



### Sierra Madre Celebrates Earth Day April 21-22, 2012

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Saturday, April 21, 2012 |   |
| 8:00am - Noon            | Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council's Bailey Canyon Wilderness Park Clean Up. |
| 9:00am - 11:00am         | Water Saver Toilet Exchange at Sierra Vista Park.                                   |
| 10:00am - 6:00pm         | Informational items and sustainable gifts at the Sierra Madre Library.              |
| 11:00am - 3:00pm         | 'Farm Fresh To You' demonstration at Kersting Court.                                |
| 5:00pm - 7:00pm          | Organic Wine Tasting at The Bottle Shop.  |
| Sunday, April 22, 2012   |   |
| 6:30am                   | Sunrise meditation and yoga at Kersting Court.                                      |
| 10:00am - 2:00pm         | Nature's Organic Garden demonstrations at Kersting Court.                           |
| 11:00am - 3:00pm         | 'Farm Fresh To You' demonstration at Kersting Court.                                |
| 11:00am - 3:00pm         | REI bicycle safety and repair workshop at Kersting Court.                           |
| 1:00pm                   | LA County Composting workshop at Mary's Market in the Canyon.                       |
| 3:00pm                   | Kid's 'Trash Into Treasures' crafts workshop at Kersting Court.                     |
| 6:30pm - 7:30pm          | Sunset community drum circle at Kersting Court.                                     |
| 7:30pm                   | Community film viewing at Bean Town followed by discussion.                         |

Please see the Green Advisory Committee table and/or "big board" of events Saturday and Sunday in Kersting Court for additional participants and more details.

- Please visit local businesses that are celebrating Earth Day...
- Mother Moo Creamery - "\$1.00 off when you bring your own bowl and spoon."
- Pasadena Cyclery - "\$1.00 off when you bring your used inner tube in to recycle."
- The Hair Upstairs - "see our extensive line of Aveda sustainable hair products."
- Sierra Juice Company - "enjoy healthy vegetable and coconut juices."
- Arnold's Frontier Hardware - "recycle your used batteries here."
- Belle's Nest - "check out our hand made local goods."
- Studio of John Wallis and Associates - "stained glass artist and restoration with domestically sourced and recycled products."
- Lucky Baldwin's - "try our locally crafted and organic beer selection."
- Sierra Madre Best Buy Drugs - "recycle your used batteries here."
- Leonora Moss - "shop our locally supplied and recycled-content gifts."

## SMVFD LAYOFF NOTICES ISSUED SEARCH TO FILL NEW POSITIONS UNDERWAY - Existing Fire Marshal and Paramedic Coordinator Positions To Be Eliminated

by Susan Henderson

Slightly over one year since the City Council voted to restructure the SM fire department, the process has begun. Notices have been issued to Fire Marshal Rich Snyder, a 22 year SMVFD veteran and Paramedic Coordinator Greg Christmas, who has been with the department for six years. Their terminations are effective June 30, 2012, the end of the current fiscal year.

The move does not come as a surprise, as the restructuring was described by Chief Steve Heydorff last year as "The next step in the continuous improvement of the Sierra Madre Fire Department". In his comments before the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club in 2011, he indicated that the intent was to "improve response times, enhance supervision and bring the department closer to the goal of automatic aid."

Three paid Captain positions are to be included as part of the restructure and a search has begun to fill those positions. Some members of the community are alarmed to learn, however, of the city's recruitment efforts. "It was my understanding that Rich and Greg would assume the duties of the new positions," said one resident. In 2011, it was publicly stated that, "the current Paramedic Coordinator and Fire Marshal would remain as Captains and their duties would be incorporated into the new Captains position." That does not appear to be the case.

On the city's website the following is posted under Job Openings:  
*Fire Captain - Closes 05.02.2012*  
*Location: Sierra Madre, CA*  
*|Department: Fire Department*

*The Position*  
*Under general supervision, plans, organizes, supervises and participates in fire services activities including emergency medical, suppression, prevention, and investigation; serves as the supervisor of a fire station and/or apparatus*

*on an assigned shift; directs and participates in fire and emergency services operations until relieved; performs related duties as required. In addition to their supervisory responsibility, Fire Captains participate in the rendering of services and administer certain programs necessary to operation of the department as a whole.*

The posting goes on to list specific duties of the position, but it does not clearly identify either the Fire Marshal's duties or the duties of the Paramedic Coordinator. According to City Manager Elaine Aguilar, those duties will be a part of the new positions. The posting also does not indicate how many positions are open, although Aguilar did indicate that the city is searching for 3 full time captains.

Currently, the positions of Chief, Fire Marshall and Paramedic Coordinator are paid and both Snyder and Christmas are free to apply for the newly created positions. Aguilar indicated that the qualifications are higher than for the volunteer captain positions, however, she noted that the higher qualifications did not necessarily exclude either Marshall or Christmas.

**Promotional Opportunity**  
According to Aguilar, the new positions provide a "promotional opportunity" for both Snyder and Christmas. Currently their salaries are \$61,170 and \$61,768 per year, respectively. The new positions have a salary range of \$66,357 - \$82, 871 annually. Should they apply and be awarded the new jobs, their would be a significant increase in their annual pay.

**The Real Cost?**  
As previously reported, the cost to add a full-time paid captain to the department (two of the three captain positions are already funded as fire marshal and paramedic coordinator) is estimated at approximately \$130,000/yr. The difference between the salary

and the cost to the city is the cost for benefits and retirement. As Aguilar pointed out, "the positions are considered "public safety personnel" and bear a higher percentage of employer and employee retirement costs. She also pointed out that the salaries and related expenses are still much less than other cities such as South Pasadena and San Marina. According to data compiled last year, captains are paid between \$80,637 to \$101,400, with South Pasadena the lowest at \$74,340 to \$90,360.

According to Heydorff in his presentation last year, 'staffing a fire engine requires one captain, one engineer (driver and pump operator) and two firefighters. The least expensive schedule for 24/7 on-site staffing requires three captains, three engineers and six firefighters. Currently, the firefighter positions are adequately filled by volunteers, with the availability of captains and engineers varying daily'. The restructure will ensure constant staffing of the fire engine 'by a qualified captain'.

Chief Heydorff also stated that analysis of recent data indicates that response times could be cut by two minutes if captains were in place at the station full time. According to the Chief, in the initial stage of a fire, it doubles in size every two minutes, so cutting the response time by two minutes could mean the difference between confining the fire to the room in which it started or allowing it to spread to other parts of the structure. He also noted that while paramedics generally arrive on the scene two minutes earlier than the engine when the captains are not at the station, they are unable to begin advance life support until the engines arrive on the scene because they are busy with basic life support issues. That two minutes could prove critical to some patients, particularly those in need of resuscitation due to cardiac arrest. (For more information, go to: <http://mtnviewsnews.com/v05/htm/n16/index.htm>).



### What's the Name of the Game? Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Doors open at 6:30 - Bingo starts at 7:30



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For more information, visit [smrosefloat.com](http://smrosefloat.com)

### This Week's Highlights:

|   |  |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| 3 | SIERRA MADRE NEWS<br><i>An Invitation:<br/>City Council<br/>Reorganization</i> | 4 | PASADENA/ALTADENA<br><i>City Gets Tough With<br/>Parking Scofflaws</i> | 9 | PETER DILLS<br><i>Table For Two</i><br><br><i>Sunday Brunch at<br/>Cheval Blanc</i> | SECTION B: Candidates & Propositions<br><br>California's June 5th Primary<br><i>Also in this section:</i> Legal Notices<br>Arts & Entertainment The World Around Us<br>Opinion Left Turn/Right Turn Sports |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|--|

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## Weather Wise

## 5-Day Forecast

## Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:  
April 24th, 2012 6:30 pm

Arts Commission - 2nd Wednesday @ 6:30

Community Services - 3rd Monday @ 6:00

Library Trustees - 4th Wednesday @ 7:00

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

Senior Community - 1st Thursday @ 3:00

Tree Advisory - 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00

## 1630 AM

## Free on-air publicity for local events

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

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

In a nutshell, your event must:

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

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to [radio@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).

Sierra Madre's Farmer's Market  
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.

## Canyon Canine

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## Sierra Madre Woman's Club Presents: TODAY!

HOLLYWOOD GODDESSES  
FASHION SHOW

"Mr. DeMille, we are ready for our close up." So say Sierra Madre Woman's Club members as they reach out to Hollywood in presenting their fashion show, "Lunch of the Goddesses." This event will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 11:00 am in the Essick House, their historic clubhouse at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre.

Glamour galore will grace the red carpet that day as club members step out to model fashions from Magnolia of Arcadia. The boutique is well known for its beautiful clothing and unique accessories. A delicious lunch is also planned. Shirley Anhalt and Sheila Pierce co-chair the event.

Tickets are \$20.00 each, with proceeds supporting club charities. For reservations or more information, call Pierce at 626-355-8332 or Shirley at 626-355-7401.

## BIRDING IN YOUR BACKYARD

Want to entice more birds to your yard? Laura Garrett, Board Member of the Pasadena Audubon Society, will share information on how to attract a wide variety of birds via plant selection, good bugs and safe pest control at the Sierra Madre Garden Club meeting on Monday, May 14, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. She will also introduce some of the more common birds of this area and give tips on where to see them. Bring your questions, concerns and enthusiasm. The public is welcome.

The presentation will be given in the newly renovated Memorial Park Hart House Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre. A catered dinner will be served at 6:30. Reservations for the \$9 dinner must be made by calling 355-0606. If you wish to attend only the program, there is no charge nor reservation necessary; please arrive by 7:15 p.m.

On Saturday, May 12, at 10 a.m., Janet Raymond, chief gardener for the Wrigley House rose gardens, will conduct a tour of the Tournament House rose gardens for club members and their guests. Janet will share some of the tricks of rose culture she has developed through her many years as a head gardener at the Pacific Rose Society gardens.

For more information about club activities, please visit the Sierra Madre Garden Club website at [www.smgarden.org](http://www.smgarden.org). For information concerning the Audubon Society, go to [www.pasadenaaudubon.org](http://www.pasadenaaudubon.org).

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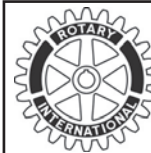
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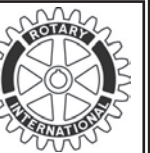


## Sierra Madre Rotary Club

Meets Tuesdays 7-8:30 a.m.

631 E. Sierra Madre Boulevard

Sierra Room of the Youth Activity Center



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.

Visitors are heartily welcomed to meetings. For more information, please visit our website or contact our Peggy Beauregard, membership chairperson at [PeggyBeau@GMail.com](mailto:PeggyBeau@GMail.com).

[www.SierraMadreRotary.com](http://www.SierraMadreRotary.com)SELF  
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## THE SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB

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MEETINGS ARE EACH TUESDAY AT NOON,

EXCEPT FOR THE 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH,

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Sierra Madre Senior Center

Arcadia Public Library  
Arcadia Post Office  
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Denny's Arcadia

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Monrovia Post Office  
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(Foothill/Myrtle)  
The Monrovia  
Rudy's Monrovia  
Monrovia Senior Center

Duarte Public Library  
Duarte City Hall  
Denny's Duarte  
Starbucks Duarte  
Coffee Bean Duarte  
I HOP Duarte  
Duarte Senior Center

Pasadena City Hall  
Pasadena Senior Center  
Fashings Car Wash  
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# SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia



## City of Sierra Madre

You are invited to attend the Reorganization Meeting of the  
Sierra Madre City Council

Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.  
Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers  
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

We will be recognizing outgoing Mayor John Buchanan, Council Member  
MaryAnn MacGillivray, and City Treasurer George Enyedi  
for their service to the Sierra Madre community.

Newly elected Council Members John Capoccia, John Harabedian, Chris  
Koerber, City Treasurer Richard Mays, and re-elected City Clerk Nancy  
Shollenberger, will be taking their Oath of Office.

Reception to follow.

232 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
Telephone (626) 355-7135 Fax (626) 355-2251

## SIERRA MADRE CHAMBER ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP Ed Chen of Athens Services is New President

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce announces new officers for the 2012 year. Director Ed Chen, a returning member from the Board, is unanimously elected to serve as the President for 2012-2013. Ed is the Director of Governmental Affairs for the City's waste, recycling, and street sweeping service provider Athens Services. Ed spent last year volunteering on the Chamber Board and at the Chamber's flagship community events, "Dickens Village," and, most recently, "the Wistaria Festival," which showcases the World's Largest Blossoming Plant.

"Athens Services not only picks up the trash and sweeps the streets, we pressure wash and steam clean the downtown business district to keep it a charming and special place," said Ed Chen, "I am grateful to my employer for allowing me this opportunity to serve, and I look

forward to continuing my volunteer service to the residents and business leaders of Sierra Madre."

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce mission is "to encourage a healthy business environment by advancing, promoting and supporting the businesses serving Sierra Madre."

The following leaders of the Sierra Madre business and civic community will also serve on the Board of Directors during the 2012-2013 term.:

Ed Chen, President  
Athens Services

Julia Rocks, Vice President  
Professional Skin Care Services

Janette Ledea, Secretary  
ReMax Tri-cities Realtors

Susan Henderson, Treasurer  
Mountain Views News

Karen Klemens, Director  
Mother Moo Creamery

Kate Lee, Director  
Starbucks

George Maurer, Director  
Retired

Maddie Romo, Director  
Savor the Flavor

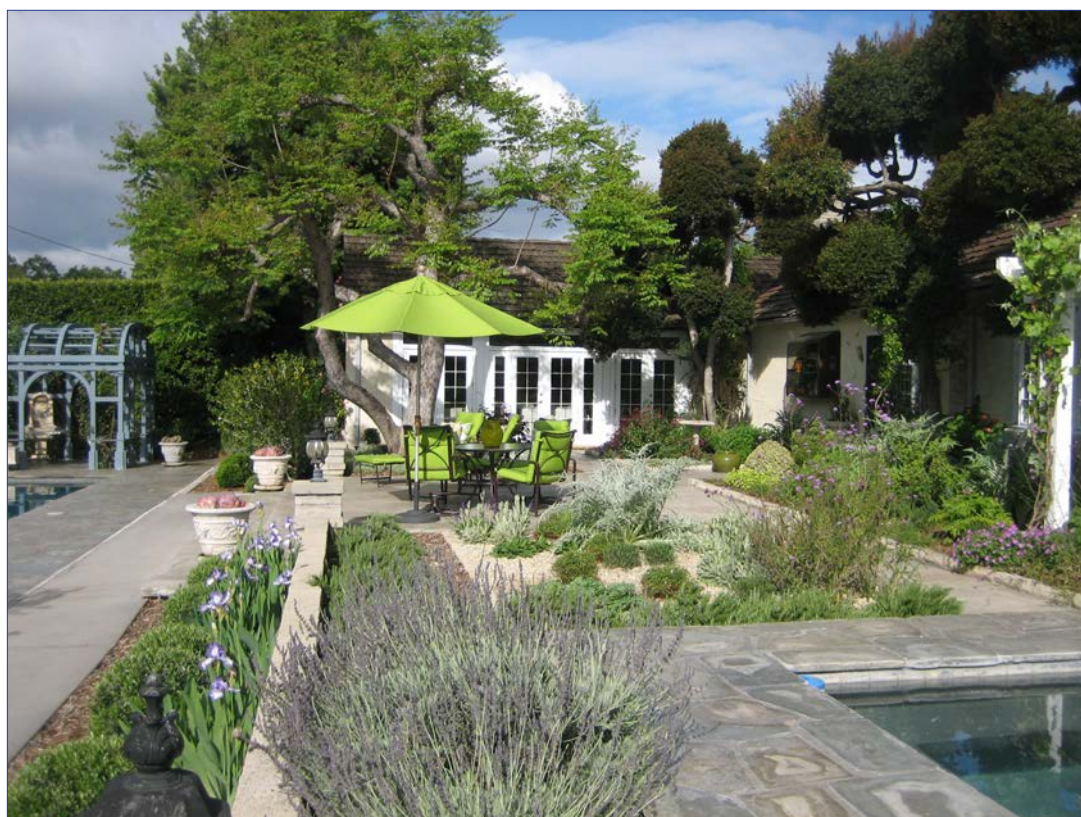
Matt Krantz,  
President Emeritus  
Bean Town

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce is committed to supporting local businesses and the community. The Chamber is the annual sponsor of Sierra Madre's Dickens Village, Citizen of the Year Dinner and Wistaria Festival.

To learn more about the SM Chamber, visit our website at: [www.sierramadrechamber.com](http://www.sierramadrechamber.com) or call our offices at 626-255-5111.

## Creative Arts Group Garden Tour 2012:

## THE NASH HOUSE



Built in 1928 in the style of a New England saltbox, this home has undergone a lovely transformation with the addition of wings to the south and west. A tennis court was relocated from one side of the property to the other. A scaled down version of the pavilion designed by Beatrix Farrand at Dumbarton Oaks was added to the west end of the pool to provide additional shade for alfresco dining. With every addition and relocation, great care was taken to retain the property's original park-like setting.

As passionate plant-lovers, the owners made gradual changes to an English-style garden by adding more roses and perennials. The lawns were extensive, and beds of annuals were changed twice a year. These plantings were driven in large part by the owner's habit of collecting beautiful specimens, but by 2009 they wanted to unify the backyard landscape and conserve water by reducing the size of the lawn, replacing much of it with water-wise Mediterranean plants. The bones of the garden were retained; pool and pavilion, as well as mature plants and trees, and the shape of existing beds. Judy Horton, a talented designer, was engaged to breathe life into this vision.

Twenty-four trees including Japanese maple, sycamore, birch, oak, variegated liquidambar, and copper beech were planted creating three "groves." A birch grove was under-planted with hundreds of white Japanese anemones displaying a sea of white in the fall months. The tennis court was screened by the sycamore grove under-planted with native California heuchera. An antique Japanese lantern is featured in the third grove of mixed trees.

Two new gardens were installed. The Fig Tree Garden is a colorful summer/fall section of espaliered fig and citrus trees, salvias, basil, and ornamental oreganos. The Olive Terrace Garden is a gravel terrace of olives, iris, lavender, and sage.

The resulting palette of lavender, silver, white and chartreuse is a tranquil refuge as well as a magnet for butterflies, birds, bees, and hummingbirds. This is the garden's third season, and the owners are looking forward to larger ball- and cone-shaped shrubs to add substance, and maturing trees to provide additional shade and privacy.



## Garden Tour

April 22, 2012  
10:30 am – 4:30 pm

Showcasing four exquisite gardens in  
Pasadena, San Marino, Arcadia, and Sierra Madre

## Creative Arts Group

108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
In person, by mail, or phone 626-355-8350  
\$25 pre-sale • \$30 day of tour

## PLAY ME I'M YOURS COMES TO PASADENA

Super Senior Betty J. Ford delights the crowds on a sunny afternoon



Photo and story by Susan Henderson

It is almost certain that Sierra Madreans who have been around for a while will recognize Betty J. Ford pictured above. At one time she was frequently seen in Sierra Madre whether it was accompanying a local chorale or giving private piano lessons. She is also the pianist for Rosemead Christian Church, where she has played for the last twenty three years.

On Friday, however, Ms. Ford could be found playing one of the 30 pianos that has been placed in Los Angeles and surrounding cities as part of an international art exhibit.

Touring internationally since 2008, "Play Me, I'm Yours" is an artwork by British artist Luke Jerram. Over 500 pianos have now been installed in cities across the globe, from New York to Sydney, bearing the simple instruction 'Play Me, I'm Yours'.

Located in public parks, bus shelters and train stations, outside galleries and markets and even on bridges and ferries, the pianos are available for any member of the public to play and enjoy. By creating a place of exchange 'Play Me, I'm Yours' invites the public to engage with, activate

and take ownership of their urban environment. The 30 pianos in the Los Angeles Area will remain until Thursday, April 16th, according to Ms. Ford.

Ms. Ford has been participating in this exhibition at two locations in Pasadena. One is Vroman's on Colorado and the other is in Old Town just east of the entrance to Johnny Rocket.

A vibrant super talented, superwoman, she has also used this opportunity to expose young pianists to the exhibit. On Friday she was expecting a 14 year old pianist and violinist to accompany her. Over the weekend she will be sharing the spotlight with a 7 year old musician.

You can hear Betty play and talk about her talent in an impromptu interview by going to the [www.mtnviewsnews.com](http://www.mtnviewsnews.com) website and clicking on Betty J. Ford.

Or better yet, you can stop by Vroman's on Saturday afternoon or Johnny Rocket's on Monday and see Ms. Ford in person.

## 50TH ANNUAL SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR



The 50th annual Friends of the Sierra Madre Library's art fair will be held in Memorial Park, 222 West Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre, on Saturday, May 5, from 9:30AM to 6:00PM and Sunday, May 6, from 9:30AM to 5:00PM. More than 80 artists will be displaying and selling their fine arts during the weekend. Mediums include oil paintings, jewelry, water colors, glass, wood, metal, photography, pottery, ceramics, mixed media, and hand woven baskets and rugs. The Art Fair will be the perfect place to find that unique Mother's Day, graduation, or wedding gift and to find art that you will be proud to wear or display in your home.

