

## VECTOR CONTROL WARNS OF INCREASED MOSQUITO DANGER DUE TO HEAT AND HUMIDITY



San Gabriel Valley Vector Control officials warn that ongoing high temperatures and excessive humidity are ideal conditions for both rapid mosquito reproduction and the diseases they can transmit. Los Angeles County is home to nearly 15 different mosquito species capable of transmitting many pathogens including West Nile (WNV), St. Louis encephalitis (SLE), western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE) viruses, and malaria. The recent introduction of the invasive Asian tiger mosquito expands that list to include more than 20 other possible pathogens such as dengue and chikungunya viruses. Hotter, humid conditions allow both mosquitoes and the pathogens they transmit to reproduce and spread faster.

West Nile virus (WNV) is being actively transmitted by mosquitoes (primarily Culex spp.) in both the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys. With hotter temperatures, the virus is able to replicate faster in mosquitoes and can be transmitted to humans by infected mosquitoes when they bite. Mosquitoes typically develop from egg to adult in 7 to 10 days. Higher temperatures and increased humidity allow mosquitoes to complete this cycle in as few as 5 days. Since each female mosquito can lay 200-300 eggs at a time in standing water, mosquito populations will explode if breeding continues unabated.

The introduced Asian tiger mosquito (Aedes albopictus) prefers humid climates typically found in the southern and eastern United States. Public Health officials worry that the monsoon-like conditions which are becoming more common each summer in the Los Angeles Basin will provide adequate humidity for this mosquito to thrive here as well.

A study released by UCLA's Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Mid-Century Warming in the Los Angeles Region, predicts the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys will see warmer temperatures overall, and the number of extreme hot days are projected to nearly quadruple by mid-century. Around the world, numerous studies have shown that climate change has extended both the range of vector populations and the scope of vector-borne disease risks.

District's Manager Kenn Fujioka states, "We are extremely concerned about the changing tide in vector control today. Serious outbreaks of WNV occur annually in Los Angeles County, and the prevalence of Asian tiger mosquitoes opens the door for emerging vector-borne diseases to arrive on our doorstep." Home to one of the busiest airports in the world, new vector-borne diseases can be introduced simply with the arrival of an infected traveler.

While the risks are truly global, the solutions are local. Mosquitoes thrive in urban areas because of the plethora of standing water humans provide. Additionally, many of the viruses they transmit are amplified in urban birds

(crows, sparrows, and finches) that are present in large numbers because of plentiful food, nesting areas, and water available to them. This magnified vector-host combination increases the risk that vector-borne diseases will be transmitted in densely populated urban areas – exactly contrary to common public perception. When mosquito populations are low, pathogens are unable to spread rapidly and cause epidemics. Mosquito and vector control districts are integral in reducing these risks but are limited by relatively small staffs, fiscal and regulatory burdens, and difficulties accessing backyard breeding sites.

Urban dwellers must understand these risks and how their daily decisions may contribute to disease transmission. Vector control officials urge all residents to pay close attention to these recommendations:

- Keep outdoor areas free of accumulated belongings. Rain and sprinklers fill depressions, crevices, and containers and allow mosquitoes to reproduce.
- Remove saucers and trays from under potted plants. Mosquitoes thrive even in small amounts of water.
- Buckets used to water plants and root plant cuttings must be emptied completely and refilled at least twice-weekly, treated with larval pesticides, or stocked with mosquito-eating fish. Rain barrels/cisterns must be kept properly sealed and screened at all times.
- Keep all pools, ponds, and fountains clean and in working order. Immature mosquitoes feed on algae and bacteria in standing water.
- Prevent water from running off property and into gutters. Gutters and underground drainages provide ideal conditions for mosquito survival. Water collecting in swales must infiltrate within 96 hours.
- Regularly clean and check yard drains and rain gutters to ensure water flows as designed. Leaves and grass clippings routinely clog drains allowing water to puddle and breed mosquitoes.
- Avoid the use of birdfeeders and keep trash cans sealed tightly to prevent augmenting unnaturally high populations of virus-prone bird species (crows, sparrows, finches) which are key players in the WNV cycle.
- Plant natives/drought tolerant vegetation to reduce water use and unintended runoff. Native plants will provide natural food sources for native birds and pollinating insect.
- Avoid mosquito bites by applying repellents when outdoors and keeping doors and windows properly screened to keep mosquitoes out. Strong outdoor fans and citronella candles may reduce mosquito activity during outdoor gatherings. Electronic/ultrasonic devices are not effective.
- Travelers to tropical/subtropical areas where mosquito-transmitted disease is active should check with medical professionals about pre-travel vaccinations/medications and actively use repellents to prevent bites. Seek prompt medical attention if illness develops within two weeks of return.

We live in a global society and face new public health challenges related to a warming environment and rapid international travel and commerce. Protecting public health is everyone's responsibility.

*The San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District is a public health agency dedicated to the control of mosquito and other vector-borne diseases. The District can be reached at 626-814-9466 or on the web at [www.sgvmosquito.org](http://www.sgvmosquito.org).*

## SIERRA MADRE NATIVE AWARDED NASA SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARD



Brian Van Cleef, Center, is flanked by NASA Administrator, Charles Boldin, a retired Marine Corps General and former Space Shuttle pilot/astronaut on his right and on the left are the NASA Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General.

On August 8, 2012 Sierra Madre native Brian Van Cleef received the NASA Inspector General's Superior Service Award for his work as a Special Agent for the NASA Office of Inspector General. The award was presented by NASA Administrator Charles Boldin at NASA Headquarters in Washington D.C.

As a Special Agent at the Ames Research Center, he was recognized for his significant efforts on several complex cases. In one case, his work resulted in a \$3 million recovery for the United States.

Brian attended St. Rita's Elementary School and St. Francis High School in La Canada, CA. Brian earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics from the University of California at Riverside in 1993 after which he served in the United States Air Force and deployed to Saudi Arabia and Italy. After completing his military service

He began work as a Special Agent for the Naval Criminal Investigative Service where he worked in various domestic and overseas locations including Bahrain, Guam, Palau, and Thailand.

Prior to NASA Brian also worked as a Special Agent for the U.S. Office of Export Enforcement.

Brian, his wife and two daughters, currently lives and works in northern California. Brian is the son of Sierra Madre residents Rudy and Marianne Van Cleef. Brian is also a member of Sierra Madre's VFW, Post 3208.

**TOO TOXIC TO TRASH**

Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup

Saturday, August 18, 2012  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**Mariposa Avenue Parking Lot**  
Mariposa Avenue  
just west of Baldwin Avenue  
Sierra Madre

Open to all Los Angeles County residents

## Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste the right way on Saturday: AUGUST 18, 2012

### BUSINESS WASTE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

#### What you CAN bring to an event (examples):

- Brake fluid, paint, paint thinner, cleaners with acid or lye, pesticides or herbicides, household batteries and car batteries, pool chemicals, motor oil, oil filters, expired pharmaceuticals, anti-freeze, and fluorescent light bulbs.
- Household electronic waste which includes: Computer monitors, televisions, computer CPUs, keyboards, printers, cellular phones, etc.

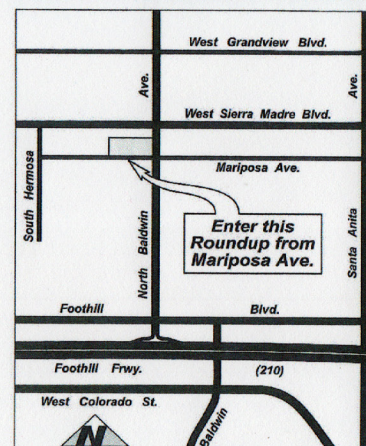
#### What you CAN'T bring to an event:

- Hazardous waste and electronic waste from businesses.
- Explosives, ammunition and radioactive materials.
- Trash and tires.
- White goods such as refrigerators, stoves and washing machines, etc.
- Controlled substances.

#### How to prepare items for transportation:

- Bring the items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.
- Do not mix the items together.
- There is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip.
- Be prepared to leave your containers and boxes. Remove all other items from your trunk.

For a complete listing of what you can and cannot bring or information on upcoming events, contact: 1(888) CLEAN-LA • [www.CleanLA.com](http://www.CleanLA.com), or 1(800) 238-0172 • [www.lacsd.org](http://www.lacsd.org).



Brought to you by the County of Los Angeles and presented by the Department of Public Works and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County in cooperation with the city of Sierra Madre.

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, County of Los Angeles

Home-generated sharps waste such as hypodermic needles, pen needles, syringes, lancets, and intravenous needles SHOULD NOT be placed in your trash. Bring them to the Roundups or visit [www.CLEANLA.com](http://www.CLEANLA.com) for alternate disposal options.

You can also take your used motor oil to more than 600 oil recycling centers in Los Angeles County. Call 1(888) CLEAN-LA for a complete listing.

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## Weather Wise

### 5-Day Forecast

#### Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Mon:</b>	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
<b>Tues:</b>	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
<b>Wed:</b>	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
<b>Thur:</b>	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
<b>Fri:</b>	Sunny	Hi 90s	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:  
August 28th, 2012 6:30 pm

The City is hosting a second Business Forum on Tuesday, August 21st at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers. A brief overview of the market demand data presented in the first forum will be given and then staff will work with business owners on how to individualize and utilize the data presented. Businesses that attended the first forum are encouraged to attend again to ask questions and get some hands-on experience working with the data.

#### Sierra Madre Coordinating Council

#### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

8/19 - Concert in the Park - The Groove

8/26 - Concert in the Park - Take Two

Sierra Madre Playhouse - Incident at Vichy

Sierra Madre Playhouse - Fairytale Theater

Sierra Madre Playhouse - Acting Up "Wizard of Oz"

9/6 - September Coordinating Council

9/6 - Woman's Club Wistaria Thrift Shop Re-Opening

For more information on the Sierra Madre Coordinating Council, please contact Recreation Supervisor Adam Matsumoto at amatsumoto@cityofsierramadre.com or 626.355.7394.

**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.

Visitors are heartily welcomed to meetings. For more information, please visit our website or contact Peggy Beauregard at [peggybeau@gmail.com](mailto:peggybeau@gmail.com) and visit our Facebook page Rotary of Sierra Madre.

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

### 1630 AM

#### Free on-air publicity for local events

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

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

In a nutshell, your event must:

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

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



On Thursdays at 7:00 PM, tune in to Radio Fishbowl's Village Intersections Host Gene Goss.

Set your smart phone or computer browsers to [www.radiofishbowl.com](http://www.radiofishbowl.com).

## SIERRA MADRE SCARECROW FESTIVAL

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](mailto:foothillcreativeartsgroup@creativeartsgroup.org) or call 626-355-8350.



### THE SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB

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EXCEPT FOR THE 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH,  
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AND HAVE SOME FUN!

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**130 E. Montecito Avenue  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024**

## 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:

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



Senator Diane Feinstein

## SENATOR FEINSTEIN AT CITY OF HOPE AUG. 23

United States Senator Diane Feinstein will be the speaker at a luncheon sponsored by City of Hope and San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership on Thursday, Aug. 23.

Tickets are \$30 or a table of 10

Registration is 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon at City of Hope's Cooper Auditorium, 1500 E. Duarte Road in Duarte, followed by the luncheon from 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.

To register, go to [washingtonreport.eventbrite.com](http://washingtonreport.eventbrite.com).

## KGEM'S ACTION ON FILM FESTIVAL

Community Media of the Foothills, affectionately called KGEM, will present 12 shorts, documentaries, and films at the Action On Film Festival held from August 17-25 at the Krikorian Theatres in Old Town Monrovia. The films were produced by employees, volunteers, and students with the Monrovia ROP Program.

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, the following films will be shown in the 9 PM Block Time:

*Six String Samurai* is the first feature film of Lance Mungia. It played and won awards at several international film festivals including Toronto International Film Festival and Slamdance Film Festival. It was released theatrically by Palm Pictures and Lions Gate Ent.

*Six String Samurai* is a post apocalyptic road film that assumes WWII was fought in 1957 and the Russians took over the US, except for the last bastion of freedom, Lost Vegas. Now Buddy, a guitar wielding, sword swinging rock and roll samurai is on his way to Lost Vegas to take over the throne of the deposed King, Elvis. Lance is the Executive Director of KGEM and lives in Monrovia. The film will be airing in the 9 PM Block.

*The Butcher*: When the Boogeyman gets released from prison for good behavior, he decides to try to live life without randomly killing people. Produced and directed by Dave Gaw.

*Elevator Romance*: When two strangers get stuck in an elevator, what will happen when sparks begin to fly? Produced and directed by Dave Gaw.

Dave Gaw is the founder and president of Try Hard Productions. Over the last decade, Dave has established himself as a creative storyteller that is comfortable and skilled in both the commercial and motion picture industries.

Dave is on the KGEM Board and is a resident KGEM producer based in Monrovia... The film will be airing in the 9 PM Block.

*The Right Turn* is a coming of age comedy about the trials of dating. An insecure high school boy takes a girl out on a date and couldn't seal the deal. Adam Bain, KGEM resident producer wrote, directed and produced this short and is a Monrovia resident.

On August 19, 2012 the following films will be shown in the 4 PM Block.

*Garden for Rio* is the award winning magical realist short film by Lance Mungia that follows Rio, a retired farm laborer who plants the garden of his dreams in order to woo back his hen pecking wife. The film will be airing in the 4 PM Block. Lance is the Executive Director of KGEM and lives in Monrovia.

*Dearly Departed* is a fictional documentary interview that was shot as if we took cameras into the afterlife and interviewed the spirits of dead people to get insights into life after death. Darryl has been a guest speaker for the Producers Club and does special effects miniatures for such films as Iron Man and Star Trek. This is Darryl's first feature film.

On August 20, 2012 the following films will be shown in the 6 PM Block

*Raise Your Dead* is short about a father who is unable to accept his daughter's death. Pastor Bram attempts a resurrection at his church. Produced and edited by KGEM staffer Kiyomi McFarland.

#### Not Scheduled Yet:

The Mad hatter's Tea Party, a short, produced by Aimee Rose Corson. A mad hatter's frivolous antics turn from child's play into group anxiety when a delicate young lady strolls uninvited into his country tea party. This was an ROP Project and included: Aimee Rose Corson, Dan Kramer, Ed Cantrell and KGEM board member Rena Delgado.

**Call 626.836.8353**  
**Fax 626.836.8373**

## 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!

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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 -  
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## TRANSFORMATIONS

### The Art of Hendricks & Katz

#### Opening Reception

Friday, September 7, 2012, 7-9pm  
Show Continues through October 24

"Transformations" a new show featuring the work of Lynn Hendricks and Penny Katz, will open Friday, September 7 at Creative Arts Group in Sierra Madre. All are welcome at the opening reception which will be held from 7-9 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

Hendricks, a ceramicist and sculptor, adds function to her realistic creatures as they rest, protect or discover the vessel with which they interact. Her passion for textures is enhanced by the use of stains, oxides and transparent glazes which enhance not only her nature-inspired totems but the large ceramic shards that depict scenes salvaged from contemporary or ancient frescoes. Hendricks has received local and international awards for her altered thrown vessels and sculptures, and created a commissioned series for the Western Heritage Museum. Collectors of her work include those in the United States as well as China, Japan, France and Italy.

Katz' line of eco-chic, earth-friendly jewelry is made from at least 90% re-purposed vintage and antique jewelry parts. Katz has travelled the world extensively and uses vintage materials from a wide variety of locations, from a flea market on High Street in London to the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas. Her kiln-fired enamel jewelry is entirely hand-worked and fired more than 8-12 times. No two pieces will ever be the same. Many of the kiln-fired pieces are on vintage recycled copper or sterling with recycled chains and trim. Katz also creates jewelry using semi-precious gems and unusual cuts of natural stones that are worked on sterling silver, copper or anodized metal wire.

Creative Arts Group is proud to feature these two talented and well-known artists. The show will run through October 26. Creative Arts Group is located at 108 N. Baldwin Ave. in Sierra Madre. For more information, you can contact the gallery at (626) 355-8350.

## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

August 6 – August 12, 2012

Friday August 10, 2010

At approximately 11:25 pm, officers observed a vehicle fail to stop for the stop sign at Sierra Madre Boulevard and Lima Street. The vehicle then accelerated to a speed of 45 MPH as it travelled west. After stopping the vehicle the officers determined that the driver had been drinking and tests conducted confirmed that the driver was impaired. The driver, a 63 year old female was arrested for DUI.

Saturday August 11, 2012

The manager of an apartment complex in the 300 block Sierra Madre Boulevard discovered that an unknown suspect had forced entry into the coin boxes of the laundry machines located in the rear carport area of the complex. The investigation revealed that the coin box locks had been punched inward, damaging the box and affording access to the coins. An estimated \$400.00 in quarters was missing. As the manager only checks the machines periodically, the crime could have occurred over a five week period.

At approximately 3 am, officers observed a vehicle fail to stop for the stop sign at Baldwin Avenue and Orange Grove Avenue. After stopping the vehicle the officers determined that the driver had been drinking and was unable to successfully complete the field sobriety tests. The driver, a 33 year old male, was arrested for DUI.

## Sierra Madre Search and Rescue

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

Busy 4th of July: After participating in the Sierra Madre 4th of July parade SMSR responded to several calls in the local area. The first was a mountain biker who had fallen on Cardiac Hill at Chantry Flats. The subject was located, treated for hip and shoulder injuries and transported to a waiting ambulance. While involved with the first call a second report was received about an injured hiker on the 1st Water Trail at Chantry Flats. The subject was located, treated for injuries and transported to the Chantry Flats parking lot.

Busier July 9th: With 4 operations, July 9th was the busiest day of the month. The first call was a request from Altadena SAR for assistance in locating 3 overdue hiker. SMSR search the Mt. Wilson Trail and Chantry Flats area. The

Chantry Flats parking lot.

July 25th Mt. Langley Search: The team responded to a request from Inyo County for assistance in searching for an overdue hiker in the Mt. Langley area near Mt. Whitney. SMSR provided both ground crews and overhead staff to help manage the search. Unfortunately, the subject was found deceased just below Old Army Pass. SMSR ground crews were some of the first on scene helped with the recovery.

July 27th - 1 injured at Hermit Falls: SMSR dispatched ground and litter crews down to Hermit Falls. The subject was located, treated, packaged in a litter and airlifted by LACoSD Air-5.

In our **March** Article we reported that a new class of probationary members had started training to become full members of Sierra Madre Search and Rescue. Over the past six months several members have dropped out leaving



SMSR 'Probies'

hikers were eventually found, unharmed, in the Eaton Canyon Area. The second call again was a request from Altadena SAR for assistance in locating a woman and her dog in the Sam Merrill Trail area. Both subject were found, rehydrated and escorted to the trailhead. The third call was a sprained ankle at Chantry Flats. SMSR responded and assisted Sierra Madre FD with the subject. The last call of the day was an individual having trouble breathing at Chantry Flats. Again, SMSR responded and assisted Sierra Madre FD with the subject.

July 15th - 2 injured at Hermit Falls: SMSR sent ground and litters crews to Hermit Falls. The 1st subject had bi-lateral ankle fractures. The subject was treated, packaged in a litter and airlifted to Huntington Memorial Hospital. The 2nd subject had minor ankle injuries and was escorted to the

a total of 7 members. The class has received training in rappelling, ascending a rope, setting an anchor, tracking, radios, litter wheel, litter tie in, helicopter operations, land navigation and knots. Starting in February they were judged field qualified and available to respond to calls. Their first opportunities were the 4th of July call outs described earlier in this article.

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](http://www.smsr.org).

