were cast as Hollywood characters I grew up with, I remembered a show that featured a huge dog, but because I was about 5 when I watched the reruns with my parents, I couldn’t remember the title. I finally figured out that the TV comedy series was *Topper*, and it was all about a couple who were buried in an avalanche with their guide dog, “Neil” while skiing in Switzerland. After the accident, they return as ghosts (including the dog) and carry out a plethora of shenanigans that keep the new home owner, “Topper” on his toes. The part of Neil was played by a gorgeous Saint Bernard named “Buck”. Buck was raised by Beatrice Knight of the Sanctuary Kennels in Oregon. I couldn’t find much information about Buck, but I did learn that there was a feature film entitled *Topper*, based on the same novel, but in the movie the canine character is a Wire-haired Terrier named “Mr. Atlas”, played by a dog named “Skippy”, and that Skippy later played the part of “Asta” in the TV series, *The Thin Man*.

Another Hollywood cast canine character that I really liked growing up, appeared in the movie series, *Benji*. To my delight, I found out that the dog first dog who played the part of Benji was a mixed-breed, rescue shelter dog named “Higgins”, who was trained by Frank Inn, and one of Higgins’ offspring, “Benjean” played the same part in subsequent films.

There are so many other doggie actors that I could include in this article, but unfortunately I don’t have the time or space, so I hope you’ve enjoyed the bits of information that I did share about the famous cast canines I treasured growing up. I am personally very impressed with the dog’s ability to be trained to entertain, and it means a lot to me have had so many canine characters who played an important part of entertaining me as a child.

KATIE Tse.....This and That



PILL PEDDLERS

If you haven’t been in a doctor’s office in the last five or ten years, congratulations and keep up the good work! But if you have, you’ve probably seen your fair share of drug reps. How can you tell a pharmaceutical representative from a regular person? Let’s see how well you fare in our hypothetical situation. You’re in your doctor’s waiting room. Sitting beside you are an older couple, another elderly lady accompanied by her live-in assistant, and some more old people with or without their adult children. Suddenly a twenty year-old ex-cheerleader in a tailored miniskirt, rib-sucking plunge oxford top, and five inch stilettos strides toward the receptionist. She pulls a smart looking wheeled briefcase brimming with what looks like party favors.

Hmm... “One of these things is not like the others. One of these things just doesn’t belong.” So, which waiting room patron is the not-so-undercover drug rep? If you guessed the wrinkled comatose woman in the corner, sorry, you’re mistaken. Kudos to you if you pegged the blond sex kitten as the professional representative from Pfizer! Don’t let her age fool you. She’s actually a sage when it comes to serotonin re-uptake inhibitors and statin drugs. It may seem that she’s only dropping off goodie bags to the receptionist, but in fact she’s explaining the latest breakthrough in calcium carbonate absorption. I love my doctor, but I often wondered why everything (and I mean EVERYTHING) in her office bears the logo of some recently released blood pressure pill or erectile dysfunction remedy. (Actually, the latter is probably related to the former. But I will leave that issue for more scholarly minds to discuss.) Her clocks, pens, clipboards, whiteboards, tissue holders, even her scale, is “donated” by AstraZeneca or some other



© 2012 Katherine Tse

company. The last time I checked, the toilet paper was still unembellished. But I wouldn’t be surprised if the next time I visit the individual squares say, “Are you unable to control the urge to GO?” “Does coughing or laughing make you loose bladder control?” “Gelnique may be able to help!”

Being a product of this generation, I’m not as keenly aware of the blatant drug mongering that goes on in the media as my older counterparts are. I grew up with magazines featuring splashy ads for allergy relief, joint recovery, and antidepressants, followed by two or three pages of very small print indicating the possible side effects. Have you really listened to these ads? The commercials I find most hilarious are the ones that warn of symptoms the drug claims to alleviate, or the drug’s intended effect. For example, many antidepressants caution that users may experience “suicidal thoughts.” Well, if I wasn’t depressed already, I guess I’ll throw in a few notions of bumping myself off! Other great warnings include sleep aides that stipulate, “May cause drowsiness.” Bloody well better! Why else am I taking it?