Live music will be featured throughout the weekend in the band shell and on the south lawn and a food court will offer a variety of food and drinks provided by local non-profit groups as well as food vendors. For the children, the Creative Arts Group has planned a fun and imaginative craft activity on Saturday and Sunday from 10am-4pm.

A new feature of this year's fair will be a silent auction. So far, forty of the artists who are displaying and selling their creations at this year's fair have donated lovely, one-of-a-kind pieces for the auction which means that you'll have a chance to bid on some really beautiful artwork.

So come early and stay all day. Browse through the wonderful displays of artwork, sit on the lawn and listen to music, have a little lunch, check on your silent auction bids, and then go back and purchase those lovely pieces of art that have been calling your name ever since you spotted them. Proceeds from the Art Fair benefit the Sierra Madre Library. For more information, visit our website at [sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://sierramadrelibraryfriends.org) or call 626-355-7186.





## Inaugural Festival Set to Debut

The Pasadena area's first community-wide book festival-LitFest Pasadena-will be held Mother's Day weekend, Saturday, May 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Central Park (275 S. Raymond Avenue). Admission is free.

Although rain forced the postponement of the event, originally scheduled for March, all that was previously in store-and more-will be offered: a celebratory day of readings and panel discussions featuring well-known local and California authors, hands-on activities for young people, good food, better books, and great fun, all aimed at promoting the literary arts.

Attendees can look forward to an irreverent and informative festival that incorporates theater, music, poetry, and more. Some of L.A.'s hottest gourmet food trucks, courtesy of Chefs Center, will be located along Raymond Avenue, and public parking is under the Gold Line Del Mar Station directly across the street from Central Park, a comfortable green space between Raymond and Fair Oaks Avenues just south of the historic Castle Green.

Panel discussions will explore topics such as 21st Century Noir; The Rise of the Graphic Novel; Local L. A. Publishers: Where New York Dominates, L.A. Innovates; The L.A. Canvas; and History, Fiction... Truth?

Confirmed authors include Pulitzer Prize-winners Jonathan Gold and Daniel Howe; novelists Mona Simpson, Michelle Huneven, David Ebershoff, and Lian Dolan; poet and Young Adult author Ron Koertge scholar and Libros Schimbros founder David Kipen; and L.A. mystery writer Denise Hamilton.

More than 40 publishers and vendors will have books by these and other authors available for sale at the event.

A children's area will feature Vroman's storyteller Mr. Steve, Brit-Lit Steampunk performed by actors from Foshay Learning Center, and a Quidditch demonstration!

## Pet of the Week



Bella is a beautiful two-year-old lynx point Siamese cat. She has gorgeous blue eyes and loves to cuddle in your lap.

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

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A304200 or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday - Friday, 9-4 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at [www.pasadenahumane.org](http://www.pasadenahumane.org).



The Los Angeles Derby Dolls: the Sirens and the Fight Crew faced off on Saturday April 14, 2012 in Filipinotown. The Derby Dolls will again take part in this years Doo Dah parade on April 28th in Pasadena. Photo by Daniel Belis/Mountain View News

## Derby Dolls to Take on Doo Dah

All Saints Church Rector Ed Bacon named parade's Thorny Rose

By Dean Lee

They may be good on a banked-track but this year the L.A. Derby Dolls, roller derby league, are poised to take on the proud freaks, geeks and weirdoes that make up the city's most outrageous parade as they skate down East Colorado Boulevard next Saturday—the route of the 35th Pasadena Doo Dah Parade.

Pasadena Resident and Derby Doll Referee Lidia Carlton said the Derby Dolls are a perfect match for the crazy parade, not having to do anything except show up as themselves, all dolled up.

"We usually show up as the



Referee Lidia Carlton

Derby Dolls and that's enough for people," she said. "We're good targets for marshmallows and tortillas, they like to throw them at us."

Each member of the Derby Dolls has a unique name identifying them in the game. Carlton is known as Syphilis Diller.

She said, new to this year's

parade, they will be bringing the Jr. Derby Dolls.

"Which are the girls ages 8 to 18," she said "So those younger girls are going to be there with their parents."

Carlton said personally this marks her third year in the parade as part of the Ref team, "the Enforcers."

"We've always gone because it's a lot of fun," she said.

Doo Dah event organizer Patty Hurly said the L.A. Derby Dolls have been in the parade five years.

"They really love the Doo Dah Parade," she said.

Carlton said there are four teams that compete in the league, Fight Crew, the Sirens, Tuff Cookies and Varsity Brawlers.

"Each of team has a theme, so like, Flight Crew are the flight attendants, Tuff Cookies are the Girl Scouts gone bad," she said. "That kind of thing. In terms of players and their skill levels, they are all sort of evenly matched."

Carlton also said they have an all-star team, The Riots, made up from the best players from each of the four teams. She said they play other roller derby leagues throughout the country.

During the season opener April 14, the Sirens beat Flight Crew 210 to 67. Carlton said the next game; Tuff Cookies vs. the Varsity Brawlers is set for April 28 the same day as Doo Dah.

Hurly also announced Thursday that All Saints Church Rector Ed Bacon had been named the parade's Thorny Rose. Hurly said Bacon was picked before Monday night's city council vote unanimous in favor of a \$45-million expansion at All Saints Church, the reason Bacon was in the running for the award.

The Thorny Rose Award is presented annually at the

Pasadena Doo Dah Parade to an individual or organization that has created the strongest dose of discomfort and controversy in the community.

Hurly said the award is selected through a super-secret 13 member panel, "they don't even know who each other are," she explained.

Doo Dah is free and takes place on Saturday, April 28th, stepping off at 11:00 a.m. in East Pasadena along Colorado Boulevard between Altadena Dr. and San Gabriel Blvd.

Video of the parade will also stream live online at [doodahlive.com](http://doodahlive.com).

## SUPERVISOR COMMENTS ON THE PASSING OF DICK CLARK

Supervisor Michael Antonovich issued the following statement on the passing of Dick Clark:

"Dick Clark was an American icon – in music, broadcasting and business," said Antonovich. "With hard work, persistence and vision, he was a pioneer in music television who brought rock 'n' roll to the mainstream. As a fixture on TV's American Bandstand and New Year's Rockin' Eve, he was a positive role model for a generation of young people. He leaves an important legacy for future generations -- not only in music, but in the way he lived, worked and succeeded even with serious health issues in his later years."

## Statement from Adam Schiff on the McDade Shooting

Adam Schiff issued the following written statement Friday regarding the March 24 officer involved shooting that left 19-year-old Kendrec McDade dead. "I want to join Mayor Bogaard, Councilman Holden and other members of the community in expressing my condolences to the family of Kendrec McDade after the loss of their son. There have been many serious questions raised by the shooting, and four investigations have been launched to determine precisely what took place and to provide answers to the family and the community. I join my colleagues in urging these investigations to be thorough and impartial, and to proceed with the greatest sense of urgency. "I know the community hungers for answers, and as a parent, I cannot imagine the grief of the McDade family. They will be in our thoughts and prayers as the investigations go forward, and as we learn how this tragedy took place and what steps can be taken to avoid another terrible loss like it in the future."

## City Sends Out Direct Threat, Urges Parking Scofflaws to Pay Up

By Dean Lee

The tone of a media advisory message sent by city officials last week was a little less than courteous as the document threatens residents that the Department of Transportation will be out looking to take any vehicle with five or more unpaid parking tickets off the street. "You know who you are," the advisory starts. "The tension must be really weighing on you by now. After all, every time you park in Pasadena you worry that your car won't be there when you return."

It goes on to threaten that the city's parking enforcement are, "looking for you, ready to haul your car off to an impound lot until you pay up."

The advisory was bolstered by suggesting that the city's budget, not only benefits, but "worth the extra effort," impounding vehicles, saying that since July 2011, the department found and

impounded 394 vehicles. The city recovered more than \$190,000 in delinquent fees.

In a halfhearted way, the threat states that the department does not want to take the vehicles urging those with unpaid parking fines, to come to city hall, Room N106, during regular business hours and pay the fine.

According to the document, which is also on the front of the city's website, officials have a list of more than 650 license plates, where the vehicle's owners owe a minimum of \$362 in back parking fines. It again threatens, "enforcement has been stepped up."

City staff estimates getting a vehicle back from impound could cost upwards of \$350; a \$150 tow fee plus a vehicle storage fees, of \$35 - \$55 per day. There is also a \$134 release fee by the Pasadena Police plus all the outstanding parking fines.

## Bike Week Pasadena



Got a bike?! Then, you're ready for an action-packed week of events – the 6th Annual Bike Week

## 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

## Local Organizations to Host 41st Assembly District Candidate Forum

*All five candidates will appear at forum focused on economic, business issues*

Chambers of Commerce of Pasadena and South Pasadena and the Pasadena-Foothills Association of Realtors will host a candidate forum for all those who have qualified for the ballot in the election for the 41st State Assembly District on Thursday, from 6pm to 7:30pm. The forum, held at the Pasadena Senior Center at 85 East Holly Street in Pasadena, will focus on economic and business issues.

George Falardeau, chair of the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce will moderate the forum and candidate discussion. After a brief welcome, each candidate will be given three minutes for an opening statement. Questions will then be posed by the moderator. Each candidate will have

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 April 24 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](http://pasadenan.com).

90 seconds to answer each question in sequence. A different candidate will begin answering each question.

The public is invited to attend the forum and will be able to pose questions to the candidates, as well. Audience members will be given note cards on which to write their questions. Those will be given to the moderator who will then pose the questions. At the end of the event, each candidate will be given two minutes to make a closing statement.

The 41st Assembly District covers Altadena, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, La Verne and San Dimas and parts of Monrovia and Upland. None of the sponsoring organizations will endorse candidates in the 41st Assembly District race.

Validated parking will be available on a first-come, first served basis in the Holly Street parking structure just east of Arroyo Parkway. Metered parking is available on the street in Old Pasadena.



## "What's Going On?" News and Views from Joan Schmidt



The saga of Reyna Diaz begins in El Salvador some 50+ years ago, when our amazing Reyna was born. El Salvador was a dangerous war torn country.

Catholic missionary nuns were killed there as was Archbishop Oscar Romero when he was celebrating Mass. When Reyna was only seventeen years old, she decided to leave El Salvador. She had to find a safer place-somewhere she could raise her baby, Violet. Reyna ventured to the United States on a journey that lasted FIVE months and it was difficult leaving Violet behind. But after arriving in America, Reyna worked, learned English, and met the love of her life- Ruben Diaz. (They've been married almost 36 years!) Reyna was now able to bring Violet over and she had Ruben also have two sons and many grandchildren.

I met Reyna in 1992 when deputies were being shot at. Captain Bob Mirabella, then Commander of Temple Station, called a community meeting. I attended the meeting and sat in awe as I listened to Duarte County residents and their many problems. Reyna became their official spokesperson and translator. For the months from March-June, 1993, the Town Council Formation Committee met EVERY Tuesday. Reyna was always there, working hard, translating and encouraging people to become involved. Although Reyna was not elected in the first election, she joined the Temple Station Civilian Advisory Committee and kept involved. Within a year, someone stepped down and Reyna then became an integral part of the Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte Town Council. This AWESOME woman did the work of FIVE people. When I met her, she was a cake decorator, wedding coordinator and lay Eucharist Minister at San Gabriel Mission Church, volunteer for her children's schools, and coordinator of MANY FUNDRAISERS. She had these special brunches when there was any kind of a natural disaster. Whether it was an earthquake or flooding, all the money raised went to that country.

The Christmas season saw Reyna plan two special events. There were the Posadas for her area. One year over 300 attended-even State Senator Bob Margett. There also was the annual Toy Drive. She purchased 1000 toys and she and Ruben brought them down to San Salvador or Mexico. Vicki Gutierrez found out and secured many Dodger bats and balls which also were donated. This was in addition to any shoes, clothing and books Reyna could acquire. Reyna also encouraged residents to vote. Both she and Phil Reyes walked the area, and held workshops to encourage voter registration.

## REYNA DIAZ: "Who I Am Makes A Difference"



Sissy Campos, Dr. Buckley, Maxwell Principal, and Reyna Diaz

One of the happiest days of my life was when I attended the swearing in of Reyna Diaz to the Duarte School Board. What an honor to be first Latina and first from the unincorporated area to be elected to the School Board! Both she and I had tears in our eyes as she was sworn in. Afterwards I asked her, "Is this the happiest day of your life?" She replied, "No, the day I was sworn in as an American citizen was."

Reyna and I stepped down from the Town Council about ten years ago. Did she slow down? No, she dropped the Town Council, but took up TWO more projects. What she has done on the Kiwanis is unbelievable. They are donating a Medical ambulance and all sorts of supplies. Reyna not only teaches English and writing skills at Maxwell but also cake decorating and etiquette! In between she finds time to deliver Meals on Wheels. Reyna brings her grandchildren with her when she delivers meals. She wants them to learn the importance of helping others.

As a human being, no one can hold a candle to Reyna. About twelve years ago, one of my students lost his two year old sister in a drowning accident. I have a pool and became paranoid. It took one call to Reyna and her husband Ruben contacted me about installing a fence around my pool. He said, "Reyna called me. She said I needed to call Joan because Joan was upset about the pool." At that time, my finances were tight. I did pay for the fence- but only the cost of the labor done by Ruben's workers. He paid for all the metal fencing and a side gate.

At the Career Day at Santa Teresita, I was given an extra blue ribbon to pin on someone. Who made a difference in my life? That was easy. REYNA DIAZ: A woman who came to America in search of a better life. She got her better life, but didn't stop there. Her life's mission is to go out and help EVERYONE she meets so that they can have a better life. Thank you, Reyna. You are an INSPIRATION to everyone whose life you touch!

## ANTONOVICH HONORED FOR COMMITMENT TO TRAILS



LA County Parks Director Russ Guiney and Department staff pose with Supervisor Antonovich. Back Row: Robert Ettleman, Lorrie Bradley, Russ Guiney, Supervisor Antonovich, Stephen Copley, Francis Yee Front Row: Jeremy Bok, Frank Moreno and Olga Ruano

This week at the California Trails & Greenways Conference in Woodland Hills, the California Recreational Trails Committee (a seven-member committee appointed by the Governor to provide guidance to local, regional, statewide and national trails programs) awarded Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich with the California Recreational Trails Award for his efforts supporting the preservation and management of the Los Angeles County trail system for hikers and equestrians.

"Working with our partners in the community, we are successfully improving and expanding the County trail system to preserve the equestrian lifestyle and ensure this vital resource for current and future generations," said Antonovich.

## PET OF THE WEEK: GARY - Animal ID #A4411496

Meet an incredibly cute canine citizen, Gary (A4411496). Gary is an endearing two-year-old tan male shorthaired Chihuahua who was forsaken at the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center on March 31st because his former owner claimed he had no time for his dog. Weighing just five pounds, little Gary is underweight and needs some good food and TLC. He walks well on the leash and is probably housebroken. Fine with other dogs, what Gary really wants is a lap or purse to call his own. Gary will be the perfect pet for an individual or family living in an apartment or condo, and would be a fantastic companion for a senior. To watch a video of Gary please click visit: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZW7WfLqxF8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZW7WfLqxF8)

To meet Gary, please visit him at the Baldwin Park Shelter, located at 4275 N. Elton, Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378). For any inquiries about Gary, please reference his animal ID number: A4317725. 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 Gary or the adoption process, contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at [samanthasayon@gmail.com](mailto:samanthasayon@gmail.com) or 661-309-2674. To learn more about United Hope for Animals' partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.



## CHRISTOPHER NYERGES SPEAKS.....



[Nyerges is the author of the recent "Til Death Do Us Part?", available on Kindle and from [www.ChristopherNyerges.com](http://www.ChristopherNyerges.com). He also teaches outdoor classes, and shares a weekly podcast at Preparedness Radio Network.]

## GATO BARBIERI'S GIFT OF "EUROPA" Death, and the nature of life

I had recently heard of the death of a friend. It made me feel loss, and sadness, and I spent some time in silence.

Death is part of life, and still, I felt the loss, and the reality that -- for all practical purposes -- I would never see this friend again.

I thought of all the close people who had passed. It was like mentally watching a parade as they passed by and I smiled at each, and held back the tears.

Gato Barbieri's "Europa" was playing on the radio. That's Ramah's song. Ramah was our purebred pitbull who came on our outings. When she died over 10 years ago, I was holding her in my arms as she gave out her last goodbye cry, and Europa was playing on the radio. Since then, Europa has been "Ramah's song," her goodbye rite-of-passage song. I think of Ramah when I hear Europa, and I think of death and the seeming impermanence of life.

It is time for work so I drive away with the radio off. I want to listen to the silence. I arouse a cooper's hawk as I go down the long driveway and he swoops away under the oaks with a pocket gopher in his claws. More death.

I think about the pocket gopher which devours my root crops, and I feel no sadness. Still, I only shudder to think that he'll be ripped apart and eaten while still alive. Is that good? Is it bad?

A local Sierra Club hiker wrote about his chancing upon a mountain lion killing a deer. He said he could have interrupted it, but he didn't. He watched it. He said it was beautiful. He said it was part of the beauty of nature.

Beauty? Certainly the kill is part of nature, part of The Way. Eat or be eaten. But "beautiful"? The deer would have had its throat slit from behind, and while it struggled, the lion would have ripped open his underside and begun eating the deer while it was still alive. Let's not kid ourselves. There is much in "nature" that is

not beautiful. It is part of The Way, but it's not beautiful. Death is sobering.

Death is not beautiful. To the dead, I presume it is peaceful. To the living, painful, especially when a close one goes and you experience their absence, and the pain of separation. You're forced to acknowledge the temporary nature of life. You're forced to make each moment count, to make each moment matter.

Off to work, I must think about the immediate now, the temporary world of time-clocks and responsibility and bills and rents and taxes. I am only mildly cheered up by telling myself this is only temporary.

I sip my coffee at a downtown coffee-house in the dense fog of the early morning before my work begins. The fog drifts and flows, like the drifting landscape of my thoughts of life and death and work and bills.


Death is everywhere. It is inescapable. And yet it is perhaps our blessing. It is the sobering element that forces us to reconsider everything, and to strive to do the right thing in each moment. Death forces us to think larger than just our own interests, and forces us to think about what is best for the most people, and what is best for the next generation.

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*"Where there is no struggle, there is no merit."*

## THE HEALTH CARE DEBATE A Free Public Conference

Practically everyone has an opinion about Obama's health care, but few understand it, according to the latest Associated Press poll. The future of the president's Affordable Care Act lies in the hands of the Supreme Court, which is expected to make a decision on the Act's constitutionality in June. Meanwhile 40 million people are without health insurance.

A free public conference -- Health Care: Where Are We Now? -- will address the health-care debate Saturday, May 12, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Pasadena City College, Harbeson Hall, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA. A coalition of community based organizations in Southern California led by the League of Women Voters Pasadena and Health Care for All -- San Gabriel Valley is sponsoring the conference.

Other organizations include Physicians for a National Health Program, California Alliance for Retired Americans, Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Congregations, NAACP, El Centro de Acción Social, National Alliance on Mental Illness San Gabriel Valley, Pasadena Community Network, Pilgrim Place, Press for Democracy, San Gabriel Valley Pharmacists Association, and TRUdesigns.

Leading health care authorities -- Anthony Wright, executive director of Health Access California, and Dr. Don McCanne, senior health policy fellow for Physicians for a National Health Program -- will address the key components and pros and cons of the Affordable Care Act.

In addition four 15-minute capsule sessions will be presented.

Not-So-Scary Truth about Medicare/Medicaid Funding, by Dr. Bruce Hector of Physicians for National Health Program  
Review of federal bills, a California single payer plan and Vermont's experience, by Doris Nelson, League of Women Voters and Health Care for All  
Why we need single-payer insurance, by Sally Seven, Ph.D. League of Women Voters and Health Care for All

How do we get universal health care in California? Dr. King Reilly of Physicians for National Health Program

Wright will address the patient-protection and affordability components of the Affordable Care Act, in particular for middle- and working-class families. He also will discuss the mandate to purchase health insurance. McCanne will cover the pluses and minuses of the act compared to Medicare for All. He and Wright will have a dialogue about benefits of the Affordable Care Act versus those of a single payer system. The conference will conclude with a short video: "Joining the Movement to Win Universal Health Care in California."

Free refreshments will be served at 9 a.m. Parking is available in the PCC staff parking lot off Hill Avenue and on the street. Space is limited; reservations are recommended. For reservations, call 626-798-0965.



## PASADENA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 2012 SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

The Pasadena Educational Foundation is still taking registrations for its ninth-annual Summer Enrichment Program that's open to all students in the San Gabriel Valley. The popular program for kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup>-grade students takes place from June 18 to July 19, 2012, at PUSD's Franklin, Hamilton, and Norma Coombs elementary schools.

