

PARENTS PREVAIL - SIERRA MADRE MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION TO PROCEED AS PLANNED

When the Pasadena Unified School District stopped construction on the SM Middle School, the reasons that were given just did not sit well with informed parents. After all, the project was to be funded with voter approved bond funds that were not subject to the 'axe' being welded in Sacramento. So they organized, quickly and let their voices be heard! As a result, earlier this week, at the PUSD Facilities Sub-Committee meeting, Bond Manager Robin Brown presented the revised Facilities Master Plan (FMP). This presentation included a big 'win' for Sierra Madre Middle School (SMMS) - the revised proposal includes ALL of the buildings as originally designed for the new Middle School campus.

This plan takes into account that the Chinese dual immersion program (currently beginning year 4 at Field Elementary) will need a middle school campus in 2 years. The new plan is for



this program to be housed at SMMS at the middle school level. This has given the Facilities team the added incentive of making sure the school will be ready in 2 years for these students, which is an added benefit.

The cuts proposed for SMMS were twofold. First, the plan is to cut the \$1 million field expansion/renovation. Second, \$600,000 in "value engineering" will be cut across the entire project.

The attitude from the committee was that SMMS would have to take some cuts (like the other schools), so the positive aspect of this proposal is that we can now work with the District, the city, and sports partners to fund-raise to get the field built.

Credit is to be given to the parents who worked so hard in recent weeks to advocate for the Middle School at both District meetings, (cont. page 3)

FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY HOLD ANNUAL MEETING - INSTALL OFFICERS



On Wednesday, June 20th, guests were welcomed at the Sierra Madre United Methodist Church social hall for the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Dinner. Using the theme *"Our Wonderful Volunteers Make Magic Happen At The Library,"* the hall was decorated in purple, silver & green with magician hat centerpieces reflecting the theme.

The Friends President, Darlene Traxler, welcomed all the guests and introduced the Mayor, Josh Moran, City Council members Chris Koerber, John Harabedian and Nancy Walsh and City Manager Elaine Aguilar. Darlene thanked the Library staff for always assisting Library patrons with a smile and introduced Carolyn Thomas, the new Director of Library Services.

Carolyn thanked her Library staff, the Library Trustees and the Friends for all their support for the ongoing needs of the Library and its many programs and services. The current Friends of the Library Board members were asked to stand to be recognized. The Dinner Committee members, Sandra Dickey, Fran Garbaccio, Sue Hart, Beth Smith-Kellock, Pat Locher, Sharon Murphy and Toni Navarro were thanked for organizing such a lovely event.

Following a delicious dinner, Margaret Quigley, Board Development Chair, began the election process. Margaret recognized the outgoing Board members with certificates and flowers and thanked Patricia Hall, outgoing Chair of the Partners Program, for her contributions to the program. The new nominees to the Board were

named and approved. Margaret then recognized the returning Board members and introduced the new 2012-2013 Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Board of Directors.

Catherine Adde, outgoing Chair of the Library Trustees spoke and was presented flowers by Carolyn Thomas. Chairpersons of this year's fundraisers: Alison Snow, Art Fair; Karma Bell for Sue Levoe, Wine Tasting; Martha Troedson and Alan Leahy, Best Used Book Sales; Sue Hart, Historian/Archivist introduced their many dedicated volunteers. Tokens of appreciation were given to each guest.

The Business Meeting was adjourned and dessert was served - a sweet ending to a festive evening.

PASADENA HUMANE SOCIETY TO TAKE OVER SM DOG LICENSING

Press Release posted 6/21/12 - At the June 12, 2012 City Council meeting, the Sierra Madre City Council unanimously approved a contract expanding the services the Pasadena Humane Society provides for the residents in Sierra Madre. Under the new contract, the Pasadena Humane Society will take over the dog licensing program in addition to the existing animal control services beginning July 1, 2012.

Due to this shift in responsibilities, the City of Sierra Madre will not be sending out renewal notices for dog licenses. Residents will be able to register their dogs utilizing the form at <http://www.pasadenahumane.org>. Forms will also be available at Sierra Madre City Hall after July 1st.

Annual dog license fees will be as follows:

- \$20.00 Altered dogs
- \$10.00 Altered dogs (senior discount)
- \$25.00 penalty for licenses paid over 30 days late
- \$40.00 Unaltered dogs
- \$20.00 Unaltered dogs (senior discount)

The Pasadena Humane Society has also committed to hosting a Rabies Clinic in Sierra Madre later this year. Please call 626-792-7151 x115 or email licensing@phsspca.org if you have any questions. Pasadena Humane Society licensing officers are available Tuesdays-Fridays from 2 pm-6 pm and Saturdays 2 pm-5 pm.

Sierra Madre 4th of July Activities

★ Pre-Parade Party & Picnic

Tuesday, July 3, 2012 ★ Memorial Park 3pm - 10pm

Join us for Music from the local band Groovy Lemon Pie, Food Trucks, Pre-Ordered Box Picnics from The Only Place in Town, Fun, Non-Profit Booths, Bubble Wrap Fireworks The Chamber of Commerce Dunk Tank & the Annual Friends of the SMLL Beer Garden

★ Spero Foundation's Firecracker Fun Run

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 ★ Starting Court 8am - 9:10am (check-in is from 7am-7:10am)

The Firecracker Fun Run is a 5K for the entire family to enjoy. The run begins and ends at Kersting Court Register online at www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration keyword: fun run

★ Sierra Madre 4th of July Parade

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 ★ Sierra Madre Blvd 10am - 11am

From Sunnyside Avenue to Sierra Vista Park, the traditional hometown parade with community members, organizations, classic cars, a marching band, kids on their decorated bikes, and so much more

★ Community Picnic & Celebration

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 ★ Sierra Vista Park 12pm - 4pm

Free Admission to the Sierra Madre Pool, Music from the Gem City Jazz Cats, SMLL Diner BBQ, Snow Cones, Fun, Games, Beer Garden, Home Run Derby Pre-Ordered Box Picnics from The Only Place in Town the Chamber of Commerce Dunk Tank and Festivities

SIERRA MADRE FOURTH OF JULY COMMITTEE

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SS Construction Services

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VFW Post 3208

Sierra Madre Community Foundation

Sierra Madre Volunteer Firefighters' Association

This Week's Highlights:

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Read The Paper Online At: www.mtnviewsnews.com

Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s

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:
June 26th, 2012 6:30 pm

June 18th	Community Services Commission @ 6pm
June 20th	Tree Advisory Commission @ 7:00pm
June 21	Planning Commission @ 7:00pm
June 21th	Green Advisory Committee @ 7:00pm
June 26th	City Council Meeting @ 6:30pm
June 27th	Library Board of Trustees @ 7:00pm



Sierra Madre Rotary Club

Meets Tuesdays 7-8:30 a.m.
222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
The Hart Park House



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

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

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

www.SierraMadreRotary.com

1630 AM

Free on-air publicity for local events

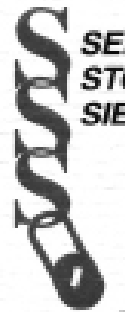
Sierra Madre's new community radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

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

In a nutshell, your event must:

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

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



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SAVE – A – LIFE SUNDAY

Give Blood Give Life

St. Rita Parish Blood Drive

Sunday July 8, 2012

8:30 am – 2:30 pm

Held in O'Malley Hall

All participants will receive a coupon from Chili's for a Free Queso Appetizer,

2 Complimentary VIP tickets to the Laugh Factory,
2 tickets for a Chivas game (\$10.00 processing fee),
Plus a Save-A-Life T-Shirt!

If you would like to make an appointment contact Marilyn McKernan @ marilyn@st-rita.org or (626) 355-1292

You can also visit WWW.redcrossblood.org and enter the Sponsor Code - *strita* to make your appointment.

Dunk the
Mayor!

(and others!)

Commitments from

- Mayor Josh Moran
- Police Chief Larry Giannone
- Fire Chief Steve Heydorrff
- Fire Marshal Rich Snyder
- Former Mayor John Buchanan
- Pastor Paul Beck (SM Congregational Church)
- Meredith Keith (4th of July Committee)
- Adam Matsumoto (Community Services)
- Eric LeClair (Team Crossfit Academy)
- Steve Tanner (Sierra Madre Little League)



Join us at the

Dunk Tank,

July 3rd, 5—9pm

(Memorial Park)

and

July 4th noon

to 4pm

(Sierra Vista Park)

Chamber fundraiser, as part of 4th of July festivities.

SIERRA MADRE FARMERS MARKET

The Farmers Market is open today and every Wednesday from 3:00-8:00 p.m. The location of the market is on Hermosa Avenue, south of Sierra Madre Boulevard to Mariposa Avenue, situated in the downtown area of Sierra Madre. The market has organic, fresh and locally grown produce. The farmers market is a great opportunity to come on down and meet the farmer directly. Dry Dock Fish has fresh and delicious wild caught varieties of fish. Rustic Loaf has your artisanal breads baked fresh that same day and brought to the market. Cutie Pie that has pies made with the fruits of our organic farmers, make sure you pick one or two up for desert. There are so many unique and amazing finds at the farmers market. Come on down to the Sierra Madre Farmers Market and shake the hand that feed you.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the Farmers Market, please contact Melissa Farwell from Raw Inspiration at (818) 591-8161 Ext. 806. Raw Inspiration, Inc., is responsible for all management and marketing of the City's Farmers Market.

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SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB
LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Sierra Madre Woman's Club is looking for long-term volunteers. They are looking for assistance with their Thrift Shop and volunteers with newspaper editing and fundraising experience. If you are interested in any of the volunteer positions please contact the Woman's Club at 626-355-4379.



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THE SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB

A PROUD MEMBER OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL SINCE 1927.
THAT'S 85 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!
WE MEET WEEKLY AT THE LODGE (FORMERLY
THE MASONIC TEMPLE) AT 33 E. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.
MEETINGS ARE EACH TUESDAY AT NOON,
EXCEPT FOR THE 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH,
WHEN WE MEET AT 7:45AM. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
JOIN US, MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS, HELP YOUR COMMUNITY,
AND HAVE SOME FUN!

SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US:

Tuesday, June 26th 12 Noon
Speaker: Patrick Hirsch
Children's Law Center will be speaking
on Children's Legal Issues/Programs

The program is free and begins at 12:30
Lunch: \$10 per person (begins at noon)

Call 626-355-0728 for meal reservations

VISIT OUR PIZZA BOOTH AT THE BEER
GARDEN ON JULY 3RD!

VOLUNTEER FACILITY ATTENDANT TRAINING

On February 8, 2011 the Sierra Madre City Council adopted the Facility Attendant Policies and Procedures to be implemented by the Community Services Department. Part of that policy incorporated a Volunteer Facility Attendant Program enabling local organizations/nonprofit groups like yours to designate 2 or more persons to serve as Volunteer Facility Attendants rather than pay for a staff Facility Attendant (rate as of July 1st will be \$50 per hour).

The training will take place in two parts: First Aid and CPR/AED training on Monday, June 25th – 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm at the Community Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. (upstairs in the Youth Activity Center) and Facility Procedures on Monday, July 2nd – 7 pm to 8:30 pm in the Sierra Madre Room (611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.). The two part training will cover the opening/closing and monitoring facility procedures for the Sierra Madre Room, YAC & Hart Park House Senior Center, Facility Attendant responsibilities as well as First Aid and CPR/AED training.

Please note, both trainings are required for someone to be considered an official Volunteer Facility Attendant, but if a volunteer can produce a valid First Aid/CPR certification card they will not need to attend the June 25th training. Those volunteers taking the First Aid/CPR/AED training will be asked to pay \$27 for the cost of the certificates; this is an American Red Cross fee. All other portions of the training are provided to the volunteers free of charge. Please have your organization's volunteers complete the attached application and return to the Community Services office, 611 E. Sierra Madre or to City Hall, attention Susan Clifton by June 18th to confirm your participation in the training. If your organization already has one or two Volunteer Facility Attendants, you are welcome to send one or two more this year. If you have any questions regarding this memo or would like more details about the Facility Attendant responsibilities before the July 2nd training, please feel free to contact me at (626) 355-5278 ext. 227.

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Stop by any of the following locations (partial listing) for your copy every Saturday or call 626-355-2737 to sign up for home delivery!

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Bottle Shop Sierra Madre
Happy's Liquors Sierra Madre
Sierra Madre Senior Center

Arcadia Public Library
Arcadia Post Office
Arcadia City Hall
Starbucks Arcadia
Denny's Arcadia

Monrovia Public Library
Monrovia Post Office
Monrovia City Hall
Coffee Bean Monrovia (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
Faschings Car Wash
Robin's Bar B Que
Pasadena
Walkway at Vromans
Pasadena
Gold Line Station -
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SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia



Currently, students are attending classes in portable units that were placed after the original building was demolished last year.
Photo MVNews files

SCHOOL (cont. from page 1)

as well as through individual outreach. Our voices were heard by our Superintendent, District employees, consultants, and the Board and it made a HUGE difference! There is continued work to do to ensure that construction begins at the earliest possible date, that the new construction is executed as proposed, and that additional funding is found to complete the field.

Most of the information came directly from the Organize Sierra Madre Schools Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/OrganizeSierraMadreSchools>). I did provide the breakdown of the proposed construction dollar amounts and what will be included in the plan. One correction is that it should say 22 classrooms total not 20.

The subcommittee will work to fine tune their proposals for the USD campuses as part of the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) and present it in late July to the School Board for a vote. Sierra Madre Middle School's construction budget is not expected to change.

Below is a breakdown of the Facilities Subcommittee's recom-

mendations to the school board for the Facilities Master Plan as it relates to the Sierra Madre Middle School campus: \$33,000,000 Current Facilities Master Plan budget \$30,921,355 Targeted Facilities Master Plan budget \$32,087,400 Revised Facilities Master Plan budget \$2,766,045 over budget \$1,600,000 reduction/cuts <--projected savings Two proposed cuts are:

- 1) Delete regrade of play field \$1,000,000
 - 2) Value Engineering throughout \$600,000
- What will be included at the Middle School:
- 4 Classrooms are back (Chinese dual immersion program (currently beginning 4th grade at Field Elementary) will move to Sierra Madre Middle School in 2 years)
 - 20 Classrooms total
 - 2 science labs
 - computer lab
 - Cafe/Multi-purpose Room building
 - library
 - gym
 - 2 alternate/flexible use classrooms
 - New Parking and onsite drop off
 - New electrical to site

The revised FMP also had cuts to the Sierra Madre Elementary

campus. The \$909,389 in cuts were as previously proposed with no changes. SME will not get the upgrades/renovations to the Auditorium (stage, lighting) and Kitchen. The SME field project (field house and bathrooms) has also been cut. Still moving forward: the PreK and 4th/5th classroom wing (in construction now) and the HVAC for the Auditorium.

While some parents were not happy about the proposed cuts, their priority had been the Middle School project. They are very happy that the Auditorium will receive the much-needed A/C! The project is funded at \$4.7 million.

Parent Maria Decker shared the following, "HUGE thank yous to the parents and residents who have worked so hard in recent weeks to advocate for the Middle School at both District meetings, as well as through individual outreach. Our voices were heard by our Superintendent, District employees, consultants, and the Board and it made a HUGE difference! There is continued work to do to ensure that construction begins at the earliest possible date, that the new construction is executed as proposed, and that additional funding is found to complete the field."

ASCENSION PARISHIONERS CELEBRATE COMMUNITY WHILE REMEMBERING THE PAST "MASS ON THE GRASS" SUNDAY, JULY 1ST

Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 25 East Laurel Avenue in Sierra Madre will be celebrating its annual start of summer with "Mass on the Grass" on July 1, 2012 at 10:15 a.m.

For over 20 years the community and parishioners have gathered together to celebrate a community who pulled together and restored the Church which was significantly damaged in the Sierra Madre Earthquake with an outdoor celebration as they did in 1991. It was through faith, strength and fellowship with the community that Churchgoers were able to restore the Church's nationally recognized historic structure (designed by English architect Ernest Coxhead in 1889.) The outdoor mass on the Church's beautiful grounds recognizes this accomplishment and celebrates the blessings of nature with family and friends.

"Mass on the Grass" is followed by a picnic on the Church grounds. Everyone is welcome to join us in this celebration. No reservations required.

This event makes for a wonderful family outing to meet new neighbors and check out a wonderful community church. For more information, please call (626) 355-1133 or visit: www.ascension-sierramadre.com.

National Parks Expert to Speak at Sierra Madre Library

If you are one of the many area residents who will travel to one or more of the 397 national parks, monuments, battlefields, and historic sites in the National Park system, then you need to start your trip at the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Christopher K. Jarvi, former Associate Director for Partnerships and Visitor Experience for the National Park Service (NPS), will share little known facts and unique personal stories at 10 A.M. on Saturday, July 14 at the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Blending his experiences with beautiful visuals of the National Parks, Jarvi will take his audience on a behind the scenes tour of our most important natural sites, relating stories of their colorful history and their future challenges. July is National Parks and Recreation Month.

Jarvi has personal ties to Sierra Madre. His mother grew up in a house on the corner of Sierra Place and San Gabriel Court, his grandmother Ethel Davis owned the building in which the Safeway store was located, at about where Windsor Lane intersects Sierra Madre Blvd, and his uncle Loren Krabill ran the Green Frog Market, now known as Howie's Market. During his tenure with the NPS he had nationwide responsibility for Partnerships and Philanthropy, Interpretation/Education, Media Development, Volunteerism, Tourism, Youth Programs, Technical Assistance, Long Distance Trails, Wild and Scenic Rivers and, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

Jarvi served as the president of the California Parks and Recreation Society and the president of the National Recreation and Park Association.

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

Join us at the Monrovia Library:

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Wednesday, June 27, 2012

11:30am - 1:30pm

Monrovia Public Library

321 S. Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016

Register at: www.hutdogs.com/workshops/schedule



Receive schedule of upcoming events, scan QR to join HUTdogs email list.

ROTARY PRESENTS ARCADIA AUTHOR VIMLA KAPOOR

On Tuesday, June 26th, the Sierra Madre Rotary club will welcome Author and Arcadia Resident Vimla Kapoor who will share her memoirs, "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow".

In her book Vimla recalls her memories of India and paints a vivid picture of a lifetime full of love, family and rich culture despite a childhood during turbulent, war torn times. This program will be one you will not want to miss and feel free to bring a friend or guest along that might appreciate our speaker.

Kapoor will have some books with her which can be signed prior to or after the meeting.

For more information or to reserve your place, please contact Dan Alle at dalle@redstonecre.com.

Rotary meetings are held at The Hart Park House, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. at 7:00 am.