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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Mars Rover Team Hears From President Obama

President Barack Obama told the flight control team for NASA's Curiosity Mars rover, "You made us all proud."

Obama telephoned the mission control room at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, to congratulate JPL Director Charles Elachi and the Mars Science Laboratory team operating the rover, which landed on Mars a week ago.

"What you've accomplished embodies the American spirit," the president said. "Our expectation is that Curiosity is going to be telling us things we did not know before and laying the groundwork for an even more audacious undertaking in the future, and that's a human mission to Mars."

Obama said Curiosity's landing advances his goals of improving education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. "This is the kind of thing that inspires kids across the country," he said. "They're telling their moms and dads they want to be part of a Mars mission, maybe even the first person to walk on Mars."

Elachi thanked Obama for the call and added, "Hopefully we inspire some of the millions of young people who were watching the landing."

Obama noted, "You guys should be remarkably proud. Really what makes us best as a species is this curiosity we have -- this yearning to discover and know more and push the boundaries of knowledge."

The rover team has completed three of the four days of activities needed for transitioning Curiosity's two main computers to a version of software suited for the rover's work on the surface of Mars. The surface work will include driving and using tools on a robotic arm. During landing, and the first few days after landing, the spacecraft's computers used a version of flight software loaded with landing-day capabilities that no longer are needed.

"After the software transition, we go back to preparing the rover to be fully functional for surface operations," Curiosity mission manager Art Thompson said. "We are looking forward to a first drive in about a week." The first short drive will be part of a few weeks of initial checkouts and observations to assess equipment on the rover and characteristics of the landing site.

## Pet of the Week



Alina is a one-year-old shorthair black cat. She can be a little shy at first, but warms up.

Alina's adoption fee is \$70, which includes her spay surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. New adopters will receive complimentary health and wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals. She also qualifies for our Lucky \$13 black cat adoption promotion held on the thirteenth of every month. Ask an adoptions counselor for more information during your visit.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A311949, 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](http://www.pasadenahumane.org).

## REPORT: Caltrans Properties Mismanaged

*City council takes stand officially votes against proposed routes for the 710 Freeway Extension.*

By Dean Lee

Just days after the Pasadena city council voted unanimously opposing any tunnel, surface, or highway routes for the proposed 710 Freeway Extension, the State Auditor blasted Caltrans, in a report released Thursday, for its poor management of State owned properties associated with the extension.

The report claims The California Department of Transportation passed up approximately \$22 million in rental income between July 1, 2007, and December 31 by failing to charge rents at the market rate for 404 properties.

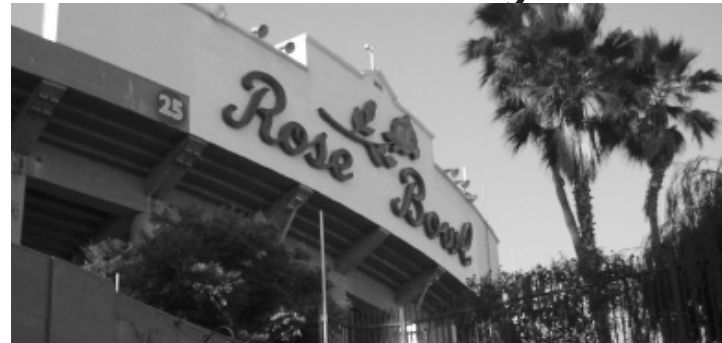
It also states that the department spent \$22.5 million to repair the properties although only collected net rental income of \$12.8 million.

"It spent an average of \$6.4 million per year on repairs to these properties, but could not demonstrate that repairs for 18 of the 30 projects we reviewed were reasonable or necessary."

Caltrans has also not been verifying income eligibility annually for certain low-income tenants as required costing the State more than \$940,000 per year the report states.

Other claims include, That general services' construction

## Comment Open; Draft EIR For Rose Bowl Use By NFL



Public comments are now being accepted on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) completed by the Pasadena Planning Department regarding the possible temporary use of the Rose Bowl by the National Football League (NFL).

Written comments on the Draft EIR must be submitted to the City by close of business Monday, October 8, 2012. Comments should be mailed or delivered to David Sinclair, Pasadena Planning Department, 175 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91109. Written comments may also be submitted by email to [RoseBowlNFLComments@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:RoseBowlNFLComments@cityofpasadena.net).

The public is encouraged to attend any or all of the following public meetings and may also submit oral comments in response to the Draft EIR at that time. The meetings include:

Planning Commission, Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 19, City Council Chambers, Room S249, 100 N. Garfield Avenue,



unit does not properly monitor its labor charges—the State Auditor identified roughly 330 hours that may have been inappropriately charged to projects related to the SR 710 properties.

The report was done at the request of Assemblyman Anthony Portantino who called the mismanagement a systematic failure on almost every level.

In a statement, Caltrans Public Affairs Media Relations Manager, Matt Rocco said the agency was taking immediate steps including hiring private contractors, and establishing a joint powers authority between the involved cities as suggested in the State Auditor's report.

At Monday night's council meeting over 500 residents packed the Convention Center —most in opposition of the project. The meeting was moved

Pasadena, CA 91101.

Transportation Advisory Commission, Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, Rose Bowl Media Center, 1001 Rose Bowl Drive, Pasadena, CA 91103. Park in Lot F. Enter through Auto Gate to the left of Gate A. Security will direct attendees to Media Center.

Recreation and Parks Commission, Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 2, Rose Bowl Media Center, 1001 Rose Bowl Drive, Pasadena, CA 91103. Park in Lot F. Enter through Auto Gate to the left of Gate A. Security will direct attendees to Media Center.

Responses to comments regarding the Draft EIR that are received during the public comment period will be incorporated into the Final EIR and presented to the City Council for its consideration. It is anticipated that the Final EIR will be available in the late Fall 2012. The Draft EIR is on the City's website at [www.cityofpasadena.net/RoseBowlEIR](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/RoseBowlEIR). For more information, call Mr. David Sinclair at (626) 744-6766.

## U.S. Forest Service to Allow Nighttime Aerial Attacks

Representatives announced Thursday that the United States Forest Service will immediately begin the training and retrofitting of helicopters necessary to use helicopters at night to fight wildfires in Southern California. Previously, the Forest Service restricted aerial firefighting operations to daylight hours only.

A 2011 report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) indicated that the use of night-flying aircraft may have allowed the Forest Service to suppress the Station Fire on the critical first night. The Station Fire ultimately grew to become the largest fire in Los Angeles County history, burning more than 160,000 acres, destroying 89 homes and taking the lives of two fire firefighters in and around the Angeles National Forest (ANF).

"The Forest Service's decision to allow night flights is a welcome announcement. We will never know with certainty if night flying could have extinguished the Station Fire in those critical first hours, but I'm glad we will have a better chance in the future," Congressmen Adam Schiff said.

"With temperatures hitting triple digits this summer, it's hard for California residents not to worry that another fire could sweep through and devastate our region once again. This step today by the Forest Service is long overdue, but will provide an important new line of defense against fire for our neighborhoods."

Supervisor Michael Antonovich commented "We are pleased that the Forest Service has responded favorably to our continuous appeals for the policy to be changed," he said. "However, allowing nighttime flying is not the only change necessary for the Forest Service to conduct effective aerial firefighting."

Antonovich went on to say they need to immediately implement the RAND study, which they commissioned, on updating their aging fleet of contracted fixed wing air tankers with the recommended Super-Scoopers and not begin another study on what to do.

Additional recommendations from the LACFD need to be implemented including brush clearance within 250 feet of any structure, use of mechanized equipment and allowing local command of firefighting.

from city hall in anticipation of the large crowd.

The three hour meeting became hostile at times with both jeers from the audience and awkward comments from members of the council.

Councilman Victor Gordo said Metro could not have failed more miserably with the proposed alternatives. Councilman Steve Madison said the alternatives would be like dropping a nuclear bomb on southwest Pasadena.

Metro and Caltrans also held a final Liaison Council meeting Monday of the State Route 710 Study at La Canada High School at the exact time as Pasadena City Council Meeting.

## Metro and Foothill Transit to Offer Students Transit Passes

Pasadena City College, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), and Foothill Transit have partnered to offer low-cost public transportation passes to PCC students. The Institution Pass Card (I-TAP) allows full-time students enrolled in at least 12 units to ride the Metro buses and rail lines and Foothill Transit for \$30 this semester. A one-time \$5 card fee will be assessed to first-time buyers of the I-TAP. Students can visit Student Business Services (Room B203) to purchase the passes.

To ensure the student-supported program's success, PCC will also be providing shuttle service to the Metro Gold Line in Pasadena to encourage students to use transit.

The I-TAP is valid on Metro buses and Metro Rail lines and Foothill Transit seven days a week starting at the beginning of the fall semester. Students can use the transit access passes for all other transportation needs, including work, shopping, or recreation. Because they are saving transportation costs, students may be encouraged to take additional college units and can invest the free travel time transit affords them to study or rest. Students will need a current PCC identification card as well as a copy of their class schedule to purchase the I-TAP.

For additional information on the I-TAP, call (213) 922-2811. For transit trip planning assistance over the phone, call 1-800-COMMUTE or metro.net.

## Top Colleges to Attend PCC University Day

More than 50 colleges and universities, including Columbia University, Pepperdine University, UCLA, and USC, are slated to attend Pasadena City College's University Day on Sept. 17. Students interested in transferring to a four-year college or university can explore transfer opportunities, learn about academic programs and majors, attend application workshops, learn about financial aid, and apply to guaranteed admissions programs during the event.

"University Day is an opportunity for PCC students to explore their transfer options and meet university representatives who can serve as contacts in the transfer process," said Dina Chase, interim director of PCC Admission and Records. Informational booths will be set up between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the PCC Quad.

For more information on University Day, call the Outreach, Degree and Transfer Center at (626) 585-7287.

## Michael Feinstein Named Principal Pops Conductor

Michael Feinstein, the multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy-nominated entertainer has been appointed Principal Pops Conductor of the Pasadena POPS replacing Marvin Hamlisch who Marvin Hamlisch, who unexpectedly passed away Aug. 6.

"To be connected with the Pasadena Pops is simply a great honor, and thrilling as well. It was the passing of our irreplaceable Marvin Hamlisch that has given me the desire to conduct, and every step of the way I will have him on my mind and in my heart," says Michael Feinstein, adding, "It was because of Marvin that I wish to do this because he had a great love for the Pasadena POPS and my experience with everybody last month was so positive on every level."

Feinstein recently performed with the Pasadena POPS at the Los Angeles County Arboretum to a record breaking crowd

on July 21st; it was Marvin Hamlisch's last concert prior to his sudden passing on August 6, 2012.

"While we are still deeply saddened by the untimely passing of our beloved friend and leader Marvin Hamlisch, we take great comfort in appointing Michael Feinstein to the Marvin Hamlisch Chair as our new Principal Pops Conductor," states Melinda Shea, President of the Board, "Marvin's wife, my dear friend Terre, is also so delighted that Marvin will be forever connected to the Pasadena POPS through the naming of the Marvin Hamlisch Chair."

The summer 2012 season at the Los Angeles Country Arboretum continues as scheduled this Saturday with La Dolce Vita and closes on September 8 with Gershwin On The Green.

For more information visit [www.PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org](http://www.PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org)



Michael Feinstein

## LACO Gets New Members, Two from Pasadena

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra (LACO) Music Director Jeffrey Kahane announces the appointments of Robert Brophy, viola (Los Angeles 90042); Sandy Hughes, flute (Portland, OR); Carrie Kennedy, violin II (Pasadena); and Joel Pargman, violin II (Pasadena) to LACO's roster, one of the nation's leading orchestras renowned for its wide-ranging repertoire and adventurous commissioning initiatives. The 2012-13 season marks the first full season with the Orchestra for Brophy, Kennedy and Pargman; and the first time that Hughes has performed with LACO. Kennedy and Pargman are husband and wife.

"We are delighted to welcome these four fine musicians to the Orchestra's ranks," says Kahane.

## 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 Aug. 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave. For more info call 626.794.8585.

## Police Kenya Orphanage Benefit Concert Tonight

The premier Machao Orphanage Benefit concert is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Saturday, August 18, at the beautiful Ambassador Auditorium on the grounds of Maranatha High School, 169 South Saint John Avenue, featuring the music of Latin Guitar World Fusion Group INCENDIO, performing Jazz, Celtic, Middle-Eastern and Electronica music.

Tickets are available online at [www.machaobenefitconcert.com](http://www.machaobenefitconcert.com) for this worthy endeavor to support the orphanage.

"I am proud to be part of a collaborative effort between local government, non-profits and the Pasadena community to raise funds to benefit United Nations Association-Pasadena Foothill Chapter and the Machao Orphanage," Pasadena Police Chief Phillip L. Sanchez said.

All funds received, less minimal production costs, will go to benefit the United Nations Association and the Machao Orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa.

The mission of UNA Pasadena's

Chapter is to host local events and programs aimed to educate the community about the vital work of the UNA. The focus is on local allies' support of the Millennium Development Goals, which include the eradication of poverty and hunger, the promotion of gender equality, the end of HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and to move toward environmental sustainability.

Maranatha High School and the Pasadena Police Department, are the proud co-hosts of this event.

Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard is an advocate and supporter of the UNA. Mayor Bogaard, the Consul of Kenya, Ambassador Dr. Wenwa Akinyi Odinga Oranga and Chief Sanchez will be participating in the event. Pasadena Police Lieutenant Philunte' Riddle is the Event Coordinator.

Tickets are available on the website: [www.machaobenefitconcert.com](http://www.machaobenefitconcert.com), at \$30.00 and \$10.00 for students, VIP tickets are \$100.00 and include VIP seating and a Pre-Reception.



“What’s Going On?”

News and Views from Joan Schmidt



A REMARKABLE RETIREMENT FOR A REMARKABLE MAN: CHIEF NEAL TYLER

Recently, Chief Neal Tyler retired from the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department after a remarkable thirty-seven years. He began as a Reservist in 1974-1975. A graduate of Academy Class 173 in 1975, Neal’s custody assignment was the Inmate Reception Center from 1975-1979, then Lennox Station from 1979-1981. After promotion to Sergeant, assignments include Men’s Central Jail (1981-2), Lennox Station (1982-4), and the Sheriff’s Information Bureau (1984-6). In 1986, Neal promoted to Lieutenant, back to Lennox Station (1986-7), Temple Station (1987-90), the Advanced Training Bureau (1990-2), and the PSTD (1992-5). After a promotion to Captain in 1995, Neal’s went to Advanced Training Bureau (1995-6), Special Projects (1997-8) and Temple Station from 1998-2000. (As Temple Station Commander, Neal was “Police Chief” to its five cities: Bradbury, Duarte, Rosemead, South El Monte, and Temple City, and overseer of the unincorporated Monrovia-Arcadia Duarte, East Pasadena and South San Gabriel areas! Neal never slackened in his command, and was very involved in ALL areas. He supported the Town Council and attended our special functions. In the City of Duarte, he learned the “special dance” as they competed for All-American City. In 2001, Neal promoted to Commander of Region I, a position he held until 2002, when he promoted to Chief of Region I, which he has held until his retirement.



Neal Tyler, Bob Osbourne and Mike Grossman

I have traced the remarkable career of a unique man loved by many. 250+ coworkers and friends came to honor retiring Chief Neal Tyler!

At the main table were our Sheriff Lee Baca and Los Angeles County Fire Chief Daryl Osby, who spoke highly of Neal and how the two agencies work so well together in many situations. Undersheriff Paul Tanaka, and Assistant Sheriffs Marv Cavanaugh and Cecil Rhambo also joined them.

Sheriff Lee Baca said, “Neal Tyler is an interesting guy with a neat way of looking at life... he is gracious, decent and a true professional.”

Undersheriff Paul Tanaka said, “Thank you from all the people of L.A. County. You have been a great Chief and I will miss you.”

Assistant Sheriff Marv Cavanaugh met Neal, “The most decent human being I have ever met who taught me a lot,” as a sergeant at Central Jail in 1981.

Mark Estrella, Director, Department of Public Works, spoke of the 2004 Station Fire and working with Chief Tyler, from whom he learned a lot.

The big surprise was Orange County’s Sheriff Sandy Hutchens and Undersheriff Jack Scott. (Both are retirees of L.A. County Sheriff’s Department!) Sandy related that when she was a sergeant assigned to Temple Station, Neal was the Watch Commander and her mentor from whom she learned so much, and she was so grateful to him.

Council Members Margaret Clark of Rosemead and Laura Olhasso of La Canada Flintridge also had accolades for Neal.

Retired Chiefs/Commanders were Rich and Lynda Castro, Tom Sams, Jerry Schmiedeke, and Jon Engebretsen, who drove up from San Diego! Current ones included Tim Laing, James Lopez, Michael Grossman, Roberta Abner and husband Phil, Rich Barrantes, (Master of Ceremony) with wife Nora and daughter Deanna, Alex Yim, Bill McSweeney, David Betkey, Jacques La Berge, Gary Jones, Dan Finkelstein, and Ray Leyva. Captain Dave Silversparre & wife Kristen from Crescenta Valley, Captain Bobby Denham and Lt. Paul Clay came from Palmdale; Captain Bob Jonson from Lancaster, and Captain John Benedict from Altadena. Old Temple Station friends were Lt. Bob Wiard, Lt. Brain Moriguchi, Mike Rafter, Arlene Gray, Chris Reed and Joshua Thai. Director/Educational Services Richard Weintraub and COPS Director Natalie Salazar with hubby Danny Di Pace also attended. And there were many more! Family members included his two brothers, sisters-in-law and their families, his cousin and stepmom, Pauline. For me, the highlight of the evening was meeting Teri and Gabe Astorga.



WHAT IF YOU HAD TO EVACUATE?

By Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges has led survival skills and wild food classes since 1974, was the editor of Wilderness Way magazine, and has written 10 books. He can be heard weekly on Preparedness Radio Network. For more information, go to [www.ChristopherNyerges.com](http://www.ChristopherNyerges.com)]

best choice but if you have no choice, then what should you carry?

Before I tried to answer that question, I asked all the students, “If there was an emergency tonight after you get home and you had to evacuate, where would you go? And why would you go there?” Most had no idea where to do, and in all probability, would follow crowds to some likely safe place, or would simply follow the orders of whomever happened to be giving orders.

I urged each student to obtain topographical maps of their local area and to begin to learn about their local environment. Find out where there are sources of water, reservoirs, pools, train lines, etc. In a disaster, your knowledge is far more important than your stuff. Next, I urged each student to get involved in their local Neighborhood Watch, and to do the CERT trainings, and Red Cross emergency first aid. In other words, we need to realize the fact that other people in our community, and our relationships with them, is a far greater “survival tool” than merely having a pack with some knick-knacks in it.

Most people would be surprised to learn the level of preparedness that already occurs in most cities, and within various agencies such as the Red Cross, Police and Sheriff departments, and City Hall. It is to each of our advantage to get to know what has already been planned in our own towns.

Everyone was getting the picture. Get to know your town, your geography, and get to know who’s who in your town, and learn about systems that have already been established in the event of emergencies. Of

course you must still do your own home preparedness, but just don’t do it in a vacuum.

But the student persisted. She still wanted to know what to carry. So I polled the students who’d already been in my class for several weeks. What should one carry in a survival pack? Someone said a knife. Yes, I wrote that on the board. You should carry some sort of useful knife that you’re comfortable with, like a Swiss Army knife, a Leatherman, and so on. Someone suggested that a bow and drill be carried for fire making. No, I said. We learn how to make fire with those primitive methods so we can do it when there is nothing else.