A Middle and High School Summer Program (grades 6 - 12) takes place from June 13 - July 17 at Marshall Fundamental School. High school students can earn five to ten units of high school credits in classes with fewer students. Students can take SAT Prep, Math, Science, and English classes, as well as Scriptwriting, Letterpress Printing, and even Beginning Bridge taught by a certified American Contract League Teacher.

The wide range of enrichment opportunities for elementary studenten include Intro to Kindergarten and First Grade, a variety of Math, Science, and English classes as well as Music, Art, Chess, Cooking, Robotics; Writing, Spanish, Engineering, Fitness, and many more.

All classes are taught by credentialed teachers. Full brochure and online registration at [www.pasedfoundation.org](http://www.pasedfoundation.org). For more information call 626-396-3625.

**WHAT:** Pasadena Educational Foundation 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Enrichment Program for K-6 and Middle and High School Summer Program.

**WHEN:** June 18 to July. 19, 2012, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. for grades K - 6 and June 13 - July 17, Monday through Friday, 7:50 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. for grades 6 - 12.

**WHERE:** Franklin Elementary (K-6) 527 W. Ventura St., Altadena; Hamilton Elementary (K - 6) 2089 Rose Villa St., Pasadena, 91107; Marshall Fundamental School, 990 N. Allen Ave., Pasadena 91104; Norma Coombs Alternative School (K-6) 2600 Paloma St., Pasadena 91107

**TUITION:** PUSD Students: \$375 first enrollment; \$350 per each sibling. Non-PUSD Students: \$450 first enrollment; \$425 per sibling. High School classes costs \$225 - \$425, depending on number of units.

**REGISTRATION:** Full brochure and online registration at [www.pasedfoundation.org](http://www.pasedfoundation.org). For more information call PEF at 626-396-3625.



# ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## GARY KOVACIC, ROGER CHANDLER AND JIM BARROWS HONORED

### Newly Elected Officials Sworn In

By Joan Schmidt

The evening began with a lovely outdoor reception. A cool California evening, great company and food are a perfect way to start a special evening in Arcadia. At the reception were many old friends such as Steve Johnson from Assemblyman Tim Donnelly's office and Joan Whitenack from Foothill Unity Center with her husband Ray. Arcadia Police Chief Bob Guthrie was there, as well as Fire Chief Tony Trabbie attended; it was great to see him back after his surgery. A new acquaintance, Arcadia High School Government Teacher Jim Fox was on hand with some of his students from the Advanced Placement Government Course.

After the reception, the council meeting began with the Invocation by the Fire Chaplin followed by the pledge lead by Arcadia High School student Elliott Lee.

It was time for business. The final results of the April 10 election were given: Gary Kovacic-4127, John Wuo-3000, Mary Dougherty-2355, Sho Tay-2049, and Henry Romero-873. The lone candidate for City Clerk, Gene Glasco received 3653 votes.

During the address time from the audience, Cheri Cabot spoke of Lawn Bowling at Arcadia Park. There are special events between April 28 and May 9; festivities begin at 9am and end 7pm. During that time, there will be food trucks and an Open House will be May 12. Please call (626) 351-5327 for further info.

It was now time for Presentations. First honored was Gary Kovacic for his year as Mayor, followed by Council Member Roger Chandler for his sixteen years serving the City of Arcadia and lastly outgoing City Clerk, Jim Barrows.

There was quite an entourage of presenters: Mark Harmsen on behalf of Congressman David Dreier, David Monroy for Senator Bob Huff, Steve Johnson for Assemblyman Tim Donnelly, Hovanes Gasparian for Assemblyman Anthony Portantino,



Newly elected John Wuo and Gary Kovacic

Brian Mejia for Supervisor Mike Antonovich, Bob Hoffman and Scott Hettrick for Arcadia Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Joel Shawn and Janet Chew for the Arcadia Board of Education, Josephine Louie for the Arcadia Chinese Association, Dan Ausman and Cliff Daniels representing Arcadia Methodist Hospital and Jim Fox for Arcadia High School Government Teacher! Wow, the amount of certificates, plaques and kind words were IMMEASURABLE! I could fill this paper with ALL the accolades but will just try to limit my comments to a few memorable moments.

For outgoing Mayor Gary Kovacic-attending the special opening of a new wing of Arcadia Methodist Hospital even though he was a patient at the time; his SIXTEEN years as coach for Arcadia High School's constitution team; the hours spent Monday evenings at the Chamber, plus inviting students to his home is amazing. On hand were his beautiful wife Barb and his mom. Gary said during his tenure on the Arcadia Council, Barb attended most events with him!

Roger Chandler and newly sworn in Mayor Bob Harbicht

began their careers together and over the years Roger has been instrumental in many of the positive changes in the City, such as redevelopment.

Not only has Jim Barrows done an outstanding job as City Clerk, but he and his wife had done so much volunteer service! No one wants him to leave. They called up his wife and both were presented a Key to the City of Arcadia!

The Arcadia Reception and Council Meeting were two really special events well attended and enjoyed by many.



Ray Wheeler and Joan Whitenack

## Arcadia Police Blotter

*For the period of Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, through Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department responded to 1,039 calls for service of which 120 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.*

Sunday, April 8:

1. Around 6:49 p.m., an officer responded to the 000 block of South Baldwin Avenue regarding a theft report. Unknown suspect(s) stole a bicycle from the resident's patio. The officer determined the suspect(s) forced entry through the patio fence, which surrounded the location. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.
2. At approximately 7:17 p.m., officers responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter regarding a fraud report. The victim explained she was aware that one of her friends was going on a trip to Europe soon. She received an email from her friend stating she had lost her passport and credit cards in Wales, and needed a wire transfer to come back home. The victim completed the wire transfer, and later discovered her friend's email account had been compromised, and that she had not left on her trip yet. The victim is desirous of prosecution.

Monday, April 9:

3. At about 9:21 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a black Toyota pick-up truck on Holly Avenue at Longden Avenue, for failing to stop at a stop sign. The officer discovered the driver had a suspended license and had two outstanding misdemeanor warrants. The 25-year-old White male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
4. Shortly after 7:55 p.m., officers responded to the 2000 block of Greenfield Avenue in regards to a suspicious circumstances report. A man standing to the front of the location explained to officers that he was there to purchase two vehicles, which he saw advertised on Craigslist. Shortly after, a Hispanic female adult exited the residence and explained she was selling cars for a friend. An investigation revealed the female subject, along with two other suspects (her 16-year-old son and a Hispanic male adult), forced entry into her ex-boyfriend's home. Further investigation revealed the ex-boyfriend was incarcerated at the time of the report. All three suspects were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Tuesday, April 10:

5. At about 8:34 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a silver Volkswagen Jetta because he saw the driver talking on her cell phone, in the area of Santa Anita Avenue and Huntington Drive. An investigation revealed the 47-year-old White female had a suspended license and was under the influence of alcohol. She was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
6. At approximately 6:53 p.m., an officer responded to Sephora at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a theft report. A female adult concealed merchandise inside a used shopping bag, and exited the store without making payment. The 21-year-old Chinese female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Wednesday, April 11:

7. Around 10:35 a.m., officers were dispatched to Chase Bank, 700 West Huntington Drive, in regards to a suspicious circumstances report. An investigation revealed the victim, an elderly male, was trying to withdraw \$18,000 so he could pay for house repairs. He explained a man approached his house and offered to fix the leak he had in his roof. He further explained the man was waiting for him at the 76 Gas Station across the street, 701 West Huntington Drive. The victim's account history revealed he had withdrawn close to \$40,000 over the last few months, which he thinks he gave to the same man. An area check for the suspect proved negative.

Thursday, April 12:

8. Shortly after 6:20 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 000 block of South Golden West Avenue regarding a residential burglary report. The victim returned home and discovered it had been ransacked. Jewelry and cash were reported missing. The officer could not locate any signs of forced entry, and no one saw or heard anything suspicious.
9. At about 7:48 p.m., an officer responded to the Macy's parking lot at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a theft report. The victim discovered unknown suspect(s) stole her purse from inside her vehicle. The victim believes she might have left the passenger door unlocked. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.

Friday, April 13:

10. Around 1:56 p.m., officers responded to the Ralphs parking lot, 211 East Foothill Boulevard, regarding a vehicle collision with a pedestrian. As the driver of a white Dodge Ram reversed out of her parking stall, she struck a man walking to the rear of her vehicle. An investigation revealed the pedestrian was walking toward the entrance of the supermarket while looking down to fix his raincoat hood. The officer determined the vehicle was traveling five miles per hour. No major injuries were reported.
11. At approximately 9:10 p.m., an officer conducted a DMV check on a black Honda Accord traveling on Santa Anita Avenue at Huntington Drive, and discovered a warrant attached to the license plate. An investigation revealed the 38-year-old Hispanic female driver was never issued a license. She was cited and released in the field. A search of the front passenger, a 38-year-old Hispanic male, revealed he was in possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Saturday, April 14:

12. At roughly 10:25 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 1000 block of South Santa Anita Avenue regarding a residential burglary report. The victim was contacted by an unknown male subject at her front door, who stated he was a contract worker for the City of Arcadia and wanted to check her water for sewer contamination. After the subject was let into the home, he instructed the victim to tap on the kitchen faucet with a spoon while he checked other areas. A short time later, the victim discovered the subject was gone, and noticed a large amount of cash missing from her bedroom. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, early to mid 40's, 6'0" tall, muscular build, with brown hair and brown eyes, wearing a light blue colored long sleeve denim shirt, blue jeans, and tennis shoes.

Sierra Made Police Department arrived at the location and provided the officer with a crime bulletin containing two composite sketches of two suspects who committed a burglary in their city by similar means. The victim believed one of the sketches looked like the suspect that burglarized her home.

## ROTARY SALUTE TO SENIORS LUNCHEON

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department in conjunction with the Arcadia Rotary Club is hosting the annual Rotary Salute to Seniors luncheon on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-1:30pm at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive.

Jack Lamp has been selected by the Senior Citizen Commission to be the 2012 City of Arcadia Senior Citizen of the year and will be recognized at the luncheon by the Mayor and the Rotary Club for his extensive volunteer commitment to the community.

There are still tickets available for the luncheon and may be purchased at the Community Center. The cost is \$4 per person. For more information, please call Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130.

## CITY OF ARCADIA SENIOR SERVICES SPRING REGISTRATION 2012

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department – Senior Services Division spring registration has begun for adults (50 years of age and older). The course offerings include yoga, yogalates, strength training, line dancing, kinetic tai chi, zumba gold, balance and mobility, oil & watercolor painting and aerobics. Courses are offered at the Community Center, 365 Campus Drive AND the new gymnasium located at Dana Middle School, 1401 S. First Avenue.

For specifics on class dates, times and locations, please contact Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130 or log onto the City of Arcadia Website at [ci.arcadia.ca.us](http://ci.arcadia.ca.us).

## COOKING FOR TOTS AND FUN WITH COOKING CLASSES

The City of Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department is excited to announce a spring session of cooking classes for tots (ages 4-6) and youth (ages 7-12) taught by Jan Sayvongsa, a Graduate of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts. The Cooking for Tots offers hands on basic cooking for younger children. The Fun with Cooking for youth teaches kitchen basics, table setting, manners and shopping tips as well as cooking simple meals and snacks.

Both the Cooking for Tots and Fun with Cooking classes are held once a week on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays (no Monday class on May 28<sup>th</sup>) starting April 9<sup>th</sup> for 5 weeks at a cost of \$30. A \$30 materials cash fee for food prepared during the class series must be paid at the first class meeting. Children need to bring an apron and a container to each class. Tot class times are from 4-5pm and Youth class times are from 5:15-6:45pm.

All classes will take place in the kitchen at the Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007. For more information please call 626.574.5113.

## ADULT COOKING CLASSES – SPRING 2012!


Come and learn how to cook quick, easy and delicious 3-course meals with Jan Sayvongsa, a Graduate of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts. Every week will be an adventure for your taste buds. Enhance your knife skills and perfect all the cooking techniques. This class is for all skill levels of cooks! Classes are held once a week and start the week of April 9<sup>th</sup>. The fee is \$50 for five weeks plus \$50 for materials. Classes are held in the Arcadia Community Center Kitchen, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia 91007.

You can register now on-line, by mail or in person! For specific times, location, fees and to download the registration form go on-line to the City of Arcadia's website: [ci.arcadia.ca.us](http://ci.arcadia.ca.us) or stop by the office, 375 Campus Drive.

For more information please call 626.574.5113!


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# MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## FIRE FIGHTER MICHAEL BAILY HONORED AND LAURIE LILE STEPS UP TO BAT AT MONROVIA MEETING

By Joan Schmidt



City Manager Laurie Lile

On April 17th, the Monrovia City Council Meeting began with recognition of Firefighter Michael Bailey, recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Volunteer Award and Letter of Commendation from President Obama. Fire Chief Chris Donovan spoke highly of Firefighter Mike Bailey. "Firefighter Bailey has always been a hardworking, dedicated and giving individual, helping people whenever he can. He has worked on several projects with Rebuilding Together-Los Angeles which earned him the Martin Luther King, Jr. Volunteer Award as well as a letter of Commendation from President Obama. Rebuilding Together-Los Angeles helps preserve affordable housing while revitalizing communities within the region."

Also recognized were Girl Scout Leaders, Joan Stiegelmar, Vickie Thrower and Joyce Santillan for their contributions to the community and its youth through their dedicated service as volunteers and leaders with the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles.

The Monrovia City Council voted 5-0 to approve the 3-year, \$185,000 salary per year for the newly chosen City Manager Laurie Lile. Ms. Lile comes from Palmdale with much experience in several areas and surely will be an asset to the City. Mayor Mary Ann Lutz praised the contract and said that Ms. Lile had "stepped up"- she will be the first employee to pay the full employee portion to her retirement fund. Mayor Lutz called Ms. Lile to the podium to address the Council and attending residents.

Ms. Lile noted that she had already set up an e-mail account with the city. She feels "It is really an honor to be able to accept this position and take on the new role with the City of Monrovia. I am anxious to hear from residents and hear what we can do to improve the City of Monrovia."

Other important business addressed was a Solid Waste and Recycling Program Update by Heather Maloney. Her report included that to date, two haulers (Athens and Consolidated) have executed agreements. However Burrtec Waste sent the city a letter stating they decided not to participate in the new Business Solid Waste and Recycling Program.

Other important business included discussion of a new car dealership, RDJA LLC dba Sierra Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram at 1305 South Mountain Ave. Darlene Sanchez, Senior Project Manager gave the Staff Report. The renovated auto dealership would carry Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram Models. The new dealerships would require a significant amount of tenant improvements. They are approaching the City for a partnership through the Business Development Assistance Agreement. Basically the City would have to pay \$750,000 to assist in their improvements. Council Member Tom Adams was concerned about this and whether there would be more revenue than what was generated before. Peter Hoffman then came to the podium and said that this new dealership would bring in a lot of revenue. He pointed out that there are only two other Chrysler Dealerships in the San Gabriel Valley in Alhambra and Glendora. Chrysler's sales are good at this time and it would benefit the City to bring Chrysler to Monrovia.

These Monrovia City Council Meetings are televised or residents also can go on line and read the various reports in detail if you cannot attend a meeting. However, if you are out and about in Monrovia, please drive by City Hall and see the beautiful Irises planted by Council Member Becky Shevlin.

## Monrovia Police Blotter

*Highlighted Activity for the week of April 12-18, 2012*

*Following are the weekend's highlighted issues and events. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to the City of Monrovia website at [www.monroviapd.org](http://www.monroviapd.org) and click on the crime mapping link. Sign up to follow us on twitter for police notifications.*

### Vandalism

On April 12 at 8:50 a.m., a caller reported an incident of vandalism in the 1800 block of South California. The suspect(s) used a marker to write on a potted plant in front of a business building and on the windshield of two company trucks. The investigation is continuing.

### Vandalism

On April 12 at 9:36 a.m., an incident of vandalism was reported in the 1800 block of South California. Suspect(s) used a marker to write on some decorative glass next to the front door of a business. The investigation is continuing.

Possession of a Controlled Substance / Possession of Drug Paraphernalia / Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sales - Two Suspects Arrested

On April 12 at 9:42 a.m., officers were dispatched to a hotel in the 700 block of West Huntington regarding a gun found in a room. The housekeepers found a loaded gun on the bed in one of the rooms and notified management, who then notified police. Officers responded and were in the room when the two occupants returned. Officers received consent to search the room. Bindles of heroin, cocaine, drug paraphernalia and money were located in the room. Both occupants were arrested and both admitted the drugs belonged to them.

### Vandalism

On April 12 at 9:46 a.m., graffiti was reported in the 300 block of Wildrose. The suspect(s) used white spray paint to write on the south wall of a garage. Investigation continuing.

### Vandalism

On April 12 at 11:44 a.m., an officer responded to the report of vandalism in the 300 block of East Lime. Suspect(s) used white spray paint to write graffiti on playground equipment in a park. Investigation continuing.

### Vehicle Burglary

On April 12 at 2:58 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a vehicle burglary which occurred in the 500 block of Parkrose. The victim parked her vehicle and went into the elementary school to pick up her child. She was gone approximately 10 minutes. When she returned to her vehicle, she found a window was smashed and her purse, which was on the front seat under a blanket, was taken from the vehicle. Investigation continuing.

### Commercial Burglary - Suspect Arrested

On April 12 at 7:52 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a business in the 100 block of West Foothill regarding a male subject in custody for shoplifting. The subject had entered the store, selected several items which he concealed on his person, and exited without paying. He was arrested and booked for the charges.

### Commercial Burglary - Suspect Arrested

On April 13 at 6:51 p.m., a business in the 300 block of West Huntington reported a subject who had shoplifted went into a location at Magnolia and Chestnut. The Special Enforcement Team and patrol officers responded, located the suspect and detained him. He was positively identified as the suspect. He had no money on his person to pay for the items taken. The suspect was arrested for burglary and taken into custody.

### Vandalism - Suspect Arrested

On April 14 at 3:39 p.m., Police responded to the report of three male subjects acting suspiciously in an alley in the 200 block of South Heliotrope. One subject appeared to be acting as a lookout. Officers arrived and found fresh graffiti in the 600 block of Wildrose. A detective, who was in the area of Wildrose and California, observed three subjects matching the suspects' description and detained them. One of the subjects detained had a used can of white spray paint in his waistband and fresh paint on his shorts. The paint matched the fresh paint on the structure in the 600 block of Wildrose. The suspect was arrested and taken into custody. He was later determined to be on probation for a prior graffiti vandalism case. The suspect is a juvenile and was later released on citation to his mother.

### Fraud / Parolee at Large - Suspects Arrested

On April 16 at 1:30 a.m., an officer was dispatched to a hotel in the 900 block of West Huntington. Hotel management was having a dispute with two of their guests about a declined credit card number. Upon further investigation, the officer discovered the male guest was a parolee at large. His female companion was found to be in possession of a vehicle filled with fraudulent federal, state, and miscellaneous documents. Both subjects were arrested for the appropriate charges.

A FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY CELEBRATION

**Monrovia CINCO DE MAYO ASSOCIATION**

**CINCO DE MAYO CULTURAL ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2012**

**12PM-9PM 602 S. MYRTLE AVE.**

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**DELGADO BROTHERS**

**LA SANTA CECILIA**

**POTRO NORTENO**

**BALLET FOLKLORICO NUEVA ANTEQUERA**

**JUAN CARLOS QUINTERO**

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**MONROVIA WEEKLY**

**PURE**

**FAMILY VARIETY SHOW BY**

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**Food drive to benefit Foothill Unity Please bring non perishable food or cans.**

## DUARTE COUNCIL VOTES TO LAUNCH RECYCLING FOR MULTI-FAMILY DWELLINGS IN JULY

*Beginning in July, residents of Duarte's 62 multi-family dwellings will do what the City's single family households have been doing since the 1980's - recycling.*

The Duarte City Council recently voted unanimously to approve implementation by Burrtec Waste Services of mandatory recycling for all eligible 5-unit and larger multi-family dwellings in the City. To relieve property owners of any burden associated with program design and implementation, the City of Duarte, together with Burrtec Waste Services, has designed a multi-family recycling program that can be tailored to each individual site while ensuring each property's compliance with State requirements.

Over the next three months, Burrtec will be distributing bi-lingual educational materials and conducting on-site property surveys detailing various recycling options, many of them highlighting a cost savings. It is estimated that 50% of the current multi-family customers will realize a cost savings as a result of the mandated recycling program. The types of information that will be disseminated include door hangers, posters, newsletters, letters, news articles and website articles detailing the ease and benefits of the program.

Every eligible building will be provided with a recycling container, individual in-unit containers for tenants/owners and bi-lingual educational materials. Burrtec will also offer on-site resident education program for 16 unit or larger complexes detailing the location of the recycling bin, acceptable recyclable materials, how to use and store the indoor recycling container and familiarize residents with educational door hangers, and posters.