With all the hype surrounding hot new drugs, you may wonder what stellar job qualifications one must possess to earn the coveted title of “Drug Rep?” Admittedly, I didn’t thoroughly research this topic, but my superficial findings were humorous enough. Do you need to have a medical degree? Not according to Pharmaceutical Rep.com, which offers the convenient “30 Days to Your First Pharmaceutical Sales Job!” kit. Do you need to have medical experience? No. Do you need to have a four-year college degree? It helps, but you might be able to squeeze by with a two-year, or just personal hypnotic charm. If you are so fortunate as to have a degree, need it be in medicine? Nope, folks from education, psychology, anthropology, and cultural dance do quite well. What is the main job qualification for becoming a drug rep? COMMUNICATION! Convince those office managers and their doctor bosses that you (or more accurately, your company) knows what you’re talking about. Besides that, a great physique, and a credit line at Abercrombie & Fitch doesn’t hurt.

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



1205 GARFIELD AVENUE
SOUTH PASADENA
A HIDDEN JEWEL:
RARE EXPANSIVE
SOUTH PASADENA
ESTATE

Nearly invisible behind the gates of this Spanish Colonial Revival estate, reigns a serene retreat of extraordinary character in South Pasadena. Covered in the rustic clay tiles of the period, this 4809 square foot estate sprawls in an L-shape, offering privacy for each bedroom with its own or a shared bath.

Building on the beautiful bones of the home, the current owner undertook an enormous top to bottom update in 1995. Maintaining careful deference to the style and period of the home, she gutted much of the home, starting with the un-glamorous yet very necessary systems of the home, including electrical and heating. In each step, the seller says, there was never a compromise to the integrity of this beautiful diamond that required a fresh face and a serious polish. The distinctive doorknobs, for instance, were carefully preserved throughout, and add to the home's period charm

The two story foyer is simply breathtaking with its sandblasted wood beam, cathedral ceilings, colorful tiled stairs, and perimeter, gallery overlook on two sides. Beautifully lit from above with French doors and other windows, the spacious room just glows. The staircase has rather utilitarian iron railings that also didn't satisfy today's code requirements, so an ornate railing system was handcrafted.

The many fireplaces are all wood burning. Particularly noteworthy is the corner dining room fireplace, which prior to the remodel was very plain. An added mantel made the fireplace the new focal point for the massive room, easily seating a large party. A combination of the original chandelier and vintage sconces add real drama and romantic lighting to any dinner party. A delightful, built-in china cabinet features a glass door and ornate iron detailing.



In the grand scaled living room, the eye is drawn up to the magnificent barrel ceilings and then outside through the arched window to a fabulous full sized statue in the back yard. The room accommodates several seating and activity areas, with ample place for a grand piano, cozy fireplace gatherings conversations or to enjoy big screen media.

In transition to the kitchen, a charming sitting room provides the perfect place for morning coffee or a great book. Many rooms, including the kitchen open to the courtyard or enjoy private or shared balconies. These exterior entrances also allow for private ingress for guests, extended family or staff. A main floor bedroom suite is tucked away on the south end of the home. Artisans applied Venetian plaster to several areas, providing the elegant, distinctive sheen renowned in this process. The main floor guest bath was adorned with a burnt umber Venetian plaster finish, creating a dramatic backdrop for artwork.

On the lower level, the seller pointed out the old electrical mountings, now replaced with modern electrical service, though that's merely the underpinnings as it were. Each ceiling beam in the game room is detailed with intricate hand painting, carefully preserved. In addition to the billiard table, the lower level family room provides a great place for a home theater. The lower level is nearly soundproof since it is partially below grade, yet windows

(currently covered) provide generous natural light.