A+

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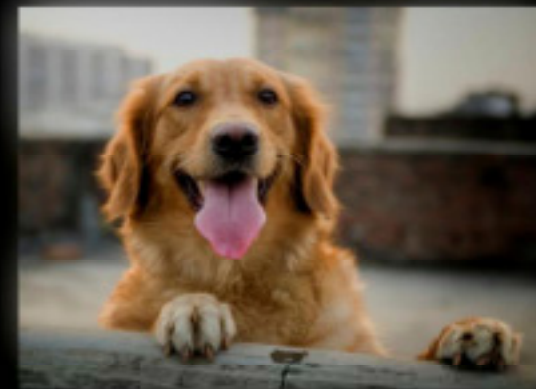
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For more information, contact:
caresierramadre@gmail.com
(626) 229-9750



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



City Won't Reform Police Oversight Board

By Dean Lee

Members of the Public Safety Committee told community leaders Monday they had no intention of reforming the police oversight board disbanded in 2010 for not complying with open meeting laws.

Councilmember Steve Madison and chair of the Public Safety Committee said the committee has taken over the role of the oversight board something that did not sit well with community leader Martin Gordon.

"The issue was there is no longer any community oversight, there are not people that are elected to that or appointed to that oversight board from the community who are actually reviewing police actions, whether it be complaints, use of force, etc," Gordon said. "It was stated back in 2010 that City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris would be looking at that and would be coming forward with a new plan."

"You're looking at the oversight board right here," Vice Mayor Margaret McAustin said echoing earlier comments made by Madison.

The issue came up as part of a presentation given by Police Chief Phillip Sanchez on procedure involving police instances such as Kendrec McDade, the unarmed 19-year-old fatally shot by officers March 24.

McAustin said oversight in the McDade Shooting was being dealt with by the many investigations being done by outside agencies. Madison likened the situation to the Rodney King beating investigations involving the Los Angeles Police Department in 1991.

Madison said it was hard to escape the comparison in the wake of King's death June 17.

Pet of the Week



Maeby is a sweet tan and white Staffordshire Terrier/German shorthair pointer mix who is just over one and half years old. She's been out on the Mobile Unit to events around the community. She knows some basic commands and loves treats. She loves playing around in the grass with toys too! She's also earned her Blue Ribbon meaning she knows her basic obedience commands! Watch her video here: <http://youtu.be/kHXRjZ12T7Q>

Maeby's adoption fee is \$95, 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 A306902 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.



Animal Care Campus to Open Next Year

A groundbreaking ceremony Wednesday marked the beginning of construction on a new \$20 million 35,000 square foot Humane Society's Animal Care Campus facility set to open next year. The event was held at the sites new location on the corner of Raymond Ave and Del Mar Boulevard.

Board of Director Robert Fidler said the new campus was a way for the Humane Society preparing for the next 100 years. Fidler said the campus will include a wellness and spay/neuter facility, behavior training and education center, outdoor enrichment area, expanded retail store, subterranean parking and additional kennels.

"This is the next step in continuing to provide excellent programs for the animals," said Steve McNall, President and CEO of the Pasadena Humane

Society & SPCA. "No one else is doing this in the area, especially during these rough economic times. The Animal Care Campus will be a viable community resource that will help us reach our goal of zero euthanasia of adoptable animals."

Fidler said the society had collected \$11.4 million towards the estimated \$20 million cost. He also said the facility would allow hundreds of more community volunteers.

"Going through the list of cities that are served by the Humane Society reminds me how compatible the Humane Society is with Pasadena's roll as a very significant center for the region as a whole," said Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard. "Where the amenities that we offer, whether it's, museums and theaters or hospitals and medical services.... It's just great to see that we have arrived at

this point in the process, the groundbreaking, and we know this building will go up with success and that the animals of the region will be served in a way that was so elegantly described."

The new facility will serve Glendale, la Canada Flintridge, Pasadena, San Marino, Sierra Madre and South Pasadena.

New Altadena Website Launched by LASD

A new community-based website has been launched that is dedicated to the community served by the Altadena Sheriff's Station (www.Altadena.lasd.org) of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Altadena Sheriff's Station polices the unincorporated communities of Altadena, Angeles National Forest, Mount Wilson Area, Eaton Canyon, Chaney Trail, Kinneola Mesa, La Vina, Northeast Pasadena, and Pasadena Glen: www.Altadena.lasd.org.

The new community-based website will mirror the look and feel of www.lasd.org but will be geographically specific and topic specific to the Altadena Area. Over 40 languages are available via Google's link to an automated foreign language translator.

"The public has requested more geographically-specific and topic-specific information about their Sheriff's Department," said Sheriff Lee Baca. "This Sheriff's station webpage and the many more that will follow enable unit commanders to provide information of greatest interest to local communities. They provide the public what, we believe, the public has long wanted, in the way they want it provided. It is useful and interesting information, presented in an engaging and highly visual way."

Forum on General Plan Update

Residents, business owners and all other stakeholders are invited to attend the next community forum planned June 26 to learn about the City's draft General Plan update.

Attendees will be able to learn about proposed, future growth areas and they can share their thoughts on the key elements of the General Plan update process, including the Draft Concept Map and the Land-Use and Mobility chapters.

On Tuesday, June 26, two meetings will be held at the Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St. Parking is available at Arroyo Parkway and Holly Street. The meetings will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For more information on the community forums and General Plan update, go to www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan or call (626) 744-6807.

Van Pelt Fired; Ongoing Criminal Investigation

Pasadena City College Vice President of Administrative Services Richard van Pelt was officially fired from the school Wednesday morning in the midst of an ongoing bribery scandal that has rocked the administration.

"The board in closed session voted to terminate the employment contract between the District and Dr. Richard van Pelt in accordance with the terms of that contract. Specifically, the Board acted pursuant to Section 11.4 of the agreement," Board President Geoffrey Baum said in a prepared statement.

The college board of trustees voted unanimously with one member abstaining.

According the school's newspaper, the Courier, PCC President Mark Rocha had stated last week plans to move forward finding replacements for van Pelt and facilities services supervisor Dr. Alfred Hutchings.

Both men were put on administrative leave earlier this month pending allegations of wrong doing by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

Rocha had also recommended the termination of Hutchings Wednesday, as a classified employee of the District; Hutchings has the right to pursue administrative remedies before the Board's

final decision is reported publicly Baum said.

According to reports the two men were operating a company, Sustainagistics LLC, in violations of conflict. The business was set up out of van Pelt's Altadena home, and was allegedly used to hire contractors that were also given lucrative contracts by the school.

The board also held its regularly scheduled meeting later Wednesday night although Baum had made clear that there would be no further comment on van Pelt's firing. That did not stop students and faculty from showing up to the meeting heavily guarded by campus police.

Witnesses said police searched everyone entering not allowing liquids in the building.

The meeting was originally scheduled to be held off campus in Altadena and so not televised infuriating some members of the public.



Dr. Richard van Pelt

Senate Committee Passes Human Trafficking Bill

The state Senate has advanced a bill authored by Assemblymember Anthony Portantino which provides a new start for young women branded or tattooed by pimps.

The Senate Public Safety Committee unanimously and with bi-partisan support approved Portantino's AB 1956 Tuesday (7 to 0). The bill provides a first step in breaking the bonds of prostitution by allowing young women branded

by pimps to take part in free tattoo removal programs. These women were left out of a federal program designed to offer young people the opportunity to remove gang tattoos.

"This bill helps generate a new start for young women who need to break free from the intimidating and troubling world of trafficking and prostitution. As the father of two daughters I am very hopeful this bill becomes law," Portantino said.

Citizen Journalism Meet-up

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

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

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

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



the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the means to tell the story using the power of video, audio and print along with online social media. The next meeting is July 3 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.

Safety Urged During Fourth of July Activities

The Pasadena Fire Department reminds residents and visitors that the best way to celebrate the Fourth of July Holiday with family and friends is by attending a professional fireworks show such as the "Americafest" Celebration at the Rose Bowl, America's Stadium.

Pasadena Fire Chief Calvin E. Wells reminds residents and visitors alike that the sale and possession of all fireworks is illegal in Pasadena, as they are in most Los Angeles County areas. Violators are subject to arrest, the confiscation and impound of their vehicles, and, if convicted, up to one year in jail and fines up to \$50,000.

Due to the risk of fire hazards and injuries, Wells said Pasadena police and fire personnel will staff checkpoints around the Rose Bowl to seize all illegal fireworks and to arrest offenders. In addition, parking enforcement officers will impound vehicles illegally parked in hillside areas surrounding the Rose Bowl.

Fireworks are one of the most risky consumer products, Wells said. Annually, nearly 10,000 fireworks-related injuries are treated in U.S. hospital

emergency rooms, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Nationally, two of five people injured by fireworks were under the age of 15.

"Even sparklers, which most people consider safe, can reach temperatures of 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, can cause serious burns and cause fires," Wells added.

Prior to this year's holiday, the Pasadena Fire Department will apply Phos-Chek (fire retardant), which contains phosphates and fertilizers, to brush areas surrounding the Rose Bowl Stadium on June 27. This will help prevent trees and grassland from burning and to revegetate wildland areas that may burn.

"This is a preventive measure for Fourth of July activities and the summer season that the Fire Department has conducted for the past several years," said Wells.

For more information about fireworks safety and enforcement, contact Pasadena Fire Department at (626) 744-7276. For information about the Americafest Fourth of July celebration, visit www.rosebowlstadium.com or call (626) 577-3101.



The public library introduced the 3M Cloud Library eBook Lending Service to the public Thursday in an open house event at the Central Library.

Officials said information about the service can be found on the library's website, <http://cityofpasadena.net/library>. They said to access the "Cloud" library residents need a Pasadena library card, PIN #

and the "3M" app loaded on a computer, ipad, iphone or other mobile device.

Users can browse and download over 1,400 eBooks in the 3M collection which includes such works as Girl with the Dragon Tattoo and Game of Thrones.

Pasadena and Glendale are the first local area public libraries in the state to offer the 3M service.

Schiff Looks to Overturn Citizen's United Ruling



Congressman Adam Schiff introduced a constitutional amendment Monday to overturn the Supreme Court's Citizen's United ruling. The amendment also overturns a Supreme Court decision - Arizona Free Enterprise Club's Freedom Club PAC v. Bennett - striking down an Arizona law which allowed public financing of a candidate if their opponent exceeded certain spending limits.

In introducing the amendment - drafted by Constitutional Scholar Laurence H. Tribe - Schiff said the following: "The growth of the Super PACs is just the most recent and disastrous result of a series of Supreme Court decisions that seek to distinguish between contributions to a candidate and direct expenditures that

have the same effect. I have always been loath to amend the constitution, but this tragic line of reasoning by the Supreme Court has so threatened the health of our democracy that I am moved to introduce today's amendment."

The amendment provides simply: "Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to forbid Congress or the states from imposing content-neutral limitations on private campaign contributions or independent political campaign expenditures. Nor shall this Constitution prevent Congress or the states from enacting systems of public campaign financing, including those designed to restrict the influence of private wealth by offsetting campaign spending or independent expenditures with increased public funding."

Congressman Schiff is no stranger to campaign finance reform. Elected in 2000, after the most expensive race for the House in history at the time, he became a cosponsor of the bipartisan McCain Feingold campaign finance reform law on his first day in Congress. Citizen's United helped overturn critical parts of that and other campaign finance laws.

Lawrence Tribe H. Tribe is the Carl M. Loeb University Professor and Professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard Law School. Representative Schiff served as one of his research assistants while a student at the law school in the mid-1980s.

“What’s Going On?”

News and Views from Joan Schmidt



VISITING THE DUARTE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

It’s been several years since I took Mom to the Duarte Museum, so this past Saturday, I revisited it. If anyone loves history, wants to know how their city began, or what it was like in the “Old Days”, this is the place to go!

The building itself on Encanto Drive is lovely and obviously was someone’s home years ago. In the rooms, you will find pieces of antique furniture, dresses from long ago and display cabinets with all kinds of memorabilia such as tools and interesting gadgets! Among the notables, an antique thermometer with an explanation of its use, an antique magnifying glass to check for insects, cases for insect collections, an oil can used by Duarte ranchers, and tools used to stamp oranges! (Either Sunkist or lower grades!)

I believe everyone knows “Duarte” was named after “Don” Andres Duarte of the Rancho Azusa de Duarte. His life began in November, 1805, when he was born at Mission San Juan Capistrano, in Alta California. When Andres was only sixteen, he joined the Mexican army and was assigned to Mission San Gabriel. (That’s what brought him to our area.) As he got older, he assumed more responsibility and ultimately was responsible to protect property from San Gabriel to San Bernardino. He loved the lush lands surrounding Rio Azusa-now the San Gabriel River. Upon his retirement from the army in 1841, he petitioned Governor Juan Alvarado for a land grant and within two weeks had acquired 6595 acres!

Andres Duarte built an adobe for himself and settled with his family, wife Gertrudes and son, Santiago. For many years, he was a successful rancher and was a great host. After the Mexican War and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, his claim to the land grants in 1841 was validated. In 1850, California was admitted to the United and by the mid-1850’s, Duarte was unable to pay back taxes levied on his land. So he began to sell off his holdings. But as was the case with many who were rich in real estate, he could not and eventually all of his buildings went on the auction block. In the 1870’s, the land was subdivided into 40-acre parcels, and sold to many different owners. Several cities have been established on lands originally granted to Andres Duarte. Besides Duarte, they include Monrovia, Azusa, Irwindale, Baldwin Park, Arcadia and Bradbury.

In the museum, there are also pictures of other people who played an integral role in our area’s history and development. John Scott was the Horticultural Commissioner. His duty was to stamp out all insect parasites which attack fruit trees and prevent their infestation. He had thirty inspectors working under him!

A photo of Louis Bradbury caught my eye. Obviously we all know what city was named after him! But why? Louis Leonard Bradbury acquired 2750 acres of the Rancho Andres de Duarte. He had made his fortune in gold and silver mining primarily in Mexico. His *Bradbury Building* is a Historical Landmark in the City of Los Angeles. In 1892, he built an elegant home on his land and surrounded it by a suitable garden that is now the site of Royal oaks Manor.

Bradbury also owned a smaller ranch in the southeastern corner of present-day San Marino. However after his death, his heirs lost control of both ranches during the 1930’s. Prolonged legal battles between family members resulted in foreclosure proceedings by the Security National Bank against most of the Bradbury Estate.

After World War II, many GI tracts went up. The City of Duarte began its incorporation in 1957. Residents of the Bradbury Estate Property Owners Association were concerned about the rapid pace of development and feared large parcels would be sold and developers would come in and put up a lot of tract homes. So they quickly solicited the 500 minimum number of registered voters required to incorporate a new city and applied to the Board of Supervisors. I had always wondered why Bradbury had such a small population. Now I know why. And it explains other cities in the county with a small population.

Do yourself a favor and check out this museum. It isn’t real large in size, but what it has to offer in knowledge is immeasurable! (For more info, go to their website: www.duartehistory.org .

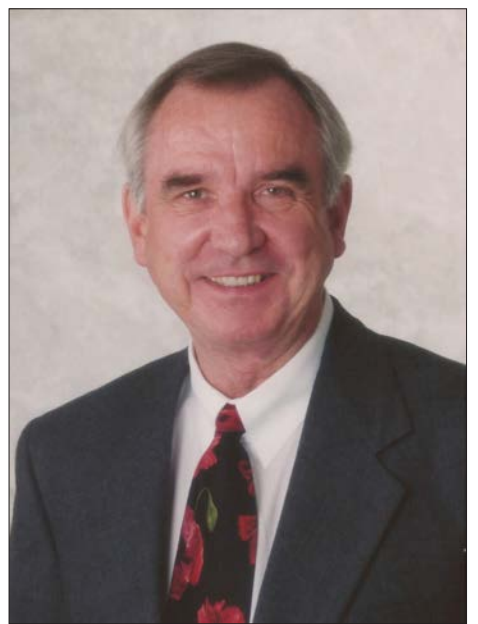


Victoria Duarte, Caroline, Great Great Granddaughter of Andres Duarte, Original Grantor of the Rancho Azusa de Duarte.

REMEMBRANCE

WILLIAM (BILL) HENRY THOMPSON

THOMPSON - William (Bill) Henry passed away peacefully, in the company of loving ones on June 6, 2012, having lost his valiant battle with prostate cancer. He was born June 24, 1934 in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada to Reg and Irene Thompson the youngest of three. When he was a teenager, the family moved to Vancouver, British Columbia leading him to attend the University of British Columbia following high school graduation. He moved to the Bay Area of California after he earned his Bachelors degree and a teaching credential and then to Southern California, securing a job at Temple City High School. He earned a Master Degree at USC, which added to his skills as a leader and educator. After a successful career in education both as a teacher and a leader, he left education to pursue other interests and opportunities, which included managing Bruno’s in Monrovia, directing several Schick Stop Smoking Clinics, and founding Pasadena Motor Works with a friend before finding a calling in real estate. He served the area as an agent and assistant manager at Coldwell-Banker in Arcadia.



Bill was known by all as a true human who cared deeply for friends, family, animals particularly the family cats Spunky and Rosie, theatre of all kinds, space, the environment, Clampouts, the home he shared with his wife Anita and the garden of flowers, trees and vegetables. Being athletic, he was an accomplished skier, enjoying many trips to Mammoth. He also loved sailing to the Channel Islands, the Coronados and of course, Catalina that became a favorite spot. Among his accomplishment was earning a pilot’s license, enabling he and Anita to enjoy many adventures in a Cessna, including flying over Mt. St. Helen’s and the Grand Canyon, along the Oregon Coast as well as meeting the challenge of landing on Catalina. Another passion and talent was sharing his cooking and grilling with friends as well as exploring small wineries in the Central Coast for excellent pairings. Traveling was also high on his joys as evidenced by trips to Southeast Asia and China, a month in Africa, cruises to Antarctica, the Baltic, British Isles, as well as a month in France, cruising from Paris to the coasts of Normandy and then to the French Riviera.

He is survived by his wife Anita; his stepdaughter, Kevil Drew; grandson Sean Drew; sister Joyce and her husband Alan Anderson; sister Joan and her husband Norman Gish plus nieces and nephews and grand nieces and grand nephews; and countless loving friends,

A celebration of his very full life will be held at a later date.

PET OF THE WEEK FRACK: Animal #A4448278

Meet a loving ball of fluff, the adorable Frack (A4448278). Frack is a fabulous six month old black neutered male Shih Tzu mix puppy who was found in La Puente on June 17th with his companion Frick (A4448276) and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center. Weighing seven pounds, this incredibly cute boy hasn’t had much in the way of training. Playful and confident, Frack loves children and other dogs. Frack will make a spectacular pet for anyone in any living situation. To see a video of Frick and Frack please visit this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSfXjO793xE

To meet Frack in person, please see him at the Baldwin Park Shelter, located at 4275 N. Elton, Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378 or 626-962-3577). He is currently available now. For any inquiries about Frack, please reference his animal ID number: A4448278. 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 Juliette or the adoption process, contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at samanthasayon@gmail.com or 661-309-2674. To learn more about United Hope for Animals’ partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.



18-HOUR CONCRETE POUR OF I-210 GOLD LINE BRIDGE SUPERSTRUCTURE SUCCESSFUL - With Pour Complete, Construction Authority Continues Foothill Extension on Time and on Budget

MONROVIA — Achieving another major milestone in the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension construction project, crews worked 18 hours over the last several days to place more than 200 truckloads of concrete to form the bridge’s superstructure and main crossbeam, Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority CEO Habib F. Balian announced today.