A listing of recyclables, including all beverage containers, plastic, paper, glass, cardboard, and metal products, will appear on the front of the bin. Only specialized recycling bins, designed to prevent scavenging and litter, will be used in conjunction with the program.

The mandate re-initiates a program first introduced as voluntary in 2009 when the City applied for and was awarded a \$57,500 CalRecycle grant to fund and promote the costs associated with launching a citywide multi-family recycling program. Duarte's CalRecycle grant covers the costs of educational materials, collection, recycling containers, bins and some minor personnel costs. The program, then only in its earliest outreach stage, was interrupted for 18 months by the ongoing state budget crisis. In the interim, the California Legislature signed into law AB 341 requiring CalRecycle to increase the diversion of solid waste from the currently required statewide level of 50% to 75% by 2020. To achieve this goal, the new law requires all multi-family complexes of 5 units or more to begin recycling by July 1, 2012.

In 1988 Duarte became the first city in the San Gabriel Valley to introduce residential curbside recycling. In 2011, Duarte residents recycled more than 1,153 tons of their recyclables.

For more information, call Burrtec Waste Services at 1-866-287-7832 or the City of Duarte (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

**CITY OF MONROVIA**

**Public Library**

**City of Monrovia Department of Community Services**

**MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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[www.monroviapubliclibrary.org](http://www.monroviapubliclibrary.org)

## Job Seekers All-Day Event

Sponsored by Friends of the Monrovia Public Library

**NEW!** Representatives from Monrovia businesses will be available to talk about job opportunities and the interview process when applying for a position within their companies. **Don't miss this terrific opportunity.**

| Steps to Employment   | Hot Resumes  | Ace the Interview & Dress for Success  |
|---|--|--|
| Learn how to file an online unemployment application, find jobs via social networking and access a multitude of free resources for job hunters. | Emphasize strengths and minimize weaknesses with an attention-grabbing resume. | Understand the rules of the interviewing game and how to dress.  |
| A demonstration of the <i>Career Transitions</i> 24/7 online resource walks users through the entire job search process.                        | Learn formats, key phrases, and show an employer what you can do for them.     |  |
| <b>CAREER</b>   | <b>RESUME</b>  |  |
| Bring your resume to this workshop for helpful advice.  |  | Gain insider perspective from a dynamic re-creation of the interview that gets the job, during <i>The Perfect Interview</i> segment. |
| 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.   | 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.   |

**Saturday, May 5**

**10:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.**

Library Community Room

**FREE**

Reserve at the Adult Reference or call 626-256-8274 or sign up online at [monroviapubliclibrary.org](http://monroviapubliclibrary.org)

Walk-ins welcome



## ALVERNO HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

*Students participate in annual "Convention Day"*

On Tuesday, April 17 and Wednesday, April 18 the entire Alverno High School student body and members of the incoming freshman class participated in the annual "Alverno Student Union (ASU) Convention," a day modeled after the Democratic and Republican National Conventions. At the end of the day, Alverno students had selected one ticket to represent each of the two parties and an additional two tickets opted to run as independents to become the President and Vice-President of the Alverno Student Union for the 2012-2013 school year.

On Tuesday afternoon, students were broken up into two parties, the Blue Party and the Red Party. Once in their respective parties, students elected a Party Chair, Party Secretary, and a Sergeant Arms who were responsible for running the main convention on Wednesday. After electing these important individuals, students were divided into delegations where they helped to create planks that would become a part of their party platform as well as the platform for their party tickets. Party planks included changes to the Alverno uniform, bringing a catering truck to campus once a month, and the addition of academic courses like forensics, psychology, and Japanese to the school curriculum. When elected, the ASU President and Vice-President will work with their cabinet to add these items to current school policy.

On Wednesday, students were dressed in their party colors as they listened to the candidate debates moderated by the Alverno Supreme Court Justices on Alverno's television station, KATV, and worked on convention materials in their Platform and Steering Committees. In the afternoon, each party held their own convention, which included a presentation of the two tickets they could choose from to represent their party in the



election. The various delegations were then asked to vote on the party planks and cast their support for one of the two tickets in their party. At the end of convention, the Osuna-Abdelrahim ticket was selected as to represent the Blue Party and the Overstreet-Fisher was selected to represent the Red Party in the election. In the true spirit of democracy, the Wong-Samerjan ticket and the Panyawai-Martinez ticket will run as independent candidates during the election. Voting for the candidates will take place on Tuesday, April 24.

"Our annual Convention is not only a great way for our students to learn about the democratic process, but it also empowers them to see the role they can have in both their school and local communities," said Cam Gonzales, Dean of Students and Director

of Activities, "The young women who have chosen to run for President and Vice-President are true examples of the Alverno spirit and mission who will serve our school community well during the next school year."

Ann Gillick, Head of School, said "The ASU Convention is a perfect example of the monumental role our young women play in our school community. Each of the young women running has made not only a commitment to Alverno, but a commitment to her peers to be an effective, compassionate, and servant leader. These values are basic tenets of the Alverno philosophy and our leadership program is just one of the ways Alverno empowers each young woman to be exactly the person she wants to be."



## CHANGE

In life, you expect things to be set in stone. You fix your mind on one set of ideas and expect them to play out in your favor. I am guilty of this. Before this whole college process and even during it, I had my life set in line. I was expecting to go to Boston College, major in English, and become some sort of writer for a travel beat or some sports publisher. But I didn't get into BC. This shouldn't have changed my plans much, as I am now going to Syracuse and the prestigious SI Newhouse Communications College. But it did.

Over spring break my friend and I began season 1 of Grey's Anatomy, and now we are obsessed. This show shouldn't alter my life view, but it has. It has raised the sense that if I am double majoring, why not do it in things I love but that are also useful, like science? It's just interesting how, as time progresses and events unfold, our perceptions of what we think/ know we want changes. I still want to be a writer, but I am also thinking about what I want to "Do", and what that means to me. I guess we can never expect the line we want to stay straight, that we must always be open to change, but how much and how do we know when to change?

## SIERRA MADRE ROTARY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2012

The Rotary Club of Sierra Madre is pleased to offer financial support to students in our community who are involved in the community and who demonstrate excellence in their work.

Each year the Club awards one or more scholarships to students beginning college. The scholarship award will be paid directly to the student's college.

The Club offers these scholarships to students who are residents of Sierra Madre and/or members of the Sierra Madre Interact Club.

The 2012 scholarship program consists of one award of \$500.

For application, go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/rcsmscholarship> or email [RCSM.scholarship@gmail.com](mailto:RCSM.scholarship@gmail.com)

## PUSD OPENS LATE APPLICATION PERIOD FOR 2012-2013 OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) announced today that late applications for the 2012-2013 academic year will be accepted in person April 11 - 17, 2012 at district headquarters located at 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena. Open Enrollment is PUSD's voluntary school of choice program that offers area families an opportunity to explore options to attend dual language immersion programs, themed college and career pathway academies and schools outside of their immediate neighborhoods. Students can apply for remaining open spaces during the late application period. See the list of schools with remaining spaces. Late applications are accepted in person only at the district's Welcome Center on a first come, first assigned basis. Applications will be accepted from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays between April 11 - 17. Late applicants will be placed at the end of waiting lists that were compiled during the priority and regular open enrollment periods earlier this year. Placement on a waiting list does not guarantee that space will become available and the child will be admitted to the school.

Limited spaces are still available for native speakers of Mandarin or Spanish in the district's popular dual language immersion programs, which offer academic instruction in English and a second language for elementary students. Some of the College and Career Pathways programs also have space available.

All students who will enter K - 11th grade are eligible to apply. For more information about Open Enrollment, including a list of schools with space for late applications, information about other PUSD schools and programs available as part of open enrollment is available online at [www.openenrollment.info](http://www.openenrollment.info). For more information, contact the PUSD Office of Student Support Programs, Enrollment and Permits at (626) 396-3600, extension 88340.

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

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

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

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

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

**Carden of the Foothills School**  
429 Wildrose Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016 626/358-9414  
626/358-5164 fax office@cardenofthefoothills.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Walden School**  
74 S San Gabriel Blvd  
Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166  
[www.waldenschool.net](http://www.waldenschool.net)

**Weizmann Day School**  
1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 797-0204

Lisa Feldman: Head of School

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

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

## GO PUBLIC unleashes 50 Film Crews for 24 Hours: A Unique Documentary About Who and What Makes Our Public Schools Tick

90 percent of our nation's children attend public school. In early May 2012, 40 professional and 10 student film crews will follow 50 individuals on 28 campuses who attend, work and volunteer in the Pasadena public schools. "GO PUBLIC: A Day in the Life of PUSD" aims to spark a nationwide discussion, refocusing on the value of public education by capturing an authentic example.

Subjects range from students, teachers, principals, custodians, volunteers, school board members, PTA parents, security guards, the superintendent and many other stakeholders. Each director will edit footage to a 2-4 minute profile and all the individual stories will be available on the GO PUBLIC website. The final documentary will give voice to those actually living the experience. We will GO PUBLIC with public school.

70 percent of PUSD families are low income. Still, even with the multiple and difficult challenges that poverty presents, PUSD manages to provide an academically rigorous and socially meaningful educational program for all students. We believe this "miracle" also happens every day in public schools across our nation.

Jim and Dawn O'Keeffe of Blue Field Productions have 30 years of experience telling stories in film and television. Jim also teaches at the USC School of Cinematic Arts. They have lived the public school journey with their four children and believe this film will both CELEBRATE and EDUCATE. It will celebrate the many dedicated people, the myriad of opportunities available and the complexity of effectively serving the needs of all students. It will also educate about the growing challenges placed on our educational system due to severe and repeated budget cuts.

**GO PUBLIC: A Day in the Life of PUSD** will be a two-hour video document (intended for theatrical and TV distribution) and interactive website capturing the complexity and promise of public education in a racially and economically diverse urban school district - a story both unique to Pasadena and typical of thousands of districts nationwide.

For more information, visit the Go Public website at [www.go-publicproject.org](http://www.go-publicproject.org)

**50<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Sierra Madre Art Fair**  
Saturday, May 5, 2012 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday, May 6, 2012 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"It's A Good Life" by Featured Artist Carolyn Gravatte

**100 Artists, Children's Activities**  
**Live Entertainment and Food Court**  
**Free Admission**  
**Sierra Madre Memorial Park**  
222 West Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, California  
For event information: 626.355.7186 or [www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org)  
**Benefits Sierra Madre Public Library**

©2012 Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Art Fair Poster 2.indd 1 02/20/2012 4:15:00 PM



## SUNDAY BRUNCH AT CHEVAL BLANC

The story of King Midas told of a kind man who ruled his kingdom fairly. One day, while walking in his garden, he saw an elderly satyr asleep in the flowers. Taking pity on the old fellow, King Midas let him go without punishment. When the god Dionysus heard about it, he rewarded King Midas by granting him one wish. The king thought for only a second and then said "I wish for everything I touch to turn to gold". And so it was.

I met Gregg Smith some 25 years ago when he turned Perkin's restaurant into the Parkway Grill. A few years later it was an old florist shop called Jonkers that he turned into the Arroyo Chop House. He raised his hand again and turned Monahan's into Smitty's. Before I tell you about my recent visit to Cheval Blanc for Sunday Brunch, let's get a quick history lesson on how brunch came to settle into our lives. The term "Brunch" is a portmanteau of breakfast and lunch, said to have originated in Britain in the late 1890's. This writer's feeling is that Brunch was a great way to soften the sting for the partygoer of the night before, without compelling them to endure the early rays of morning light. The term should dovetail with "let's gather when we stir from our comas and revive ourselves with the medicine of Bloody Mary's and Mimosas".



TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills  
thechefknows@yahoo.com

Cheval Blanc has added Sunday Brunch to their parade of fantastic Cheval Blanc choices.

A warm pastry and bread basket at 11 in the morning? You bet !!! Accompany that with a cold glass of Roederer Estate Bubbly, and this guy felt like he just stepped into the French Quarter. After all, this is a French Restaurant. Now this is where my job gets tricky. One man can only eat so much, so I'd better select wisely. After a few bites of the brioche toast with raspberry jam I decided on the Charcuterie which included cured ham, and those tiny pickles that everyone loves, with Artisan Terrine (cheese for you Americans). My dad always taught me to never fill up on the bread when doing a Sunday Brunch. So, I was half smart enough to only get half full. As I mentioned before, we must do Brunch, I must order the Saumon Fume Eggs Benedict. Yes, Benedict was a traitor but this was my first French Brunch. I was looking for something unique and this was it. When they poured the warm béarnaise sauce on top of the poached egg I was in heaven. Well, the first bite was Heaven and the second was Nirvana, and it was the perfect time for another glass of bubbly (\$13 a glass for what I consider top notch California Wine). In fact, there were several wines on the list that I considered good values, including a full bottle of Domaine Chandon for \$31 and a Magnum of Robert Mondavi for \$150. Hey it's Brunch, live a little, you have to go to work tomorrow. Many of you want your eggs a certain way and, as my gal at Starbucks says, no problem. I recommend the Petit Filet and Eggs with the black truffle hollandaise sauce.



As of this writing there were five desserts offered and I opted for the Crème Brulee. It takes a few minutes to make, but is worth the wait. Please indulge me to jump back to the bar, knowing that many of you like a Bloody Mary to jumpstart your morning. I had opted for the bubbly, but I witnessed the bartender making a Bloody Mary for the ages. I can't reveal the recipe, but it is one the best Bloody Mary's I have ever had: free pour of Vodka, very little tomato juice, and an epic flavor. The restaurant is spacious with white linen tablecloths, and still that same big bar and beautiful stained glass windows from the days of Club 41.

Located in central Old Pasadena. 41 S. De Lacey Ave. (626) 577-4141  
All I can say is Magnifico !!!

Please listen to my "Food Show", Dining with Dills this Sunday Night on KABC Radio 790 AM. My email address is thechefknows@yahoo.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM & BOTANIC GARDEN

**GROW! A Garden Festival**  
May 4-6, 2012

### WHO SPIKED THE PUNCH AT THE LA ARBORETUM?

Join us Friday evening, May 4, to find out – with tequila cocktails by Nobleza Tequila and wine flights offered by Phantom Rivers Winery, accompanied by appetizers from Claud & Company Catering and the Peacock Café. Not to mention our Beer for Books booth, where all proceeds will go toward new books for the Arboretum Library.

Live music by the Big Band Theory will be the perfect backdrop for enjoying a stroll through our garden sculpture exhibit, Earth Dreams: Beyond the Sculptural Landscape, where you will have an opportunity to meet the eight featured artists. You will see amazing art installations, such as LadyBugs by Patrick E. (above).

The fun continues on Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6, with plenty of kids' activities, live entertainment throughout the day, food trucks, guided tours through our beautiful gardens, and much more!

There is a fantastic lineup of educational Q&A sessions from top garden experts. These forums feature topics on everything from bee-keeping and backyard chickens, maximizing your edible garden production to drought-friendly ornamental landscaping.

And don't forget your shopping opportunities! Our Marketplace will have over 50 vendors with a full array of garden accessories, and over 25 Plant Vendors & Societies offering unique plants and great information. Our Arboretum Gift Shop will be offering special discounts on all merchandise as well.

GROW! will also be the first opportunity to see our newly designed Garden for All Seasons – a demonstration garden of cutting-edge water harvesting techniques and urban home-steady principles.

**IN THE KITCHEN**  
*Our Favorite Recipe of the week*

**Spinach & Mushroom Smothered Chicken Recipe**

### INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups fresh baby spinach
- 1-3/4 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
- 3 green onions, sliced
- 2 tablespoons chopped pecans
- 1-1/2 teaspoons olive oil
- 4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (4 ounces each)
- 1/2 teaspoon rotisserie chicken seasoning
- 2 slices reduced-fat provolone cheese, halved

### DIRECTIONS

- In a large skillet, saute the spinach, mushrooms, onions and pecans in oil until mushrooms are tender. Set aside and keep warm.
- Sprinkle chicken with seasoning. Using long-handled tongs, moisten a paper towel with cooking oil and lightly coat the grill rack.
- Grill chicken, covered, over medium heat or broil 4 in. from the heat for 4-5 minutes on each side or until a meat thermometer reads 170°.
- Top with cheese. Cover and grill 2-3 minutes longer or until cheese is melted. To serve, top each chicken breast with reserved spinach mixture. Yield: 4 servings.

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**SATURDAY**  
**May 12, 2012**  
**6 p.m. to 10 p.m.**  
**Tickets \$25.00**

**Line Dancing Instruction**  
**Good Food! — Great Fun!**  
**No Host Bar**  
**The Sierra Madre Room**  
**611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.**  
**Sierra Madre, CA**

**For more information please call**  
**626.355.2335 or 626.355.8333**

\*proceeds to fund Paul Magaris mini-grant programs and other charitable activities

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## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

## APRIL 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 Folies. 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. The bus will leave the Senior Center at 8:30 am and return at 6 pm. The featured guest stars are The Diamonds ("Little Darlin' and Why Do Fools Fall in Love"). Space is limited to the first 30 persons to register.

Thursday, May 17th - Adamson House in Malibu. Join us as we visit this historic 1930s home, view the largest display of Malibu titles, tour (walking) the Malibu Lagoon Museum and end your visit at a local restaurant for lunch. The bus will leave the senior center at 8 am (L.A. traffic) and return around 3:30 pm (depending on traffic). COST is \$20 per person (you will need additional money to pay for your own lunch) and the tour is limited to the first 20 paid registrations. Please note, if it rains the excursion will be canceled per the museum staff. City staff will know by 7 am the morning of May 17th if it is canceled & will call all participants at that time. SAVE THE DATE: Friday, June 8th - Nerthercutt Collection & lunch in Sylmar area

Registration can be done either in person or online at [www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineeregistration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineeregistration)  
Registration can be done either in person or online at: [www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineeregistration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineeregistration)

## April Birthdays



Blanca Martinez, Lillian Snyder, Dorothy White, Freda Bernard, Beth Copti, Terri Cummings, Marilyn Diaz, Virginia Elliott, Elma Flores, Barbara Lampman, Betty Mackie, Elizabeth Rasmussen, Maria Reyes, Ann Schryver,



## Meals-On-Wheels

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

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

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

## Foothill Computer Services

**20+ years in Sierra Madre**  
**PC Computer Repairs**  
**& Electronics Consulting**  
**Dave Felt 355-8315**

## LUNCH &amp; LEARN

Join the Senior  
Community Commission  
at the  
**HART PARK HOUSE**  
for a FREE presentation. Lunch is  
available for a  
\$2 donation  
Call (626) 355-0256 by  
12 noon the day before.

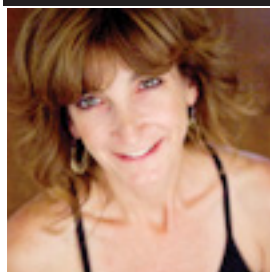
## DIAL - A - RIDE TICKETS

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



BINGO Tuesday - join us every Tuesday at the Hart Park House Senior Center at 1:30 pm for this traditional social activity. Bingo cards are only 25 cents each.

There will be a special intermission dessert & prize at the April 24th game provided by Angie Chen of Seniors Helping Seniors - In home services for seniors by seniors.

THE JOY OF YOGA  
WHAT IS A YOGA CLASS LIKE?

By Rene Quenell, Founder/Owner  
Yoga Madre - Sierra Madre

## PART 1

Some people have been hesitant to come to class because of the unknown. Or they think that everyone is turning into a pretzel. So let's take a minute and demystify the yoga class.

Now I can't speak for all yoga classes, a Bikram class is different and a gym class is different, but in a typical studio yoga class here is what you can expect:

You arrive 10 minutes early and sign in, and pay (leave your shoes outside the yoga room, we go barefoot). Turn off your cell phone so it doesn't ring in the middle of class. You usually do not need a reservation. (Our classes are \$16 for a single class, some places are more, or you can buy packages and the prices go way down.) You can bring a mat or borrow one. Some places charge a few dollars to rent a mat. I like to have my own mat. But a good mat can be expensive. A cheap mat is just that - cheap, and you won't like it after a short time. Most studios sell good yoga mats.

You'll want to come to class without a full stomach. Try a lite meal at least an hour before class.

A full stomach will slow you down. An empty stomach might not provide the energy you need. We talked about what to wear last week. Just be sure not to wear perfume or cologne. Most studios do not have showers. But changing there is ok, like if you are coming from work. Bring a bottle of water and a towel if you like. Some of us sweat a little more than others. Some of us need a towel to dry our palms and foreheads. In classical yoga we heat up the body from the inside with breath and movement. The room is comfortable, not super hot. But there are styles of yoga that super heat the room. We will speak about styles in the future too.

Then you choose a spot and get something like a blanket or bolster to sit on. All yoga studios have these things for you to use. Blocks too, in case you need it to reach the floor. The teacher will usually check in with you if you are new to see if you have any injuries or special requirements. Then the class is ready to begin. If you can't take the suspense - come to class before next week's column - jump right in and have a great time. Or - next week we will talk about the actual asanas or postures that we do.

