

Mountain Views News

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Community News Comes First

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SATURDAY JULY 14, 2012

VOLUME 6 NO 28

KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY MOVES FORWARD

by Bill Coburn

The Sierra Madre City Council approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Kensington Assisted Living Facility project unanimously this evening. They also instructed the City Attorney to draft simple language for an amendment to Measure V that would exempt the two project parcels from the density aspects of Measure V.

The discussion of the project opened with an early suggestion from Council member John Capoccia that perhaps the Council could bypass the entire discussion of whether or not the project conforms to Measure V, and the discussion of what constitutes a dwelling unit by simply putting an amendment on the ballot to exempt the two parcels from Measure V. There was consensus among the other Council members that that seemed like a practical, positive way to move the project forward. There was extensive public comment, with nearly all the residents who spoke calling for a Measure V vote. In a dramatic plea to the Council to move the project forward, resident Tom Brady spoke of a friend that has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer who may no longer be alive by the time the vote takes place, noting that "It's about dignity, not density."

That quote was brought forward later in the meeting by Mayor Josh Moran in discussing the right of residents to have microwaves in their units, which had been a bone of contention for the Planning Commission, because the Commission was trying to avoid having the suites classified as dwelling units. The Council's decision to amend Measure V made that issue moot, so the Council chose to remove the language that restricted the developer from providing microwaves for its residents.

The Council came to agreement on the Specific Plan, but chose not to vote on it until they've had a chance to review changes to the document, including one to add an expiration date to the Plan.

The Council also tabled the Text Code Amendment to the Municipal Code, because it referenced the Specific Plan, which had been tabled, and the Amendment could not be passed until the Specific Plan had been passed.

The Council chose to continue the Conditional Use Permit to the next meeting as well.



TEST RUN SUCCESSFUL - FULL SPEED AHEAD FOR SIERRA MADRE 2013 ROSE FLOAT ENTRY



The Sierra Madre Rose Float Association introduced "The Sky's The Limit" to the community at this year's 4th of July Parade. It was a real test for the chassis and main components (rainbow and kite picture below). And, despite being a work in progress it worked perfectly.

The full artists rendering (above) conveys the design concept that was submitted by Maria Murray and Kait Walsh. The designer for our 2013 float is Charles Meier, who also created the beautiful rendering.



Above, the rendering. Below, the 'main frame' in the July 4th Parade

Construction of the float is in full swing. The float barn is open Sunday's, 10AM till 5PM through the summer. Stop by the barn (next to the City Yards) and watch this magnificent work in progress.

SIERRA MADRE FREE CONCERT IN THE PARK SERIES -

Presented by Athens Services and the Sierra Madre Issei Memorial Foundation

Join the City of Sierra Madre this summer for the Concerts in the Park, beginning Sunday, July 8, 2012 and occurring every Sunday through August 26, 2012. The concerts are FREE thanks to the support of Athens Services and the Sierra Madre Issei Memorial Foundation, along with numerous community hosts. Concerts begin at 6:00pm and run through 8:00pm. All concerts will be held at the Memorial Park Bandshell, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. next to City Hall. Seating is on the green so remember to bring blankets and lawn chairs. Alcohol is prohibited. Spectators are encouraged to support local organizations that may provide refreshments. For additional information please contact the Community Services Department 626-355-5278.

Concerts in the Park Schedule:

- July 8 - Elvis (rock 'n roll), sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sierra Madre
 - Food available
- July 15 - Gem City Jazz Cats (Big Band) sponsored by the Spero Foundation
 - Carne asada tacos, drinks and ice cream for purchase
- July 22 - Silver Beatles (Beatles Tribute Band), hosted by the Senior Community Commission
 - Free popsicles
- July 29 - Aluminum Marshmallow (Classic Rock) sponsored by the Sierra Madre Civic Club
 - Hot dogs and home-made pie with ice cream for purchase
- August 5 - TAIKOPROJECT (American Taiko Drummer Ensemble), hosted by L.A. County Arts Commission
 - Concert and "learn taiko" segment with hands-on demonstration
- August 12 - JJ Jukebox (60's and 70's Rock) sponsored by Kiwanis and Friends of the Library
- August 19 - The Grove (Classic Oldies) sponsored by Sierra Madre Volunteer Firefighters Association
- The Subs (Mainstream Acoustic) opening act
- August 26 - Take Two (Top 40's) sponsored by Dr. Roger Joe, DDS, The Lodge at Sierra Madre, and Crosslife Community Church

hpi hill partnership, inc. exterior perspective A3.3
113 22nd street, redwood beach, ca 92060 p (949) 675-6442 f (949) 675-6443 hpiarchitecture.com
06.20.2012 THE KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA

WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM



Celebrating Democracy at an Ice Cream Social Saturday, July 15

To celebrate democracy and just for fun and friendship, the League of Women Voters Pasadena is holding a family ice cream social open to the public on Sunday, July 15 in Memorial Park in Sierra Madre from 3-5 p.m. Memorial Park is in the center of the foothill village, the one with a cannon on the corner.

Music, a fancy-hat contest and activities for children will add to the event featuring Fosselman's ice cream in waffle bowls with many choices of toppings - and a cherry on top. The tickets are an affordable \$10 for one, \$15 for two, \$5 for students. Children 12 and under are free. The public is welcome to join in the fun.

Further information is available by calling 626-798-0965

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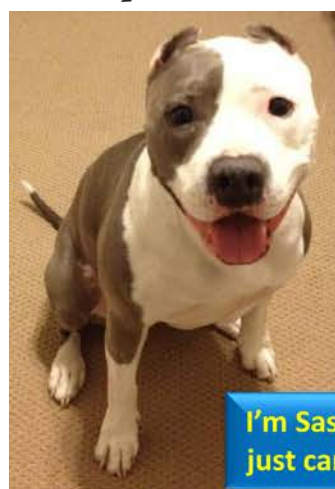
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Help us find 'Snowshoe' a beloved lost cat - Page 10



I'm Sasha! My mom just came to see me!

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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 60s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 70s	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:
July 24th, 2012 6:30 pm

Monday 7/16	Community Services Commission @ 6pm
Wed. 7/18	Tree Advisory Commission @ 7:00pm
Thurs 7/19	Historical Preservation Society Annual Meeting and Program
Tuesday 7/24	City Council Meeting @ 6:30pm
Thurs 7/26	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

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1630 AM

Free on-air publicity for local events

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

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

In a nutshell, your event must:

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

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

SIERRA MADRE 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 Friends of the Library BEST USED BOOK SALE

The dog days of summer are upon us and one of the coolest places to be during these hot times is the Sierra Madre Public Library. And some of the best times to be there are during the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library's Best Used Book Sale being held on Friday, August 3, from 3:00-7:00PM and Saturday, August 4, from 10:00AM-2:00PM.

The sale will offer many adult fiction and non-fiction books, children's books, audio books, CDs, and DVDs for your reading and listening pleasure. Tables outside the library will feature hardback and trade fiction and non-fiction for \$1.00 each and paperbacks for twenty-five cents each (or five for \$1.00). Proceeds from the Best Used Book Sales are donated to the Sierra Made Public Library to support program and equipment needs.

COMMISSION APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The City Council is still looking for interested people looking to serve on a City Commission. There following Commissions have vacancies as of July 1st:

Planning Commission - Two Seats
Senior Commission - Two Seats
Tree Advisory Commission - One Seat

Anyone interested in volunteering on a Commission, should visit the City's website or the City Manager's office.

LISTEN UP!



Saturday at 12:00 Noon, Sierra Madre Little League All Star Champion Manager Ben Olivades will be interviewed by Gene Goss on his Village Intersections show at Radio Fishbowl. They will discuss last Saturday's Championship and they will talk about the game coming up.

On Saturday at 4:00 PM Gene Goss and Jim Heiberg will be broadcasting the Sectional playoff game live on Radio Fishbowl from Longden Field featuring Sierra Madre's Champion 10-11 All Stars vs. the Burbank 10-11 All Stars. It should be a dandy!

For both broadcasts set your smart phone or computer browsers to www.radiofishbowl.com.

SUMMER ART EXHIBIT

Summer Artist is Celeste Mendelsohn and her display will be up now through Friday, August 3, 2012. The special art reception will be held on Friday, July 20th from 6:00pm - 7:30pm at City Hall. For more information on Celeste Mendelsohn's art please visit <http://celesteinthetround.com>

SUMMER MOVIE SERIES



NEW 2012 Summer Movie Series in Kersting Court Thanks to generous donations from the Sierra Madre Police Association and the Sierra Madre Community through outreach by Bob Jackson, the Family Movie Fridays series continues this

summer! All movies are shown in Kersting Court and are absolutely free for everyone. Movies begin approximately at 8:00pm and patrons are encouraged to bring seating and blankets for the event.

The Sierra Madre Police Association is providing vouchers for ice cream and yogurt on the July 20 and August 3 dates, which can be redeemed at Mother Moo Creamery or Yogurt & More.

For more information contact the Community Services Department at 626-355-5278

Summer Family Movie Fridays Line-Up

- July 20, 2012 - Toy Story
- August 3, 2012 - Ratatouille
- August 17, 2012 - E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial

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JOIN US, MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS, HELP YOUR COMMUNITY,
AND HAVE SOME FUN!



SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM

"Dream Big - Read!" is the theme for Sierra Madre's eight-week 2012 Summer Reading Program, which runs from Monday, June 18 through Saturday, August 11. There are programs for all age groups, including adults. Come in and register any time during this period and win prizes along the way.

In the children's program, each child will receive a reading log, bookmark, and a theme-related book bag at registration. Age-appropriate books, read at home, are recorded on the log, and a prize is awarded after the weekly reading requirement is met. Children may enter one of these divisions: Night Owl, for our very youngest patrons who do not yet read on their own; Dreamer, for school-age readers in Grades 1 - 6; Challenger, the most demanding division, for children in Grades 2 - 6, in which 35 hours of reading must be completed in eight weeks.

"Own the Night" is the special theme for the teen division of the program. Participants read eight books by the end of the program and earn prizes for every two books read.

Library patrons 18 years of age and up are invited to join the Summer Reading Program for Adults. Participants will automatically be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing once they have submitted their first title read (book, eBook or audiobook) to Library staff. There will be weekly drawings for all participants with increased chances to win per number of books read. A book bag gift set will be given to the first 40 registrants. Drop by the Library for information on the program rules and guidelines.

The Summer Reading Program is supported by the Friends of the Library and the Sierra Madre Firefighters Association; the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club sponsors the Children's Challenger Division.

The California Summer Reading Program is a project of the California Library Association, supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, a federal grant program administered in California by the State Librarian.

For more information, please contact Sierra Madre Public Library Youth Services Librarian, Meegan Tosh, at (626) 355-7186 or mtosh@cityofsierramadre.com. The Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., in Sierra Madre. www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us.

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.

Looking For The Mountain Views News?

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!

Sierra Public Library
Sierra Madre Post Office
Sierra Madre City Hall
Bean Town Sierra Madre
Starbucks Sierra Madre
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 -
Sierra Madre Villa
Niko's Pasadena
Fresco's Pasadena

Websters Pharmacy
Altadena
Websters Fine Stationers
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REMEMBRANCE

KALEEN MARIE HARFMAN

(May 17, 1967 - July 1, 2012)

Long time Sierra Madre resident, Kaleen Marie Harfman, passed away Sunday, July 1, 2012 following complications from her last open heart surgery performed on June 13, 2012. Kaleen was surround by her family when she joined her Lord. She was born with a congenital heart defect that led to numerous surgeries over her 45 years of life. Kaleen was well known in town and had many, many friends. Anyone who was blessed to have known her knew of her feisty nature, her spunk and her love of life.

She is survived by her parents, Dennis Harfman, Judy and Allen Troutt; sisters, Kathy Harfman, Jennifer Kenyon, Carrie Bell and Ashley Harfman; brothers, A.J. and Jake Harfman; step-brothers, Allen Troutt, Jr. and Daniel Troutt; niece, Charlie Harfman; and nephews, Ryan, Dylan and Colby Kenyon, Ayden and Sylis Ortega, and Cody Bell.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 14 at 3:00 PM at Bethany Church located at 93 N. Baldwin Ave. in Sierra Madre. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association.



ROTARY CLUB TO HOST AUTHOR AND ROCKET SCIENTIST AT UPCOMING EVENTS

Have you ever wonder what happened to The Boat People? Now the author of this best selling book is coming from Australia, Carina Hoang to make a special one time appearance for Rotary of Sierra Madre on July 17 at 7 AM at the Hart House, 222 W. Sierra Madre Bl. Sierra Madre. The event is free and includes breakfast. Do not miss this once in a life time experience.

USC has been a great influence in our community. Perhaps you are a graduate have attended games, classes or used the campus in some capacity. It is a sought after university from around the world. On July 17, Mr. Tom Tomilson will be presenting a history of USC. Please do not miss this speaker. 7 AM at the Hart House.

Mr. Alan Unell, a current rocket scientist working on projects at JPL will be presenting a talk on July 31 at 7 am at the Hart House. All meetings include Breakfast. Contact Peggybeau@gmail.com for more info.

Waterworks Aquatics Mentorship Volunteer Program

Waterworks will be accepting participants for the Mentorship Volunteer Program. This program is similar to the Junior Lifeguard Program that the City of Sierra Madre offered in the past.

Program Details:

- For ages 11-15 years old
- There is NO CHARGE for this program
- Dates and times will be discussed between each participant and Waterworks Aquatics. Each shift will be 2 hours or longer

The program will include:

- Learn the operations by observing and assisting lifeguards, swim instructors, and office staff
- Will greet and act as host for users of the facility
- Assist with retail & snack shop sales
- Assist with swim competitions and swim team
- Will assist with facility upkeep

If you are interested, please contact the Waterworks Aquatics front desk at 626-836-1200 or by sending them an email at info@waterworksswim.com.

Sierra Madre Search & Rescue Log

During the month of June, Sierra Madre Search and Rescue (SMSR) responded to 18 calls for assistance. Details on a selection of the calls are described below.

A Busy June 3rd: The afternoon of June 3rd turned out to be very busy for SMSR. The afternoon started with the rescue of a hiker suffering from chest and abdominal injuries near Hermit Falls. While rescuers were responding to the initial call, rescuers received word of two hikers in distress near Roberts Camp. Shortly after the conclusion of the first two calls, SMSR was paged to respond to the Sturtevant Falls area for a hiker who had suffered a severe ankle injury while hiking with her family. Personnel from the Los Angeles County and the Sierra Madre Fire Departments joined SMSR in treating and transporting a total of four people to local hospitals.

Even though the 3rd had already been a busy day, it wasn't over for rescuers. Early in the evening, SMSR was requested as a mutual aid resource to support the Montrose Search and Rescue Team in the search for 4 overdue backpackers in the Switzer Falls area. Search crews worked late into the night before bivouacking in the field and resuming search assignments at dawn. The subjects were successfully located just before noon on the 4th and escorted out of the area.

June 23rd – A repeat of June 3rd? With the 3rd having kicked off June as the busiest month of 2012 to date, the 23rd began to shape up as another very busy day ultimately resulting in three back to back operations.

On the first operation the Team responded to the Upper Winter Creek trail above Chantry Flat to evacuate a hiker with an injured ankle 2 miles up canyon from the trailhead.

As members were returning to town, the Team was requested to assist Altadena Mountain Rescue with a rescue in Eaton Canyon.

At the conclusion of the Eaton Canyon assist, SMSR received another mutual aid request from the Montrose Search and Rescue Team in the search for Ertug Ergun, a hiker who had gone missing in the Stoneyvale Campground area. Team members responded at "first light" on 6/24 to search several canyons in the Mt. Lukens area. SMSR personnel continued to join the search effort throughout the week. Sadly, Mr. Ergun was located deceased on June 30th.

Now that schools are out for the summer and temperatures on the rise, outdoor recreationalists are reminded that being prepared is crucial for a safe trip into the mountains. Always carry the 10 essentials and make sure someone knows where you've gone and when you will return. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Hiker Plan is a good way to document your plans.

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

For more information, including how to arrange a wilderness safety demonstration for your school or group, visit www.smsr.org.

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CREATIVE ARTS GROUP TO LAUNCH SIERRA MADRE SCARECROW FESTIVAL THIS FALL

Plans are in the works for a contest in October where residents will receive "Crow Awards" for the most creative scarecrows in the "humorous" and "scariest" categories for residents and for businesses, for having the most creative scarecrow(s) representing their business.