Only a narrow doorway originally led to the bar room adjacent to the family room, where it's easy to envision cigar-filled deep conversations nearly a century ago. A new, wider doorway was cut, and many of the original features were preserved, if for appearance only.

The sumptuous master suite offers cathedral ceilings, but on a softer pitched scale, delicious exposed rafters, a corner fireplace that can be enjoyed from bed, an office area with sandblasted wood beamed ceilings, plus windows and doors to the balcony overlooking the courtyard. The spacious master bath offers a separate deep tub, plate glass shower and dual sinks.

A back stairway provides easy access for the three additional bedrooms on the second floor, which also enjoy balconies, views of the yard and a staircase to the grounds. The large courtyard is clearly the outdoor living and dining room, enjoying the warm hues of Mexican paver tiles, a covered dining area and a covered barbecue and buffet serving area, suitable for entertaining four to forty... or a hundred. Elsewhere in the yard, a separate building could be an art studio or workshop.

The expansive lawns are sprawling, with mature trees dotting the perimeters, shielding the view from the world outside. A rose garden is poised to flower into brilliant color and fragrance. A fenced dog run provides a safe haven for Fido, too. Other modern amenities to be enjoyed include a security system, a music speaker system with room controls, gas cooktop, Sub Zero refrigerator/freezer and triple kitchen sinks in the kitchen. Magnificent without being intimidating or imposing, this stunning home exudes warmth and charm, having benefitted from the love and care with which the remodel was accomplished.

1205 Garfield in South Pasadena is offered at \$2,495,000 by Carol Majors of Coldwell Banker. The property comes on the market March 14, with a twilight open house from 5-7 p.m. followed by a Sunday open house, March 18, from 2-4 p.m. For more information, visit her website, www.MajorsMarketPlace.com or call her at 626-399-9665.





Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

THE PRESSURE COOKER

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

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

Some factors may continue to make buyers cautious, mostly declines in retirement savings and a lukewarm economic recovery

with unemployment hovering around 10% nationally. Now is not the time to hesitate, however, as mortgage interest rates are expected to rise in 2010.

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

Luther Tsinoglou has just been named the top producing sales agent in Dickson Podley Realtor's Sierra Madre office for 2009, making the top 10% at the company overall. Luther has been licensed and practicing real estate since 1992. He specializes in residential and income property in Southern California. Luther can be reached at his direct line (626) 695-8650 or at luther@tsinoglou.com.

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- J. Lopez - Los Angeles County Fire Department Forestry Division
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- Rebecca Latta - Consulting Arborist
- Kazi Pitelka – Edible Gardening Expert
- Ellen Mackey – Council for Watershed Health
- Barbara Eisenstein – Native Plant Horticulturist

Sponsored by the Council for Watershed Health, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council (now the Council for Watershed Health) 700 N. Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 90012



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

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YOGA IS JUST STRETCHING.

OPEN UP: *The 1st Step*

By Rene Quenell,
Proprietor Yoga Madre -
Sierra Madre

Many people tell me that they can't do yoga because they are not flexible. Hmmmm. How do we GET flexible? Flexibility is not achieved by force. Flexibility comes from opening up. And opening up comes from having enough space to open into. And it all starts with the mind. Resistance has many forms. But the mind is the command center. If the mind is full full full then there is no space for new ideas. I guess the easy way to look at it is like the hard drive. There is only so much space on your computer. We need to clean house of the old files sometimes to make space for the new files. Sometimes we really need to get in there and take a look at what we are hanging on to and why. Is it

really useful? Maybe we even need a new operating system!

We are just like this. We need to make space for new ideas and new ways of doing things. We need to take a look at some of the beliefs we carry around and see if they are serving us. If we can be open to the experience of taking a look at the ego and how it motivates us and/or limits us, we really begin to get places. And boy oh boy, does that ego show up on the mat. Sometimes, in a great way! Sometimes - not so much. Learning to get to know it and use it effectively is, well - amazing. So make some space in the mind for new ways of thinking. Make some space in the heart for new emotions and beliefs. Make some space in the belly, the hips and the hamstrings to function more efficiently. And see what opens up.