I can't wait to see you in class! Namasté, René

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## NEW WAYS TO CASH IN ON YOUR LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

Dear Savvy Senior:

What can you tell me about life settlements? I have a life insurance policy that I really don't need any longer and I've heard that selling it can produce a nice payout. Interested In Selling



Dear Interested:

If you don't need your life insurance policy any longer, are having a difficult time keeping up with the premium payments or could just use the money, a life settlement is definitely an option worth considering.

## How it Works

A life settlement is the sale of an existing life insurance policy to a third party company for cash. Life settlements are typically best suited for people over age 65 who own a policy with a face value of \$250,000 or more.

Historically, if an owner of a life insurance policy decided they no longer needed it, they would either let the policy lapse or turn it in for a meager cash surrender value. But now, with the life settlement option, you can actually sell your policy for two to three times more than the cash surrender value would be, but less than its net death benefit.

Once you sell it however, the life settlement company then becomes the new owner of the policy, pays the future premiums and collects the death benefit when you die.

How much money you can expect to get with a life settlement will depend on your age, health and life expectancy, the type of insurance policy, the premium costs and the value of your policy. Most sellers generally get 20 to 30 percent of the death benefit.

If you're interested in a life settlement here are some things you should know:

**Shop around:** To ensure you get the best deal, get quotes from several brokers or life settlement providers. Also, find out what fees you'll be required to pay. To locate credible providers or brokers, the Life Insurance Settlement Association (LISA) provides a referral service at [lisa.org](http://lisa.org).

**Tax implications:** Life settlements are also taxable if the cash surrender value of the policy exceeds the premiums paid on it. This can be very complicated, so be sure to consult a tax advisor. Also, be aware that receiving money from a life settlement can affect eligibility for public assistance programs like Medicaid or food stamps.

**Be cautious:** Life settlements are not regulated in every state so be careful who you deal with. Make sure the broker or life settlement firm you choose is either licensed in your state or is a member of LISA.

## Other Options

If you don't like the idea of selling your life insurance policy but could use some extra cash, here are some other options your insurance agent can help you investigate:

- Cash value withdraw: If you have any cash value in your policy, you can probably withdraw some of it to meet your immediate needs and keep your policy for your beneficiaries.
- A loan: You may also be able to use your policy to secure a loan from the insurance company, as well as a bank, credit union or other lender.
- Annuity "1035" conversion: Find out if you're able to convert the cash value of your policy into an immediate annuity, which will make regular payments to you for a set number of years or for the rest of your life.
- Accelerated benefit: If you're terminally ill, some policies have an accelerated death benefit which pays some of the policy's death benefit before you die.
- Reduced premiums: If premium payments are your problem, your life insurer may be able to convert your policy to a paid-up policy, or lower your death benefit amount in order to reduce your premiums. Or, consider asking your beneficiaries to help pay the premiums.

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

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



## AFTER DECEMBER WINDSTORM, REPLANTING SIERRA MADRE'S TREE CANOPY

### Homeowners Crane in 17,000 Lb. Oak to Replace Fallen Tree

After several hundred Sierra Madre trees were uprooted or snapped in the December 1 windstorm, remnants of the deforestation of foothill communities like Sierra Madre still remain. Many homes still have enormous tarps applied like huge blue band aids, where shingles were stripped or trees fell through the roof that fateful night.

Oak Crest Drive, running along the eastern perimeter of Bailey Canyon, is representative of the damage wreaked by 100+ mile an hour canyon winds. Within two blocks, dozens of trees were damaged or downed on that night. One Oak Crest home had a large oak sever part of the roof. A block away, on Grove and Carter, a home was buried under huge Eucalyptus, requiring cranes to unearth the remaining structure. Other homes had three and four trees snapped as a burst of wind traveled Bailey Canyon. Oak Crest residents, the Eberhards, were devastated that the oak tree they considered the focal point of their landscape and privacy from the street, tipped at a dangerous angle over their driveway after the storm. The couple had spent years trying to save the majestic heritage tree, which was plagued by the *Armillaria fungus* in the soil, and years of detrimental summer irrigation by a former owner.

Oaks native to Southern California tolerate precious little summertime watering, as the indigenous climate usually doesn't provide any. Thirsty plantings and their attendant sprinkler systems are often a deadly combination for these trees.

At the recommendation of Osti Tree Service, the Eberhards engaged Sierra Madre based, Gagnier Landscape to search out a large replacement tree. "We wanted the biggest one possible," said Carolyn Eberhard. Joe Gagnier, CEO of the company, indicated the new oak, a southern Live Oak, with a Latin name of *Quercus Virginiana*, came in an 84 inch box covering its root system from Senna Tree's Sunland inventory.

After being "field dug", the tree acclimated to its boxed root environment at Senna for a couple of years before this installation. Native to the American South, which gets regular summertime rains, this variety is less susceptible to the *Armillaria fungus* in local soil, retaining natural defense to it. "This fungus really wreaks havoc (on oak trees) under warm conditions where there's moisture," said Gagnier. According to the company's website, [www.SennaTree.com](http://www.SennaTree.com), their in-house capability and expertise preserves and relocates trees from 48 inch diameter and up, and grows "over 20 acres of unique, one of a kind, specimen trees and palms, 60 thru 132 inch box size, plus palms 8 to 80 feet in trunk height."

Gagnier chuckled, remembering the search for the Eberhard's perfect tree. "The search went on for a couple of months. I sent photographs of the best looking stuff I was finding. Every time I sent a picture, Carolyn said, 'Bigger!'"

Weighing in at 17,000 pounds and about 23 feet high, the Eberhard's newly acquired tree was installed with a huge crane and a crew of six, amid great neighborhood excitement on April 12. About a dozen looked on, most with cameras rolling.

The new oak of Oak Crest is not the largest tree Gagnier has installed. That honor goes to the Stone Pine in a 96 inch box procured from Valley Crest Tree, which they installed at a Beverly Park estate off Mulholland.

The Oak Crest installation was one of the more challenging, however, due to the steep grade of the street. "Senna is my first call for the bigger trees," said Gagnier. "I like them because their main focus is as a tree company, and they own all their cranes." "We tried to figure out the best approach, from the driveway, the street above, or from the curb, because of the angles. Their more experienced crane operators came up with extra gear to level the crane, with special ramps and blocking," he said, to accommodate the difficult site.

Since the windstorm, Gagnier has been very busy in the Pasadena area, installing ten 60 inch diameter boxed trees at one site last week, and several other large, mature "reforestation" efforts locally.

And, yes, Gagnier installs smaller trees, replanting the local leafy canopy one tree at a time.

For more information, contact Gagnier Landscape at 626- 355-5977.



Oak Crest tree installation by crane



Digging a four foot hole for the tree roots.

### Open House Sun 2-5! Highland Oaks Beauty



231 E. Haven Ave. Arcadia \$599,000



Carolyn Papp

This lovely home has a new master bedroom and bath. There are two other bedrooms, one currently being used as a den-rec room. The living room has built-in bookcases and a pretty gas fireplace. Hardwood floors are throughout most of the house. Central air and heat were added in 2006. The landscaped yard will delight your eyes with several fruit trees, hot tub & plenty of room in the back for entertaining. Highland Oaks and Foothills schools.



Carolyn Papp  
Coldwell Banker Arcadia  
626-353-7443

**Better hurry!**



## Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

### A WARM INVITATION

In spring and summer, it's easy to envision ways to enhance your home's curb appeal with a trimmed lawn, planted and potted flowers, and patios and decks arranged with outdoor furniture and an inviting grill. But when the leaves fall and the temperatures drop, even homes in temperate climates undergo a winter transformation that can challenge a seller to create exterior appeal.

When it comes to landscaping and colorful plants, there are plenty of ornamental grasses and plants that look great in wintertime. Purple cabbages, fountain grasses, and potted evergreens along pathways and by the door all add seasonal color and appeal. And obviously, your sidewalk, entry path, patio and deck should be clear of leaves and/or snow.

Be sure to keep in mind that shorter days mean that buyers are that much more likely to see your home after sunset, so make sure all your floodlights are clean and in working order, highlighting your home's exterior features. Lamps with soft lighting in all your windows will also offer a warm invitation.

Finally, just to cover your bases, have photos available of your home in all its glory during the spring and summer months. This gives buyers a better sense of your home's appeal during all the seasons of the year. Your agent will have more tips for attracting buyers in any kind of weather.



## Garden Tour

April 22, 2012  
10:30 am – 4:30 pm

Showcasing four exquisite gardens in  
Pasadena, San Marino, Arcadia, and Sierra Madre

Tickets can be purchased at

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108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
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# Mountain Views News

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SATURDAY APRIL 21, 2012

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**May 21, 2012**  
Last day to register to vote

**May 29, 2012**  
Last day to apply for a  
vote-by-mail ballot by mail

**June 5, 2012**  
Election Day



*This Week:*

## STATEWIDE BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

### PROP 29

**IMPOSES ADDITIONAL  
TAX ON  
CIGARETTES FOR  
CANCER RESEARCH.**  
*INITIATIVE STATUTE.*

#### SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Imposes additional \$1.00 per pack tax on cigarettes and an equivalent tax increase on other tobacco products. Revenues fund research for cancer and tobacco-related diseases. Fiscal Impact: Net increase in cigarette excise tax revenues of about \$735 million annually by 2013–14 for certain research and tobacco prevention and cessation programs. Other state and local revenue increases amounting to tens of millions of dollars annually.

#### WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: State excise taxes on cigarettes would increase by \$1 per pack to a total of \$1.87 per pack. These additional revenues would be dedicated to fund cancer and tobacco-related disease research and tobacco prevention and cessation programs.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: State excise taxes on cigarettes would remain at the current level of 87 cents per pack and would continue to be used for existing purposes, including childhood development programs and various health and tobacco prevention and cessation programs.

#### ARGUMENTS

**PRO** The American Cancer Society, American Heart Association and American Lung Association wrote Prop. 29 to save lives, stop kids from smoking, and fund cancer research. Big Tobacco opposes Prop. 29 because they know it will reduce smoking in California. Prop. 29 saves lives, but only with a YES vote.

**CON** Everyone supports cancer research, but Prop. 29 is flawed: \$735 million annually in new taxes but doesn't require revenue be spent in California to create jobs or fund schools. Creates new government spending bureaucracy with political appointees, duplicating existing programs. More waste, no accountability to taxpayers. No on 29. ReadForYourself.org

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**FOR**  
Tim Gibbs American Cancer Society 980 9th Street, Suite 2550 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 397-4618 Info@Californians-ForACure.org www.YesProp29.org

**AGAINST**  
No on 29—Californians Against Out-of-Control Taxes and Spending, a coalition of taxpayers, small businesses, law enforcement and labor. (866) 662-7016 Info@NoOn29.com www.NoOn29.com

### PROP 28

**LIMITS ON LEGISLATORS'  
TERMS IN OFFICE. INITIATIVE**  
*CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.*

#### SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Reduces total amount of time a person may serve in the state legislature from 14 years to 12 years. Allows 12 years' service in one house. Applies only to legislators first elected after measure is passed. Fiscal Impact: No direct fiscal effect on state or local governments.

#### WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Future Members of the State Legislature could serve a total of 12 years in office—without regard to whether the years were served in the State Assembly or the State Senate. Legislators first elected on or before June 5, 2012 would continue to be restricted by existing term limits.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Existing term limits for the Legislature would remain in place for current and future legislators. These limits allow a total of 14 years in office—including a maximum of six years in the State Assembly and eight years in the State Senate.

#### ARGUMENTS

**PRO** The status quo isn't working. After two decades, our term limits law needs fixing. Prop. 28 places a hard 12 year limit on legislators and closes the loophole that allows legislators to serve nearly 17 years. It's a simple reform that helps make legislators more accountable. Read it. Vote Yes.

**CON** Proposition 28 is a scam by special interests to trick voters into weakening term limits. It actually lengthens—not reduces—terms for politicians in office. It doubles the time politicians can serve in the State Assembly. It increases by 50% the time politicians can serve in the State Senate.

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**FOR**  
Doug Herman  
Californians for a Fresh Start  
790 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite 506  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
(626) 535-0710  
info@cafreshstart.com www.cafreshstart.com

**AGAINST**  
Anita Anderson  
Californians for Term Limits  
1161 Rhode Island Street  
San Francisco, CA 94107  
(415) 309-0939  
info@www.28no.org www.28no.org



From The California Secretary of State's Office:

## CALIFORNIA'S OPEN PRIMARY

Top Two Candidates Open  
Primary Act and Voter-Nominated Offices

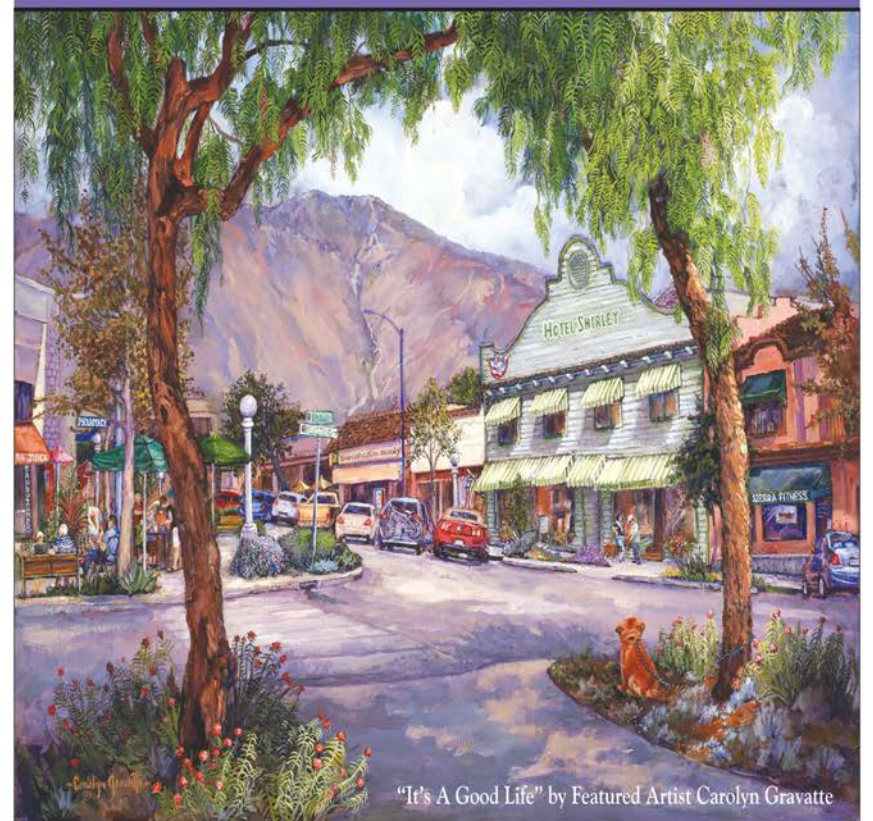
On June 8, 2010, California voters approved Proposition 14, which created a "top two" or "open primary" election system. Except for the office of U.S. President and county central committee offices, offices that used to be known as "partisan offices" (e.g., state constitutional offices, U.S. Congress, and state legislative offices) are now known as "voter-nominated" offices. What used to be known as a "political party affiliation" is now known as a "political party preference."

Prior to the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, all candidates running in a primary election, with the same political party affiliation, were placed on a partisan ballot to be voted on by voters of the same political party. The top vote-getter from each qualified political party would move on to the general election. At the general election, candidates could gain access to the ballot using the independent nomination process and other could run as write-in candidates. Under the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, all candidates running in a primary election, regardless of their party preference, will appear on a single primary election ballot and voters can vote for any candidate. The top two overall vote-getters – not the top vote-getter from each qualified political party – will move on to the general election.

Additionally, candidates are no longer allowed to run as "independents" or "write-ins" at the general election. Prior to the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, a candidate for a partisan office would have the political party they were registered with listed next to or below their name on the primary and general election ballots. A candidate who won at the primary election was then considered to be the official nominee of their political party. Now, under the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, candidates for voter-nominated office must indicate their party preference or lack of party preference on the primary and general election ballots. Political parties can no longer formally nominate candidates for voter-nominated offices, so a candidate who finishes in the top two at the primary election and advances to the general election is not the official nominee of any party for the office.

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# Looking Up

with Bob Eklund

## Music of the Spheres: Zinta & The Zoots, Starring Cassiopeia A



A British musical group named “Zinta & The Zoots” recently gave a most unusual concert at Canturbury College, England. Joining the band for the live performance was an enigmatic musical contributor, whose part was originated some 11,000 years earlier—the supernova remnant Cassiopeia A.

Thanks to radio astronomer Jan van Muijlwijk and his team of astronomers and amateur radio buffs,

the historic 83-foot radio telescope at Dwingeloo in Holland was pointed at Cas A, a powerful source of radio-frequency emissions in the constellation Cassiopeia, in order to relay the live signal to the stage in Canterbury during the performance. These electromagnetic waves, on arrival at Earth, were morphed with Zinta’s live vocal using a Vocoder, creating a synthesis of two temporally distinct sound sources, fusing human and cosmic “voices” across time and space.

Zinta & The Zoots, led by Ms. Zinta Egle, made their debut performance in Canterbury, England, in 2008. The band embodies a refreshing disregard for genre limitations and expectations. Their focus is on creating melodic, characterful, stand-alone songs and the arrangement ethos is to express each piece in a pure, inventive and authentic way using whatever comes to hand or mind. Whether it’s electric, acoustic, or electronic - from radios to harmoniums to Max/MSP - anything that makes a noise may become part of the backdrop for Zinta’s vocals.

**BOUNCING MUSIC OFF THE MOON**

The group recently revisited the radio dish at Dwingeloo to conduct some additional musical experiments - this time treating their song to a “moonbounce.” Zinta sang an a capella version of the song, phrase by phrase, into a hand-held radio transmitter; and this was sent to the Moon via the radio telescope dish, to be returned to Earth as an echo with a 2.5 second delay. The resulting recordings of this event are currently being developed into a new, remixed version of the song.

The Dwingeloo Radio Observatory (near Dwingeloo, m. Westerveld, in the northeastern part of The Netherlands), is a single-dish radio telescope with a diameter of 25 meters (83 feet). Construction started in 1954, and the telescope was completed in 1956. At that time it was the largest radio telescope in the world. As of the year 2000, it was no longer in operation in an official capacity, and since August 2009 it is officially a Dutch industrial heritage monument.

The C.A. Muller Radio Astronomy Station Foundation (“CAMRAS” for short) restored the telescope to working order, with the consent of ASTRON, the owner of the telescope. At the present time, manager Paul Boven (JIVE, CAMRAS) and teams of radio amateurs and amateur astronomers use the Dwingeloo telescope for a variety of projects, one being EME (communications). EME, also known as “moonbounce,” allows people on different parts of Earth to communicate via the Moon. In this technique, radio wave signals are aimed at the Moon by one location, bounce off the Moon’s surface, and detected by an antenna at a different location on Earth.

For more information about the band, Zinta & The Zoots: [zintaandthezoots.com](http://zintaandthezoots.com)  
You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com).



Mac users were forced to admit that their world is becoming a much more different place than it used to be. Apple fans are wont to (and probably still can) boast that their OS has been basically immune from the attacks that Windows users have weathered as a fact of life online. But now a spike in security threats has made it abundantly clear that the online bad guys are no longer ignoring the Mac OS platform. Earlier this month computer security researchers had detected a version of malware called “Trojan Backdoor. Flashback” that had formed a botnet comprised of 600,000 infected Macs.

In this case, the malware targeted vulnerability in the Java component of the Mac OS. Oracle. The makers of the Java software platform released a fix for the infection and Apple included the fix in a subsequent software update package for users of OS X versions 10.6 and 10.7. Users of older versions of Mac OS were advised to disable Java in order to avoid

infection.

The latest Mac security threat, a variant of the “LuckyCat” attack, takes advantage of an exploit in Microsoft Word documents, giving a remote attacker the ability to plunder infected systems, and steal data remotely. This exploit has been around for almost three years now, and is completely preventable if the system is kept up-to-date with the latest security updates.

The fact that these threats are only now getting widespread publicity indicates how historically lackadaisical Mac users have been toward security; it might be time for this attitude to change. In the past, malicious attacks on the Mac platform have been few and far between. More than 90 percent of the desktop market share used to go to Windows, so that’s where cybercriminals focused their time. But in recent months, OS X adoption has been rising, and similarly the number of threats (like last year’s MacDefender Trojan Horse) have also been rising.

The main point to consider is that the bad guys haven’t really created any new ways of breaking into your system, but have increasingly come to exploit cross-platform programs like Microsoft Office, Adobe PDF products, Java, and Flash and in the process are reaping more “rewards” for their efforts by creating malware that affects both Windows and Mac platforms. As the efforts by the bad guys to find better ways to target the Mac OS platform increase, Mac security researchers would do well to take advantage of the road already travelled by the Windows guys.

Regardless of the Apple strategy for dealing with the increased attention from the online bad guys, keep in mind that this is only beginning. When it rains, it pours.