You must have fire, but keep it simple. Carry a Bic or a magnesium fire starter. Water. Yes, you need it, and should carry at least a quart container and a water purifier. And you need to know where to find water. And we continued this way – first aid kit, small flash light, etc. It was more important to get people to consider their individual needs than it was for me to list things that someone else thinks are important.

Survival can be deadly serious, but it can be a very enjoyable pursuit along the way. Learn what you can little by little, but apply your knowledge as you go. That way, your skills are useful and your confidence level is increased. It is never sufficient to say “I saw that on YouTube” and think that you know what it’s all about.

For some idea of what you might carry, look at Francisco Loaiza’s blog spot, where he describes 30 essential items that he recommends to his Boy Scouts. <http://loaizas.blogspot.com/2010/03/franks-30-essential-items-for-hiking-or.html>. For more ideas of what to consider in a kit, you should check out John McCann’s “Build the Perfect Survival Kit,” as well as my own “How to Survive Anywhere.”

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*“Where there is no struggle, there is no merit.”*

THE WORLD AROUND US

Looking Up with Bob Eklund

SIGNS CHANGING FAST FOR VOYAGER AT SOLAR SYSTEM EDGE



Two of three key signs of changes expected to occur at the boundary of interstellar space have changed faster than at any other time in the last seven years, according to new data from NASA’s Voyager 1 spacecraft.

For the last seven years, Voyager 1 has been exploring the outer layer of the bubble of charged particles the Sun blows around itself. In one day, on July 28, data from Voyager 1’s cosmic ray instrument showed the level of high-energy cosmic rays originating from outside our solar system jumped by five percent. During the last half of that same day, the level of lower-energy particles originating from inside our solar system dropped by half. However, in three days, the levels had recovered to near their previous levels.

A third key sign is the direction of the magnetic field, and scientists are eagerly analyzing the data to see whether that has, indeed, changed direction. Scientists expect that all three of these signs will have changed when Voyager 1 has crossed into interstellar space. A preliminary analysis of the latest magnetic field data is expected to be available in the next month.

“These are thrilling times for the Voyager team as we try to understand the quickening pace of changes as Voyager 1 approaches the edge of interstellar space,” said Edward Stone, the Voyager project scientist based at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif. “We are certainly in a new region at the edge of the solar system where things are changing rapidly. But we are not yet able to say that Voyager 1 has entered interstellar space.”

The levels of high-energy cosmic ray particles have been increasing for years, but more slowly than they are now. The last jump—of five percent—took one week in May. The levels of lower-energy particles from inside our solar system have been slowly decreasing for the last two years. Scientists expect that the lower-energy particles will drop close to zero when Voyager 1 finally crosses into interstellar space.

The increase and the decrease are sharper than we’ve seen before, but that’s also what we said about the May data,” Stone said. “The data are changing in ways that we didn’t expect, but Voyager has always surprised us with new discoveries.”

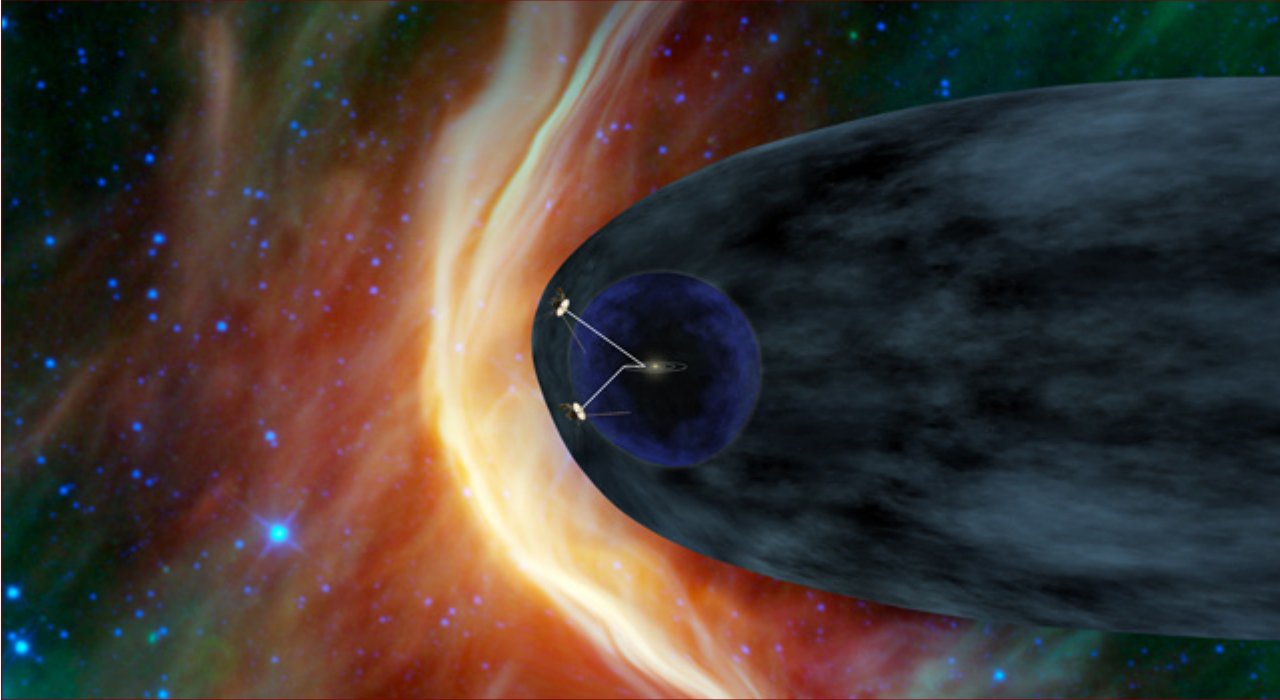
Voyager 1, which launched on Sept. 5, 1977, is 11 billion miles from the Sun. Voyager 2, which launched on Aug. 20, 1977, is close behind, at 9.3 billion miles from the Sun.

\*\*\*\*\*

MEANWHILE, A LOT CLOSER TO HOME but still very far out, NASA’s New Horizons spacecraft is alive and well and has gone about 2/3 of the way on its long journey to Pluto and beyond.

New Horizons was launched in January, 2006, directly into an Earth-and-solar-escape trajectory with an Earth-relative velocity of about 36,000 mph. Thus, the spacecraft left Earth at the greatest-ever launch speed for a man-made object. It flew by the orbit of Mars in April, 2006, the orbit of Jupiter in February, 2007, the orbit of Saturn in June, 2008, and the orbit of Uranus in March, 2011. Currently, it is roughly two billion miles from Earth and a billion miles from Pluto. Its estimated arrival date at the Pluto-Charon system is July 14, 2015.

- More about the Voyager spacecraft: <http://www.nasa.gov/voyager>
- New Horizons artist’s image: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Horizons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Horizons)
- New Horizons trajectory to Pluto: [http://pluto.jhuapl.edu/mission/whereis\\_nh.php](http://pluto.jhuapl.edu/mission/whereis_nh.php)
- You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com).



This artist’s concept shows NASA’s two Voyager spacecraft exploring a turbulent region of space known as the heliosheath, the outer shell of the bubble of charged particles around our sun. Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech



From Best of Arcadia

# DANA ANCHOR MONUMENT SUNK

A Facebook group started in late June that quickly attracted 448 members registering protests and seeking information about this summer’s destruction and removal of the iconic concrete monument topped by an iron anchor in the courtyard of Dana Middle School finally got an official answer today, Tuesday, Aug. 14, from School Board President Joann Steinmeier.

In a letter from Steinmeier to Rory Bennett, the primary leader of the campaign who posted the letter on the Facebook Group she started — Friends of the Dana Middle School Anchor (Arcadia, CA) — Steinmeier said the anchor (impedes) the flow of student traffic on the newly reconfigured campus (artist rendering at right). Dana is the second of all three middle schools to undergo a major face-life as part of the quarter-billion dollar Measure I bond issue.

Steinmeier said the anchor itself, which sat atop the monument, has been preserved and will be showcased in a fenced area in a slightly upright position in a new, smaller courtyard outside of the new library facing First Avenue closer to the completion of overall construction. That is, pending board approval of the \$25,000 cost to do so.

Commenters to Steinmeier’s letter on Facebook seemed only partially mollified, suggesting that the \$25,000 expenditure is excessive and would not have been necessary if the monument had not been destroyed in the first place. Many feel it could have easily and respectfully been incorporated into the new courtyard design.



Artist rendering of renovated courtyard at Dana Middle School



Photo from Friends of Dana Anchor Facebook group

dition to a favorite spot for photo ops, it also provided a physical incarnation of the rite of passage for upper class Dana Mariner students who, according to tradition, earned the right to sit on the monument during lunch break. The monument and the tradition provided a source of pride and confidence. “Friendships were forged on it, school dances were staged around it and first kisses were shared on it,” Bennett wrote. – By Scott Hettrick

## ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, through Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department responded to 864 calls for service of which 124 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, August 5:

1. Around 5:13 p.m., an officer responded to Abercrombie & Fitch at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a theft report. A loss prevention officer observed a group of five male subjects walking throughout the store and recognized them from previous theft incidents. A short foot pursuit resulted in the arrest of one 37-year-old Hispanic male for Burglary and an outstanding felony warrant. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

2. At approximately 9:45 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of Huntington Drive and Santa Clara Street regarding a disturbance. Officers discovered a female victim with one eye bruised, bleeding, and swollen shut; however, she did not require medical attention. An investigation revealed a known male adult beat and robbed her for her wallet. The 36-year-old Hispanic male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Monday, August 6:

3. At about 8:30 a.m., officers responded to the 600 block of Naomi Avenue in regards to a commercial burglary report. The victim explained unknown suspect(s) forced entry into his residence and stole various construction tools worth over \$8,000. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.

4. Around 8:44 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 300 block of South Fifth Avenue regarding a robbery that had just occurred. The Arcadia Fire Department was on scene treating the victim for a bloody nose. An investigation revealed two unknown Hispanic males attacked the victim while he was riding his bicycle and knocked him to the ground. A bystander helped the victim call 911 and observed the suspects as they fled on the victim’s bicycle, northbound on Fifth Avenue.

Tuesday, August 7:

5. Shortly after 1:30 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a motorcycle for equipment violations in the parking lot of 7-Eleven, 2 East Duarte Road. The officer discovered the driver had a suspended license and was in possession of methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, and dangerous weapons. The 37-year-old White male was arrested, transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking, and his motorcycle was impounded.

6. At about 7:23 p.m., officers discovered a vehicle with a warrant attached as they patrolled the 000 block of Las Tunas Drive. Upon contact with the driver, the officer noticed a strong odor of marijuana emitting from inside the vehicle. A search revealed large amounts of marijuana for sales and numerous baked goods, which also contained a controlled substance. The 18-year-old Hispanic female driver and 29-year-old Hispanic male passenger were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Wednesday, August 8:

7. At almost 2:00 p.m., an officer made consensual contact with a male subject walking in the 700 block of Fairview Avenue. The officer discovered he was under the influence of a controlled substance. The 27-year-old male of unknown race was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

8. Shortly after 7:50 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Macy’s at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a theft report. A female adult removed security sensors from various items, concealed the merchandise inside a used shopping bag, and exited the store without making payment. The 19-year-old Chinese female was arrested for Burglary and Possession of Burglary Tools, and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, August 9:

9. At approximately 9:51 a.m., an officer responded to the 900 block of Coronado Drive in reference to an identity theft report. The victims discovered unknown suspect(s) filed a tax return using their exact names, address, and social security numbers. They had no idea how their information was compromised.

10. Around 6:24 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the Arcadia Police Department front counter regarding a theft report. The victim explained her wallet was stolen while she was shopping at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue. She recalled leaving her stroller unattended while inside Gymboeree. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.

Friday, August 10:

11. At about 8:29 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a red Acura Integra for a broken taillight, in the area of Second Avenue and Bonita Street. The officer discovered the driver was on parole, did not have a valid license, and was in possession of narcotics and drug paraphernalia. The 55-year-old Hispanic male was arrested, transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking, and placed on a parole hold.

12. At almost 8:50 p.m., an officer responded to the area of Las Tunas Drive and Baldwin Avenue regarding a two-party traffic collision. The officer determined party-one caused the collision by changing lanes without sufficient clearance. Although both parties pulled over to the side of the road, party-one refused to provide his personal information and left the scene. No injuries were reported.

Saturday, August 11:

13. At about 2:40 a.m., an officer was patrolling the area of Huntington Drive and La Cadena Avenue when he observed a vehicle with two flat tires blocking the roadway. An investigation revealed the driver and passenger were under the influence of alcohol and unable to care for themselves. The 21-year-old Hispanic males were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail.

14. Shortly after 8:43 p.m., officers were dispatched to Macy’s at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to two females detained for theft. A mother and her daughter concealed merchandise inside used shopping bags and exited the store without making payment. The Armenian females, 46 and 27-years-old, were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

## SENIOR CENTER AWARENESS EVENT & CAROTID ARTERY SCREENING

September is National Senior Center Month which gives Arcadia Senior Services the opportunity to showcase their senior citizen activities at the Arcadia Community Center which is located at 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia. The senior center awareness event will be held Friday, September 14, 2012 from 10am– 2pm. This event is a collaborative effort between the City of Arcadia and Methodist Hospital. There will be two featured guest speakers; Dr. Valerie Wren; Associate Clinical Professor at Western University. Dr. Wren will be presenting, “Vision and Fall Prevention” at 10:00am. Dr. R. G. Apelian, Board Certified Neurologist will speak on, “Understanding Stroke and How to Prevent it”. He will discuss risk factors for stroke, how to help prevent a stroke, warning signs, and how Methodist Hospital can help you if you have a stroke. This informative health presentation will take place from 1:00pm to 2:00pm.

There will also be carotid artery screenings available and appointments begin at 9:00am and there is a \$7.00 fee. Other health screenings include: balance & mobility, blood pressure, memory, vision and more. Support groups present will include: BRAILLE Institute, Mended Hearts, Stroke, Cancer, Diabetes, Caregiver (Santa Anita Family Services), Parkinson, Grief and Diabetes. Each vendor will have informational tables. The Community Services class instructors (zumba gold, aerobics, yoga and tai chi) will be giving short demonstrations. Lunch will be available from 11:30am – 12:30pm and tickets can be pre-purchased for \$5.00. There are limited appointments available for the carotid artery screening and lunch so sign up early! This event is geared towards individuals age 50 and over.

For additional information and to register for the lectures please call the Arcadia Community Center at 626.574.5130.

## LOCAL GIRLS “CAMPED IN” AT WHITTIER COLLEGE



Home from AAUW-California’s Tech Trek Science/Math Camp this summer at Whittier College are thirteen girls from local middle schools. Seated (l. to r.) are Marina Orozco and Alexis Kimes, Monrovia; Ann (Yin Yi) Chen and Wendi Segura, El Monte City Schools. Standing (l. to r.) are Brianna Chandra, Irene Wang, Frances Aguilar, and Sai Katapalli, Arcadia; Christine Choy and Candice Lau, Temple City; and Alexandria Constanzo and Frida Franco, El Monte City Schools. The Arcadia Branch of AAUW is sponsor for the local students. (Not pictured: Kimberly Rubio)

No, they don’t have their college degrees yet, but thirteen local middle-school girls completed a successful week this summer on the Whittier College campus, exploring futures in science, math, and technology. Under the sponsorship of the Arcadia Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the thirteen girls attended Tech Trek Science/Math Camp for Girls, a summer program for eighth-grade girls. The goal of Tech Trek Camp is to help young women entering eighth grade in the fall to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in the fields of math and science.

Representing Arcadia were Brianna Chandra and Irene Wang from Dana Middle School, as well as Frances Aguilar and Sai Kottapalli from First Avenue Middle School. El Monte City School District was represented by Ann (Yin Yi) Chen, Gidley School; Kimberly Rubio and Wendi Segura, Potrero School; Alexandria Constanzo, Rio Hondo School; and Frida Franco, Frank M. Wright School. Santa Fe Middle School, Monrovia, sent Alexis Kimes and Marina Orozco. Christine Choy and Candice Lau were selected from Oak Avenue Intermediate School, Temple City.

These young women received a preview of college life while learning that math and science can be fun. They lived in dorms on the Whittier College campus for the week. They attended classes taught by credentialed middle-school teachers in classes emphasizing hands-on experiments. Professional women in the fields of math, science, and technology were guest presenters. Highlighting the activities were field trips to Jet Propulsion Lab, forensics labs, water reclamation plants, and other related science and technology centers. AAUW volunteers served as camp directors, nurses, and chaperones.

Students are nominated by teachers to attend the science, math, and technology camp. The local branch of AAUW that provides the funding for the students to attend makes the final selection of “campers.” AAUW-Arcadia Branch is supporting this endeavor, along with contributions from community donors. Major donors this year are the Arcadia Chinese Association, the Hakka Foundation, Soroptimist of Altadena/Pasadena, the Wayne C. Clayton Foundation, and El Monte City Schools.

Tech Trek had its beginnings at Stanford University in 1998, with initial funding from the AAUW Educational Foundation. This year there were ten camps: CSU-Fresno, Sonoma State University, Stanford University (two weeks), UC-Davis, UC-Irvine, UC-San Diego, UC-Santa Barbara (two weeks), and Whittier College. Tech Trek is continuing proof that AAUW puts its mission—to support equity and education for all women and girls—into action.

To support programs like Tech Trek or to learn more about the American Association of University Women, please contact Tech Trek Coordinator Phyllis Howard at (626) 359-3525

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# MONROVIA - DUARTE

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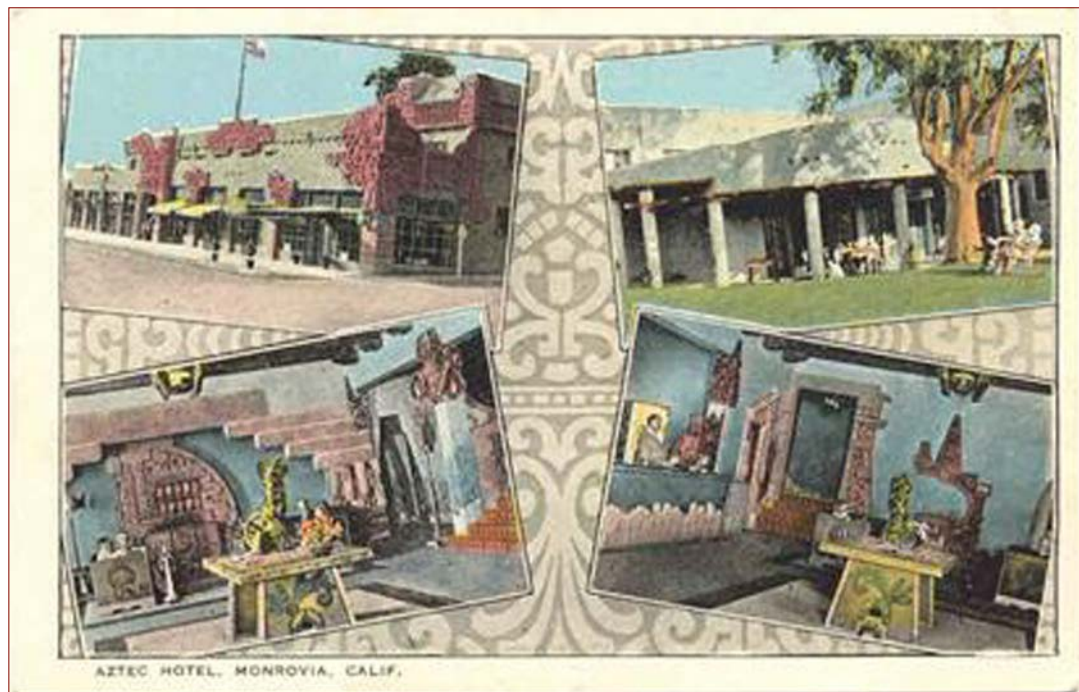
Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## PRESERVING THE HISTORIC AZTEC HOTEL



The Aztec Hotel, a Monrovia landmark on Foothill Blvd, has a long history in our City. The above drawings, captured in 1910, show the hotel as it was first presented to the community. Since then, the Aztec has had a rocky history, but always remained a beloved, sometimes controversial, building. Last week, the Historic Preservation reviewed the first phase for the restoration of the Aztec Hotel. Agenda.