Currently plans are for life sized scarecrows and according to Executive Director Jackie Raymond, "We envision residents and guests driving through the town" in a manner similar to when people view Christmas or Halloween decorations. "It will bring families of Sierra Madre together and promote our business."

Don't know how to make a scarecrow? Creative Arts will be hosting a FREE Scarecrow Making Workshop at Creative Arts Group Saturday, September 15, 2012 from noon to 7 pm, to the first 60 families.

Workshop participants need to bring clothes and accessories for their scarecrow. Everything else will be provided. These scarecrows are life-size, so bring appropriate items. You might want to bring pants or stockings to create legs and gloves to create hands for your scarecrow.

The workshop is free, but you must register (626-355-8350) LIMITED ENROLLMENT. To participate in the contest applications are due on September 25th. Scarecrows will be displayed October 1st through October 31st at residents and businesses.

On Friday, October 5th and awards ceremony will be held at Creative Arts for the winners of the residents and businesses.

For more information, contact the Creative Arts Group via email at foothillcreativeartsgroup@creativeartsgroup.org or call 626-355-8350.



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Staying Cool This Summer for Seniors

The Community Services Department and the Senior Community Commission would like to remind local seniors that during this time of hot weather that they should follow these tips to stay cool and safe.

- Slow down, avoid strenuous activity. Do not try to do too much on a hot day.
- Wear lightweight, loose-fitting, light-colored clothing. Light colors will reflect heat and sunlight and help maintain normal body temperature.
- Protect your face with a wide-brimmed hat.
- Drink plenty of water regularly and often, even if you do not feel thirsty. Attempt to stay hydrated.
- Stay indoors as much as possible. If you do not have air conditioning, stay on your lowest floor, out of the sun or go to a place where you can get relief from the heat, such as air conditioned, library, theaters and other community facilities that may offer refuge during the warmest times of the day.

- Electric fans do not cool the air, but they do help evaporate perspiration, which cools your body.
- Cover windows that receive morning or afternoon sun with drapes, shades, awnings or louvers. Outdoor awnings or louvers can reduce the heat that enters a home by up to 80 percent.
- Check on family, friends and neighbors.

- If you believe you, or anyone you are with, is experiencing a heat-related medical emergency, promptly call 911, and if possible, move to a cooler place. If seniors do not have air conditioning in their homes, the City welcomes seniors to visit one of the following City facilities to stay cool.

- Hart Park House Senior Center – 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. – Monday through Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm & every other Friday, 9:00am-2:00pm.

- Sierra Madre City Hall – 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. – Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm & every other Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. (626) 355-7135
- Sierra Madre Public Library – 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. – Monday through Wednesday, Noon to 9 pm, Thursday & Friday, Noon to 6 pm and Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. (626) 355-7186
- Sierra Madre Community Recreation Center – 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. – Monday – Thursday, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm & every other Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. (626) 355-5278.



Police Plan Crackdown on Speeders



The Pasadena Police Department said Friday they will conduct a citywide Speed Enforcement Program Monday between 6:00 a.m. and noon.

They said the program is an effective tool in educating the public in regards to safer driving habits.

“The Pasadena Police Department is committed to reducing the number of traffic collisions and injuries resulting from driver’s speeding.”

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

PCC Board Meeting to Be Held in Altadena

The Pasadena Area Community College District Board of Trustees invites the community to its regular business meeting at the Altadena Senior Center Community Room (560 E. Mariposa Street, 91001) on July 18.

The meeting will be led by Geoffrey Baum, PACCD Board of Trustees president and Area 1 representative, and Dr. Mark Rocha, superintendent-president of Pasadena City College.

Closed session begins at 6:00 p.m. and the open session business meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. For more information, go to www.pasadena.edu/board or call (626) 585-7202.

Pet of the Week



Patches is a four-month-old black kitten. He’s very curious and loves to play with his toys.

Patches’ regular adoption fee is \$70, which includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. He also qualifies for the \$13 black cat adoption promotion this Friday, July 13! 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 A307434, or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday – Friday, 9-4 Saturday. Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters from phone calls or email. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at www.pasadenahumane.org.



Kidspace Opens New Physics Forest

By Dean Lee

Some have levers, others pulleys, or even buttons to press but the results of all 13 interactive exhibits of the new Kidspace’s Galvin Physics Forest, unveiled Thursday morning, are the same—to highlight matter and its motion through space-time.

After two years in development, and six months of construction, the new \$4.4-million Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest opened to fanfare that included a ceremony hosted by Kidspace CEO Michael Shanklin, Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard, and famed Caltech astronomer Dr. Mike Brown among others.

“There were many factors that initially drew me to Kidspace,” Shanklin said. “The opportunity that the Robert & Mary Galvin Physics Forest represents is one of the major ones. Professionally, it is extremely gratifying to see a

project move from concept to construction to the point where our guests are fully engaging and enjoying it. Seeing the look on a child’s face when they are completely absorbed by an exhibit, and the moment when comprehension finally draws never gets old to me.”

Shanklin continued, “Personally, as a parent, I am really looking forward to sharing this space with my own Kids, to see them captivated by what we’ve created, and for us to learn and have fun together.”

Shanklin said the physics forest adds 30,000 square feet to the current 3.5 acre facility. The exhibits explore such physics principles as the conservation of energy with a roller coaster, pulleys, wheel roll, and ball bounce. Air pressure is illustrated through a tennis ball launcher, air cannon and bottle rocket. Mechanical advantage is

seen through a giant lever, cool fan, tennis ball launcher and pulleys.

Kidspace is open Tuesday - Friday, 9:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. Saturday & Sunday, 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. The museum is closed Mondays. For more info visit kidspacemuseum.org.

Public Reminded to Avoid Contact with Bats



The Pasadena Public Health Department cautions the public to avoid contact with bats. Recent reports from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health indicated bats are testing positive for rabies in the Pasadena area.

So far this year, 15 bats found throughout Los Angeles County have tested positive for rabies, County Health Officials said. Although on average there are eight to 12 rabid bats detected locally each year, there were 38 bats found throughout the county last year that tested positive for rabies.

Pasadena Public Health Officer Dr. Eric Walsh reminds everybody that “if you see a bat, never touch it.”

Instead, contact authorities or the Pasadena Humane Society at (626) 792-7151 to capture and properly handle the bat, Dr. Walsh said. Anyone who has touched a bat or who may have had contact with bats should call the Pasadena Public Health Department Nursing Unit immediately at (626) 744-6089. Also make sure that your dog or cat vaccinations are current to prevent rabies infection.

For more information, go online to the Rabies Brochure on Pasadena Public Health Department’s website at http://cityofpasadena.net/publichealth/environmental_health_services/.

For more information about the City, go to www.cityofpasadena.net.

Library to Close for Upgrades

Hastings Branch Library will close beginning Monday, August 6 for flooring and electrical upgrades. The branch will reopen on Monday, October 1. Hastings is located at 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

The nearest available libraries for Hastings customers are Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr. and Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd.

Book holds for delivery to Hastings customers may be picked up at Lamanda Park during the branch closure.

For project updates visit www.pasadenapubliclibrary.net. For more information, call (626) 744-4066.

Future of Historic YWCA Building to be Discussed

The public is invited to attend one or both of the upcoming community meetings on July 19 and July 21 regarding the status of the former YWCA building near City Hall.

The meetings will include information about the City’s process for submissions from qualified developers who are interested in rehabilitating the historic YWCA structure that was originally designed by famed architect Julia Morgan. Meeting participants also will be able to walk through the now-closed YWCA building for the first time in many years.

Each meeting will consist of two parts: an on-site tour of the YWCA building, 78 N. Marengo, at Holly Street, and a presentation and comment session in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Ave.

The meeting schedule is as follows:

YWCA Building Walking Tour, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday, July 19, followed

by Presentation and Comments, 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall.

YWCA Building Walking Tour, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., Saturday, July 21, followed by Presentation and Comments, 10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Council Chambers, City Hall.

Pasadena officials say the City plans to issue a Request for Proposals during the week of July 9 seeking responses on how to best preserve and re-use the historic building that the City acquired earlier this year. Preservation of the former YWCA has been a top priority for Pasadena Heritage for more than two decades.

Pasadena Heritage officials are supporting the meetings by providing volunteers to assist the public at the meetings and tours of the YWCA building.

For more information about the City of Pasadena, go online to www.cityofpasadena.net.



Supervisors Send U.S. Forest Service Message

On a motion Tuesday by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors will send another five-signature letter to the United States Secretary of Agriculture asking that the Forest Service adopt Los Angeles County Fire Department recommendations, which were approved unanimously by the Board in 2009, that included nighttime air attacks, procedural changes, tougher brush clearance requirements and the use of mechanized firefighting equipment.

“It has been nearly three years since the Station Fire devastated most of the Angeles National Forest and killed two Los Angeles County firefighters,

and the U. S. Forest Service continues to ignore experts’ recommendations to change its nighttime aerial firefighting policy,” Antonovich said. “It is imperative that significant structural changes are made before the next major wildfire destroys more of our National Forests, personal property or any more lives.”

Congressional hearings and the Government Accountability Office’s report revealed that it was the U.S. Forest Service, as the lead agency, that failed to communicate effectively, and forced other agencies to stand idly by as the boots-on-the-ground waited for orders to proceed from its command center in Idaho.

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 17 from 6 p.m. to 8p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave.

For more info call 626.794.8585.

Schiff Honors Search and Rescue Team on House Floor

Congressman Adam Schiff honored the members of Montrose Search and Rescue Wednesday for their life-saving work during a speech on the floor of the House of Representatives. In recent weeks, the team has received wide recognition of their heroism for saving a drowning girl in the Angeles National Forest. Schiff’s speech is below:

“Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montrose Search and Rescue team. For over sixty-five years, Montrose Search and Rescue has been conducting life-saving operations throughout the Angeles National Forest and neighboring areas. These brave men and women have risked their own lives time and time again to rescue stranded hikers, victims of natural disasters, and anyone in need of assistance.

“Two weeks ago, their heroism was on full display.

The team spotted a little girl face down, drowning in a pool of running water in the Forest. The 18-month-old girl was unconscious and had stopped breathing when they pulled her out of the water. Thanks to them, this little girl was brought back to life to the unimaginable relief and gratitude of her family.

“That young girl, along with so many others, is alive today because of the heroic actions of the Montrose Search and Rescue team. And they do all of this for their community without asking anything in return.

“Their humbling dedication to service and truly selfless desire to help those in need deserve our respect and gratitude.

“So today, I rise to say thank you, Montrose Search and Rescue, for the great work that you do and for the lives that you save through your efforts.”

"What's Going On?"

News and Views from Joan Schmidt

28TH ANNUAL PATRIOTIC CONCERT IN ARCADIA

Recently, the Arcadia Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints held its 28th Annual Patriotic Concert performed by the Southern California Mormon Choir. What a spectacular evening it was, and everyone left feeling proud to be an American and with an even deeper appreciation of our wonderful country, its heritage and all the men and women who have made sacrifices to keep our country so great.

The evening began with a special VIP reception. President Walter Steimie and Duarte Council Member Margaret Finlay warmly welcomed all guests. Distinguished guests included Congresswoman Judy Chu, Mayors Bob and wife Linda Patsy Harbicht of Arcadia, Joe and wife Linda Rocha of Azusa, John and wife Chris of Duarte, and Mary Ann Lutz and husband Corey of Monrovia. Duarte School Board President Reyna Diaz and husband Ruben, past Duarte Mayor Lois Gaston, Ulisses Gutierrez of the "Y-Life" Project, writer Charlotte Schamadan, Margaret's parents, Helen and Ed Fergusson, and her sister and brother-in-law, the Crumps also attended.

After the reception, we walked to the beautiful chapel and enjoyed the Program. President Walter Steimie welcomed everyone, recognized the distinguished guests in the audience and the show began. The Presentation of Colors was by the Junior ROTC Color Guard, from Gladstone High School on Azusa, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, and Invocation by Bishop Carl Kao.



The opening selection was most appropriate—*"This is My Country"*. Part I included *"Ching-A-Ring Chaw"*, *"Shenandoah"* and *"Down by the Riverside"*.

For Part 2, we were entertained by the Combe Family, including piano solo, *"I've Got Rhythm"*, and vocal renditions of, *"Route 66"*, *"Lady's Maid"*, and *"The Brotherhood of Man"*.

An American Celebration encompassed Part 3, including patriotic trilogy, *"America the Beautiful"*, *"Golden Dream"* and *"Battle Hymn of the Republic"*.

After the three musical presentations, it was time for guest speaker, Congresswoman Judy Chu, the first Chinese-American woman to be elected to Congress. Dr. Chu has taught, been on a city council, served in the California Assembly, and after Hilda Solis left her position in Congress to become Secretary of Labor, Judy stepped up and was elected to Congress. Judy is a champion of all workers, immigrants, and veterans. She feels no veterans should be homeless. Judy also reminded us that her father fought in World War II and was very proud to be an American veteran.

After Congresswoman Chu's address, Part 4 included *"Heal Our Land"*, followed by a *"Salute to*

Armed Forces", all five branches: Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard. During each selection, a member of that branch from the Church came back on stage, in full uniform. Representing the Coast Guard, was Lieutenant Jeanie Crump, Margaret's niece, who had flown down from the Bay area where she is assigned. The program concluded with everyone singing together, Lee Greenwood's, *"God Bless the USA"*.

Congresswoman Chu presented a beautiful Certificate to the Arcadia Stake of the Mormon Church for this wonderful celebration. Margaret Finlay came on stage, joined Walter Steimie and thanked Congresswoman Chu for attending and her inspirational address. Then Mrs. Finlay spoke of the role of the Church in ancestral research. She presented the Congresswoman with a special album that explained the Chu's genealogy and had a picture



of the ship that Chu's parents had come to America on! The Congresswoman was just blown away and so grateful! The final Benediction was by Lucy Young, and a wonderful evening ended with refreshments and camaraderie among all.

WHY SURVIVAL SKILLS? by Christopher Nyerges



[Nyerges is the author of "How To Survive Anywhere," and other books, and has taught survival skills since 1974]

I've had several conversations recently with friends and associates about the current thinking on "survival" and self-reliance issues. Some folks are interested in surviving in the woods with next to nothing. Some are just interested in taking care of themselves in an emergency.

I had to think back to my earliest interests, where I wanted to go backpacking and carry as little weight as possible. I found an answer by studying the ethnobotany of the local indigenous people, and have studied this fascinating field ever since. I was also studying the methods of modern agriculture, post-green revolution, and its effects on the soil and nutrition. I also studied how food is stored, processed, and transported in our economic system. The complexity was somewhat alarming to my teenage mind, and I oft wondered how food ever gets to anyone's table! I could see many scenarios where our accepted normal way of life could

be easily disrupted.

In a nutshell, that is what put me on the path I'm on today.

I recently had a short meeting with the founder of an organization devoted exclusively to the study and education of survival in all aspects. Richard White, with his military background, was so intent on this focus that he began regular study groups in the 1960s called the Noah Seminars, where the intent was to share the facts of our world situation and to work to find solutions that could actually be put into practice.

When reading some of the minutes of those early meetings, they concerned themselves with wilderness survival and physical survival, but their concern was much broader than that. They focused on verifying the geologic and ecological changes in the world, both those man-made and natural. They looked at the economic issue that were even then threatening to undermine our security in the U.S. They examined the health of the individual, the cities, and our poor methods of communication. And perhaps most importantly, they examined how our moral, ethical, and spiritual weaknesses were threats to our survival.

Each of these areas has since been the subject of many books – perhaps hundreds in some cases.

My meetings with members of the Noah Seminars, and the non-profit that grew out of it [WTI, go to www.wtinc.info], had an increasingly greater influence on the way that I perceived the world, and the solutions that were both practical and right to pursue.

In fact, to this day, I feel that many of the so-called "survival schools" and survival ideologies are sorely lacking because they focus very narrowly on one very limited aspect of that vast spectrum of what is meant by "survival."

During my recent brief meeting with founder White, he shared that part of his original stimulus was the fact that the U.S.S.R. had plans to bomb those parts of Los Angeles County where we lived. Local targets included the nearby aerospace facilities, the communication towers on Mount Wilson, and other strategic targets. Since he felt then that there was a significant possibility of such a bombing actually occurring, he explained to his students that such an event would mean that you simply couldn't go to the local store or fast food place for lunch. The study of wild foods became mandatory, as well as some of the skills of hunting and food procurement. Today, it has become somewhat "hip and cool" to grow only foods in one's yard, rather than lawns and ornamentals. This is a good sign.