Namasté, René

TAX HELP IN CARING FOR AN AGING PARENT

Dear Savvy Senior:

My wife and I provide a lot of financial support to my elderly mother and am wondering if any of it is tax deductible. What can you tell us? Stretched Thin

Dear Stretched:

There is some tax relief available to adult children who help look after their aging parents or other relatives. But in order to be eligible, both you and your mom will need to meet Uncle Sam's criteria. Here's what you should know.

IRS Eligibility

If you're helping financially support your elderly mother, to get a tax deduction you'll need to claim her as a dependent on your tax return. For the 2011 tax year, claiming an additional personal exemption would reduce your taxable income by \$3,700. But to get this tax break, you'll need to pass the IRS's income and support tests:

Income test: To qualify as a dependent, your mom's 2011 gross income must have been less than \$3,700. Her income from Social Security does not count towards that total, nor do disability payments. But if your mom receives more than \$3,700 from other sources, such as pension benefits, interest and dividends from investments, or withdrawals from retirement savings plans, you can't claim her as a dependent.

Support test: In addition to the income test, you must provide more than half of your mom's costs for housing, food, medical care, transportation and other necessities. Even if all of your mom's income is from Social Security, you can't claim her as a dependent unless you pay more than half her living expenses.

It's also important to note that your mom doesn't have to live with you to qualify as a dependent, as long as she meets the income test and you provide more than half her financial support. If your mother lives with you, you can include a percentage of your mortgage, utilities and other expenses in calculating how much you contribute to her support. IRS Publication 501 (see www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p501.pdf) has a worksheet that can help you with this. To receive this, or other IRS publications or forms via mail, call 800-829-3676.



Shared Support:

If you share the financial responsibility for your mom with other siblings, you may be eligible for the IRS multiple-support declaration. Here's how this works. If one sibling is providing more than half the parent's financial support, only that sibling can claim the parent. But if each sibling provides less than 50 percent support, but their combined assistance exceeds half the parent's support. In that case, any sibling who provides more than 10 percent can claim the parent as a dependent. But only one sibling can claim the tax break in any given year. Siblings can rotate the tax break, with one claiming the parent one year, and another the next. The sibling who claims the parent as a dependent will need to fill out IRS Form 2120 (www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f2120.pdf) and file it with his or her tax return.

Medical Deductions:

If you can't claim your mom as a dependent, you may still get a tax break for helping pay her medical costs. The IRS lets taxpayers deduct money spent on a parent's health care and qualified long-term care services, even if the parent doesn't qualify as a dependent.

To claim this deduction, you still must provide more than half your mom's support, but your mom doesn't have to meet the income test. And the deduction is limited to medical, dental and long-term care expenses that exceed 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income. You can include your own medical expenses in calculating the total. See the IRS publication 502 (www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p502.pdf) for details.

Check Your State:

In addition to the federal tax breaks, more than 20 states offer tax credits and deductions for caregivers on state income taxes too. Check with your state tax agency to see what's available.

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

MARCH 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.

2012 EXCURSIONS

SAVE THE DATES
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

THURSDAY, APRIL 26TH - Palm Springs Follies. Spend the day in sunny PS and see the new show Hot! Hot! Hot! celebrating those memories of endless summers with music and dance. COST per person is \$58 (includes transportation, tip & show). Lunch will be on your own at one of the many restaurants next to the theatre.

Registration can be done either in person or online at:
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We'd like to hear from you!
What's on YOUR Mind?



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March Birthdays



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



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



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By Harvey Hyde

COACHES SHOULD BE TEACHERS TOO



Just as in almost everything else, the role of the coach has been changing. This is an era of "specialization" -- in medicine, mechanics, athletics and education. When I first began my football coaching career in the early 1960s, I wasn't just a coach.