An important component of the Foothill Extension from Pasadena to Azusa is the I-210 Gold Line Bridge, the “Gateway to the San Gabriel Valley.” The bridge - a 584-linear-foot light rail bridge traversing the eastbound lanes of the I-210 Freeway between Baldwin and Santa Anita Avenues - will allow connection between the existing Sierra Madre Villa Station in East Pasadena and the future Arcadia Station.

“The concrete pour of the bridge marks an important milestone for the extension of the Gold Line. The bridge is a significant element of the entire project and as the concrete cures and the forms are removed in the coming months, the traveling public will get to see the bridge truly taking shape,” said Balian. “The next step is to pour the bridge deck, which will one day carry light rail trains into portions of the San Gabriel Valley that have not had passenger rail options for decades.”

The bridge is being built by Skanska USA, the design-build team awarded the contract by the Construction Authority in June 2010. Skanska has been planning for the pour for about four months and with the successful completion of the superstructure concrete pour the bridge is nearing completion.

In pouring the superstructure, Skanska used 2,100 cubic yards of concrete – enough concrete to fill approximately 50 average swimming pools. The concrete used in the pour was divided among more than 200 truckloads, requiring 30 trucks to make continuous trips to and from the site throughout the 18-hour pour.

“Skanska has done a tremendous job collaborating with the Construction Authority, Caltrans, CHP, and the city of Arcadia to meticulously plan and execute this critical activity,” commented Balian. “The Construction Authority commends Skanska, and their entire construction team, for completing this portion of the project quickly and efficiently with minor disruptions to the traveling public and surrounding community, as well as no safety incidents.”

The \$18.6 million bridge, which has been under construction since April 2011, will feature columns designed to resemble indigenous baskets in recognition of the region’s original inhabitants and the important role they played in the San Gabriel Valley’s development. The underside of the superstructure is also specially designed to be curved and resemble the underbelly of a snake, to represent the wildlife living in the Foothills above the Valley.

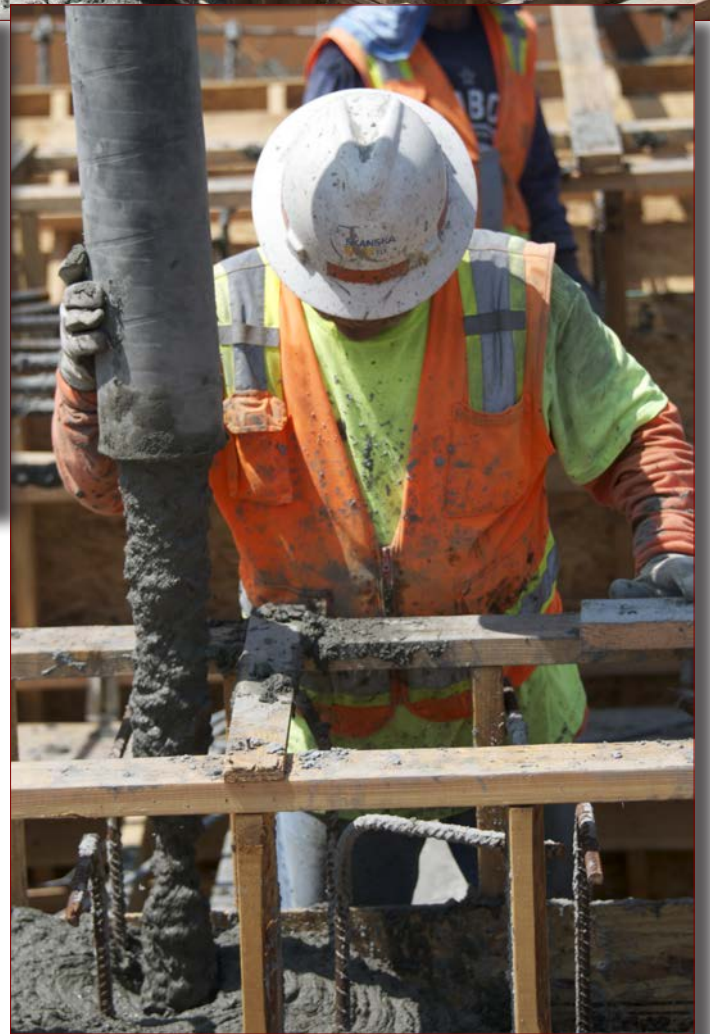
The design for the bridge was developed and finalized by Skanska’s design team, led by AECOM, which includes nationally recognized public artist Andrew Leicester – the project’s design concept advisor. Leicester was selected by a com-



mittee of local community stakeholders representing cities from throughout the corridor to envision a new gateway to the San Gabriel Valley.

The bridge project is on track for completion in late 2012, and is scheduled to be turned over to Foothill Transit Constructors (FTC) - A Kiewit Parsons Joint Venture in December to begin installation of the track and other elements onto the bridge as part of the overall 11.5-mile Foothill Extension Pasadena to Azusa Alignment Project.

Construction of the Foothill Extension from Pasadena to Azusa is one of the region’s largest and most important transit projects. Construction is generating nearly 7,000 jobs (2,600 in construction) and \$1 billion in economic output for the region during its four-year construction period. It is the first Measure R-funded rail project to break ground, and is on schedule to be completed in late 2015.



ARCADIA HIGH’S ELLISON CHEN RECEIVEDS ALBERT MATTHIES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

by Joan Schmidt

At this year’s Arcadia High School Graduation, a special graduate received a special scholarship delivered in a special manner! Graduate Ellison Chen received the First Officer Albert Matthies Memorial Scholarship awarded by the Arcadia Police Officers Association. After a rigorous application process, Ellison was chosen for her dedication to community, academic achievement and outstanding citizenship. Ellison received a \$2000 scholarship which was delivered to the Arcadia High School graduation in a regional technical vehicle...a Bearcat.

Who is Officer Albert Matthies? Officer Albert Matthies was the only Arcadia Police Officer killed in the line of duty. He died on July 19, 1927. His 85th Anniversary is coming up. Last year, Arcadia Police Department honored fallen comrade Officer Albert Matthies with a special opening ceremony at 12pm, July 18th during which Arcadia Police Officers Association President spoke of Officer Matthies, his commitment to his profession and his ultimate sacrifice. Bagpipes were played while the colors were posted. The Honor Guard detail stood for twelve honors with the changing of the guard every half hour. At 12:07 AM, July 19th, a bell sounded in his honor. The event ended with a closing prayer by Arcadia Police Chaplain, Thomas Shriver.

How did Officer Matthies lose his life? On the evening of July 18, 1927, Officer Matthies was doing patrol. In the patrol car was his friend, Leo Bertolina, who was going on a ride-along. When Officer Matthies approached the intersection of Foothill Blvd. and Northview, shortly before midnight, he noticed three men parked in a vehicle. So he walked toward the car to question them unaware that they were planning a robbery. As he walked towards them, he was shot by Frank Miller, sitting in the rear seat. Matthies was shot in the neck, and died at 12:07AM< July 19, 1927.

Matthies’ friend, Berolina, was shot at. But he managed to get away and call for additional assistance. He had been hit with flying glass from windows, but survived. The three men got away, but were caught a few days late. They were found guilty, and sentenced to prison. One died in prison. The other two were released, but died shortly after.

Officer Matthies left a wife and two small daughters. It was a real tragedy. However besides remembering Officer Matthies on EOW (End of Watch, when an officer died), the Arcadia Police Association has found a way to keep his memory alive. What could be more appropriate than awarding a special scholarship to a most deserving graduate?



ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, June 10th, through Saturday, June 16th, the Police Department responded to 898 calls for service of which 136 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, June 10:

- 1. At approximately 12:20 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a white GMC Suburban for expired registration, on Floral Avenue at First Avenue. An investigation revealed the driver had a suspended license, and was in possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. The 42-year-old Black female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- 2. Around 4:53 p.m., an officer responded to Easy Spirit at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. Unknown suspect(s) opened the victim’s purse and removed her wallet while she was trying on a pair of shoes. She had placed her purse on the floor and turned her back momentarily. The suspect(s) fled undetected.

Monday, June 11:

- 3. At about 8:06 a.m., an online police report was received in regards to an identity theft. The victim explained he has been living abroad since 2007 and discovered his old Arcadia address has been receiving an increasing amount of mail in his name. A credit check revealed unknown suspect(s) opened several unauthorized credit card accounts using his personal information.
- 4. Shortly after 1:50 p.m., officers responded to Las Tunas Drive and Baldwin Avenue regarding a two-party traffic accident. While traveling on Las Tunas Drive, Party-2 slowed down to make a right turn into a parking lot when she was sideswiped by Party-1. An investigation revealed Party-1 attempted to pass Party-2 on the left side, but did not have sufficient clearance. No injuries were reported.

Tuesday, June 12:

- 5. Around 4:30 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the area of Baldwin Avenue and the 210 freeway. Dispatch advised a reporting party saw a male subject striking a female adult in the back seat. While the assault allegation was unfounded, a 36-year-old Hispanic male passenger had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. Further investigation revealed the driver, a 28-year-old Hispanic male, was in possession of narcotics. Both were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- 6. At approximately 8:45 p.m., officers responded to a traffic collision in the area of Live Oak Avenue and Sixth Avenue. A driver, determined to be under the influence of alcohol, struck another vehicle while traveling westbound on Live Oak Avenue and fled the scene. He drove into the Albertsons parking lot, 298 E. Live Oak Avenue, and onto East Live Oak Avenue where he hit a parked vehicle. The 57-year-old White male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. No injuries were reported.

Wednesday, June 13:

- 7. At about 12:00 p.m., officers responded to the 000 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a battery in progress. An investigation revealed a juvenile physically attacked his father because he was restricted from playing video games. The juvenile had already fled the scene when officers arrived at the location. The Arcadia Fire Department responded and treated the father’s

injuries. The juvenile was later brought into the Arcadia Police Department by his mother. The 17-year-old Korean male was arrested, booked, and transported to the Eastlake Juvenile Detention Center. The case was forwarded to the Department of Children and Family Services for further investigation.

- 8. At approximately 2:35 p.m., officers were dispatched to Macy’s at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. A subject concealed merchandise inside her purse and exited the store without making payment. The 44-year-old Asian female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, June 14:

- 9. Shortly after 1:45 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a Jeep Cherokee for speeding and lane swerving in the area of Santa Anita Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. An investigation revealed the driver was under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol level greater than .08 percent. The 24-year-old White female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- 10. Between 1:05 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., unknown suspect(s) burglarized a garage in the 100 block of Fano Street. The suspect(s) removed the DVD/GPS system and wheels from the victim’s vehicle, and fled undetected. The victim realized he left his garage and vehicle unlocked.
- Friday, June 15:
 - 11. At about 2:00 p.m., an officer made contact with a male subject at Motel 6, 225 Colorado Place, in reference to an outstanding arrest warrant. An investigation revealed the subject was also in possession of methamphetamine. The 46-year-old Hispanic male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
 - 12. Around 2:51 p.m., officers responded to the Orleans Corner Restaurant, 411 East Huntington Drive, in regards to a vandalism report. A disgruntled former employee visited the location to pick-up his last paycheck. Afterwards, he broke an outdoor patio chair by throwing it onto the ground and fled the scene.

Saturday, June 16:

- 13. At approximately 10:45 a.m., a female victim was walking northbound in the 700 block of South First Avenue when a black compact vehicle pulled alongside her. As the victim turned her head towards the vehicle, she observed a male subject exposing himself and masturbating. The suspect, described as having dark short hair and wearing dark clothing, fled northbound out of sight. An area check for the suspect was unsuccessful.
- 14. At about 3:20 p.m., an officer responded to the 1000 block of West Duarte Road regarding a burglary investigation. The victim explained she returned home and attempted to enter her front door but discovered the interior security chain had been fastened, blocking her entry. As she walked toward the side of her apartment, the victim discovered her bedroom window screen was off and a window was open. The victim entered her residence through the window and discovered an unknown subject taking a shower inside her bathroom. The victim yelled at the subject who then exited the bathroom, grabbed the victim’s car keys, and fled out the front door. The suspect is described as a Black female, approximately 40-years-old, 5’11” tall, 170 lbs., with flower tattoos on both sides of her face, wearing a blue or green t-shirt and capri pants.

ARCADIA – FAMILY FLICKS ON THE PROMENADE WEDNESDAYS!

Once again, this year, the City of Arcadia and Westfield Santa Anita are teaming up to bring you a new program called Family Flicks on the Promenade (upper level of the mall) 400 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007 . Family fun starts at 6:30pm with pre-show entertainment and activities with Radio Disney Street Team, as well as exclusive dining discounts and fabulous prizes. All movies are shown on Wednesdays beginning July 11th.

Movies begin at dusk*.

- July 11 Despicable Me (PG)
- July 18 Puss in Boots (PG)
- July 25 The Incredibles (PG)
- August 1 Winnie the Pooh (G)
- August 8 Cars 2 (G)
- August 15 Zookeeper (PG)

* Titles subject to change. Visit Westfield.com for more event information.

It is a completely free event and no registration is required. For more information, please contact the City of Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department at 626.574.5113.

CAL PHIL SET FOR JUNE 30 OPENING OF SUMMER CONCERT SERIES AT SANTA ANITA, STATE OF THE ART NIGHT-TIME VENUE UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN TRACK’S INFIELD AREA



The California Philharmonic Orchestra, along with Santa Anita Park, is readying for its highly anticipated “Summer Festival on the Green” concert series which will begin Saturday, June 30 at The Great Race Place.

The “Festival on the Green” will consist of a series of five night-time concerts which will be performed for the first time ever at Santa Anita.

“We’re very excited and so are the folks at Cal Phil,” said Santa Anita President George Haines. “This is a world-class orchestra headed by Maestro Victor Vener and our infield area is a perfect venue for what is going to be an unforgettable series of concerts under the stars. We’ve constructed a retractable concert clam shell for the orchestra that will provide tremendous acoustics for all attendees. This will be Cal Phil’s 16th summer season and we all expect it to be their best ever.”

The summer concert series will start with a bang, as the Cal Phil Orchestra will be joined on stage by A Thousand Miles pop sensation and three-time Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Vanessa Carlton beginning at 8 p.m. on June 30.

Vener and his orchestra will also enthrall their audience with such classical masterpieces as Respighi’s Pines of Rome.

Additionally, Cal Phil will be accompanied on opening night by the platinum- selling USC Trojan Marching Band, “The Spirit of Troy.”

“Victor Vener has lined up an incredible array of talent to accompany his orchestra throughout the summer,” said Santa Anita Director of Community Services and Special Projects Pete Siberell. “Our second concert, on Saturday, July 14, is going to include The Association, which is absolutely huge. This is world-class entertainment and we expect this entire Festival on the Green series, which runs through Aug. 25, to be a huge success.

“In addition to great entertainment, we know fans of Cal Phil are going to be happy to discover we’re offering jumbo video screens, gourmet food options, full-service bars and permanent restrooms.”

The Association, world-renowned for pop classics such as “Cherish,” “Windy,” and “Never My Love,” first performed these mega-hits in the ’60s.

The remaining summer concerts will all start at 8 p.m. on July 28, Aug. 11 and Aug. 25.

Santa Anita’s spacious infield, which affords attendees the area’s best unobstructed view of the beautiful San Gabriel Mountains, will be supplied with tables, benches with backs, and an expansive area for people to relax and enjoy the concerts on a finely manicured lawn.

Mezzanine seating and a corporate barbeque pit area are also available.

Admission gates will open at 5:30 p.m. and ample, convenient parking will be available by entering Santa Anita’s infield parking lot via Gate 6, north of the track, on Colorado Place.

For more information on Cal Phil’s Festival on the Green summer concert series at Santa Anita, call (626) 300-8200, or visit www.calphil.org.

Summer Concert Series
July 5, 2012—The 1st Marine Division Band

Join us this summer at Arcadia’s annual Summer Concerts in the Park series presented by Target. The seven-week entertainment series showcases a wide variety of musical performances. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for seating on the grass and enjoy a picnic dinner during the show. Kids of all ages will be entertained in our FREE kids’ fun zone area with many games and crafts each week.

Become a part of the Arcadia tradition, gather your family and friends and enjoy the sights and sounds of this year’s concert series. Whether you attend one or all seven, we are sure you will have a great time! As always, admission and parking are free. (Additional parking held at Santa Anita Race Track, Gate 5.) Concerts take place on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8pm on beautiful City Hall West Lawn located at 240 West Huntington Drive. In addition, the City is pleased to announce the addition of da Burger Boss Gourmet Food Truck at all of the 2012 Summer Concert Series! A portion of the proceeds will be given to the Recreation and Community Services Department!

The 1st Marine Division Band will start off the series to a patriotic theme. The band is based out of Camp Pendleton, California and consists of 50 Marine musicians. While the primary mission of the 1st Marine Division Band is to provide musical support for military parades and ceremonies, they remain versatile to accommodate other needs. In addition to the Ceremonial Band and Concert Band, the band forms smaller ensembles such as Big Band, Jazz Combo, Brass Quintet, and Party Band. They perform at over 300 commitments a year, with highlights including the State Funeral of President Ford, the Tournament of Roses Parades, Disneyland’s Independence Day Concerts, and annual concerts at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido. In 2007, the 1st Marine Division Band was awarded the "Colonel George S. Howard Citation of Musical Excellence for Military Concert Bands" administered by the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

For additional information, contact the Recreation and Community Services Department at 626.574.5113.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

From Monrovia's City Manager

THE MONROVIA FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 BUDGET

On Tuesday, June 19, the Monrovia City Council passed a structurally balanced budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

After two budget study sessions that align revenue and expenditure projections with Council priorities and departmental goals and objectives, the City Council voted unanimously to approve a \$59.12 million budget.

Balancing the budget after the loss of Redevelopment means that this new budget places a greater focus on cost containment and prioritizing services- the City Council's top priorities being fiscal responsibility and public safety.

There was some good news for the 2012-2013 year: sales tax revenue is up 5%, property tax revenue is up 4%, and there is a 2% increase in the hotel occupancy tax. Moving forward, containing current costs will be the City's greatest challenge, but this new budget still gives Monrovia's General Fund a projected surplus of \$245,000 at the end of this next fiscal year.

Some more budget numbers:

Of the \$31.97 million in projected General Fund revenues, the majority (58%) comes in through property tax and sales tax revenues. The greatest expenditure from the City General Fund comes from Public Safety: 40% from Police and 29% from Fire.

General Fund personnel costs are budgeted for \$22.46 million, however, in accordance with the Council priorities, total cost should not exceed 75% of net operating costs. In order to meet long range financial targets, the City will continue to negotiate with employee groups to pick up their full share of PERS employee pension costs by the 2013-2014 budget. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is being reduced by 21%, or \$66,000, scaling back programs for safe and healthy neighborhoods. Annual street resurfacing will continue through 2013 using Prop C funding. After the loss of Redevelopment, the City had a net loss of \$1 million. As a result, 4 vacant positions within the City were eliminated, overhead charges to all City operations were increased by 1%, phone and computer replacement allocations were reduced, and vehicle and equipment replacement was deferred. This balanced budget was achieved through pension cost-sharing with employees, a new two-tier retirement system and no increase in staffing. As always, the City will come back to the Council for a mid-year budget review.