The Aztec Hotel was designated Historic Landmark HL-10 on December 16, 2003. The property was also listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. In April of this year, the property was purchased and the new owner has assembled a team of professionals in various disciplines to assist in the rehabilitation of the Aztec Hotel. Over the past few months, City Staff has been working with members of their team discussing process, procedures and options for the property.

By all accounts, the future of the Aztec Hotel will be challenging. There are both preservation and land use issues that the Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Commission will review and discuss and will ultimately make recommendations to the City Council on changes requiring approval. The City has identified three guiding principles that will help to focus the development of the plan for the property.

1. Emphasis on the preservation and restoration of the Aztec Hotel.
2. Promote long-term economic viability of the property.
3. Identify and permit uses that will be compatible and respectful of the neighborhood.

In May, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed all of the components of Phase I of the plan and at that time determined which projects were classified as general repair and that would not negatively impact the historic character of the property such as the repair of the roof and which specific items require additional detailed information be submitted to them for further review and approval. The meeting on July 25 focused on those tasks which are detailed in the staff report.

The Commission discussed each item presented and also took testimony from the public. In the end, the Commission approved the majority of the request with conditions of approval which is outlined in the decision letter. In the next few weeks, there will begin to be some construction activity at the Aztec as it begins its next chapter. Stay tuned.

## STATE'S ABOLISHMENT OF REDEVELOPMENT STALLS SALE AND DEVELOPMENT OF DUARTE'S NORTHWEST CORNER OF HUNTINGTON DR. AND BUENA VISTA ST.

Since January 2011 when Governor Jerry Brown first announced his plan to dissolve redevelopment agencies and the June 2011 enactment of Assembly Bill x1 26, made it official, the ability to sell Redevelopment Agency-owned property has been stymied by uncertainty by developers, lenders, even major title insurance companies.

The City of Duarte, along with more than 400 other redevelopment successor agencies in the state have been ordered to liquidate Redevelopment Agency-owned property and hand the proceeds over to the State. But a host of newly imposed legislative requirements and procedures under Assembly Bill 1484 which went into effect June 27, 2012 have further complicated the process.

A proposed development in the works since late 2011 to build a Five Guys Burgers and Fries on former Duarte Redevelopment Agency-owned property on the northwest corner of Huntington Dr. and Buena Vista St. is one such example. The deal has been stalled and could be delayed a year or longer because AB 1484 effectively prevents the City, as the successor agency from selling the property until it has complied with a lengthy and complex battery of requirements and procedures.

AB 1484 requires the City to first engage a CPA firm approved by the County auditor-controller to conduct a due diligence audit. Once the audit is completed, it must then go to the Oversight Board for approval. The Oversight Board-approved audit must be filed with the State of California Department of Finance by mid-January 2013. Based on audit approval by the Department of Finance, the County auditor-controller will determine further amounts to be paid by the successor agency to the auditor-controller for distribution to the various taxing agencies. Once that process is completed the successor agency then must apply for and obtain a "finding of completion" from the Department of Finance. When the finding of completion is reviewed and approved, the successor agency can then submit a "property management plan" to the Oversight Board for approval that identifies all the properties of the former redevelopment agency and outlines the plan for disposing of each property. If approved, the property management plan is then submitted to the Department of Finance for its approval. If approved by the Department of Finance, the successor agency can sell the property in accordance with the plan but only after a further hearing and approval by the Oversight Board. The Department of Finance also has the authority to reject the property management plan if it believes the proposed disposition does not maximize the value that can be obtained from the sale of the property. So the City may go through all the required steps and still not obtain approval to sell the site for the intended use.

While all this presents great risk to a developer because they have no guarantee the property can be sold, as of now, the developer remains committed to the project and has recently provided the City with an updated site plan for the northwest corner of Huntington Dr. and Buena Vista St., as well as an updated letter of intent by Five Guys Burgers and Fries, and has conveyed the interest of three possible equity partners to fund the project.

## MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

*Highlighted Activity for August 9-12, 2012*  
*Following are the weekend's highlighted issues and events. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to the City of Monrovia website at [www.monroviapd.org](http://www.monroviapd.org) and click on the crime mapping link. Sign up to follow us on twitter for police notifications.*

### Indecent Exposure - Suspect Arrested

On August 9 at 6:20 a.m., a female resident reported a male subject near the intersection of Palm and Primrose exposing and fondling himself. An officer responded and detained the suspect, and the female reporting party completed a private person's arrest. The suspect was taken into custody and was later released on citation. At 6:15 a.m. the next day, the female resident observed the same male subject again exposing and fondling himself at the same intersection of Palm and Primrose. An officer arrived and apprehended the male suspect. Another private person's arrest was completed. Charges of indecent exposure will be filed with the District Attorney's Office. The suspect is described as an adult male Black, 5 foot 8 inches tall, 235 pounds, and approximately 30 years old. If anyone has witnessed a similar crime in the area, please contact the Monrovia Police Department Detective Bureau at (626) 256-8041.

### Domestic Violence - Suspect Arrested

On August 10 at 10:01 p.m., officers were dispatched to a residence in the 300 block of West Lemon regarding a man choking a woman. When officers arrived, the female victim told them her live-in fiancé had choked her and hit her, then left the location. She had visible bruises on her face, arms and legs. She told the officers it was the second time he had hit her in the past week, but she did not report the first incident. An area check was made for the suspect; he was located, detained and ultimately arrested. He was charged with two counts of domestic violence.

### Driving Under the Influence Traffic Collision - Suspect Arrested

On August 11 at 2:23 a.m., a vehicle that was traveling south on Alta Vista, turned east onto Cypress and lost control. The driver veered the vehicle toward the north curb and stopped. He then accelerated and managed to turn the vehicle toward the south curb, where it collided with a parked vehicle. Officers arrived and determined the driver to be intoxicated; he was arrested for driving under the influence.

### Vehicle Burglary

On August 12 at 3:59 p.m., a vehicle burglary was reported in the 100 block of West Lemon. The victim parked and locked his Toyota 4Runner in the gated garage complex of his residence in the evening. He returned to his vehicle the next day at about 3 p.m. and found his vehicle was open. Miscellaneous items were taken. No damage was done to the vehicle. Investigation continuing.

### Driving Under the Influence Traffic Collision - Suspect Arrested

On August 13 at 4:09 a.m., officers responded to the 2500 block of South Myrtle regarding a non-injury traffic collision. When they arrived, they discovered a solo motorist had collided into four unoccupied parked vehicles. Through investigation, the officers determined the motorist was driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and taken into custody.

### Special Enforcement Team Weekly Activity

Possession of a Loaded Firearm in a Vehicle / Possession for Sales and Transportation of Marijuana / Possession of Rock Cocaine / Warrants - Three Suspects Arrested  
On August 11 at 7:26 p.m., Special Enforcement Team officers stopped a vehicle for vehicle code violations in the 500 block of East Cherry. Officers noticed an odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle as they spoke to the driver. The vehicle was occupied by two male adults and one female adult. The vehicle was searched and officers found a loaded firearm, baggies of marijuana, empty baggies, and a weight scale. All three occupants were arrested. The driver was arrested for possession for sales and transportation of marijuana, possession of a loaded firearm in a vehicle, and possession of rock cocaine. The male passenger was arrested for false impersonation of another, possession for sales of marijuana and an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. The female passenger was arrested for possession of a methamphetamine pipe and an outstanding warrant. The vehicle was stored.



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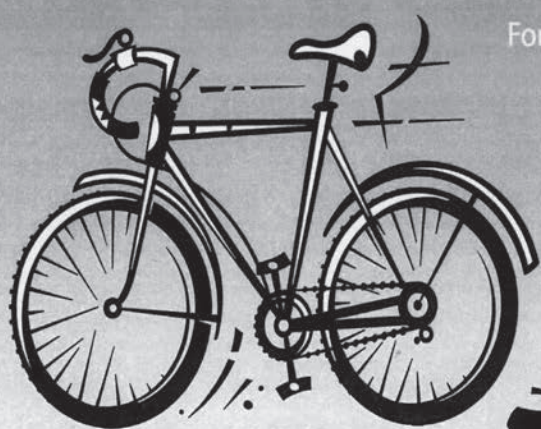
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## 3RD ANNUAL 2012 Bike/Walk-a-Thon



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**Saturday, September 15, 2012**  
**Covina Park**

CHECK IN: 8:30 a.m. just north of the Bandshell • START TIME: 9 a.m.

BIKE DISTANCE: 30 miles max. (3 mile route around scenic Covina)

WALK DISTANCE: 1/4 mile dirt track or .6 mile sidewalk route around Covina Park

**No Registration Fees**

We want to make it easy for you to join us for a fun morning of biking or walking! Instead of raising money on a "per lap" or "per mile" basis, we are asking that riders or walkers simply request sponsorship to ride/walk or make a donation themselves.

Call Citrus Valley Health Foundation at (626) 814-2421  
for registration and pledge forms.

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## PUSD WEEKLY NEWSFLASH - WELCOME BACK!

The 2012-2013 academic year begins Wednesday, August 22, 2012 for students of the Pasadena Unified School District's (PUSD).

Students entering or advancing into seventh grade will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster immunization (called Tdap) in order to attend school this fall. For immunization requirements for K-12 students, go to [www.health-programs.pasadenausd.org](http://www.health-programs.pasadenausd.org) or call (626) 396-3600 extension 88180. The PUSD clinic will offer free immunizations for students only on August 20 from 8:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. at 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena. Immunizations will also be available for students every Monday starting August 27 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the PUSD clinic.

After school programs are available through the district's Pasadena LEARNs office. For more information, call (626) 396-3614. After school programs are also available through the City of Pasadena After School Adventures Program. For more information call 626-744-7302 or visit [cityof-pasadena.net/HumanServices/After\\_School\\_Playgrounds/](http://cityof-pasadena.net/HumanServices/After_School_Playgrounds/)

Families who think that they may qualify are encouraged to apply for the federal free and reduced price school meal program. Applications have been mailed to student's homes and

are available at PUSD schools. For more information, contact PUSD's Food Services at (626) 396-5850.

PUSD welcomes four new principals this year: Lorena Martinez, principal of Eliot Middle School; Tim Sippel; principal of John Muir High School; Rodolfo Ramirez, Jr., principal of San Rafael Elementary; and Jeffrey Bauer, principal of Webster Elementary School.

Rose City High School principal Eric Sahakian has been promoted to Director of the district's Child Welfare, Attendance and Safety department. He replaces Sonia Rodarte, who has accepted a position with the Santa Ana Unified School District. They will work together in the next month to ensure a smooth transition.

## NEXT WEEK &amp; BEYOND

Saturday, August 18

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Muir Ranch, the community supported agricultural project operated by Muir High School students, gives away free seedlings for vegetables and fruit grown in school or classroom gardens. John Muir High School, Room K601, 1905 Lincoln Ave., Pasadena. Enter on Cañada Street.

Monday, August 20

8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. The PUSD

health clinic offers free immunizations in time for the return to school. For students only. Immunizations will also be available for students every Monday starting August 27 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the PUSD clinic. PUSD Health Clinic, Room 130, 351 S. Hudson Avenue, Room 130, Pasadena

Tuesday, August 21

All day Teachers and staff prepare classrooms and campuses for the arrival of students.

Wednesday, August 22

Times vary The 2012-2013 academic year begins as more than 18,000 students return to school in PUSD. Please contact schools for specific start and dismissal times, registration and traffic instructions.

Saturday, August 25

8:30 a.m. Roosevelt Elementary School invites you to participate in the Devil's Gate Dam 5K Run/Walk and Special Needs Awareness Expo in support of Danny's Farm, the working farm for children and adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. For more information, visit [www.devilsgatedam5k.com](http://www.devilsgatedam5k.com) Hahamonga Watershed Park, Oak Grove Drive and Foothill Blvd., Pasadena

Monday, August 27

6:30 p.m. PUSD's Community Advisory Committee for Special Education invites parents, teachers, administrators and staff to "Fostering Empathy and Action in Our Schools," a workshop to help prevent bullying. The workshop will be led by Dan Alba, director of the Los Angeles office of Facing History and Ourselves, the international educational and professional development organization whose mission is to engage students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice and anti-semitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry. Edison Professional Development Complex, 119 W. Palm Avenue, Altadena. For more information, go to [www.cac.pasadenausd.org](http://www.cac.pasadenausd.org) or contact CAC Chair Joy Costello at (626) 797-9697

Tuesday, August 28

5:30 p.m. The Board of Education meets in public session. Spanish translation provided. Meetings are broadcast live on KLRN-TV and streamed live at [www.pusd.us](http://www.pusd.us). Meeting agendas are posted in advance at [www.pusd.us](http://www.pusd.us). Elbie J. Hickabottom Board Room, 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena.

Monday, September 3 PUSD schools and offices closed in observance of Labor Day.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

**Alverno High School**

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

**Arcadia High School**

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

**Arroyo Pacific Academy**

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

**Barnhart School**

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

**Bethany Christian School**

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

**Foothill Oaks Academy**

822 Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010  
(626) 301-9809  
[info@foothilloaksacademy.org](mailto:info@foothilloaksacademy.org)  
[preschool@foothilloaksacademy.org](mailto: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](http://www.goodenschool.org)

**High Point Academy**

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

**LaSalle High School**

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

**Monrovia High School**

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

**Norma Coombs Alternative School**

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

**Odyssey Charter School**

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

**Pasadena High School**

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

**Pasadena Unified School District**

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

**St. Rita Catholic School**

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

**Sierra Madre Elementary School**

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

**Sierra Madre Middle School**

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

**Walden School**

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

**Weizmann Day School**

1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 797-0204  
Lisa Feldman: Head of School

**Wilson Middle School**

300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
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**THE REEL DEAL:** by Ben Show

*Movie Reviews Especially for Teens & 'Tweens*

**DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: Dog Days**

The latest installment of the 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' series is almost exactly like the others except for one key aspect: it actually made me laugh.

The movie begins with the Heffley family (Zachary Gordon, Devon Bostick, Steve Zahn, Rachael Harris, and Connor/Owen Fielding) going to a "fun" family swim to kick off the summer, which sounds nice, until you find out the pool is jam packed with people. The scene is filled with awkward, yet uncomfortably funny moments, like when the little Manny gets lost in the men's shower room or when Greg has to go play with him in the little kids pool and he starts peeing.

While this movie made me laugh the most, it still has flaws and a lot of them. The acting was completely atrocious and nearly unbearable which, I guess, is part of the humor. Plus, out of all the relationships in the movie, only two really worked well: Greg and Rodrick, and Greg and Holly. The rest were decent at best.

At the same time, amidst all the bad acting, this movie is downright funny. Now, that could just be because I am roughly the same age as Greg, but I heard parents laughing in the theater. Not all of the humor works, though, and in those cases, you're stuck with the characters in an awkward situation for over fifteen minutes.

Overall, I did find 'Dog Days' to be a decent movie. Most humor worked, some relationships made it, and the directing (David Bowers) was good enough. The screenplay needed a little more time put into it and the editor (Troy Takaki) could have cut some scenes shorter, but it was a good movie by kid's standards.

*Ben Show is local Monrovia going into the eighth grade. He loves to read, write, and watch movies. He can be reached at (626) 429-6424 or [benshow@earthlink.net](mailto:benshow@earthlink.net)*

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TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills  
thechefknows@yahoo.com

SHARE OUR STRENGTH  
BAKE SALE

Friends, this week I have devoted my article to a very worthwhile event that you my loyal readers should be sure to attend. **Monique’s Kids 4 Kids** along with Premier Designs is holding their annual Bake Sale to End Childhood Hunger in Pasadena/South Pasadena Ca.

Monique’s Kids 4 Kids along with Premier Designs is joining millions of people across the country who are making a difference by joining the fight against childhood hunger in America. It’s a simple as attending this bake sale. It’s a team comprised of local Pasadena children ranging from ages 3-9 along with their families.

What: Monique’s Kids 4 Kids is/are having bake sale, as part of Share Our Strength’s Great American Bake Sale, a national campaign that mobilizes Americans to end childhood hunger by holding bake sales in their communities. There will be baked goods by numerous families in the Pasadena/South Pasadena area and donations from local bakeries, Raffle, and Cake Auction.

When: September 1st 2012 9am-1pm  
Where: 1080 S. Los Robles Ave. Pasadena, CA. 91106  
Details: This year, nearly 1 in 5 children across the country struggle with hunger. That’s more than 16 million kids. Funds raised through Great American Bake Sale will be used to support Share Our Strength’s efforts to end childhood hunger in America. Share Our Strength works to surround kids facing hunger with nutritious food where they live, learn and play.

About Share Our Strength’s Great American Bake Sale

Share Our Strength’s Great American Bake Sale®, co-presented by Domino® Sugar and C&H® Sugar, and Duncan Hines®, is a national effort that encourages Americans to host bake sales in their communities to support the No Kid Hungry® Campaign, Share Our Strength’s national effort to end childhood hunger in America by 2015. Since 2003, more than 1.2 million people have participated in Great American Bake Sale, raising more than \$8 million to make sure there is no kid hungry in America. Great American Bake Sale is supported by official bakeware partner Chicago Metallic, national television partner Food Network, national magazine partner Family Circle, and official baking ingredient partner Solo.

Visit [GreatAmericanBakeSale.org](http://GreatAmericanBakeSale.org).  
Contact: Contact Monique Lopez (Coordinator)  
(626) 437-2830 [moniqueskids4kidsbakesale@gmail.com](mailto:moniqueskids4kidsbakesale@gmail.com)

Listen to Dining with Dills every Saturday Night at 6 PM on KABC Radio 790 AM.



INGREDIENTS

AVOCADO CREAM:  
2 cups/500ml plain thick yogurt or sour cream  
4 avocados, pitted, peeled and chopped  
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped  
Zest and juice of 1 lime  
A handful fresh cilantro leaves, chopped  
A few drops green hot sauce, such as Tabasco  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

PICO DE GALLO:  
2 tablespoons/30ml olive oil  
2 tomatoes, seeded and chopped  
1 clove garlic, minced  
1 onion, finely chopped  
1 red bell pepper, seeded and chopped  
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped  
Juice of 1 lime  
A handful fresh cilantro leaves, chopped  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

FISH:  
3 cups/750ml all-purpose flour  
1/4 cup/60ml cornstarch  
1 tablespoon/15ml baking powder  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
2 1/2 cups/625ml beer (2 bottles)  
2 eggs, beaten  
Canola or peanut oil, for frying  
1 pound haddock fillets, cut into large cubes (450 grams)

HOMEMADE TORTILLAS:  
2 cups/500ml very fine corn flour (masa harina)  
1 teaspoon/5ml salt

SPICY GREEN CHILI SAUCE:  
24 hot green chile peppers, such as jalapeno, poblano, hatch or Cubanelle  
1/4 cup/60ml olive oil  
Salt  
1 onion, finely chopped  
2 tablespoons/30ml distilled white vinegar

DIRECTIONS

For the avocado cream: Puree the yogurt, avocados, jalapeno, lime zest and juice, cilantro and hot sauce to taste in a food processor until smooth. Season with salt and pepper. Refrigerate until ready to use.