While working as an assistant coach at Notre Vista High School in Riverside, I taught history and PE, and was also a drivers' education instructor. I was paid and listed as an instructor with some extra time put in for coaching. And isn't really good teaching coaching as well?

At PCC, where I was the head football coach, I also taught a variety of PE classes, a sports philosophy class and a sports officiating class. I had moved out of the teaching of history and more toward Physical Education. Although at UNLV, I was strictly the head football coach, at Long Beach State for two years beginning in 1990, I was an assistant coach and a PE teacher.

There was nothing unusual about that back then. Most coaches would also teach PE, history, math, science, vocational classes, you name it. Although they no doubt loved the sport and coaching it, and might be hoping for a larger future in coaching, along the way, and to their own benefit, they were also responsible for regular classes. Many of them were especially good in the classroom. They were interested not only in the subject, but also in rapport with their students. They had meaningful relationships with all students, not just athletes. They were able to instill pride throughout the student body as well as the community as a whole. They also worked with parents, booster clubs, the regular faculty and the local PTA. They were involved with fundraising and organizing various functions.

Because of the respect they inspired in students and the rest of the faculty, in lots of

cases, well-rounded coaches would go on to become dean of students or principals, maybe even superintendent of schools. I have to say that attitudes and outlooks toward young people and coaching are often well applied in administrative positions.

But things have changed. High school coaching positions -- not just in football but all sports -- are now often part time, and assistant coaches usually are volunteers. Coaches are usually not a part of the regular faculty.

It used to be that coaches, particularly football coaches, would remain at a school for years and be prominent figures in the community. Now they often can't afford to stay. A part-time coach essentially becomes a one-man staff who has to do everything while scheduling practices around his volunteer assistants' work schedules or his own other job. This can be inefficient and also result in burnout.

No wonder high school football coaches are dropping like a punctured balloon. Just in the immediate area there are openings at Muir, La Canada, La Salle, Rosemead, Alhambra, and I might have missed a few.

Today's coaches are not teachers on campus, and that's unfortunate. They don't form relationships throughout the student body or the faculty because they only see the players they coach and only staff members in the athletic department. And with the players and other students, they rarely get involved in the academic side of their lives.

So what is the answer?

School administrators need to start filling teaching positions with people who can handle a dual role -- teach academic subjects and coach athletics.

We appreciate volunteer coaches because certainly there is a need for them. But there is also a need to hire teachers who can do more than one thing well. We need those who can coach and teach -- and teach and coach. What a concept!

Harvey Hyde's Peristyle podcast can be heard on uscfotball.com and his radio show on KSHP AM 1400 can be heard via the Internet.



The Proper Golf Grip - Check Your Knuckles

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



Above: Neutral Golf Grip



Above: Weak Golf Grip



Above: Strong Golf Grip

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

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

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

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

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

On to the golfers that hook the ball. After you grip the club and address the golf ball you will look down and see three or four knuckles of the left hand. The clubhead will close way to fast in the downswing from with this grip. You have to move BOTH of your hands to the left the same amount. Do it in baby steps, one knuckle at a time. The reason this is more painful than the grip change above is because you are going from a stronger position to a weaker position. You will not feel the love for some time. I know you can do this, I did.

In closing after you grip the club-check your knuckles EVERY TIME and you will begin to see the ball start flying straighter and further. Want to learn more? Go to: www.igolfixes.com



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The Class of 2011 - Part 1 Page 9

HEROES: REMEMBERING AND REMEMBERED
Memorial Day Services Hosted by VFW Post 3208

ALTERNATE TOWN COUNCIL SEEKING ELECTION VOLUNTEERS

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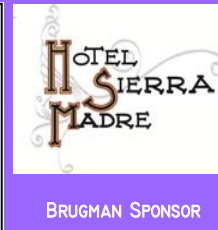
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