MONROVIA MAYOR LUTZ JOINS OTHER MAYORS IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION FOR MARIJUANA TO BE SOLD AT PHARMACIES

By Joan Schmidt

Recently Mayor Mary Ann Lutz attended the annual US Conference of Mayors. An important resolution concerning marijuana came up and she joined others mayor in support of it.

The State of California allows marijuana to be sold for medical purposes (not recreational) out of dispensaries. The City of Monrovia does not allow these dispensaries within city limits. There are other states that do the same thing. The Mayors at the US Conference of Mayors feel that if marijuana is to be sold like any other drug, it should be sold like any other controlled substance through pharmacies. Mayor Lutz supported this resolution along with the other mayors because "We felt that if this controlled substance is for medical purposes, it should be prescribed by physicians and pharmacies be the distributor of the drug."

Mayor Lutz also noted that the resolution does not change any laws (federal of state), it just tell our officials in Washington DC what the preference is of Mayors in the US.

Below is the resolution that Mayor Lutz so kindly shared so our readers would be up-to-date on this issue.

RECLASSIFICATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS TO SCHEDULE II OF THE CSA

WHEREAS, 24 states, comprising almost one-third of the U.S. population, have passed or have under consideration laws that either regulate or decriminalize the use of cannabis for medical or other purposes; and

WHEREAS, under the Controlled Substance ACT (CSA), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has classified cannabis as Schedule I substance, deeming it of no currently accepted medical use in treatment with a lack of accepted safety for use of the drug under medical supervision, instead of a Schedule II substance, a drug with a currently accepted medical use in treatment or a currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians support investigation and clinical research of cannabis for medicinal use and urged the federal government to reassess the Schedule I classification; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence of the effectiveness of cannabis as a treatment for certain terminal or debilitating conditions is widely available, including four reviews of modern human clinical studies with cannabis and cannabinoids in the United States and elsewhere recently published in peer-reviewed publication; and

WHEREAS, in the past year, there have been numerous federal raids of locally sanctioned medical cannabis dispensaries, operating in accordance with state statutes, creating confusion about the legal status of these businesses; and

WHEREAS, the conflict between state statutes and federal regulation frustrates our citizens, costs cities significant time and resources to address, and prevents the establishment of a regulated and safe system to supply patients who may need medical cannabis; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2011, Washington State Governor Christine Gregoire and Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee petitioned DEA to initiate a rulemaking for reclassification of medical cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule II of the CSA,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The United States Conference of Mayors supports the Gregoire-Chafee petition and urges the DEA to initiate rulemaking proceedings from the reclassification of medical cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule II of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) so qualifying patients who follow state law may obtain the medication they need through the traditional and safe method of physician prescribing and pharmacy dispensing.

MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 472 service events, resulting in 86 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping. For Police Department news and information, visit our website at www.monroviapd.org and follow us on twitter for police notifications.

Commercial Burglary

June 18 at 8:06 a.m., police responded to the report of a commercial burglary in the 600 block of West Huntington. The burglary occurred sometime between 5:00 p.m. on June 17 and 8:00 a.m. on June 18. Suspect(s) smashed a window and took Oakley, Maui Jim and Ray Ban sunglasses from the business. No alarm sounded. Similar cases have been reported in Anaheim, Whittier and Montclair. Investigation continuing.

Armed Robbery

June 16 at 8:00 p.m., an armed robbery was reported at a business in the 900 block of West Huntington. Two suspects entered the store, produced handguns, and ordered the two employees to the floor. While one suspect held the victims at gunpoint, the other stole cash and cell phones from the business. The suspects were last seen northbound from the location on foot. The suspects are described as male African-Americans, in their 20's, one with a goatee and the other had beard stubble on his face. One suspect wore a black hooded sweatshirt, the other wore a gray one, and they both had on black pants.

Theft From a Vehicle

June 16 at 8:16 p.m., dispatch received a call reporting a theft from an unlocked vehicle in the 100 block of Stedman. The victim parked her vehicle in her assigned space directly in front of her apartment in the evening, but left the vehicle unlocked. When she returned to her vehicle the next morning, she noticed the vehicle had been ransacked. The only thing missing was approximately three dollars in coins from a duffel bag that was in the vehicle. Investigation continuing.

Grand Theft / Conspiracy to Commit Grand Theft - Suspects Arrested

June 19 at 11:01 a.m., an officer was on patrol in the area of Foothill and California when he observed a silver Lincoln. The vehicle matched the description of a suspect vehicle from a battery theft incident the previous day. The suspects stole batteries from a cable box in the City of Monrovia. The occupants of the vehicle, a male and female, matched a witness description of the suspects in the case. The officer noticed that the vehicle registration was also expired. He stopped the vehicle and contacted the suspects. When he spoke to the driver, he observed batteries and a yellow safety vest in the vehicle. A short time later, a call was received in dispatch regarding a theft of batteries from a cable box on California that had just occurred. It appears the officer contacted the suspects just after they completed another crime. The stolen batteries were recovered and confirmed stolen by cable company employees. Both suspects were arrested and taken into custody. The vehicle was stored as evidence.

Grand Theft Auto

June 19 at 5:05 p.m., a vehicle was reported stolen from the 300 block of East Olive. The vehicle, a 2005, black Nissan Altima, was taken sometime between midnight the night before and 5:00 p.m. on June 19. Investigation continuing.

DUARTE HIGH SWIM TEAM RECOGNIZED

By Joan Schmidt



A few weeks ago, Claudia Heller told me about the outstanding Duarte High Swim Team which had a phenomenal season! She continued by sharing that Patric Brillart, a senior on the Duarte High Swimming Team, had asked her, "Why doesn't anyone care about us?"

Of course Patric was referring to all the publicity the media gives to the football and baseball teams, while the swim team, although it had a fabulous season, receives little notice. Claudia, being the person she is, rectified the situation by writing a beautiful piece about the Duarte High Swim Team, in the *Weekly Star*. In her article, Claudia talks about the team, its coach and the outstanding season it had.

What made this year's swim team so special? They were undefeated in all events including league relays, the league season and the finals. The Boys' Varsity 200 relay team broke the league time record while the girls upheld their end as Elizabeth Pender broke a league record! Way to Go, Elizabeth! (I'm proud, as Elizabeth was in my 6th Grade class at Annunciation School!)

The Duarte High Swim Team Coach is Dana Brewer, and this is her first year's coaching the Duarte High Team. (What a way to embark on a new career!) Coach Brewer has much experience - she coached the Duarte recreation summer team for eight years. (She herself was a member of this team from ages 5-17!) While attending St. Lucy's Priory High School, Coach Brewer swam and played water polo. All of these experiences helped her become such a great coach. Coach Brewer's Assistant was Mitchell Michaelis and, "Together we reached all our goals this year, a year that started with a bang. The boys took home a trophy at league relays."

Coach Brewer is also proud her team had such high expectations, which were met when the boys and girls won league. Quite impressive is that their combined team scores were more than 200 points higher than their competition at finals! Patric Brillhart, Morgan Michaelis, Sergio Sandoval and Elgin King also broke a record at League Finals for the Boys 200 Free Relay with a league record time of 2:41:64 and qualified for CIF. Elizabeth Pender broke her previous League record from 2011 for the 200 IM and qualified for CIF in the 200 IM and 100 FLY!

How does a team become so great? It is not by chance, but by a lot of hard work and practice. The sixty-member Duarte High Swim Team practiced 2-3 hours, Mondays-Fridays, and sometimes Saturdays for three months.

And so it is only fitting that this outstanding team was recognized, not only by Ms. Heller but also at a well-attended Duarte City Council meeting. Prior to the meeting, there was a small celebration with a beautiful cake and punch. It gave everyone a chance to congratulate team members and their coaches. And the "icing on the cake" was that the City Council also recognized Claudia Heller as Senior Volunteer of the Year! How fitting was that- the team honored and the lady who made sure everyone knew about the team was also recognized! Thank you, Duarte for another great City Council Meeting!

DUARTE SUSPENDS ENFORCEMENT OF SIGNS TO HELP BOOST SUCCESS OF LOCAL BUSINESSES

In an move to help support the success of local businesses in tough economic times, the Duarte City Council has voted to suspend enforcement of certain temporary signs for a 12-month period beginning July 1, 2012.

It was just a year and a half ago that the City adopted an updated Development Code that included new regulations barring hand-held signs, inflatable signs, and limited the display of balloons and temporary banners. But last February, City staff met with the Chamber of Commerce's sign ordinance committee as well as attended a community-wide sign ordinance forum to gather input from businesses. It was determined that a short-term suspension of the enforcement of certain types of violations for temporary signs could help the business community at this time.

"We appreciate the Chamber of Commerce's efforts to facilitate the needs of local business here in Duarte," said Duarte City Manager, Darrell George. "The sign ordinance committee was instrumental in making this amnesty period happen."

During the amnesty period, hand held signs will be permitted during daylight hours when not interfering with the safe flow of traffic. Small balloons up to 12 inches in diameter will be allowed with an approved temporary banner permit up to 105 days per year and a maximum of 30 consecutive days at a time. The display of inflatable signs and identification devices that utilize airflow to operate will be permitted during daylight hours when not interfering with traffic flow.

Two other concerns businesses raised with the City are also being addressed. City code enforcement staff has refocused duties in the commercial zones of the city on property maintenance and aesthetic issues, and on serious sign violations that create clutter. Since the February meeting, the City has also developed sign information brochures that are available at City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce and on the City's website www.accessduarte.com.

SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

Pool Safety for Children

Establishing and following "Pool Rules" can help ensure your family and friends have a safe and fun time swimming this summer. Teach your children to swim as early as possible and always watch your children when they are in or near a pool or spa. Each year, nationwide, we experience too many incidents of children drowning in swimming pools, usually a pool owned by their family, friends or a relative. At the time of most incidents, the children were being supervised by one or both parents. Toddlers, in particular, often do the unexpected. In addition to drowning incidents, thousands of children are treated in hospital emergency rooms for submersion injuries. Do not consider young children to be "drown proof" because they have had swimming lessons; children must always be watched closely while swimming. Here are a few "Pool Rules" you can adopt to keep your family and friends safe:

Always have adult supervision.
Never lose sight of toddlers near a pool or spa.
Keep a portable telephone near the pool with emergency numbers posted.
Learn CPR; at least one adult family member should know CPR.
Do not allow running on the edge of the pool.
Keep large floating toys out of the pool - they block the view.
Keep deck areas free of clutter.
Never allow young children to dive into a pool.
Install pool lights for night vision.
Have a clear view of the pool from inside your home.
Remove automatic vacuums from the pool before swimming.
Remove toys from in and around the pool; toys can attract young children.
Keep pool chemicals locked away.
Never allow extension cords near a pool.
Keep rescue equipment by the pool.
Install a pool safety fence around your pool and ensure pool gates are kept closed.

Enforce your "Pool Rules" with family and friends for a safe and fun summer in the pool!

PUSD OFFERS SUMMER LEARNING TIPS

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) offers useful tips and resources for families to keep children engaged in learning during summer vacation.

"As a teacher and administrator, I worried about my students as each summer vacation approached," said PUSD Superintendent Jon R. Gundry who spent 16 years as a classroom teacher. "Without activities to keep them learning, students would forget the material they learned the previous school year, stop practicing important study skills and lose ground. Students who struggle in particular subjects can fall even further behind during the summer, leading to a widening of the achievement gap. That's why it is important for families to keep children engaged in fun activities that encourage learning during the long summer vacation."

Although PUSD only offers a limited summer school program for credit recovery because of ongoing budget cuts, other organizations in the community offer learning resources for district families. Pasadena LEARNs offers five weeks of summer activities. Visit www.gopUSD.com/learns for information. The Pasadena Educational Foundation (www.pasedfoundation.org) offers academics and enrichment for all grade levels. The City of Pasadena Human Services and Recreation Department (www.cityofpasadena.net), the City of Sierra Madre (www.cityofsierramadre.com) and the parks and libraries of Los Angeles County (www.lacounty.gov) offers activities and resources for youth this summer.

Free breakfast and lunch will be available for children and youth 18 years old or younger this summer through the 2012 Summer Food Program. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and PUSD's food services division and operated by PUSD, the City of Pasadena and other organizations, the free meals will be served at schools, parks and other sites throughout Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre. Participants must eat all meals at the site; additional rules will be posted. For more information, call PUSD Food Services at (626) 396-5850.

To help keep children engaged in learning this summer, here are some tips from PUSD and the California Department of Education: Top 10 Tips for Summer Learning

1. Encourage Reading. Help establish a love of reading at an early age. Reading helps improve writing and communication skills as well as improve learning throughout the summer. Recommended reading lists are available on the California Department of Education's (CDE) literature database. Take your children to the public library where they can obtain their own library cards, learn how to find books, and check them out free of charge. The Pasadena public libraries offer free summer reading programs.
2. Participate in Community Summer Programs. Many local organizations offer interesting summer events, such as art classes, music, cooking, sports, free concerts, and summer camps. Pasadena LEARNs, the Pasadena Educational Foundation's Summer Program and the City of Pasadena's Summer Recreational program offer a variety of classes for K-12 students, from robotics to art and high school credit courses. Scholarships available.
3. Encourage the Use of Math. Give your child practical experience using mathematics at home. Put your preschool child's counting ability to work. In preparation

for meals, let the child count out the number of forks or dinner napkins needed for the table, the number of servings from a meal, or any other quantity. Mention the size of containers, such as pints of cream and half gallons of milk. Allow your child to measure ingredients when you cook or add up costs when shopping.

4. Encourage Creativity With Art. Keep your child supplied with sheets of paper, crayons, finger paints, modeling clay, burlap, paste, marking pens, scraps of cloth, yarn, scraps of wood, and water colors. Provide a workspace for your child and encourage the creation of works of art. Proudly display your child's best creations on the wall, door, or bulletin board. Give frequent opportunities for the expression of artistic ability, like making birthday and greeting cards. Encourage help with holiday decorations. Encourage musical activity in the home or on family trips. Let the child be a music maker as well as a listener. A toy piano, drum, tuned bells, or harmonica can help teach the rudiments of rhythm and tone.

5. Have Fun With Science. Work with your child on projects such as making bird feeders, caring for pets, setting up a home weather station, observing the night sky and preparing a family vegetable or flower garden. Talk with your child's science teacher and get useful tips to help you reinforce your child's formal science training. Summer is an ideal time to visit museums and zoos in your community. Many of these are free or low cost for young children.

6. Get Active. Many low-cost summer programs are available for your children through the City of Pasadena, summer LEARNs and other organizations. Check for recreation and education opportunities like youth sports leagues, swimming, baseball, basketball, soccer, cheerleading, tennis, dance, drama, the arts, sports for children using wheelchairs, enrichment classes, concerts, and other youth programs.

7. Volunteer For a Good Cause. Homeless shelters, animal shelters, and senior community centers often need volunteer help. For example, teenagers can explore animal-related careers while gaining work experience, and help teach children and families about animals, the environment, and conservation.

8. Start Writing. To encourage creative writing, jot down stories your child tells or songs they make up. Show them to the child later. Suggest they be illustrated and "published" for grandparents or other relatives as gifts.

9. Encourage Social Studies. Discuss current events. Read newspapers and periodicals. Watch the local and national newscasts. Provide your child with social studies research materials, including a dictionary, atlas, globe, and almanac. A map of the city and road maps are excellent for plotting trips and helping the child understand geographic relationships. Keep the research items conveniently close to the TV for use during news and documentary programs.

10. Helping Out at Home. Teaching children early and often about doing chores around the house helps them learn important skills like cooperation, teamwork, fairness, patience, responsibility, and values. It also helps free up some time so you can just enjoy being with your children.



FAREWELL PART 1: THERE AND BACK AGAIN

This is my second to last column that I will write for this newspaper before I head off to Wyoming and then Syracuse University for college in the fall. In this past year, a lot has happened and changed: Harry Potter has ended, Hunger Games has begun, Whitney Houston died, the 2012 Election have started, the Kings won the Stanley Cup, and the Royal Wedding occurred, along with a lot more. I have graduated high school which is bizarre and look forward to my future now with excitement, anticipation, and fear. Where in the past I see friendship, stress, writing, and maturation – a change in whom I am as I have grown up.

The time has been short but significant because time is limited. J.R.R. Tolkien wrote, "All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us", and although he was talking to Frodo about taking the One Ring to Mordor, it applies to everyone, everyday. And I see this quote and I feel both good and disappointed because I have done so much but not nearly as much as I would like, and I begin to fear that I won't have the chance to that which I want. But this column has been something that in the time given I have greatly enjoyed and appreciated because I took the risk in asking for an opportunity to write and it was given. So I thank all who have helped me pursue this dream and get to where I am going in the future. I may not take the all powerful ring to Mt. Doom, but I do hope to change the world for the better one day like Frodo.

MINDSPRING EDUCATION CENTER LAUNCHES NEW SUMMER PROGRAM

Handwriting, Typing, and Journalism – Oh My!

Summertime in Sierra Madre brings Friday family movies in Kersting Court, the annual Independence Day Parade and now, three-week educational sessions designed to give young students tools that will enrich their lives and their academic pursuits.

"I've been in education for 12 years and here in Sierra Madre since 2007. It's such a pleasure to work with the people here in my own community and see my students accomplish their goals throughout the school year. Now that school's out, I have the opportunity to teach skills that will benefit my students in whatever they are doing," explains Sally Morrison, learning specialist and owner of Mindspring Education Center.

Mindspring's three-course, three-week program will run Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until noon. Three sessions will be offered this year with the first one starting June 18.

Students can choose to take one, two, or three classes per session. Signing up for more than one session will benefit kids even more as the small class sizes allow them to progress at their own pace throughout the summer. Handwriting, Typing, and Journalism classes engage students in some of the most important tools for communicating their ideas.

Mindspring offers one-to-one intensive instruction and tutoring year-round.

For more information, please visit www.mindspringedc.com.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!
Call Patricia at 626-818-2698 Today!

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

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

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

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

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

Foothill Oaks Academy
822 Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010
(626) 301-9809
info@foothilloaksacademy.org
preschool@foothilloaksacademy.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School
141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-1428 Principal: Gayle Bluemel
E-mail address: 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

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

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

Lisa Feldman: Head of School
Wilson Middle School
300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107
(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln
E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

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

Sailors see some sea creatures ...

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...when they sail the seven salty seas.

Creatures of Our Seas!

Do you think a "new," giant creature will be found during your lifetime?

If it is, how do **you** think it will look and live?

Almost everything in the sea is food for something else.

In some parts of the world, people consider me (a puffer fish) a special and rare treat. But, my poisonous parts and spines keep almost everything else from eating me.

This is a giant...

Uh...oh!

There are so many fascinating creatures that live in our seas and oceans. Scientists today are diving to the deepest parts of the oceans to explore and photograph sea life that no humans have ever seen before.

