

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE - *While Remembering The Fallen on 9/11, City's First Responders Are Honored*

By Bill Coburn

At approximately 6:55 am on Tuesday, members of the SMFD and SMFD marched out in front of the bay door of the fire station. One of the men lowered the flag to half mast, and then the group was called to attention. They stood at attention until 6:59, when an announcement was made systemwide by the Verdugo Fire Communications Center in memory of the victims of 9/11. The bells rang out, the officers were called to salute, and then dismissed.

Following the memorial, the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club hosted breakfast for Sierra Madre's first responders. In attendance were members of the SMFD, SMPD, CERT, and the Sierra Madre Emergency Communications Team (SMECT). Breakfast was held at The Lodge, where Kiwanis holds its weekly luncheon meetings.

Bean Town provided breakfast burritos, fresh fruit, muffins and croissants, and coffee and orange juice. Following a group sing of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, Kiwanis and Elder Clem Bartolai gave an invocation. Kiwanis president Susan Henderson played an audio recording of a tribute to Old Glory by Jimmy Weldon, and then introduced Council member Chris Koerber.

Koerber briefly discussed a conversation he was having with SMPD Officer Gonzalez, and noted that first responders, similar to members of the military, are a part of something that's "bigger than just yourself." He noted that for many of his generation, the younger generation, and even some of his parents' generation, it's more about what's in it for me, the "WIFM" radio station. "I really appreciate that when something's going down, and people are running out of the building," said Koerber, "the firemen are the people running in to take care of business and help people, and I just want to say on this anniversary of 9/11, thank you very much."

Ms. Henderson then spoke, discussing a personal experience of hers in the Oakland firestorm of 1991, when more than 3,300 single family homes and more than 400 apartments and condos were destroyed. Twenty-five people died in the fire, and 150 others were injured. Fifteen hundred



Left, SMPD Chief Larry Giannone and Kiwanis President Susan Henderson. Photo by Bill Coburn.

Above - Sierra Madre Police and Firefighters honoring 9-11's heroes. Photo courtesy Mountain Views News.

firefighters from 250 agencies worked that fire, and Ms. Henderson spoke of driving down the street, unable to see in front of her, being guided by emergency personnel surrounded by flames, some of whom were there without even the heavy fire retardant uniforms to protect them.

"Although I have always had a great respect for our men in uniform, after that experience, nothing I had seen or could imagine really portrayed how much police and firefighters lay their lives down on the line for us."

Ms. Henderson then presented on behalf of Kiwanis, plaques to Chief Steve Heydorff of the Sierra Madre Fire Department and Chief Larry Giannone of the Sierra Madre Police Dept.

Captain Chris Morrison of SMFD Retires after 20 Years



By Bill Coburn

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, the City presented a commendation to Capt. Chris Morrison of the Sierra Madre Fire Dept. upon his retirement after twenty years of service to the community. Capt. Morrison, whose main job is in the construction industry working for a custom home building company, moved to Sierra Madre at the age of 13 in 1976, and became a member of the SMFD in 1992. He is married and has a daughter.

He graduated from the Foothill Fire Academy in 1993, and became a captain in 2003. His first structure fire was a single family residence near

Mary's Market, and his last was the "infamous turtle fire" (at Mayor Josh Moran's home). He also was involved on numerous medical calls ranging from bloody noses to heart attacks, and says the delivery of a baby by his crew on one call was the highlight of his career.

Capt. Morrison said that "it has been an honor and a privilege to serve our community for the past twenty years, and an even greater honor to serve with all his fellow firefighters." He thanked them all, past and present, for being part of his career, and thanked his family "for putting up with 20 years of not being around and being gone on weekends..."

FOOTHILL UNITY CENTER CELEBRATES 32 YEARS OF SERVICE AT 2012 GOLDEN PLATE AWARDS

Rob Fukuzaki of KABC To Emcee

Foothill Unity Center, Inc., a multi-service agency that is the primary provider of food, shelter, transportation, referrals, case management, and a variety of health services to low-income and homeless families in the San Gabriel Valley, is celebrating its 32nd year with the 2012 Golden Plate Awards Gala, Friday, September 21, 2012 at the Pasadena Convention Center. Those being honored for their service to the community this year are Joan Whitenack and Ray Wheeler as Humanitarians of the Decade, and Lorraine Bernstein as the 2012 Heart in Hand Humanitarian. In addition, Wells Fargo will be receiving the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Corporate Award, with Gary Harrigian and Bruch Laughton receiving the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Advocates Award.

This event is chaired by Suzanne Marks, with Mickey and Lee Segal as Honorary Chairs. Honorary Committee members for this event also include: Arcadia Councilman Peter Amundson; Supervisor Michael Antonovich; Sheriff Leroy D. Baca; Bob Bartlett; Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard; Fred & Diane Bowden; South Pasadena Mayor Michael & Anne Cacciotti; Charles & Diane Carroll; Santa Anita Park President George Haines; Arcadia Mayor Robert & Patsy Harbicht; Peter & Toni Hoffman; Monrovia Mayor Mary Ann Lutz; Vice President from KABC, Diane Medina; Betty Sandford; Pete Siberell; and William & Linan Ukropina.

The event will begin at 6:00PM with a reception and silent auction accompanied by chamber music. The extraordinary silent and live auctions will feature such exciting items as Four Dugout Club seats at a 2013 Dodger Game, Three Days and Two Nights at the world famous Red Mountain Resort in Utah, a Seven Night Stay at the Verandah Resort and Spa in Antiqua, an Ultrazone Laser Tag Party for 15 people, a Private Wine Tasting for up to 16 people, and much, much more.

The highlight of the evening's festivities will be the award presentations, hailing the accomplishments of this year's honorees and their dedicated service to the local community,

while after the presentations, the dance floor will be opened up with entertainment from Sunnie Paxson and Friends, allowing our guests to continue the celebration.



The Center would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the sponsors making this evening possible including: Presenting Sponsor Wells Fargo, along with Avant Advisory Group, Sierra Auto, Wells Fargo Capital Finance, BuchalterNemer, the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley, Lutheran Church of the Cross/Thrivent Financial, AT & T, Microjoining Solutions, Betty Sandford, Foothill Transit, Huntington Hospital, Citizen's Business Bank, Minuteman Transport, McGuire-Woods, Deloitte CRG, Vosberg & Associates, Alice Wang, Employed Security Service Center and Focus Management. Media sponsors also include Pasadena Magazine and Pasadena NOW.

For more information contact Dr. Kim Alaine Rathman at (626) 358-3486, or visit our website at www.foothillunity-center.org.

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I'm Sasha! My mom just came tp Niko's!

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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 60s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
September 28, 2012

SIERRA MADRE SEPTEMBER EVENTS

9/15 - Creative Arts Group Scarecrow Workshop

9/19 - Kiwanis Club Learn to make a scarecrow

9/20 - Historical Preservation Society Board Meeting

9/20 - Rotary Club Fundraiser for Water Projects

9/22 - Wellness in the Park and Health Fair
9/22 - Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

9/23 - St. Rita Parrish Ministry Fair

9/24 - Creative Arts Group Fall Classes Begin

9/25 - Kiwanis Club Hypnosis Presentation

9/26 - Woman's Club Fall Blue and Gold Tea

9/29 - Woman's Club Silk Scarf Painting

10/4 - October Coordinating Council

10/5 - Creative Arts Group Scarecrow Awards

10/5 and 10/6 - Friends of the Library Best Used Book Sale

9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3 - Sierra Madre Playhouse Halloween Show

10/13 - Sierra Madre Playhouse ASL Halloween Show Interpretation

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.

TUNE IN THIS THURSDAY
VILLAGE INTERSECTIONS
with Gene Goss

This Week's Guest:

Travel professional Catherine Adde

Thursday evening at 7:00 PM. on Radio Fishbowl in
Sierra Madre at 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 or call 626-355-8350.



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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. From more information, please visit our website or contact Peggy Beauregard at peggybeau@gmail.com and visit our Facebook page Rotary of Sierra Madre.

www.SierraMadreRotary.com

Fall Classes Begin
September 24

Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Enameling, Jewelry, Mosaics, Glass
Fusing, Drumming, Puppetry -- adults & Children

Creative Arts Group

108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626-355-8350 www.creativeartsgroup.org



THE SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB

A PROUD MEMBER OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL SINCE 1927.
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WHEN WE MEET AT 7:45AM. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
JOIN US, MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS, HELP YOUR COMMUNITY,
AND HAVE SOME FUN!

Upcoming Kiwanis Calendar:

Wednesday, September 19th Scarecrow Workshop

Saturday, September 22nd PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Tuesday, September 25th Presentation: Hypnosis
Call 626-355-0728 for additional information

HELP WANTED

GENERAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

Experienced mature person for general office position in Sierra Madre. Financial book keeping and elderly resident liaison at a RCFE facility. Good computer skills required. Quickbooks knowledge preferred, ability to learn essential. Full time employment or part time leading to full time may be considered. Immediate availability.

Send resume to : margaretajenkins@att.net

ASCENSION CHURCH HOSTS "MINISTRY
CELEBRATION" SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 25 East Laurel Avenue in Sierra Madre will be celebrating its annual start of Fall season with the "Ministry Celebration" on Sunday, September 16th following the Mass at 9:30 a.m.

All are welcome and encouraged to this festival of ministries, which features decorated booths that illustrate various church ministries in serving the needy, spreading God's word, educating children, making music and worshipping God. Other opportunities include feeding the hungry, attending to the sick and visiting shut-ins as well as assisting the homeless. Daughters of the King and Cursillo will also have information available. The Church's ministries are great ways to give back and share in opportunities of fellowship at Church of the Ascension. Refreshments will be served.

The event will provide an opportunity to learn about Christian Education at Ascension Church including sign-ups for Children's Sunday School (Catechesis), Young People's Ministries and for adults to learn about small groups which begin meeting in October. Small Groups meet between church services in Parish or Hawks Hall.

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

Looking For The
Mountain Views News?

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

Sierra Public Library Sierra Madre Post Office
Sierra Madre City Hall
Bean Town Sierra Madre Starbucks
Sierra Madre Bottle Shop Sierra Madre
Happy's Liquors Sierra Madre
Sierra Madre Senior Center

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

Monrovia Public Library
Monrovia Post Office
Monrovia City Hall
Coffee Bean Monrovia (Foothill/Myrtle)
The Monrovia
Rudy's Monrovia
Monrovia Senior Center

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

Duarte Senior Center

Pasadena City Hall
Pasadena Senior Center
Faschings Car Wash
Robin's Bar B Que
Pasadena
Walkway at Vromans
Pasadena
Gold Line Station -
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SIERRA MADRE

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Sierra Madre Search and Rescue

During the month of August, Sierra Madre Search and Rescue (SMSR) responded to a dozen calls for assistance. A selected set of calls are described below.

Injured Hikers, Big Santa Anita Canyon: Sierra Madre Search and Rescue responded to reports of an injured hiker below Chantry Flat. Initial reports indicated that the hiker was near a trail junction in the bottom of the canyon. While hiking in to the scene, inquiries made of other hikers allowed rescuers to determine that there was a second injured hiker further down canyon. The responding units quickly developed a plan for managing the two separate incidents. The initial subject was stabilized and transported by wheeled litter to a waiting ambulance. An assessment of the second hiker determined that his injuries were more severe and warranted a helicopter extraction and transport to the hospital.

Three other calls in the Chantry Flat area involved more than one subject. Initial information received via 9-1-1 on incidents may be incomplete or inaccurate. As a result, emergency responders are well versed in managing incidents where the unexpected is always expected.

Overdue Hikers, between Fish Canyon and Switzer Falls: SMSR joined other Los Angeles County Sheriff's search and rescue teams in the search for 2 hikers overdue from a hike to take pictures of a "waterfall" in the local mountains. A coordinated plan was developed and search teams dispatched to trailheads at Fish Canyon on the east to Switzer's picnic area on the west.

to reach the subjects via text message were ultimately successful and the subjects were located near Switzer Falls.

Searches often involve coordinated use of multiple tactics and technologies to locate missing hikers, but the job of Search and Rescue teams is *greatly* simplified by letting someone know where you are going and when you'll be back. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's [Hiker Plan](#) is a good way to document your plans.

Missing Hiker, Norman Clyde Peak, Eastern Sierra : SMSR provided mutual aid assistance to the Inyo County Sheriff in the search for a missing hiker on 13,855 foot Norman Clyde Peak. Located in an area that contains four of California's highest peaks, the mountain is a difficult climb from any side. Sadly, Dr. Dankworth's body was found below the summit of the peak several days after search efforts had been initiated. SMSR extends our condolences to the family and friends.

For 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.

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

For the period of September 3–9, 2012

Tuesday September 4, 2012

A traffic collision took place at Alegria Avenue and Mountain Trail when a vehicle entered the intersection without yielding to another vehicle travelling southbound. No injuries were reported. The investigation revealed that the driver of the first vehicle may have been distracted while getting directions off her cellphone screen.

Wednesday September 5, 2012

At 7:30am, a traffic collision occurred when a vehicle turning north onto Canon Avenue from Laurel Avenue collided with a bicyclist travelling south along the east curb of the street. The bicyclist sustained abrasions to her arms and torso and was transported to a hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

Saturday September 8, 2012

At 1:30am an officer attempted to stop a bicyclist for a traffic violation. The individual failed to yield to the police emergency lights and travelled into a residential area. When he reached the 100 block of Merrill Avenue, the bicyclist threw down his bike, shouted obscenities at the officer, ran away, and later physically resisted the officer's attempt to search him. The individual (male, 23 years of age) was subsequently arrested for Resisting a Police Officer.

PASADENA HUMANE SOCIETY BEGINS DOG LICENSE CANVASING

The Pasadena Humane Society has begun door-to-door canvassing to ensure that all dogs in Sierra Madre are licensed.

By law, every dog must wear a current license tag at all times. The Pasadena Humane Society issues dog licenses for Arcadia, La Cañada/Flintridge, San Marino, and Sierra Madre. Dog licenses may be obtained at any time of year, and are good for one year from that date. Dogs must be 4 months or older, and you must provide a current rabies certificate. Licenses must be renewed every year, even though the license tags are permanent.

You may purchase your dog's license at the Pasadena Humane Society front office during business hours or at City Hall. Please call PHS at 626-792-7151 x115 or email licensing@phsspc.org if you have any questions. The licensing officers are available at PHS Tuesday-Friday from 2 pm-6 pm and Saturday 2 pm-5 pm.

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SIERRA MADRE HEALTH FAIR AND WELLNESS IN THE PARK

Saturday, September 22 is the Sierra Madre Health Fair and Wellness in the Park presented by the Senior Community Commission and Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce. The event is at Memorial Park, located at 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024 from 9:00am-12:00pm.

Walgreens will be on-site administering flu vaccinations. It is important to be proactive against influenza which is a serious disease. The Centers for Diseases Control recommends flu vaccinations for: people 65 and older, pregnant woman, people with medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes and chronic lung disease and people who work or care for at risk groups. Insurance will be taken on-site to offset costs.

Other event vendors include: LA County Departments of Public Health, Mental Health and Health Services, American Red Cross, Kensington Assisted Living, Athens Services, Emergency Preparedness packets, DayOne of Pasadena, American Cancer Society and many more!

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will also be having their annual Pancake Breakfast in Memorial Park from 7:00am-11:00am. Please contact the Hart Park House Senior Center for more information as it becomes available at 626-355-7394.

Health Fair and Wellness in the Park
 Hosted by City of Sierra Madre & Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce



SAVE THE DATE!
 Saturday, September 22, 2012
 9:00am-12:00pm
 Memorial Park
 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
 More Info: 626.355.7394

The Sierra Madre Health Fair and Wellness in the Park is your one stop resource for health screenings, assisted living facilities, healthy living education massage therapists and more! Participating vendors include: Kensington, Senior Commission, Methodist Hospital to name a few.

WOMAN'S CLUB BEGINS YEAR WITH A MEMBERSHIP TEA SEPTEMBER 26

The Sierra Madre Woman's Club is reaching out to women throughout the area to attend their annual Membership Tea on Wednesday, September 26 at 1:00 p.m. This will be held in Essick House, their historic clubhouse. An afternoon of enjoyment is planned for those who attend and an opportunity to learn what this busy, caring group is all about.

Founded in 1907 and celebrating its 105th year, the club has a long tradition of service to the community, generous philanthropy and donations to a long list of worth causes and a place to make lasting friendships. They are also active members of the Federation of Woman's Clubs, a worldwide organization doing good throughout the globe.

Daytime meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month through May at 11:00 a.m. This includes club business, a delicious catered lunch followed by a program of interest and enjoyment for members. Some months they also have a tea meeting on the fourth Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. The yearly club calendar includes several social, community and fund-raising events.

The club has a very popular Wistaria Thrift Shop, recognized as one of the best in the San Gabriel Valley, which is located in the rear of the clubhouse and is a bargain, treasure seeker bonanza.

For more information about this special experience or about attending the Membership Tea, contact Phyllis Chapman, Membership Chair at 626-355-3928.

7TH ANNUAL SIERRA MADRE WINE & JAZZ WALK

Benefiting the City of Hope - Thousands Expected To Attend the October Event to Help Fight Cancer

The historical San Antonio Winery, Riboli Family Winery Estates and the merchants of Sierra Madre are once again joining forces to host the 7th Annual Sierra Madre Wine & Jazz Walk. This fun and unique event, benefiting City of Hope Cancer Research and Treatment, will be held from 4pm to 10pm on Saturday, October 27, 2012 in downtown Sierra Madre.

While strolling through historic Sierra Madre Village, participants will visit local businesses to taste award-winning wines and sample delicious hors d'oeuvres. Live jazz groups will be performing throughout the town to add to the ambiance. There will be a Silent Auction featuring an intriguing assortment of items ranging from gift baskets to Rose Parade and Game tickets.

Tickets for the event are available at participating

businesses in Sierra Madre or online at www.SierraMadreWineandJazzWalk.com. Pre-sale tickets are \$40 or \$50 on day of the event. Ticket holders will receive a commemorative wine glass and a map of the city highlighting participating businesses other goodies.