## KATIE Tse .....*This and That* BRITICIZE IT!



We here in Southern California have an accent.

We don’t think we have, but we do. Our accent is essentially a whitewashing that removes all unique pronunciations found in other areas of the country. People spend millions of dollars each year undergoing accent reduction, usually in an effort to advance their careers. Some of this is understandable. If you’re going to do power point presentations or deliver the traffic report, you want people focusing on what you’re saying rather than how you’re saying it.

Yes, nearly everything sounds good in our native So Cal tongue. But it sounds even better with a British accent (or any accent from the U.K. for that matter). A British accent will instantly make you sound twice as smart and sexy as you really are. Stereotypically speaking, that’s probably how the British got away with having bad teeth. Everyone’s too enthralled with their voice to notice where it’s coming from. Mastery of the British accent will make your stories more riveting, your jokes funnier, and people will take your threats more seriously.

Sounding British will imbue whatever you’re saying with knowledgeable authority. Think of all the documentaries you’ve seen. I swear every movie about the Romans has them speaking like members of Parliament. Imagine if they used people from the Bronx or Boston. Caesar would say, “I came, I sar, I conquhd.” Doesn’t have the same ring. I bet even a BBC production on Neanderthals would have the cavemen grunting with classic British vowels.

Even if you can’t swing a British accent all the time, knowing a few helpful phrases will go a long way in getting what you want. Case in point. We had a family friend over for Easter. We’ll call him Wayne. Wayne remarked that he usually receives mediocre service at a popular coffee establishment. The people working there aren’t rude, per se, but flagging their attention is nearly impossible. For example, Wayne was tempted to carry the long-empty pitcher of half & half to the fridge and swapping it out with a new one, instead of waiting for the servers to notice him. Then he got the idea of asking for it in a Scottish accent! Wayne isn’t from Scotland, but he knows a lot of British people, and is constantly honing his Scottish accent. “Ave yuh got a bit o’ ccream?” he asked. Wouldn’t you know it that two girls behind the counter looked up and Wayne had his half & half in a jiffy. While any So Cal native could be fooled by his artificial accent, actual British expats happily correct Wayne’s attempts at Scottish. “Ow, about this on’, eh?” he would question them. “More like London,” a friend would say. “East end.”

So, even if you can’t speak British all the time, try to master a couple key phrases relevant to situations you frequently find yourself in. Sounding British will make you come off as less offensive (“Pardon me”), more intelligent (“In point of fact...”), and more persuasive (“Are you doing anything tonight?”). And if you get really good at it, you might not have to worry about poor dental care!



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Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc



If you’re at all like me, more often than not, after viewing an advertisement by an animal advocate group such as PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) or an animal rescue organization such as The Humane Society, you end up in tears, and unable to even finish watching, because it makes you so depressed. There are reasons why they make their ads so emotionally engaging, and I am one who will always support such groups as much as I can, but I could do without some of the sad, tear-jerking graphics they display in their ads. I mean let’s face it, anyone who will donate to these worthy causes already knows about the horrific things that happen to animals at the hands of cruel humans, and those who are not inclined to donate to begin with most likely will not be prompted to do so by viewing grueling graphics of animal cruelty.

Fortunately, PETA has recently switched gears a bit, in terms of how they solicit interest and support from their viewers. Now, thanks to the creative cast & crew employed by PETA’s promotional department, their ads give me a good gut laugh rather than a tortured tear, and I am left feeling even more enthusiastic about supporting their efforts. A recent PETA promotional campaign pin-pointing the inappropriate

## THAT DEVLISH DEVON DENTLER!

*PETA’s Precarious, Hilarious ‘Wild Animal Agent’*

exploitation and neglectful treatment of wild animals on Hollywood movie sets features the unique technique of humor versus remorse, as a means of prompting positive responses from their audience.

Devon Dentler, a cute and crazy comic (and I mean crazy as an endearing term) who just happens to reside relatively local to our community just up the road in Glendale, has made it his mission to incite positive responses from the general public on behalf of wild animals who have way-too-long been exploited by the entertainment industry. Here’s a guy who could get a good gut giggle out of the crustiest crowd that would otherwise rather frown and be down, and has chosen to focus his talents and time on helping prevent wild animal exploitation in Hollywood. His hilarious ad antics have recently become an icon among animal rights activists, including myself. When I first saw one of Devon’s ads, I was enamored by his charming way of making an important point while making me laugh my ‘you-know-what’ off at the same time! It was so refreshing to see an animal rights promotional ad that succeeded in cutting to the chase without leaving me emotionally depleted. I have always thought that humor is an amazing medium that can be used to convey thoughts that are typically difficult to convey, and in my opinion, Devon (aka: “Wild Animal Agent”) is the master

of this rather new animal rights advertisement comedy genre.

If you’ve never caught one of PETA’s ads featuring Devon Dentler, ‘Wild Animal Agent’, I highly recommend it. Even if you are not in a position to donate to the cause right now, you will definitely benefit from the laughter these ads will bring, and it can’t hurt to be reminded of what goes on behind the scenes with animals in entertainment. There are at least 8 commercials in the PETA “Wild Animal Agent” campaign series that I know of, and each one is focused on a particular type of animal. There is one with a bear, one with an elephant, a couple featuring a lion, one with a gorilla and even one with a bat. These animal advocate ads make full fun of the ‘average’ Hollywood talent agent using simply side-splitting satire that is guaranteed to hit the nail on the head regarding the inappropriate use of wild animals in film. Of course, there are no wild animals in the PETA ads themselves, as that would be somewhat of a conflict of interest, so instead of including a real animal, they use sound effects, and panning techniques that turn the viewer into the animal. Brilliant stuff, I think!

Be sure and check it out at the PETA website link:  
<http://www.peta.org/search/SearchResults.aspx?q=devon%20dentler>

And don’t forget to live, love, laugh and let live!



## Jeff's Pics

## The Book Report

By Jeff Brown

## MASTERS OF THE PLANET: THE SEARCH FOR OUR HUMAN ORIGINS

by Ian Tattersall

50,000 years ago, merely a blip in evolutionary time, our Homo sapiens ancestors were competing for existence with several other human species, just as their own precursors had been doing for millions of years. Yet something about our species separated it from the pack, and led to its survival while the rest became extinct. So just what was it that allowed Homo sapiens to become Masters of the Planet? Tattersall takes us deep into the fossil record to uncover what made humans so special. Surveying a vast field from initial bipedality to language and intelligence, Tattersall argues that Homo sapiens acquired a winning combination of traits that was not the result of long term evolutionary refinement. Instead it emerged quickly, shocking their world and changing it forever. He takes us from 6 million years ago in Africa's Rift Valley to the present day. On the way, he describes humanity's cousins and rivals, from apes to the other hominins that competed with H. sapiens as, tens of thousands of years ago, our ancestors made the cognitive leap to symbolic thought! Ian Tattersall, PhD is a curator at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, and an acknowledged leader of the human fossil record.

## DROP DEAD HEALTHY: ONE MAN'S HUMBLE QUEST FOR BODILY PERFECTION

by A. J. Jacobs

From this bestselling author comes the true and truly hilarious story of one person's quest to become the healthiest man in the world. Hospitalized with a freak case of tropical pneumonia, goaded by his wife telling him, "I don't want to be a widow at forty-five," and ashamed of a middle-aged body best described as "a python that swallowed a goat," A.J. Jacobs felt compelled to change his ways and get healthy. And he didn't want only to lose weight, or finish a triathlon, or lower his cholesterol. His ambitions were far greater: maximal health from head to toe. The task was epic. He consulted an army of experts, sleep consultants and sex clinicians, nutritionists and dermatologists. He subjected himself to dozens of different workouts, from Strollercize classes to Finger Fitness sessions, from bouldering with cavemen to a treadmill desk. And he took in a cartload of diets: raw foods, veganism, high protein, calorie restriction, extreme chewing, and dozens more. He bought gadgets and helmets, earphones and juicers. He poked and he pinched. He counted and he measured. The story of his transformation is not only brilliantly entertaining, but it just may be the healthiest book ever written.

## Idyllwild Arts New Music Concert with Special Guests Richard Thompson and So Percussion

As part of its innovative annual New Music Concerts, the Idyllwild Arts Academy Orchestra the 2012 New Music Concert will feature the legendary singer/songwriter/guitarist Richard Thompson along with the incomparable music of So Percussion.

The evening's program features world-premiere selections from Richard Thompson's Interviews with Ghosts, composer Chen Yi's Tone Poem, Idyllwild Arts Music Director Peter Askim's Elsewhere and the world premiere of the orchestral version of John Cage's Credo in US. Also on the program is the West Coast premiere of So Percussion member Jason Treuting's Oblique Music.

Rounding out the program will be musician and composer Steve Reich's Music for Pieces of Wood. The concert is to be held at 4:00 p.m. at The Barnsdall Gallery Theatre. An additional concert will also precede Sunday afternoon's performance on Saturday, April 28th at the Idyllwild Arts Campus in Idyllwild, California.

Idyllwild Arts Music Director Peter Askim is enthusiastic about the innovative combination of musicians and pieces being performed at the upcoming concert, remarking, "I'm incredibly excited about the diversity of music on this program and the amazing level of world class soloists and composers participating. Any one of these soloists or composers on a concert would be fantastic, and to have all at once is a musical dream come true."

**Richard Thompson**

Legendary guitarist, composer, and songwriter Richard Thompson will perform a selection of songs from his work in progress, "Interviews With Ghosts". Thompson, rated by Rolling Stone magazine as one of the Top 100 Guitarists of All Time, is known for pushing the creative envelope by combining classical music with folk-rock and orchestral music. Thompson, who made his debut as a recording artist as a member of Fairport Convention in 1967, continues to write, record, and perform worldwide.

**Chen Yi**

Chinese composer Chen Yi was commissioned by the IAAO to write an original work, Tone Poem, which will receive its World Premiere at the concert. Yi is a prolific composer whose music transcends cultural and musical boundaries by creating a blend of tones that appeal to a wide range of audiences.



Richard Thompson performs with the Idyllwild Arts Academy Orchestra led by conductor Peter Askim

**Dr. Peter Askim**

Idyllwild Arts Academy Music Director Peter Askim's piece, "Elsewhere", will be making its debut. As a composer, Dr. Askim has been called a "Modern Master" and has had commissions and performances with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, the Honolulu Symphony, the International Society of Bassists, the ale Symphony Orchestra and the Idyllwild Arts Orchestra, among others.

**Jason Treuting/SO Percussion**

Jason Treuting, a composer and musician of So Percussion will be performing an original piece, "Oblique Music for 4 Plus (blank)" in its West Coast premiere.

So Percussion is currently the Ensemble-in-Residence at Princeton University. According to Askim, So Percussion is "the hottest, hippest group of young virtuoso hotshots in the world today. Whether they are playing drums, amplified cactus or plastic bags, they create an irresistible groove out of the most complex music of our time."

Tickets for this extraordinary event are available online at [www.itsmyseat.com/IAF](http://www.itsmyseat.com/IAF) at presale rates of \$10 for students and \$20 for adults. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$15 and \$25 respectively.

The concert, which is also a fundraiser for the William M. Lowman Concert Hall Building Fund, Patron and Benefactor Sponsorships are also available. To experience the arts! Event Phone: 951-659-2171 Venue: The Barnsdall Gallery Theatre 4800 Hollywood Blvd Los Angeles CA 90027

Performance Dates: Sunday, 04/29/2012  
Performance Time 4:00 pm

Ticket Information: Presale tickets: \$10 students, \$20 adults



## SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

Review By Sean Kayden

## EIGHT AND A HALF

Toronto indie label Arts & Crafts, known for their eclectic roster of bands, including supergroup Broken Social Scene, are expanding their repertoire for 2012. With B.S.S. on an indefinite hiatus, the label is on the lookout for the next big indie act. The latest addition to their team is Eight and A Half - a three-piece group comprised of Dave Hamelin and Liam O'Neil, former members from the out of commission group, The Stills (Arts & Crafts alumni) and Justin Peroff, the drummer for Broken Social Scene. This isn't BSS or The Stills revisited, in spite of some influences to be on display. Eight and A Half focuses more on synthesizers and samplers as a vital integration in their somewhat minimalist approach. The amalgamation of eerie sounds, dark ambience, and rich textures are deeply rooted in the band's experimental resonance.

Liam O'Neil, the secondary vocalist when a member of The Stills, takes on full responsibilities as the primary singer. The transition seems effortless while O'Neil exhibits a crooning method as he carefully and expressively sings. On the second track of Eight and A Half's self-titled debut, "Scissors," O'Neil's singing is a lull—soothing, pacifying, and warm. When he despondently speaks the words "Hold me like an old friend, Hold me like an omen," you can sense the heartbreak and lonesomeness in his voice. "Scissors" is the slowest song off the record, but clearly one of the band's stronger tracks. The recent single, "Go Ego," is a tight, richly layered, synth-heavy tune that describes someone who had it all, but everything is now lost. The album remains faithful to the members' previous work, however, it's also cementing a name for the new band as they expand on their earlier sounds. "Took A Trip To India" is the best song Eight and A Half has developed. The poppy gem is smooth, beautifully arranged, and simply awesome. The chorus of "Two Points" takes a cue from Broken Social Scene, but even with the comparison, this is wholly an Eight and A Half song from top to bottom.

The guys claim this is no side project, but a full fledged band. If that's the case, Arts and Crafts may have another big player on their lineup. The Canadian group's first outing is short-lived however, clocking in at just over 35 minutes over the span of ten tracks. The first and last tracks are more like an intro and outro leaving the listener with eight complete songs. The record is pretty impressive regardless of its brief length. Often times, debut albums feel a bit green, but Eight and A Half shows no signs of that. In fact, their sound is polished, refined, and complete. Given the pedigree behind the project and how I'm already an avid fan of the members' earlier work, it really comes as no surprise that the record is as good as it is. While the direction in sound is different, Eight and A Half are a worthy substitute for B.S.S. fans aching for a fix. However, I wouldn't be all too shocked if E.A.A.H. attract a lexicon of old and new supporters in the process.

**Key Tracks:** "Go Ego," "Scissors," "Took A Trip To India," "Two Points"  
**Grade:** 8.3 out of 10

## LATE BLOOMERS TO PERFORM AT THE COFFEE GALLERY BACKSTAGE

Coffee Gallery Backstage,  
2029 N. Lake, Altadena,  
91001

Sunday, May 13, 2012

7:00 pm, \$15.00

Reservations:

626-798-6236

**LATE BLOOMERS present: IDOLS AND INFLUENCES, an homage to the great singer-songwriters of our generation and a celebration of our own original tunes they inspired.**

Dan Ames, Gayle Bluemel, Ross Johnsen and Scott Shepherd are the LATE BLOOMERS, an acoustic folk-rock band, and have been performing together since 2006. Now two married couples, they cut their teeth on the music of Dylan, Neil Young and Paul Simon while still in high school in the sixties. They have since found their own sound by not only putting their individual stamp on favorites from that era., but by performing many new original tunes as well.

The Late Bloomers are accomplished vocalists as well as passionate singer-songwriters. Dan, a general contractor by day, writes clever lyrics for his traditionally inspired and memorable tunes, which are quickly becoming crowd favorites. He is a versatile string player as you will see when he picks up either the guitar, dobro, bass, or pedal steel. Gayle is Dan's wife, plays keyboards and puts together many of the group's vocal arrangements. She is the recently retired principal of Sierra Madre School, and, after a lifetime of being an arts educator and advocate, is taking up song-writing as well, and will be premiering some of her interesting new tunes. Ross plays bass and guitar and is the true poet of the group. Audiences consistently and enthusiastically connect with her inspired words and melodies, as well as her charismatic, individual vocal style. Scott is a classically trained and accomplished percussionist, and through his raw vocals, mandolin and blues harmonica., lends an intense level of passion to every tune.

They have individually been part of the Pasadena and LA music scene for many years and have played with other bands such as Smokewood, Touch Candy, The Shakin' Snakes, Blind Ross, RetroActive and Accelerator and are now enjoying their collaboration as the LATE BLOOMERS.

**CONTACT: Dan Ames 626-797-2483 [danames@charter.net](mailto:danames@charter.net)**

**CLIFFORD SWAN**  
**INVESTMENT COUNSEL**  
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"Morning's at Seven."  
March 30- May 12.

Aaronetta and Ida Gibbs have lived next door to each other most of their lives and along with Esther, all of the Gibb sisters are an open book to each. Husbands not included. Into the fray comes Myrtle Brown, perpetually engaged to Ida's son Homer. But Homer can't seem to pop the question. Taking matters into her own hands, Myrtle finally gets a proposal by compelling Homer to fly the nest. Sort of. This perennially charming portrait of small town America was first produced on Broadway in 1939 and revived in 1980 and in 2002 to critical acclaim. By Paul Osborn, Directed by Bob Hakman

Sierra Madre Playhouse is located at 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Ample free parking behind theatre. Tickets: \$25. Seniors (65+) and students (13-17), \$22. Children 12 and under, \$15. Musicals: \$25 all seats. Reservations: (626) 355-4318. Online ticketing: [www.sierramadreplyhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplyhouse.org)

Sierra Madre Playhouse Presents  
**Morning's at Seven**  
by Paul Osborn Directed by Bob Hakman  
March 30th – May 12th  
Purchase tickets online:  
[www.sierramadreplyhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplyhouse.org)  
or Call: 626 355-4318  
Group Sales:  
626 836-2125  
[www.sierramadreplyhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplyhouse.org)  
and find us on facebook

**A NIGHT OF FOLK MUSIC AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE ON APRIL 22**

Musicians Tim Tedrow and Terry Vreeland return to the stage of Sierra Madre Playhouse and welcome musical guests Ryan Sy, TVVT, The John Zipperer Band, and Bill Mesnik (creator of the hit show "Three Songs") in a concert of folk music with great singer/songwriters.

A Night of Folk Music. At Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Ample free parking behind theatre. Sunday, April 22, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$15. Reservations: (626) 355-4318. Online ticketing: [www.sierramadreplyhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplyhouse.org)



## Mountain Views News

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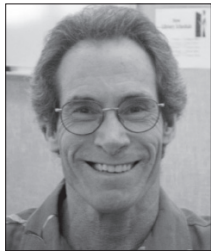
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### Mountain Views News Mission Statement

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



### FIVE DEADLIEST SHIPWRECKS IN HISTORY

*THE TITANIC MAYBE THE MOST NOTORIOUS SHIPWRECK IN HISTORY BUT IT IS NOT THE DEADLIEST*

The 3D version of the James Cameron's 1997 Academy Award Best Picture "*Titanic*" opened last Saturday at local theaters, marking with much Hollywood fanfare the 100th anniversary of the tragic loss of the *Titanic* and most of its passengers. Surprisingly, however, the *Titanic* is not the most catastrophic maritime disaster in history. In fact, based on the death toll, it only ranks as number 5.

#### 5. RMS Titanic

**Date:** April 14, 1912

**Location:** North Atlantic Ocean

**Official death toll:** 1517

The most famous wreck in history, and the most romanticized, the White Star Line's flagship *RMS Titanic* was the largest passenger steamship in the world when launched from Belfast in 1912. On the night of 14 April that year, on her maiden voyage, she struck an iceberg and sank two hours and 40 minutes later, early in the morning of April 15. A final tally of 1,517 dead made it one of the worst ever maritime disasters, and one of the most notorious, in part because her owners had advertised the glamorous vessel as being "designed to be unsinkable". The public fascination which followed the sinking continues to this day.

#### 4. Sultana

**Date:** April 27, 1865

**Location:** In the Mississippi River, near Memphis, Tennessee.

**Official death toll:** 1547

The loss, in April 1865, of the *SS Sultana*, a classic Mississippi steamboat, resulted from an on-board explosion about eight miles north of Memphis, Tennessee. Many of the 1,800 dead were former Civil War soldiers being returned home, but the event was somewhat overshadowed by the recent end of the American Civil War and shocking assassination of President Lincoln. Despite the resulting fire illuminating the sky for miles around, it received relatively little coverage outside the local area.

#### 3. MV Joola

**Date:** September 26, 2002

**Location:** Off the coast of Gambia

**Official death toll:** 1863

The *MV Joola*, a Senegalese government-owned ferry designed to carry a maximum of 580 passengers had at least 2000 on board when it capsized in rough waters during a dangerous storm in late 2002. It was down in under five minutes, its passengers and luggage tossed into the sea.

#### 2. SS Kiangya

**Date:** December 4, 1948

**Location:** the mouth of the Huangpu River, about 50 miles north of Shanghai.

**Estimated death toll:** 2750-3920

The *SS Kiangya*, a passenger steamship packed with refugees from the Chinese Civil War fleeing the advancing communist parties, blew up and sank after hitting what most believe was a mine leftover by the Japanese Imperial Navy. Several hours passed before rescue boats arrived.