Can you read the clues and fill in the names of these 10 sea creatures?

Oops...I did it again!

This Sea Creature...

1. is really a fish that grows up to six feet long; it can be a shocking experience to meet it (2 words)
2. "gallops" through warm waters; when tired, it can use its tail to cling to seaweed (2 words)
3. has an arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm; can squirt black ink to trick an enemy
4. comes in many sizes; a giant one can have eyes up to 15 inches wide, the largest in the world; it has eight arms with suction cups and two tentacles for catching dinner
5. uses its "double-edged sword" to slash through a school of fish for food or to fight
6. is a mammal; it is easy to spot when it "blows off steam"
7. is loved by sailors for its friendliness and intelligence
8. swallows water to blow up into a large ball; its sharp spines discourage other fish from trying to eat it (2 words)
9. has no bones, looks like an umbrella; may have tentacles with poison in them to kill fish or harm enemies
10. usually has five arms; sometimes if one is lost, it can grow it back (2 words)

DO ONE DON'T DO THE OTHER

Must admit with all the past weeks food notes and trivial trivia, I almost missed National Margarita & Chili Days, and what type of foodie would I be, but fear not friends, I did partake in a Margarita and a hot bowl of beanless chili. I have to take my Andy Rooney Card out again and give you my fellow diners the rules of Etiquette 101. I love my daughter, and some of my friends kids. But here goes.

I am I am asked frequently asked about etiquette and table manners, so I compiled this simple list based on the most common questions.

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

-If you leave the table, place the napkin to the left of your plate, loosely draped.

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter DILLS
thechefknows@yahoo.com



- A napkin is never for blowing your nose or wiping your mouth. Use it to dab at the corners of your mouth or your fingertips. If you need to cleanse further, leave the table and use the appropriate products in the restroom.

- In formal dining, a charger will be under the place setting. It remains there during the starter course and is removed at the main course.

-Your eating utensils go in the order of use, starting from the outside (furthest from the plate) and working their way in. Forks go on the left; knives and spoons on the right, as you face the plate. Dessert utensils are placed at the top of the plate, sideways.

- The bread and butter plate goes to the left, above the forks.

-The water glass goes above the knives (behind the wine goblet, if there is one).

-Food should be passed counter-clockwise.

- It is considered impolite to start eating before everyone is seated and served, including your host.

-Only the meal settings and food belong on the table. Do not place your elbows, eyeglasses, notebook, pen or other objects on the table.

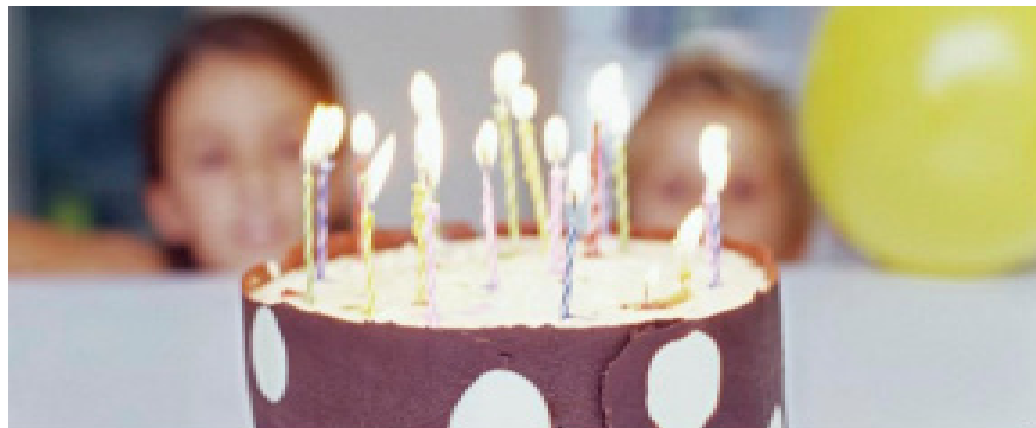
- Cut no more than two bites of any item at a time. When it comes to bread, tear off one bite at a time and butter it, rather than buttering a whole roll.

- Do not season your food until you have tasted it.

- It is permissible to use a piece of bread to wipe up excess gravy, as long as you use your fork and not your fingers.

- If you need to leave the table, place your utensils on the edge of your plate so that the tips point to the plate's center, in a V-shape. To signal when you are finished, lay your utensils side by side diagonally on the plate.

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INGREDIENTS

Kosher salt
1/2 pound medium shell pasta
1 cup chopped cooked steak
1 cup diced green bell pepper
1 cup chopped blanched green beans
1/2 cup crumbled cooked bacon
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup sour cream
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon finely grated garlic
3/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
Freshly ground pepper

DIRECTIONS

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the pasta and cook as the label directs; drain and rinse under cold water. Transfer to a large bowl.

Add the steak, bell pepper, green beans and bacon to the bowl with the pasta.

Make the dressing: Mix the mayonnaise, sour cream, lemon juice, garlic, parmesan, and salt and pepper to taste in a bowl. Pour over the pasta salad and toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper. Chill for up to 3 hours.

SIMPLE GUIDELINES FOR SAFER GRILLING

(NAPSI)—Cooking outdoors is in at any time of year. When you grill, it's important to follow the guidelines from the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service to prevent harmful bacteria from multiplying and causing food poisoning:

- When shopping, buy cold food such as meat and poultry last, right before checkout. Separate raw meat and poultry from other food in your shopping cart and put packages of raw meat and poultry into plastic bags.

- Plan to go home right from the store. Consider taking a cooler with ice for perishables. Always refrigerate perishable food within two hours—within one hour when the temperature is above 90° F.

- At home, place meat and poultry in the refrigerator immediately. Freeze poultry and ground meat that won't be used in a day or two.

- Completely thaw meat and poultry before grilling so it cooks evenly. Use the refrigerator for slow, safe thawing. For quicker thawing, you can defrost in the microwave or in cold water if the food will be placed immediately on the grill.

- A marinade is a savory, acidic sauce in which a food is soaked to enrich its flavor or to tenderize it. Marinate food in the refrigerator, not on the counter. Poultry and cubed meat or stew meat can be marinated up to two days. Beef, veal, pork and lamb roasts, chops and steaks may be marinated up to five days. If some of the marinade is to be used as a sauce on the cooked food, reserve a portion before putting raw meat and poultry in it. However, if the marinade used on raw meat or poultry is to be reused, make sure to let it come to a boil first to destroy any harmful bacteria.

- When transporting food, keep it cold. Use an insulated cooler with sufficient ice or ice packs to keep the food at 40° F or below. Pack it immediately before leaving home. Keep it cold until ready to use.



- Always wash hands with soap and water before handling food. Use hand sanitizer or moist towelettes if soap and water are not available.

- Meat and poultry cooked on a grill often brown very fast on the outside. Use a food thermometer to be sure the food has reached a safe minimum internal temperature.

- After cooking meat and poultry on the grill, keep it hot until served—at 140° F or warmer. Keep cooked meats on the side of the grill rack. At home, cooked meat can be kept hot in an oven set at approximately 200° F, in a chafing dish or slow cooker or on a warming tray.

- Refrigerate any leftovers promptly in shallow containers. Discard any food left out more than two hours.

- Learn more at www.fsis.usda.gov/factsheets/barbecue_food_safety/index.asp.

For more information, visit www.fsis.usda.gov or ask a food safety question anytime at www.AskKaren.gov or via smart-phone at m.askkaren.gov or call 1-888-MPHOTLINE.

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Jeff's Pics

The Book Report

By Jeff Brown

CONFRONT AND CONCEAL: OBAMA'S SECRET WARS AND SURPRISING USE OF AMERICAN POWER

by David E. Sanger

A revealing account of Obama's use of innovated new tools of American power to manage a rapidly shifting world of global threats and challenges. Inside the White House Situation Room, the newly elected Barack Obama immerses himself in the details of a remarkable new American capability to launch cyber war against Iran, and escalates covert operations to delay the day when the mullahs could obtain a nuclear weapon. Over the next three years, Obama accelerates drone attacks as an alternative to putting troops on the ground in Pakistan, and becomes increasingly reliant on the Special Forces, whose hunting of Al-Qaeda illuminates the path out of an unwinnable war in Afghanistan.

Confront and Conceal provides readers with a picture of an administration that came to office with the world on fire. It takes them into the Situation Room debate over how to undermine Iran's program while simultaneously trying to prevent Israel from taking military action that could plunge the region into another war. It dissects how the bin Laden raid worsened the dysfunctional relationship with Pakistan. And it traces how Obama's early idealism about fighting "a war of necessity" in Afghanistan quickly turned to fatigue and frustration.

One of the most trusted and acclaimed national security correspondents in the country, David Sanger of the New York Times takes readers deep inside the Obama administration's most perilous decisions: The president dispatches an emergency search team to the Gulf when the White House briefly fears the Taliban may have obtained the Bomb, but he rejects a plan in late 2011 to send in Special Forces to recover a stealth drone that went down in Iran. Obama overrules his advisers and takes the riskiest path in killing Bin Laden, and ignores their advice when he helps oust Hosni Mubarak from the presidency of Egypt. "The surprise is his aggressiveness," a key ambassador who works closely with Obama reports.

Yet the president has also pivoted American foreign policy away from the attritional wars of the past decade, attempting to preserve America's influence with a lighter, defter touch, all while focusing on a new era of diplomacy in Asia and reconfiguring America's role during a time of economic turmoil and austerity. As the world seeks to understand whether there is an Obama Doctrine, Confront and Conceal is a fascinating, unflinching account of these complex years, in which the president and his administration have found themselves struggling to stay ahead in a world where power is diffuse and America's ability to exert control grows ever more elusive.



SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

Review By Sean Kayden

WINTERSLEEP

Canadian indie rock aficionados, Wintersleep, have released their fifth studio LP, "Hello Hum". In the grand scheme of things, to call the former Juno Awards recipients of the "Best New Group Of The Year" merely an indie rock band would be a misconception. They've dabbled with hardcore guitars, synth pop, and experimental art rock in the past and present. Given the music they create, it comes with the territory for Wintersleep to have been compared to numerous bigger acts such as Fleet Foxes, The National and small traces in the vocal department resembling Paul Banks of Interpol. However, at the end of the day and all comparisons aside, Wintersleep possess a distinguishing and authentic sound. It may not always resonate with the listener, but will have them overwhelmed with their emotive form of artistry.

Artist: Wintersleep
Album: Hello Hum
Label: Roll Call Records
Release Date: June 12th, 2012

Paul Murphy is a vivid storyteller with vocals of solace, but some of Wintersleep's songs take awhile to get rolling. You can't simply base judgment on a track without giving it a listen entirely through. Most songs here will take you on a joyous ride or have one become utterly lost in reverie. "Hello Hum" is irrefutably the group's most experimental record. The record kicks off with "Hum," a heavy synth track with this sort of rattling and crashing background noise in the beginning that gently eases into this stunning, romantic opening track. On track two, "In Came The Flood," is where the real magic comes alive. If any song is going to put Wintersleep on the map, this is it. It's an alternative radio friendly song, but not derivative by any means. It's a rapturous, full of energy song with a multitude of layered guitars riffs. It's the clear-cut winner for the best song off "Hello Hum". "Resuscitate" is a close second. The aforementioned song is a lively, bouncy tune that's a rush of blood straight to your head. I find that with the music from Wintersleep, you don't reflect but believe—believe in the endless possibilities of your own conquests.

However, things aren't always copacetic. There are a few tunes that aren't bad per se, but rather middling for the band's fifth album. One that comes in mind immediately is "Permanent Sigh". It's a sporadic tune that sounds peaceful at times, but is mediocre during most of its duration. The surprise treat off the album comes in the form of "Someone, Somewhere"—a beautifully written and performed song that puts the active listener in a world of utter bliss. The hidden gem though is "Saving Song". The song is a soft, tender, and unexpected slowdown halfway through the album. It definitely gives the album more scope and validates Wintersleep's boundless talents. When the dust settles, a few songs here don't accomplish much, but for rest of the journey, it's a pretty worthwhile expedition.

Key Tracks: "Hum", "In Came The Flood", "Resuscitate", "Saving Song"
7.5 out of 10

9th ANNUAL FREE SUMMER JAZZ CONCERT SERIES PRESENTED BY THE PLAYHOUSE DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

- Free Jazz Concerts All Summer Long -

The Pasadena Playhouse District Association sizzles this summer with its 9th Annual Free Jazz Summer Concert Series. The concert series takes place every Sunday evening, July 1 through August 26, 2012 from 5 pm until 7 pm at the Vroman's outdoor courtyard, 695 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena. The 9th Annual Free Jazz Summer Concert Series is free and open to the public.

The nine week series features an eclectic roster of up-and-coming and notable jazz performers such as the jazz optometrist Elliott Caine, award-winning soul singer/songwriter Jamila Ford, and jazz guitarists and composer, Joe LoPiccolo among other performers. From blues to Latin and smooth jazz, the free summer jazz concert series has something for all jazz lovers. The full concert schedule listed below.

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For additional information on the ninth annual Free Summer Jazz Concert series, contact the Playhouse District Association, 626.744.0340.

About the Playhouse District Association
The Playhouse District Association (PDA) is a California non-profit formed in 1995, which serves to enhance and promote The Playhouse District as the historic, cultural, and thriving commercial heart of Pasadena.

2012 SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE *

- July 1 – Elliott Caine
- July 8 – Joseph Pericano
- July 15 - Bobby Blueshouse Band
- July 22 – Leila Avila
- July 29 – Michael Haggins
- August 5 – Jamila Ford
- August 12 – JAZZTEC
- August 19 – Scott Martin Latin Jazz
- August 26 – Joe LoPicollo

* Performers are subject to change without notice.

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- Eric Marchese, Backstage

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- Gayle Pool, American Chronicle

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WWW.CLAIRBOURN.ORG/SUMMER/

Looking Up with Bob Eklund



DATA FROM NASA’S VOYAGER 1 POINT TO INTERSTELLAR FUTURE

Data from NASA’s Voyager 1 spacecraft indicate that the venerable deep-space explorer has encountered a region in space where the intensity of charged particles from beyond our solar system has markedly increased. Voyager scientists looking at this rapid rise draw closer to an inevitable but historic conclusion—that humanity’s first emissary to interstellar space is now at the edge of our solar system.

“The laws of physics say that someday Voyager will become the first human-made object to enter interstellar space, but we still do not know exactly when that someday will be,” said Ed Stone, Voyager project scientist at Caltech in Pasadena. “The latest data indicate that we are clearly in a new region where things are changing more quickly. It is very exciting. We are approaching the solar system’s frontier.”

The data making the 16-hour-38 minute, 11.1-billion-mile journey from Voyager 1 to antennas of NASA’s Deep Space Network on Earth detail the number of charged particles measured by the two high-energy telescopes aboard the 34-year-old spacecraft. These energetic particles were generated when stars in our cosmic neighborhood went supernova. “From January 2009 to January 2012, there had been a gradual increase of about 25 percent in the amount of galactic cosmic rays Voyager was encountering,” said Stone. “More recently, we have seen very rapid escalation in that part of the energy spectrum.”

This marked increase is one of a triad of data sets which need to make significant swings of the needle to indicate a new era in space exploration. The second important measure from the spacecraft’s two telescopes is the intensity of energetic particles generated inside the heliosphere, the bubble of charged particles the Sun blows around itself. While there has been a slow decline in the measurements of these energetic particles, they have not dropped off precipitously, which could be expected when Voyager breaks through the solar boundary.

The final data set that Voyager scientists believe will reveal a major change is the measurement in the direction of the magnetic field lines surrounding the spacecraft. While Voyager is still within the heliosphere, these field lines run east-west. When it passes into interstellar space, the team expects Voyager will find that the magnetic field lines orient in a more north-south direction. Such analysis will take weeks, and the Voyager team is currently crunching the numbers of its latest data set. “When the Voyagers launched in 1977, the space age was all of 20 years old,” said Stone. “Many of us on the team dreamed of reaching interstellar space, but we really had no way of knowing how long a journey it would be—or if these two vehicles that we invested so much time and energy in would operate long enough to reach it.”

Voyagers 1 and 2 are still in good health. Voyager 2, launched after Voyager 1, is some 9 billion miles away from the Sun. Both are operating as part of the Voyager Interstellar Mission, an extended mission to explore the solar system beyond the neighborhood of the outer planets. NASA’s Voyagers are the two most distant active representatives of humanity.

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



NASA’s Voyager 1 probe has been hurtling toward the edge of the solar system for 35 years and is perched to enter the realm of interstellar space. Photo courtesy NASA

On Line

By PJ Carpenter

THE SYSTEM’S BIBLE:
A Book Review

“The System’s Bible” is the third edition of a work entitled “Systemantics: How Systems Really Work and How They Fail”, by John Gall. This tongue-in-cheek text has enjoyed semi-cult status since its release in 1978 and part of its tech-y charm lies in trying to guess the degree of seriousness and insight that lay just behind the concepts presented for the readers’ perusal. Although large, commercially-available computer systems and the pre-deployment planning efforts that are necessary for their implementation seem to be the main focus of the examples provided to illustrate and illuminate the authors’ findings, just about any person who has had prolonged exposure to a large-scale system of any kind would come to the quick consensus of the universal applications of these principles.

The primary grist for this work seems to be the applied science known as General Systems Theory. GST essentially posits that everything is a system and everything is part of a larger system. It uses these theses to examine how these interconnected components cooperate as a cohesive unit to achieve some result, either for pre-programmed ends or the ends of a larger over-system. The study of Systemantics takes these points even further and states that once a system is created, it invariably takes on a life of its own and in a fair number of cases establishes its own ends, often with surprising results. If this premise sounds a little batty to you, keep in mind that the title of this tome, “Systemantics”, is itself a play on the phrase “SYSTEMs display

ANTICS” which is sometimes the only logical explanation that can be given by the experts as to why a particular system is or isn’t working.

Systemantics first law (The Primal Scenario) states that Systems in general work poorly or not at all. Given the incredible amount of human energy expended toward the establishment of various types of systems to cover various types of scenarios, it does often seem that humans as a species prefer the predictable illusion of control provided by systems implementation to the unpredictable nature of free-range chaos. The devil we know...

The text itself is filled with many such laws that have scholarly-sounding names. “The Operational Fallacy” states that the system itself does not actually do what it says its doing while the “Functionary’s Falsity” claims that people in systems do not actually do what the system says they are doing. Driving the point of manufactured reality home, “The Fundamental Law of Administrative Workings” (F.L.A.W.) states that things are what they are reported to be and that the system takes as a given that things are as reported, regardless of their true state of affairs.

“Systemantics” (in any of its editions) can be found through most major book dealers although it will most likely have to be ordered. It can also be found at www.generalsystemantics.com.

KATIE TseThis and That
INSOMNIACS UNITE!



It’s dark. Your eyes are wide open despite your best effort to keep them shut. You can vaguely make out the headlights of passing cars through the curtain. The refrigerator’s humming is masked only by the incessant ticking of the clock in the other room. The sound of blood pumping in your ears is not as annoying as the realization that your heart is beating faster than it should. No, this isn’t the setting of a horror movie --it’s 3:00 a.m. on a Monday morning.