To end the evening, this year's event will once again feature The San Antonio Winery VIP Wine Garden, a private after-party, from 6pm to 9pm. Our all-inclusive package, for pre-sale \$85 or \$100 at the door, per ticket, allows guests to experience both the Wine & Jazz Walk event and the private after party! VIP Wine Garden guests will have access to this exclusive area, featuring award-winning wines, delicious food, fun surprises, and even more live jazz and rock music!

Over 1,500 people attend this event annually. To date, it has raised over \$300,000 for City of Hope Cancer Research. It is through your generosity that City of Hope is able to continue its special programs in biomedical research, patient care, and medical education. Such efforts have helped millions of people suffering from cancer and other life-threatening diseases worldwide.

Presenting sponsor of the event, San Antonio Winery, Riboli Family Wine Estates will be donating the wine of the evening. Their wines have won more than 1,000 awards in national and international competitions, including several platinum and gold medals as well as best of class awards.

SIERRA MADRE GARDEN CLUB TO KICK OFF CLUB YEAR WITH ROSARIAN JANET RAYMOND

Sierra Madre Garden Club's new year begins with guest speaker Janet Raymond speaking on the requirements necessary to grow and care for roses in one's garden throughout the year in Southern California. Janet is uniquely qualified to speak on the topic of roses due to her thirty-one years of experience working with them professionally and as home grower of several rose show winning entries. She is a member of the Pacific Rose Society and is the Society's head rosarian for the rose gardens at the Tournament of Roses Wrigley House. She plans and executes the yearly planting and care of these beautiful rose gardens. Janet is also the recipient of the American Rose Association's highest award for actively promoting and providing expertise to accomplishing goals and objectives of the Association.

Janet lives in Arcadia, California, where she runs her business, Plant Lady. Although she specializes in roses, Janet has extensive experience with all types of plants, including exotics such as orchids and plumerias, and growing styles including organic vegetable gardening.

Everyone is invited to join the Sierra Madre Garden Club at its first meeting of the new club year, October 8th, and welcome Janet Raymond as our speaker.

Dinner begins at 6:30pm followed by the program at 7:15pm. Catered dinner is \$9 and reservations must be made by October 4, at 355-0606. There is no charge for attending only the program. Location: Hart Park House, Memorial Park, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

Your Ad Could Be Here!
 Call Patricia at 626-818-2698 Today!



Authorities Asking Public's Help in Suspicious Carport Fire

Pasadena Fire personnel responded Saturday night to a well involved suspicious carport fire in an alley behind Marengo Ave.

Firefighters responded to the 600 block of Marengo Ave. at approximately 2 a.m.

According to Pasadena Fire spokeswoman Lisa Derderian, two vehicles were totaled and three sustained moderate damage in addition to minor exposure to an adjacent business and carport.

She said, approximately 20 residents were temporarily evacuated and estimated the damage near \$200,000.

Approximately 22 fire personnel were on-scene for over four hours she said, "This fire was determined to be intentionally set [arson]."

The Fire Department is urging anyone with information who may have heard, seen or have tips about this incident to please call 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or the Pasadena Fire Department at 626-744-4040.

Villa-Parke Bench Press Competitors

Weightlifters are encouraged to sign up today to compete in a friendly bench press competition at Villa-Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa Street, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29. Official weigh-in begins at Noon. Individuals who can bench press 205 pounds or more are eligible to compete for trophies, prizes and bragging rights!

Applications are available at the Villa Parke Community Center for participants 18 years old and over. Entry fee is \$10 per person. Last year's bench press winner in the Super-Heavyweight Division was Ricky Pickens, pressing 565 pounds.

Pet of the Week



Cyrus is a young tan and white shorthair rabbit. He enjoys being petted, especially on his head. He also loves to explore his surroundings.

Cyrus' adoption fee is \$30, which includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. New adopters will receive complimentary health and wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information on how to care for your pet. Ask an adoptions counselor for more information during your visit.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A313799, 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.



Steve Madison to hold Forum on 710

City Councilmember Steve Madison is set to hold a meeting Tuesday night regarding the 710 Freeway project in light of the council's decision last month opposing any tunnel, surface, or highway routes.

Madison said panelists slated to appear include a geophysicist, a historic preservationist, a neurologist and several Metro representatives. Short statements from panelists will be followed by questions collected from the audience.

Although Pasadena, its residents and businesses will be directly impacted if the project is built, the project is not under local control by the City Madison said.

"Pasadena continues to closely monitor the situation regarding Metro's 710 Freeway project. This forum will help answer

residents' questions and provide important information about how the routes may impact our quality of life," Pasadena City Councilmember Steve Madison said.

The meeting will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. at the Pasadena Convention Center, 300 E. Green Street, in the Ballroom, west of the Civic Auditorium building.

The meeting will also be taped for later broadcast on KPAS, the City's government access cable television station, on Channel 3, for Charter cable subscribers, and on Channel 99 for AT&T U-verse subscribers.

A primary goal of the project is to complete the 710 Freeway "gap" by building an extension through Pasadena that connects the freeway with other transportation corridors—

including possible connections to the I-210 Freeway or Highway 134. The overall study area is bound by State Route 2 and the Interstate 10, 210 and 605 Freeways.

Madison said, at the Aug. 13 meeting, the alternatives would be like dropping a nuclear bomb on southwest Pasadena. Councilman Victor Gordo added that Metro could not have failed more miserably with the current proposed alternatives.

PCC Adopts Budget For 2012 2013 Fiscal Year

The Pasadena Area Community College District Board of Trustees voted to adopt the 2012-13 budget proposed by the Pasadena City College administration at its Sept. 5 meeting.

The proposed budget reflects the deep cuts coming from Sacramento, yet it deflects the shock of these cuts from the classroom - PCC will offer more than 4,700 class sections during the year.

"We have constructed a fiscally conservative and balanced budget that deals with the fiscal reality of California," said Robert Miller, PCC senior vice president and assistant superintendent for Business and College. "We have done our very best to keep cuts away from the classroom, yet the cuts from Sacramento has made that very difficult to do."

The PACCD adopted budget is a balanced budget without borrowing, while preserving cash needed to make up for the state's deferrals of payments to all community colleges. The budget adheres to the District's longstanding policy of exceeding state funding for enrollment by no more than 2%. The budget includes a \$10.5 million funding reduction from the state, which includes \$1.8 million from reserves to mitigate the impact on classes to students.

The adopted budget assumes that no additional funding from the state is forthcoming. If Proposition 30 does not pass in November, no further cuts will be required, since the cuts are already budgeted. If Proposition 30 passes, the state will defer payment of the funds until next June.

There are also efficiencies built into the adopted budget. The budget assumes about \$600,000 in savings from the new student calendar that moves up the start of spring classes to Jan. 7. The budget also assumes about \$800,000 in additional revenue from international and out-of-state students.

For more information, go to www.pasadena.edu/budget/budget-facts.cfm/.

Altadena Armed Robbery Suspect Still on the Loose



Police are asking for the public's help identifying an armed robbery suspect who held up an Altadena store last month taking an undisclosed amount of money at gunpoint. Altadena Sheriffs released surveillance photos of the gunman Thursday.

Police say on Aug. 30 around 4 p.m. a hooded man entered the Tobacco House - 1920 N. Lake Ave. Altadena—

Local-Area Young Women Compete For Rose Royalty

More Than 1,000 Estimated to Participate

This week, more than 1,000 Pasadena-area young women will be one step closer to becoming the 2013 Rose Queen as they participate in the Rose Queen and Royal Court Tryouts. This is an opportunity for young women who live in Pasadena and the communities surrounding it to represent not only their community, but also their school and the Tournament of Roses. After a month-long selection process, seven finalists will be named to the 2013 Royal Court.

As ambassadors of the Tournament of Roses and the city of Pasadena, the 2013 Rose Queen and Royal Court will reign over the 124th Rose Parade presented by Honda

and demanded money at gunpoint. The victim retrieved money from the cashier and placed it inside the suspect's black bag. After obtaining the money, the suspect fled the location in a green 1990's model Toyota Celica 2-dr.

If you have any information regarding the identity of the above suspect, please contact Altadena Sheriff's Station at (626) 798-1131.

and the 99th Rose Bowl Game presented by VIZIO on January 1, 2013 themed "Oh, the Places You'll Go!". The New Year celebration will be seen by millions of people around the world. The following schedule details the selection process from initial tryouts to the Coronation.

Participants can pre-register for the 2012-2013 Rose Queen and Royal Court Tryouts by submitting an application at <http://bit.ly/OBQexb>.

The Rose Queen & Royal Court initial tryouts will take place: Saturday, September 15, 2012 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Monday, September 17, 2012 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Tournament House 391 South Orange Grove Blvd.

The Royal Court will be announcement October 8, with the Rose Queen announcement October 16. The Coronation Ceremony will be October 25.

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 Sep. 25 from 6:30 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.

National Voter Registration Day Sept 25

Pasadena residents are reminded that Tuesday, Sept. 25, is National Voter Registration Day, the perfect time to register to vote or to update voter registration information at one of 14 locations throughout the City where volunteers will be ready to assist you with the forms.

To help with the voter registration event, the Pasadena City Clerk's Office needs additional volunteers, including those who speak Spanish or other languages. If interested, contact the City Clerk's Office at (626) 744-4124 or by email to cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net.

"National Voter Registration Day highlights the importance of registering to vote or updating registration information in time for Election Day (Nov. 6)," Pasadena City Clerk Mark Jomsky said. "We encourage all eligible residents to register to vote."

On Sept. 25, stop by Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Ave., from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or at any of the following locations.

From 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. go to: Pasadena City College, Student Quad, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St.

Allendale Branch Library, 1130 S. Marengo Ave. Hill Avenue Branch Library, 55 S. Hill Ave.

La Pintaescas Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond Ave. Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr. Linda Vista Branch Library, 1281 Bryant St.

San Rafael Branch Library, 1240 Nithsdale Rd. Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd. Victory Park Community Center, 2575 Paloma St.

From Noon to 8:00 p.m., you can go to the Jackie Robinson Community Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave., or the Villa-Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa St.

Or, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., stop by the Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St.

The event is organized in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters, Pasadena Chapter of the League of Women Voters, Pasadena Senior Center, Pasadena City College and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).



The Pasadena Symphony and POPS presents its free annual concert on the steps of Pasadena's City Hall, Bank of America's Music Under the Stars on Saturday, September 22 with pre-concert activities beginning at 5:30pm and concert performance at 7:00pm.

This year's concert features a special tribute to the late Principal Pops Conductor Marvin Hamlisch, including selection from A Chorus Line, They're Playing Our Song, "Nobody Does It Better," "The Way We Were," "Through the Eyes of Love" as well as music by the people that inspired him: the Gershwin's, Jule Styne, and others. Jason Alexander, best known as George from television's Seinfeld, and conductor Larry Blank, who worked with Hamlisch throughout his entire career, will co-host the evening.

"Marvin was a national treasure," explained Paul Jan Zdunek, CEO of the Pasadena Symphony Association. "His passing last month came as a sudden shock, and we wanted to take this as an opportunity to celebrate his life and music for our community and his fans."

The free concert will feature

selections from Marvin's long career performed by the orchestra and a roster of guest artists such as Jason Alexander and Broadway stars Lisa Vroman and Valerie Perri will join the orchestra as soloists, and Tony Award winning composer Jason Robert Brown will perform a piano tribute to Hamlisch.

The concert will be held on the steps of Pasadena's City Hall, and guests may sit in the courtyard and surrounding areas. Chairs will be available to rent for \$3, or people may bring their own low-back lawn chairs and blankets. Pre-concert activities will begin at 5:30pm, including a musical instrument "petting zoo," family entertainment with Jamie Shaheen, gourmet food trucks, and the Pasadena Humane Society Adoption Truck.

The concert begins at 7:00pm. Music Under the Stars is presented with support from Bank of America, the City of Pasadena, Los Angeles Times, and Noor Events. For more information, contact the Pasadena Symphony Association Box Office at 626.793.7172 or visit online at PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org.

6th Annual Festival of California Poets

Dana Gioia, Douglas Kearney and Amy Gerstler will highlight this year's Festival of California Poets, reading selections from their own works and paying tribute to three California poets they admire.

The poets' appearance is a featured event of Pasadena Art Night on Friday, October 12, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Donald R. Wright Auditorium of the Central Library. Admission is free. The 2012 program features the diverse talents of:

Dana Gioia, an internationally acclaimed and award-winning poet, who has published four full-length collections of poetry and eight chapbooks. His poetry collection, Interrogations at Noon, won the 2002 American Book Award. Former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, Gioia has served

as the Judge Widney Professor of Poetry and Public Culture at the USC since 2011. He will discuss Weldon Kees, the multi-talented poet and artist who lived in the San Francisco Bay area from 1950 until his 1955 disappearance.

Douglas Kearney, whose first full-length collection of poems, Fear, Some, was published in 2006. His second manuscript, The Black Automaton, was chosen by Catherine Wagner for the National Poetry Series and was a finalist for the PEN Center USA Award in 2010. Raised in Altadena, Kearney lives in the Santa Clarita Valley. He teaches at California Institute of the Arts and Antioch University. Kearney will salute Los Angeles native Wanda Coleman, who in 2008 published a second volume of short stories, Jazz and Twelve

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PASADENA FORUM TO ANALYZE NOVEMBER BALLOT MEASURES OCTOBER 6

Voters who want to be in the know about the 11 propositions on the November ballot can expect lively discussion and even debate at a free public forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters Pasadena Area. Titled "Are You in the Know?" it will be held Oct. 6, 9:30 to noon, at the Women's City Club, 160 N. Oakland Ave., Pasadena.

A team of League members who have studied the measures in depth can help people separate fact from fiction regarding the hotly debated, competing tax measures of Gov. Jerry Brown and education advocate Molly Munger. Speakers also will analyze and present background information and prospective effects on each of the other 10 measures, including a business tax.

Three other propositions address criminal justice issues: ending the death penalty, tougher penalties for human sex trafficking and modifying the three-strikes law. Three affect the legislature: a two-year cycle for the state budget, limits in campaign donations, and a challenge to the recently redrawn political boundaries for state senate district. Two address consumer issues: genetically altered food and auto insurance.

As a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government, the League invites people at the forum to share information and express divergent views. At this forum the League will only analyze the measures.

Lunch will follow the program and costs \$20, including tax, tip and parking. Information and reservations are available by calling 626-798-0965, 10am-1pm M-F. Walk-ins are invited with no cost for admission.



DEALING WITH THE DECLINE OF CIVILIZATION

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]

It has been a long time since I have heard advertisements for "survival foods" for those folks who are worried about a world in which we descend into chaos and anarchy.

As I listened to an ad on the radio recently, it reminded me of my state of mind in the late 1960s and 1970s when I first began to study ethnobotany and survival skills in general.

Back then, I was primarily motivated out of fear, and was concerned about my own personal physical survival. It has been a long road to today, and though I still encourage folks to store "survival foods," I am no longer motivated by fear. Today, I have a completely different mindset about the very meaning of "survival."

I know that to some people the word "survival" connotes images of some burly guy in a camo outfit and a gun who is just out for himself. That's survival, by the lowest definition. But what about your children, your family, your pets? What about the survival of your community, your environment, your city, your bank, your educational system? Real survival is vastly more than keeping your own body alive.

Through the 1980s, I gave a series of lectures about the many cultures and civilizations that have entirely vanished. Gone. My focus was to look at what causes a culture to slip into decline, and even to vanish. Then, more importantly, I attempted to see if we today in the U.S. are experiencing any of these same causes that lead to decline and extinction. Of course, most members of my audiences listened politely, but felt that "this would never happen to us." In other words, the predictable response was denial.

According to Morris Berman in the classic "The Twilight of American Culture," there are four factors that define a declining civilization.

The first is an accelerating social and economic inequality. Then there are "declining marginal returns with regard to investment in organizational solutions to socioeconomic problems." Another factor is the rapidly dropping levels of literacy, critical understanding, and general intellectual awareness. As an example, the author shares with his readers some of the responses to questions that Jay Leno received during his "Jay Walking" routine. Then, there is something called "Spiritual death" - probably a major factor in the decline of all civilization.

Interestingly, Berman adds that he doesn't know if these four factors are causes, or effects.

WHY CIVILIZATIONS FAIL

According to Jane Jacobs in her "Dark Ages Ahead," there are definable reasons

why civilizations fall. Among her nine major factors, she lists resource depletion, catastrophes, insufficient response to circumstances, intruders, mismanagement, economic issues, and "cult thinking."

I believe the last two are particularly relevant to us today, but they're by no means our only concern. As Jacobs states, "Civilizations are expensive to keep going and require increasing amounts of labor and wealth to maintain themselves. As civilizations grow, the up-

per classes grow - and so does their need for surplus wealth. The overall costs of supporting the system with specialists, servants, soldiers, police, and so on grow at an increasing rate. The increasing effort to maintain them produce diminishing returns and leads to their collapse."

As for cult thinking, that permeates each and every one of us in every facet of our life. It is not just about religious things. Cult thinking occurs whenever we blindly believe anyone. This is why I have always strongly suggested you read Eric Hoffer's "True Believer."

THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Jane Jacobs suggests that we are following the same cultural decline that occurred with the Roman Empire. She identifies many of the weak spots in our contemporary lifestyle, such as: taxes, family, community, education, science, technology, the lack of self-policing, and moral/ethical insanity. These weak areas are the foundation of all the other often-cited problems, such as the environment, crime, and the discrepancy between rich and poor.

Modern families are "rigged to fail" due to rising housing prices, the suburban sprawl (with a reduced sense of community), and the automobile. Automobile is the chief destroyer of communities, and the idea of community.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

The hopeful part of all of this is that dark ages are not inevitable. For one thing, we all need to get involved, and be a part of the solution. The millions of details of a complex, living culture are not transmitted via writing or pictorially, but by 1) living examples and 2) by word of mouth. We need to think! We need to model solutions (that is, given two options, we should choose what is "higher and better" in our daily life). And we need to teach, to lecture, and to write.

There is always hope and there are always actions we can take. If you're watching TV, choose an educational show, not Family Guy. Constantly learn new skills and crafts, things that have intrinsic value, and that you can do with others.

According to Boy Scout leader Francisco Loaiza, "Don't make entertainment such an important thing in your life. Spend time with others and do things with people. Get away from the TV and get off the internet. Get to know other people directly. We may have more knowledge today but we've become a colder society." He adds that our emotional intelligence has been lowered a few notches as well, and he cites as an example that when people sneeze today, they rarely say "excuse me."