Physical fitness was also stressed, since in the event of a bombing scenario, one might have no choice but to evacuate. That would mean a few days, or longer, of evacuating on foot, carrying all of your needed gear, and folks who were excessively overweight or out of shape simply wouldn't be able to do this.

Another part of the thinking was that, assuming such a scenario actually happened, "law and order" would be non-existent, and various gangs would exert control and authority. It would be essential to be able to defend oneself and one's family. Firearms and martial arts were essential.

These are just a few of the many ways in which we approached survival-thinking and preparedness. Through non-sectarian spiritual studies, we also explored how our honesty and dishonesty can affect the situation we find ourselves in. In fact, we studied many of the precepts of all major religions as a way to find those higher "survival tools" of right living that could only serve us well. These continue to be included in many of my writings and the classes I conduct, as well as in all the classes WTI conducts.

Of course, we are not living in the same world situation as we were in the 1960s. Some things are better, some are worse. Things always change, and part of a good survival-strategy is to stay abreast of the news, understanding how the political situation can affect us locally and personally.

It is still my belief that the Golden Rule is the best policy, and that the world would be transformed if we all practiced that. Unfortunately, we must recognize that most folks do NOT practice that simple precept, which is why the world is the way it is. Still, by awareness of the full scope of survival, and by attempting to develop in all these areas, we become fuller human beings. We become part of the solution. Our thinking on survival should not be simply about my own personal well-being, but should include our concern and compassion for everyone.

As always, I invite your comments and questions, and welcome you to attend any of the classes we conduct.

See our Schedule at www.ChristopherNyerges.com, or write to School of Self-reliance, Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041.

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From Arcadia's Best

ARCADIA GOLD LINE PLAZA DESIGN CHOSEN

The Arcadia City Council chose a design concept Tuesday for the planned transit plaza adjacent to the station and parking for the Gold Line train to be built on the northwest corner of First Avenue across Santa Clara Avenue from 24 Hour Fitness.

The station itself is to feature some custom designs relating to Santa Anita Park horse race track, as proposed by the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce and others. A new parking garage will initially be two-level with about 300 spaces. The original plan for a transit plaza in the triangular area east of the parking garage was to incorporate some retail elements using state development funds, but that component had to be eliminated when Gov. Brown axed Redevelopment Agencies earlier this year.

The Council chose the Town Square Design (at right above and below) recommended by staff from among three options, and asked staff to look into adding a water feature and refine the benches and furniture concepts. The Town Square concept opens out to the street, and connects the Gold Line station with the downtown area, while allowing flexibility of use. Public art features could also be added.

The plan is still in the conceptual stage at this point, to be refined with a consultant over the next couple of months and added to the Gold Line's bid package due to be released at the end of September, according to Assistant City Manager/Develop-

CONCEPT A: TOWN SQUARE



ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA GOLD LINE ARCADIA TRANSIT PLAZA

AHBE

ment Services Director Jason Kruckeberg.

Most of the costs of the transit plaza enhancements would be covered by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and federal funds, with the City chipping in \$136,500 that would be added to an MTA grant of \$318,400 obtained by City staff. Those funds would be pooled and used to leverage matching federal funds obtained by the Gold Line Construction Authority for pedestrian, bicycle and bus access, walkways, and way-finding enhancements to Gold Line stations, according to last week's staff report to the Council.

The Authority has allocated \$1.23 million for these improvements around the Arcadia Station, including the transit plaza. However, the grant requires a 20% local

match (\$245,860).

The bottom line is that Arcadia will gain station area improvements that will be worth approximately \$1.65 million at a cost to the City and taxpayers of only \$136,500.

The City has reserved \$5 mil. (plus interest accrued to date) in Proposition A/C funds for the purpose of Gold Line related improvements, including the Santa Anita Grade Separation, along with \$8 mil. approved by the voters in 2006. Currently, there is approximately \$400,000 in the Proposition A/C Reserve account that is un-programmed. Thus, Proposition A/C Reserve funds can be used to cover the total City's cost of \$136,500.

By Scott Hettrick

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, July 1st, through Saturday, July 7th, the Police Department responded to 889 calls for service of which 97 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, July 1:

1. Around 8:21 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for an illegally modified exhaust system, on Baldwin Avenue north of Gate Eight. An investigation revealed the driver was in possession of a controlled substance. The 28-year-old Chinese male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Monday, July 2:

2. At almost 1:00 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 1000 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a burglary investigation. Three male juveniles forced entry through a window and fled with various electronic items. A neighbor observed three suspects and provided physical descriptions, from which the victim was able to determine were friends of his juvenile son. Through investigation, all three suspects were located, transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking, and later released to their parents.

3. At about 5:02 p.m., an officer responded to the 1000 block of West Duarte Road regarding a welfare check. The officer discovered a female adult subject hit her grandmother with a hammer, which grazed her arm and back; and later threw the hammer at her grandfather. The victims reported having no injuries and declined medical attention. The 28-year-old Asian female was arrested for Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Elder Abuse, and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. The victims declined prosecution and Adult Protective Service was contacted.

Tuesday, July 3:

4. Shortly after 6:11 a.m., an officer was dispatched to a solo rollover traffic collision in the 1600 block of Rodeo Road. An investigation revealed a female driver was under the influence of alcohol and lost control of her vehicle. She collided with a curb and rolled several times before landing on the front lawn of a neighborhood property. The 20-year-old White female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Wednesday, July 4:

5. Around 10:48 a.m., officers were dispatched to the 000 block of Cabrillo Road in reference to a residential burglary report. The victim discovered unknown suspect(s) ransacked his vehicle and entered his house through an unlocked garage door. Various items were reported missing and no one saw or heard anything suspicious.

6. Shortly after 8:20 p.m., officers responded to a residence in the 000 block of West Longden Avenue regarding a report of illegal aerial fireworks. As officers walked toward the residence they observed fireworks launching from the backyard. The owner of the residence denied setting off aerial fireworks and refused to allow officers in her house or backyard where witnesses saw the fireworks being lit. The report was forwarded to the District Attorney for filing considerations.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

LIVING WITH MONROVIA'S WILDLIFE

The City of Monrovia is a great place to live, work and recreate, nestled comfortably against the beautiful San Gabriel Mountains, which are abundant with local wildlife.

The City's homes, streets and parks interface with the wilderness that is home to many species of wildlife. For this reason, Monrovia residents need to be aware of how to interact responsibly and conscientiously with local wildlife. If your home is located near the hillside, be aware that you will be sharing the area with local wildlife. This consideration will help you safely coexist with the wildlife and avoid problematic situations that can possibly endanger humans, wildlife or property.

The summer months are hot and dry, making it attractive to bears and coyotes to come further down the hillside for food, water and a quick soak in a pool or hot tub. To keep residents and wildlife safe, the City offers a variety of services and information to assist residents in living with wildlife:

Bear Resistant Trash Barrels are available from Athens Services for 36 monthly payments of \$4.99 to help prevent easy access to food. If you do see wildlife, the Monrovia Police Department operates Animal Control. Just call (626) 256-8000.

If you are concerned about wild animals in your neighborhood, check out some handouts on living with: Mountain Lions, Black Bears, and Monrovia's other abundant wildlife. Lastly, please don't feed the wildlife or attempt to tame a coyote-the reason why is on the right.....



MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

Highlighted Activity for the Weekdays of July 5-11, 2012

Vehicle Burglary

On July 5 at 9:08 a.m., officers were dispatched to a residence in the 200 block of West Walnut. The owner of a 2006 Honda Pilot went out in the morning to discover her car window shattered and a lug nut socket wrench stolen from the vehicle. Officers searched for witnesses and located a neighbor who had heard a car alarm during the night. She looked out her window and saw a male Hispanic, approximately 30 years old, with slicked back black hair, running from the victim's car. She did not call the police. Investigation continuing.

Robbery - Suspect Arrested

On July 5 at 6:05 p.m., police responded to a market in the 1200 block of South Myrtle regarding a robbery. A suspect entered the location and selected a beer. The store clerk recognized the suspect from a couple days prior when he had also stolen a beer. The clerk told the suspect to put the beer down and leave the location. The suspect pushed the clerk out of his way and left the store with the beer. A photo line-up was presented to the clerk and he immediately identified the suspect. Later in the shift, the suspect was seen by an officer and was taken into custody.

Grand Theft Auto

On July 5 at 7:35 p.m., a vehicle was reported stolen from the 900 block of South Canyon. The vehicle was parked in a condominium complex parking area when it was taken. The vehicle is a burgundy, 1995 Honda Accord. Investigation

continuing.

Domestic Battery / Providing False Information to a Peace Officer - Suspect Arrested
On July 6 at 1:20 a.m., officers responded to a residence in the 700 block of West Duarte. The female at the location alleged that her boyfriend had choked her after an argument and had left the location. The victim was uncooperative with officers, but provided her name and the suspect's name. A report was taken and she was provided domestic violence information. She was told to call police if the suspect returned.

At 4:49 a.m., officers were dispatched to the residence again regarding domestic violence. Through investigation, the officers determined that a battery did occur and the male subject, who had returned to the location, was arrested. It was also discovered that the first officers on scene were given false information by the victim regarding the suspect's name, as well as her own name. A complaint will be filed for providing false information to a peace officer.

Assault With a Deadly Weapon / Battery - Suspect Arrested
On July 6 at 10:16 p.m., a motorist was driving his vehicle and became angry at a group of bicyclists. The motorist intentionally swerved his vehicle toward the bicyclists, forcing one of them to crash into a parked vehicle. The motorist then pulled to the side of the roadway, exited his vehicle and began punching another bicyclist. Police arrived and the motorist was arrested at the scene and taken into custody. The two victims' injuries were not life threatening and they were treated at the scene by Monrovia paramedics.

DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS RECEIVE SCHOOL GRANTS FROM RETIRED TEACHERS

The California Retired Teachers' Association #71 (CalRTA-SGV) was pleased to present school grants to five Duarte High School teachers at their May faculty meeting. Dr. Eric Barba gave the School Grant Committee a cordial welcome.

School Grant Committee Chairperson Patti Hahn presented the awards to the five teachers who had made requests for classroom materials, equipment, and a field trip. Choral music teacher Claire Hsu will use her grant to purchase an iPod Touch 8gb and an iPod Listening Center for her students. K. B. (Korie) Brown, English teacher, will be taking students for campus visits to Arizona colleges and on a side trip to the Grand Canyon.



Patti Hahn (far right) of CalRTA #71 awarded school grants to five Duarte H. S. teachers. Pictured (l-r) are grant recipients Rich Torres, Claire Hsu, Paul Shen-Brown, K. B. (Korie) Brown, and Swadha Sharma along with their principal, Dr. Eric Barba.

Other teachers receiving grants were bandman Rich Torres, who will purchase a trumpet for the school's band, and Paul Shen-Brown who needs a telescope for his science class. Finally, math teacher Swadha Sharma will use her grant to purchase special paper for a poster-making machine for classroom visual aids. All of the teachers expressed sincere appreciation for the grants they received. CalRTA #71 President Joyce McGregor was on hand to add her congratulations to the awardees.

CalRTA #71 awards school grants each year to help teachers fulfill their needs. By visiting the schools to make presentations, CalRTA #71 members hope to acquaint future retirees with their organization. Membership is open to all retired educators and also to any others interested in joining. For membership information, please contact Marietta Watkins at (323) 258-9615 or Patricia Dietrich at (626) 446-8437.

FRIENDS OF THE MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY HALF-PRICE BOOK SALE

Friends of the Monrovia Public Library will hold their monthly Half-Price Book sale in the Friends Store throughout the month of July. This month, adult books and media with a blue dot on the spine are half-price. While some items are individually priced, regular prices range from \$0.25 to \$2.00. Visit the Friends Store early for the best selection.

The Friends Store is located inside the Monrovia Public Library. Store hours are Monday - Wednesday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Thursday - Saturday, noon - 5 p.m.

The Friends have recently launched their newly designed web site which features additional items sold online at Amazon. Visit our online store at <http://www.friendsofmonroviapubliclibrary.org/online-store.html>

The Friends of the Monrovia Public Library promote the Library by stimulating a greater use and appreciation of the literary, educational, and cultural advantages the library offers throughout the community.

Friends Store at the Monrovia Public Library

321 S. Myrtle Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

www.friendsofmonroviapubliclibrary.org

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TWO ALVERNO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS TO COMPETE IN THE 2012 USATF NATIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eryn Blakely and Katherine Haysbert will travel to Baltimore, MD for the opportunity of lifetime

Sierra Madre, CA (July 12, 2012) – Two Alverno High School Seniors, Eryn Blakely and Katherine Haysbert, will be traveling to Baltimore to compete in the 2012 USATF National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships taking place at Morgan State University from July 23-July 29. Eryn and Katherine qualified for the Junior Olympics following successful runs at the USATF Region 15 Championships at Cerritos College on Sunday, June 24.

Eryn Blakely, Alverno's Most Valuable Runner in both Track and Cross County, will be competing in the Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships for the second time. Last year, she competed in the 800 meter race; however, she will be trying out a new event this year—the 2,000 meter steeplechase, which includes four hurdles and a water jump. For Eryn, the Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships will only be the third time she has competed in this event.

"I started running at Alverno during my freshman year when I joined the cross country team," Eryn said, "I had never enjoyed running before but with the proper training and team, I have really come to love it. It is so exciting to be competing in the Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships again this month, there will be runners from all across the country and it will be a great honor to compete with them."

Eryn will be joined in Baltimore by Haysbert. Like Eryn, Katherine is a competitive running having only Alverno's Most Valuable Runner for Runner for Track, will be competing training to beat her best time of 2

"Although I had played different enjoyed them," said Katherine, "I during eighth grade and at Alverno. level, but I am excited to participate know it will be amazing opportunity

Although Eryn and Katherine both of them is also committed to their the 2011-2012 Honor Roll and each Honors and AP courses, for their senior recognized for doubling their required 40 hours of community service for the 2011-2012 school year.

"Alverno is so proud to have two young women competing in the 2012 USATF National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships this year," said Ann Gillick, Head of School. "They both have trained incredibly hard and have the support of the entire Alverno community behind them. We wish them well as they continue to train and prepare for this momentous event. At Alverno, we strive to empower each young woman to be exactly the person she wants to be and as seniors with so many accomplishments already, I believe Eryn and Katherine are well on their way to becoming exactly the person they want to be."

About Alverno High School

Alverno High School is a Catholic, private, college preparatory school for young women dedicated to preparing them to function in a society as informed, knowledgeable persons, who have the requisite skills to make and implement mature decisions about complex problems. Enlivened by the spirit of its Immaculate Heart Community sponsors, and mindful of the Franciscan roots of its founders, Alverno's program—academic, spiritual, aesthetic, social, and physical—is shaped by the staff, trustees, and students in light of the world for which the students are being educated. Alverno's mission is to empower each young woman to be exactly the person she wants to be and since 1960, Alverno has empowered more than 4,100 women to meet that goal. For more information about Alverno High School, please call 626-355-3463 or visit www.alverno-hs.org.

DOMINIQUE ROGERS WINS SILVER MEDAL AT NAACP'S ACT-SO FINALS IN HOUSTON



Dominique Rogers, of Duarte was awarded a Silver Medal at the national finals of the (ACT-SO) Afro Academic Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics for African-American Youth competition held July 5-8 in conjunction with the NAACP's 103rd convention in Houston, Texas. Rogers won her medal in the Humanities category, Original Essay section of the competition. She was also awarded a new I-Pad a check for \$1,500.

More than 9,000 students from 30 states competed in 110 local NAACP ACT-SO competitions. Of those, 550 local Gold medalists advanced to compete in the national finals.

"I feel blessed beyond measure because I am part of something beautiful.

I know God is smiling down on me right now because I have truly put my heart into something," said Rogers.

Rogers, who was born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands moved with her parents to Duarte when she was in the second grade. She attended Royal Oaks, Northview Intermediate, and graduated last month from Duarte High School. She will enter Cal State Fullerton in the fall and is a member of the Duarte Mayor's Youth Council.

Last April, Rogers was one of four Duarte students to win Gold medals in the local ACT-SO competition sponsored by the Pasadena branch of the NAACP. Phillip Glover, Abryanna Howard, and Tylene Kelly also traveled to Houston to compete in the national finals. In addition, the Duarte contingent included seven other Duarte youths who went along to learn about the NAACP Youth Council program with the goal of starting a branch of the Youth Program at the Duarte Teen Center.