For the pico de gallo: Combine the oil, tomatoes, garlic, onions, bell peppers, jalapeno, lime juice and cilantro in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Refrigerate until ready to use.

For the fish: Combine 2 cups flour, the cornstarch, baking powder and some salt in a bowl. Quickly stir in the beer and eggs (don't worry if there are a few lumps).

Heat the oil in a deep fryer to 350 degrees F (180 degrees C).

Put the remaining 1 cup flour in a shallow dish. Dredge the fish lightly in the flour. Dip the fish in the beer batter to coat, and then fry until crisp and golden brown, about 1 1/2 minutes. Drain on paper towels and season with salt and pepper.

For serving:

Spread some avocado cream on a Homemade Tortilla. Top with 3 pieces of fish and some shredded lettuce. Finish with pico de gallo and Spicy Green Chili Sauce.  
Combine the flour, 1 1/2 cups water and the salt, and then knead to form the dough. Pinch off a golf-ball-size piece of dough and use your hands to flatten it into a round shape. Set the round on a piece of plastic wrap and cover with another piece of plastic. Use the back of a heavy cast-iron skillet to flatten the dough. (You can use a tortilla press if you have one.)

Transfer the tortilla to a hot, dry skillet. Cook for about 30 seconds on each side. Remove and keep warm. Repeat with the remaining dough.  
Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F (225 degrees C).

Put the peppers on a baking sheet. Drizzle with 2 tablespoons oil and season with salt. Roast until the skins are charred, about 30 minutes. Transfer the peppers to an airtight container and let cool (this will make them easier to peel). Peel off the skins, remove the seeds and cut the peppers into chunks.

Heat the remaining 2 tablespoons oil in a saucepan over medium-high heat. Saute the onions until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Add the roasted peppers, vinegar, coriander, garlic and sugar and cook for 1 minute. Add 2 cups (500 ml) water and lower the heat to medium-low. Cook until almost all the liquid has evaporated, about 30 minutes. Stir in the cilantro and season with salt and pepper.

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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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Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc

If you are a dog owner in Sierra Madre or in one of the other foothill communities, you are most likely among the many locals who’ve become quite concerned about how to protect their pets from harm in the heat, and keep a good healthy exercise regimen for them at the same time. We all want to do what it takes to keep our four legged furry friends cool during the summer months, but at the same time we don’t want them becoming calorie-collecting canine couch potatoes due to lack of exercise. A client of mine told me about a creative and fantastically fun way she chose to beat the heat with one of her pups last weekend, and I immediately thought her story was worth sharing.

When I first moved to California in the early eighties, I lived in the Redondo & Hermosa Beach communities. I have happy memories of playing fetch in the sand, and swimming and wading through the breakers with “Lady”, my dog at the time, followed by leisurely walks on the strand in the late afternoon cool ocean breezes. Back then, in the South Bay, there were a couple of areas where you could get away with having a dog on the beach, so I took full advantage of that privilege, particularly on a hot summer day. Living in the foothills now, I truly treasure those memories, because the distance and drive make going to the beach less convenient, and finding a beach that

## KEEP IT COOL WITH YOUR CANINE

will allow dogs is not as easy as it used to be. However, there are still a few canine-kind beaches out there, and when you find them it is definitely worth the drive, if it means helping keep you and your canine cool.

Sierra Madre residents, Mike Bieber and Jennifer Cichocki, are pleased to be the proud owners of three delightful and absolutely gorgeous dogs named “Sid”, “Gunner” and “Elijah”. Their 3 beloved ‘boys’ sure got lucky when they found a home where they are treated with the utmost respect and unconditional love that they indeed deserve, and for that they are very grateful dogs. I enjoy spending time with Mike and Jennifer’s dogs when they need me for walks or visits, and I consider it an honor to call them my canine companions. Some readers might remember a story I wrote in this column several months ago, about ‘Sid doing the twist’. Well, while I am still very impressed with Sid’s dancing talents and techniques, I recently learned this precious pointer/pit mix is an agile athlete both on and off the dance floor! In fact, as it turns out,

Sid is a rather impressive paddle-boarder! That’s right, Sid is one cool canine whose balancing act on a board is potentially more impressive than that of some humans you might see on the surf. And, what better way for a canine to keep it cool than by hanging out with his favorite humans, taking a dip in the refreshing ocean water and strutting his stuff in front of the other doggy dudes & dudettes at the beach?

When I heard about Jennifer & Sid’s weekend water excursion in San Diego, it prompted me to look into dog-friendly water sports in hopes of sharing a few fresh

ideas on ways to help pet owners avoid the heat with their dogs while ensuring that they are still getting the exercise they need. Apparently one of the most popular water sports for canines is dock diving which I find quite fascinating, but to me the most impressive canine water sport is dog surfing! I had heard about it before, and had seen a few dogs known to be skilled surfers on Animal Planet, one of which appeared on a float in this year’s Tournament of Roses Parade! However, I had no idea how popular dog surfing had become until I saw a video on Youtube of an annual dog surfing event designed to benefit animal adoption and education programs, and I must say even if didn’t help place animals in loving homes, I would still be in absolute awe of those darling dogs riding it in on the waves with their surfboards! Anyone who likes dogs and enjoys a good laugh should see the surfing video entitled ‘Best of 2010 Helen Woodward Surf Dog Surfing Contest’ posted by user: SoCalBeachesMagazine. After seeing that video, I guarantee you will want to attend the next event with your own cool canine. This year’s contest will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm at Del Mar Dog Beach. For more information, visit [animalcenter.org](http://animalcenter.org).

There are lots of other ways to keep it cool with your canine right here at home, too. Backyard doggie pool and sprinkler parties are a great alternative for beating the heat if you are not up to taking a drive to the beach. Whichever method you choose to keep your canine cool, remember to enjoy the time you have together. Take good care of your pets, give them lots of love and respect, and I guarantee they will reciprocate in more ways than you expect!



Jennifer and Sid keeping it cool in San Diego

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# SPORTS

The Baseball Reliquary & Burbank Public Library Present

## SUMMER OF '68: THE SEASON THAT CHANGED BASEBALL—AND AMERICA—FOREVER

Discussion and book signing with Tim Wendel

In conjunction with the exhibition, “Bad Moon Rising: Baseball and the Summer of ‘68” (currently on view through September 27, 2012 at the Burbank Central Library), the Baseball Reliquary and Burbank Public Library present a discussion and book signing with Tim Wendel, author of *Summer of ‘68: The Season That Changed Baseball—and America—Forever*, on Thursday, August 23, at 7:00 p.m., at the Burbank Central Library Auditorium, 110 N. Glenoaks Blvd., Burbank, California. Wendel will also narrate a PowerPoint presentation of images from the book.

Published in 2012 by Da Capo Press, *Summer of ‘68: The Season That Changed Baseball—and America—Forever* chronicles the extraordinary baseball season of 1968, played out against the backdrop of one of the most divisive years in American history, marked by national tragedy and sweeping change. In the book’s preface, Wendel writes, “In 1968, the gods were angry. It’s been called ‘the year that rocked the world,’ and it rarely showed any mercy. How else to describe a single year in which Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed by an assassin’s bullet and weeks later Robert Kennedy met the same fate? In which riots broke out in the streets in cities across the country, and millions gathered to protest the issues surrounding the Vietnam War and civil rights, often to be met with resistance and in some cases brutality. In which everything boiled over late that summer in the streets of Chicago. Thanks to television, our world in 1968 was shrink-wrapped forever. We were able to view all this on a nightly basis, with much of it cued up for instant replay. Seemingly overnight we had become Marshall McLuhan’s ‘global village,’ and what we saw was that things everywhere were unraveling, being pulled apart at the seams, often with unbearable force.”

While much has been written about the impact of this traumatic year on politics, music, and culture, what has often been overlooked is the pivotal role that sports, and particularly baseball, played as both an important diversion and as a catalyst for change and healing. Wendel’s book examines how ballplayers responded to the upheaval in 1968, often in surprising ways. In Detroit, for instance, the Tigers put together a World Championship season in the aftermath of one of the deadliest riots in American history. “We quickly learned that if we could pull together as a team – that meant everybody, blacks and whites – perhaps we could set an example for the rest of the city,” Tigers’ outfielder Willie Horton said. “There was a lot more riding on that ‘68 season for us, for the city, than just wins and losses.”

Tim Wendel is the author of nine books, including *High Heat: The Secret History of the Fastball and the Improbable Search for the Fastest Pitcher of All Time*, which was an Editor’s Selection by the *New York Times* Book Review. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Weekend*, *Washingtonian*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Huffington Post*, *GQ*, and *Esquire*.



Author Tim Wendel

Wendel teaches fiction and nonfiction writing at Johns Hopkins University, where he received the 2009 Award for Teaching Excellence and the Professional Achievement Award in 2004 and 2010. He is a Walter E. Dakin Fellow and Tennessee Williams Scholar to the Sewanee Writing Conference, and a Pen/Faulkner visiting writer to the Washington, D.C. Public Schools. He received his Master’s in writing from Johns Hopkins and a Bachelor’s in magazine journalism from Syracuse University. Born in Philadelphia, Wendel was raised in Lockport, New York. One of his first jobs was writing music reviews for the *Buffalo Courier-Express*. Since then he’s worked on both coasts and in between, covering everything from the Olympics to politics to the America’s Cup. Wendel lives in Vienna, Virginia with his wife and their two children.

For further information, contact the Baseball Reliquary by phone at (626) 791-7647 or by e-mail at [terymar@earthlink.net](mailto:terymar@earthlink.net). For directions or parking information, phone the Burbank Central Library at (818) 238-5600 during library hours.

The program is free of charge and is made possible, in part, by a grant to the Baseball Reliquary from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Thursday, August 23, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
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## SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

Review By Sean Kayden

### KILLER JOE

*Rated: NC-17 for graphic disturbing content involving violence and sexuality, and a scene of brutality*

Director William Friedkin brings, Killer Joe, Tracy Letts' 1993 play (who also adapted the screenplay) to the big screen. This "totally twisted deep-fried Texas redneck trailer park murder story" depicted on the film poster definitely fits that outlandish description. However, the often lurid and perverse film isn't what it's all cracked up to be. Emile Hirsch plays Chris Smith, a twenty something year old lowlife that owes money to a drug dealer. His mother sold his cocaine and he's in a crucial bind. Desperate for cash, Chris seeks aid from his father Ansel, portrayed by Thomas Haden Church. Ansel, as broke as they come by these days, can't help his son. Nonetheless, Chris proposes a plan to hire a man named Joe Cooper aka Killer Joe, a Dallas detective, who's also a contract killer to murder his mother. His apparently good-for-nothing mother, Ansel's ex-wife, has an insurance policy of \$50,000. If they get rid of her, they can split the profit. However, the beneficiary of the will is Dottie, Chris' younger, impressionable sister played by the lovely Juno Temple. After trying to convince his father at a seedy strip club, the two return back to their trailer park home to further discuss the matter. Dottie, overhears them contemplating the notion and is surprisingly all for it. Problem solved? Not exactly.

Enters, Joe Cooper, portrayed by Matthew McConaughey gives an oily slick and almost stoic, sociopath like performance. One of the character's rules is simple, payment upfront. When Chris tries to explain to him that they'll get the money after he takes care of his mother, Cooper is about to walk out on them. Until he lays his eyes on Dottie for a second time and suggests a retainer. Faced with the dilemma of giving us his sister, Chris and Ansel without any real trepidation put up Dottie as the retainer, figuring it won't be that long until they get the money, anyway. After this takes place, the movie begins to unravel into a silly, nearly comical experience.

The chemistry between characters is so uneven and lacks any true spark, especially with the scenes between Hirsch and Church. Church's character is nothing but a buffoon. I'm not sure what it was exactly, but Church's acting prowess is off kilter and utterly misguided here. McConaughey, on the other hand, is twisted and sick, but it's difficult to take your eyes off of him. His character is unequivocally the best aspect the movie has to offer, which isn't saying that much seeing how the rest of it is derivative, unfeasible, and merely bland. You never really care about any of these characters with, perhaps, the exception of Dottie. She becomes involved with a weird love affair with Joe. You're never entirely sure if she loves him or what the deal is. In the third act, Chris has held off paying off his debt to the drug dealer long enough and he's ready to collect. So then we have the obligatory "I-need-cash-fast-so-I'll-bet-everything-I-have-on-a-pony-at-the-racetrack" scene and of course that becomes futile at securing the cash needed to pay off some guy who's about to beat the crap out of you. The climax at the end is a bit obvious, but what occurs within the scene is downright explicit. The dialogue gets pretty hokie at times too. The final moments of Killer Joe couldn't be more preposterous and insane. At the end of the day, every character is idiotic, but I guess that's kind of the point to entire story. For a movie that's received much praise by critics, I am honestly left stunned. Killer Joe ultimately proves to be a movie set on being nasty, shocking, and raw. Yeah, it accomplishes that all right, but simply in the worst possible way.

Grade: 2 out of 5

Directed by: William Friedkin  
 Screenplay: Tracy Letts  
 Release Date: July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (Limited)

# HEALTH & FITNESS

## THE JOY OF YOGA BALANCING



How many plates can you keep spinning at one time? Do you know when you are at capacity? Does it change from day to day? If you are like me, it's always a challenge to balance. A funny thing about yoga, it helps you balance. Not just balancing poses, like Tree (vrikshasana) but balance your life as well. When you sit down on your mat the first thing you should do is check in. Check on your breath and how you feel. Your breath can tell you if you need to let go or to gather energy. This is huge.

Once you can learn to balance your energy level you will know when it's time to rest. Time to rest restores your energy so that you feel good and can enjoy the things you do. Maybe even do a little more. Pushing

through and depleting your energy leaves you irritable, unable to smile and heavy, suddenly everything seems huge and overwhelming. Doesn't this seem like common sense? Why on earth would we deplete ourselves so that we become irritable and overwhelmed? Why on earth would we not eat right and deprive ourselves of vital energy? But yet we do this. There is so much to do! We even say to ourselves 'next time I am going to go to bed early, instead of getting sucked into the computer for another hour...'

But alas, the next day we are back on Facebook or stopping for fast food. So, how can yoga help us learn how to manage our energy? First of all, by becoming aware of how precious our energy is. We need to learn what gives us energy back. Yoga and meditation do. Even though we are working hard in class and feel our muscles fatigue, we get more energy back. We feel lighter in our step. Yoga helps us to balance prana, our vital life energy, through our breath. We then feel more balance in all areas of our lives. All yogis will tell you the problem they came to class with looks much better after class. That's balancing prana. What do you need to balance in your life?

I hope you'll find the way in class. Namasté, René

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## FITNESS MADE EASY by Kurt Vazquez

### NO TIME FOR EXERCISE, REALLY!



Many of us were thoroughly engrossed in the amazing athletic skills displayed at the Olympics. What is not often mentioned is that a great number of these athlete work regular jobs and have family responsibilities in addition to the countless hours they put into training. What we can learn from them is the discipline it takes to plan workouts around their various obligations. They make no excuses about missing training because of being too tired or too busy, why should we? Especially when all is really required is that we put away 30 minutes a day, 3 to 5 days a week to give our bodies what it needs to keep us healthy and strong. The key to an effective program and long lasting success is to change it up and dosomething different everyday, for example...hike/run on Monday, strength train on Tuesday, Yoga on Wednesday, ride the bike on Thursday and strength train on Friday.

You get the idea, there are a lot of options to choose from and there aren't any strict rules on what to do on a given day. Your body benefits more from a constant change in how it is challenged. Although the exercise type you choose may stay the same, you can also change the order of when you do them from week to week. I only have one rule, work as hard as you possibly can in the 30 minutes.

Want it all in 30 minutes? Get to your gym! My most popular training programs are half hour sessions that incorporate strength, core work and cardiovascular challenges. My clients love how much work they get done in such a little time. Many gyms and personal trainers offer 1/2 hour training sessions that are efficient and affordable. It is a valuable investment to have a trainer design a program that will fit in your time constraints, they can also design an effective home based workout with very little equipment.

So now the problem of "when" becomes the challenge, the answer is....whenever you can. There are 1440 minutes in a day, your body is only asking for 30 of them. Schedule it as part of your day as you do any other appointment. There is no magical formula, just the discipline to make a commitment and stay consistent. Varying your routine and exercise patterns will go a long way to guaranteeing success.

*Kurt Vazquez is a Nationally Certified Personal Trainer. His philosophy is simple: Fitness is a process, not a project. He can be reached at (626) 695-2624 or [kurtvasquez@yahoo.com](mailto:kurtvasquez@yahoo.com).*

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



## HISTORIC 1910 CRAFTSMAN IN OLD MONROVIA

Many buyers searching for a historic or “character” home love the idea of living amidst history. On the “must have” list is often leaded glass cabinetry, original millwork and built-ins, French doors, vintage lighting... and that all American front porch.

One can almost see the eyes mist over when buyers envision themselves sitting on the porch with a cool beverage in the shade of the front porch, waving to neighbors passing by.

Sometimes, though, the mechanics of living a century-old lifestyle with vintage kitchen, baths and systems, become a bit more of a chore than a delight.

The sellers of this charming Monrovia home have carefully preserved the best of the historic nature of the home, and then completely updated the kitchen, baths, laundry, electrical, roof, landscaping and much more to accommodate today's 21st century needs.

Listing agent, Pauli Morin, commented, “In the largest bath, for instance, the sellers brought in a claw foot tub, to tie in with the home's vintage, then used a historic pattern of black and white ceramic tiles for the flooring, plus dramatic black slab counters.” The result is both historically sensitive, as well as chic by today's standards. The oversized, walk-in shower, though modern and delightful with its rainfall shower head, uses the minimalist plate glass surround to allow the historic style to shine and visually expand the room.



The kitchen was gutted, then totally remodeled with slab granite, stainless steel appliances and recessed lighting.

On the vintage side, the leaded glass cabinetry, original millwork and built-ins, the vintage lighting and the all American porch are all there, waiting to be loved by new owners. French doors open to the back patio and yard, so one can enjoy sun or shade in the front or back depending on preference or time of day.

The front porch offers wide stairs to the dual front doors, flanked by arroyo stone pillars and foundation. A heritage wisteria vine shades the porch and provides a multitude of blossoms in the spring months.

This Monrovia home offers a healthy dose of the “story” in history as well as the vintage charm. The dual front doors begin the story of this home. Eugene P. Rawson, established the Fernleaf Grocery at 215 S. California, according to Tim Gregory, The Building Biographer.

The undeveloped space adjacent to the home is the site of the Rawsons' grocery store that once served this neighborhood. Mr. Rawson used what is now the dining room, to run his grocery business. His business associates would enter through one door, and family or friends would enter the rest of the home through the mirror image, adjacent door.

The undeveloped space where the grocery once stood could be the site of a wonderful home vegetable garden or children's play yard. Morin recommends that those interested in a higher use of the land contact the city of Monrovia for further information.

After you've had your lemonade on the vintage front porch, and reveled in the vintage character of the home, be sure to enjoy the goldfish pond and new landscaping in the back yard. And... there's a two car garage to boot!

This home's delightful back yard provides a peaceful oasis from busy SoCal life, but the vibrant again. The district is full of life, with the Krikorian Movie Theater, many highly rated bistros,



Old Town Monrovia is just a few short blocks' walk, when one is ready for the outside world again. The district is full of life, with the Krikorian Movie Theater, many highly rated bistros,

225 S California Avenue in Monrovia offers three bedrooms, three baths and 1740 square feet of living space. The property is offered at \$574,000 by Pauli Morin of Coldwell Banker. For more information or to view this home, contact the agent at 626-233-2047 or [PMorin@ColdwellBanker.com](mailto:PMorin@ColdwellBanker.com).



### Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou Realtor®

## ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

In spite of the real estate roller coaster of the last few years, homeownership remains the bedrock of financial and familial security. Having a long-term investment that provides the satisfaction and pride of ownership beats just about anything else you can do with your savings.

When the market exploded several years ago, the expectations of many consumers grew too high, too fast. Homes became more commodities than investments, and now markets and attitudes have been forced to realign.

Conditions today make it an opportune time to secure your future. Home prices and interest rates are still low, and tax advantages are abundant. You just have to get past all the negativity in the media. All the bad news has drained consumer confidence, and frankly, you cannot underestimate the effect of intangibles like confidence and expectation on the real estate industry.

Real estate transactions are unlike any other financial transaction. The demand and desire for homeownership doesn't expire like other flashy investment instruments. The inherent value of a stock can be calculated by a formula of company profits, earnings ratios, performance history, fund managers, and so on.

However, a home's value is ultimately determined by what a buyer is willing to pay for it, and the security and well-being that owning your own home provides. Honestly, there's hardly been a better time to make your move.

*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](mailto:luther@tsinoglou.com)*

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Adorable cottage with lots of personality, built in 1909. The home has original hard wood floors, 2 nice size bedrooms with adequate closet space, 1 full bathroom, and a spacious living room. The kitchen has plenty cabinet space, breakfast counter/bar, and a dining area with windows looking out into deck and backyard. The backyard is large and private with endless possibilities. The home is located near restaurants, shops, and Memorial Park. Must see to appreciate!



This 2-story home is a hidden retreat with ample living space situated in desirable Marlborough Terrace in Sierra Madre. It is truly the ideal space for privacy, tranquility and breathtaking views. It features a private master bedroom downstairs, with secluded shaded outdoor area, walk-in closet, separate laundry room with utility sink, and master bathroom with luxurious spa. The den, has beautiful, espresso hardwood flooring, controlled recessed lighting for mood, and wired for surround-sound. The living room has a brick fireplace, beamed ceiling, adorned Birchwood walls, a large window, and French doors leading to a nice size wrap-around deck with stunning city views. It is perfect for entertaining and relaxing. The kitchen has ample cabinet space, and sufficient space for breakfast nook. The formal dining room, next to kitchen, is large and bright. Next to the view, the second best selling point is the carport which can accommodate 3 large cars. Must see to appreciate.

**Janette Ledea**  
**(626)242-3244**

**LOSANGELESHOMESFORSALES.COM**



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## RESOURCES TO HELP SENIORS WITH LOW VISION

Dear Savvy Senior:

What resources can you recommend to help seniors with incurable vision impairment? My wife has macular degeneration and has become very discouraged. Looking for Help

Dear Looking:

Unfortunately, there are nearly 2 million Americans, like your wife, living with macular degeneration today, making everyday tasks like cooking dinner, reading the newspaper or watching television extremely challenging. Here are some resources that can help.

#### Vision Rehabilitation

The best place to get help living and coping with macular degeneration is at a vision rehabilitation agency. Typically run by state or nonprofit organizations, there are around 1,500 of these agencies scattered across the country that provide free or low-cost services to help seniors and their families who are living with all types of incurable vision impairments.

While vision rehabilitation does not restore lost sight, it does help people maximize their existing sight, or, if they have no vision, it can equip them with techniques and tools to help them maintain an independent lifestyle.

Services include counseling, along with training on how to perform daily living tasks with low vision, and how to use visual and adaptive devices and assistive technologies that can help improve quality of life.

They also offer guidance for adapting your home that will make it safer and easier for your wife to maneuver, and can help her locate low-vision support groups in your area which is very helpful. Some agencies will even send their specialist out to work with her in the comfort of your own home.

To find a vision rehabilitation agency in your area, call the American Foundation for the Blind referral line at 800-232-5463.

If, however, you don't live near a vision rehabilitation agency, you can also get help from an occupational therapist, or OT, who can provide low vision training in your home. Ask your ophthalmologist or doctor for a referral to an OT in your area. Your Area Agency on Aging (call 800-677-1116 for contact information) can also help you find nearby therapists. Many health insurance providers, including Medicare, will pay for low vision training by an OT if prescribed by your eye doctor or healthcare provider.

#### Online Help

Another convenient place to find help for your wife is online at a terrific new website called VisionAware (visionaware.org). Created by the American Foundation for the Blind and the Reader's Digest Partners for Sight Foundation, this site provides free information on eye conditions, along with dozens of practical tips and instructional videos on living with vision loss, including concepts for adapting your home to make it easier to navigate, techniques for traveling safely outside the home, and various tips on how to manage things like finances, medications, and other tasks like cooking, cleaning, grooming, reading, writing and more.

It also offers a comprehensive list of low vision products and technologies that can help your wife stay active and independent, including product reviews that are published in their online magazine called "AccessWorld."

#### Other Resources

Two other good resources that can help you and your wife are the Ears for Eyes program and the MD Support website.

Ears for Eyes (earsforeyes.info, 800-843-6816) is a nonprofit public charity that provides free audio lessons on cassette tapes, CDs and Internet downloads that teach adaptive daily living skills to the vision impaired and their caregivers.

And mdsupport.org, which is a public service website for seniors living with macular degeneration that provides information and links to support groups across the country, and links to low-vision products, services and other resources that can help with many different needs.

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

## KATIE Tse .....This and That



### DELICIOUS, BUT UGLY

The other day at lunch, the restaurant was busy and the service was slow. That was fine, because I love to people-watch. A couple sat down a few tables away from us. The lady's outfit was on the dressier side of casual. The guy's clothes were too nondescript to recall. Their posture and gestures suggested that this was their first or second date. It was all very charming until she began eating --buffalo wings.

You can't really blame her. Who doesn't like buffalo wings? They're a staple bar food along with pretzel mix and peanuts. Buffalo wings represent the perfect marriage of food vices. Most other bar favorites are simply bastardizations of otherwise healthy foods. Take onion rings and French fries. Onions and potatoes are innocuous enough until you coat one in batter and fry both. But with buffalo wings, it's delicious fat from start to finish. You begin with the fatty dark meat of mini chicken legs, then subject them to the fattiness of frying. Finally, they are ready to be dunked in calorie-dense blue cheese dipping sauce! What's not to love? The only health threat lacking is high fructose corn syrup.

Although we all agree that buffalo wings are to die for (and perhaps to die by), they are not the sexiest food to be seen eating. I'm sure someone could delicately nibble at a chicken leg, dabbing their mouth periodically. But to enjoy buffalo wings to their fullest, you must suck the bones clean of every muscle, sinew, and tendon. As you can imagine, this isn't a pretty picture.

Once you're in a stable relationship, it's acceptable to suck a chicken bone in front of your beloved. (If not, then you should dump that judgmental jerk right now!) But what's a first-time date to do? I'm so glad I'm not dating any more. Life is stressful enough without having to worry about ordering etiquette-friendly food.

Of course, any food can be challenging depending on how much of a klutz (or how nervous) you are. Hamburgers are always a challenge. The Carl's Jr. ads make the models look great eating them. But I've never been able to pull it off without stuffing my face into the thing to take a bite, or having burger juice run down my arm. I think the Carl's Jr. ads must require many takes.

Some people think spaghetti and other stringy pastas are uncomely to eat in public, unless you're trained in dining etiquette. The fear is that you might slurp up a noodle. Or you might misjudge the amount of pasta on your fork, forcing you to bite off the remainder onto your plate. Of course, these strategies should be perfectly acceptable once you've known each other for a month or so. At that point, you may even get away with further pasta violations, such as cutting all the spaghetti on your plate into two-inch pieces before eating it.

Come to think of it, I've really been lucky when it comes to avoiding making a total fool of myself while eating. I haven't had crunchy tacos in years, but I'm sure I'm still just as clumsy with the shells and crumbly beef as when last I ate one. If you limit your choices to salads, the worst that can happen is puncturing a cherry tomato and squirting its juice into your date's eye. Luckily I've only experienced this among family, and the juice recipient was my shirt, rather than a guest.

So, if this week finds you having a first or second date, I wish for you gracefulness and, for your date, tolerance. And if you should be so blessed as to not have to worry about what you look like while eating, enjoy a juicy burger or some buffalo wings!



## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

## AUGUST ACTIVITIES

Senior Programs have returned to the Hart Park House Senior Center, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Memorial Park - Come by and see the changes!!

**Mondays: City Hall & Lunch Café**  
12 noon: Intervale Lunch Café: Come enjoy a hot meal with others. Donation for seniors (60+) of \$2.00; visitors \$3.75. Call 355-0256 to make your daily reservation.

**Tuesdays:**  
FREE blood pressure checks by Methodist Hospital Nurse; 11 am to 12 noon.  
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm  
BINGO; NEW TIME 1-3PM 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

#### NEWPORT BAY CHARTER BOAT CRUISE AND LUNCH

Thursday, August 9, 2012

Departure: Charter bus leaves at 9:15am from the Hart Park House Senior Center  
Boat Charter: 11:00am-12:30pm  
Arrival: Charter bus will arrive back in Sierra Madre at approximately 3:00pm  
Cost: \$20 includes transportation and tip (Does not include lunch)

More Info: Call the Hart Park House Senior Center at 626-355-7394. The 90 minute tour views the entire harbor, including the 7 Islands of Newport Bay. The tour is narrated by the experienced Captain and Crew. You will get a chance to see celebrity homes, sea lions, and much more! For more information on the cruise please visit their website at [www.funzoneboats.com](http://www.funzoneboats.com). Lunch will be on your own from 12:30-2:00pm in Newport Beach. Please be sure to register early as space is limited. Registration is available at the Hart Park House at 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Community Recreation Center at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. or online at [www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineregistration](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/onlineregistration).



#### August Birthdays

Harry Enmark, Marcia Bent, Phyllis Chapman, Beverly Clifton, Karlene Englert, Joan Spears, Barbara Godley and Jane Zamanzadeh, Phyllis Bugh, Mary Kay Gifford, Marjorie Peterson, Susan Poulsen, Genevieve Stubbs, Joseph Kiss, Patricia Miranda,



#### 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.



## Foothill Computer Services

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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

### NEW!

### Senior Movie Program

The Hart Park House Senior Center is starting a brand new monthly movie program beginning Wednesday, August 15.

Each month a movie will be shown at no fee in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall.

The movie for the month of August is, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, filmed in our very own Sierra Madre!

All patrons are encouraged to join us monthly and it's a great way to beat the summer heat. Location: City Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm  
Cost: Free, no charge.

\*Food is not allowed in the Council Chambers



# Leonora Moss

9 Kersting Court Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
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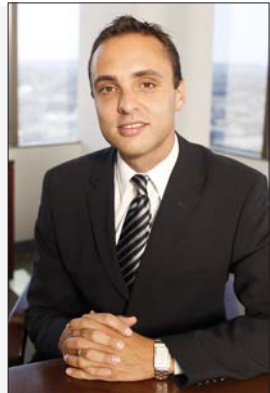
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## Legal Insights by Noah Green<sup>1</sup> TERMINATION PITFALLS

Terminating employees is one of the most unpleasant aspects of a business owner or manager's job duties, but sometimes it is absolutely necessary in order to continue the business of the employer. But if terminating an employee is necessary, then it should be performed in the most ethical, and professional manner possible. Following the proper protocol in conducting the termination softens the blow to the terminated employee ( who is very often surprised that they are being terminated); protects the business from potential litigation arising from the termination; and reassures the owner or manager that they did the right thing. Whether the terminated employee was a good worker or a bad worker is irrelevant. The

decision to terminate an employee, once made, sets in motion a number of duties to the employer to handle the termination in a professional manner preserving the dignity of the terminated employee and protecting the employer's interests as the employer does not want to see an angry former employee down the road in court.

Employers faced with the unpleasant task of having to lay off an employee must use great care when doing so to avoid breaking the law. Similarly, when workers learn the unpleasant truth that they have been or are about to be terminated, they should be aware of their rights.

Below is a short primer on the usual issues, both legal and professional, that arise under California law surrounding the termination of an employee. This article collects some of the information and observations we have gathered over the years and which we use to assist our clients as they navigate their way through this difficult area.

### Should You Terminate?

There are a wide variety of reasons why employers would terminate an employee. As long as those reasons are not impermissible in accordance with California and Federal law, then the question of whether or not to terminate an employee is dependent on the facts and circumstances of each case and the business judgment of the employer.

Once it has been decided that it is in the company's best interest to terminate an employee, certain practical business issues must be confronted along with the legal issues discussed later in this article. In the short term, the employer must decide how to distribute the terminated employee(s) existing projects and re-assign their job duties to other workers.

In the long term, the company will need to continue producing goods or services once the employee is gone, but, at least in the short term, will have fewer human resources available to produce those goods and/or services. A heavier burden will fall on the remaining workforce and they will be expected to increase their productivity. The company must anticipate how these additional stresses on the workforce, the company's finances, and public image will be addressed prior to implementing the termination. Like all business decisions, terminations must be thought through and properly planned out before being set in motion.

A "Termination Risk Analysis" can help you make the "go/no go" decision to terminate an employee. Termination Risk Analysis

The decision to terminate an employee can raise many legal issues. The following checklist is designed to help you determine whether the termination is likely to lead to litigation. While there is no way to guarantee an employee won't sue, using this risk analysis can alert you to potential legal problems. These problems could then be discussed with legal counsel before terminating the employee if you feel uncertain.

### Step 1: Consider Your Company Policies and Documents

Review your Employee Handbook for policies which may limit your right to terminate, such as:

- Employment at-will policies
- Progressive discipline policies
- Internal dispute resolution or arbitration policies
- Termination policies requiring "just cause"

Is there a written employment contract? If so, what limits does it place on your the right to terminate the employee?

If you have an established system/policy of progressive discipline (i.e., written warnings prior to termination), was the system followed in this case?

• If so, was the process of progressive discipline well documented? Documentation of the progressive discipline is important evidence should a legal claim arise.

• If not, can you show a valid reason for your failure to follow your own policy? For example, an employer might terminate a violent employee without warnings in order to protect other employees from harm.

If you have an internal dispute resolution system, was the employee given a fair chance to resolve problems under that internal system?

Do you have an established policy of giving a certain period of notice before terminating an employee? This policy may be in writing (i.e., Employee Handbook) or may simply be an unwritten policy that you have established by having given employees notice in the past.

**Step 2: Consider Oral or Implied Contracts of Employment** Will this termination breach an oral contract of employment?

An oral contract may have been created if the employee was told her job was secure, or that she would always have a job if she did a good job, or some other similar guarantee of employment.

An oral contract can be created by anyone in the company with authority over the employee. This means that the company may be held to a supervisor's promise to an employee of secure employment, even if the supervisor did not have the company's authorization to make such a promise.

Will this termination breach an implied contract of employment? An implied contract of employment may have been created by a combination of these factors:

- Long-term employment (although there is no specific number of years considered "long term," many attorneys use five years as a guideline)
- Promotions
- Commendations
- Lack of criticism of the employee's performance
- Other indicators of job security

### Step 3: Consider State/Federal Laws Protecting Employees

#### Americans with Disabilities Act

Is the employee physically or mentally disabled? If so, were attempts made to reasonably accommodate the employee's disability? Were reasonable accommodation measures well documented?

#### Title VII / California's Fair Employment and Housing Act

Is the employee being treated in the same manner as other employees in similar situations?

Is the employee being terminated for an improper reason such as race, gender, religion, sexual preference, or national origin?

Have other employees been given more chances before being terminated for the same or similar reasons as this employee? If so, are there legitimate, non-discriminatory reasons for treating this employee differently than other employees?

**Pregnancy** Is the employee pregnant?  
If so, Employees are entitled to four months off for pregnancy-related disabilities.

#### Workers' Compensation

Has the employee filed a workers' compensation claim? Terminating an employee who has filed a claim, or intends to file a claim, or has testified in a worker's compensation hearing could be considered workers' compensation discrimination.

#### Retaliation

Has the employee reported any illegal activity of the company to a state or federal government agency? Even if the company is not in fact acting illegally, the termination could be seen as retaliation for "whistle-blowing."

Once the employer determines that they can proceed with the termination, the question becomes how to do so properly. Below are a few suggestions for how to make sure the terminated employee is receiving everything they are entitled to under the law while still protecting the company's legitimate interests.

Has the employee participated in any official investigation of the employer (i.e., wage or safety violation) or testified against the employer in an unemployment insurance or other hearing?

Is the termination in retaliation for the employee's exercise of protected personal rights, such as freedom of speech or political activity?

### Step 4: Review the employee's personnel file

• Is there sufficient documentation in the file to substantiate your reasons for termination? Examples include written warnings, performance reviews and attendance records.

• Is there anything in the file that might be evidence of an illegal termination? For example, a supervisor may have written a warning notice to the employee that her pregnancy was causing her to be absent too often. Legal counsel should be consulted if there are concerns.

Review personnel files for other employees who have similar problems. This comparison can point out potential discrimination issues. For example, could a female employee being terminated for attendance problems show that a male employee had the same number of absences but was not terminated?

### Step 5: Consider the Employee's Eligibility for Unemployment Insurance

A terminated employee may be eligible for unemployment insurance unless the termination is for refusal to perform suitable work or for misconduct. Mere inability to perform the duties of the job is not considered misconduct.

The cost to your unemployment insurance reserve account may be far greater than the cost of providing the employee with necessary training or performance counseling.

### Step 6: Consider Legal Ramifications of Not Terminating the Employee

Failing to terminate an employee who has been violent or threatened violence could result in harm to other employees and lead to employer liability.

Termination of an employee who has sexually harassed other employees may be necessary to fulfill an employer's legal obligations under sexual harassment laws.

<sup>1</sup> Noah Green lives in Sierra Madre and works as an attorney handling business litigation at the Ryan Law Firm in Pasadena, CA. He can be reached by e-mail at [nigreen@ryanattorneys.com](mailto:nigreen@ryanattorneys.com), or by telephone at (626) 568-8808.



## FEED YOUR WEBSITE WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook and Twitter both have plug-ins that allow you to display your most recent posts on your web site. It's an easy and affordable way to update your web site with announcements and current information. Every time you make a post, say on Facebook, it will also show up on your web site.

Here's how you can add a feed to your web site:

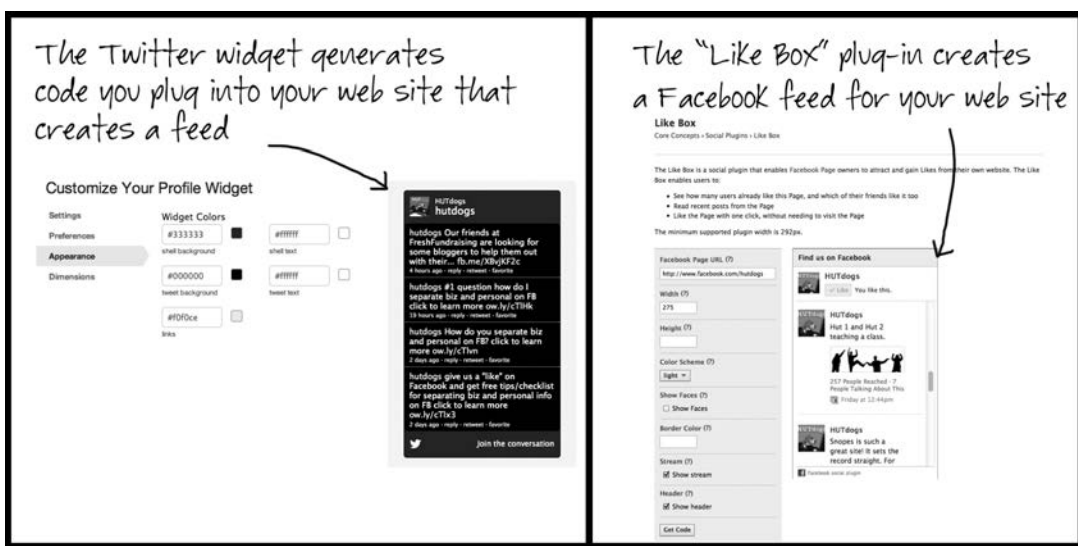
- Create space on your web site for the feed (usually in a right or left column). You can put it on several pages of your site depending on where you drive the traffic.