These are just a few of the many ways in which we can become a part of the solution and not be part of the decline of civilization. This is why I wrote "Extreme Simplicity: Homesteading in the City," and "How to Survive Anywhere." I include reading lists in those books which I feel are good for your physical, mental, and spiritual health.


Let me know if you have questions, or more suggestions.

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Announcing release of the
Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
for the proposed extension of the
Metro Gold Line from
Azusa to Montclair

You're Invited!
Draft EIR
Public Meetings

Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012 - 5:30 p.m.
Montclair Senior Center
5111 Benito Street
Montclair, CA 91763

Monday, Sept. 24, 2012 - 5:30 p.m.
Hillcrest Meeting House
2705 Mountain View Drive
La Verne, CA 91750

Copies of the Draft EIR are available at multiple locations (see reverse side for details).



The proposed project, known as the Metro Gold Line FootHill Extension from Azusa to Montclair (illustrated below), is the next phase of the planned extension of the existing Metro Gold Line system. The project would extend the Metro Gold Line light rail 12.3 miles to the east and include six new stations in the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, and Montclair.

The comment period for the Draft EIR runs from August 7, 2012 through September 21, 2012. Comments must be postmarked by September 21, 2012 to **Lisa Levy Buch**:
406 E. Huntington Dr, Suite 202
Monrovia, CA 91016
llevybuch@foothillextension.org

THE WORLD AROUND US

Looking Up

with Bob Eklund

SHINE ON HARVEST MOON!

Songs are written about it, lovers sing of it, but when's the last time you actually looked at a Harvest Moon?

First, what is a "Harvest Moon"? It's defined as "the Full Moon nearest to the September equinox" (the first day of autumn, which this year is Saturday, Sept. 22). For everyone the Harvest Moon is conspicuous; for farmers in years past it was vital. At the climax of harvest they could work late into the night by this autumn Moon's light. It rises due east about the time the Sun is setting due west (6:00 p.m.), the Sun and Moon both being roughly on the equator at this season. And for a few days, instead of rising its average of 50 minutes later each day, it rises at nearly the same time for several days. This is because the Moon's orbital path is tilted somewhat sideways (horizontally) this time of the year, so that it makes a shallow angle relative to the horizon.

This year, the Harvest Moon will rise at its fullest on Saturday, Sept. 29, one week after the autumn equinox. And while moon-watching is always interesting, it will be especially so a week before the Full Moon, on the night of the equinox, Saturday, Sept. 22—which has been designated "International Observe the Moon Night."

You'd be surprised how many lunar features you can see, with even a small telescope or binoculars, when the moon is at this phase—with only its right half lit, looking like a "D" in the southern sky.

If you feel like a Saturday-night outing to a local observing event on the 22nd, here are some local possibilities:

Pacific Astronomy & Telescope Show (PATS) at the Pasadena Convention Center Sept. 22 and 23:
<http://www.rtmcastronomyexpo.org/pats/index.php/>

Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers (Friday in Pasadena Old Town, Saturday in Monrovia Library park:
www.otastro.org/

Griffith Observatory, free public star party 2:00-9:45 p.m. Sept. 22:
<http://www.griffithobs.org/calendar.html>

For a directory with links to many L.A. area astronomy-interest websites:
www.at-la.com/@la-astro.htm

International Observe the Moon Night is an educational outreach event sponsored by multiple NASA and astronomical organizations. Some 300 events in over 40 countries are being hosted by universities,

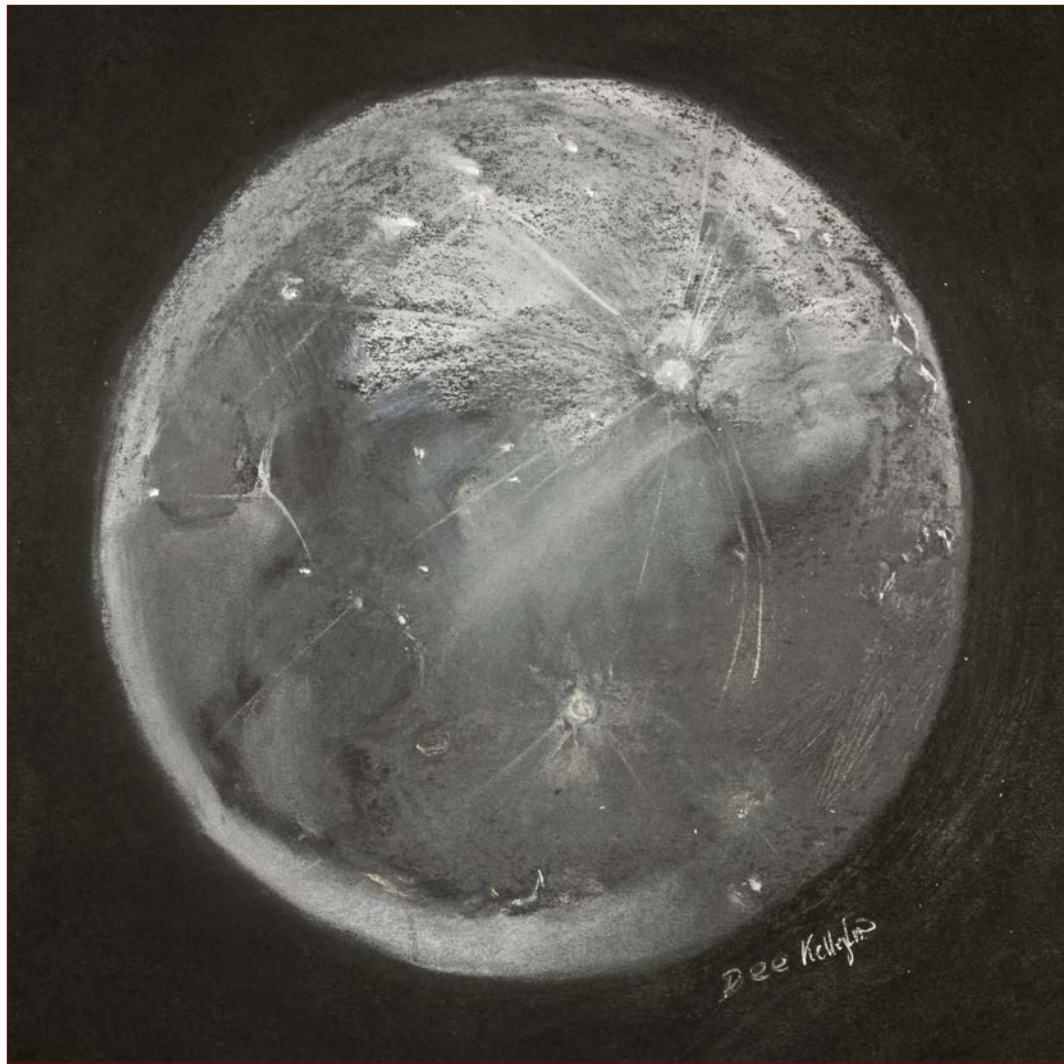
observatories, NASA agencies, high schools, and amateur astronomers to observe the Moon and share information about it. Events are offered both in person and via internet streaming video. The date was selected during the Moon's waxing gibbous phase, to enhance visibility of lunar craters.

For more on International Observe the Moon Night:
<http://observethemoonnight.org/>

FINALLY, A BIT OF LUNAR (OR IS IT LOONY?) TRIVIA. How many Moon-related *songs* can you think of?

Let's start with the classics: Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" and Debussy's "Clair de Lune." Then fast-forward to jazz-age and swing-era standards like "Shine on Harvest Moon," "Carolina Moon," and "Moon Over Miami." Remember "Moonlight Becomes You" from one of those 1940s "Road to..." movies with Dorothy Lamour, Bob Hope and Bing Crosby? From the Big Bands there's "Moonlight Cocktails" and "Moonlight Serenade." And finally, who could forget Audrey Hepburn singing "Moon River" in "Breakfast at Tiffany's"?

And here's a final idea: Why not invite friends in for a backyard moonlight barbecue, with or without telescope, on either Sept. 22 or 29? A background of some of the above songs, to accompany your "moonlight cocktails," would be nice—and that Old Devil Moon overhead is sure to be good company.



Almost Full Moon sketched live at the telescope with pastels by Deirdre Kelleghan, Bray Co., Wicklow, Ireland.

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

ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

From Arcadia's Best:

14 YEAR-OLD, AHS BOMB THREAT

A 14-year-old male Arcadia High School student was arrested today (Wednesday, Sept. 12) after making criminal threats that led to nearly 4,000 students being locked down on the campus all afternoon and all activities at the high school cancelled for the rest of the day and evening.



Arcadia High School was forced to lock down 4,000 students Wednesday.

Shortly before noon today the police department was notified of an e-mail bomb threat on the Arcadia High School Campus. Arcadia Unified School District officials placed the campus on lockdown and had the approximate 3,800 students remain in place while police officers investigated the source of the threat. Simultaneously, the campus was searched for suspicious objects through a coordinated effort between law enforcement and school personnel. No threats were found. The students were released for the day shortly before 3 p.m.

The arrested student is being held at East Lake Juvenile Hall. – By Scott Hettrick

RECORD 75 VENDORS AT BIGGEST-EVER TASTE OF ARCADIA

A record 75 vendors will be showcased at Taste of Arcadia from 5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24 at the L.A. County Arboretum.

The heart of the annual event will be 40 cabanas offering the most delicious and exotic food, desserts, wine, and beer from local restaurants, caterers, hotels, retirement homes, and other organizations.

Tastes from each of these booths as well as the following list of fun and activities is available for only one \$50 ticket purchased in advance (\$60 at the gate) by calling 626-447-2159, going to the the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce office at 388 W. Huntington Drive, or purchasing online here.

Here are links to some of the rest of the fun:

- 12 new 2013 cars from four local dealers
- 30 local businesses and organizations in the first-ever Business Showcase at the Taste
- Three former “Sound of Music” child stars sign autographs
- Food Network celebrities and Mayor Pro Tem Mickey Segal judging food contest
- Great Lounge-O-Rama eight-piece band plays Swing and Sinatra before switching to classic pop rock
- Sneak peek at new Arboretum Historical Marker to be dedicated Oct. 2
- Raffle prizes include a Panasonic home theater system; jewelry, and much more.

FALL CLASSES FOR ADULTS (50 YEARS +)

The City of Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department – Senior Services Division is offering fall classes for adults (50 years of age and older) beginning the end of September. The course offerings include yoga, strength training, line dancing, oil painting/ acrylics, watercolor painting, tai chi, zumba gold, aerobics, yagalates, and balance and mobility classes. Also offered is a NEW FREE program, Tech Talk! Tech savvy volunteers will pair up with senior citizens looking for assistance and help to overcome fear with the operation of cell phones, smart phones, tables, computers and other aspects of the technology age. Registration is open now! Courses are offered at the Community Center, 365 Campus Drive AND the Dana Gymnasium located at Dana Middle School, 1401 S. First Avenue.

For specifics on class dates, times and locations, or to register, please contact Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130 or log onto the City of Arcadia Website at www.ci.arcadia.ca.us.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, September 2nd, through Saturday, September 8th, the Police Department responded to 1,079 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, September 2:

1. At about 2:37 p.m., an officer responded to Gap at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a theft report. Unknown suspect(s) stole twenty-four pairs of jeans and fled undetected. No witnesses were located.
2. At approximately 6:00 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 500 block of Sharon Road regarding a theft report. After having an open house event, a jewelry box was discovered missing. The mortgage sales associate recalled five suspicious adult subjects walking through the home and believed they were involved in the theft. The subjects, described as two Hispanic males and three Hispanic females, left the location in a late 90's dark green Toyota Camry. No fingerprints were located.

Monday, September 3:

3. Around 9:35 a.m., an officer responded to the 900 block of Coronado Drive regarding an auto burglary. Unknown suspect(s) stole one of the resident's vehicles from his driveway, which was unsecured and unattended. The victim discovered his spare key, which he stored in the center console of another vehicle, was missing. No one reported seeing or hearing anything suspicious.
4. Shortly after 6:15 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Cheesecake Factory at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a robbery that just occurred. The victim explained an unknown suspect(s) assaulted him with a sharp object and took his wallet. Inconsistent statements revealed the subject was not telling the truth and shortly after, mall security revealed the wallet was located in the parking lot. An investigation revealed the subject fabricated the story because he was afraid to tell his father he lost his wallet. The case is being considered for filing for False Report of a Felony to a Police Officer.

Tuesday, September 4:

5. At about 12:36 a.m., an officer observed a male subject impeding traffic as he crossed the street on a red traffic signal at the intersection of Huntington Drive and Baldwin Avenue. The officer observed a bottle of Vodka protruding out of the victim's pants. The 20-year-old Hispanic male was cited, released in the field, and the bottle of liquor was destroyed.
6. At approximately 3:30 p.m., an officer responded to Gate 1 in the area of Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a suspicious male subject. A resident reported the subject hopped the fence into her yard carrying a bundle of clothing and then ran toward the mall after she confronted him. An investigation revealed the 20-year-old Hispanic male stole from Macy's. He was arrested in the mall parking lot and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Wednesday, September 5:

7. At almost 11:00 a.m., an officer responded to Arcadia Methodist Hospital, 300 West Huntington Drive, regarding suspicious circumstances. A security guard witnessed a suspicious Black male subject walking through the hospital wearing blue hospital scrubs. As soon as the subject realized he was being watched, he hurried out of the location and fled in a black 2008 Audi.
- An investigation revealed the subject was escorted off the property in January 2012 after he was seen wearing a lab coat and acting like a doctor. Officers advised the subject not to return, or he would be arrested for trespassing.
8. Around 10:45 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 2000 block of Cielo Place in regards to a bear in the front yard. As officers approached the location, they observed a cinnamon colored bear rummaging through the resident's trash cans. Soon thereafter, the bear looked at the officers, left the trash cans, and walked directly towards them. In reaction to the approaching bear, one of the officers used less-lethal resources to encourage the bear back into the wild. The officer's effort was successful as the bear immediately turned away and fled back into the hillside out of sight. Neither the bear nor the officers were injured during the encounter.

Thursday, September 6:

9. Shortly after 2:10 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a broken headlight, in the area of Huntington Drive and Gateway Drive. An investigation revealed the 32-year-old Hispanic female driver had a suspended license and one outstanding misdemeanor warrant, and the 28-year-old Hispanic male passenger had two outstanding misdemeanor warrants. Both suspects were arrested, transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking, and their vehicle was impounded.
10. At about 1:20 p.m., an officer responded to H&M at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a private person arrest. A female subject concealed merchandise inside her purse and exited the store without making payment. The 34-year-old Hispanic female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Friday, September 7:

11. Around 6:25 p.m., an officer responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter in regards to a fraud report. The victim discovered several unauthorized transactions as she checked her bank account online. A Wells Fargo Bank representative revealed the account was accessed several times by an unknown subject(s). The total loss was over \$24,000. The victim had no idea how her personal information was compromised.
- At approximately 7:42 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of Second Avenue and Pamela Road regarding a two-party traffic collision. An investigation revealed an intoxicated driver attempted to pass another vehicle without sufficient clearance and collided with the front half of the vehicle, causing its driver-side airbag to explode. No injuries were reported. The 35-year-old White male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

FAMILY NATURE HIKE! SATURDAY OCTOBER 13 7:30AM SHARP! \$15 PER PERSON

Bring the family and join us as we hike to the Hollywood Sign on Saturday, October 13th! (Originally was scheduled for Saturday, September 29th)! This nature hike is approximately 4.5 miles roundtrip with a moderate level of difficulty. Participants will meet at the Arcadia Community Center at 7:30am and travel by bus to the Bronson Canyon entrance to Griffith Park in Hollywood. Upon arrival, participants will do some light stretching and then embark on a

hike to the world-famous icon, the “Hollywood Sign” and experience an epic view of L.A.'s unique urban sprawl. It is the most famous sign in the world, and was originally erected in 1923, then rebuilt in 1979. Each letter is 50-feet high and 30-feet wide and the full sign spans 450-feet across a summit on Mount Lee. At the end of the hike participants will enjoy a picnic lunch. The \$15 fee includes transportation and lunch. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

You can register now, on-line, by mail or in person! To download the registration form, go on-line to the City of Arcadia's website: www.ci.arcadia.ca.us or stop by the office, 375 Campus Drive. For more information please call 626.574.5113!

HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION AND SNEAK PREVIEW SEPT. 24 AND OCT. 2 LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM (FORMER HOME OF LUCKY BALDWIN)

ARCADIA, Calif. – A new “History Lives Here” historical marker showcasing vintage photographs and descriptions of the history and evolution of the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden that was once the home of Arcadia founder Lucky Baldwin will be dedicated at 4 p.m. October 2 near the main entrance of the Arboretum.

A special first-ever preview of a mock-up of the Marker will be unveiled to attendees of the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce's annual Taste of Arcadia at the Arboretum on Sept. 24.

This is the ninth marker dedicated by the Arcadia Historical Society in five years and the first to be entirely funded and presented by the independent Friends of the Society group which supports the Society in many ways. The tenth Marker will be dedicated this fall, coinciding with the unveiling of a new life-size statue of Lucky Baldwin.

Among the little-seen photographs presented on the Arboretum Marker will be an 1889 painting by H. H. Cross of Baldwin and daughter Anita sitting with dogs near the famous lake in front of the guest cottage (now called the Queen Anne Cottage); Lucky Baldwin's nearby adobe home place of more than three decades (often called the Hugo Reid adobe, though Reid never lived there); and postcard views of the Baldwin Ranch, circa 1905, referred to by the Los Angeles Times in 1893 as one of the most beautiful botanical gardens in the world.

The 127-acre Arboretum was the heart of the sprawling Rancho Santa Anita, originally an outpost of Mission San Gabriel. Baldwin purchased 8,500 acres of Rancho Santa Anita in 1875 and eventually owned nearly 50,000 acres of today's San Gabriel Valley before he died in 1909. His daughter Anita maintained her father's beloved

Santa Anita home site for decades but was forced to sell it in 1936 due to financial burdens created by the Great Depression. In 1947, the new owners, a real estate syndicate headed by the Chandler family (longtime owners of the Los Angeles Times) sold the prime property surrounding the adobe and cottage at less than market value to an ambitious group of horticulturists backed by the County and the State for the purpose of create an Arboretum. History still lives here because of their efforts.