This was only the second year that the Pasadena branch of the NAACP has competed in ACT-SO, both times with in-kind and co-sponsorship support from the City of Duarte. Southern California Edison was the primary financial sponsor. Duarte Teen Center Director, Marilyn Mays chaired the Pasadena branch competition with co-chairs Duarte Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera, Duarte Public Safety Crime Prevention Specialist, Aida Torres and former Duarte Mayor, Lois Gaston.

The NAACP's Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics is a yearlong achievement program designed to recruit, stimulate, and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among African-American high school students. ACT-SO includes 26 categories of competition in the sciences, humanities, business, and performing and visual arts. More than 260,000 young people have participated from the program since its inception.



Katherine Haysbert

fellow Alverno senior, Katherine relative newcomer to the world of started in eighth grade. Katherine, Cross Country and Most Inspirational in the 800 meter race. She is currently minutes and 15 seconds.

sports in elementary school and really discovered a passion for running I've never competed on a national in the Junior Olympics this month. I for me as a runner."

spend considerable time training, each academics as well. Both girls were on is taking a full course load, including year. Eryn and Katherine were also recognized for doubling their required 40 hours of community service for the 2011-2012 school year.



Eryn Blakely

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno High School

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

Arcadia High School

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

NEW SUMMER CLASSES STILL HAVE OPENINGS

The Sierra Madre Community Services Department is excited to share that there are still openings for the new summer classes and ongoing classes like LittleScientist in the Park (pre-school age), Karate & Fitness Day Camp (6-15 years old), Boxing & Kickboxing for youth & adults, Kidz Love Soccer (ages 2-11), Ballet (2-5 years old), Tennis (all ages), Yoga, Tai Chi and Zumba Gold & Zumba for all ages.

Visit our online registration at www.cityofsierramadre.com/online/registration or contact the Community Services office at (626) 355-5278. Each class requires that a minimum number of 6 participants are registered 3 days before the start of the class or we will have to cancel so please sign-up in advance. Come be active with us!



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WINING IN PASADENA PLUS IT'S ALMOST RACING SEASON IN DEL MAR

The Pasadena Vons on Sierra Madre and Colorado and yours truly have partnered up to bring you a Summer/Fall Wine Series. It's an opportunity for you my loyal readers and me to get together sip some Wine and talk about the wonderful world of hospitality. Our first event is this Saturday, July 21st at 2 PM at the Vons located at 2355 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena. The event starts at 2 PM and will feature the wines from Ancients Peaks, the tastings are free. No reservations are required but we do have giveaways planned, so a head count would help, please email me directly at thechefsknows@yahoo.com if you plan to come by to taste and to shop !!



**ANCIENT
PEAKS**
WINERY

A little about the wine we are pouring.. Ancient Peaks is a family-owned winery specializing in wines from Margarita Vineyard in the Paso Robles AVA, Margarita Vineyard stands alone as the southernmost vineyard in the Paso Robles region, nestled into the rugged Santa Lucia Mountain range just 14 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Margarita Vineyard resides on the historic Santa Margarita Ranch, which was first planted to grapevines by Franciscan missionaries in 1780. The name Ancient Peaks honors the tall peaks surrounding Margarita Vineyard, which were forged by the collision of the coastal plates. Over time, these same geologic forces blessed us with five-soil zones ancient seabed, sedimentary, shale, volcanic and granitic that brings natural complexity to our wines. For further details please email Peter Dills at thechefsknows@yahoo.com

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefsknows@yahoo.com

Del Mar Racing Season is Here

The biggest trick besides picking a winner at the race track, is where to stay? Thankfully there are dozens of small hotels in and around Del Mar, Solano Beach and Carlsbad. Here are two suggestions on where to stay. Following its official opening on June 21st, the newly-constructed Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa has two overnight packages for summer 2012. Both packages take advantage of the 215-room property's prime coastal setting and its close proximity to the Del Mar race Track.

The Family Value Package offers savings on property spa and dining activities and at many nearby attractions and beach venues which are favorites among summer vacationers. The Golf Escape package includes play at The Crossings at Carlsbad, one of the premier courses in the popular golfing paradise of Carlsbad. Located a mile from the Pacific and within five minutes of Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa, The Crossings at Carlsbad has been voted by GOLF Magazine as one of the "Top 10 New Courses You Can Play." The two new packages at Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa include the following Family Value Package, from \$254 per night:

- Overnight deluxe accommodations with ocean views
- VIP Coupon book for shopping at the nearby Carlsbad Premium Outlet Mall, with more than 90 stores
- Complimentary Beach Rental Package (2 beach chairs, 1 beach umbrella, set of 4 beach towels)
- Golf Escape Package, from \$289 per night:
- Overnight deluxe accommodations with ocean views

- One round (18 holes) of golf at The Crossings at Carlsbad
 - Complimentary rental of premium clubs and golf cart (additional rounds of golf can be purchased)
- Reservations for both summer packages at Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa may be made at <http://hiltoncarlsbadoceanfront.com> or by calling 760-602-0800.



HIGHLIGHTS OF HILTON CARLSBAD OCEANFRONT RESORT & SPA

Rooms and Suites: Modeling the California Craftsman style, Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa features 215 guest rooms including eight suites, many offering panoramic ocean views and all providing travel conveniences including in-room mini-refrigerators, 42-inch flat-panel televisions, complimentary WiFi and complimentary printing. Guest rooms average 415 square-feet in size, with many connecting rooms available. Where to dine? Chandler's Restaurant & Lounge: Chandler's brings innovation and style to the local restaurant scene, featuring coastal regional menus inspired by locally-grown fresh products and highlighted by the cuisine of famed chef Pascal Vignau. The heart of the restaurant is a spectacular bar serving signature cocktails, while a private wine room further complements the spacious ocean-view setting.

Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa is situated just 10 minutes from Carlsbad's Palomar Airport (CLD) and 35 minutes from San Diego International Airport (SAN). Hilton Carlsbad Oceanfront Resort & Spa is located at One Ponto Rd., in Carlsbad, CA 92011.

And for you high Rollers consider.... The Grand Del Mar

Serenely nestled amidst Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, this premier San Diego resort destination seamlessly combines the old-world charm of a Mediterranean estate with the modern luxury of an elegant resort. The result: a destination unparalleled by San Diego hotels and lauded by Condé Nast Traveler as one of the "World's Best Places To Stay". Little wonder, given the sun-drenched climate, stunning natural beauty, championship golf course and irresistible dining – epitomized by Addison, Southern California's only Five-Star and Five Diamond restaurant. And no visit to this San Diego luxury hotel would be complete without an afternoon of pampering at one of only 20 Forbes Five-Star spas in the country. 5300 Grand Del Mar Ct San Diego, CA 92130 Neighborhood: Torrey Hills (858) 314-2000 <http://thegranddelmar.com>



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INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup soy sauce
2 tablespoons corn syrup
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
2 green onions, thinly sliced
2 pounds ground beef
1/4 cup chili sauce
1/4 cup jalapeño jelly
8 hamburger buns

Toppings: grilled sweet onions, grilled pineapple slices

DIRECTIONS

Stir together first 6 ingredients; pour into a shallow pan or baking dish.

Shape beef into 8 patties; place in a single layer in marinade, turning to coat both sides. Cover and chill 4 hours. Drain, reserving marinade.

Grill patties over medium-high heat (350° to 400°) 5 minutes on each side or until beef is no longer pink, brushing several times with reserved marinade. Stir together chili sauce and jelly. Serve patties on buns with chili sauce mixture and toppings.



Breakfast Items

Breakfast Burrito Combo \$6.95
Choice of: (Ham, Turkey, Bacon or Sausage)
Eggs, country potatoes, onions, bell peppers & cheese,
includes medium coffee or juice.

Breakfast Bagel Combo \$6.95
Fresh toasted bagel of your choice
with Bacon or Sausage, Eggs, cheese & tomato,
includes medium coffee or juice.

~Breakfast Bowls~

The Bean Town \$6.50
Egg, Potato, Onion, Green bell pepper, Cheese
with Bacon or Sausage.

The Madre \$7.50
Egg, Spinach, Onion, Mushrooms, Potato,
Green bell pepper, Cheese with Ham & Bacon.

The Hiker \$6.50
Egg, Spinach, Mushrooms & Swiss cheese.

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Breakfast Served
Mon-Thurs 6:30am-11am & Fri-Sun 6:30-12pm

New Lunch Items

Seasonal Salads

Tri-Tip Salad: \$8.25
Grilled tri-tip, lettuce,
kidney beans, red onion, black olives,
tomatoes with chipotle ranch dressing.

Tequila-Lime

Chicken Salad: \$8.25
Marinated chicken breast,
mixed greens, tomato, black olives
with pineapple-mango salsa.

Seasonal Sandwich

BBQ Tri-Tip Sandwich: \$7.25
Grilled tri-tip, bbq sauce, red onion,
lettuce, tomatoes on white ciabatta.

Lunch Served Mon-Sun 11am-10pm

45 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre Ca, 91024
(626) 355-1596

NEXT FOOD NETWORK STAR FINALIST JYLL EVERMAN TO JUDGE AT TASTE OF ARCADIA

Celebrity chef and Food Network reality star Jyll Everman will lend her skills to the 2012 Taste of Arcadia as culinary judge. The charismatic Everman will judge restaurant entries in the first-ever culinary contest at Arcadia's annual signature event produced by the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce from 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. Monday, September 17, at the Los Angeles County Arboretum.



A finalist in Food Network's Season 7 of "Next Food Network Star" in New York City last summer, Everman also has been a guest on Rachel Ray's morning show and several national radio stations. She was a private chef for six years before opening Jyllicious Bites, a catering company devoted to gourmet finger foods. She currently teaches monthly cooking classes at Village Kitchen Shoppe and is a part-time culinary specialist at Williams-Sonoma.

The culinary contest, which will reward food and beverage vendors in multiple categories from the earliest minutes of the event through the final moments, is only one of several new features and activities planned for this year's Taste of Arcadia. Among the other new features, a strolling magician and the eight-piece Lounge-O-Rama band, made up of local JPL and NASA employees. Lounge-O-Rama will play timeless Swing and Big Band numbers early in the evening, moving to classic pop/rock favorites after the sun sets and the dance party starts heating up. And helping with that will be the popular Brazilian Dancers. Arcadia High School's talented drum line will again greet guests as they enter the gate. Also returning this year is the Roost, a secluded area adjacent to the main venue that features fine wine tasting in a quieter atmosphere.

Taste of Arcadia showcases more than 40 of the best local restaurants, caterers and wine-and-beer vendors. One could not ask for a more idyllic venue than the Arboretum with its lush, green grass, cradled between beautiful water fountains against the picturesque backdrop of the regal San Gabriel Mountains. The community's signature event draws about 1,000 guests who enjoy the many different foods and tastes of various drinks. Advance tickets are \$50 and will be \$60 at the gate. You can buy online at: <http://arcadiacachamber.org/events/taste-of-arcadia/> or call the chamber office at 626-447-2159. As always, a percentage of the evening's proceeds is donated to local non-profit organizations. This year there will be more beneficiaries than ever, with the chamber donating \$5 of every ticket sold by a pre-approved organization. Interested groups should call the chamber at 626-447-2159 to be approved. Media contact: Scott Hettrick, 626-447-2159

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Looking Up with Bob Eklund



DARK MATTER SCAFFOLDING OF UNIVERSE DETECTED FOR THE FIRST TIME

Scientists have, for the first time, directly detected part of the invisible dark matter skeleton of the universe, where more than half of all matter is believed to reside.

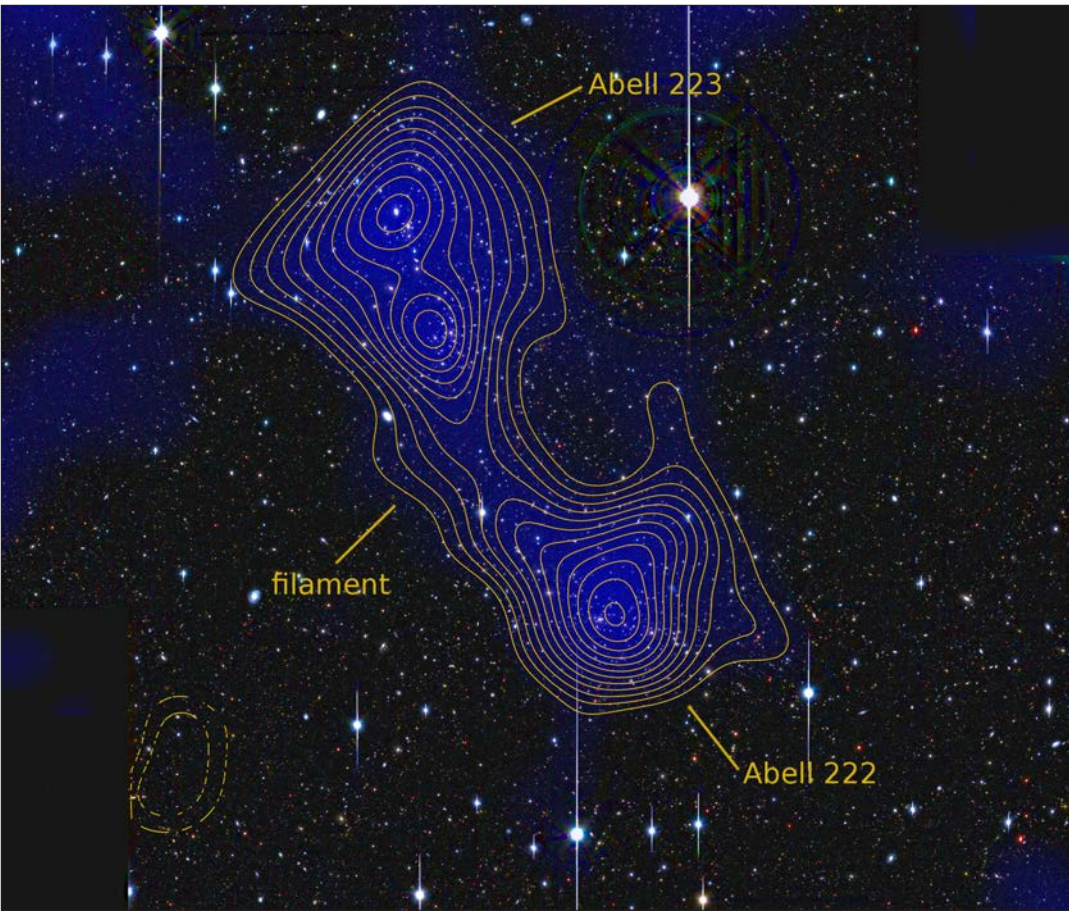
The discovery, led by a University of Michigan physics researcher, confirms a key prediction in the prevailing theory of how the universe's current web-like structure evolved.

The map of the known universe shows that most galaxies are organized into clusters, but some galaxies are situated along filaments that connect the clusters. Cosmologists have theorized that dark matter undergirds those filaments, which serve as highways of sorts, guiding galaxies toward the gravitational pull of the massive clusters. Dark matter's contribution had been predicted with computer simulations, and its shape had been roughed out based on the distribution of the galaxies. But no one had directly detected it until now.

"We found the dark matter filaments. For the first time, we can see them," said Jörg Dietrich, a physics research fellow in the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science and the Arts. Dietrich is first author of a paper on the findings published online in *Nature* and to appear in the July 12 print edition.

Dark matter, whose composition is still a mystery, doesn't emit or absorb light, so astronomers can't see it directly with telescopes. They deduce that it exists based on how its gravity affects visible matter. Scientists estimate that dark matter makes up more than 80 percent of the universe. To "see" the dark matter component of the filament that connects the clusters Abell 222 and 223, Dietrich and his colleagues took advantage of a phenomenon called gravitational lensing.

The gravity of massive objects such as galaxy clusters acts as a lens to bend and distort the light from more distant objects as it passes. Dietrich's team observed tens of thousands of galaxies beyond the supercluster. They



A filament of dark matter has been directly detected between the galaxy clusters Abell 222 and Abell 223. The blue shading and yellow contour lines represent the density of matter. Photo courtesy of Jörg Dietrich, U-M Department of Physics

were able to determine the extent to which the supercluster distorted galaxies, and with that information, they could plot the gravitational field and the mass of the Abell 222 and 223 clusters. Seeing this for the first time was "exhilarating," Dietrich said.

"It looks like there's a bridge that shows that there is additional mass beyond what the clusters contain," he said. "The clusters alone cannot explain this additional mass," he said.