Do you suffer from insomnia? Is there a growing stack of crossword puzzle books on your night stand, or worse, in your kitchen? Do you have ear plugs and CDs of ocean waves in your bedroom. If you answered yes to any of these questions, take heart! You’re not alone! Thank God I haven’t suffered with sleeplessness lately! (Knock on wood!) But I’m familiar enough with it to sympathize with my fellow insomniacs. To me, the most frustrating thing is that the pressure to fall asleep creates more anxiety, which makes sleep all the more elusive. Inevitably, your mind wanders onto tomorrow’s tasks, the phone calls and emails you’ll have to make, and the errands you’ll need to run. Before you know it, you’re trying to recall whether Ralphs or Albertsons is having a better sale on cereal. “Stop thinking!” you tell yourself. But concentrating on not thinking is almost as effortful as conjuring up the Ralphs ad in your mind.

The fact that I need to get up for work in a few precious hours adds the heaviest layer or anxiety.

So, I don’t understand why my retired parents complain about often being unable to sleep. “You’re retired!” I tell them. “You can sleep in ‘till 10:00 if you want!” Apparently this doesn’t do anything to help them catch a few Z’s.

I’ve heard that as people age, it becomes harder to get a good night’s sleep. Therefore, since the Baby Boomers are now approaching retirement age, there must be a lot of sleepless people out there! Why not take advantage of modern social networking and connect sleepless Boomers with each other? (Assuming they all are Internet savvy.) They could have a network called something like “The Boom Boom Room” or “50’s After Dark.” Maybe there could be code questions to enter the site like, “What was Diana Ross’s second album?” Just like Craigslist, there could be different forums for Boomers to participate in. I can’t comment on whatever Facebook already has in this area because (dare I say it?) I’m not on Facebook!

Perhaps the Boom Boom Room could periodically broadcast retro commercials for bygone items like Pepsodent toothpaste and Lucky Strike cigarettes. Since the divorce rate is so high, I’m sure there’d be a thriving “Lonely Hearts Club” forum. Perhaps old flames could reconnect if they haven’t already done so through Classmates.com or Ancestry.com (just kidding!). Admittedly, I don’t really know how much this could help people sleep, but I bet it would make their nocturnal hours a little more enjoyable! And with that, I bid you all --Happy Sleeping!



Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc

COPING WITH CANINE AGGRESSION - IS YOUR DOG A PAIN, DUE TO PAIN?

Have you ever wondered why your dog “acts out” unexpectedly? You know the typical scenario; you’re in the house or your yard minding your own business, when you reach out to pet your dog playfully and s/he yelps and gives you a bit of a growl as if to warn you to stay away. I have personally had that experience with my bloodhound on several occasions, and I’ve always blamed it on her blue-blood genetic make-up. In fact, one of my lesser endearing nick-names for Tater is “The In-bred Re-tread”, because I have always assumed that her unpredictable behavior is due to inbreeding throughout the history of her ancestry. However, after having read articles on the subject, and having consulted with my vet and a few dog trainers, I’ve learned that there are many other more potential reasons why a dog becomes aggressive. In one article posted on the “science daily.com” website, I read that a much more common yet less recognized reason for canine aggression is undiagnosed and therefore untreated physical pain.

In a 2010-2011 study, research scientists from the department of Animal and Food Science at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) in Spain, analyzed 12 dogs with aggressive behavior issues (Giant Schnauzer, Irish Setter, Pit-bull, Dalmatian,

2 German shepherds, Neapolitan Mastiff, Shih-tzu, Bobtail, Catalan Sheepdog, Chow-chow and Doberman) and remarkably enough, all 12 were diagnosed with aggression due to physical pain. Equally remarkable was the fact that 8 out of the 12 were found to have hip dysplasia, as was outlined by Tomas Camps, author of the study published

in the Journal of Veterinary Behavior. The study focused on 4 main points; the most frequent circumstances, the most characteristic positions, the most frequent target of aggression, and whether the dogs showed signs prior to an attack or attacked suddenly and impulsively.

Several deductions were drawn during the UAB study, but one general observation made was that dogs known to be aggressive for whatever reason before the onset of pain, typically gave warning such as a raised lip or a growl before attacking and were most apt to attack when food was taken away, when they were moved from their rest area, or when they were made to do something. On the other hand, dogs with no history of aggression prior to the onset of pain typically reacted in such a way when an attempt was made to control them, in which case they gave no warning, rather they reacted on impulse. This information is valuable to an owner whose dog responds with aggression, because it helps determine the reason(s) behind the behavior, and it can prompt the owner to find out if the dog has a physical condition that needs treatment. In the case of my bloodhound I am quite sure some of her aggressive behavior is due to the pain she feels when her ears get infected. For this reason, I try very hard to keep her ears clean, and avoid rubbing them too hard when I know she is fighting an infection.

One of the most common causes of canine discomfort is hip dysplasia, as shown in the 2011-2012 UAB study as well as in numerous other research studies conducted over the years in various countries. Hip dysplasia is an hereditary degenerative bone disorder that occurs in the hip/femoral head joint and affects more than 40% of Golden Retrievers, Labradors and Rottweilers as well as some other large breed dogs. It is a very painful and debilitating disease, and dogs who suffer from it can, understandably become aggressive when handled or even touched. Knowing this can be very helpful to an owner

who wants to be sensitive to their dog’s condition and avoid causing them more pain. The key to helping prevent the onset of unnecessary pain and potential aggression due to hip dysplasia is early diagnosis. If you suspect that your dog might be at risk for this painful disease, keep an eye on his gate while you are walking him on leash, and watch the way he moves about in the house and yard. The signs of hip dysplasia in a canine are pretty obvious; you’ll see less freedom of movement in the hips and stiffness and awkwardness when the dog sits or attempts to rise from a lying position.

There are several products on the market said to help prevent hip dysplasia, so it certainly can’t hurt to add the recommended supplements to his daily diet. Also, consult your veterinarian if you do see such signs, in order to diagnose and treat the problem in it’s early stages. And finally, if your typically easy-going dog is walking and moving about just fine, but has started to show signs of aggression unexpectedly, you might consider a general check-up with the vet, just to make sure everything is OK, even if it’s just for your own peace of mind. After all, our beloved canine companions give so much of themselves to us, the least we can do for them is to keep them healthy and happy, right?

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•TPLO

•Soft Tissue

Gary R.White, DVM

THE JOY OF YOGA

FRESH (re)start



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

June 21st marks the start of the summer season. It is also the day of the Summer Solstice, a time of renewal and optimism. A perfectly auspicious time for fresh starts, or re-starts. Because it happens to all of us: not too long ago you were doing great: you had your yoga routine, or your gym routine, or your hiking, or something else along those lines. You were in great shape, body and mind. You were so proud of yourself. And then you dropped out of it.

Maybe it happened all of a sudden, and you just stopped from one day to the next. Maybe you started skipping a few classes, a few sessions here and there, thinking I'll catch up next week, but you never did, and it just kept getting worse, until the guilt was so overwhelming that you actually avoided thinking about it. Then you started making excuses for your lack of discipline, your lack of motivation, your lack of resolve...

We've all been there. Your own scenario might be completely different but at the end of the day, it's the same story: you quit, you feel guilty and you want to get back into it but don't know how, or where to start. You're waiting for a reason, a sign, something, anything to give you a little push... Here's your sign: it's summertime! It's time for fun, warmth and enjoyment! This is no time for looking back and agonize over how hard it would be to pick up where you left off, knowing full well your body is going to give you grief for it. Stop overthinking and feeling sorry or guilty about all the promises you made to yourself that you didn't keep. It's pointless and useless. Instead, grab your mat and come celebrate the season with us. We'll start by a few sun salutations, and I bet you that after the second or the third one, you'll be thinking "this feels so good and it is so easy" and you'll just keep going. That's how you get back into it. Your fresh re-start.

Namasté, René

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HOW TO FIND HELP PAYING FOR YOUR HEARING AID

Dear Savvy Senior:

Are there any resources or programs that help seniors with the high cost of hearing aids?
Can't Afford To Hear

Dear Can't:

It's unfortunate, but millions of Americans with hearing loss don't get hearing aids because they simply can't afford them. Hearing aids are expensive, typically costing between \$1,000 and \$3,500 per ear, and most insurance companies including traditional Medicare don't cover them. While there's no one simple solution to finding affordable hearing aids, there are a variety of options you can look into that can help.

Check Insurance

Your first step is to check with your health insurance provider to see if it provides any hearing aid coverage.

If you're a Medicare beneficiary, you need to know that while original Medicare (Part A and B) and Medicare supplemental policies do not cover hearing aids, some Medicare Advantage (Part C) plans do. If you have an Advantage plan, you'll need to check with your plan administrator.

Medicaid also covers hearing aids in some states to people with very limited means. Your county social service office can give you more information.

Or, if you're a federal employee or retiree, hearing aid coverage may be available through some insurance plans in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. Or if you're a veteran, the VA provides free hearing aids if you meet certain conditions such as being compensated for any serviced-connected disability or if your hearing loss is connected to military service. See va.gov or call 877-222-8387 to check your eligibility.

Financial Assistance

Depending on your income level, there are various programs and foundations that provide financial assistance for hearing aids to people in need. Start by calling your state rehabilitation department (see www.parac.org/svrp.html for contact information), or the nearest chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America (hearingloss.org) to find out if there are any city, county or state programs, or local civic organizations that could help.

There are also a number of nonprofits that offer hearing aids at deeply discounted prices, or for free. Some good ones to check out include:

HEAR Now: Sponsored by the Starkey Hearing Foundation (starkeyhearingfoundation.org, 800-328-8602), this program provides hearing aids for people with net incomes below \$19,058 for a single or \$25,743 for couples. Your only costs are a hearing test and an application fee of \$125 per hearing aid request.

Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project: Offered through some Lions clubs throughout the U.S., this program provides the opportunity to purchase new, digital hearing aids manufactured by Rexton for \$200 per aid, plus shipping. To be eligible, most clubs will require your income to be somewhere below 200 percent of the federal poverty level which is \$22,340 for singles, or \$30,260 for couples. Contact your local Lions club (see lionsclubs.org for contact information) to see if they participate in this project.

Sertoma: A civic service organization that runs a hearing aid recycling program through its 500 clubs nationwide, refurbishes them, and distributes them to local people in need. Call 800-593-5646 or visit sertoma.org to locate a club in your area.

Audient: This program (audientalliance.org, 866-956-5400) helps people purchase new, digital hearing aids at reduced prices ranging from \$495 to \$975 for one hearing aid, or \$990 to \$1,575 for a pair. To be eligible, your income must be below \$27,075 for a single or \$36,425 for couples.

For a list of more programs, visit the Better Hearing Institute website at betterhearing.org, and click on "Hearing Loss Resources," then on "Financial Assistance." Or, call the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders at 800-241-1044 and ask them to mail you their list of financial resources for hearing aids.

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

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THE GOOD LIFE
SENIOR HAPPENINGS

JUNE 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.

Thursdays:

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.

Fridays: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256

Saturdays: 11:30 am: Senior Club brown bag lunch and BINGO at 12:30 pm.

2012 EXCURSIONS

Friday, June 8th - Nethercutt Collection & lunch at the Bear Pit BBQ restaurant. June's adventure takes you to the San Fernando Valley to see the museum that houses over 200 classic cars, antique furniture and musical instruments. After the guide lead walking tour of the collection participants will then enjoy lunch (please bring additional money for lunch). Bus will depart at 8:45 am and return around 3:30 pm. Cost per person is \$12 for transportation & driver's tip.

Friday, July 13th - Laguna Beach Pageant of the Masters. This annual trip will be leaving Sierra Madre at 4:30 pm and return around 11:30 pm. Tickets are limited to the first 40 registered participants and the cost per person is \$55.

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



June Birthdays
Pat Fujiwara, Nellie Haynes, Mary Carney, Theresa Daley, Ann Disbrow, Ann Durgerian, Joan Ellison, Ruth Kirkby, Irene Kudirka, Marilyn McKernan, Anne Montgomery, Dollie Morant, Trini Ornelas, Martha Spriggs, Pat Starkey.



Meals-On-Wheels

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

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

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

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PC Computer Repairs
& Electronics Consulting
Dave Felt 355-8315

LUNCH & 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.

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



JUST LISTED: FORMER WHITTINGHAM ESTATE IN SIERRA MADRE

In a community embedded with “horse people” and horse lovers, the name Charlie Whittingham rings all kinds of bells. Deemed a legend in thoroughbred racing, Whittingham’s intuitive training ability with equines resulted in thousands of winner’s circle celebrations and rock star like status with legions of fans.

From humble beginnings walking horses and cleaning stalls in Tijuana, he persevered over the next six decade, according to his 1999 NY Times obituary, becoming “the most successful trainer at Santa Anita, the most celebrated on the West Coast and one of the most acclaimed in the business.”

Whittingham trained eight national champions, according to the NY Times report, and won more than 2400 other races and 650 other stakes. Elected to the Racing Hall of Fame in 1974, Whittingham received three Eclipse Awards as best North American trainer, and at age 76, won the Kentucky Derby, as the oldest trainer ever to do so, with a colt named Ferdinand.

The Whittinghams purchased the home in 1956 and turned it into an entertainment hub for the horse racing community, expanding it as Charlie’s family and reputation grew. Though the property changed hands after Whittingham’s passing, the wrought iron gates and kitchen still bear his initials.

The Whittinghams collaborated with well known local architect, Don Crenshaw, and in 1990 performed an extensive remodel and expansion into today’s 4909 square foot footprint and floorplan. One of the largest estate homes in Sierra Madre, the secluded property, fronted by mature trees and shrubbery providing nearly complete privacy.

The ¾ acre property offers expansive shady lawns, a koi pond, Wistaria arbor, front and back gazebos overlooking the grounds, and plantings of unusual varieties, like Coral, Cherimoya, tree ferns, king and queen palms, magnolia, half a dozen fruit trees, and those of sentimental value. A massive



back yard tree is said to be a gift from the owner of the famed racehorse, Seabiscuit, decades ago when the tree was but a sapling.

The current owners commented that the stunning kitchen sealed the love of the home when they purchased it. Any accomplished chef or aspiring cook will likely be entranced. The room, deemed by many a masterpiece, includes a 19 foot cathedral ceiling, detailed by 19’ thick truss beams. Beveled and leaded glass cabinet doors and dividers catch the sunlight with beautiful reflection. Custom tile from Portugal provide a stunning backdrop for the European AGA stove with four ovens.

Extensive additional facilities include a Thermador cooktop, Convection-Microwave oven, a Miele dishwasher, icemaker and more to make this magnificent kitchen both pleasant and functional for simultaneous, multiple cooks.

The five bedrooms, mostly suites, have been situated to accommodate consummate privacy for all. Two separated second floor wings offers spacious bedroom and living space. A main floor master suite opens through French doors to the garden vistas. The master also includes an amazing, huge closet plus a dressing room or private office.

Though tradition runs through the veins and arteries of this charming, five bedroom, six bath home, noteworthy additions have been made. In 2011, a solar system was installed, which significantly decreases the electricity costs to run the home. Three HVAC systems allow zoned control of heating and air conditioning. The three car garage includes an oversized, pull through bay that accommodates an RV... or a horse trailer!

One of Sierra Madre’s treasured estate properties, 88 Lowell Avenue in Sierra Madre comes on the market June 25, offered at \$1.9 million. For a showing, contact the agents, Jan Thornton of Prudential California Realty at 626-893-3303, or Sue and Maurice Orme of Coldwell Banker at 626-826-8511.

SEVEN TIPS TO HELP YOUR LANDSCAPE BEAT THE HEAT THIS SUMMER *by Melinda Myers*



Summer has arrived and for many gardeners that means heat, drought and watering bans. This can be hard on gardeners as well as their landscapes. The good news is that there are ways to help plants thrive despite these seasonal challenges. Adjusting landscape care accordingly during the summer months can not only provide relief for lawns and gardens, but also for the gardener. Here are some low maintenance eco-friendly ways gardeners can keep their landscapes looking their best throughout the summer months, while beating the heat:

Water plants thoroughly to promote deep drought- and pest-resistant roots. Wait until the top few inches of soil are crumbly and moist or footprints remain in the lawn before watering again.

Avoid light, frequent watering that encourages shallow roots. Shallow roots are less able to tolerate drought and more susceptible to disease and insect problems.

Spread a 2- to 3-inch layer of shredded leaves, evergreen needles or shredded bark mulch over the soil in garden beds and around trees and shrubs. Mulching conserves moisture, keeps roots cool and moist, and suppresses weeds.

Mow lawns high. Taller grass produces deeper roots that are more drought-tolerant. A deeply rooted lawn is also more resistant to insects, disease and other environmental stresses.

Always mow lawns often enough, so you remove less than one third the total leaf surface. Leave the grass clippings on the lawn. They add nitrogen, organic matter and moisture to the soil.

Use a low nitrogen slow release fertilizer, like Milorganite, to give gardens and lawns a nutrient boost. This organic nitrogen fertilizer remains in the soil until the growing conditions are right for the plant.

Remove weeds from garden beds and borders as soon as they appear. These “plants out of place” steal water and nutrients from your desirable garden plants. Plus, they can harbor insects and diseases that are harmful to your garden plants.

And don’t forget to take care of yourself while caring for your landscape during the heat of summer. Drink lots of liquid, use sunscreen, and work during the cooler morning and evening hours.

Then when the gardening tasks are done for the day, grab a glass of lemonade, take a seat in the shade and enjoy the beauty of your handiwork.

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including Can’t Miss Small Space Gardening. She hosts the nationally syndicated Melinda’s Garden Moment segments which air on over 115 TV and radio stations throughout the U.S. and Canada. She is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and writes the twice monthly “Gardeners’ Questions” newspaper column. Melinda also has a column in Gardening How-to magazine. Melinda hosted “The Plant Doctor” radio program for over 20 years as well as seven seasons of Great Lakes Gardener on PBS. She has written articles for Better Homes and Gardens and Fine Gardening and was a columnist and contributing editor for Backyard Living magazine. Melinda has a master’s degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and was a horticulture instructor with tenure. Her web site is www.melindamyers.com



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou Realtor®

THE STRONGEST LINK

The question on everyone's lips is, "When are things going to return to normal in real estate?" Well, if the "normal" being referred to is the conditions and shady financial dealings that created the artificially inflated markets of five years ago, then we need to be thinking about redefining “normal.”

The bad lending practices of the past are indeed making it more difficult now to secure financing, but try to understand that's not necessarily a bad thing. Those days of lower standards and easy money led us into this predicament in the first place. It's good for housing and for the economy when banks become interested in whether loans will be repaid.

In the “new” normal, home prices will stabilize, the number of sales will start gaining, and more people will again realize the benefits that homeownership offers, for both personal and financial security. With historically low interest rates, affordable prices, government incentives, and motivated sellers, the housing market is already experiencing the initial signs of recovery.