The series of Historical Markers are part of the non-profit Society's mission to create broader public awareness of noteworthy historical events, people, and landmarks in Arcadia. The Society's first Historical Marker was presented during the Centennial Celebration of First Avenue Middle School in October 2007. Others since then: Los Angeles County's Arcadia Park near the peacock fountain; the original City Hall on the northwest corner of Huntington Drive and First Avenue; the Woman's Club of Arcadia on First Avenue; three presented during 75th Anniversary dedications for the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce, Santa Anita Park, and Adams' Pack Station; and most recently The Derby restaurant last year.

Gene Glasco is president of the Arcadia Historical Society. Sandy Snider researched, wrote and coordinated the photographs for the Derby, Arboretum, and upcoming Lucky Baldwin markers as a member of the Society's Historical Marker Committee chaired by Scott Hettrick and assisted by Carol Libby.

Contact:
Arcadia Historical Society: 626-446-8512
or Scott Hettrick, e-mail: hreporter@aol.com / cell: 626-485-8783
Web site: <http://www.arcadahistoricalsociety.org>



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.

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DUARTE RESPONDS TO NBC NEWS REPORTS

Film Permit for Anti-Islam Production Lists Blue Cloud Movie Ranch in Santa Clarita, not Duarte, as Filming Site

On September 12, 2012, the City of Duarte via its' public information officer Karen Herrera, issued the following statement, *"The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, investigating a report by NBC News, on behalf of the City of Duarte, that the anti-Islam film "Innocence of Muslims" that sparked violence in Egypt and Libya, was not filmed at a studio in Duarte, as previously reported. This information has been substantiated by a film permit that names Blue Cloud Movie Ranch located at 20000 Blue Cloud Road in Santa Clarita, CA as the site of the film production. The company named in the NBC report, Media for Christ, is listed as the company that requested the film permit, according to FilmL.A., a private, nonprofit organization that coordinates and processes permits for on-location motion picture, television and commercial productions.*

According to the City of Duarte, Media for Christ has had an active business license in the City since 2006. Sheriff's Department will be conducting periodic patrol checks of the Media for Christ offices and surrounding areas over the coming days."

However in a LA Times story the next day, the following appeared: "But Duarte's deputy city manager said she had been told by sheriff's officials that the permits to shoot the movie had been issued to Media for Christ. An actor who appeared in the movie, Tim Dax, said he was paid \$75 a day in checks drawn on the bank account of Abanob Basseley Nakoula — a name linked to the Cerritos property where Nakoula Basseley Nakoula resides. The home's distinctive front door with triangle windows in a half-circle pattern is visible in the 14-minute trailer for the movie posted on YouTube.

Joseph Nassralla Abdelmasih is the President of Media For Christ of Duarte. He has been linked to Nakoula Basseley Nakoula of Cerritos. Both men have been linked to the production of the film. Both men are Egyptian immigrants.

In the Times article, Media for Christ obtained permits to shoot the movie in August 2011, and Nakoula provided his home as a set and paid the actors. That has also been confirmed by government officials and those involved in the production.

Described as a "sleepy suburb of Los Angeles", Duarte may now have to deal with the dubious distinction of being the home of one of the persons associated with creating a disturbing, anti-Muslim film that is causing unrest around the world. S. Henderson/MVNews

MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

Highlighted Activity for the Weekend of September 6-12, 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 and click on the crime mapping link. Sign up to follow us on twitter for police notifications.

Gang Injunction - Suspects Arrested

On September 7 at 8:56 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop in the 400 block of East Duarte for a littering violation. Upon contacting the occupants, the officer found the three occupants to be in violation of Monrovia's gang injunction. The occupants were arrested for the violation and later released on a citation.

Burglary

On September 7 at 10:44 p.m., police responded to a business in the 100 block of West Foothill regarding a burglary. A security guard in the parking lot observed two females exit a vehicle and place black tape across the rear license plate to obstruct it. The two females entered the business and the guard remained in the parking lot to monitor the vehicle.

Several minutes later, the two females exited the market with a shopping cart full of store merchandise. As the females approached their vehicle, they saw the security guard and fled on foot, leaving the merchandise and their vehicle behind. The officer who responded recovered enough evidence to establish a burglary and to possibly identify one of the suspects. The vehicle was stored and the investigation is continuing.

Vehicle Burglaries

On September 8, four vehicle burglaries were reported throughout the day. The burglaries occurred in the 400 block of East Cypress, the 800 block of West Hillcrest and in the 600 and 700 blocks of West Foothill. The entry into the vehicles appears similar and was possibly made by the same suspect(s). The door locks on all four vehicles were broken to gain entry. The investigation is continuing.

Felon in Possession of Body Armor - Suspect Arrested

On September 10 at 4:20 p.m., a speeding vehicle in the 2100 block of South Myrtle was stopped by an officer on patrol. The driver was identified and found to be on felony probation. A consent search of the vehicle was conducted and a bullet resistant vest was found in the vehicle. The suspect was arrested for the charge of felon in possession of body armor.

Fire Assist

On September 10 at 10:09 p.m., officers responded to a local private college in the 100 block of East Huntington due to smoke coming from the roof of the building. The Foothill Air Support Team helicopter was on scene as officers arrived to check for flames. Air Support advised that the smoke was coming from the northwest corner of the roof. Officers evacuated the entire building and stopped northbound traffic on Myrtle and westbound traffic on Huntington. The Monrovia Fire Department arrived and located an air conditioning unit on the roof that was on fire and put the fire out. There were no injuries involved.

Possession of a Controlled Substance - Suspect Arrested

On September 11 at 4:01 a.m., an officer on patrol stopped a male adult riding a bicycle at Peck and Longden for a traffic violation. Prior to any search, the subject stated he was on parole and had methamphetamine in his pocket. The officer retrieved a small plastic container that contained methamphetamine. The suspect was arrested and taken into custody.

Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance - Suspect Arrested

On September 11 at 10:08 a.m., a couple was arguing in the lobby of a hotel located in the 900 block of West Huntington and police were requested. The subjects left the location prior to officers arriving, but were found nearby in a parking lot. The officers contacted the subjects and determined the male subject to be under the influence of drugs. He was arrested and taken into custody.

Burglary

On September 11 at 9:58 p.m., a male subject at a gym in the 700 block of East Huntington put his property in a locker and secured it. When he returned to the locker, he found his lock missing and his wallet stolen. Investigation continuing.

Possession of a Methamphetamine Pipe / Driving on a Suspended Driver's License - Suspect Arrested
On September 12 at 3:57 p.m., Special Enforcement Team officers on patrol observed a driver acting suspiciously in the north end of the city. While the officers were following the suspect, they saw the driver throw a glass pipe out of the vehicle. When the officers tried to stop the vehicle, the driver slowed down, but did not stop for several hundred yards, eventually stopping at Foothill and Heliotrope. The suspect was also found to be driving on a suspended license. He was arrested for the above listed charges without further incident.

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY: REGISTER TODAY!

Join the ever-growing MAP Network by attending the Neighborhood Leadership Academy. This free Academy is a 6 week course that will guide you through local government, community resources and your potential as a pillar of positive change in the community - a MAP Neighborhood Leader.

The Academy gives participants the unique opportunity to meet city staff and officials, get a tour of Monrovia and dialogue with other community leaders.

After the Academy, Neighborhood Leaders are invited to quarterly trainings, networking opportunities and receive invitations to participate in other leadership roles in the community. Click here to learn more or to fill out an application!

Day/Hour: Thursdays, 7pm - 9pm
Dates: September 20 - November 1
Location: Monrovia Community Center
Fee: FREE
Ages: 18+



PASADENA NAACP TO PRESENT DUARTE COUNCILMEMBER TZEITEL PARAS-CARACCI WITH CIVIC AWARD

Duarte City Councilmember Tzeitel Paras-Caracci will be one of 15 local community leaders to be presented with awards at the Pasadena Branch of the National Association of Colored People NAACP's 27th Annual Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner, Sept. 13 at the Pasadena Hilton Hotel International Ballroom.

Paras-Caracci will receive one of two Civic Awards to be handed out that evening. Pasadena Fire Chief Calvin E. Wells will receive the other.

Councilmember Paras-Caracci has lived in Duarte for over 27 years and has served on the Duarte City Council since 2001. Being a proud Duarte High School graduate, she spearheaded the creation of the Duarte's Mayor's Youth Council and Youth and Families Master Plan in 2008. She has served as Mayor in 2006 and 2011, and as a Board of Director for the National League of Cities, League of California Cities and the L.A. County Sanitation District.

For the past 8 years, Paras-Caracci has worked as a Senior Program Director for the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles - Pasadena and Santa Anita Family branches. Councilmember Paras-Caracci is humbled by the NAACP honor and continues to work toward leaving a legacy for youth and families in Duarte and the surrounding communities.

Other prominent community leaders to be honored for demonstrating an above average commitment and excellence in various areas of endeavors, are: Raphael Henderson, vice president General Banking Group, Wells Fargo

Bank, and James M. McLamb, Sr., vice president Clark Construction Group, Corporate Award; Beverly White, reporter NBC4, Betty Sanford, and Frank Giradot, Editor of the Pasadena Star News. Community Award; Manuel Rustin,

teacher and John Muir High School, Education Award; Rev. Dr. James E. Stevenson, Senior Pastor, Scott United Methodist Church, Faith Award; Michele Bagneris, City Attorney, City of Pasadena, Jeanette Mann, Trustee, Pasadena Area City College District, President's Award; Kevin McDonald, Deputy Executive Director, Foothill Transit; Damon Zumwalt, CEO, Contemporary Services Corp., Vincent Pao, president, Bravo Travel. Volunteer and community activist, Betty J. Ford will be presented with the Pasadena NAACP's highest honor, the Ruby McKnight Williams Award.

For reservations and information, call (626) 793-1293.



FRIENDS OF THE MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY FALL SALE

MONROVIA - Friends of the Monrovia Public Library announce the Friends Fall Sale, on October 13 & 14. The sale is open to the public in both Library Park and the Library Community Room from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday with our famous \$2.00 a Bag Sale Sunday 3-5 p.m. 100% of the proceeds benefit the Monrovia Public Library. Our volunteers operate the only book store in Monrovia.

On October 13-14, more than 5,000 books will be available for purchase – 90% of them donations from the public. Prices for regular books and media range from 25¢ to \$2. Collectables are individually priced from \$5 to \$40. While book sellers are welcome, scanners are not permitted.

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

Monrovia Public Library 321 South Myrtle Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016. For more information, call (626) 932-5555, Ext. 3124 or visit www.friendsofmonroviapubliclibrary.org



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THE MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL HOST SOCIAL MEDIA: A TWO PART EVENT

Thursday October 4, 2012

This program will be held at the library located at 321 South Myrtle Avenue and is supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Part one: "Social Media Marketing Made Simple" is presented by Kelly Flint, who will provide insight on social media and its value to small businesses. Kelly will provide strategies and best practices on how to evaluate what's best for your business and how to create content for marketing campaigns. This free workshop will be held from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Library Community Room. Pre-registration is encouraged. Stop by the Adult Reference Desk, call 626-256-8274, or visit www.monroviapubliclibrary.org and click on the Library Calendar and follow the registration link.

Part two: "Facebook for Business" is an optional fee-based Boot Camp program sponsored by SCORE Los Angeles. The hands-on program is presented by David and MJ Finstrom, owners of HUTdogs. This session focuses on using Facebook pages for business and non-profits. Coaches will help attendees move forward with their Facebook page. Bring your own laptop. The fee-based Boot Camp will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Library Community Room. The \$139 fee is payable in advance or at the door. Pre-registration is encouraged online only. Visit www.monroviapubliclibrary.org, click on the Library Calendar and follow the registration link.

Thursday October 4
Library Community Room
12:00 pm to 4:30 p.m.
Part 1: Free - Part 2: \$139.00

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ALVERNO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE

Ninety-two will serve as officers in the Alverno Student Union

Back Row: (l to r) Emily Tree, Stephanie Hardin, Gabrielle Prado, Kale Kearns, Emily Carter. Front Row: Madison Menie, Sebbby Gomez and Isabel Diaz.

On September 14, 2012, ninety-two Alverno High School students took the Oath of Office during Alverno's annual Inauguration on the terrace.

Modeled after the government of the United States, Alverno High School boasts a unique system of government that allows for more than 50 percent of students to be involved. Rather than the traditional "Associated Student Body" model, Alverno High School's government is overseen by the Alverno Constitution and students are considered citizens of the Alverno Student Union. The Alverno Student Union includes the federal, legislative, and judicial branches as well as individual state governments.

At the federal level are the President and Vice-President, Alexandra Overstreet and Lindsay Fisher, who were elected as a ticket at Alverno's annual Convention in April. The federal level is completed with a presidential cabinet, which includes positions like Secretary of Activities, Secretary of Campus Ministry, Secretary of Performing Arts, and many more. Including President Overstreet and Vice-President Fisher, twenty-one sophomores, juniors, and seniors make up the federal level of the Alverno Student Union.

The legislative branch is composed of the Alverno Congress, which includes three representatives from each class, or state as they are known at Alverno. Congress drafts, passes, and approves bills and resolutions that affect the entire student body on a wide spectrum of policies. A judicial branch includes two Supreme Court justices from each state and a Chief Justice. The Supreme Court must agree a bill is constitutional before it may go into effect.

Finally, each state has its own Constitution as well as the following positions: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant At Arms, and nine assemblywomen. These young women are responsible for making decisions specific to their own state.

"I believe that Alverno gives each and every one of its students the resources that we need to live to our highest potential during our four years here and the ones that come after," said ASU President Alexandra Overstreet. "ASU is working hard to make this a great year for Alverno and together with Vice-President Fisher and our cabinet I know we are not only making changes for the present but for future years as well. ASU and I are completely dedicated to Alverno and I hope that we can empower other students to become involved in our community."

"Our unique student government program is a perfect example of the monumental role our young women play in our school community. Each of the young women elected has made not only a commitment to Alverno, but a commitment to her peers to be an effective, compassionate, and servant leader. These values are basic tenets of the Alverno philosophy and our leadership program is just one of the ways Alverno empowers each young woman to be exactly the person she wants to be."

About Alverno High School

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

BOSCO TECH TO HOST COLLEGE FAIR FOR AREA HIGH SCHOOLERS

Don Bosco Technical Institute (Bosco Tech) will host a college fair, free to all high school students and their parents, on Tuesday, Sept. 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the school's Tech Hall.

The fair will feature representatives from more than 70 universities and colleges including UC Berkeley, Brown University and Columbia University.

"We're gathering representatives from top schools to provide students and their families the ability to compare academic programs," said Mayra Fernandez, Bosco Tech's college advisor. "This is an opportunity for the young people in our community, not just our own students, to begin charting the course of their college path."

The event is free of charge and parking will be provided. For more information, call (626) 940-2000. Bosco Tech is located at 1151 San Gabriel Boulevard in Rosemead. Bosco Tech is the only all-male Catholic high school in the state that uniquely integrates a college-preparatory curriculum with a comprehensive, four-year, project-based science and technology program. The academic curriculum allows students to exceed university admission requirements while completing extensive integrated coursework in one of five technology and engineering-related fields: Architecture and Construction Engineering; Computer Science and Electrical Engineering; Integrated Design, Engineering and Art; Materials Science, Engineering and Technology; and Media Arts and Technology.



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THE REEL DEAL: by Ben Show

Movie Reviews Especially for Teens & 'Tweens

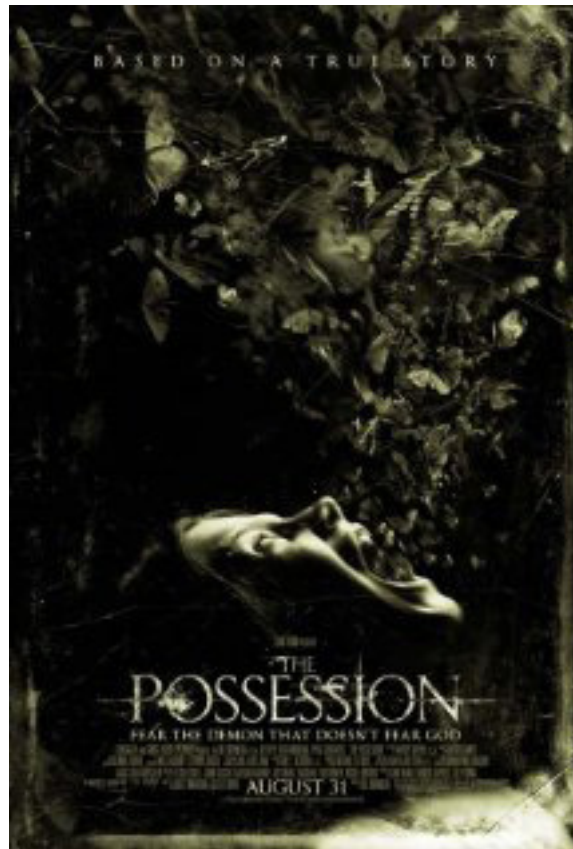
THE POSSESSION

While it is certainly not one of the scariest horror movies I have ever seen, *The Possession* is a good movie. The concept and story are solid, while the acting is so bad, you find yourself laughing at what was meant to be a serious, if not scary, moment. Yet I found it oddly enjoyable.

The 'ordeal' begins with an old woman staring at a box, which is speaking to her. She reached for something to destroy it and attempts to crush the box, but a strange force throws her around the room. Next, we see a divorced father (Jeffrey Dean Morgan) picking up his two daughters (Madison Davenport, Natasha Calis) from his ex-wife's house (Kyra Sedgwick). On the way, they pass a house having a yard sale (the same one that the old woman lives in). The father, wanting to make his daughters happy, buys the younger one a box (the same one from the beginning). He takes them to his new house, which is beautiful, but the older daughter is not ready to move on. Over the next 29 days, the younger daughter's condition deteriorates as the spirit takes more of her soul. The daughter wants to help, the mother is suspicious, and the demon grows stronger.