Scientists before Dietrich assumed that the gravitational lensing signal would not be strong enough to give away dark matter's configuration. But Dietrich and his colleagues focused on a peculiar cluster system whose axis is oriented toward Earth, so that the lensing effects could be magnified.

"This result is a verification that for many years was thought to be impossible," Dietrich said.

The team also found a spike in X-ray emissions along the filament, due to an excess of hot, ionized ordinary matter being pulled by gravity toward the massive filament—but they estimate that 90 percent or more of the filament's mass is dark matter.

The researchers used data obtained with the Subaru telescope, operated by the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan. They also used the XMM-Newton satellite for X-ray observations. This work is funded by the National Science Foundation and NASA.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: b.eklund@MtnViewsNews.com.

On Line
By PJ Carpenter
TIPS ON TAMING....

.....A Computer For More Speed, Less Trouble
(Paul will be back next week but wanted to share this with you)

(NAPSI)—Most people depend on personal computers for so much in daily life and when the computer seems sluggish, unresponsive or just generally underperforming, it can lead to frustration. Fortunately, if your computer is misbehaving, there are five simple steps you can take to help get it back up to speed.

1. Defrag Your Disk. Computer hard drives get fragmented when programs are installed and uninstalled and files are added and removed. The files end up scattered around the hard drive so it's difficult for the drive to find everything you want in a timely manner. The built-in disk defragment tool can keep your computer running efficiently.



2. Stay Healthy. Just like humans, when a computer has a virus or is infected with spyware, it becomes sluggish and performance suffers. Keep your anti-virus program up to date and fight off cyber attackers. Run a full system scan every three to six months. Install an anti-spyware program, too.

3. Don't Be a Digital Hoarder. Whenever you install software updates, download images, save music files, edit documents or browse the Web, your computer accumulates files and programs, most of which are unnecessary. Use the built-in uninstaller to remove those unneeded files.

4. Blow it Out. Over time, the inside of your computer will accumulate a "blanket" of dust, which may result in a temperature rise inside your computer case. Open your computer case and blow out the dust using a canister of compressed air. Be sure to blow air through all fans in order to thoroughly clean them.

5. Upgrade Your Memory. Many computer performance issues can be resolved with a do-it-yourself (RAM) memory upgrade. Anytime you open your e-mail, surf the Web, watch a video, type a paper, play a game or just plain turn on your computer, the computer is using its internal memory. When a computer does not have enough internal memory to properly run its programs, it becomes slow and unresponsive.

Installing computer memory is a fairly simple process that requires no special tools or skills. However, finding the correct upgrade can sometimes be confusing as there are hundreds of thousands of options to choose from.

Crucial.com makes finding and installing the correct memory upgrade simple with free, easy-to-use online tools designed to help you quickly find a compatible memory upgrade. Using the Crucial Memory Advisor™ tool, you choose your computer make and model from a drop-down menu to see recommended memory upgrade options. Or, use the Crucial® System Scanner tool to automatically scan the computer to determine the current memory and view recommended compatible upgrades.

Visit www.crucial.com for more tips and information on getting your computer back up to speed!

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KATIE TseThis and That



KINKAJOU!



I love writing for the paper! It's a creative outlet that challenges me to come up with two written pages and an accompanying picture every week. There are weeks when ideas spill from my mind like water from a bucket! My fingers blaze over the keyboard in a thrilling burst of enthusiasm!

But this wasn't one of those weeks. This was one of those weeks that I plied my husband and parents with the same nagging question they've grown accustomed to hearing. "Do you have any burning ideas for an article?" Sometimes they give me a great topic, but usually they pause before replying. "Nope." It's times like these when I turn to my one reliable source of unusual anecdotes --Phil.

Phil is my dad's cousin (I've never known what that makes me in relationship to him). You've seen the "Dos Equis" commercials. But in real life, Phil is "the most interesting man in the world!" Phil never ceases to amaze me. In two deft moves, he can parallel park his whale of a Lincoln in a space barely big enough for a Mini Cooper. He's a retired engineer who paints, reproduced a Peruvian tapestry using wire mesh, and achieved proficiency in a second language in less than a month. He can join any conversation on any topic. When my family and I are pooped after four hours of eating and talking, Phil is just getting warmed up.

Of course, Phil's had 80 years to grow into the diversely talented, charismatic individual that he is. However, those two conditions are usually mutually exclusive of each other. You can either be charismatic or 80, but rarely is anyone both at the same time.

One of my favorite Phil stories is his account of the kinkajou. (Bonus points for you if you know what a kinkajou is before reading further!) Phil and his beautiful wife, Shirley, lived in South Pasadena for many years. Over that time, they had many neighbors who owned exotic and unusual pets.

Some pets are technically legal, but domestically impossible. Chinchillas, wolves, and boa constrictors fall under this category. Kinkajous are right up there with them. Somewhere between a monkey, bear, and raccoon, the kinkajou is a long, furry animal with a "prehensile tail." (Ha ha! There's a term to drop next time you want to impress someone!) This tail is used to grasp branches, gates, lamp posts, banisters, etc. One of Phil's neighbors acquired a kinkajou, but sought to get rid of it after they became more familiar with its habits.

Phil and Shirley first encountered the neighborhood kinkajou one night when Phil felt something heavier than their cat walking on their bed. "Don't move, Honey," he said. "I think there's something here with us." It fled back out the French doors when Phil turned on the light. This went on for several nights. Once, they caught it eating cigarettes from Shirley's purse. The next night, it chewed a hole through her purse to get to her pack of Marlborough's.

Phil finally got a picture of the thing and described it to someone from the L.A. Zoo, who confirmed that it was a kinkajou. Kinkajous are the original party animal, literally. They love tobacco and alcohol. They're only active at night, and sleep for the rest of the day. They could be in a fraternity!

Besides smokes and booze, one of the kinkajous' staples is ripe fruit. This might appeal to the owner who'd rather collect stale bananas than furnish their pet with Jack Daniels and Dunhill Ultras. However, just like the way too much fruit can send people dashing for the bathroom, kinkajous react in much the same way. Let's just say keeping them is messy at best, and bio-hazardous at worst.

The kinkajou lived with Phil and Shirley for a while. Then a 10 year-old neighborhood boy showed an interest, so they gave it to him. Surprisingly, Phil never got a call from the boy's parents. He must have been a very responsible kid.

The kinkajou lived with the boy for many years, and died at the ripe old age of 40. I asked Phil if the owner ever gave him cigarettes or beer. He didn't know, but he said it stayed in the garage, which got hosed down every week. So we can surmise it ate plenty of bananas. I can imagine a "Dos Equis" commercial in which the most interesting man in the world says, "I don't always drink beer. But when I do, I share it with my kinkajou." Thus ends another one of Phil's unusual stories. Until next time, "stay thirsty my friends!"

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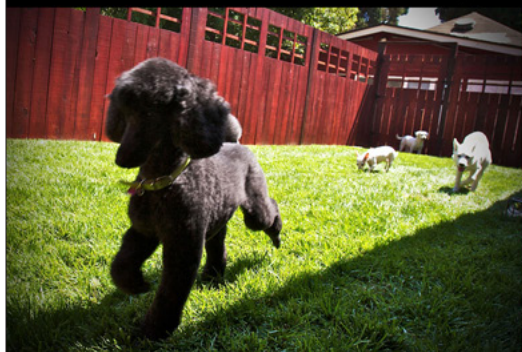
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WHEN FLEAS DON'T FLEE By Nick Thomas

This has been an especially active year for fleas which have been particularly prolific across the country due to a warm, moist spring. And if you have dogs or cats, even if they mostly remain inside, fleas still somehow manage to hitch a ride and set up residence in your carpet and furniture.

So what's an itchy, frustrated homeowner to do? In extreme cases of infestation, chemical treatment of the house or pet may be necessary.

One product we found effective is Enforcer Flea Spray, available in the Wal-mart pet's section. After a population of fleas appeared to have set up their own country in one room of our house, the Enforcer wiped them out almost immediately. I have no problem with insect genocide.

In the case of pet treatment, this may include the use of flea collars, pills, or monthly medicine applied to the skin. Unfortunately, some of these products are proving to be ineffective this flea season.

Your next line of defense should be bathing. We have used Adams Flea & Tick Shampoo for Cats (also from Wal-mart), and it works well. Unfortunately it has one disadvantage: you have to shampoo the cat. While this generally presents few problems for dogs, cats are an entirely different matter.

Flea issues aside, many people incorrectly believe cats are like self-cleaning ovens and never need a good scrub down. It's an easy mistake to make. Just because your cousin Earl licks himself clean doesn't mean your

cat will have the same success, even if it can reach places Earl can't.

So occasional cat bathing is recommended, especially when there is a flea problem. But beware. Cats do have a habit of transforming from cute, fluffy, lovable fur balls into murderous biting-scratching demons when they hit the water.

Along these lines, wasn't it Einstein who once said she asked to explain relativity: "Sitting with a pretty girl can make 2 hours seem like 2 minutes; bathing a cat can make 2 minutes seem like 2 hours." Or words to that affect?

Here's how a typical attempt at cat bathing is likely to unfold:

Step 1: Find cat. This may be challenging, especially if the cat suspects a bath is imminent. Cats can be particularly resourceful when it comes to stealth tactics designed to avoid baths, so check behind the sofa, in the clothes dryer, up the chimney, in your neighbor's sock drawer, Mars.

Step 2: Place cat in sink. At this point, suddenly realizing you've forgotten the shampoo bottle, fetch it and return.

Step 3: Find cat and place in sink, again.

Step 4: Place cotton balls in cat's ears. This is not to prevent water getting in, but to avoid further frightening the cat from your screams.

Step 5: Pour warm, soapy water over cat.

Step 6: Remove cat from head, and return to sink. Reach for towel to wipe soap and blood from face (yours).



Step 7: Find cat.

Step 8: Return soapy, wet, howling, scratching cat to sink. Lather, rinse, towel dry and release.

Step 9: Call 911 and request blood transfusion. While waiting for ambulance, disinfect any area where excrement may have been deposited; also check if the cat left any.

Assuming you recover from the ordeal, let me also offer one additional method we have used to reduce rogue fleas in our home.

Place a candle in a large dish containing about a half inch of water with a squirt of detergent. Lay the pan on the floor in the room infected with fleas, and light the candle just before going to bed. The fleas, at least some of them, will be attracted to the heat, but fall into the soapy water and drown. Repeat for several nights. It works. Really.

But please note: neither the author nor this publication accepts any responsibility should someone in your house trip over the candle and set the sofa on fire, whilst fleeing from a recently bathed, vindictive cat.

Nick Thomas has written for more than 200 magazines and newspapers, including the Washington Post, LA Times, Chicago Tribune, Boston Globe, San Francisco Chronicle, and Christian Science Monitor. He can be reached at alongtheselines@yahoo.com

CANINES, CATS AND
CONS HEART-TO-HEART
'HEELING' HAPPENING
BEHIND BARS

It never ceases to amaze me what a positive impact animals have on human beings. I am convinced that God allowed the animals He created to become domesticated for a very specific purpose - to help us along in this life on earth. While humans like to consider themselves the superior species in the animal kingdom, I believe that we should be very careful in assuming we're "top dog" among all living things. I guess it depends upon how you define "superior", and upon what criteria you base the honor of that particularly important position.

These are just a few of the emotionally charged thoughts that came rushing like a tidal wave into my mind last week, while viewing a documentary about a prison dog program at Dixon Correctional Institute in Jackson, Louisiana. This dog rescue & training / prisoner rehabilitation program was born out of necessity when thousands of pets were inadvertently released or evacuated during the wake of hurricane Katrina. The story was so touching, I was compelled to seek out similar articles to feed my need to know more about how convicts are learning to 'love and let live' through intimate interaction with canines & cats in need. What I found was quite astounding, in terms of the positive results of inmates coming together with pets in prison. There are numerous such programs throughout the US, and in most cases statistics show that released prisoners who participated have gone on to live more productive lives than those who did not.

What enralls me most about the concept of having pet shelters in prisons, is that it demonstrates the universal structure and balance of symbiotic relationships between various species, and the important part those relationships play in forming a better future for all involved. The idea of prisoners caring for dogs and cats, who would otherwise be euthanized, makes total sense to me. Needy animals are getting the attention and, believe or not, even the training they desperately need, while inmates gain increased self-esteem by having the responsibility of caring for another being. Participating prisoners become very attached to the animals for which they are responsible, and upon release from prison many choose to pursue certifications required for gainful employment where they are able to help care for and train sheltered animals in preparation for placement in permanent homes.

Participation in prison animal shelter programs is a privilege limited strictly to inmates who prove themselves trustworthy enough to safely handle and care for the animals, and are willing to show them due respect. The program presents a strong incentive for prisoners to work hard at maintaining a record of good behavior, which helps with the rehabilitation of those who may otherwise become frustrated or angry and cause disruption. The inmates who benefit most from the program are those who truly wish to move onward and upward in life, rather than allowing themselves to become perpetual victims of the system, and in my opinion, that is indeed the epitome of a "win/win" situation!

The other beneficial side of the "cooperative canine, cat and con" coin, is the fact that the homeless animals that are placed in prison shelters typically receive excellent, closely monitored care and even obedience training that may or may not be granted in public animal shelters. While the SPCA, the Humane Society and several other animal rescue agencies work very hard to provide optimal treatment & sufficient time for placement, they are limited to minimal tax-paid and donated funding to carry out the task. In the case of most prison shelters, the inmates build and maintain the actual structures themselves, and in some cases the inmates are expected to cover part of the cost associated with owning a pet.

Dixon Correctional Institute is one of many prisons that have established pet shelter programs. Another one I was impressed with is called Operation Second Chance, sponsored by a partnership between the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Dept. and The Society of Humane Friends of Georgia. This program, which involves inmates working one on one with the animals and some becoming certified trainers, is made possible by volunteer efforts and pro-bono services provided by animal-loving pet professionals who believe in the idea of positive results coming from symbiotic relationships between inmates and animals.

Probably most unique among the prison pet programs I learned about is one in Alabama involving convicts who have been allowed to adopt the feral cats that were found roaming the premises, causing chaos for security officers around the perimeter of the prison. In that particular case, hand-picked trustworthy inmates, including some on death row, are allowed to keep cats in their cells, under the condition that they will accept responsibility for the cost to spay or neuter, and that they will feed and care for them. Remarkably, most of the inmates who have qualified for the program have followed through with their responsibilities as promised, and have become much more compliant with daily prison activities and have fostered a huge amount of affection for their pet, not to mention making it a well-known fact that you do not mess with another prisoner's cat!

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PET OF THE WEEK: Zigfried: Animal ID #A4459145

Meet Zigfried, a true ambassador for all canines (A4459145). Zigfried is a spectacular two year old black and brown male Collie/plush coat German Shepherd mix who was found in West Covina and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center on July 6th. Weighing seventy-three pounds, this dog is flawless - he walks well on the leash, sits on command, adores belly rubs and is undoubtedly housebroken. Great with other dogs, Zigfried would be a great playmate and guardian for kids. Zigfried is an amazing dog who will be the perfect indoor pet for an active individual or family living in a private home. To watch a video of Zigfried please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTID8dA2Q3A



To meet Zigfried 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 Zigfried, please reference his animal ID number: A4459145. 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 Zigfried 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/>.



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Gary R. White, DVM

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



One of the Best Views in LA! 270 Degree Vistas from Magnificent Contemporary Estate

If you're looking for that breathtaking wow factor for your home, this 2006-built estate, high above Annandale Golf Course in the San Rafael Hills, commands your consideration. Listing agent, Tink Cheney chuckles that real estate is often known for its overuse of superlatives, yet this property delivers on all the lavish adjectives that are applied. "The views are simply intoxicating, and pull you to them from

every room," she commented, "even in the laundry and the master bath shower."

The views span nearly 270 degrees, combining panoramic San Gabriel Mountain views, with downtown Pasadena and City Hall, JPL, the skyline into downtown LA, Dodger Stadium and out to the Pacific Ocean and Catalina Island beyond. "The Rose Bowl, located below the home, feels almost as if you are peeking into it from the Goodyear Blimp," reflected Cheney.

The Architect, Steve Eide, Landscape Architect, Phil May, and General Contractor, Richard Smith of At Homes, Inc., created a true synergy of design, materials, workmanship and execution for this extraordinary home.

The home's sleek lines and soaring ceilings all in 5,073 square foot feature minimal frames around dramatic walls of glass, creating "framed" works of art. The interior walls, particularly in the stunning two story living room, provide a perfect backdrop for large scale artwork and sculpture.