All of these factors combine to get first-time buyers excited about a purchase. As these consumers enter the market, they will trigger other purchases, and the chain of transactions grows. Expect your real estate representative to reveal a wide range of affordable choices and guide you toward securing the financing you need to make your dream come true.

Luther has been licensed and practicing real estate since 1992. He specializes in residential and income property in the Greater San Gabriel Valley. Luther Tsinoglou has again been named a top producing sales agent with Podley Properties for 2011, making the top 10% at the company overall. Luther can be reached at his direct line (626) 695-8650 or at luther@tsinoglou.com

EARTH-FRIENDLY GARDENS

“Do It Yourself” landscaping that’s easy on water and your wallet!

Saturday, June 30
10am - Noon — Palm Room –
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
301 North Baldwin Avenue
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Phone: 626.821.4624

Steve Gerischer, Instructor
\$25 Arboretum members / \$30 non-members
Please call 626.821.4623 to pre-register; you may also pay at the door,
but be sure to come a few minutes early.

Do you want to create a more water and energy efficient garden? The class will touch on permeable hardscaping, composting, drought tolerance and all things green but easy on the wallet.

But...are you afraid that you’ll have to break the bank in order to have state-of-the-art systems to recycle water and make compost? Not so! If you’re thrifty by nature (“I’m just CHEAP!” says Steve), come and learn about DIY techniques to create an earth-friendly landscape that uses less water and more sustainable resources. This is great information from Steve that he has acquired through years of experience – learn his secrets!

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Call Patricia at 626-818-2698 Today!

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



CUSTOMER SURVEYS? ASK THEM AND THEY WILL TELL YOU.

Taking steps to establish and maintain a positive image for your business contributes to money in the bank. Customer perception is the reality of how your business is viewed. If your business relies on local customers for the bulk of your business, it is imperative to know what they think. There is no better way to find out what they really think than by asking them directly.

What are your current customers saying? What do they know about your business, and more importantly, what do they think about how you run your business? Anyone who has stayed in a hotel or eaten in restaurants has at some point been presented with a request to complete a brief customer survey.

Many businesses print cards that can be distributed at the point-of-sale or placed in an area of the store that makes it easy for customers to see and provide a response. A survey with five to ten questions is sufficient to capture feedback on a customer's perception about the key areas of your business: Products and/Services, Customer Service, Marketing and Promotions – Example: On a scale of 1 to 10, How do they rate the quality of what you sell? Do they think your pricing is too high, too low or just about right?; What do they think about your business environment? – Is it appealing, clean enough, comfortable seating, easy to park?

One of the ways to implement this process is as a time-limited campaign. This way, you can focus on gathering feedback from as many customers as possible instead of the small trickle of surveys that get filled out throughout the year. Although it is not necessary, you may choose to offer a small incentive to encourage customers to participate. The incentive might be applied during their current visit or at a future time (i.e. free dessert, 10% off the bill, buy one and get another for 50% off). If the incentive provides a benefit on a future visit, it presents the likelihood of the customers returning to spend more money with you.

You can gather feedback from potential customers by participating in local business and civic associations (Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Rotary Club) and by staffing a table or booth at community events like festivals, farmers' markets and other venues that attract large groups of residents who live in the area where your business is located. You can recruit a trusted family friend or other individual with a knack for "meeting and greeting" people. Equip them with a stack of discount coupons or other promotional materials to encourage visits to your business, and use this setting to gather feedback on whether they've ever patronized or heard of your business and what they know or think about your business.

Want to know what your customers and the locals think about your business? If you will simply ask them, in a manner that makes it convenient and comfortable for them to answer, they are more than willing to tell you what they think.



OMG! OH MY GOSH DID YOU KNOW.....

By Patricia Richardson, M.B.A QuickBooks Certified ProAdvisor

QuickBooks 2012 has a new and improved global **To Do** feature. You can now use it as a prompt, a digital reminder, to follow-up on important time-sensitive tasks. For example, **To Do** can be used to ensure the timely collection of customer payments when used in conjunction with the **Notes** feature to create a customized tickler system. The combined use of To Do and Notes creates a digital reminder, an automatic tracking system to help you deal with those customers who invariably tell you, "The check in the mail" The item recorded in **Notes** can be turned into an item on a To Do list for future action on a specific date. When the date arrives, the Note will be displayed on the To Do list.

To Do's have also been made more accessible. The user can list all **To Do's** in a file, which can also be accessed from the new **Lead Center** and the **QuickBooks Calendar**. Your list of To Do's can be categorized, prioritized, and ordered by time of day. This is ideal for setting up and tracking appointments. This is a great new feature because until now there has never been one central place to see important dates and schedules. Finally you can alleviate forgetfulness – "Hey, it's been five days and that check is still not here."

The enhanced scheduling features can help you stay on top of deadlines like filing dates and due dates that can now be kept inside QuickBooks, as opposed to on an external calendar that may compromise your privacy or confidentiality. These features provide auto-alerts that facilitate more timeliness in addressing overdue transactions, all toward keeping your company's cash flow positive. You can view To Do's by area (lead, customers, vendors) and by function (call, fax, email, meeting, appointment, and task). The tasks can be marked, viewed and prioritized as Active, Done, or Inactive.

QuickBooks is the number one selling accounting software for small and medium sized business. The development of this software was done with business owners like us in mind and it just gets better every year

....Also

NEW ONLINE SMALL BUSINESS PORTAL TO ASSIST CALIFORNIA EMPLOYERS

<http://www.dir.ca.gov/SmallBusiness/index.htm>

The California Department of Industrial Relations has created a Small Business Portal to assist small-business owners with compliance to ever-changing employee regulations and laws. The portal gives information on a variety of subjects including hiring and maintaining employees, wage and overtime laws, employee safety precaution requirements, and workplace posting obligations.

There are also links to resources for starting a new business, hiring and administering employees, and creating and maintaining a safe working environment. Think of the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) as a friend to business. According to their website "Small businesses are critical to California's economic recovery and strength, to building America's future, and to helping the United States compete in today's global marketplace. Small businesses also represent 99.7 percent of all employer firms and they employ just over half of U.S. workers and pay 44 percent of total U.S. private payroll.

If you own or manage a small business, you're in good company with resources like Quickbooks and DIR. Stay tuned to OMG on a weekly basis and you'll find more of you need to create the business success that you deserve.

Patricia Richardson is the owner of Monrovia Computerized Business Service and is an accountant, educator and trainer. She specializes in helping business owners develop and realize their respective missions and visions by empowering them with tools and training in areas that may not be their core competency. For information on upcoming trainings or professional services, e-mail: patti@qbworkshop.com

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Tips & Tricks

By Merri Jill Finstrom

TO "SUBSCRIBE" OR NOT "SUBSCRIBE"

In your Facebook personal profile, you are allowed to connect with 5,000 "friends." If you find yourself needing more friends, you might consider the subscribe feature. It allows people to "subscribe" to your public posts without the more intimate "friend" connection. Don't confuse this with a Facebook business page where you build a list of "Likers." You can build as many of those "likers" as you want.

For public figures (reporters, writers, actors, Mark Zuckerberg, artists), the "subscribe" feature for Facebook profiles is a great way to build connections. Public figures are often measured by the number of Twitter followers or Facebook subscribers they have. Large numbers can equal social relevance, status and marketability. An actress once told me that casting directors look at social media numbers to determine how they fill the parts!

The "subscribe" feature also works great for anyone who has a large following in a certain niche. For example, I recently helped a famous harp teacher who has a large international following set up her subscribe feature.

When people subscribe to someone, they are basically saying they want to get their news, just like subscribing to any publication. The bonus is that once you get 100 subscribers, Facebook starts to recommend you to others and your list grows and grows. I read a blog post from a reporter who gets 1,000 subscribers a day. The more subscribers you have, the more you get!

If you set up the subscribe feature, you need to be willing to hear from lots of people. Remember there are 900 million Facebook users worldwide. So you might get a few comments or interactions that you don't want. But, you can always block anyone that's not a good fit.

A good example of someone using the subscribe feature is Mark Zuckerberg. Check out his profile page (www.facebook.com/zuck). I doubt he wants to be friends with his 900 million Facebook users, so he gives people the option to "subscribe" to any of his "public" posts. He has 15 million subscribers.

You might want to subscribe to a few people to see how it works before you set it up for yourself.

To set up a "subscribe" feature, go to www.facebook.com/about/subscribe or go to your account settings and select "subscribers" and it will walk you through the set up.

About MJ: MJ and her brother David own HUTdogs, a creative services business that also specializes in Social Media Education for business owners. Join their conversation on Facebook and get good tips and tricks about social media, www.facebook.com/hutdogs

Upcoming Event:

Social Media Marketing Made Simple plus Facebook's Timeline for pages

Wednesday, June 27, 2012, 11:30am – 1:30pm

Monrovia

Public

Library

321 S. Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016

This program is sponsored by Constant Contact, so there is no cost to you to attend the presentation.

Sign up for this event or view other upcoming classes at: www.hutdogs.com/workshops/schedule

Join us at the Monrovia Library:

Social Media Marketing Made Simple

Wednesday, June 27, 2012
11:30am – 1:30pm

Monrovia Public Library
321 S. Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016

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GOLFING FOR A CAUSE *Peace Officers Raise \$120,000*

By Joan Schmidt

Recently, the Los Angeles County branch of the PPOA, the Professional Peace Officers Association, held its sixth Annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament. One hundred thirty one golfers raised about \$120,000. The Tournament was sponsored by Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin & Lee, LLP and was held in the Santa Clarita Valley at the Tournament Players Club, Valencia. The site was unbelievable! Eighteen holes of golf on a par-72 course, stretching 7,220 yards and offering sweeping views of the Santa Clarita Valley! The Clubhouse itself was 32,400 square feet. The Tournament officially began with a Welcome and Thank you to all participants, followed by the posting of colors and a beautiful rendition of our National Anthem. Among those in attendance were Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley, Assistant Sheriff Cecil Rhambo, Chief Roberta Abner, Captain Sam Dacus, Lt. Brian Moriguchi and many more!



Do you know that statistics reveal somewhere in the United States, a peace officer is killed in the line of duty every 53 hours. California has laid to rest more officers than any other state. It is a distinction that no officer wants, but it is something they face every day.

The Professional Peace Officers Charitable Foundation (PPOCF) was established in 1999 to promote assistance to members of the law enforcement community in need, most notably the families of peace officers killed in the line of duty. The proceeds from the Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament support law enforcement personnel and their families in times of crisis. Financial assistance from PPOCF also helps surviving family members attend annual ceremonies in Los Angeles County, Sacramento, and Washington, D.C.

Above, LA County District Attorney and an unidentified golfer pose for the camera.

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Sierra Madre 4th of July Activities**★ Pre-Parade Party & Picnic**

Tuesday, July 3, 2012 ★ Memorial Park 5pm - 10pm

Join us for Music from the local band Groovy Lemon Pie, Food Trucks, Pre-Ordered Box Picnics from The Only Place in Town, Fun, Non-Profit Booths, Bubble Wrap Fireworks, The Chamber of Commerce Dunk Tank & the Annual Friends of the SMLL Beer Garden

★ Spero Foundation's Firecracker Fun Run

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 ★ Kersting Court 8am - 9:30am (check-in is from 7am-7:45am)

The Firecracker Fun Run is a 5K for the entire family to enjoy. The run begins and ends at Kersting Court. Register online at www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineregistration keyword: fun run

★ Sierra Madre 4th of July Parade

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 ★ Sierra Madre Blvd 10am - 12pm
From Sunnyside Avenue to Sierra Vista Park, the traditional hometown parade with community members, organizations, classic cars, a marching band, kids on their decorated bikes, and so much more

★ Community Picnic & Celebration

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 ★ Sierra Vista Park 12pm - 4pm

Free Admission to the Sierra Madre Pool, Music from the Gem City Jazz Cats, SMLL Diner BBQ, Snow Cones, Fun, Games, Beer Garden, Home Run Derby Pre-Ordered Box Picnics from The Only Place in Town the Chamber of Commerce Dunk Tank and Festivities

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SIERRA MADRE 4th of JULY**★ SPERO FOUNDATION ★
FIRECRACKER 5K FUN RUN**

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at 8:00am sharp

REGISTER ONLINE AT
www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineregistration

Keyword: Fun Run

Check-in time is from 7:00am to 7:45am. The race concludes at 9:00am. The Firecracker Fun Run begins and ends in the center of Sierra Madre in Kersting Court, at the corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Baldwin Ave. Runners begin in Kersting Court, run East on Sierra Madre Blvd. down to Sierra Vista Park, where they turn around and run west back up Sierra Madre to Sunnyside. Participants will turn around again at Sunnyside and travel the parade route on Sierra Madre Blvd. back to Kersting Court.

Before June 26:
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\$15 per person for a family of 4 or more

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(t-shirt may not be available)
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Sports camp is \$110 per week. To register in person come by our office located at 375 Campus Drive. You can also go to the city's website at ci.arcadia.ca.us to register.

For more questions, please contact the Recreation Department at 626.574.5113

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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.

RICH Johnson CATS MOSTLY AND DOGS TOO



I've noticed that people typically fall into predominantly three categories. Cat lovers (like my friends Holly, Chuck, and Helen), dog lovers (like my ex-wife, kids, Chuck and Lisa, Cindy, and Dick) and those who prefer no four legged beasts. Of course there are those who have some of each, but let's just classify them as animal lovers in general. (BTW, I know I am going to hear from the llama and armadillo lovers about how I've ignored them).

Cat lovers recoil at the thought of owning dogs as much as dog lovers think it inconceivable to own cats. I have had both at the same time so I'm split on the subject. I like the total devotion of dogs. But I also like it that cats go in the box.

Clever people have defined the difference between canines and felines and I thought it might be worth sharing. Let's look at catty comments first:

I've been told that the training procedure with cats was difficult. It's not. Mine had me trained in two days. *Bill Dana*

Cats are mean for the fun of it. *P. J. O'Rourke*

A dog jumps into your lap because he is fond of you; a cat jumps into your lap because it's warmer. *A. N. Whitehead*

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea. *Robert Heinlein*

Cats hearing is built to allow the human voice to go easily in one ear and out the other. *Stephen Baker*

Thousands of years ago cats were worshipped as gods. They have never forgotten this. *Anonymous*

I got rid of my husband. The cat was allergic to him. *Unknown*

Things you can learn from your cat:

Cats are living proof that eating and sleeping all day isn't all bad

If you can't get your way, lay across the keyboard until you do

Nap often

When in trouble, just purr and look cute

Mix it up. One day ignore people; the next day annoy them

Make your mark in the world, or at least in every corner.

Climb your way to the top. It's why the curtains are there

Cat definitions:

A lapwarmer with a built-in buzzer

A small, four-legged, fur-bearing extortionist

A treat-seeking missile

An unprogrammable animal

A roaming bag of attitude

A vibrating hot water bottle with fur

Clever cat names

Abigail Mousington

Admiral Furrygut

Adora-Belle

Allie Cat

Apricat

Aristo-Cat

Ben Purr

Cat Benatar

Cat du Jour

Chairman Meow

Copycat

Edward Scissorclaws

Catmandu

Jenny Fur

Mewsette

Miss Chevious

Mittens

Motor

Scat

Sophista-Cat

Tabby Roads (get it?)

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE AN UNPLEASANT PREDICTION



I just returned from a week in Chicago that seems to have had a very profound effect upon me. Chicago is quite different from California in that it kind of makes it impossible to ignore reality. The weather here in LA County is generally moderate and here in sheltered, removed Sierra Madre itself is generally pretty moderate. Usually people here leave each other alone. In Chicago people talk to each other. They even talk to strangers just like I do. I guess I'm a pretty typical Chicagoean even though I never knew it.

During our trip my wife, son, and I did not rent a car so we were out in the world using public transportation. We took busses, subways, elevated trains, and river taxis. On many of these trips other passengers talked to us and made recommendations about places to visit and areas to avoid. They filed us in about the recent history of the city and we heard first hand about problems connected with the economy. Some of the bus-riders were now jobless after working many years in service professions. One woman explained that restaurants were now only employing young people with advanced degrees who were willing to take the jobs because nothing else was available.

Given this information I began to ask servers about their education and learned that it was true. Many had Master's degrees. They could find no other jobs and felt fortunate to have obtained the waiter or waitress position. I questioned a cab-driver and learned that he had two Masters and was working toward his PhD. He also told us, that there are great problems in Chicago associated with gang violence. I wanted to visit the area where I attended elementary School but we were warned by everyone, including the taxi-driver and a librarian, who lived near that neighborhood, to not take a chance.

Upon returning to safe, secluded Sierra Madre I went to work the next Monday. As I walked to Court I was asked for money by the homeless people that I passed on the street. I guess this happens all the time and I'm used to it; but on this particular day I looked at the People's faces and they looked miserable. Why didn't I want to give them some change or a few dollars? I used to freely give out money, but now I don't. Why? Probably because I think they will buy lotto tickets instead of food. I once asked someone what they would do with the money and was told that hope was more important than food. Maybe it is?

I walked on to the Criminal Courts Building and went up to the Master Calendar Court for misdemeanors. Usually this courtroom is overcrowded with people and lawyers impatiently waiting for their cases to be heard. On this day it was almost empty. Nothing was scheduled because this was the day Court personnel were told about layoffs. 150 lost their jobs and on that very morning, one Court worker was found dead behind his desk when other people arrived for work. Who knows how long he had been there or why he died? People speculated that the death had something to do with the lay-offs.

So far I have been very fortunate. Now this Chicago trip has opened my eyes a bit and I am really experiencing the fact that the world is in trouble. One of my previous major life traumas was the need to avoid the draft. I applied to become a conscientious objector. I failed to convince my draft board but I did convince myself and consider myself to be a pacifist very much in favor of gun-control and disarmament. Nevertheless, I have spent a great deal of time reading about history and I have come to the unfortunate conclusion that one way the world can solve its present problems is for there to be some sort of global mobilization toward a conflict with some enemy.

Young testosterone-filled men with little to do are presently running around with little to do but cause trouble. Our economy has stopped manufacturing anything. There is little unity and huge polarized political divisions that will not compromise to get anything done. In 1984 Orwell describes a constant war against an imaginary enemy. Maybe that's what we need, or perhaps a war against imaginary space invaders that would allow governments to fund needed space exploration. It would be nice to have a war in which nobody got hurt. Unfortunately, in terms of prediction such a war is very unlikely. Still as I read about world tensions and see Iran, Syria, Russia, and China finding a common interest one has to wonder if war can be far away. Could this war actually secretly be intended to save world economies? It is an unpleasant, cynical thought but, as I recall it was mainly preparations for war that saved the American economy in 1938. It would be nicer if the world could be saved by buying lotto tickets.



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

HOW TO RUIN A PERFECTLY GOOD DAY

Speaking of good days, and who isn't these days, I am looking forward to two in a row. I know it may be wishful thinking on my part, but a person has to do something with his time.

Last week I almost broke my record with two consecutive good days. But, wouldn't you know it, it just did not happen.

With all my experience in this matter, I plan to write a book someday: "How to Ruin a Perfectly Good Day." I know 197 different ways to ruin a good day. Who knows, by next week it might pass the 200 mark. When that happens, I will celebrate.