Other than the concept and story, everything else is decent: the acting, directing, screenplay, and their attempts to scare you. It will not go down as one of the best horror movies, but it won't be the worst.

Ben Show is local Monrovia going into the eighth grade. He loves to read, write, and watch movies. He can be reached at benshow@earthlink.net



SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno High School

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

Arcadia High School

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

Barnhart School

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

Bethany Christian School

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

Foothill Oaks Academy

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

The Gooden School

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

High Point Academy

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

LaSalle High School

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

Monrovia High School

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

Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

Odyssey Charter School

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

Pasadena High School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

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

St. Rita Catholic School

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School

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

Sierra Madre Middle School

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

Walden School

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

Weizmann Day School

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

Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School

300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107
(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln
E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

Pasadena Unified School District

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

BURGER ELECTIONS/FIRST IMPRESSION AND SIP-TEMBER

There is a new candidate in the race for the best burger in the Pasadena area. It's called the Hook Burger, but I am not hooked. I'm not sure if they are running as an Independent, republican or what -- I just can't endorse this candidate. It's not that they are flip-flopping on issues, or have promised no new taxes, or even Vadoo economics. It's just that the burger is palin (oops, plain) and not memorable. I like my burger candidates to be fresh and exciting, leaving me wanting more. This is just fast food, all dressed up. I give it only three out of five stars. If you are in the area, and want an alternative to Carls Jr. stop by, otherwise vote for another burger.

Hook Burger 3453 E. Foothill Blvd. Pasadena (626) 351-0011



TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefknows@yahoo.com

It's Sip-Tember !!!

Public invited to taste and vote for their favorite SIP-tember cocktail and enjoy a mini Taste of Pasadena

Pasadena, CA- The inaugural SIP-tember: a celebration of the cocktail reaches its dramatic conclusion with the Cocktail Bracket Challenge Finale on September 27th at Paseo Colorado at 280 East Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena. The four finalist cocktails will be served up in a live competition from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm with those in attendance voting to determine Pasadena's Cocktail of the Year for 2012.

In addition, attendees at the SIP-tember Bracket Challenge Finale will be able to taste culinary treats from Real Food Daily, Menchie's Frozen Yogurt, El Cholo, Noor Restaurant and Ballroom, California Pizza Kitchen, Arclight Cinemas, Toro Sushi and more.

Cost to attend the SIP-tember bracket challenge, which includes all drink tastings and food, is \$15 per person. You must be at least 21 years of age to sample the cocktails.

The SIP-tember cocktail bracket challenge is a six week long competition among Pasadena Chamber of Commerce member restaurants and lounges. Competitors are serving drinks that are paired against each other in a competition. 64 cocktails, ranging from drinks specially concocted for the competition to margaritas and sangria, began the competition that lasts six weeks and culminates in the live taste-off of the four drinks that win their bracket.

Congratulations to those who made it through to the round of 16: Bar 1886 at the Raymond, California Pizza Kitchen, El Cholo, El Portal, Gale's Restaurant, Green Street Restaurant, Magnolia Lounge, Ruth's Chris Steak House, The Tap Room at the Langham and Toro Sushi.

The Round of 16 competitor cocktails can be seen at www.pasadenarestaurantweek.com. Voting for the third round ends at 11:59pm on Tuesday, September 18th. For more info call (626) 795-3355

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



INGREDIENTS

- 12 ounce(s) (3/4-in.-thick) sirloin steak
- 1/2 a 1-lb loaf French bread, split
- Garlic-flavor cooking spray
- 1/2 teaspoon(s) salt
- 1/2 teaspoon(s) pepper
- 2 cup(s) ripe tomato chunks
- 2 bag(s) (6 oz each) baby spinach trio (baby spinach, arugula and carrots), or 2 bags (6 oz each) baby spinach
- 1/2 cup(s) sliced onion
- 1/2 cup(s) crumbled blue cheese
- 1/2 cup(s) olive oil & vinegar dressing

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat outdoor grill or stovetop ridged grill pan. Coat steak and cut surfaces of bread with garlic spray; sprinkle with salt and pepper.

2. Grill steak, turning once, 6 minutes, or until an instant-read thermometer inserted from side to middle registers 155°F. Remove to a cutting board, cover loosely with foil and let rest. (Temperature of steak will continue to rise to 160°F for medium doneness.)

3. Meanwhile, grill bread, cut sides down, 2 minutes, or until lightly toasted.

4. Cut bread in chunks; thinly slice steak. Combine in a bowl with remaining ingredients; toss to mix.

SIERRA MADRE FARMERS MARKET

New Hours

The Sierra Madre Farmer's Market hours have changed to 3:00pm through 7:00pm every Wednesday in fall and winter. Vendors include Dry Dock which has fresh and wild caught fish, Rustic Loaf with artisan breads, Cutie Pie with fresh pies and much more!

For those interested in being a vendor contact Melissa Farwell with Raw Inspirations at 818-591-8161 ext. 806.



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Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club's Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, September 22 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Memorial Park \$5.00 donation



Bring your appetite!



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Your choice of Pancakes & Sausage or a Breakfast Burrito
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Join your friends and neighbors under the pergola for the very best breakfast in town.



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Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc



dogs, watching the sun go down and enjoying the cool breeze blowing through the trees after a long hot day, when a neighbor stopped by with a beautiful beagle on a leash, asking if we knew who he belonged to. The dog was so friendly, it came right up to us and we both agreed that we did not recognize him. He was obviously very well taken care of, and didn't appear to be exhausted or hungry, so I assumed he probably lived nearby. I offered to make a few calls, pound the pavement and do what I could to find his owner, in order to get him back home. My neighbor, whom I was so pleased to see had been kind enough to take the time to help the poor lost pup, thanked us for our efforts and said she would be willing to keep him at her house if we were unable to locate his owner by the end of the evening. I was relieved to know he had a safe place to crash that night.

My neighbor had already called the police to report a lost dog, after which she contacted the Humane Society, but I decided to start by making a follow up call to the Sierra Madre Police myself. The fact is, proper protocol for reporting a lost or found pet is to contact the local SPCA, which in our case happens to be the Pasadena Humane Society, but the police in our little town are willing to help if they can, when they are not too busy. The police dispatcher was kind enough to take my name and number in hopes that the owner might call them back, and for that I was very grateful. Next, I called the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, and spoke to the officer on duty who also took my information and told me he would pass it on to the owner if she called. I then prepared to start canvassing the neighborhood, however I never had the chance to start my door-to-door venture, because on my way out, I received a call from the dog's owner, who had indeed phoned back in to the police and was given my name and number!

She was so happy to hear that her beautiful babe was safe with a neighbor who would hold him until she could come and pick him up. Laurel, the dog's owner arrived just moments later, nearly in tears with joy to be reunited with her little boy whose name I then found out is "Bo". Bo was equally elated to be reunited with his owner and his also-adopted "doggie sibling" who was waiting in the car to greet him. Before driving away, Laurel told me that

COMMUNITY KINDNESS FOR LOST CANINES

Last Saturday night, my husband and I were sitting on the front porch with our two

she had adopted Bo from a previous owner who was unable to properly care for him, and that she'd had him "chipped" because he's a bit of a "Houdini" who likes to sneak out when no one is looking, and wander about the neighborhood. That came as no surprise to me because I had read about how beagles do have a tendency to wander more than other dog breeds. Laurel explained that she had just bathed Bo that afternoon, which is why his collar was hanging in the sun to dry, rather than being around his neck when he made his great escape. I totally understood that too, as I do the same thing with my bloodhound when she gets a bath, because all her extra chin skin tends to get irritated by a wet collar.

Before I knew it, Laurel, Bo and Bo's 'doggie bro' were on there way down the road headed back home. It warmed my heart to have taken part in reuniting that happy little family, and I thought how little it took to make such a big difference in a situation where the outcome could have been otherwise tragic. I made a point of reporting back to my kind neighbor who had initiated the effort to get a lost little dog back home, and she was very pleased to hear that the incident had wrapped up nicely with a happy ending.

While reflecting on my experience that evening, I thought how important it is to keep our pets safely detained to the best of our ability, and to make sure they have implanted ID chips, just in case they do go missing without their collars. I also thought of how important it is that we neighbors look out for one another's pets when they do go missing and do our best to get them safely home. It is a community effort to be kind to the lost canine. I felt prompted to share this story with my readers, along with a bit of information about the proper protocol to follow should you find a lost dog, or if your own dog should go missing. We as local residents and pet owners should all assume responsibility, and do our best to be aware and prepared to report the incident in a timely & proper manner. Here are a few "good-to-know" helpful hints that might come in handy, if/when you find a wandering dog or if/when your own dog goes missing in Sierra Madre or one of the other towns near Pasadena:

First, look for an identification tag on the dog's collar. Most dogs wear a city license tag, providing a serial number that can be traced to the owner by the city or the SPCA. Some pets also wear a personal ID tag bearing the owner's name, address and/or phone number, allowing for direct & immediate contact. If there is no owner information available, call the **Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA 24-Hour Hot Line at 626-792-7151** and report the found animal.

Having called the SPCA, you can also call the **Sierra Madre Police Department at 355-1414**. As I mentioned earlier, the police are **not ultimately responsible**, but many pet owners are not aware of the proper protocol, so they call the police 1st rather than the SPCA, so it can't hurt to call them both.

If the owner cannot be contacted through the SPCA or the police in a timely manner, you can also **take the dog to Petco or the Humane Society to be scanned for an implanted ID chip**. Some facilities offer this as a free service to help reunite lost dogs with their owners. There are even a few veterinarians that will scan a lost dog for chipping, at no charge.

On a final note I'd like to say thanks to all of the "Good Samaritans" in our community who do care enough to take the time to show kindness to a lost canine. A true animal lover knows it is worth the effort to do what it takes to help a wandering or lost dog find its way back home! I was personally so very pleased to see Bo and his owner reunited last Saturday, it really made my day!



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Chris Leclerc

www.canyoncanine.com
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PET OF THE WEEK: JADA - #A4485010

Meet a beautiful girl with the most amazing eyes, Jada (A4485010). Jada is a gorgeous three year old black and white female Siberian Husky mix who was found in Pasadena with Juneau (A4485009) and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center on September 7th. Weighing forty pounds, Jada walks very well on the leash and has a calm, gentle demeanor. She is good with other dogs and is particularly bonded to Juneau, and we think she will do well with children. Jada will be a spectacular indoor pet for an individual or family living in a large condo or private home, and she and Juneau would be a traffic-stopping pair. Full of love and kisses, Jada will be an amazing pet for anyone. To watch a video of Jada and Juneau please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_Eg3EgnwGk

To meet Jada in person, please see her at the Baldwin Park Shelter, located at 4275 N. Elton St., Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378 or 626-962-3577). She is currently available now. For any inquiries about Jada, please reference her animal ID number: A4485010. The shelter is open seven days a week, 12

pm-7 pm Monday-Thursday and 10am-5pm Friday-Sunday. This is a high-intake shelter with a great need for adoptions. For more information about Jada or the adoption process, contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at samanthasayon@gmail.com or 661-309-2674. To learn more about United Hope for Animals' partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.



SPORTS

ALVERNO CROSS COUNTRY COMPETES IN 12TH ANNUAL DON BOSCO INVITATIONAL

The 2012 Alverno cross country team debuted at the 12th Annual Don Bosco Tech Cross Country Invitational held at Santa Fe Dam, Irwindale on Saturday September 8, 2012. The Varsity Team, the 2011 Horizon League Champions, did not field their entire team. Senior varsity runners Eryn Blakely, Adrianna Martinez, and newcomers Madi Mennie and Vanessa Serrano along with juniors Victoria Pintado, Brett Richey and Francesca Rueda competed in the Small Schools Juniors-Seniors race. This season's Jaguar team has four returning seniors and two rookie seniors; four juniors; two returning and two coming back from knee issues that forced them to miss all of part of last season; a returning sophomore and three freshmen with some running experience. Alverno competed in the Small Schools Division fielding seven runners in the Junior-Senior race and four runners, sophomore Rose Boubion and freshmen Kimberly Ganivet and Natalie Valencia in the Soph-Frosh race.



Alverno Senior Varsity runner Eryn Blakely (#1656) after the 2 mile mark, passing runners towards a 6th place finish at the 12th Annual Don Bosco X-Country Invitational held on Saturday, September 8th at Santa Fe Dam.

The Don Bosco Invitational marks the start of the fall high school cross country season and gives teams the opportunity to test themselves and compare themselves against their Horizon League opponents. Alverno runners improved their times over their 2011 performances on the 3-mile course that has a variety of terrain which includes sand, bike trails, asphalt, dirt, rocks and grass. This year's race was made a bit harder by slightly altering the terrain, removing about a mile of dirt trail and replacing it with small rocks.

This season's team consists of returning Seniors Eryn Blakely, Ashley Haylett, Katherine Haysbert, Adrianna Martinez and new to the team, Madi Mennie and Vanessa Serrano; Juniors Jessica Lopez, Victoria Pintado, Brett Richey, Francesca Rueda (returning after a year's absence due to knee injury); returning Sophomore Rose Boubion and Frosh runners Kimberly Ganivet, Adriana Nava and Natalie Valencia. Head Coach Ken Berry and Assistant Coach Alex Fanara train the cross country team.

Alverno's top finisher at this year's Don Bosco Tech XC Invitational was senior Eryn Blakely. Blakely earned a medal by placing 6th from 166 runners in the Small Schools Junior-Senior race with a time of 19:18. This marks the 4th consecutive medal (2009 – 2012) earned by Blakely at this Invitational meet. After a slow first 2 miles and behind her 2011 pace, Blakely quickly picked up her pace (6:00 3rd mile) and finished in 6th place. "My friend said that at the mile mark, there were at least 50 runners ahead of me. I spent the rest of the race going faster and passing runners", Blakely said after the race.

The next test for the Alverno runners will be at the Bellarmine/Griffith Park (Bell-Jeff) Cross Country Invitational on Saturday, September 22nd. At this Invitational, Alverno expects to see runners from their Horizon League teams compete and others that they will see at the October 19th Mt. Sac Invitationals.

Horizon League competition gets under way on Wednesday, September 26th at 4:00 PM at Griffith Park, hosted by Bishop Conaty. Member schools of the Horizon League are Alverno High School, Bishop Conaty-Our Lady of Loretto, Holy Family, Sacred Heart of Jesus and San Gabriel Mission.

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JASMINE’S CORNER

Book Reviews by Jasmine Kelsey Williams

THE HOST

By Stephanie Meyer

When it comes to a good read, sometimes it will be the author that captures your attention rather than the title. Stephenie Meyer is one such author as she is recognized both by name and her books. She is the author of the bestselling ‘Twilight’ series, and her next novel ‘The Host’ is proof of her work. Although copyrighted in 2008, ‘The Host’ really branches from the ‘Twilight’ series and is introduced as a much more adult piece of work; from the personality of the characters to the pacing of the story itself. The novel focuses on the protagonist Wanderer, an alien (which are referred to as “Souls”) who inhabits her human host named Melanie and tries to push away the consciousness that is Melanie herself. The trouble comes her way however, when Melanie refuses to fade, resulting in two beings that are both aware of each other’s presence within the same body. Story and pacing are equal parts, with the characters showing depth and strong emotions; one may think of this as reimagining of ‘Invasion of the Body Snatchers’, but with increased emotion, background, and how Melanie and Wanderer learn to coexist while both working together in search of the man they have both fallen in love with. Even though ‘The Host’ is an alien-invasion story, it is worth your time since it is told from a different perspective; one that focuses on love, resolution, and taking in any new experiences that define who you are and what you want to pursue in life. And if you are also a fan of movies, then keep an eye out for the film adaptation of the ‘The Host’, which will arrive in theaters in 2013.



Editor’s Note: Ms. Williams is the latest addition to the Mountain Views News family. A young writer alumni of Pasadena City College, she brings a new voice to our Arts and Entertainment section. Welcome Jasmine.

TAP CHICKS AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 23

The Tap Chicks are seasoned tap dancers who dazzle with youthful energy. A favorite at the L.A. County Fair for many years, their previous performances at the Sierra Madre Playhouse have sold out.

The Tap Chicks were originally formed at Pasadena Senior Center. They are choreographed by Pam Kay, who also provides musical accompaniment, comedy and vocals.

The fully costumed act dances to music ranging from Broadway tunes to 40s favorites to contemporary songs. The dancers are mature in years (ranging in age from 50 to 84) but young at heart. You don’t have to drive all the way to Palm Springs to see an act like this. It’s coming to Sierra Madre.

EXTRA: Also performing will be special guest vocalist Franny McCartney, formerly of Bette Midler’s Harlettes.

For the first time, this show will perform in an afternoon time slot, for the convenience of our senior audience members.

Sunday, September 23, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. The Sierra Madre Playhouse is at 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Tickets are \$20 general, \$17 for seniors (65+), \$12 for children under 12. Reservations: (626) 355-4318. Online ticketing: www.sierramadreplayhouse.org

HEALTH & FITNESS

THE JOY OF YOGA

EVERYTHING IS SPEEDING UP



Happy hustle and bustle season.

This time of the year things just seem to speed up! It makes me so very thankful that I have my yoga practice. All the running around never seems quite so bad if we stay centered and grounded. Be sure to take the time to check in and see how you are and reflect where you are spending your energy. Hopefully on the good things that fill you up and give you more of that so important life force. Be mindful of how you nourish your body. Feed your soul with good thoughts and your body with healthful food and both with your yoga practice.

This self care helps make everything else run more smoothly. Because it is so hot, it is especially important to get enough hydration in both the body and the spirit. This self-respecting attitude allows positive things to come your way. Respecting the self also shows everyone how you like to be treated. Then you can enjoy.

The true benefits of your yoga come from regular practice. During the fall particularly we need to stay grounded and balanced. Our yoga can help us stay centered in the self and better able to manage our lives in this busy world. It’s easy to get overwhelmed at this time of year. To avoid that we need to stay focused. Yoga is our best tool. So stay open to the possibility that you can have everything you want in your life starting on the inside. Make a commitment to yourself. It really does work!