Perched atop one of the highest addresses in Pasadena, the "V" shape of the home both draws one in toward the front doors from the exterior and creates a continuum of views, expanding out like the wings of the structure.

Functionality and beauty have been married seamlessly, for instance, the dramatic entry court presents scale and presence while providing parking for up to ten automobiles. The motor court could also accommodate extended outdoor entertaining.

The fluid floorplan was designed to bring the outdoors in; the expansive formal living and dining room, the spectacular casual living area with a family room and media center and the sleek gourmet kitchen and casual dining area all open to the back patio and views, views, views.

The four bedrooms include one suite on the main level, with three additional bedrooms upstairs, including the master. The master suite, occupying more than half of the second floor square footage, includes a spacious bedroom, a spectacular bath with deep soaking tub and private, hilltop views. A home office has two work areas, and multiple balconies with glass surrounds allow outdoor access upstairs.

A second floor gallery overlook surrounds the perimeter of the two story living room, ringing it in the rich cherry hues of the walls of shelves and cabinets for books, display and storage.

The materials are extraordinary in their quality as well as their application. The extensive use of slate flooring provides an elegant, yet earthy foundation for the first floor. The cabinetry throughout is cherry hardwood, complemented in many places by sleek slab granite counters. Outside, the curved edge of the infinity pool reflects the sky, merging horizon with the pool water. A raised spa provides a place for relaxation and enjoyment of the views. A built in barbecue, finished in slate, mirrors the use of the slate indoors.



Consummate privacy and security are provided through the private gate leading to five estates on this exclusive drive; another automatic gate further secures this property.

Constructed in 2006, extensive use of technology has been implemented, offering security, sound, home automation and lighting control systems for added enjoyment and environmental control.

1525 Glen Oaks Boulevard in Pasadena is offered by Tink Cheney of Coldwell Banker at \$3,488,000. For more photos and information about the property, visit www.1525GlenOaks.com. Cheney can be reached at 626- 233-2938.



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou Realtor®

DON'T GIVE IT AWAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GIVE SUMMER STRESSED PLANTS A HELPING HAND

By MELINDA MYERS / Gardening expert & TV/radio host

Don't let summer stressors ruin your landscape's good looks. Instead give your plants' natural defenses a boost and keep both vegetable gardens producing and flowers blooming.

Busy summer schedules can lead to plant neglect and less-than-picture-perfect gardens. When you team this with summer heat and drought that can lead to wilting, brown leaves, and poor growth, and add insects and diseases that can further weaken and damage plants, gardens can really suffer.

An exciting new organic tool for gardeners is now available to help. Plant strengtheners, like JAZ sprays, help boost plants' natural defenses so they are better able to deal with environmental stress, neglect, as well as insects and disease attacks.

Scientists found that when plants experienced stress from drought, temperature extremes, insects or diseases they produced certain molecules that activated their natural defenses. They isolated these molecules, applied them to other plants, and found that the treated plants were better able to tolerate stress.

Plant strengtheners contain such molecules that increase natural defenses in plants. One such family of molecules is the jasmonates, originally identified in the jasmine plant, that increases hundreds of natural defense molecules in treated plants. Some of the natural defenses make the plants more resistant to pathogens and others help reduce damage from drought, heat and salt.

While proper care can help increase a plant's natural defenses, plant strengtheners give them an extra boost to help plants thrive even during periods of environmental stress. These organic products act like vitamins or immunizations, helping plants deal with extreme and often unpredictable weather, pest, and disease challenges.

You can even keep healthy plants performing their best by proactively using a plant strengthener. By doing so, you'll boost a plant's immune system before environmental stresses hit and ultimately help it thrive as it faces serious challenges throughout the remainder of the season. It's a great way to protect plants before they become threatened.

Make sure to give your plants proper care throughout their lifetime. Water thoroughly and as needed. Then mulch the soil surrounding your plants with shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or other organic materials. These conserve moisture, keep roots cool and moist, suppress weeds, and improve the soil as they break down.

And, if your plants experience the same problems each year, it is time to make a change. Move stressed plants to more suitable growing conditions. Match the plant to the light, soil, and moisture it prefers. Replace diseased plants with resistant varieties and provide proper care.

By taking these steps and investing a bit of time and energy you'll be sure to create a beautiful, healthy and productive landscape.

Editor's note: 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



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The Book Report

By Jeff Brown

AGENT GARBO: THE BRILLIANT, ECCENTRIC SECRET AGENT WHO TRICKED HITLER AND SAVED D-DAY by Stephan Talty

Were the D-Day landings saved from failure because of a lone secret agent? Agent Garbo tells the astonishing story of a self-made secret agent who matched wits with the best minds of the Third Reich and won. Juan Pujol was a nobody, a Barcelona poultry farmer determined to oppose the Nazis. Using only his gift for daring falsehoods, Pujol became Germany's most valued agent, or double agent: it took four tries before the British believed he was really on the Allies' side. In the guise of Garbo, Pujol turned in a masterpiece of deception worthy of his big-screen namesake. He created an imaginary million-man army, invented armadas out of thin air, and brought a vast network of fictional subagents whirring to life. His unwitting German handlers believed every word, and banked on Garbo's lies as their only source of espionage within Great Britain. For his greatest performance, Pujol had to convince the German High Command that the D-Day invasion of Normandy was a feint and the real attack was aimed at Calais. The Nazis bought it, turning the tide of battle at the crucial moment. Based on years of archival research and interviews with Pujol's family, Agent Garbo is a true life thriller set in the shadow world of espionage and deception.

FOOLING HOUDINI: MAGICIANS, MENTALISTS, MATH GEEKS, AND THE HIDDEN POWERS OF THE MIND by Alex Stone

When Alex Stone was five years old, his father bought him a magic kit, a gift that would spark a life-long love. Years later, while living in New York City, he discovered a vibrant underground magic scene exploding with creativity and innovation and populated by a fascinating cast of characters: from his gruff mentor, who holds court in the back of a rundown pizza shop, to one of the world's greatest card cheats, who also happens to be blind. Captivated, he plunged headlong into this mysterious world, eventually competing at the Magic Olympics and training with great magicians around the globe to perfect his craft. From the back rooms of New York City's century-old magic societies to cutting-edge psychology labs; three-card monte on Canal Street to glossy Las Vegas casinos; Fooling Houdini recounts Stone's quest to join the ranks of master magicians. As he navigates this quirky and occasionally hilarious subculture, Stone pulls back the curtain on a community shrouded in secrecy, fueled by obsession and brilliance, and organized around a single overriding need: to prove one's worth by deceiving others. But his journey is more than a tale of tricks, gigs, and geeks. In trying to understand how expert magicians manipulate our minds to create their astonishing illusions, Stone uncovers a wealth of insight into human nature and the nature of perception. Every turn leads to questions about how the mind perceives the world and processes everyday experiences. By investigating some of the lesser-known corners of psychology, neuroscience, physics, history, and even crime, all through the lens of trickery and illusion, Fooling Houdini arrives at a host of startling revelations about how the mind works and why, sometimes, it doesn't.



SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

Review By Sean Kayden

OVERLOOKED ALBUMS OF 2012

Thus far 2012 has been a rather surprising year for music on the indie side of things. "Bloom" from Beach House and "Mixed Emotions" from Tanlines are superb memorable records. Eight and a Half, Memoryhouse, Suckers, and DIIV all came out with solid albums from top to bottom. There are still a number of bands releasing records sometime this year that I'm truly excited about, such as Band of Horses, Minus The Bear, Heavenly Beat, and Wild Nothing. However, there are a few compilations that I didn't get the opportunity to review, but are very well worth checking out. I've discovered three records that were either better than perceived by critics or just became lost in the shuffle with bigger releases surrounding them. Nonetheless, we've got a little bit of everything in musical style with the groups on this list.

Lemonade – "Diver" – Lemonade's sound is indie electronic with a dash of R&B. This isn't a mainstream R&B offering as seeing how Lemonade blows most well known artists in that realm out of the water. Slick vocals, dance-infused beats, and entirely contagious throughout, "Diver" is sleeper hit in need of being woken up by the masses. Lemonade brings the party in almost every track and there is just something simply amazing about the band's overall artistry. With balancing slow 90s inspired jams with hints of 80s pop and modern day comparisons, Lemonade isn't just here for the R&B lover, but those seeking a good time no matter what environment they may be in.

Zulu Winter – "Language" – The debut album from Arts & Crafts signed band, Zulu Winter is at times very good. It's no surprise since Arts & Crafts have quite a few established artists on their roster. The London lads' often beautifully arranged songs off "Language" are generally better than most of what you'll find in the seemingly endless pursuit of English bands trying to make a splash stateside. While not always faultless, Zulu Winter performs multi-layered tracks that are spectacularly inventive and smashingly original. They demonstrate a great amount of creativity in a relatively small offering. The closing track, "People That You Must Remember" ranks high up as being one of the premier songs 2012 has graced us with. If that song could be a person, it would always be, no matter the situation, the coolest person in the room. That's what that song embodies, a cool factor that's beyond comprehension. Saying too cool for school wouldn't even suffice.

Vacationer – "Gone" – Laidback, wonderfully invigorating, and downright amiable, Vacationer has a sound that's simply terrific. Their music has this sort of welcoming characteristic. If you give it a chance, it'll sweep you off your feet. Vacationer is fronted by former pop-punk frontman Kenny Vasoil, from the band The Starting Line. He's definitely changed up his style and has matured from his teen angst driven days. One of the tracks off "Gone" entitled "Dreamlike" floats so fluently with its divine sound. It's entirely easy listening music on any given day of the week. The indie-pop genre may have a lot of competition in the field, but Vacationer's debut record has heart. A tremendous amount of heart is hard to come by these days, but when you find it in something such as this, don't turn your back away from it because it truly deserves your utmost attention. I promise, if you give Vacationer your attention, your time will not be wasted by any means possible.

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Fritz Coleman on a Sunday Afternoon

Sunday, July 22 at 2:30pm

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Fritz Coleman

On a Sunday Afternoon
at Sierra Madre Playhouse
July 22 at 2:30pm

Join a comedian's favorite weatherman for an afternoon of laughter with special guests The Bornstein Experiment

Reservations: (626) 355-4318
Online at: www.sierramadrepalyhouse.org

HOW TO PICK AN ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE

Dear Savvy Senior:

Can you give me some tips on picking a good assisted living facility for my mother? Her health has declined to the point that she can't live alone anymore but isn't ready for a nursing home either.

Need Assistance



Dear Need: If your mother needs some assistance with daily living activities like bathing or getting dressed, managing her medications, preparing meals, housekeeping, laundry or just getting around, an assisted living facility is definitely a good option to consider.

Assisted living facilities are residential communities that offer different levels of health or personal care services for seniors who want or need help with daily living.

While there's no standard blueprint for how they're constructed, an assisted living facility may be part of a retirement community or nursing home, or they may stand alone. Most communities have between 25 and 125 suites, varying in size from a single room to a full apartment. And some even offer special memory care units for residents with dementia. Here are some simple steps you can take to help you find a good facility.

Make a list: Start by calling your Area Agency on Aging (call 800-677-1116 or visit www.elder-care.gov for contact information) for a list of assisted living facilities in the area. You can also do a search online at senior housing locator sites like snapforseniors.com, or check your local yellow pages under "senior housing" or "assisted living."

Call your ombudsman: This is a government official who investigates long-term care facility complaints and advocates for residents and their families. This person can help you find the latest health inspection reports on specific assisted living facilities, and can tell you which ones have had complaints or other problems. To find your local ombudsman, call your area aging agency or see ltombudsman.org.

Call the facilities: Once you've narrowed your search, call the facilities you're interested in to find out if they have any vacancies, what they charge and if they provide the types of services your mother needs.

Tour your top choices: During your visit, notice the cleanliness and smell of the facility. Is it homely and inviting? Does the staff seem responsive and kind to its residents? Also be sure to taste the food, and talk to the residents and their family members, if available. It's also a good idea to visit several times at different times of the day and different days of the week to get a broader perspective.

Also, find out about staff screening (do they do background checks) and training procedures, and what percentage of their staff leaves each year. Less than 30 percent annually is considered good. More than 50 percent is a red flag. To help you rate your visit, the Assisted Living Federation of America offers a handy checklist at alfa.org/checklist.

Assisted Living Costs

Since Medicare does not cover assisted living, paying for this type of housing is another area you may have questions about or need assistance with. Monthly costs for assisted living ranges anywhere from \$2,000 to \$5,000 or more, depending on where you live, the facility you choose and the services provided. Most residents pay out-of-pocket from their own personal funds, and some have long-term care insurance policies.

If, however, your mom is lower-income and can't afford this, there are some states that have Medicaid waiver programs that help pay for assisted living. Or, if she's a veteran, spouse or surviving spouse of a vet, she may be able to get funds through the VA's Aid and Attendance benefit. To find out about these programs, ask the assisted living facility director, or contact her local Medicaid office (call 800-633-4227 for contact information) or regional VA office (800-827-1000).

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

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

JULY ACTIVITIES

Senior Programs have returned to the Hart Park House enior 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.

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 and more. **Wii** - 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. Please call for more information.

Fridays: Intervale Lunch Café; daily reservations needed 355-0256
1:00 pm to 1:45 pm: *Strength Training* with Lisa Brandley. FREE class of stretching with light hand weights while you sit.

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

2012 EXCURSIONS

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

July Birthdays



Anthony Gheezo, Joanne Gheezo, Betty Hansen, Beverly Turko, Vivian Abrams, Shahrzad Arzani, Eunice Banis, Cindy Barnard, Christine Durfort, Dorothy Montgomery, Beth Pancoska, Janet Swanson, Linda Thunes, Barbara Watson,



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.)

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



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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 Library

AARP Safe Driving Class
The 55 Alive/Mature Driving class is taking place on June 26th & 27th starting at 9 am to 1 pm at the Community Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre. If you are interested in taking this class, please contact the Community Services Department at (626) 355-5278 to reserve your space. This class requires a minimum of 8 participants to run so pre-registration is required. Most insurance companies honor this class certificate by discounting insurance rates. Class fee is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members; collected by AARP the first day of class.

HEALTH & FITNESS

HAVING FUN WHILE GETTING FIT

(NAPSI)—If you want to become more active—and have fun at the same time—why not start the party by playing the latest dance and fitness games?

The new releases offer some great options for getting your moves on.

For example, you can dance along to the biggest hits that made The Black Eyed Peas into a global phenomenon in "The Black Eyed Peas Experience."

The game lets you perform alongside apl.de.ap, Fergie, Taboo and will.i.am with professional choreography designed exclusively for the group. It includes all the record-breaking hits from "The Beginning," "The E.N.D.," "Monkey Business" and "Elephunk."

With the ability to play with up to four friends at once, "The Black Eyed Peas Experience" is the ultimate way to get the party started in your own living room.

If you want to revolutionize your workout routine, try "Your Shape: Fitness Evolved 2012," sequel to the No. 1 fitness game on Kinect. The game includes over 90 hours of activities and 60 new exercises and workout classes.

Players can follow new workout routines, choose from a selection of classes including dance, yoga and sports training, or play fun games like jump rope and cardio boxing. A new feature called Run the World allows players to virtually run through the streets of New York or London.

When all is said and done, sometimes you want to "Just Dance." Fortunately, the world's No. 1 dance brand game is back and the party is better than ever. The new "Just Dance 3" for Kinect and Wii gives a new twist to the already spontaneous and outrageous dance game.

The game features over 40 tracks from multiple genres and popular artists, including "Party Rock Anthem" by LMFAO, "California Gurls" by Katy Perry featuring Snoop Dogg, and "Forget You" by Cee Lo Green.

Not only does the game include everyone's favorite game modes, like Just Sweat and Dance Mash-ups, but for the first time, you can bust your moves with four players simultaneously.

The brand-new Just Create mode lets players choreograph and record their own dance routines right into the game.

For more information, visit www.ubi.com.

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Now you can lose up to 3 pounds a week (7-lbs in the first week) with a cutting edge, all-natural (all-natural) weight-loss method that will have your hormones burning fat like a teenager again. Don't throw away those old jeans!

CALL NOW FOR YOU FREE WEIGHT-LOSS CONSULTATION

Dr. Theresa L. Smith (D.C.) of Sierra Madre is offering a free weight-loss consultation (\$50 value) in which she will determine how quickly and easily you can lose the weight *you* desire.

Call (626) 355-2626 for your free appointment.

This is a limited offer. Calls are taken on a first come, first served basis.