#### 1. MV Doña Paz

**Date:** December 20, 1978

**Location:** Tablas Strait, Philippines

**Official death toll:** 1565

Most of the passengers aboard the *MV Doña Paz* were asleep when the ship collided with the *MT Vector*, an oil tanker carrying 8800 barrels of gasoline and petroleum. The collision ignited a fire aboard the *Vector* that spread to the *Doña Paz*, leaving desperate passengers with no other choice but to jump into the the shark-infested waters and swim among the charred bodies. Estimates of casualties vary because of overloading and stowaways and could be as high as 4000, making this the deadliest peacetime shipping disaster, ever.

It has been more that a century since the *Titanic* sank to its icy grave in the Atlantic, taking over 1500 souls with her. Although the *Titanic* was not history's deadliest shipwreck, the fascination with the "ship of dreams" which began long before her launch continues today. The *Titanic* left an indelible mark on our collective consciousness because, in a way, her demise symbolizes the brightest in human ingenuity and the darkest failure.

One thing though: We should make a clear distinction between Hollywood's silver-screen portrayal of the *Titanic* and the actual disaster. Although the 1912 sinking of the *Titanic* was not history's worst shipwreck, the 1997 movie "*Titanic*" remains Hollywood's highest money-making motion picture of all time.

## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column

by Rev. James Snyder



### IS TIME A FRIEND OR AN ENEMY?

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and me were locked in a hopeless Mexican stand-off. She was effectively arguing her side of the issue and I was, well, let's say I was not agreeing. I will not say who won, just that it wasn't

me.

She then looked at me, put both hands on her hips and said, "Time will tell that I'm right."

I cannot wait. The problem is, time is never on my side. I simply do not know what it is about time, but it never does me any favors. Always, and I mean always, time proves my wife was right. I hate it.

I thought it was supposed to be "Father Time" we are dealing with. If it is, he certainly does not have the male side of the issue in good grips. Why does time always prove my wife right? Perhaps Mother Nature has so bullied Father Time that he always takes up the side of my wife.

The past week I have been thinking about this aspect of life; time. It seems that for the most part, we have put a lot of pressure upon time. For example, my wife keeps reminding me that time heals all wounds. If it was not for time I would have no wounds, I retorted.

I got in trouble just this past week because I was running out of time. I had to get across town for an appointment and believe me; time was not on my side. It would have been nice if I could just sit down with Father Time and negotiate a little bit. Would it be that hard for him to press the pause button and suspend time in order for me to catch up? Why is it so important that time keeps marching on? Why can't it, at least on the weekends, just take a slow stroll down memory lane?

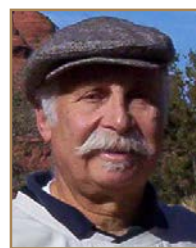
Often I look at my watch to determine if I have enough time to do a certain project. Time has become an austere taskmaster, refusing to give up one second.

Think with me a little bit. Wouldn't it be nice to have every week just one "do over" moment? How hard would that be? Father Time insists on perfection always. He does not allow for screw-ups, which is rather pressing for me. If I could just have one 15-minute period during the week that I could do over, I might be able to catch up a little.

He wants me to be "on time" every time. When it is 2:00 PM, it is only 2:00 PM for one second, that is all. I believe there is an error here somewhere. If time is so valuable, why can't I enjoy 2:00 PM for say, 15 minutes? But no, by the time I acknowledge that it is 2:00 PM Father Time is tapping his finger on his watch and saying, "Let's keep moving because time waits for no man."

At the very center of my life, and everybody else's as well, is the infamous clock representing time. And what a harsh, demanding element this invention has become. Who invented that clock in the first place? Why was it not good enough just to look at the sun and guess what time of day it was? If it was dark, it was time to go to sleep. If the sun

## STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



### ROUND AND ROUND WE GO

Well it certainly was a relief to get back to good old \$4.35 gasoline. This morning my wife and I returned from a brief 4 day holiday in Maui. Before returning

the rental car there we had to fill it up with gasoline and the price was well over \$5.00 a gallon. We had talked about the price with some English travelers who were marveling at the low prices for gas in the islands. I gather that the price for gas in the U.K. is something over the equivalent of \$8.00 per gallon. Yes, I know everything is relative as that was one of the first things I learned from our little holiday.

To explain a little bit, this short trip was a part of a time-share program that included an obligation to sit through a presentation obviously designed to make us spend more money. My wife and I had committed to a firm we ain't buyin' nothing' policy but we failed. Who knows whether or not we got a good deal? We were spun around and around during the presentation. The experienced salespeople presented us with numbers and options and in the end we succumbed to some sort of deal wherein we agreed to pay more money for some future benefits. I had trouble staying in the present and my attitude kept changing. First, I felt that I had no business at this luxury resort at all. Next, I was sure that I am an easily manipulated fool who has no way of telling a good deal from a bad deal. Then I got a glimmer of an idea that the deal that was being suggested would make it possible for my wife and I to bring along our son and his girl-friend the next time we came. Now I felt better about myself. Yes I really am a good caring father rather than an old over-privileged potential sucker.

What's the truth? There is no truth. I thought about the same sort of thing later that night. We had spent the day at this beautiful spot called big beach and I had gingerly approached the ocean and had got knocked down by the waves. I used to love this sort of thing and always enjoyed body-surfing but this time I sort of had trouble getting to my feet and it disturbed me. Was I really getting that old? The prior day my wife and I had done a little snorkeling. We were in the water properly attired with fins and goggles and mask and sucking

on a mouthpiece. All at once I realized I was just about standing on this giant turtle which was intent on making friends with me. I started screaming, "Irene, Irene" because I wanted my wife to swim over and see the turtle. Unfortunately my speech, I guess, was obscured by the mouthpiece and all my wife heard was unintelligible screaming. She thought I was suffering from sort of sudden leg cramp and needed to be rescued. Bam, she swam over and courageously grabbed me, knocking me back into the water and causing me to step on the giant turtle. Yuk, fortunately neither the turtle nor I were injured. I felt my wife was angry at me for unnecessarily scaring her and I was upset because she thought I was so fragile

Nevertheless, when we returned to L.A, I was feeling pretty good filled with pleasant memories. Upon disembarkation (that's an airport word) we called the shuttle and were driven directly to where we parked our car. How pleasant! I made use of the conveniently located bathroom and was feeling pretty good. As I returned to the counter my wife was already in conversation with the young man behind the desk. It turns out that he had made some deal at the very same place we haed stayed in Maui.

In fact he had made a better deal than we had. He had access to a better room for a longer time at a cheaper price. He had located a cheap place to eat that served great food that was right near the hotel. That did it. Now I knew I was a sucker just as I had feared. Hey, maybe you'd like to purchase a time-share from us?

All right, maybe I'm just kidding-maybe; but e-mail me anyway if you have any reaction to this or any other of my articles. Me e-mail address is [noeltrauts@earthlink.net](mailto:noeltrauts@earthlink.net) and I'd love to hear from you. Maybe though I'll hate what you write and then I'll regret the whole thing—but only for a while. Probably, when and if the gas prices go down my attitude about everything will shift again.

One last question. Is it possible that our whole election system and our entire Democracy is dependent upon the fickle attitude changes of people like you and me?

## RICH Johnson Julius Henry Marx



If you had to describe yourself based upon those people of note who inspired you, whom would you list?

Julius Henry Marx is one of my great inspirations. You may remember him by his nickname, Groucho. How he came by his moniker, Groucho, is questionable. One is that it came from his disposition. The other possibility is that during their Vaudeville days, Julius aka Groucho was the keeper of the act's "grouch bag" aka money purse. Groucho admitted that he never did understand how he got the name. Harpo was named due to his

harp playing ability, and Chico (actually pronounced Chick-O) was named after his description as "chicken chaser" (girls)

Noted composer Irving Berlin once wrote of Groucho: "The world would not be in such a snarl, had Marx been Groucho instead of Karl." His famous brothers (I'll list them in order of age). First born was Chico aka Leonard; Harpo aka Adolph, then Arthur; Groucho aka Julius; Gummo aka Milton; and Zeppo aka Herbert.

Remember the major movies? I'll tell you and also give you Groucho's character's name in each of those films:

|                       |        |                                   |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| The Cocoanuts         | (1929) | (Mr. Hammer)                      |
| Animal Crackers       | (1930) | (Captain Geoffrey T. Spaulding)   |
| Monkey Business       | (1931) | (Groucho)                         |
| Horse Feathers        | (1932) | (Professor Quincy Adams Wagstaff) |
| Duck Soup             | (1933) | (Rufus T. Firefly)                |
| A Night at the Opera  | (1935) | (Otis B. Driftwood)               |
| A Day at the Races    | (1937) | (Dr. Hugo Z. Hackenbush)          |
| Room Service          | (1938) | (Gordon Miller)                   |
| At the Circus         | (1939) | (J. Cheever Loophole)             |
| Go West               | (1940) | (S. Quentin Quale)                |
| The Big Store         | (1941) | (Wolf J. Flywheel)                |
| A Night in Casablanca | (1946) | (Ronald Kornblow)                 |
| Love Happy            | (1949) | (Sam Grunion)                     |

Now the good stuff. Famous quotes of Groucho's

"Before I speak, I have something important to say" (my favorite)

"Either he's dead or my watch has stopped"

"I didn't like the play, but then, I saw it under adverse conditions – the curtain was up"

"I don't care to belong to a club that accepts people like me as members"

"I have had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it"

"I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury"

"I worked my way up from nothing to a state of extreme poverty"

"If I held you any closer I would be on the other side of you"

"Those are my principles, and if you don't like them...well, I have others"

"Who are you going to believe, me or your own eyes?"

"Why, I'd horse-whip you if I had a horse"

"If you fall out of that window and break both your legs, don't come running to me"

"My brother thinks he's a chicken – we don't talk him out of it because we need the eggs"

"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies"

I would just like to add that in addition to developing my sense of humor patterned after Groucho, I also had the humor help and the added bonus of music from John Lennon. Thanks guys for the inspiration.

was up and it was light outside, it was time to get up.

Oh, how I miss those good old days.

But no, Father Time tricked somebody into inventing a device that keeps time. Or, so Father Time convinced the unsuspecting inventor.

The joke is on us who wear watches. No watch I have ever owned has ever kept time. All it does is show me that time is passing and I am late for an appointment. Where is that inventor that can invent some mechanism or some technology that can actually keep time? I would be the first one to buy such a contraption.

Why can't Bill Gates come out of retirement and do something useful for humanity and invent the technology that actually keeps time. I would settle for half-hour increments. I could live with that.

For many years now, time has not been on my side and neither has it been involved in the healing of any of my many wounds. Then never, contrary to what

my wife says, has time ever told me anything. It just keeps on ticking while giving me a licking.

I am older, but certainly, I am not any wiser. And I blame Father Time. He has not given me enough time to learn everything that I need to know. Every day it seems I am always running out of time. And I cannot believe it is my fault.

Time marches on and I need to make the best of it as best I can.

The apostle Paul understood the urgency of this matter we call time. He writes in his epistle, "For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2 KJV).

The only time we really have is now. I never have a "now" to do over so I need to make time my friend and not my enemy.



## HOWARD Hays As I See It



*"We need somebody who's got the heart, the empathy, to recognize what it's like to be a young teenage mom, the empathy to understand what it's like to be poor or African-American or gay or disabled or old - and that's the criterion by which I'll be selecting my judges." - Barack Obama*

*"I think I'm an actor because I have very strong imagination and empathy. I never studied acting, but those two qualities are exactly the qualities that make for an activist." - Susan Sarandon*

Soon after leaving college, I was walking down Broadway on Capitol Hill in Seattle with a gay friend of mine, when a car of yahoos pulled up and through opened windows shouted, "Faggots!" I jerked around to do something (I don't know what), when my friend grabbed my arm and quietly admonished, "Just ignore it – just move on."

It's the only time that's happened to me, and I remember it to this day. I also recall being struck by the realization that for my friend, it was something he'd long before learned to deal with as a routine occurrence.

President Obama in his quote was talking about empathy as it relates to judges, while Susan Sarandon related it to activism. I cited them together knowing the juxtaposition of "activist" and "judges" would rile colleagues on the right-side of this page. Also, because three recent stories brought a renewed appreciation for how a capacity for empathy, to ability to get beyond superficial coverage and understand the effects on real people with real lives, is not only valuable in judges and activists, but essential in our leaders.

As coverage of the Trayvon Martin shooting has quieted down between Mark Zimmerman's court appearances, what stays with me most are the call-ins to talk-radio describing aspects of growing up in black families I'd been unfamiliar with.

There was discussion of "The Talk", by callers who were either parents who'd given it or youngsters who'd received it. The purpose was to explain to young teens that there were certain neighborhoods one just didn't go to. It was also to make sure that kids understood the proper behavior when stopped by the police; no back-talk, hands on the wheel, no sudden movements, and absolutely no reaching – whether for the glove compartment, under the seat or a pants pocket. This was not a matter of politeness, but of staying alive.

One mother described the reality succinctly; "When a white kid is picked up by the police, he's taken to his parents. When a black kid is picked up, he's taken to jail."

Our son will be 25 this Summer, and is just getting his career in gear. Under the Affordable Care Act, he'll be able to stay on our family health plan for another year. Not long ago I flashed on the prospect of the ACA being overturned, and was hit by the prospect of three options; either coming up with an extra several-hundred dollars a month, allowing him to continue coverage, his giving up on ambitions to settle for whatever job offers health benefits, or going without insurance and hoping to avoid catastrophe.

I breathed a sigh of relief upon learning the California Legislature has assured that certain provisions of the ACA, including the one allowing kids to stay on their parent's plan until turning 26, will be available to California residents regardless of whatever the Supreme Court decides. I empathized, though, with the hundreds of thousands of families throughout the country enduring similar anxieties.

President Obama had Justice Sonia Sotomayor in mind with the opening quote. I wonder about her colleagues, such as Chief Justice John Roberts, who established their careers promoting the interests of corporations, not people. For them, as for most members of Congress, quality healthcare for their families will never be a concern. The question is how many will extend their interest beyond academic discussion of the compatibility of the "individual mandate" within the context of the Commerce Clause to include consideration of American families forced into bankruptcy because a child gets sick.

When Hilary Rosen noted that Ann Romney had "never worked a day in her life", she was summarily promoted by the corporate media and elevated from CNN analyst to Democratic strategist and Obama surrogate. What received scant attention, though, were remarks of Mitt Romney that elicited that comment from Rosen; suggesting he relied upon his wife to inform him of the hardships suffered by American women.

The notion that pervaded subsequent commentary was that it was simply a matter of "choice" among mothers; those who chose to stay home with their kids and those who instead chose to pursue interests outside the home and leave care of the children to the hired help. There was no empathy for mothers who could only dream of being able to stay at home with their children, for whom taking a \$9-an-hour graveyard-shift was not a matter of "choice", but of survival – of being able to put something on the dinner table. There was no sympathy shown Ann Romney, who maintained, "I know what it's like to struggle."

Mitt Romney drew further distinctions as he maintained that for the 1%-plus crowd, nothing is nobler and more laudable than being stay-at-home, nor is there anything harder for the mother. For those struggling to survive, though, it's a different story. Last January, Romney asserted that "even if you have a child 2 years of age, you need to go to work."

The presumptive Republican nominee will laud his wife's "choice" to stay home and take care of their sons, but for the poor single mothers who rely on government assistance to provide food and shelter for their children, they need to learn the dignity of work."

This brings to mind another observation about empathy, from 400 years ago: *"Nothing is so hard for those who abound in riches as to conceive how others can be in want."* - Jonathan Swift

## WHICH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WILL MOST TURN OFF INDEPENDENT VOTERS?



by Joe Gandelman

The 2012 Presidential election campaign is now shaping up as a political life and death battle over independent voters, where the losing candidate will be the one who turns them off the most.

Comedian-columnist Will Durst likened the 2012 Presidential primary race to the mania surrounding the video game Angry Birds: "The object of 'Angry Birds' is to use a slingshot to fling various flightless birds at flimsy houses built by egg-thieving green pigs. The object of the 2012 Republican primary race is, well, pretty much the same thing: to toss accusations and blame at the White House in order to steal independents from the Democrats. All while emitting unintelligible screeches, squeals and shrieks."

On the Democratic side the race is now on to toss accusations and blame at Republicans to prevent independents from going over to presumptive Republican nominee former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and to support Barack Obama.

The danger is when the smoke clears on Election Day this high-stakes Angry Birds game will end with a political process resembling what flying pigeons drop on people, or a dead duck where a big chunk of voters is more disgusted by political parties and political rhetoric than ever before.

The indisputable fact is that 2012 race will be all about which party can win -- some independents would say "deceive" -- the greatest number of independent voters. And often contradictory polls now suggest indies are up for grabs.

A Gallup tracking poll has Romney ahead of Obama 45 percent to 43 percent and leading in independent voters, 45 percent to 39 percent. A CNN poll has Obama leading Romney 52 percent to 43 percent and ahead with women and indies. A Reuters/Ipsos poll finds Obama's lead over Romney has shrunk with Obama at 47 percent and Romney at 43 percent.

These polls come within the context of polarized American politics, where the center is notably weak. Moderate Republicans are all but extinct in the GOP and after the next election most conservative "Blue Dog Democrats" will likely be history as well. Moderates have all but vanished in Congress. Each party is largely defined by and reflects its ideological base. And the ranks of indies grow. Independent voters are often split between those who left their old parties and still lean towards them and those who simply like to independently judge each issue and candidate separately.

Here's some advice to both parties on how to LOSE independent voters in 2012:

- Make your hypocrisy blatant, so what you say is later negated by press reports of what you said before or, better yet, video showing your past comments. Make the hypocrisy so clear that a mega-quick Google search shows your indignation was somehow missing when your side said or did the same thing. Or that you even said it yourself.

- Be secretive and get caught at it on an open mic talking to a foreign leader or by a reporter who overhears a supposedly closed-door conversation. Refuse to or stall in releasing your tax returns and keep

## PRESIDENT OBAMA A RACIST? GREG Welborn



Say it isn't so; the first black president of the United States – the first black president of any majority-white nation in history – is a racist? This certainly isn't something that I, or any other conservative I know, would conclude, but the Obama White House seems pretty concerned that Liberal orthodoxy and accepted standards of judgment might just come to that conclusion. They're in panic mode, and understanding why will go a long way to explaining one of the key choices represented in this next presidential election.

The Obama White House is in panic mode because of a recent discovery that the campaign's Tumblr account shows a picture of a very lily white staff at some sort of impromptu meeting. Probably that a similar picture of any corporate-America gathering or, God forbid, Conservative or Tea Party gathering, would be sufficient evidence to indict, try and convict the organization of blatant racism and bigotry toward blacks.

Sounds silly doesn't it, but this is the standard Liberals use to determine whether racism exists. It's called "outcomes-based" analysis. One doesn't need to prove that a company, employer or political candidate actually intends to discriminate; all one has to do is show that the racial or ethnic make-up of their organization is different than the general population's, and it's proof of racism. The Justice Department has used this standard in suits against banks.

Politico has reported that the Obama campaign is making desperate overtures to find African Americans to work on the campaign. These include urgent emails pleading with supporters to help them and requests to the Congressional Black Caucus to move some of their black staffers into the campaign offices.

As readers know, I am not a fan of President Obama, but I know he's a really smart guy – probably pretty sharp as well – and I have full confidence that his current staff was selected based on a vigorous vetting based on the criteria of finding the most qualified candidates and/or the most committed candidates. That's exactly as it should be.

Every candidate, every office-holder, and every employer should be free to hire the best candidate they can find even if this includes a loyalty or philosophical leaning criteria. I wouldn't expect Catholics to be forced to hire atheists any more than I would expect an atheist organization to be forced to hire an evangelical. We should all be allowed to hire those who will advance our cause or our company best.

The moral obligation of such a pursuit was a hallmark of Dr. Martin Luther King's efforts. No greater moral weight could possibly be attached to his cry that we should "not be judged by the color of [our] skin, but by the content of [our] character". It was his dream that we achieve a color-blind society. If you're looking for the most honest, the most intelligent, the hardest working or the most loyal employee, race should not be a reason to hire or reject someone.

As the great economist, Thomas Sowell observed, there is no proof whatsoever to the proposition that all skills, talents, or beliefs are equally distributed among all races or ethnicities. It's perfectly reasonable to find out that young, college-aged whites are more sympathetic toward and willing to sacrifice their time and energy for the most liberal of all presidents. I would expect them to be equally as devoted to John Kerry, were he president instead of Barak Obama. There's no racism in this.