Namasté, René

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SEAN’S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

Review By Sean Kayden

MINUS THE BEAR

“Infinity Overhead” is the fifth studio album from progressive rock adherents, Minus The Bear. With this latest endeavor, the five-piece band travels back to their signature sound that propelled their career at the start of the millennium. Their preceding-2010 tenuously-named LP, “Omni” was driven by a much deeper electronic sound than the band had ever dabbled with in the stretch of their decade- long career. It was a noble effort, seeing how the band took a chance by elaborating on their previously established multifaceted style. With a felicitously titled record and attempting to transcend the boundaries of their unflagging talents, Minus The Bear find themselves ambitiously compelled to create what they’ve intended to be their best material to date. I’m not quite sure if they set their sights too high, since “Infinity Overhead” isn’t the band’s finest hour, but it’s certainly not one to starkly dismiss, either.

“Steel and Blood” kicks the album off in grand fashion. It’s smooth with its fuzzy snyths and familiar Minus The Bear guitar riffs, yet also vehemently in your face. The lyrics are dark too, describing a ghastly car crash with an overflow of blood at the forefront. At least singer Jake Snider expresses the line, “I’ll be by your bedside” to turn the song into more of a human connection piece. “Lies and Eyes” follows and it doesn’t disappoint. It’s a sexually and ill-faded romance motivated pop treat that is beautifully executed with guitars interwoven with the keyboards to create this ever-lasting infectious sound. With an opening line such as “He regrets having no regrets,” you know you’re in for something special. The song just works on all accounts. “Diamond Lighting” is in the vein of classical Minus The Bear. It’s a soaring composition that flows like a steady stream, with an occasional heavy tide, too. Definitely the dreamier tune of the record, “Diamond Lighting” will please strong enthusiasts of the band. “Listing” is unequivocally the strongest song from “Infinity Overhead”.

Artist:	Minus The Bear
Album:	Infinity Overhead
Label:	Dangerbird Records
Release Date:	August 28 th , 2012

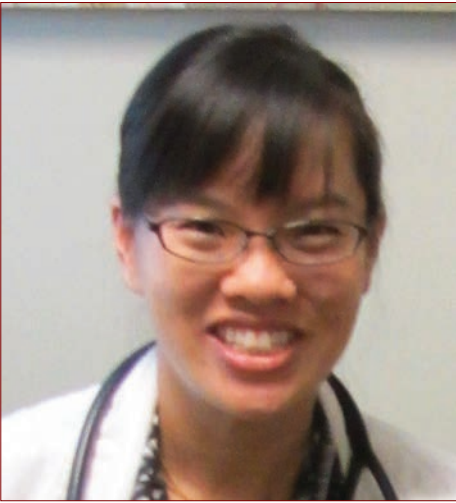
The song pulls you in and doesn’t let go. It’s a reflective tune that has that signature Minus The Bear touch to just explode into something unworldly. Sometimes you have to take a moment to realize just how great these guys are as a core group of musicians. “Heaven is a Ghost Town” is very melodic while weaving in and out of slow, cautious cadence then ultimately unraveling into a sharper, pulsating showcase.

It seems like Minus The Bear went back in such a way to enable them to change the game, or at least the game they play. However, unfortunately with such a dominant and significant opening half, and their audacious musical decisions, the band somehow loses all the momentum with a vacant, directionless second half. It’s not dreadful, but the flow of the record is interrupted so abruptly that the feeling you once had quickly diminishes. These final songs play off so nonchalantly and aloof that listeners can easily find themselves bored by the lack of surprises or thrills the band initially supplied with the first handful of songs. Minus The Bear has never been a band of catharsis, yet with “Zeroes,” “Lonely Gun,” and “Cold Company” the deficiency of anything emotionally affecting or thought-provoking is clearly missing. In the end, “Infinity Overhead” isn’t as substantially grand or glorious as it could have very well been, but when it does shine, you’ll be hard pressed to find any darkness in sight.

Grade: 7.3 out of 10 “Lies and Eyes,” “Diamond Lightning,” “Listing,” “Heaven is a Ghost Town”

From Dr. Wei-Ching Lee:

WAYS TO COMBAT KNEE PAIN WITHOUT SURGERY



With advancements in medicine, we are living longer and our knees take on the accumulation of stresses of our daily activities over time. So, as we get older, many more of us are impacted by knee pain. The good news is there are many options to help treat knee pain besides surgery.

Treatments can be as simple as placing an ice pack on your knee for 20-30 minutes every 3 to 4 hours for the first 2-3 days or until the pain subsides. Your leg can also be elevated by placing a pillow underneath it to help reduce swelling.

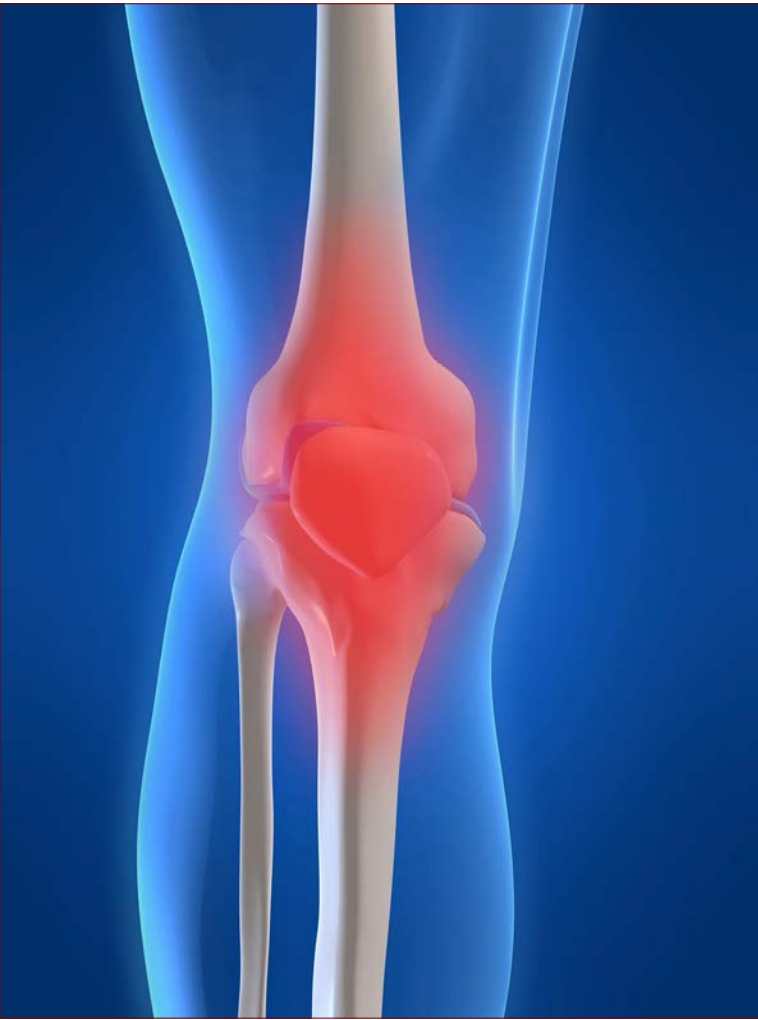
A multitude of conditions may result in knee pain such as ligament injury, cartilage (aka meniscal) injuries, arthritis, muscle and tendon injuries, strains and kneecap injuries or misalignments. A physician specialist can help you develop a personalized exercise program targeted to treat your specific injury. One of the many exercises to treating knee osteoarthritis includes quadriceps strengthening to help take the stress off the knee joint.

There are a slew of different medications available for treating knee pain like topical and oral medications, prescription patches, and prescribed medical foods. There is also over the counter glucosamine/chondroitin which is widely lauded but also controversial in its benefits for knee osteoarthritis pain.

Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator (TENS) units are yet another option for pain relief and can be prescribed for your home use by a physician. TENS units are pocket size, portable, battery-operated devices that send electrical impulses to the desired painful area of the body to block pain signals.

Prescription braces and orthotics like “unloader” braces can be used to offload the damaged cartilage area together with specific shoe inserts, and “infrapatellar” braces can be used to help realign your knee cap.

With the advent of cutting-edge technology, we have more options to treat our knee pain and stave off surgery such as knee replacements. One of which has helped Kobe Bryant stay in the game, Hines Ward heal quickly and Tiger Woods with his career comeback. This groundbreaking treatment is called Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP) therapy, and it has been around for decades for medical uses such as wound healing, dental implants, and eye repair surgeries. PRP therapy is advantageous over surgery in that it has the possibility of healing our knees in a manner that can essentially last for a lifetime whereas knee replacement surgery typically lasts only up to 10-15 years before the hardware wears out.



Best of all, PRP is a simple non-surgical treatment that uses platelets from your own blood (obtained just like a regular lab draw) to heal the injured tissues. Platelets are nature’s “reservoirs” that facilitate healing by promoting tissue regeneration and forming blood vessels that nourish new tissues. PRP directs and amplifies this natural healing process.

Finding the right treatment for your knee pain starts with the right diagnosis from a physician specialist. You might not need surgery to get on the road to pain relief and a better overall quality of life.

Wei-Ching Lee, M.D. is a UCLA-board certified physician specializing in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Arc Motion Rehab Medical Clinic in Arcadia, CA where she provides non-surgical care for muscle, bone, and nerve injuries. If you have suggestions for future topics, please email Dr. Lee at info@PainRehabMD.com.

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



JUST LISTED: PASADENA ESTATE COMPLETELY REMODELED BY ARCHITECT MARY CHOU

Architect Mary Chou grew up in the Pasadena area, and has always loved the community. She recently undertook the complete remodel of a secluded Pasadena estate in the tony Pasadena neighborhood of Madison Heights.

Remodel isn't quite the right word, though. Facelift isn't right either. More like a complete personality change for the formerly "traditional" single level home, originally constructed in 1938.

Chou fell in love with the home when first she saw it. In a recent interview, Chou reflected, "It was at twilight on a rainy day. I found it a beautiful magical setting that was super private. Yet, when you go in the house, it feels very open with views of the mature trees and landscape and the pool."

"It was cottage-like before," Chou continued, "and we changed to a Spanish Hacienda style now, with a red tile roof, which helps to tie the style and floorplan together, with the new courtyard schemes." Chou redesigned the perspectives and indoor to outdoor flow, adding a large, new front courtyard with a large fountain, to take full advantage of views of the enormous oak in the front yard.

Previously, "The house didn't really have a usable front space, so we added a large front courtyard to the house that is really framed by this heritage oak. Now, when you're sitting in front courtyard, you feel you are in a private wooded escape. From the street side, though, no one would know you were there."

The site is also unusual, as it is set above the street, and on a shared driveway, offering even more seclusion from the street. For those commuting downtown, the 110 freeway access and Gold Line train are nearby, for a quick trip downtown.

Chou chose the home for its secluded, yet what she calls its "dual personality" location. "It is close to the Langham and surrounded by gorgeous historical houses that often run up to \$10 million." In fact, a home about a block away at 1266 S. Oakland was listed for \$52 million.

On the preservation and restoration front, two key features were important to reincorporate into the "new" home. First, peg and groove hardwood flooring, believed to be original, was restored, anchoring the home in its vintage history.

Chou was captivated by the unusual floorplan, and capitalized on its strong points. "Almost every room in the house has some type of access to an outside space," she commented. "There are no real hallways in the house, and the rooms have two sources of light, which is very unique, and gives the home its airy feeling."

Perfect for our Southern California entertaining and relaxation, this extensive use of outside access provides a seamless indoor to outdoor lifestyle, opening to the courtyards, the fountains and the new "French Gray" plastered pool.

Inside, the architect merged and repurposed several areas, to create a more cohesive and appealing floorplan. The guest and the main house were merged. Then the original garage became the spacious family room, and a new garage was then constructed. The result provides ultimate privacy for the master suite, as it is situated separately from the three other bedrooms.



Chou also discovered that unusual door hardware, a latch system was used on the home's doors, instead of the mainstream door handles. "They were all in great condition, so we were able to re-use them," providing a distinctive character and a unique mechanical bent to the home's doors.

According to Tink Cheney, listing agent, "The single level floorplan, the complete remodel with nearly every component new from the roof, the energy efficient windows, the mechanical systems, down to the faucets, and the low maintenance landscape make the property an interesting alternative to condo living. We had several accolades from previewing agents, suggesting this home is a great option when downsizing from a larger home with a large lawn and aging systems."

1405 S. Oakland is offered at \$1,980,000 and offers four bedrooms plus four and one half baths on a .52 acre homesite. For more information, visit the home's website at <http://www.1405southoakland.com/> or contact Catherine "Tink" Cheney, listing agent at Coldwell Banker of Pasadena at 626-356-8129 or at www.TinkCheney.com



359 Grove St., Sierra Madre, CA

Carol Canterbury

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Sierra Madre, CA 91024
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Cell: 626.252.6322



Open House Sunday 1-4 \$1,229,000

Custom built in 1921. This expansive single level traditional boasts 3612 sq ft of comfortable living space including a guesthouse. This welcoming home is comprised of living room w/built in library area & a cozy fireplace. Grandly proportioned great room w/ cathedral ceilings, wet bar & fireplace. 4 large light filled bedrooms. 3 baths. 29115 (appraiser) flat lot. Central Heat/AC. Mostly hardwood floors. 2 fireplaces. 1 Gorgeous mountain views. 2 car detached garage. Classic pool, separately fenced with an auto pool cover. 103 Fruit Trees on the property. This is a rare opportunity & a very unique property!

Toni Moran

115 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
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626-510-9304
tonimoran@yahoo.com



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou Realtor®

PHOTOGRAPHY 101



They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but in real estate, a picture could be worth a thousand dollars (or more). Most agents aren't photography professionals, but there is an understanding that better photos get listings more attention, and ultimately, a higher selling price. The absolutely best photos are taken not with "point and click" cameras, but with SLR (single-lens-reflex) cameras. Without getting too technical, just know that SLR cameras give the photographer more control and produce higher quality images.

While an SLR camera costs more than your average point-and-click shooter, consider that a recent study found that listings with high quality photos sold for anywhere between \$934 and \$116,076 more than their average listing photo counterparts. If your agent doesn't have an SLR camera, then you could easily recoup your investment by purchasing one yourself.

Even though better photos attract more online attention, only about 15% of listings make use of the superior technology. Obviously, high-end listings stand to reap the greatest benefits, so if you've got a million dollar home, why would you skimp on such an important facet of marketing it?

However, there is a caveat: the study found that homes listed under \$300,000 didn't see any real difference in sales price with the finer photos, so realistic and competitive pricing is the most effective marketing tool in those cases.

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

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HOW TO SAVE ON PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES

Dear Savvy Senior;

What tips or resources can you recommend to help seniors with the high cost of prescription eyeglasses? I used to have vision insurance through my work, but lost it when I retired. Need New Specs



Dear Specs;

There's no doubt that new eyeglasses can be expensive. You can easily spend \$200 for a basic pair, and if you spring for add-ons like anti-glare lenses or designer frames the price can double. If you're like most retirees, and are paying full out-of-pocket prices every time you get a new pair of glasses, here are a few strategies that can help you save.

Consider Insurance

Depending on the amount of vision care you use in a year, one way to cut your overall costs could be to buy a standalone vision insurance policy, or a discount plan which could save you 20 to 60 percent at participating retailers. Most insurance policies run around \$120 to \$190 a year for individuals, while discount plans cost between \$95 and \$155 per year and usually provide discounts on both vision and dental, and sometimes prescription drugs. You can find both plan types at ehealthinsurance.com.

Or, if you're a current or soon-to-be Medicare beneficiary, you may want to consider a Medicare Advantage plan. These are government approved, private health plans (usually HMOs and PPOs) sold by insurance companies that you can choose in place of original Medicare – which does not cover eyeglasses (unless you've just had cataract surgery) or routine eye exams. Many Advantage plans offer vision care, in addition to their health care coverage. See www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan to research this option.

Shop and Compare

Shopping and comparing prices from discount retailers and eye doctors' offices in your area that sell prescription glasses is another key way to save.

Costco is considered by Consumer Reports as the best discount store for good eyewear and low prices, and you don't have to be a member to use them. Walmart and America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses offer bargain prices too.

Also ask about discounts. Many retailers provide discounts to membership groups like AARP and AAA. AARP members, for example, can get 30 percent off a pair of prescription eyeglasses as well as discounts on eye exams at any LensCrafters, most participating Pearle Vision, Sears Optical, Target Optical, JCPenney Optical and thousands of private optometrist offices.

Buy Online

Buying glasses online is another way to save big over traditional retail stores. Some online stores like zennioptical.com, goggles4u.com and eyebuydirect.com sell prescription eyeglasses for as little as \$7. Other good sites that offer huge savings and selections include 39dollarglasses.com, coastal.com, framesdirect.com, justeyewear.com and warbyparker.com.

Most of these sites will also let you do virtual try-ons. This lets you upload a picture of yourself, and the site simulates what you'd look like in different frames.

To purchase glasses online you'll need your prescription and pupillary distance from an exam, and your frame size (check the inside of an old pair).

Look for Assistance

If your income is low, depending on where you live, there may also be some local clinics or charitable organizations that provide free or discounted eye exams and eyeglasses. Put in a call to your local Lions Club to see what's available in your area. To reach your local club, visit directory.lionsclubs.org or call your local chamber of commerce.

You may also be able to get free eyeglasses through New Eyes for the Needy or the OneSight program.

New Eyes for the Needy (neweyesfortheneedy.org, 973-376-4903) is a nonprofit volunteer organization that provides free eyeglasses through a voucher program to people in financial need.

And OneSight (888-935-4589, onesight.org), a creation of the Luxottica Foundation, provides free glasses at LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, Sears and Target to people who have a letter of sponsorship from a local nonprofit or charitable organization stating your need.

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 TseThis and That



TRADER JOE'S --AMBASSADOR OF FOOD

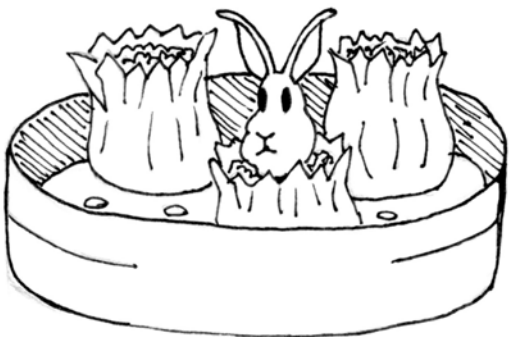
You've gotta love Trader Joe's! I go there at least once a week. Our relationship has had its bumpy moments (like when they discontinued bagged grapefruit). But for the most part, I usually leave the store satisfied. Besides reasonable prices and convenience, Trader Joe's bridges the gap between unadventurous shoppers and "ethnic" food.