- To plug-in a Twitter feed, go to <http://twitter.com/about/resources/widgets>. Select "Profile Widget." Type in your Twitter handle, customize the size and look. Select "finish and grab code," and it will generate html code you plug into your web site (or give to your web master).

- To plug in a Facebook feed, use the "Like Box located at <http://developers.facebook.com/docs/plugins>. Make sure to type in the name of your Facebook page for the Page URL. Customize the settings, then select "get code" and plug it into your web site (or give to your web master).

About MJ: MJ and her brother David own HUTdogs, a creative services business that 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](http://www.facebook.com/hutdogs)

Sign up for their upcoming classes and presentations at: [www.hutdogs.com/workshops/schedule](http://www.hutdogs.com/workshops/schedule)



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

I bring to my business a long history working with computerized accounting software. Many of my clients do too. We have spent years closing year-ends; that is why I often get asked the question, "Do we need to close the books?" Well, yes we need to close the books but what they are really asking is, "Do we have to do something special to our database?" - think Peachtree software.

QuickBooks is set up in such a fashion that users can password protect prior years. There is nothing worse than returning to a client's office after income taxes have been filed to find that someone has deleted or changed data from a prior year. In order to ensure that that does not happen, I usually password-protect the prior year's data.

This brings us to the question of **Condensing Data**, which is different than password-protecting data because it actual changes the structure of the data. This feature, formerly known as Clean Up Data, now features improved inventory condense, more options to remove non-posting transactions, and accountant-only (in QuickBooks Accountant and QuickBooks Enterprise Accountant versions) condense options such as single summary entry, clean break (remove all transactions before a specific date so that you can start over as of a specific date – a huge time saver), and period copy (These accountant-only functions will be covered in another article). You can now condense your company file to get rid of unnecessary detail. You can:

- Remove transaction detail before a certain date. This option decreases the file size and improves performance if you have a large company file.
- Remove all transactions. You can select this option to start over without losing your lists, preferences, and service subscriptions.
- Remove all transactions to create a period copy that only includes transactions within a specified date range (QuickBooks Accountant only). This option creates a file you can send to third parties who don't need to see transactions before or after the selected period.

I had never realized the time saving and space saving benefits of being able to condense a file. Prior to this new feature, I have always thought that being able to go back and look at individual transactions if necessary was a great idea. Today however, I have a database that goes back to the 1980's and while it is nice to see what happened in the past, this new feature will create an archive copy of the original file before condensing the database. This way, you will be able to access the details of transactions in the file(s) in the future. To do this, select **File > Utilities > Condense Data** and follow the prompts.

The user will receive a prompt to run a **Clean up Attachment Links** utility for any attachments that were linked to the condensed transactions. The user will receive confirmation of any links that were cleaned up.

How does this improve your efficiency? This feature is great because it allows the user to have control over just how much of the data file to extract upon condensing. Users, preferences, reports, templates, lists, etc. are retained from the original data file. Unreconciled bank and credit card transactions can be kept while having one summary entry for all prior transactions (two of the options of the **Condense** feature) so that these accounts remain ready to reconcile. I cannot wait to give this a try today. I am going to condense everything in my current database for the 1980's and 1990's. Moving forward, I'll complete work using the condensed file, with the assurance that I can access all details from prior periods quickly and easily.

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, [patti@qbworkshop.com](http://patti@qbworkshop.com) or [www.QBworkShop.com](http://www.QBworkShop.com)

## GET THEM TO THE POLLS ON TIME September 6, 2012

The League of Women Voters stands on voter education and voter participation as cornerstones of democracy. Current action on those two fronts – youths' civics education and battles against voter suppression – will be the topics of a midday forum on Thursday, Sept. 6 at the Women's City Club, 160 N. Oakland Ave., Pasadena.

At 11 a.m. Michael Croddy, a national leader in civics and law-related education, will describe the status and trends of youth civics education and engagement. Croddy is vice-president of the Constitutional Rights Foundation, sponsors of Mock Trial and other highly respected programs.

At 12:30, the topic will be voter suppression -- updates on the battles across the country to preserve voters' rights and the status of a lawsuit in California regarding voting rights of former felons. The speaker will be Michelle White, an attorney who also is president-elect of the local League and former president of the local American Civil Liberties Union. Part of Lunch with the League at the Women's City Club, the forum itself is free and open to the public.

Registration is at 10:30 a.m. Lunch is \$20, including tax, tip and parking. Lunch reservations and information are available by calling 626-798-0965. Walk-ins for the free program are welcome.



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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** DEATH BY MEDICINE *America's Dirty Little Secret*



Have you ever wondered about all those TV prescription ads telling you this pill or this tablet can relieve what ever ails you? You know the ads I'm talking about; the ones that claim they can cure male erectile disfunction (whoever heard of female erectile disfunction?); or all those time-release capsules, elixirs, syrups, and whatever other way they can package and sell these medicines?

Oh yeah, they always include a disclaimer or warning barely understandable because it is spoken at lightning speed at the end of the ad. I can't imagine taking one of these wonder-drugs like Viagra and then having to have my wife drive me to urgent care (I'm certain I couldn't drive myself) with a painful six-hour consequences is just is too humiliating to contemplate. Nevertheless, that's one of the Viagra warnings.

The sad fact is that doctors kill far more people every year than drug pushers do -- a surprising fact that should make sensible Americans start to question the wisdom of TV prescription ads "pushing" dangerous pharmaceuticals on unsuspecting consumers.

How did we get here? We got here by TV prescription ads that minimize the risks in taking these drugs. Prescription drug ads on television first hit the airwaves just over a decade ago, but a new University of Georgia study finds that most of them still do not present a fair balance of information, especially when it comes to the risk of side effects.

A seminal study done in 1998 and published by the New England Journal of Medicine found that correctly prescribe medications claim 106,000 lives a year because of toxic reactions or known side effects that are minimized to the patients taking these drugs. By comparison, only 5,200 Americans die annually from illegal drugs like heroin and cocaine, according to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

Prescription drugs taken as directed kill more than a 100,000 Americans a year. That's one person every five minutes; that's 270 per day, or more than twice as many who are killed in car accidents each day. Are these people abusing their prescription drugs or is this a sign of prescription medications gone bad? No, these people died using these pharmaceuticals as direct by their doctors

Did you know that Americans consume 80 percent of the world's supply of painkillers -- more than 110 tons of pure, addictive opiates every year -- as the country's prescription drug abuse epidemic explodes.

That's enough drugs to give every single American 64 Percocets or 128 Vicodins. And pain pill prescriptions continue to surge, up 600 percent in the last ten years, thanks to doctors, who are so influenced by pharmaceutical companies' free vacations and drug samples, they are more and more willing to hand out drugs to patients who are suffering regardless of the efficacy or possible deadly side effects. Heck, we expect a prescription every time we see a doctor or we think they aren't doing their job.

As more people get their hands on these potentially-dangerous drugs, more are taking them to get high. Their drug abuse leads to 15,200 deaths a year -- more than from heroin and cocaine combined. Ironically, Methadone (the drug used to help heroin addicts break their addiction) accounts for more than one third of all the deaths from opiate painkillers.

Unfortunately, the same studies estimating that more than 100,000 Americans die each year from their prescriptions looked only at deaths from known side effects. That is, those deaths didn't happen because the doctor made a mistake and prescribed the wrong drug, or the pharmacist made a mistake in filling the prescription, or the patient accidentally took too much.

Thousands of patients also die from such mistakes too, but the cited studies looked only at deaths where our present medical system wouldn't fault anyone. Tens of thousands of additional people are dying every year from taking these medications just as they are prescribed. This shows just how dangerous these drugs really are.

I'm not a doctor but here's a bit of advice anyway: If you don't know why you're taking a certain prescription and don't understand the real possibility of serious side effects (maybe even death!), get a second opinion from another doctor before you start taking the medication. Better to be safe than sorry.

## RICH Johnson YIDDISH AND ENGLISH



Did your teachers ever tell you language arts could be fun? Yeah, I didn't buy it either. Particularly when revolved around dangling participles and sentence structure (which could be a synonym for prison).

However, once I was out from under someone grading me on whether the apostrophe was in the right place or not, I started to enjoy language. As you know (if you read my column regularly) I like the humorous use of the language.

One of the more interesting uses of the language is the incorporation of foreign words into English. My cribbage-playing friend Mark (hi Mark), mentioned the use of Yiddish in our culture. Yiddish is actually a Germanic language originally spoken by the Jews of Central and Eastern Europe. And you may be surprised at some of the words we regularly use that are Yiddish. For example "glitch" is a Yiddish word for a minor malfunction. Here are some more:

*Bagel* – bread roll boiled then baked  
*Blintz* - a sweet cheese-filled crepe  
*Boychik* - a boy or young man  
*Bupkis* – nothing (he isn't worth bupkis)  
*Chutzpah* – nerve, daring  
*Dreck or Drek* – worthless (typically merchandise)  
*Ganef or Gonif* - a thief or scoundrel  
*Gelt* – money (chocolate coins eaten on Hanukkah)  
*Golem* – synonym for Frankenstein  
*Goy* – someone not of the Jewish faith or people  
*Haimish* – homelike or friendly  
*Handel* – bargaining for a good price  
*Kibitz* – to converse idly  
*Klutz* – clumsy person (me)  
*Kosher* – correct according to Jewish law  
*Kvell* – express great pleasure or pride  
*Kvetch* – to complain habitually or gripe  
*Latke* – a potato pancake  
*Lox* – cured salmon (it was sick?)  
*Maven* – an expert  
*Mazel* – luck  
*Mazel tov* – good luck  
*Megillah* – a lengthy tedious document (the whole megillah)  
*Mensch* – a decent human being  
*Meshuga* – crazy  
*Mishpocha* – extended family  
*Nebbish* – insignificant pitiful person  
*Noodge* – to pester, nag or whine  
*Nosh* – to snack  
*Nudnik* - a pest or pain in the neck  
*Oy (Oy vey)* – interjection of grief or pain  
*Pisher* – an inexperienced person  
*Putz* – I won't tell you what it is but it is an insult  
*Schlemiel* – an inept, clumsy person  
*Schlimazel* - a chronically unlucky person  
*Schlep* – to drag or haul  
*Schlub* – a clumsy or stupid person  
*Schmaltz* – excessive sentimentality (chicken fat)  
*Schmo* – a stupid person  
*Schmooze* – to make small talk  
*Schnook* – a particularly gullible person  
*Schnoz* – a nose (Jimmy Durante)  
*Schvitz* – to sweat  
*Shalom* – peace  
*Shamus* – a detective (and you thought it was Irish)  
*Shemozzle* – a quarrel  
*Shtick* – a comic theme  
*Tchotchke* – a knickknack or trinket  
*Tukhus* – umm, your backside  
*Tush* – umm, also your backside  
*Yenta* – a talkative woman or gossip  
*Yutz* – a fool  
*Zaftig* – pleasingly plump

How many of the above words have you been using in conversation without knowing the root of the words?

By the way, thank you to all the people who came out to our Sunday Concert in the Park. We enjoyed performing for you and hope you enjoyed the music and banter. And thank you again to the Kiwanis and Friends of the Library for helping make a dream come true for the entire band and friends.

## STUART Tolchin.....On **LIFE** WHO'S KIDDING WHO?



It is said that the best deception is one we ourselves believe in. Years ago I took a series of classes that emphasized that the only way an individual can tell what he wants is to observe what he does. I hoped then, and I hope now that this statement is not a description of truth. I would much rather be the person I imagine myself to be rather than the person I observe myself to be.

This weekend my wife and I had guests. While their parents were off on a two day cruise we had the privilege of taking care of her nephews ages twelve and ten. I imagined it would be great fun to have them for a weekend, even though it would be pretty crowded because my son and his girl friend were staying over as well. I really wanted every one to enjoy themselves, but things just didn't work out as I planned.

On Sunday morning I was all excited about watching the Olympic Men's Basketball game but the nephews wanted to watch something else and I got angry. There are other televisions in the house but I had pictured everyone caring about the Olympics and it seemed no one really cared and I couldn't handle it. I went upstairs and pouted and one of the nephews came up to my bedroom to talk to me and got comfortable by lying on my bed with his shoes on. Right then I didn't want to talk to him; I wanted to watch the game, and I told him to get off the bed. Really, it all should have been no big deal but everything began to get on my nerves.

My son's girl friend had brought her dog and that dog was running around the house, and that got on my nerves. Next everybody was holding the dogs and kissing them, and that kind of stuff just sort of turns my stomach. Why do people do that and why does it bother me so much? I guess my space had been invaded and I had not gotten much sleep and my feet were swollen and my lungs were congested and I just felt nasty and that's the way it was. Even that would have been fine if I had left it alone, but I kept wanting it to be different.

It felt kind of like New Year's Eve when you find yourself somewhere and think you should be having a good time but aren't. The more you try and push yourself to have a good time the less fun it is. Somehow I have now reached the stage of my life where I keep saying I want to do things and then don't do them. For example, I keep saying I want to take a cooking class. I went down to the cooking school and even got a schedule, but now I realize I don't want to do it. Another example is after I got in touch with an old friend, he mentioned that he had written two novels and I said great--let me read them. He went to all the trouble to send them to me and I have not even started them. I keep asking myself why, but that's not really important. What is important is that I just kind of feel unhappy about the whole thing and hang on to that unhappiness.

Another source of internal conflict is this business about the articles. I keep saying that I want to put all of my almost 250 articles into a book. I have contacted a self-publisher several times and yet I can't even take the first step to putting the articles together so that publishing takes place. I keep saying I want to, but I don't do it. A couple more examples. I keep sending in for diet pills which are pretty expensive. I take the pills for a week or so and then quit and feel guilty. Several times I have paid for gym memberships and then I never go. I know I am not alone in this but I'm sick of it; just like you're probably sick of my whining. Thanks for sticking with me this long.

All I really want to do now is do what I say I'm going to do. I want to act cordially towards my relatives and friends. Instead I keep getting into fights with everybody. If I believe that business about observing what I actually do in order to realize what I want to do, then I guess what I want to do is feel guilty and unhappy.

I just thought of a solution. I'll tell myself I want to be guilty and unhappy and I bet that will cause me to actually do and experience the opposite. Why I feel better already--- Oops I shouldn't have said that.



## OUT TO PASTOR

*A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder*

### A MIDSUMMER'S DAY NIGHTMARE

I am not sure who invented summer vacation but I think they deserve a Nobel Peace Prize. Every year is worth the intense strain when there is a summer vacation to look forward to.

Ah, summer vacation. The freedom of not having anything to do. No schedule in my face. No appointments frustrating me. Just an agenda of fun and more fun and don't forget the eating.

Both the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and me got up early to begin the drive to the airport to take us to our vacation location. I was so full of energy I could not sit still. It was then that I broke into singing, comfortably off key, a Carpenter's song much to the agitation of my wife.

"We've only just begun, White lace and promises, A kiss for luck and we're on our way." All my wife could do was stare at me. Finally, she said, "You sure are excited. I've never seen you so excited. Are you sure you're all right?" I could not have been more all right. All I could think of was a week before me surrounded by grandchildren I have not seen for over a year.

"How old is...?" I went through all the grandchildren. It is easy to forget how old kids are because every year their age changes. When you get to be my age, it is hard to keep up with all of these changes.

A week of stuffing them with all the candy I could carry. Taking them out to a restaurant and showing them the proper use of the drinking straw and the fine art of a spit-ball battle. After all, it is a grandfather's solemn duty to teach his grandchildren the fine art of shenaniganism. Where else are they going to learn it? Their grandmother? I don't think so.

We finally arrived at the airport, parked our car, and proceeded to the check-in counter. I am not sure my feet touched the ground, so excited was I to get on our way. "Slow down," my wife pleaded. "I can't keep up with you."

We finally arrived at the check-in counter with our baggage and one of the attendants asked me a simple question. I hate it when people ask me a question when I am in one of my silly moods. Believe me; I was in one of my silliest silly moods at this time.

"Sir," the attendant asked me very seriously, "do you have anything perishable or flammable in your luggage?" With silliness smeared all over my mug I said, "I sure do. I got a Bible in there and it is Dyn-O-Mite." And, I had the audacity to smile very broadly.

Then it happened. Someone said, "Did he say dynamite? Where's the dynamite?" The attendant said, "He said the dynamite was in his briefcase."

Suddenly, lights went on, buzzers began ringing, men in uniforms surrounded me, and two grabbed and subdued me. In a few moments, the hazmat men arrived asking where the dynamite was. The man in charge pointed to my briefcase and said, "It's in the briefcase."

They begin moving people away while the hazmat men came in to remove the briefcase with the alleged dynamite. At this time, I was absolutely stunned. Every ounce of silliness had drained from my person and I knew I was about to go to jail.

Finally, the senior security guard came and looked at me. "Where did you say the dynamite was, sir?" I stammered and stuttered but finally I said, "I said my Bible was dynamite."

He stared at me. Look me up and down, glared at me with eyes that burned into my very soul. Then he spoke. "Would you by any chance be a minister?" He said rather gruffly.

"Yes sir," I stammered as if my life depended upon what I was going to say, "I am a minister, a preacher of the gospel." I thought the last part might do something for me. At least it was a shot, excuse me, a try. He glared at me and shouted, "False alarm. Just another crazy preacher." As he walked away, I could hear him muttering under his breath, "Where do all these crazy preachers come from?"

The terminal finally quieted down, I went through the inspection, and I must say, I am not complaining mind you, but the pat down was a little longer and rougher than I remembered it being in the past. They stripped me down almost to my birthday suit. Thank God for wrinkles.

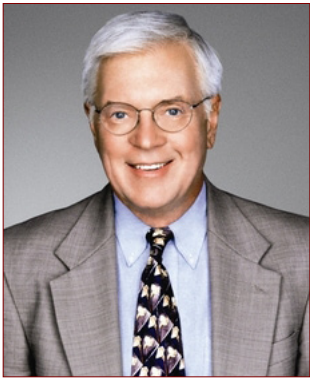
As I walked down the aisle on the plane, I could hear people whispering, "That's him. That's the crazy preacher with the dynamite."

I finally sat down next to my wife who was staring out the window. In a few minutes the plane took off and as we reached our altitude she, while still staring out the window, said to me, "Next time we'll take separate planes." She paused for a moment and then said, "In fact, we will take separate airports."

I think I am going to stick to what the Bible says.

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12 KJV).





## THE PAUL RYAN-MITT ROMNEY TICKET: TROUBLE FOR GOP

By Bill Press

Scary things sometimes come in pretty packages. Take Paul Ryan.

Most members of the media have a man-crush on him. When he released his 2012 budget, the

New York Times raved about his "piercing blue eyes." He's the guy with "jet black hair and a touch of Eagle Scout to him," gushed Time magazine. Columnist Joe Klein called Ryan's plan "without question, an act of political courage." The Times' David Brooks praised it as "the most courageous budget reform proposal any of us have seen in our lifetime." And many outlets praised Mitt Romney's "bold" move in naming Ryan as his vice-presidential running mate.