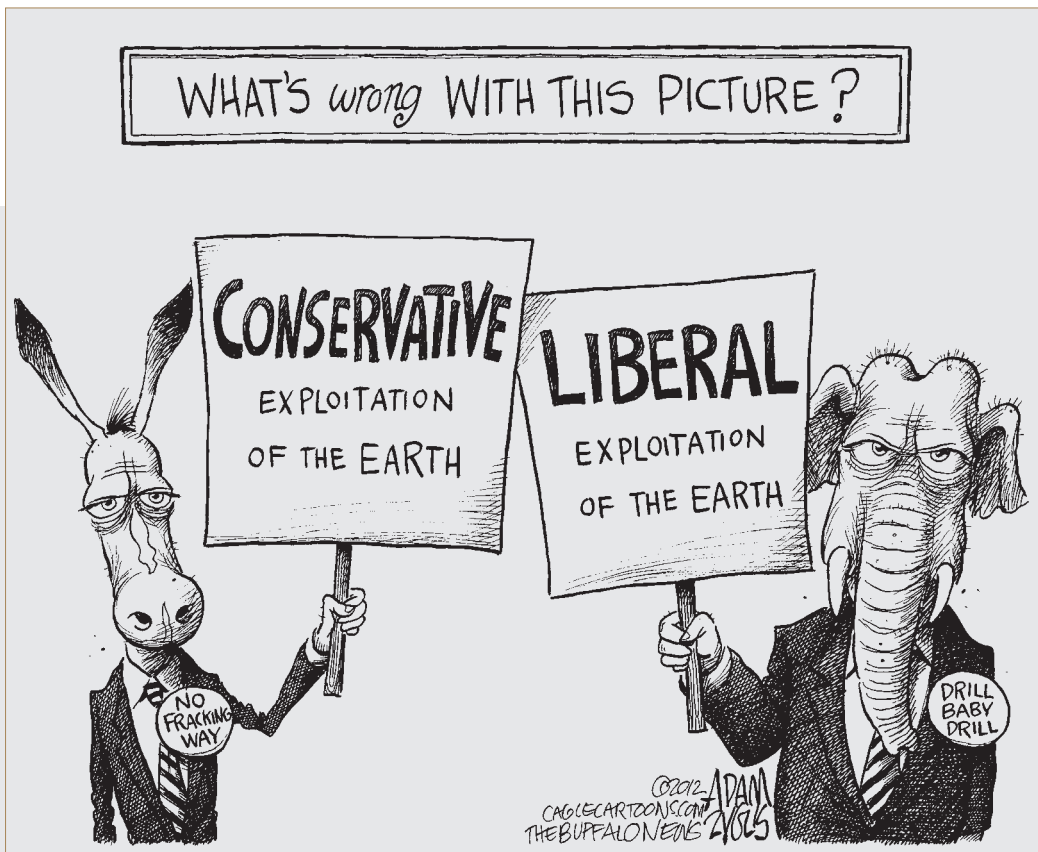
Likewise, I have no problem with the fact that over 75% of NBA players are black. Neither of these outcomes – the Obama re-election team or the NBA teams – suggests to me that the decision making was racially biased. The head of Obama's re-election team and the heads of the NBA teams all want to win. They don't care a rat's fanny whether the people who can help them do it are white, black, small, tall, skinny, fat, clean shaven or full bearded. They want the best and most committed.

In addition to perpetuating the myth that racial bigotry is proven simply by head counts, the other injustice here is that a fair number of talented, energetic young people, who have already sacrificed for this president, are going to have to be fired to make room for others who are less qualified or less committed. Nice way to reward effort and loyalty!!

This election offers a clear choice. Do we want liberal pin-heads in out-of-touch Washington deciding who has to be fired and who has to be hired based on their fanciful and inconsistent assessments of racial balance, or do we want freedom to hire the best we can find.

Interestingly enough, and with all due respect to Mitt Romney's ideas and vision, this election is also shaping up to be a contest between the philosophies of two black men: Barak Obama and the Reverend Martin Luther King.

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@mvoobserver.com](mailto:gwelborn@mvoobserver.com).



that issue alive. Compare your foes to famous dictators, or slap an extreme label on them and or compare them to political mass murders (Stalin, Hitler, Nazis, fascists, socialists, Marxists, Communists), so when Indies look at you they hear The Twilight Zone theme.

- Push the polarization button and only talk to your party's ideological base. Ignore, downplay or evade serious talk about the economy and what needs to be done next.

Team Obama and the Democrats seemingly assume that -- no matter what -- they'll eventually win independent voters." GOPers seem to feel they can easily paper over extremist rhetoric from the Republican primaries. The Daily Beast's Michael Tomasky sees "signs that the Obama campaign is sounding ridiculously overconfident." This could be because neither Obama and the Democrats nor Romney and the Republicans fully understand the independent voters they're trying to harvest.

But independent voters understand Republicans and Democrats.

Which is why many independents remain independents.

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



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## BUSINESS TODAY

*The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques*

By La Quetta M. Shamblee,



## SHARED OFFICE SPACE

Outgrowing your home office? Ready to establish an offsite location with more room and the amenities to take your business to the next level? The expenses associated with securing a lease or moving into an office can be a major barrier to entrepreneurs. Sharing office space is an option to consider.

Within the past twenty years, larger corporations have recognized the benefits of shared facilities. Major banks, Starbucks and fast food chains have established operations include grocery stores. This arrangement represents significant savings in facility expenses for these businesses, and it generates additional revenue for the host sites, in this example, grocery stores.

Sharing an office or mixed-use space can be a winning proposition for all parties involved. First, the expenses can be split among two or more entrepreneurs, which will result in lower costs for each one. Second, it is usually possible to rent a larger space to accommodate separate offices and additional space that can be used for meetings or other activities.

Sometimes the term "shared office space" is used to refer to an office environment shared by other businesses or professionals that includes a basic set of business and support services. These types of spaces may come with basic resources, furnishings and equipment like desks, conference tables, fax machine, copier, WiFi, etc. Sometimes, a receptionist and other basic services are also available. This type of arrangement is another more cost effective option for a sole entrepreneur who is just starting out.

The price range for office space varies as widely as it does for residential property. It will depend upon the location, size, condition and amenities of the office space. Some business landlords will require a minimum six-month to one-year lease, while others may insist on a month-to-month agreement. The options will vary from landlord to landlord, with some taking a hands-on approach to interviewing potential tenants and finalizing the rental or lease agreement. Others use professional property management companies.

Prices for office space are quoted as a flat monthly rate or more commonly, as an amount per square foot. It is still possible to find some great deals on space in older buildings or industrial park starting in the most economical range of \$2.00 - \$5.00 per square foot. Those with deeper pockets who wish to have an address along or adjacent to major boulevards or popular destinations like regional malls or other landmarks should be prepared to pay anywhere from \$8.00 to more than \$30 per square foot.

It may be timely to take a page from the playbook of major corporations and think about spreading the expenses of a business location across a number of entrepreneurial tenants.

## WALGREENS PAYS \$7.9 MILLION TO SETTLE 'WHISTLEBLOWER' LAWSUITS ALLEGING KICKBACKS TO INDUCE TRANSFER OF PRESCRIPTIONS

LOS ANGELES – Walgreens, the largest drugstore chain in the nation, has paid the United States and participating governments \$7.9 million to settle allegations that it paid kickbacks to illegally induce the transfer of prescriptions to its pharmacies.

The settlement was announced today when the federal and state governments learned that federal judges had unsealed allegations contained in two "whistleblower" lawsuits filed against Walgreens. The federal lawsuits were filed in Los Angeles and Detroit.

The settlement resolves allegations that Walgreens illegally offered gift cards and other incentives as kickbacks to customers covered by government-funded health insurance programs to induce the transfer of prescriptions from other stores to its pharmacies. These kickbacks resulted in the governments paying for unneeded prescriptions, small-business pharmacies unfairly losing customers to Walgreens, and patients making decisions based upon monetary incentives rather than legitimate health care needs. The federal health care programs defrauded by the illegal kickbacks include Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE and FEHBP (Federal Employees

Health Benefits Program).

"This settlement vindicates and protects the interests of consumers throughout the nation by ensuring that they remain free from undue influence exerted by large retail chains when they make important individual decisions about which pharmacies to entrust their own individual health care," said United States Attorney André Birotte Jr.

Stuart F. Delery, the Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division of the Department of Justice, said, "This case represents the government's strong commitment to pursuing improper practices in the retail pharmacy industry that have the effect of manipulating patient decisions."

The \$7.9 million settlement includes a \$646,896 payment to the participating states because both federal and state governments fund Medicaid programs. As part of the settlement, Walgreens did not admit wrongdoing.

The governments became aware of these allegations when two "whistleblowers" – Cassie Bass and Jack Chin – filed lawsuits under the qui tam provisions of the federal and state False Claim Acts. Pursuant to the provisions of these laws, a portion of the settle-

ment amount will be paid to the whistleblowers, who will split \$1,277,172 for their role in uncovering the illegal kickback scheme and filing the lawsuits. Ms. Bass learned of the misconduct while working as a pharmacy technician at Walgreens in Detroit, and Mr. Chin discovered the scheme as an independent pharmacist in Florida.

The federal share of the settlement is \$7,298,124.

"This settlement makes clear that corporations seeking increased profits over their patients' needs will pay a substantial price," said Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services. "Violating federal health care laws, as Walgreens allegedly did by offering incentives for new business, cannot be tolerated."

These cases were investigated jointly by the United States Attorney's Offices for the Central District of California and the Eastern District of Michigan, the Commercial Litigation Branch of the United States Justice Department's Civil Division, the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Inspector General

## L.A. County Workforce Investment Board Receives Grant to Fund No-Cost Re-Employment and Training for Nearly 1,000 Laid-Off Workers

*Employers will also receive assistance to hire and find qualified and trained employees.*

Thanks to a multi-million dollar National Emergency Grant (NEG) from the U.S. Department of Labor, the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board was awarded funds as part of the California Multi-Sector Workforce Partnership. The aim of this program is to provide retraining and career transition needs to individuals who experienced layoffs and also to help employers with job openings to locate well-qualified and trained employees.

We are recruiting laid-off workers for this special program that provides no-fee job training and placement assistance in high demand industries in the county that have current job openings. This program is designed to benefit employers in many ways, including reimbursement of a substantial portion of wages paid to new hires from this program.

To date, over 700 individuals have signed up to take advantage of this opportunity. Space is still available now that the deadline to enroll has been extended to June 30, 2012. Interested employers and job seekers should contact us immediately by email at [neg@css.lacounty.gov](mailto:neg@css.lacounty.gov) <<mailto:neg@css.lacounty.gov>> or visit our website at <http://www.worksourcecalifornia.com>.

"The California Multi-Sector Workforce Partnership addresses 123 mass layoffs in California that have affected over 32,000 workers in 19 industries statewide," said Richard Verches, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board. "In Los Angeles County, we expect nearly 1,000 individuals to take advantage of job services paid for by this grant."

This program will pay for laid-off workers to participate in On-the-Job Training, paid work experience, internships and customized training programs in order to increase their opportunities for employment, and the costs of equipment or transportation, depending upon one's situation.

"The support of government is critical to meet the needs of and support local businesses that employ local residents," said Mr. Verches. "Employers who participate in On-the-Job Training programs can receive recruiting support to locate well-qualified candidates and possible reimbursement for the wages of new employees."

*About the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board:* The Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) is established by federal law as the oversight and policy body comprised of private business representatives, labor, higher education, government and non-profit partners who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The WIB funds 17 one-stop WorkSource Centers to provide employment and training services to residents and businesses in 58 of the County's 88 cities and all 151 unincorporated areas.



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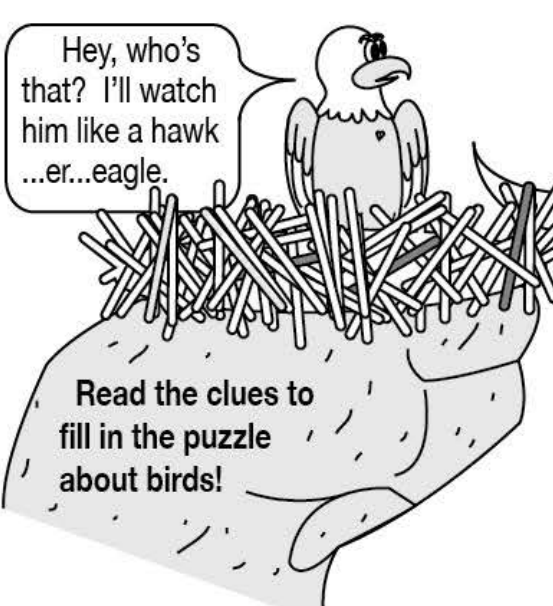






...at parks, playgrounds and beaches.

# Newspaper Fun!

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Hey, who's that? I'll watch him like a hawk ...er...eagle.

**Read the clues to fill in the puzzle about birds!**

## Billions of Birds!

Billions of birds live on our planet - in the forests, jungles, deserts, grasslands, near water and even in snowy areas. Millions of people like to watch or photograph birds simply because they are so beautiful! It is fun to watch birds move and fly, and listen to how they communicate. Some people study birds' habits and life cycles. You can join in the fun and watch birds in your yard or at a park near you. Think about starting a notebook in which to draw, color and write what you learn about birds as you watch them!

webbed

9

12

10

4

2

everywhere

flock

babies

nests

communicate

vertebrates

toes

8

beaks

1

insects

7

bones

11

3

5

Where did I leave my eggs? I'm a bit of a birdbrain.

tweet! tweet! Free Puzzles!

- Birds are warm-blooded and have backbones. They are \_\_\_\_\_.
- Flying birds have hollow \_\_\_\_\_ that make their bodies lighter, and powerful wings covered with feathers that help to lift them into the air. Only birds have feathers!
- Most bird feet have four \_\_\_\_\_, three in front and one in back, to help them perch.
- Ducks, geese and other water birds have \_\_\_\_\_ feet that help them swim.
- Birds have \_\_\_\_\_, but no teeth. The shape of a bird's beak is suited for its diet.
- Some birds eat fruit, seeds, \_\_\_\_\_, fish, flower nectar and, in some cases, meat.
- Female birds lay eggs, sometimes on the ground, but mostly in \_\_\_\_\_ they build.
- When their \_\_\_\_\_ hatch, many mother birds will chew food, then feed it to them.
- Birds \_\_\_\_\_ with each other using chirps and tweets. Some birds, such as parrots, can mimic human speech.
- Birds live almost \_\_\_\_\_: forests, deserts, jungles, grasslands and on mountains.
- Birds may fly south before the \_\_\_\_\_ to warmer areas where it's easier to live.
- Some birds, like eagles, live in pairs while others, like geese, stay together in a \_\_\_\_\_.

Visit our web site to print out new puzzles: **Birds** (word search), **Spring Sports** and **Spring Sayings**. Don't forget to print out the spring reading log set, too:

**www.readingclubfun.com**





# HUDDLE UP!



By Harvey Hyde

Last week, NCAA. Great leadership in that group from

## TROJAN SPRING REVIEW

I covered the USC Spring Game for ESPN. I've also watched several of the 15 hard practices at Howard Jones field. Let's review the spring.

"Spring" really started with their 50 – 0 final game victory over UCLA. A 10 – 2 season with the realization that they could have been undefeated -- a difficult task coming off 2 years of sanctions, no bowl games and new coach Kiffin working to solidify himself as "the man." (which isn't easily done with the USC Trojan fan.)

Following this, the anticipation --- Will Matt Barkley return? Will TJ McDonald and others? In late December, Trojan fans got their holiday gift, when first, TJ McDonald and then Matt Barkley announced they would be coming back. I sort of had a feeling that Matt and his family wanted to dot the i – and, as Matt says now, there is unfinished business at USC.

So the fifteen days are over, the Spring Game completed. Did USC accomplish what they wanted in the 15 days of practice?

Offensively, it was tough to accomplish a great deal since depth was limited at running back. Top receivers were injured much of the spring and tight ends were banged up. Robert Woods did not practice at all -- a smart move by Lane Kiffin. What does Woods need to prove.

In the post game interview, we asked Woods, "If this was a real football game, would you have been able to play?" His comment, "Absolutely." So all you Trojan fans, you can relax.

Offensively, probably the strongest and most improved was the offensive line. All returned except for left tackle who will be a first round NFL pick. It looks like current left tackle, Andre Walker will also be a first round pick when it's his turn. Last year he weighed 378 pounds. He's now into shape, at 6'6" and 335 pounds. He's a talented athlete who will get better every day. This young man is from Cleveland Ohio. What happened to Ohio State? The Trojans got a great one and that will be proven.

My spring awards for the offense: Most Valuable – receiver Marquis Lee; Most Improved Player – De'Von Flournoy; Offensive Leader –Matt Barkley; Rookie- Andre Walker and the Top Group - offensive line.

Defensively, if there's a better group of secondary players in the country, you'll get an argument from me. All secondary players returned, plus they pick up 2 recruits, and Josh Shaw, a freshman starter from Florida, has just been given eligibility by the

Nickell Robey (all 5' 8" 175 pounds of him.) and TJ MacDonald. Linebackers have 3 returning freshman starters as well as depth. These kids can run, have great speed. With the defensive line, I'm waiting for some stars to develop. This is important, as games are won in the trenches. Wes Horton and Devon Kennard are two of the best defensive ends, and it's time they prove it. Along with others, watch out for Greg Townsend, George Uko, Antoine Woods and JR Tavai.

Defensive awards: Most Valuable – TJ McDonald; Most Improved - Antoine Woods and Greg Townsend; Leader - Nickell Robey; Rookie - middle linebacker Scott Star. (The rest of Star's high school class haven't even graduated yet.) Top Group – secondary, but linebackers and defensive line have great potential.

In spring, I would say the defense got better as a team. The offense struggled because of injuries and the fact that the coaches were trying to develop a back-up quarterback to Matt Barkley.

Now, comes the 2012 "fall" season pressure: The first ESPN poll has USC ranked preseason #1; the Trojan history of 11 national championships; 6 Heisman Trophy winners. Does that put pressure on a coach, a team and a quarterback? Then throw in the 2012 Heisman trophy possibility for Matt.

So the Spring game and practice are over, but for players and coaches, there's never an off season—final exams, off season conditioning, spring recruiting for coaches, fall camp. The USC "fall season" officially opens September first with University of Hawaii. Ask someone about tee shirt seen at practice "Our 75 are better than your 85."

Up next, the UCLA Spring game, May 5th. I'll be watching them as well, and let you know about the Bruins.

You can hear Coach Harvey Hyde on Las Vegas radio station KSHP 1400 via the Internet (KSHP.com) and on www.uscfootball.com (in the Peristyle)



## GOLF SWING BALANCE DRILL

There have been millions of words written about the golf swing. Balance seems to always get left out. I am going to explain to you today exactly what great balance in the golf swings means and how to attain it.

If I can show you how to make a golf swing with balance your swing will be more fluid, you will make more solid impact with your shots and the ball will go further. There are two reasons why your golf swing is not in balance. The first reason is clubhead speed and the second is the direction you swing the golf club. Let's start with direction first.

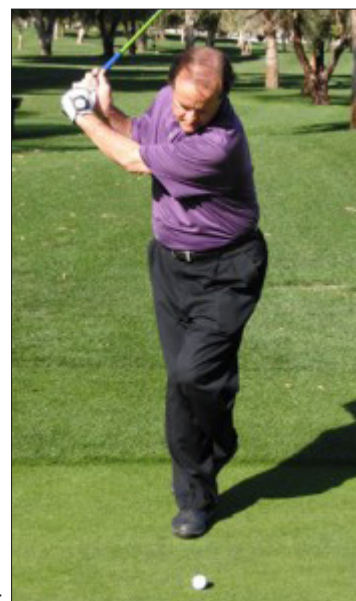
When you swing the golf club it has to swing on an arc. The club-head has to swing back on an arc and down on an arc. If the club-head swings too much out to in (across your body) it will pull you off balance towards the golf ball. If you swing the golf club too much from in to out (under your body) it will throw you off balance and you will fall backwards away from the ball. I have a drill that will help you learn proper balance.

You have to start this drill out very slowly. The next time you are at the driving range take out a 7 iron and tee up a golf ball. After you have addressed the golf ball, lift your left leg a couple of inches off of the ground. You have to balance yourself on the right leg, now I want you to make a swing. That in itself is very difficult to do the first time. You can start out by making tiny swings, chip shot swings. After you make some swings and hit a few shots, do the same thing with your right leg in the air.

This drill will teach you how to maintain proper balance in the golf swing. It is a fantastic drill for those of you that struggle with this part of your swing. After you hit 5 shots with your left leg off the ground and then 5 shots with the right leg off the ground you can hit 5 shots with both feet on the ground.

You see the first reason you lose your balance is because of the direction you swing the club, the second reason is clubhead speed. This drill teaches you how to swing the golf club in the correct direction with the proper speed. For better golf swing balance-hit practice shots on one leg.

Want to learn more? Go to: [www.igolffixes.com](http://www.igolffixes.com)



## THE DODGERS GO TO SCHOOL



Los Angeles Dodger players Dee Gordon and Tony Gwynn, Jr. and Dodger alumni Tommy Davis, "Sweet" Lou Johnson, Kenny Landreaux and Derrel Thomas spoke with John Muir High School students in celebration of Jackie Robinson Day who is an alumnus of the school.



## What's the Name of the Game?

Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Doors open at 6:30 - Bingo starts at 7:30



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