Case in point: my family has Trader Joe's to thank for my dad's new love of dim sum, wasabi, and roasted seaweed. This is a big deal because my dad and I both love, LOVE, routines. We can eat the same four or five meals for years on end without complaining. So, you can imagine my dad's resistance when I recommended "exotic" dishes such as sushi, hummus, and Japanese snacks.

My dad claims he first came to appreciate hummus when one of his coworkers suggested they grab a meal at Zankou's. Had it been my mom or I choosing our lunch destination, my dad would've undoubtedly refused. But he's ever-accommodating to non-family members. Though he may have first tried hummus at Zankou's, I believe it was my aunt's regular inclusion of Trader Joe's hummus at holiday gatherings that won my dad over.

Trader Joe's offers a safe haven for people to try suspicious, unknown non-American food. Some folks are intimidated by the thought of going to Super King to pick up pita bread and humus, or to go out for dim sum on Valley Blvd. But if these foods are available at Trader Joe's, in a nice, friendly container with English writing, it's okay. Similarly, when I was dating a Japanese guy, my dad declined all the classic Japanese snacks like roasted seaweed. Now that Trader Joe's carries it, my dad's hooked! He even says the original flavor's too bland, and prefers the wasabi. Recently, he also bought wasabi peas from Trader Joe's, all on his own, without any prompting. I reminded him that, years ago, I offered him the same product (in Japanese packaging), which he strongly declined.

I'm convinced that if Trader Joe's came out with chicken feet, such as is served for dim sum, there would be a great demand for it from people who would've never before considered eating the stuff. At the end of the day, the majority of us like things that are fatty, salty, sweet, or all of the above. If something seems too weird to try now, don't worry. Trader Joe's will come out with a friendlier version of it for you to try soon. Until then, enjoy the humus, seaweed, and wasabi peas!



SENIOR HAPPENINGS

SEPTEMBER 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 Brandy. 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

RILEY'S FARM AND HAWKS HEAD PUBLIC HOUSE COLONIAL LUNCH (OAK GLEN, CA)

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Departure: Charter bus leaves at 9:30am from the Hart Park House
Lunch & Activities: 11:00am-2:00pm
Return: Bus will arrive back in Sierra Madre at approximately 3:30pm
Cost: \$34 includes transportation, lunch and tip
For more information on Riley's Farm please visit their website at <http://www.rileysfarm.com/>. The deadline for registration is Wednesday, September 5, 2012.

GRABER OLIVE HOUSE TOUR (ONTARIO, CA)

Friday, October 26, 2012

Departure: 9:30am from the Hart Park House
Lunch & Activities: 10:30am-2:00pm
Return: Sierra Madre approximately 3:30pm
Cost: \$10 (does not include lunch)
More Info: Call the Hart Park House at 626-355-7394

Graber Olive House tour highlights the tradition of grading, curing and canning of Graber Olives! For more information on the Graber Olive House please visit www.graberolives.com. After the tour lunch will be eaten as a group at Molly's Souper, a fantastic brunch restaurant in Upland. All participants are required to eat at the same restaurant.

The registration deadline is Monday, October 22, 2012.

September Birthdays



Judie Cimino, Donna Anderson, Linda Knowles, Gwen Robertson, Nancy Shollenberger, Meegan Tosh, Geri Wright, Theresa Chaure, Esther Macias, Sheila Pierce, Denise Reistetter, Edwina Garcia, Yvonne Osti



Meals-On-Wheels

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

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



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YWCA SAN GABRIEL VALLEY EXPANDED MEALS!

INTERVALE SENIOR CAFE
All seniors 60 years of age and up can take part in the YWCA Intervale daily lunch program held at the Hart Park House Senior Center. Meals are served Monday through Friday at 12:00pm (participants are encouraged to arrive no later than 11:45am). Meals are a suggested donation of \$2.00 for seniors 60 and over or \$3.75 for non-senior guests. Daily reservations are necessary, as space is limited. Please reserve your lunch by calling 626-355-0256 at least 24 hours in advance.

MUSEUM DAY

Free Tickets for Two!

On Saturday, September 29, 2012 you and a friend can visit participating museums for free!

To register for your free ticket for two go to www.smithsonianmag.org/museumday.

Participating L.A. area museums include: Autry National Center, California Science Center, Skirball Cultural Center, L.A. Museum of the Holocaust and more!

You can stop by the Hart Park House for assistance signing up for free tickets. Call 626-355-7394 for more info.

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 noon the day before.

Fall Prevention Seminar • Sept. 5 @ 12:30pm
September is Fall Prevention Month, and we are helping seniors "watch their steps" with a great fall prevention seminar by ComForcare Senior Services. We will look at personal risk factors for falling and home safety issues that cause falls. We will also discuss easy ways to correct these problems so that our seniors can continue to live actively and independently. This seminar will be fun and interactive!

Kensington Q&A Session • Sept. 19 @ 12:15pm
Developer Billy Shields, a representative of the Kensington Assisted Living Project, will be at the Hart Park House to host a Q&A session. This is the perfect opportunity to find out more about the Kensington project that will be on the November ballot which may impact Measure V. Kensington proposes an assisted living facility at 33 N. Hermosa Ave. and 245 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre.

SENIOR MOVIE PROGRAM - SEPTEMBER

The Hart Park House Senior Center is expanding the monthly movie program to two movies in September.

One classic and one contemporary movie will be shown on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. As an added bonus, at the end of the movie the audience will get to choose the movies for the following month! All movies begin at 1:00pm in the Council Chambers and are absolutely free.



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Thinking of a Cyber 9/11

On the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, both lawmakers and Intelligence officials are musing the possibility that the next attack of that magnitude or nature could be triggered by the click of a mouse.

We now live in a highly interconnected world where every facet of our modern existence is controlled by a greater or lesser extent by computers. The North American power grid consists of more than 5,000 companies that own and operate more than 160,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and more than 1 million miles of local distribution lines. This complex system is controlled and regulated by massive amounts of interconnected computing power.

In 2011, our national Air Traffic Control systems insured the safe travel of the 4.2 million passengers who flew on one of the 30,000 flights that traversed the country on any day of that year. This complex system is controlled and regulated by massive amounts of interconnected computing power.

Hospitals in the US registered with the American Hospital Association admitted more than 39 million patients in calendar year 2011. These patients depended upon and received services that were tracked and coordinated with massive amounts of interconnected computing power.

These few examples show just how much our most basic needs as a modern society are dependent upon computer systems. In our national efforts to secure critical infrastructure, both lawmakers and Intelligence analysts are working (or should be working) feverishly.

And in this day and age we should not only be looking to defend against our traditional definition of “terrorists”, we must be on guard against homegrown threats, just-plain-things-going-awry, and state-sponsored groups. This last group has already demonstrated that it has the know-how and resources to bring down parts of critical infrastructure systems (see Brazil power grid hacked in 2005, 2007 and more recent news on the hacking of the Iranian nuclear program).

We live in the age of Stuxnet, Duqu and Flame. These fellows are potent examples of state-sponsored cyber-warfare that have done serious damage to their intended targets and even more surprising, went undetected by the entire anti-virus \ anti-malware industry for more than 2 years despite having atomic patterns that should have set off alarms a long time ago.

We’ve been incredibly lucky so far in that we haven’t been hit with anything like these attacks on a scale to bring down any part of our critical infrastructure but we would be silly to believe that luck or circumstance will sustain us much further into the future.



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

I have just finished downloading QuickBooks Accountant version 2013. It looks great, coloring is different but the Homepage and Icons are similar. No big surprises. I am looking forward to trying out all the new add-on apps. Too bad you have to pay extra for them. Yesterday while reading (listening) to some of the QuickBooks conversations on LinkedIn, I was shocked at the lack of product knowledge that some of these QuickBooks professionals expressed. Someone asked “What’s the difference between a sales receipt and a sales invoice”? Clearly they did not read Intuit’s Top Ten QuickBooks Tips, Tricks and Techniques because

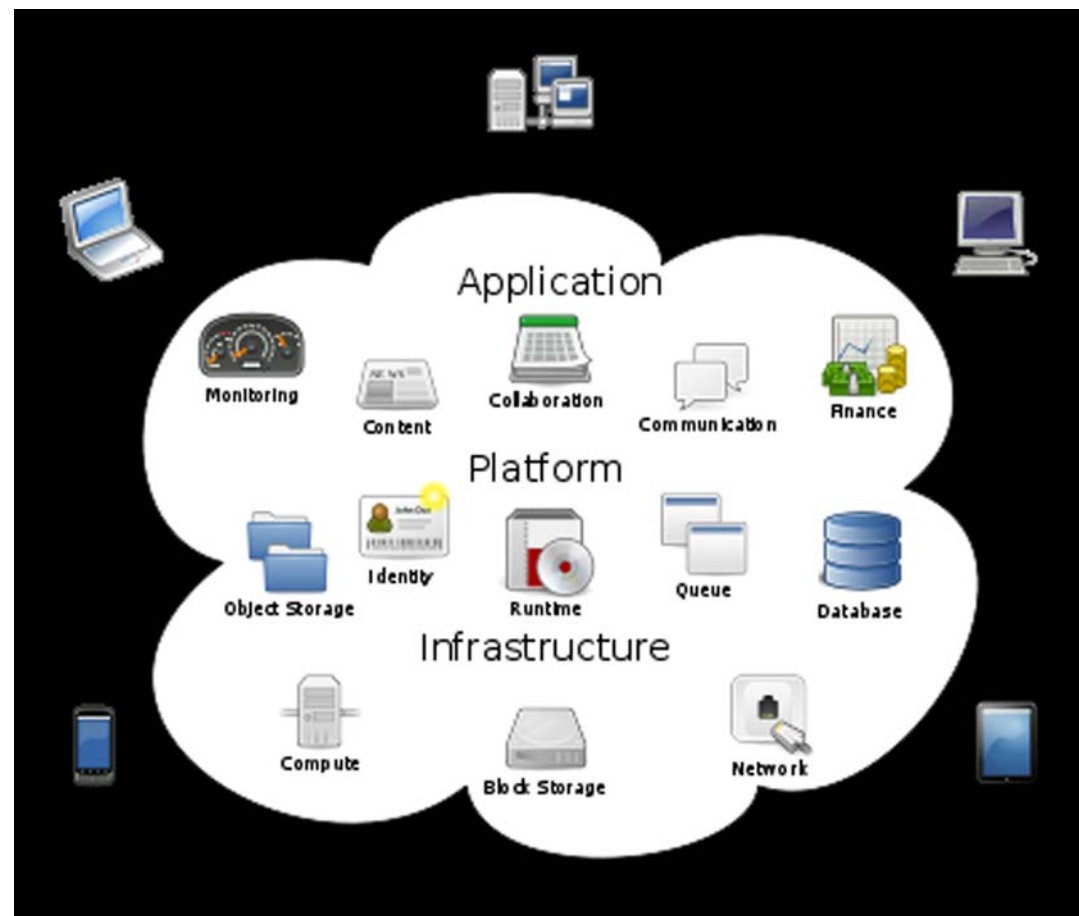
Tip #1: Entry of daily summary sales report from cash register or other daily sales log into QuickBooks answers that question. Besides it is a fundamental QuickBooks operation. I have had several people tell me that because their business is a cash business they cannot use QuickBooks. It takes a little arm twisting on my part to get some business owners to understand that summarizing their cash sales (think cash register tape) each day and using a sales receipt to record the sales will work perfect for their business.

So if you are still wondering about the difference between a sales receipt and a sales, think about the difference between a cash sale and a sale on account. Remember from your old accounting class that each transaction does at least two things or affects at least two accounts. Well, QuickBooks has set up the sales receipt to record the sale and sales tax (if applicable) and also posts the cash received to either increase a bank account or undeposited funds (you set the preference). Also, QuickBooks has setup the invoice to record the sale, sales tax if collected and increase accounts receivable.

Here is Tip #1: ENTRY OF DAILY SALES SUMMARY SALES REPORT FROM CASH

REGISTER OR OTHER DAILY SALES LOG INTO QUICKBOOKS. Customize the name on a sales receipt to Daily Sales Summary Create a customer name Daily Sales or Cash Register Create the items you need to reflect the normal daily sales: example inventory part/non-inventory part Create the items you need to reflect the payments made: example AMEX, check, cash, MC Create the items you need for overages and shortages *I recommend mapping the payments to the bank account in order to match them with the way they are actually deposited so that the bank statement can be reconciled.

Intuit’s focus on the cloud was discussed at the 2012 Scaling New Heights conference. Jim Ward, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Intuit’s Accounting Professionals Division stated, “Today we are delivering innovative cloud solutions across our entire product lineup with products like Intuit Tax Online, the first cloud preparation service; QuickBooks Online, and Online Payroll. We have more than 50 apps that work on mobile devices and tablets, with over 7 million active customers using our mobile products. Connected services, which Intuit defines as both SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) products and online and mobile apps that connect to the desktop, is a key part of our business strategy and the fastest growing part of the Intuit business, growing 16 percent last year and generating 62% of the company’s revenue.” It will be interesting to test all these new apps. 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 or www.QBworkShop.com



What else is in the news? The exploding growth of the Cloud! The term “the cloud” is a metaphor for the Internet. “The name “the cloud” comes from the use of a cloud shaped symbol as an abstraction for the complex infrastructure it contains in system diagrams.” Wikipedia.com

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

It is hard to imagine that a business could have a steady flow of incoming cash from sales, yet finding itself in a position of not making a profit. This scenario is more common than one might think. When it happens, it’s the result of not having a financial recordkeeping system in place to track a few key business indicators. If you don’t count it, you can’t track it.

In addition to having a basic accounting system in place, it is important for small business owners to apply business indicators that provide timely information about the company’s financial operations. Understanding fixed costs, break-even analysis, per unit costs and average sale per customer is information that all business owners should know.

Fixed costs are recurring expenses that need to be paid on an ongoing basis regardless of the level of goods or services produced or sold by the business. Expenses like rent, insurance and salaries for staff scheduled to work the same schedule on a regular basis are a few examples of fixed costs. In contrast, variable costs include items that will fluctuate based on the level of need, production or sales.

Break-even analysis is the point at which expenses and revenue are equal, it is referred to as the break-even point. Fixed and variable expenses are included. Every sale beyond that point represents profit. A restaurant owner should be able to approximate the number of customers needed on a daily or weekly basis to cover all expenses. The owner of a baseball batting cage should know the number of customers that will be needed to reach the threshold for profitability.

Per unit costs indicate the out-of-pocket expenses it takes to provide each category of goods and services to your customers. This is the only way to know if you’re generating a profit from specific items, and the profit margin. The information can be used to make a clear case about which goods or services are generating profits to strengthen your business, or those that may need to be eliminated because there is a net loss per each sale. (Total cost to purchase, develop and/or produce a good or service that will be offered to a customer)

Average sale per customer provides information about the typical amount per sale from each customer. This indicator is useful as a starting point to determine ways to increase the average amount that each customer spends with your business. It also tells you the current dollar amount that the majority of your customers are willing to spend with you. (Total sales within a certain time period, divided by the total number of customers within the same period)

These four indicators are among the most basic tools used to measure and track the status of activities that have a direct impact on the financial health of a business. An additional, formal set of financial ratios in four major areas, are calculated from a company’s financial statements. Liquidity ratios, asset turnover ratios, financial leverage ratios and profitability ratios are standard tools used across the corporate sector. Ratios are used to diagnose a company’s financial health in a similar way that the medical professions uses a standard set of tests for blood pressure, heart rate and blood tests to gauge the overall health of a patient. The four business indicators reviewed above are a great starting point.



OFFERING A LOCAL DEAL SHOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO THE BUSINESS AND THE CUSTOMER

I’ve had some interesting conversations with business owners who have been burned by running coupon campaigns with some of the big local deal companies (I won’t name those companies, you can read between the lines). I recently talked to a local Arcadia business that had a horrible experience with one of these companies that set up a local deal for them. First, they didn’t get the list of the people who signed up for the deal. Second, the deal attracted the wrong kind of customer; one person had a melt down at the cash register when she was told she had to pay for the tax, she sat on the floor and pouted! Third, the deal company took more than half of the profits. This business actually lost money on this campaign.

Business owners who have used the large coupon companies are saying that these deal campaigns only attract a one-time-charlie deal seeker. Smart business people know that not all business is good business and they want to woo and retain good customers. Shouldn’t loyal fans get the benefits of deals anyway? So what’s the answer?

I recently had to come up with a solution for a client who wanted to run a deal for her personal training business. She wanted to offer a \$50 discount for the first 10 people who signed up for her \$150 session.

We decided to explore Constant Contact’s new “SaveLocal” tool. I was really impressed and it turned out to be the best solution for her offer. It gives full control to the business owner. The tool instantly builds a quick landing page and email campaign. Constant Contact only gets \$1, \$2 or \$3 per each deal sold, not the typical 50% cut!

It also has an optional feature that rewards current customers for sharing the deal with their friends and networks. The tool is built on the philosophy that word of mouth is the best source for new customers. The tool allows you to incentivize word of mouth and actually track it! You don’t have to set up any fancy merchant account for it, you just put in your email associated with your PayPal account. You get paid instantly through PayPal with each coupon you sell, so there’s no waiting. I like the Save Local solution because Constant Contact has the business owner in mind. You are in complete control of the offer, you set the price, how many you want to sell and when you want to promote your campaign. If I had 10 thumbs, I’d give the “SaveLocal” tool 10 thumbs up! I think it’s a great solution for small and large businesses.

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

Sign up for their upcoming classes and presentations at: www.hutdogs.com/workshops/schedule



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Mountain Views News has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles in Court Case number GS004724: for the City of Sierra Madre; in Court Case GS005940 and for the City of Monrovia in Court Case No. GS006989 and is published every Saturday at 55 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., No. 302, Sierra Madre, California, 91024. All contents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. All submissions to this newspaper become the property of the Mountain Views News and may be published in part or whole.