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BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



DOES NONPROFIT MEAN NON-COMPLIANCE? OR BAD PRACTICES IN THE NAME OF GOOD CAUSES

It is no longer shocking to hear of news reports about fraud and the misappropriation of funds in corporate America. However, it is shocking and even more disappointing to hear of nonprofit organizations that operate outside of the boundaries of ethical business practices.

How is it possible for some nonprofits to establish a pattern of unethical practices while continuing to raise funds from the public? Simple, their leaders have become experts with the “smoke and mirrors” process. The “worthy cause” provides the sufficient tugging at the heartstrings of donors who want to be a part of helping out, giving back, making the community better. The “feel good” aspect of helping those less fortunate provides the perfect distraction to forestall the public asking basic questions that would serve to establish a healthy baseline of accountability for nonprofits.

Unethical practices begin with what seems to be minor decisions that are in

conflict with established laws, guidelines or principles. The practices evolve into habits until they become engrained into the organization’s culture. One of the first red flags is waved when decisions, actions and program outcomes are not aligned with the agency’s own mission statement. Beyond reciting the mission statement at public events and printing in on the agency’s website, do the agency’s interactions with its staff align with its mission? If an agency purports to care for and serve low-income clients to help them build better lives, yet has no problem paying full-time staff at or near poverty-level wages, add another red flag. It is impossible to do for clients what they are unwilling to do on behalf of their own staff serving their clients.

Some executive directors expect paid staff to “volunteer” beyond normal working hours on a routine basis. Their position of power and authority places them in a role to decide the employment fate of nonprofit employers who have to earn a living. Expectations that staff are obligated to go “above and beyond,” often translates into unpaid overtime as a requirement. Compliance is often gained through intimidation, however subtle. This practice is a blatant violation of labor law, as well as an added insult to employees who work in the nonprofit sector where the average wages

for virtually all categories of jobs are lower than the same or similar positions in the government or for-profit sector.

Agencies that accept grants or contracts from government entities are required to demonstrate and report on both the activities and outcomes of the funds received. This requirement for public funds don’t constitute a perfect system for accountability, but much more reliable than the lax standard and common practice of self-reporting required by most private foundations and individual donors. The lack of accountability systems is particularly true for smaller organizations. As a rule of thumb, agencies that operate with government funding on a routine basis have more standardized systems and procedures in place to provide detailed tracking and accounting for all monies spent. The most pervasive violations are usually found in agencies that rely exclusively or heavily on grants from private foundations, since self-reporting is virtually all that’s required by most of these funders.

The manner in which staff are treated and the level of transparency surrounding an agency’s financial activities reveal volumes about the integrity of the organization and its top leadership team.



OMG! OH MY GOSH DID YOU KNOW..... By Patricia Richardson, M.B.A

QuickBooks has always provided power users with behind-the-scenes shortcuts to save keystrokes and mouse clicks. Now all end-users will enjoy icon/menu-based timesavers, as well as prompts to have QuickBooks do the otherwise tedious and repetitive work for them.

This year the Memorized Transactions function has been improved. Upon opening a data file you will now see a pop up window that lists memorized transactions that are due. As the user you can now select or deselect specific transactions to be entered automatically. If one or more memorized transactions are not chosen to be entered at the time, the following window will pop up: “Enter Memorized Transactions Later” – this message indicates that the memorized transactions will be available upon the next login into your company file.

Also new this year is an expanded frequency list for Memorized Transactions that allows users to select the frequency for automatic transaction entries (i.e. never, daily, weekly, or or every-other month). These enhancements to Memorized Transactions allow users to select which automatic transactions to enter. Prior to this improvement, it was “all or nothing.” For example, consider a scenario at the beginning of the month if you apply the Memorized Invoices function for 105 rental properties; this updated function will allow you to generate the complete list of rentals to review. If a tenant has moved and you don’t want to create that particular invoice, you can deselect it and create only the invoices that you need. QuickBooks creates them all at once based upon the memorized information.

...On another note the IRS Offers Tips for Safeguarding Tax Records

IRS Special Edition Tax Tip 2012-10, June 11, 2012

Hurricane season has started and the IRS encourages individuals and businesses to safeguard their tax records against natural disasters by taking a few simple steps. Here are four tips from the IRS to help you prepare in case a disaster strikes.

1. Backup records electronically: Taxpayers

should keep a set of backup records in a safe place away from the original set. Keeping a backup set of records, bank statements, tax returns, insurance policies, etc. is easier now that most financial institutions provide statements and documents electronically. Even if the original record is available only on paper, it can be scanned into an electronic format. With documents in electronic form, taxpayers can download them to a portable backup storage device such as an external hard drive, CD or DVD that can be transported easily in the event of an untimely evacuation.

2. Document valuables: Taxpayers should photograph or videotape the contents of their homes, especially items of higher value. A photographic record can help an individual prove the market value of items for insurance and casualty loss claims. Photos should be stored at another offsite location. To document your valuables, the IRS has a disaster loss workbook, Publication 584, Casualty, Disaster and Theft Loss Workbook, which can help taxpayers compile a room-by-room list of belongings.

3. Update Emergency Plans: Emergency plans should be reviewed at least once a year. Personal and business situations change over time, as do preparedness needs. When employers hire new employees or when a company changes functions, plans should be updated and employees should be informed.

4. IRS Ready to Help: If a disaster strikes, affected taxpayers can call 1-866-562-5227 to speak with IRS specialists trained to handle disaster-related issues. Taxpayers can request copies of previously-filed tax returns by filing Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return. Taxpayers can also request transcripts showing most tax return line items by logging on at IRS.gov, by calling 1-800-908-9946 or by using Form 4506T-EZ, Short Form Request for Individual Tax Return Transcript or Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Return.

More information on preparing for disasters can be found at IRS.gov. Forms and publications can be downloaded at IRS.gov or ordered by calling 1-800-829-3676

Patricia Richardson the owner of Monrovia Computerized Business Service and is a local accountant, educator and trainer working to help business owners realize their business mission and vision by empowering them with tools and training in areas that may not be their core competency. For additional information, e-mail: pattir@qbworkshop.com.

Social Media

Tips & Tricks

By Merri Jill Finstrom

“Meet and greet” plus “friend and tweet” equals relationship marketing

I love the new social media tools but I don’t think they can ever replace the magic that happens at a live event or an in-person meeting. Truly, that is the only real opportunity to experience the personality behind the brand. I think today’s relationship marketing is a mix of old school “meet and greet” with new school “friend and tweet.”

Sometimes a successful social media presence begins off-line. The purpose of a networking event is to help you build a “network” of people with whom you exchange ideas, refer business, share knowledge, etc. Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn are simply the most commonly-used communication tools that help keep you connected to continue those off-line conversations. Meet off-line, stay connected on-line.

Here are two ideas to help you build a social media presence off-line:

Focus on building a quality network of people when you attend networking events Strike up conversations with like-minded people and those with whom you’d like to stay connected. Ask them if they would like to stay in touch on-line through Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn or whatever tool you choose.

Create your own event or host an event Join forces with a local chamber, non-profit or other business and host a networking or educational event. Bring people together, create a sense of community and exchange ideas. For example, my business, HUTdogs, has partnered with lots of businesses that want to reach other local business owners. They provide the space; we provide the presentation and bring in the people. We have held our social media seminars at interesting business locations like an indoor batting cage in Monrovia (Grand Slam), at Arjay’s Window Fashions in Ventura, The Santa Anita Race Track, Chambers of Commerce, libraries and the 300 Pasadena Bowling venue. Hosting an event is great exposure for a business or non-profit. It helps build your “know,” “like” and “trust” factors and creates good word of mouth.

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

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

Join us for a live event in Pasadena
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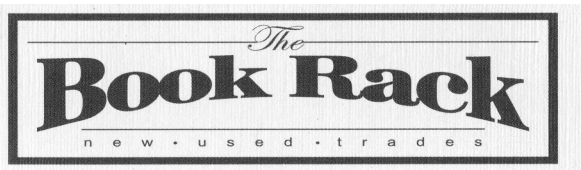


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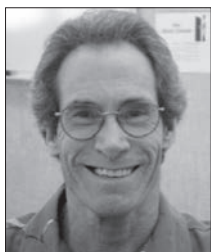
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Mountain Views News Mission Statement
The traditions of the community newspaper and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the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

HAIL Hamilton My Turn

AN EPIPHANY

.....a moment of clarity



Recently I had an epiphany, or what I prefer to call a moment of Clarity. A moment of clarity is when you suddenly get a deep understanding of some truth that's been out of reach for you. When your vision becomes unclouded and focused by a mad rush of what has been called an epiphany or revelation. People suffering from addictions use this phrase to refer to a moment when they are not being effected by their substance and can "see" or understand clearly the nature of their problem and finally realize the need to stop and get help.

My moment of clarity had nothing to do substance abuse, or any other kind of negative behavior. My epiphany was about my perspective on life and the priorities I had been setting for those things most dear to me, especially my family. Those of you who know me personally know that I am the father of three children, two teenage sons and an older step-daughter (she calls me "dad" so I claim her as my own) who is about to make me a grandfather. I have a beautiful wife who, besides being my best friend and soul-mate, is a wonderful mother.

I mention all this because about 5 weeks ago I learned I had a serious health condition that, if it had continued to have gone on undetected, could very well have cost me my life. I was having severe weakness and pain in my left leg and knee. This had been going on for nearly four years with no end in sight. I could no longer run or surf. The worst thing was nobody could tell me what was causing the problem. Well, finally, my doctor ordered an MRI of my lower back to see if a slipped or crushed disk could be pinching a nerve to my leg. The MRI clearly showed some serious age-related spine misalignment and disk damage. But it showed something more.

The MRI showed that I had a huge agate-sized kidney stone in my right kidney. To make matters worse my kidney had swollen to three times its normal size. Surprisingly, I had no warning symptoms whatsoever about the seriousness of my condition -- no lower back pain, no fever, no painful urination. It was just dumb luck that the stone was discovered at all. My doctor said had it not been discovered, my very enlarged kidney could have burst. The consequences of which could have been catastrophic. It still makes me shudder to think of what could have happened.

Now here's where the moment of clarity -- or epiphany -- comes in. Five weeks later and on the mend I have been forced to rethink my life and what really is important. The thought of never seeing my two boys grow up, get married and have families of their own is beyond my meager mental abilities to grasp. The thought of having missed the birth of my grandchild and seeing the pride and joy in the faces of my daughter and her husband is too heart-wrenching to contemplate. But most of all, dying without being able to tell my wife one last time how much I love her brings tears to my eyes as I write this.

My dad once told me, after I and three high school friends walked away unscathed from a terrible auto accident: "Someone up there is watching your back, Hail... You must have a guardian angel looking out for you." Sometimes when I consider the things I've survived during my lifetime I wonder if my dad hadn't been on to something. Call it dumb luck, fate, whatever... but the fact is, I'm still alive. However, this last brush with death has made me realize how truly blessed my life has been. It has given me new meaning to the age-old riddle that has plagued humankind since man first stood upright and gazed up at the stars: "Where do I come from, where am I going, and most importantly, how long do I have?"

RICH Johnson

ARMENIAN IDENTITY FESTIVAL 2010



If you find yourself at Pasadena's Victory Park on Sunday, July 22nd, you'll be in the perfect spot, particularly if you are there from 11:00 to 7:00 pm.

Why? You will be there celebrating the 5th Annual Armenian Identity Festival.

No, you don't have to prove Armenian identity to get in. Being a member of the Western (or Eastern) Hemisphere qualifies you for free entrance AND free parking.

I have personally had the pleasure of good Armenian friends since I was a wee lad of 19. And I can tell you that Armenian's have a rich heritage and culture. And they would love to share that culture with us.

There will be music, activities, art, dancing, food and much more. A special word on the cuisine: Corfu Restaurant of Sierra Madre will be offering delicious chicken kebab meals and gyros sandwiches. That's Mediterranean cuisine at it's best.

For the younger generation there will be crafts, games, fire safety, and even a petting zoo. For the less than younger generation there will be live music, vendor booths and yes, a raffle with two great prizes: One lucky raffer will win a beautiful gold necklace and another raffer will leave with 4 great tickets to the 2013 Rose Bowl.

This festival is also celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the first printed Armenian Book. That's right, in 1512 the first Armenian book was published in Venice, Italy. This began a rich heritage of Armenian books. Showcased will be five to ten of these priceless printed classics on display at the Festival. The oldest book is from the 1600s.

The event is sponsored by the Armenian Community Coalition of Pasadena, and the Armenian Identity Harvest. Come celebrate as our Armenian community partners with Pasadena to make this festival meaningful to the community. Sunday, July 22, 2012 from 12:

Shameless Plug #37: The band I have the pleasure of performing with, JJJukebox, is playing in August in Memorial Park (next to City Hall). Please put Sunday evening, August 12th on your calendars. From 6:00 to 8:00 pm yours truly will be performing with a very talented group of musicians. We will be sharing fun classic rock and roll songs from the 1960s and 1970s. In addition to John, Paul, George...I mean Barry, Steve, Mike and Rich, we have invited three wonderfully vivacious gals (and great singers) to help class us up. Amy Kafkaloff will be performing a couple vintage Jefferson Airplane songs, Lisa Bowman will wow us with "These Boots Are Made For Walking" and one other "secret" 1960s girls group song. And local singer/songwriter Jane Fuller will mix in a classic rock song or two with an original song or two.

Kiwanis and the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library are the wonderful sponsors of this concert. So please join us, Sunday, August 12th, from 6-8pm.

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE THE PIECES ALL FIT TOGETHER



This weekend my family and I paid the outrageous price required in Old Town to view a movie starring a six-year old girl. Really, it was nice to see a film that actually had people in it who were not dressed up in space-suits or shooting rockets at one another. Of course there were some computer-generated (at least I hope they were computer-generated) prehistoric horned giant-pig like creatures, "aurochs". They are sort of imaginary creatures that clarify our hopes and fears and act as a kind of guide as we go through life.

Anyway this six year old girl, Hushpuppy, lives a pretty tough life in the backwaters of the Southern Deltas. She wonders if in a hundred or two hundred years anyone will remember that there once lived a little girl named Hushpuppy living with her daddy in this kind of forgotten place called the Bathub. She imagines that if any one remembers her, they will probably wonder how things got the way they got to be. She explains to these future people that everything is connected and all the pieces fit together and are caused by, and cause, all the other pieces.

This perspective, which is popularly called the "butterfly effect", popped into my head as I wondered what people a hundred or two hundred years from now would think about our current generation. I mean, assuming there still are people existing on this planet a couple of future centuries from now, won't they wonder how we all could be so stupid and short-sighted? For a pretty long while now, I continue to worry about the state of this planet and its semi-sentient human inhabitants. Everyone talks about economic hardship but all responsible economic statistics show that this is a time of unmatched corporate wealth. Our biggest corporations are just stuffed with money, but they are just sitting on these piles of wealth and doing nothing to create jobs that might benefit the rest of us.

The most profitable corporations are the oil companies of the world, which continue to benefit from ever-increasing global addiction to fossil fuels that blow carbon into the atmosphere. The current heat wave makes it easier for all of us to believe in the horror of global warming, or climate change depending on your political preference. No matter what you call it, our planet's habitability will end unless there is some sort of global mobilization to radically change our carbon consumption along with a whole lot of other necessary adjustments.

It's not just the destruction of our entire civilization that disturbs me; it's that most people are just too busy to care very much about it. Really that's what people say when I try and talk about the terrifying predictions of the future that inhabit my dreams and waking life as well. "What has the future ever done for me?" "It's just survival of the fittest" "I'm too busy to think about that and anyway it depresses me." "Anyway, what can one person do?"

Well, to understand we need only follow little Hushpuppy's advice. Remember? All the pieces fit together, but all these pieces are subject to certain laws. I actually was exposed to a couple of these laws or processes in College Political Science class. Every organization is subject to the "Iron Law of Oligopoly" which inevitably results in the creation and perpetuation within an organization of an elite class which rules. This small leadership group has interests very different from the rest of the membership of the organization and continually works to maintain and increase its power. No matter the original ideals of the group, there occurs a manipulation by the elite of everyone else for their own benefit. All else is a façade.

How do the elite fool everyone into acting against their self interest and for the benefit of the leadership? Recently, I have read a little about the father of Public Relations, Edward Bernays. This man, Sigmund Freud's nephew no less, taught the use of psychological manipulation - propaganda is probably a better term - for the purpose of governing minds, forming tastes, and suggesting ideas such that a small elite could prosper to the detriment of everyone else. Stalin and Hitler and Richard Nixon were diligent practitioners of Bernays' methods, as are the present leaders of the corporate world. The rest of us are the victims.