For those who do not know how to ruin a perfectly good day, let me outline some tried and true suggestions from my vast wealth of experience.

The first thing is to define what a perfectly good day is. After all, how can you ruin a perfectly good day (PG day) if you don't recognize it? Of course, I agree that nothing is really perfect.

Perfect is in the eye of the beholder and nobody can hold her for very long. What is perfect to me may not be perfect to someone else - like my wife.

A perfectly good day is one of those rare days when everything goes according to plan - my plan that is. I like to get up in the morning and over my morning coffee, review my "to-do-list" for the day and put things in order of importance.

A successful "to-do-list," in my opinion, is a list that does not take all day to do. I need some time for myself.

If my "to-do-list" has too much to do, the chances of the day being a PG day is between slim and nil.

A PG day has more hours in it than things to do. I hate it when I run out of day before I finish my "to-do-list."

Last Monday, I had just finished my morning cup of Joe and finished reviewing my "to-do-list" and seemed to have the day well in hand.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage noticed my face sporting a playful smile. If there is something my wife can't stand, it is a playful smile across my map. For some reason she thinks I'm up to no good. Usually she's right.

"Why don't you call and straighten out the telephone bill?" she said, as coolly as a preacher at a summer picnic.

It was on my list but not anywhere near the top.

I was rather nonchalant and not ready for this task. I had not seen my chalat for weeks but it did not concern me. Looking back, I should have been concerned, or at least looked for my chalat.

Actually, I was upbeat and gingerly picked up the phone and dialed the number. Soon a cheery voice was giving me instructions: "Our options have changed to serve you better. Please listen carefully. If you wish to continue in English please press 1."

In the confusion, I pressed 4 and got Japanese.

I began the process all over again. This time I pressed the right button and got the rest of the instructions in English. From then on, I pressed number after number and got nowhere.

For the next 12 minutes, I was pressing numbers and listening to instructions. Finally, I heard the telephone ringing and a cheerful voice answered. At this point, I thought I was home free, but alas, fate was only putting a hefty mortgage on my home.

"Ello, can I to help please you?" "Huh," I said as diplomatically as I knew how.

"Can I to help please you?" the voice in the phone repeated.

I may not be the sharpest pencil in the box but I knew I was talking to someone as familiar with the English language as a politician is to the truth.

"Is there anyone there," I pled, "who speaks English?"

"Ah, yes, I to speak berry goot English. Can I to help please you?"

So, I threw caution to the wind and explained the mix-up on my bill.

"Aaah, I understand. This is billing problem. I transfer you to billing department."

For the next 20 minutes, I was treated, and I say this with tongue firmly planted in my cheek, to a musical interlude. It was elevator music; it raised my blood pressure. For the next three hours, I went from pillar to post in the telephone department and got no nearer to solving my telephone-billing mix-up.

One of the problems with being a minister is you are not allowed to swear. By 2:30 in the afternoon, I had an overwhelming urge to swear. My difficulty was simply, I could not think of any swear words to use and "ah, fiddlesticks" does not seem to carry much significance in such circumstance.

By 4 that afternoon, I still had no solution to my billing problem. I had exhausted all my options, not to mention my patience, and nothing to show for it. All I wanted to do was pay my bill.

Through my experience with the telephone company, I was reminded of one of my favorite verses from the Bible. "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." (Jeremiah 33:3 KJV.)

It is comforting to know that God is only a prayer away.

HOWARD Hays As I See It



"Children are a wonderful gift. They have an extraordinary capacity to see into the heart of things and to expose sham and humbug for what they are."
- Desmond Tutu

Before anything else, I'd like you to check out what I would happily consider the "last word" on gay marriage. I've offered my opinion on the subject a couple of times herein, as has my colleague on the right-side of this page. Never, though, have I heard the topic addressed with such insight, clarity and eloquence.

Kameron Slade was to deliver an address before his school in Queens, but the principal banned the speech once she became aware of the subject. Instead, the speech was given outside for the reporter's microphone and camera. Thanks to that principal's action and the internet, the speech has now reached more people in more places than it ever would have otherwise. Kameron is in the fifth grade.

You can Google "Kameron Slade", or check it out at: "<http://jezebel.com/kameron-slade>". (Keep your laptops handy; there's another website, on a more personal matter, I'd like you to check out at the end of this column.)

I watched the speech again and marveled at the observations of one so young. I then turned to the online edition of last week's MVN to marvel in a different way at the observations of one a good deal older; as our Councilman Chris Koerber fretted that the existence of a local entity with the word "green" in its title raises the prospect of subjugation by the United Nations.

At the June 12 council meeting, Mr. Koerber suggested the "folks at home" should "Google-up Forbes-dot-com Agenda 21". I was a folk at home, so I Googled it up.

I assume Mr. Koerber was referring to "Agenda 21: The U.N.'s Earth Summit Has Its Head In The Clouds", an opinion piece published in Forbes by "contributor" Larry Bell, a University of Houston professor whose specialty is "space architecture", and recent author of a book on the "Global Warming Hoax". (Mr. Koerber cited the publication date as May 21, 2012, though the article I found was from June 14, 2011. The May 21 issue featured a cover story on Justin Bieber.)

Prof. Bell's basic argument is that the "global warming" issue is merely a front for the U.N. to pursue "wealth redistribution agendas", "world governance goals" and Mikhail Gorbachev's "global socialistic Marxist objectives" (not to mention a CVS Pharmacy at the site of the old Howie's Market).

As for "Agenda 21", its origins are traced back to the 1992 U.N. Conference on Environment and Development at Rio de Janeiro. The premise is that while climate change and sustainable development are global concerns, they must be addressed at the local level. The work is continued through ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, comprised of over 1,220 local governments from 70 different countries. One of the founding members was former Irvine mayor Larry Agran, who got together with other local leaders in 1989 to discuss depletion of the ozone layer.

According to Prof. Bell, though, terms such as "comprehensive planning" and "growth management" are code words for "global socialism" and "centralized control of virtually every aspect of urban life."

On a related topic, a recent Gallup poll shows while 46% of Americans believe God created humans in their present form within the past 10,000 years, 58% of Republicans do. Following President Obama's release of his "long form" birth certificate last year, a majority of Republicans still had their doubts as to his birthplace, with a third saying he "definitely" or "probably" was born outside the country.

A poll conducted last month by Farleigh Dickinson University of New Jersey found that those who rely on Fox News for their information are less informed on domestic and international issues than those who watch no news at all. (Those who listen to NPR did best.)

It's become an annual tradition; with the first big snowfall of winter, Fox viewers are treated to shots of blizzards and snowdrifts accompanied by an explanation that this effectively disproves suggestions of "global warming". It's also predictable that with a catastrophe like the near-meltdown of the Fukushima nuclear reactor following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan last year, hired-gun columnists like Forbes' Prof. Larry Bell will admonish us not to allow New World Order "green" activists to exploit events to cast doubt on the wonderfulness of nuclear energy.

They will warn us not to harbor naïve optimism about inherently impractical energy sources such as wind and solar - or anything, for that matter, that might be regarded as clean and renewable.

With young people being brought closer to the world around them, however, they are becoming more aware of deforestation in the Amazon basin, destruction of the Nigerian Delta through uncontrolled oil production, the shrinking of the Greenland ice sheet and threats posed by a Keystone pipeline to an aquifer providing 30% of our nation's farmland irrigation. Any suggestion that translating such concerns into local action was somehow connected to a United Nations power-grab would be regarded, in the words of Desmond Tutu, as "sham and humbug" (though the young people themselves might have different words).

Also, as shown by Kameron Slade, they know that if your message is the right one, it can reach the world - no matter what your school's principal thinks about it.

Now, here's that other website:

<http://www.indiegogo.com/saxonfilm>

I told my son Anthony I'd send it to all my friends, and ask them to send it on to theirs. I consider readers of my column to be my friends - especially those who make it all the way to the end.

REMEMBERING MY FATHER by Christopher Nyerges



When my father's 80th birthday coincided with Father's Day some years ago, I wrote a pictorial booklet for my father which outlined key aspects of our life together. It was my way of thanking my father. My wife Dolores and I went to his home after the wild cacophonous family gathering had ended. We didn't want an audience in an atmosphere of laughter, sarcasm, and possibly ridicule. I only wanted to share the thank you story with my father in a somewhat serious atmosphere.

Dolores and I brought some special foods, put on some music, and I began my short presentation beginning with my earliest significant memories. I shared with him my memories of how he told me I would be an artist when I grew up. He always told me to put my bike and toys away, so "the boogeyman" wouldn't steal them. As I grew older, I learned that the world was indeed full of very real "boogeymen" and my father attempted to provide me with ways to protect myself against these unsavory elements of life.

I recalled to my father, while my mother and Dolores listened on, the birthday party adventures, getting hair cuts in the garage, and how my father tolerated my interest in mycology and wild edibles. Everyone found the recounting amusing, even funny, but there were also tears mixed with the laughter. As with most memories, some things my father recalled quite differently from me, and some he didn't recall at all. Some things that I saw as life-and-death serious, he saw as humorous, and vice versa.

But above it all, I felt I'd finally "connected" with him at age 80 in a way that I'd never managed to do before. My "fathers day card" wasn't pre-made by a card company, but consisted of my own private and secret memories that I shared with him. I managed to thank him for doing all the things that I took for granted - a roof over my head, meals, an education, a relatively stable home. Of course, all our family members - "insiders" - knew that my father was no saint. But I was at least acknowledging the good, and sincerely thanking him for it.

My mother died two years later, and we all knew my father would be lost without her. They'd been married over 50 years. His health and activities declined and he finally passed away on the Ides of March a few years later.

Though his death did not come as a surprise - I was nevertheless left feeling his absence. That early Saturday morning when I learned of his death, I even felt parent-less. My view of the world changed and I was forced to acknowledge the limits of life and the futility of pursuing solely a material existence.

After I learned of his death via a phone call, I walked out into the morning rain, in shock, crying, thinking, remembering. I was not feeling cold or wet, and somehow I was protected by that unique state of mind that enshrouded me.

During the next three days, I did as I had done with my mother when she died. I spent the next three days reviewing my life with my father.

At first I allowed the random memories and pain to wash over me. I talked to Frank constantly during those three days, inviting and allowing him to be with me as we did the life review together. I felt his pain, his frustration, his emptiness and loneliness in his last few years of life. I did nothing to stop the pain of this - I allowed myself

to feel it all.

I spoke to Frank as I'd speak to anyone living. I felt his presence and even his responses. I did this for myself as much as for Frank and his on-going journey.

I began to see him as a young man, who met, fell in love, and married my mother. Somehow, this was a major revelation to me. I had never seen my own father in that light before. He had simply been "my father." Suddenly, he was a unique individual, with his own dreams, aspirations, and goals. Amazingly, I'd never viewed him in this way during our life together.

And then, after perhaps 12 hours of this, and miles of walking, I began a more chronological review of my life with my father, point by point by significant point. I saw his weaknesses and strengths, as well as my own. As I did this review, I looked for all the things that I'd done right with my father, all the things I'd done wrong, and all the things that I could have done better. I wrote these down, and the "wrong" list was shockingly long. The "right" list only contained a few items!

I asked my father to forgive me, and I resolved to do certain things differently in order to change and improve my character. I know I would not have imposed such a rigor upon myself had it not been for the death of my father.

A week later, when there was the funeral at the church, I felt that I'd come to know my father more than I ever was able to do in life. I briefly shared to the congregation my three days of "being with" my father, and learning what it was like to be Frank, in his shoes, and how we forgave one another.

More importantly, I shared to family and friends gathered that day the importance of constantly finding the time to tell your living loved ones that you indeed love them, not waiting until they die to say the things that you should be saying all along.

I remember Frank now on Father's Day, and continue to express my heart-felt thanks for all that he - and my mother - gave to me.


[Nyerges is the author of "Til Death Do Us Part?", "How to Survive Anywhere," and other books. He is the director of the School of Self-reliance, and a member of WTI Inc. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041 or www.ChristopherNyerges.com.]

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

TWO DIFFERENT VISIONS FOR AMERICA

I'm traveling in Virginia, visiting my daughter at the University of Virginia, and I came across a bumper sticker I hadn't seen before: "No Tea For Me; I Prefer Progress". It's cute - I'll give you that - but it also puts into perspective two different visions for America. The Tea Party vision was perhaps best represented by Ronald Reagan, while the "progressive" vision (really a leftist vision with a long pedigree) is represented by our current president. Interestingly enough, when Barak Obama became president, it is reported that he sought out a lengthy biography of Ronald Reagan, seeing in Reagan the same sort of transformative accomplishment that he hoped he would have during his term in office. At the 3-year-and-counting mark of each president's tenure, the comparison between these two presidents is not that flattering to President Obama and those on the left who flatter themselves with their unsupported claim to represent true "progress".

Both new presidents came into office with a troubled, if not collapsing, economy. Both of them, in the same vein of aggressiveness and commitment to change what they inherited and what ailed the country, pursued radical solutions. President Reagan passed the largest tax reduction in this country's history, deregulated a host of industries and applied a firm-footed brake to the easy money policy of the day, which risked driving the economy further into recession. President Obama pushed forward with the largest spending increase in this country's history, instructed his various department heads to increase the regulatory burden in their respective spheres and has goaded the Fed into two "quantitative easings", with a third on the drawing board, in his attempt to float us out of the recession on a sea of newly printed greenbacks.

It's hard to argue that three-years-plus in office is not a sufficient waypoint at which to measure the progress and success of these diametrically opposed solutions. At Reagan's third year, GDP growth had returned to a whopping 5% on its way upward (it finally peaked at about 7%). As we stand now in the middle of Obama's third year, we have an anemic, if even measurable, 1.5% growth rate with some concerns that it could slip into negative numbers, signaling a double dip recession.

I bring this up not to argue that's where we're heading, but to make the secondary point about confidence. Every measure of American confidence was hitting high marks at the end of Reagan's third year, while today every measure of American confidence in Obama, the economy, the country, fill-in-the-blank, is dour and getting worse. With Reagan, America was back; with Obama, there is concern America may be slipping away.

An honest observer - liberal or conservative - has to admit that one radical program worked and the other has not. I'd go even further to say that Obama's is hurting the economy, but we don't have to agree on that point per se to at least acknowledge that Obama's massive spending, regulatory meddling and monetary profligacy has failed to accomplish what he promised his program would



THE REPORTER INTERRUPTING OBAMA: LOWERING THE BAR AGAIN

Independent's Eye by Joe Gandelman

If a reporter from an ideologically-anchored publication interrupts a President by shouting out questions right in the middle of his statement and it's unprecedented, will some partisans immediately rush to his side to defend the reporter and claim this is the way real, respectable, professional journalists operate? Yep.

Will all his fellow partisans defend him? Happily: Nope. But once again the bar has been lowered on how political business is conducted in the United States - lowered so far that the sharks are now ordering Bloody Marys.

The bar was lowered on June 15 when The Daily Caller reporter Neil Munro interrupted President Barack Obama as Obama was delivering a statement on his administration's historical immigration policy shift. Munro later claimed he didn't intend to interrupt, but at least one journalist there insists it was clear he did and video confirms that view.

Munro yelled a question akin to one that would be screeched by an ideological cable talk show host: "Mr. President, why do you favor foreign workers over Americans?" The defenders (the green-card carrying) Munro, including his enabling, cheering-section boss Tucker Carlson, later defended his question, equating Munro with retired ABC newsmen Sam Donaldson's shout outs to President Reagan. Donaldson told The Huffington Post: "Never once did I interrupt a president in any way while he was making a formal statement, a speech, honoring awardees or in any other way holding the floor."

In reality, Munro wasn't emulating Donaldson. He seemed to be channeling the late, obnoxious Morton Downy, Jr. Some conservatives later got footage showing Reagan interrupted as he was turning a podium over to someone else. But the bottom line is authentic journalists at all media levels and political persuasions have never screamed out questions at public officials who are speaking, even if they don't think they're getting answers.

If journalists interrupted every politician they felt was not being candid answering questions, politicians would have to learn to sign and mime. And Mitt Romney - who evaded Bob Schieffer's question several times about what whether he'd rescind Obama's immigration order -- would be the first in line.

The larger issue is that we're again seeing the bar lowered on expected and "given" behaviors in American discourse in the never ending partisan struggle for power and political dominance. It's not just about civility. It's about being willing to listen to another point of view without trying to drown someone out, keep him from making an argument, or demonizing him.

If this behavior is allowed to stand and not totally repudiated, then it will occur again. And if it does, say goodbye to any vestige of politicians or leaders being allowed to finish statements or speeches without being interrupted by some loudmouth who wants to advance his career, or who has a political axe to grind, or who has an editor who realizes that notoriety brings hits, readership and audience share from many like-minded, angry partisans.

Reporters everywhere let officials deliver speeches and public statements and ask questions after. When I was a reporter in Spain, India, Baja California, California and Kansas, not one American or foreign reporter would ever interrupt an official speech or statement because they were there to gather information -- not to halt information that was being given.

Top conservative media types (Michael Medved, Bill O'Reilly, Bill Kristol, and Chris Wallace) were critical of Munro and Carlson. Meanwhile, CNN's Don Lemon did a withering piece taking Munro and Carlson to task - even asking Carlson how he would have liked it if someone had interrupted him when he was performing on "Dancing with the Stars."

And Carlson? His descent from a once promising young, serious conservative pundit into partisan hackery was complete when he told Fox News' Andy Levy that he was "proud" of Munro and not worried about "thinking through the consequences for society." (Oh.)

Due to his being an editor who enables and encourages his reporters to discard worldwide standards of journalistic behavior, I suspect the even the sharks wouldn't let Carlson sit at their bar far below.

They'd tell him to go jump in the lake -- and sit with the crappies.

GREG Welborn



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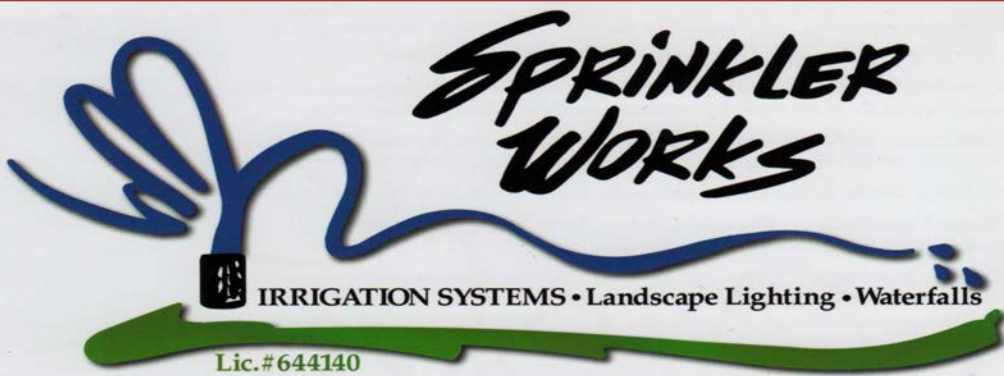
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