Oh, give me a break. Get a room. Or do your job! Did anybody bother to read what Ryan actually proposes? It's not bold, it's dangerous. To most Americans, generally. But, especially, to Mitt Romney.

First, the budget. For starters, it adds to the deficit by giving the wealthiest of Americans yet another tax break, cutting the top rate from 35 percent to 25 percent. Ryan would also cut corporate taxes and eliminate capital gains taxes. As a result, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, Ryan's budget would not see a surplus until 2040. So much for his reputation as a deficit hawk.

Meanwhile, that loss of revenue must be made up somehow. Ryan does it by sparing the Pentagon, while slashing \$6 trillion over the next 10 years out of Medicare, Medicaid, Head Start, food stamps, Pell grants, and every other program helping the poor or middle class, which is why his budget has been criticized by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Don't buy the big GOP lie that Ryan's plan actually preserves Medicare, while Obama's destroys it. True, Obama would cut \$716 billion from Medicare -- not by cutting benefits, but by cracking down on double billing by insurance companies and health care providers (the kind of waste and fraud Republicans used to champion). But here's what Romney won't tell you: the Ryan budget contains the very same \$716 billion in cuts. On top of which, Ryan would indeed "end Medicare as we know it" by replacing it with a voucher program -- which the CBO finds would leave older Americans on average with \$6,400 in extra costs 10 years from now. If Ryan had his way, there

would be no more Medicare, no more Medicaid, and no more Social Security.

And that's what so many in the media label as "bold." Nonsense! There's nothing "bold" about pandering to Wall Street. There's nothing "courageous" about tossing seniors out of Medicare so the wealthiest Americans can enjoy another tax break. There's nothing "patriotic" about helping Mitt Romney lower his 2010 tax rate from 13.9 percent to .082 percent: the effective rate he would have paid under the Ryan plan, according to an analysis done by The Atlantic.

Clearly, there's nobody more extreme right on fiscal issues than Paul Ryan. But here's another big secret: There's nobody more far right on social issues, either. Ryan is the poster boy of the extreme religious right. He's not only anti-abortion, he co-sponsored fetal personhood legislation, which would ban most forms of contraception. He also sponsored a bill to force a woman to have an ultrasound before an abortion. And he's not only anti-marriage equality, he's also against gay adoption.

Given all the baggage he brings to the ticket, it's small wonder that, in interviews with more than three dozen Republican operatives, Politico found the most common reaction to Paul Ryan's selection ranging from "gnawing apprehension to hair-on-fire anger that Romney has practically ceded the election." They realize that Ryan's plan to dismantle Medicare and Medicaid will also make it more difficult for Republicans to maintain control of the House.

And small wonder that Romney's already trying to distance himself from Ryan's budget. Except he can't. You can't embrace Paul Ryan without embracing everything he stands for, including his "mahvelous" budget (Romney's adjective, not mine). Whether Mitt realizes it yet or not, on both fiscal and social issues, this is now the Ryan/Romney ticket -- and no longer the Romney/Ryan ticket.

In the end, Barack Obama himself could not have picked a better vice-presidential partner for Mitt Romney. History repeats itself. This campaign could be over before it begins. In 2008, John McCain destroyed his chances by picking Sarah Palin. In 2012, Mitt Romney just destroyed his chances by picking Paul Ryan.

*Columnist Bill Press is host of "Full Court Press" on Current TV and author of the book "The Obama Hate Machine." His email address is: bill@billpress.com.*

## MITT ROMNEY AND PAUL RYAN

GREG Welborn



The Obama team would have us believe that they are in a state of euphoria over Romney's VP pick, that somehow Ryan's selection puts into crystal clear focus the contrast between the competing visions for America, and that spotlighting this contrast actually helps Obama. I think they are in for a rude awakening. It doesn't take much to comprehend that the VP pick does, in fact, highlight the differences between the two competing visions, but to argue that this contrast is flattering to Obama, or helps his re-election chances -- is wishful thinking at best.

The pick itself shows Romney's hand. With Wisconsin congressman, Paul Ryan, as his running mate, Romney has clearly communicated to American voters that his central election and, if elected, administration theme will be reducing the national deficit and debt while restoring economic growth. If Paul Ryan is known for anything -- and in truth, he has a remarkable, multifaceted reputation in Washington -- it is for his commitment to understanding and fixing the budget morass and debt disaster that face this nation. A few concrete facts and figures will illustrate this point clearly enough.

With a \$15 trillion economy, the United States has \$15.9 trillion in "official" debt. That doesn't even count the unfunded liabilities of \$38.6 trillion for Medicare liabilities and \$8.6 trillion for Social Security. Moreover, if, as suspected, the projected savings from Obamacare don't materialize, then the Medicare debt may actually double in size. That potentiality really doesn't matter because even the official U.S. debt is \$63 trillion, which represents a commitment four times the size of the economy.

How we got here is as undisputed a fact as the sun rising in the east and setting in the west. When Obama assumed the Presidency, the previous year's (2008) deficit was \$455 billion. His 3 years in office have given us the following:

2009, a \$1.4 trillion deficit; 2010, a \$1.2 trillion deficit; and 2011, a \$1.3 trillion deficit.

Those on the left argue that revenues are down. But as the always-prescient economist, Walter Williams, recently pointed out, if you go back to 1960 you would find that even considering the effects of inflation, tax revenues are 23 times greater today, but government spending is 42 times greater. Our problems are not due to the recession; they're not due to rich people skipping out. They're due to the profligate spending which occurred on one man's watch.

That man and his administration have only one response. They say we have to tax the rich more. Some Americans may be tempted to believe this simply because it offers a simple solution to a scary problem they'd rather not contemplate. But it's not a realistic solution. It's fantasy of the worst sort. More than one serious study has shown that even a 100% tax on rich people wouldn't solve the problem as shown below:

100% tax on all people earning \$1 million or more would only generate \$600 billion,

100% tax on all people earning \$500 thousand or more would only generate \$800 billion,

100% tax on all people earning \$250 thousand or more would only generate \$1 trillion.

Even 100% taxation on all the people earning \$250,000 (the Obama administration's oft-used definition of "rich") would generate less than the current deficit. There's no money in any of these preposterous schemes to cover expenditures, let alone to reduce the existing debt. This is not a revenue problem, this is not a tax problem, this is not a "some people aren't paying their fair share" problem. This is a spending problem, and that's what makes Paul Ryan such a great choice.

When Governor Romney picked Paul Ryan, he made it perfectly clear that this issue is going to be tackled, that he intends to turn this government around. This is a message that will resonate with most Americans. For most of the last decade, if not longer, conservatives and independents, alike, have focused on the deficit and the debt. Many Democrats point to the 2006 and 2008 election victories as evidence that Americans have rejected the conservative answer to the spending problem, but that is a grave error.

The 2006 and 2008 elections showed an American public willing to throw the bums out -- in this case Republican bums -- when they couldn't control their spending. Republicans came into power earlier in this decade with the promise of reforming out-of-control government and reducing profligate spending. When they kept to that promise, the electorate rewarded them. When they became spenders and tolerated the corrupt in their own party, the voters threw the Republicans out. In their place were put Democrats who promised to be different, to control spending and to run a tighter ship. Democrats shouldn't be surprised this November when the voters throw them out for breaking the same promise.

Republicans were returned to power in 2010 and given a probationary run. If they prove themselves to be trustworthy by tackling the fiscal problems that face this nation, they will undoubtedly be rewarded with more victories. In picking Paul Ryan, Governor Romney has communicated his, and the party's, commitment to save this nation from the fiscal cliff that waits if we continue to spend more than we earn. So, on his first major test of leadership, Romney gets a strong A.

*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 [gregwelborn2@gmail.com](mailto:gregwelborn2@gmail.com)*

### City of Sierra Madre

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1330

#### AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE ADOPTING CHAPTER 1.14 IN TITLE 1 OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING PUBLIC NUISANCES, CODE ENFORCEMENT FEES AND ATTORNEY'S FEES

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1. *New Chapter.*** Chapter 1.14 ["Public Nuisances; Code Enforcement Fees and Attorney's Fees"] of Title 1 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code is hereby added to read as follows:

Chapter 1.14 – Public Nuisances, Code Enforcement Fees and Attorney's Fees  
Section 1.14.010 Definitions

As used in chapter, the following definitions shall apply. For purposes of this chapter, these definitions shall supersede any other definitions in the Sierra Madre Municipal Code that conflict with this section.

- A. "City" shall mean the City of Sierra Madre.  
B. "Code" or shall mean the Sierra Madre Municipal Code and any code, law, or regulation incorporated therein by reference, and any adopted and uncodified ordinances.  
C. "Code Enforcement Fees" shall mean fees imposed by the City to defray its costs of code enforcement actions, as authorized by California Government Code section 54988, California Health & Safety Code section 17951, the Sierra Madre Building Code, and any other applicable local, State, or Federal law, as well as by the City's police powers as authorized by the California Constitution.  
Code Enforcement Fees shall be equal to the actual costs, fees, and expenses (incidental or otherwise) in connection with the time and other resources that City Officials (and agents thereof) expend in inspecting real properties, identifying and investigating public nuisances, and seeking or causing the abatement of a public nuisance or any other violation of any provision of this Code, unless separate costs, fees, and expenses are otherwise set by Council resolution.  
Code Enforcement Fees shall include those costs, fees, and expenses resulting from the following actions in connection with public nuisances and other violations of this Code: inspections of real properties and any structures thereon; taking photographs; drafting notices, letters, or other written communications; conducting or participating in meetings or conferences; and appearances before any judicial or other reviewing authority when seeking the abatement of any public nuisance or other violations of this Code.  
D. "Person" shall mean and include any individual, partnership of any kind, corporation, limited liability company, association, joint venture or other organization, however formed, as well as trustees, heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, or any combination of such persons. "Person" also includes any public entity or agency that acts as an owner in the City.  
E. "Public nuisance" or "nuisance" means anything which is, or likely to become, injurious or detrimental to health, safety or welfare, or is offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property, or that unlawfully obstructs the free passage or use, in the customary manner, of any sidewalk, public park, square, street or highway. Any condition, use, or activity that violates or is otherwise contrary to any provision of this Code or any approval, license, permit, or other entitlement issued pursuant to or in accordance with this Code, or that violates or is contrary to any applicable County, State, or Federal law or regulation shall also constitute a public nuisance.  
F. "Responsible person" means any person that causes, creates, allows, permits, suffers, or maintains a public nuisance to exist or continue within the City, by any act or the omission of any act or duty. A responsible person shall also include employees, principals, joint venturers, officers, agents, and/or other persons acting in concert with, or at the direction of, and/or with the knowledge and/or consent of the owner and/or occupant of the lot, building or structure on, or in which, a public nuisance or violation exists or existed. The actions or inactions of a responsible person's agent, employee, representative or contractor may be attributed to that responsible person.

#### Section 1.14.020 Public Nuisances

- A. Prohibition. No person shall cause, create, allow, permit, suffer or maintain a public nuisance in the City.  
B. Penalties. Any person who causes, permits, suffers or maintains a public nuisance in the City is guilty of a misdemeanor offense punishable in accordance with Title 1, Chapter 1.12 ("General Penalty") of this Code. Any person who causes, permits, suffers, or maintains a public nuisance is also subject to an administrative fine as provided in Title 1, Chapter 1.18 ("Administrative Enforcement") of this Code.  
C. Continuing Offense. Each responsible person shall be guilty of a separate offense for each and every day, or part thereof, during which a public nuisance is allowed, committed, continued, maintained or permitted by such person, and shall be punishable accordingly.  
D. Abatement. In addition to the penalties provided by this Chapter, any public nuisance may be summarily abated by the City by all civil, administrative or equitable means as provided by law or in equity, including, but not limited to, by injunction.  
E. Non-Exclusive Remedies. All remedies provided herein shall be cumulative and not exclusive.

#### Section 1.14.030 Code Enforcement Fees

- A. Responsible persons shall be charged and shall be responsible for the payment of Code Enforcement Fees assessed by the City to defray its costs of code enforcement actions. Such fees shall not exceed the amount reasonably required to achieve this objective and are chargeable whether the City's code enforcement actions occur in the absence of formal administrative or judicial proceedings, as well as prior to, during, or subsequent to, the initiation of such proceedings.

#### Section 1.14.040 Attorney's Fees.

- A. The prevailing party of any action, administrative proceeding, or special proceeding to abate a nuisance or to cause the abatement of a nuisance shall be entitled to recover attorney's fees. Attorney's fees shall not be recoverable unless the City elects in writing, at the initiation of that individual action or proceeding, to seek recovery of its own attorneys' fees. In no action, administrative proceeding, or special proceeding shall an award of attorneys' fees to a prevailing party exceed the amount of reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by the City in the action or proceeding.  
B. Unpaid attorney's fees shall be collectible in any manner allowed by law.

**SECTION 2. *Severability.*** Should any provision of this Ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unlawful, unenforceable or otherwise void, that determination shall have no effect on any other provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any other person or circumstance and, to that end, the provisions hereof are severable.

**SECTION 3. *Effective Date.*** This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after adoption as provided by Government Code Section 36937.

**SECTION 4. *Certification.*** The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall give notice of its adoption as required by law. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36933, a summary of this Ordinance may be published and posted in lieu of publication and posting of the entire text.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day August, 2012.

Yes: Moran, Walsh, Capoccia, Harabedian, Koerber No: None Abstain: None

### City of Sierra Madre

#### ORDINANCE NO.1331

#### AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE AMENDING SECTION 17.36.010 OF CHAPTER 17.36 AND ADDING CHAPTER 17.41 ENTITLED KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY SPECIFIC PLAN OVERLAY ZONE TO THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE AND ADOPTING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

WHEREAS, a request for the development of a 60,100 square foot assisted living facility on a 1.84 acre property ("Property") located at 245 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard and 33 N. Hermosa Avenue was filed by Fountain Square Development West, 12701 Treeridge Terrace, Poway, CA 92064 ("Applicant"), and

WHEREAS, the Property consists of two contiguous parcels (APN 5768-019-041 and -043) and is approximately 1.84 acres in size. The southerly parcel is 54,917 square feet in area and developed with a vacant 32,545 square foot, one-story building previously utilized as a skilled nursing facility. It is zoned C (Commercial) and has a General Plan Land Use designation of Commercial-C. The northerly parcel is zoned Multiple Family (R-3) and has a General Plan Land Use designation of Residential High Density-RH. The parcel is 25,226 square feet in area and is currently developed with vacant a 1,150 square foot single-family dwelling that was used as a nurses quarters when the skilled nursing facility was in operation. The applicant proposes to demolish all of the existing improvements in order to construct the Kensington Assisted Living Facility ("Project"), and

WHEREAS, General Plan Policy L3.1 requires the adoption of a comprehensive plan or similar planning document for all developments on properties exceeding one acre in size.

WHEREAS, the applicant has elected to file the comprehensive plan in the form of the Kensington Specific Plan ("Specific Plan") with the intent for it to establish zoning and development requirements designed specifically for the project. The proposed Specific Plan will "overlay" the existing Commercial and Multiple Family zones and the regulations in the proposed Specific Plan will supersede the regulations of the two underlying zones, but only for the development of an assisted living facility or similar congregate care facility, and

WHEREAS, In order for the Specific Plan to have regulatory authority over the underlying zone(s), a zoning code amendment ("Amendment") is required, and

WHEREAS, the proposed Specific Plan adopted by the Amendment will only apply to the development of assisted living facility or similar congregate care facility, and to the extent that any development on the property is not provided by the Kensington Specific Plan, the requirements of the existing underlying zones shall prevail.

WHEREAS, an environmental initial study of the proposed project was performed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") for the purposes of evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the project. Based on the study and the City Council's independent review of the study and evidence presented, the City Council adopts the Mitigated Negative Declaration indicating that the project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures noted in the study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre as follows:

**SECTION 1:** Paragraph A of Section 17.36.010- Criteria for Commercial Zoning of Chapter 17.36- C Commercial Zoning of Title 17- Zoning is hereby amended to read as follows:  
"General or Other Adopted Plans. Compliance with the General Plan or other plans or programs adopted by the city shall be demonstrated. Development on properties exceeding one acre in size shall require the adoption of a comprehensive plan."

**SECTION 2:** Chapter 17.41- Kensington Specific Plan is hereby added to Title 17 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code to read in its entirety as follows:  
"Chapter 17.41- Kensington Specific Plan Overlay Zone  
Sections: 17.41.010- Specific Plan Overlay Zone Adopted  
17.41.020- Development Regulations  
17.41.010 Specific Plan Overlay Zone Adopted

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the following land within the city is placed in the Kensington Specific Plan Overlay Zone:

Lot "A" of Tract No. 6962 in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per map recorded in Book 145, Pages 84 and 85 of Maps, in the Office of the County Recorder of said County and

Lots 26, 27, and 28 of Mrs. C.B. Jones' Subdivision of the south half of the west half of Lot 15 of Sierra Madre Tract, in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per map recorded in Book 13, Page 89 of Miscellaneous Records of said County.

#### 17.41.020 Development Regulations

All development within the Kensington Specific Plan Overlay Zone shall occur in accordance with the Kensington Specific Plan only for rest homes, guest homes, convalescent facilities, assisted living facilities and similar institutions. The Kensington Specific Plan was adopted by Resolution No. 12-57 by the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre on July 24, 2012 and consists of 47 pages. Two copies of the Specific Plan are on file with the City Clerk for use and examination by the public. To the extent that a development is other than a rest home, guest home, convalescent facility, assisted living facility or similar institution, the requirements of the underlying zones shall prevail."

**SECTION 3:** This Ordinance shall not take effect unless and until an amendment to the Sierra Madre Municipal Code Chapter 17.35, "Voter's Empowerment," Amending Section 17.35.040 "Core Area Density Limit" to permit development of an assisted living facility at 33 North Hermosa Avenue (APN 5768-019-043) and 245 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard (APN 5768-019-041), is approved by a majority of the electorate at the November 6, 2012 Special Municipal Election.

**SECTION 4:** Severability: If any selection, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause and phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional.

**SECTION 5:** The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance and shall cause the same to be published or posted in the manner prescribed by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012.

AYES: Moran, Walsh, Capoccia, Harabedian, Koerber No: None Abstain: None















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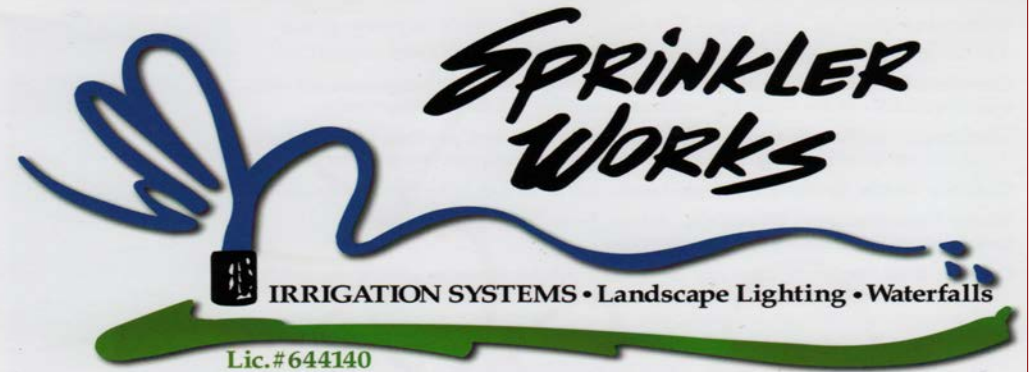
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