So, Hushpuppy, maybe it's all inevitable. Our corporate rulers have made our lives so busy and diverted us with concerns about money, our local sports teams, baldness and wrinkles, sexual prowess and the need for narcotic or alcoholic escape - that we're incapable of doing much to save ourselves. Pretty soon the 1% might notice that it is in their own elitist interest to save the planet and our specie. Watching Mitt Romney's ever-changing positions over the past year, it's difficult to believe that he cares about anything but the gain of increased power. Well, as the late Kurt Vonnegut wrote, "So it goes!"

OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO OLD-FASHIONED SPANKINGS?



Sometimes watching the news on television gets rather disparaging. Now that we have 24/7 news, not only can we see the news any time we want to, but we can see it over and over and

over again. It is particularly disheartening when there is a "slow" news day. I think all of us can remember O.J. Simpson's mad race down a Los Angeles highway.

I can remember the good old days when Uncle Walter brought us up to speed on the day's news inside of a 30-minute program. Oh, for those good old days.

Never has an American generation been exposed to so much and knows so little for so short a time.

This all came to me recently when the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I were watching the news after our evening repast. I think it was the 9,999 time this particular news story had been played. Of course, we do not watch television that often and so we may only have seen a very short portion. The short portion that we saw was just about enough and my wife said so.

It was the news story, if you remember, of the bus lady who was bullied by children. "I think those children," my wife said and then paused while she grit her teeth violently, "need a good old-fashioned spanking." And with that, she crossed her arms and set her face in a defiant manner. Luckily, I was not one of those children or I would have received the intentions of her mind at that point.

Her comment got me to thinking. There was a time, back in "the day," when spankings were rather normal. Someone once said that if you saw a young boy on the street you should stop what you're doing and give him a good spanking because he was either coming from trouble or headed for trouble. Raising children then was a community affair. I am not sure that ever took place, but it does have an authentic ring to it.

I semi-fondly remember when I was a youngster I had the heebie-jeebies whaled out of me by my father on a regular basis. And I can testify that I have not missed those heebie-jeebies. My life is better for not having them.

Watching the video about the kids bullying that bus lady, I could not help but think that they were a rather spoiled bunch of little brats. Pardon my French. I think I would have taken it one step further than my wife. Not only do those youngsters need a good old-fashioned spanking but I think their parents do as well. Kids today are only a mirror of what they see and hear at home.

When I was young, the only spoiled brats around were the children of the rich folk. They could afford to be spoiled brats because their parents with their money bought their way into society. The only thing those kids ever earned was a bad reputation and disdain from the rest of us. The rest of us, having gone through the spanking rituals, could not afford to be spoiled brats. Good parents made sure of that.

I think of what my father use to say. "Son, I'm going to take this Board of Education and apply it to the seat of your learning." I can testify that he was very enthusiastic about his job. With all that education, I have had multiple degrees on my posterior. Even to this day, every time I sit down I am reminded of that education.

This "Board of Education" that my father was superintendent of, always hung by the door. Being the religious person that my father was, he had printed on this "Board of Education" the phrase from a favorite hymn, "I Need Thee Every Hour." It was a motto he lived up to all the years of my boyhood.

I often prayed my father would get weary of exercising that "Board," but I must confess that my naughtiness wearied long before he did. Looking back, I am grateful.

I will not go as far as to say that I am a good person, only that I am not a spoiled brat. I have learned through the years, thanks to the energy of my father, to extend courtesy to everybody around me and be respectful.

Respecting other people is not something that comes naturally. Everybody needs to be taught that everybody deserves respect. Some people have earned more respect than others, I grant you. However, nobody deserves deliberate disrespect like those kids gave that bus lady.

With all the studies are being done through our governmental grant programs, I wonder why nobody has ever, at least to my knowledge, done a study on the importance of discipline in the home.

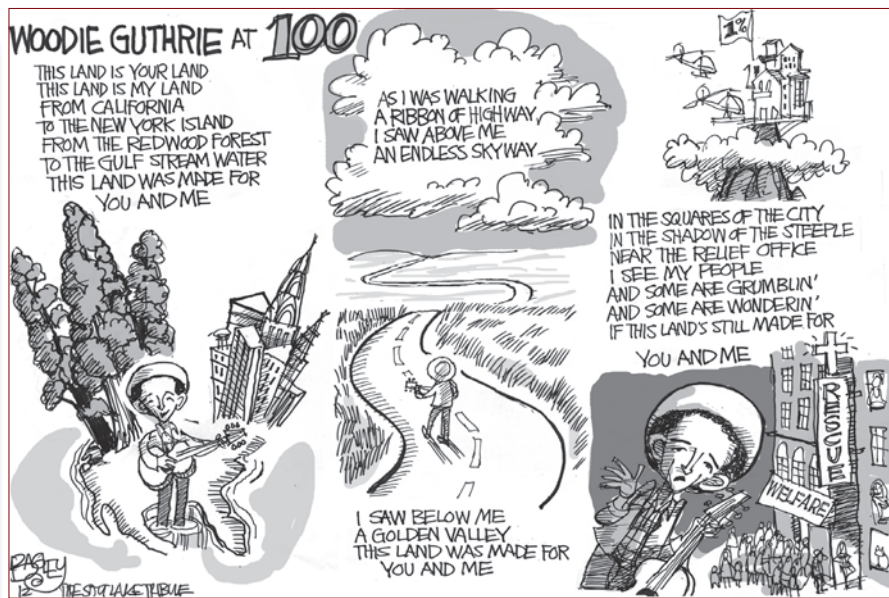
It is at this point I must agree most heartily with the scriptural injunction on this subject. Solomon, the wisest man in the world, had much to say about disciplining children. And if anybody should know about disciplining children, it was Solomon.

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him" (Proverbs 22:15 KJV).

"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him be-temes" (Proverbs 13:24 KJV).

Disciplining children to ensure they grow up to be proper adults demands a whole lot of energy especially from parents. Love sometimes carries a large stick.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. His web site is www.jamessnyderministries.com



HOWARD Hays As I See It



“... it's totally unsuitable to be saddled by this unconstitutional takings of American liberty.”
- Rep. Steve King (R-IA)

The Affordable Care Act is “a violation of our constitutional liberties.”
- Rep. Bill Flores (R-TX)

I'm glued to the newswires awaiting announcement of the momentous decision to be handed down from our nation's capital this afternoon – as the U.S. House of Representatives votes on whether to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Can't wait to learn how that's going to come out. Legislation on jobs programs and economic recovery can wait.

The above two quotes are from the floor debate. Okay, we know the conservative-dominated U.S. Supreme Court ruled the Act to be constitutional just a week ago, but perhaps those lines the congressmen used were authored before then – and were just too good not to be used again. And, as I quoted Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) last week, “just because a couple people on the Supreme Court declare something to be ‘constitutional’ does not make it so.”

In Texas, Gov. Rick Perry (R) took the bold stand of refusing federal aid under the ACA to expand his state's Medicaid program. That was pretty gutsy, considering the Gallup poll last March showing his state topping the list of percentages of uninsured residents, with 27.6% of Texans lacking coverage – four points ahead of second-place Mississippi, which came in at 23.5%. At the other end of the spectrum, Massachusetts did best at 4.9% uninsured – enjoying the benefits of the plan upon which the ACA was based, enacted under Gov. Mitt Romney.

Just last week, the Houston Chronicle reported that “Texas ranked dead last in the federal government's latest report card on the delivery of health services, falling short in areas ranging from acute hospital care to home treatment of the chronically ill.” When questioned about the report on Fox News, Gov. Perry responded, “The real issue here is about freedom.”

A report by the Kaiser Commission prepared after the ACA's passage indicates that Gov. Perry's bold stroke for freedom means 1.8 million Texans will go without coverage they otherwise would have had under the Medicaid expansion.

Gov. Perry isn't alone. The Kaiser report shows that 9.2 million Americans nation-wide will go without coverage because their Republican governors, who tend to lead those states showing the largest percentages of uninsured, will turn down federal funds under the ACA in the name of “freedom”.

Republicans speak of “repeal and replace”, but haven't explained what the “replace” would look like. For clues, we can look to Florida, whose governor, Rick Scott (R), made his fortune as head of a hospital chain socked with the biggest fine for Medicare fraud in the nation's history. Here's where they protect the “freedom” to treat healthcare solely as a means of extracting profit.

Early in his administration, Gov. Scott cut \$562 million from health services mainly benefiting children, the disabled and the elderly. This wasn't to close any deficit, but to cover the cost of corporate tax cuts. (When Gov. Scott argued it was for job creation, Democratic legislators pointed out that despite similar cuts under previous Republican governors, Florida still had one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation.)

The Florida Independent last year reported \$55.6 million cut from the state's Department of Health and the loss of 229 full-time positions, with 172 cut from county health departments focusing on programs such as children's health, breast and cervical cancer screenings, HIV/AIDS prevention, etc.

Also among the cuts was \$4 million from the state's infectious disease control program, and the closure of AG Holley State Hospital, the one hospital dedicated to the treatment of tuberculosis, a disease where the lungs disintegrate as the patient slowly dies.

According to the Palm Beach Post, while this was going on, alarms were raised by the Atlanta-based Center for Disease Control. A report had been prepared last April on what was described as the country's worst outbreak of tuberculosis in twenty years “in terms of its size and rapid growth.” It started among the homeless population in Jacksonville, but, as facilities closed down amid budget cuts to local programs, it has since spread to the general population with evidence of infection now found in Miami.

There have been specific links to 13 deaths and 99 illnesses, including six children. 3,000 people were estimated to have come in contact with infected individuals at Jacksonville homeless shelters, but so far only 253 have been tracked down and evaluated.

Meanwhile, Gov. Rick Scott's health department was pushing for the closure of AG Holley six months ahead of schedule. The problem was, as Florida's legislature was slashing public health programs, nobody had seen the CDC's report – including the Republican leaders who led the charge for closing the hospital. Even now, three months after the report's release, the Post says it's still being kept under wraps.

“It is outrageous that they would hide that information or not give that information to us before we voted”, says state Rep. Mark Bernard (D). State Sen. Maria Sachs (D) expressed her concern over patients released upon closure of the hospital; “It's scary. All they have to do is go on a city bus and you're impacting the citizens of Duval County. Or they get on a train. Or they eat at a restaurant. These people need help.”

A second Palm Beach County elementary school is being investigated for signs of TB infection – of a particularly worrisome drug-resistant strain. Infection with such a strain can require \$250,000 of treatment over two years.

In the meantime, 138 hospital workers from AG Holley are getting their layoff notices. And Governor Rick Scott is boldly rejecting federal aid to expand his state's Medicaid program – in the name of “freedom”.

LIBERAL OUTRAGE NEEDED: GREG Welborn Put Up Or



Liberals constantly claim that they are the party of civil rights, that they are the protectors of the little guy, but in California, which is overwhelmingly controlled politically by Liberals, we're not hearing a peep from them against the most recent usurpation of individual rights. Maybe I've just had a bad day, but I think it's time for them to either put-up or shut-up.

Angry words, perhaps, yet justified by the recent proposal out of the Sacramento fever swamp. Phil Angelides, a blue-blood's blue-blood Liberal, headed up an organization named the Mortgage Resolution Partnership (MRP) which has teamed up with several local governments to propose using eminent domain to seize mortgages from private investors. It's important to recognize that MRP is a private venture capital firm that wants to use the government's power to seize these mortgages, repackage them and sell them at a profit to “better-suited” owners than the current owners. Whatever the excuse, the use of government power by one private party to seize another private party's property or assets should be met with howls of outrage by those who profess to stand for the rule of law and the rights of the little guy.

Here's the deal. MRP has convinced the County of San Bernardino to identify specific mortgages on specific properties which they believe should be reduced in order to encourage the property owner to improve the property – presumably by painting, planting nicer shrubs, or what have you. Supposedly, if property owners had lower mortgages they would take better care of their properties and thus would contribute more to the community. Unfortunately, that means the mortgage owner (the lender) has to be forced to take a haircut on the amount owed to him. In the process of trying to make communities prettier, MRP would take down some nice fees and reward its shareholders with outsized profits. Which political party is it again that believes in crony capitalism?

Most lenders wouldn't go for this deal, so the only way to make it work is to use the concept of “eminent domain” to take the mortgage away from the lender, refinance the mortgage with some government loan guarantees thrown in, and then resell this new smaller mortgage –presumably a safer mortgage because of the government guarantees – to a new group of borrowers. MRP, which would do the packaging of these deals would make a small fortune on the transactions. In soliciting investors for this new venture capital project, MRP's literature and website made reference to its connections in California politics. Without the aid of government, this private venture wouldn't be worth the paper on which the proposal was written.

Now in fairness, the government does have a recognized right to take private property under the Fifth Amendment so long as it fits a public purpose and it fairly compensates the owner of the property. MRP and its Liberal allies in Sacramento and San Bernardino want to take private property for the benefit of another private party (one well connected politically) and to pay less than fair market values for the property. The “property” in question is the mortgage.

This may seem a little complicated, but bear with me a moment. When you loan money to someone, you become the owner of a note. You are due money contractually at a stated interest rate. This note is your property, just as much as a piece of real estate or savings account is your property. You own it; you've paid a certain price to obtain it; and you're counting on earning an appropriate return on your investment or you wouldn't have made the loan in the first place. The loan you own would have a value, just like a piece of real estate would have a value. Under normal interpretations of the law, if the government wants to buy the loan you own, it needs to make an offer which motivates you to sell it. No problem with that.

To make this new fangled community revitalization program work, however, the government has to find some way to buy this mortgage note from you at less than fair value. That's the only way to create enough “savings” which can be passed along to the home owner as an encouragement to invest more in the home. Let's say you own a house and owe \$100,000 on your mortgage. You're tapped and can't afford to paint or plant more grass. MRP proposes that the government come along, take the mortgage from the lender, reduce your loan by \$20,000 and then hope that you will feel freer to spend more money on the house.

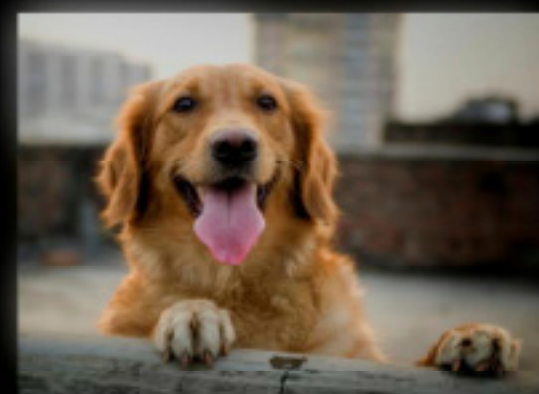
This sounds great if you're the owner of the house; you get a \$20,000 reduction in your mortgage. But it's a lousy idea for the owner of the mortgage. He just lost \$20,000. Forgetting the immorality of this for a moment, it amazes me that Liberals believe giving \$20,000 to person (A) will stimulate spending, but the taking of \$20,000 from person (B) won't decrease spending. The truth is there's no way this will benefit the economy. One person's gain is offset by another person's loss. More significantly, this would send a strong message to all lenders that they have to increase their rates for new mortgages in order to compensate for the increased risk that they might lose money on their new loans at the hands of the government.

The point of this article, however, is not the economics of this cockeyed plan. Liberals rarely get the economics right. The point of the article is to shame those who believe in civil rights and fair play into standing up against this arbitrary act of government tyranny. It is time for Liberals to put-up or shut-up on the issue of individual rights.

About the author: Gregory J. Welborn is a freelance writer and has spoken to several civic and religious organizations on cultural and moral issues. He lives in the Los Angeles area with his wife and 3 children and is active in the community. He can be reached at gregwelborn@earthlink.net.



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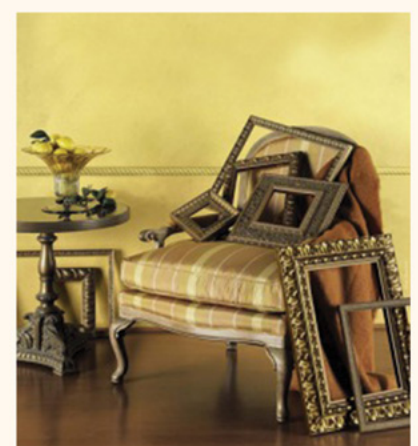


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