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Mountain Views News is wholly owned by Grace Lorraine Publications, Inc. and reserves the right to refuse publication of advertisements and other materials submitted for publication.

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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.

DANNY TYREE TYRADES!



Editor's Note: Hail Hamilton will be on a brief hiatus from his column. He'll be back before you know it.

ARE YOU READY FOR IMMORTALITY?

According to ABC News, "Business Insider" and other sources, phrases such as "Nobody lives forever" and "death and taxes" could become quaint relics in just a few decades.

Russian billionaire Dmitry Itskov and 30 top Russian scientists have formed a collective called The 2045 Initiative, with the goal of designing a future in which humans will be routinely upgraded to androids/hologram avatars. Shortly before death, a person's personality/thought patterns/consciousness would be uploaded into a super-powered artificial body. In other words, over the next 33 years, the human race would achieve IMMORTALITY!

Itskov has sent an open letter to the 1,266 individuals on the Forbes World Billionaires list, challenging them to fund the project (for profit AND for the betterment of the species).

Anybody else foresee problems here, starting with "til death us do part" controversies, earth's finite resources and the question of what sort of jobs will remain? And either we will have a new caste system with avatars living alongside mere mortals who can't afford an avatar OR flesh-and-blood folks will stop reproducing and leave a single generation "frozen in amber" as it were.

The 2045 people have the pie-in-the-sky notion that cranking out the avatars will somehow eradicate war. No, more likely, major confrontations will erupt over who gets the good hologram models and who gets the Naked Randy Travis model.

The new paradigm will supposedly free mankind for projects of self-improvement and Higher Spiritual Evolution. Oh, yes, the achieving of a major goal like immortality will work just like the major goal of winning the hand of your Special Someone in marriage. Look for avatars lounging about with raggedy underwear, unshaven armpits, anniversary amnesia and a predilection for flatulence.

The scientists seem to assume that if a human soul even EXISTS, it will magically be transferred into the avatar without stepping on any Divine Entity toes. Yes, the researchers are playing God, and you have to wonder, if you stripped away their billions, would they even be qualified to play Chutes and Ladders?

The fact that this project began in Russia sets off clanging alarm bells for me. Do we really want Vladimir Putin going strong a thousand years from now, regaling anyone who'll listen with stories that begin "Back in MY millennium, we jailed female punk rock groups five times a day in heavy snow...uphill both ways"?

I've accumulated more books and DVDs than I'll ever be able to enjoy, so it is indeed tempting to think of having forever to catch up; but then I think of Burgess Meredith's hapless bookworm character in the "All The Time In The World" episode of "The Twilight Zone." At BEST, all our literary genres will become less and less relevant as time goes by. Who needs murder mysteries if they all end with "The BUTLER tried to do it—but nanotechnology repaired all the damage"?

I fear that Itskov's hubris will lull participants into a false sense of security. Too bad the consciousness-transferring didn't start with earlier notables. Nineteenth-century poet Emily Dickinson could really teach us a thing or two with poems such as "Because I could not stop for Death, he kindly SENT A BIG HONKIN' ASTEROID CRASHING INTO THE EARTH AND WIPING OUT THE 2045 INITIATIVE MASTER RACE!!!"

Danny welcomes reader e-mail responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com and visits to his Facebook fan page "Tyree's Tyrades". .

RICH Johnson



OLD FAITHFULS, PART ONE

Many of us are getting all worked up (me especially) and that's because it is an incredibly important and vital part of our freedom and democracy. So, as we near another national election cycle, I find it refreshing and cathartic to spend quality time with three of my good friends and confidants. Of course, I'm referring to Mark Twain, Will Rogers and Groucho Marx. They offer insightful and unique perspectives regarding the intersection of life and politics.

Before I talk with our fellows, I wanted to make an observation. If your candidates do NOT win in November this may possibly be of some comfort to you. We benefit from a level of technology our three friends didn't have that helps safeguard us in our quest for continued freedom and democracy. The information and communications technology now includes the 24 hour cable channels, the internet, iPhone cameras, and instant texting in addition to newspapers, telegraphs, carrier pigeon, radio, and television (what have I forgot?) Mark didn't have access to medium other than newspapers. Will had to live with newspapers and radio. Groucho got to add only television. How does this technology protect us? Well, by my way of thinking, politicians cannot get away with as much as they could when news of their every exploit wasn't so quickly and readily available. No matter who gets into office, they will face 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365-366 days a year of continual scrutiny of microphones, cameras (including iPhone cameras), pens and paper. If we don't like what they are doing we can move them out.

So, where was I? Oh yes, there is catharsis available for all things political from these fine fellows. And what is amazing is how appropriate they are in this day and age. I guess some things never change. Let's turn on the feel better machine. **Mark Twain:** The first two gentlemen I quote from had the sense to use a nom de plume (a pseudonym) in their writings. Mark's real name was Samuel Clement. Let's draw first from the well of this wonderful communicator. We should particularly embrace his first quote and employ its principle in everyday life:

"The human race has one really effective weapon, and that is laughter. " His attitude toward the distinction between country and government: "Patriotism is supporting your country all the time, and your government when it deserves it."

"We have the best government that money can buy."

"Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please." **Groucho Marx:** Groucho, as you might surmise is not this gentlemen's real first name. We now know it was Julius. Still, he had a wonderful perspective on life, particularly in his definition of politics:

"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies. " As to apt descriptions of most politicians, this is what he offered up:

"The secret of life is honesty and fair dealing. If you can fake that, you've got it made."

"Before I speak, I have something important to say. "

Will Rogers didn't think to change his name. His entire name was William Penn Adair Rogers. And he is the king of reporting on all things politic. Here is his description of political parties and Congress:

"The more you observe politics, the more you've got to admit that each party is worse than the other."

"The only difference between death and taxes is that death doesn't get worse every time Congress meets."

I hope you find this column beneficial. The important reality is that you stay involved in the process. Regardless of who you support, do your homework (and include an analysis of the pundits you know you don't agree with). Arrive at an informed decision and vote, vote, vote, vote, vote, vote. Please.

Your Ad Could Be Here!
Call Patricia at 626-818-2698 Today!

STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE



WHO ARE OTHER PEOPLE?

A guy I used to know e-mailed via PDF a copy of his unpublished 550 page novel. The novel sat unread somewhere in the bowels of my computer for about a month and I felt angry at myself for not reading the thing. I communicated my discomfort to my friend and he e-mailed me to stop "guilting" already. Maybe it was my friend's use of the word "guilting" that did the trick, but unexpectedly I found myself searching through the bowels of hidden computer folders to find the place where the novel was stored. I felt that I owed it to my friend and myself to read the thing. If a friend of mine said they wanted to read something I wrote and I took the trouble to send it to that person, I sure would expect them to read it and let me know what they thought of it.

So, bent over my computer screen and struggling with the monitor, which for some reason kept losing its place and backtracking thirty or forty pages, I stayed up almost all night and read the whole thing. After finishing the novel I sent my friend a very long critique which my angry computer managed to erase and completely lose. I thought my comments were brilliant and helpful and hated the fact that their truth was now lost forever. I was angry and sent a shortened and perhaps less insightful response to my friend.

All right; let's be honest here. The novel-writer has kind of made it clear that I am not really his friend. Specifically he says, "The reviews have really been terrific from a lot of friends, but then, they're friends aren't they." Note there is no question mark at the end probably because there is no question that real friends send terrific reviews. I did not send a terrific review; does that mean I'm not a real friend?

Of course, the fact is that I am not a friend. The novel writer is somebody I have not seen for forty-four years since the last day of Law School. Even in Law School we really spent little time together. The reason for our present association is that a few months ago I had this dream where I saw this guy drive past me on a corner. I tried to follow him in my car but could not catch him, but somehow had a very strong notion that it was vital that I get in touch.. Through the wonders of Facebook I made contact and he remembered me. I asked if he was doing something to Save the World



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

WHO SAYS THE IRS IS A MEANY?

I often hear derogatory remarks directed towards the IRS. I must admit that many of these critical remarks originated with me. Not that I do not like my good old Uncle Sam, it is that he is a little demanding when it comes to tax time.

Every year I complain about filing my income tax and paying out gobs and gobs of dollars to the United States government. I know it is important to pay taxes, and, I pay my fair share, even though it may be grudgingly.

Throughout the years, I have complained that dear old Uncle Sam never writes me a letter. I will have to amend that complaint because I recently received a personalized letter from the IRS.

Well, you can imagine my surprise at getting this letter. With trembling hands, I opened the letter, anxious to know what was going on in the world of Uncle Sam. I expected a detailed letter of what he was doing and how he was getting along and how the kids were and all that sort of thing. Imagine my surprise when none of that information was contained in the letter.

From the contents of the letter, and I must say a lot of it was goobly glop, I had fallen far short of my share of income tax this past year. According to the letter, I was a gazillion dollars short of what he had expected from me and quite frankly, he was disappointed in this behavior on my part. Do not ask me how many zeros a gazillion dollars have because I do not know. I do not have that many fingers or toes.

Although I read the letter several times it was not quite clear how much I actually owed and what plans there were in place for me to pay it back. From what I could understand from the letter, I owed good old Uncle Sam an arm and a leg, and he was highly expecting that I would come through for him.

Well, that kind of letter did not set well with me. I was tempted to leave the country, then sneak back as an illegal alien, and not have to worry about all this nasty stuff. But, I did not have that much energy available.

There was a phone number I was to call if I had any personal questions. Boy, did I have some personal questions. I was fully expecting not to get a real human voice when I called.

But, again, I was pleasantly surprised. Within 30 minutes and after dozens of pushing this button and pushing that button I had on the other end of the phone a very pleasant and cheerful voice, a representative of the IRS.

After we exchanged some personal niceties and followed up on the weather report from each of our locations, we

and, surprise-surprise, he was involved in Missions to Africa. He sent me his journal recounting his observations in Africa setting up care-centers for parentless children who had frequently witnessed the death of their parents from the AIDS Virus. The writing in his journal really was moving, even apart from the subject matter. I let him know that I appreciated his writing and, in response, he told me that he had written two unpublished novels, the main character of which was a lawyer who drove a car much like the car I had driven in Law School. According to him the car carried the same nick- name that I had given my car 45 years ago. Who knows? It was 45 years ago.

Anyhow this seemed like a pretty magical connection and I told him I would like to read the novels. Why? Well, the reasons are pretty obvious. It just seems like fun to read a novel written by someone I know or once knew. I write these articles every week and beg and plead with relatives and close friends to read them. They're too busy, they say. Other people, strangers, neighbors, and colleagues read them, but not my closest relatives and friends. I think it's strange, but that's the way it is. I felt I owed it to myself to spend the time to read the novel and besides, there might be some characterization of me or my car that would help me fill in my picture of myself.

I read the novel and although I loved the writing, admired the skill and erudition of the writer and learned about many areas of scientific interest (the writer is a very smart guy), I was angry when I finished it. I felt that the central character had no real interest in anyone but himself, and saw other people as only pawns in the world's novel in which he was the central character. More importantly I didn't find the limited perspective of the character all that interesting.

The novelist e-mailed back a long response containing the following: "I think caring about anyone as an individual is a myth, an illusion we'd like to buy into which doesn't exist. We make people into what we need, want, fear, and project all that."

Is this where my dream lead me. Is my perceived reality, my waking life, just another dream? All my opinions and judgments and values, are they just outer reflections mirroring my own internal conflicts? If they are, should I be guilty about this instead of caring about what happens to other people—especially those other people who can't find the time to read my articles?

Who is writing my novel anyway? Maybe it's us!

finally got down to the real business of the phone call.

I must confess I was not expecting such pleasantries from an IRS agent. I assumed she had the telephone in one hand and a loaded, fully cocked revolver in the other. If she did, she concealed it most admirably.

Then we got down to the nitty-gritty of what the IRS is all about: collecting taxes from potentially delinquent taxpayers, like myself. The thought that I deliberately was delinquent was rather humiliating for me. Simply put, I just did not pay enough in, but this telephone call was going to rectify all of that.

After she crunched all the figures and as I waited patiently on my end of the phone, she was able to determine I owed the government an arm and a leg. It was then that the negotiations began in earnest.

I must confess she could not have been any nicer had she been my grandmother.

She then began to query as to which arm and which leg I was going to give to the government. This presented a real difficult decision on my part. Throughout the years, I have grown quite fond of both arms and both legs. Then I asked her if I could counter a proposal. She replied in the affirmative.

"Would you consider," I began rather slowly, "an arm or a leg?"

There was a pause on the other and of the phone when I could tell she was thinking. Whenever you get a government employee to think, watch out. I could hear the old wheels grinding and grinding. Finally, she said, "I think that would be acceptable. And, I'll even allow you to select either arm or leg. We like to work with people."

Now the burden was on me. I now owed the government an arm or a leg and I just had to select which one. I first considered my arms. In thinking about them, I use both of my arms although the left one less than the right one every day. What with writing and eating my arms are rather busy throughout the day.

Then I considered my legs. I like my right leg and so the choice became rather easy for me. Now, the United States government has at least one leg to stand on, thanks to Yours Truly.

I have something greater to stand on. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Galatians 5:1 KJV).

Jesus Christ trumps Uncle Sam when it comes to liberty.

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HOWARD Hays As I See It



“WHO DO YOU THINK DESERVES MORE CREDIT FOR THE KILLING OF OSAMA BIN LADEN: BARACK OBAMA OR MITT ROMNEY?”

- Survey question from Public Policy Institute

I've written the past couple weeks about Republican reliance on demonstrable falsehoods in their campaign, so this week I thought I'd cover something else.

But then I read Greg Welborn's last column.

I'd noted before an observation that few voters bother with fact-checking, and this seems especially true with Republicans. Last week, a Republican voter in the swing-state of Ohio, for instance, in answering the above survey question would be more likely to select either "Not sure" or "Mitt Romney" than to give President Obama credit for bin Laden's killing. (Among Ohio Republicans, 38% answered Obama, 15% Romney and 47% "Not sure.") You can't make this stuff up.

Greg complains that "conservatives have been called, bigoted, racist, homophobic, xenophobic, sexist and intolerant". I don't think that's the case; rather, it's that most Americans don't want to see bigotry, racism, homophobia, xenophobia, sexism and intolerance codified in our laws and national policy.

As Greg focuses on the "craven and deceitful" speech Bill Clinton delivered at the Democratic Convention, he invites, "Recall if you will that this is the man who told his staff, 'you have to understand, Bob Dole is evil, what he wants is evil.'" I didn't recall that, so I looked it up.

The only source I could find for that allegation is the memoir of former Clinton aide Dick Morris. At the time (late-1996), a congressional committee called a prostitute to testify on her claim that during a professional session, Morris told her that First Lady Hillary Clinton was responsible for 900 FBI files showing up at the White House.

Nothing came of that investigation. Morris resigned amidst revelations of a propensity for regaling prostitutes with stories of the inner-workings of the presidency – and a fondness for women's toes.

The Morris story Greg cites as fact has no corroboration; certainly not from any of the "staff" referred to, many of whom were present when President Clinton awarded Dole the Medal of Freedom honoring "his clear embodiment of the common values and beliefs that join us as a people."

"Or recall that Democratic Congressman, John Lewis, called Republicans 'Nazis'," adds Greg. I didn't recall that one, either, so I looked it up. What I found was a 1995 floor speech during the welfare reform debate, where Rep. Lewis (D-GA) says, "Read the Republican contract . . . They're coming for our children. They're coming for the poor. They're coming for the sick, the elderly and the disabled." Republicans saw an uncomfortable similarity to the famous anti-Nazi passage of Martin Niemoller ("First they came for the Communists, but I was not a Communist so I did not speak out . . .")

The speech received renewed notice fifteen years later. At the height of the healthcare debate, Reps. Lewis, Andre Carson (D-IN) and Emmanuel Cleaver (D-MO) walked through a crowd of teabaggers on their way to the Capitol and heard shouts of "nigger". Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) heard "faggot". Rep. Cleaver said he was spat upon. Republicans suggested it never happened and advised - hey, look what Rep. Lewis said on the House floor in 1995.

John Lewis as a Freedom Rider was beaten by a North Carolina mob in 1961. He had his skull fractured by Alabama State Troopers at the Edmund Pettis Bridge in 1965. I have no evidence he ever "called Republicans 'Nazis'". I don't think Greg has, either.

Getting to the bottom of the "Bob Dole is Evil" and "Rep. Lewis calls Republicans Nazis" allegations was fairly easy. Much harder was researching Greg's statement referencing "studies which clearly show that tax decreases motivate business owners to hire more people, and tax increases reduce employment." I was unable to find a single "study" that suggests anything of the kind.

It's something I do recall, though; it's a claim I've heard for over thirty years, and which has been repeatedly debunked. If it were true, then the Bush years would've seen the largest employment boom in history. Last July, FactCheck.org used new CBO figures to confirm the total federal tax burden dropped to a thirty-year low under Bush, and then fell again the first year under Obama. If only unemployment figures did the same.

I couldn't stop there. Greg referred to "the fact that Clinton didn't see employment grow during his two terms until he reduced taxes in the second term". As soon as I saw the word "fact", I knew I had to look it up.

Under Clinton, taxes were raised in 1993, and the capital gains rate dropped in 1997. For private sector employment, the years ending March 1994 through March 1997 saw a net increase of 10.8 million jobs. For years ending March 1998 through March 2001 there was a 9.1 million increase.

For comparison, under George W. Bush, taxes were cut in 2001 and again in 2003. The years ending March 2005 through March 2008 (the last figures available before the crash) saw a net increase of 6.2 million private sector jobs.

My figures came from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor. I wonder where Greg got his.

As I write this on 9/11, Dick Cheney is all upset about President Obama seeking "sole credit" for the killing of Osama bin Laden. The assertion is a lie - with no evidence to support it, and everything to contradict it. But as George W. Bush explained, "... you got to keep repeating things ... to kind of catapult the propaganda."

Perhaps Cheney is frustrated that credit for killing bin Laden is not going to the fact we tortured people. Or that in Ohio, more than one-in-seven Republicans will give credit to Mitt Romney. You can look it up!

JOE Gandleman

INDEPENDENT'S EYE



IS AMERICAN POLITICS LIKE TALKING TO AN EMPTY CHAIR?

PUEBLO, Colo. -- When President Dwight D. Eisenhower presented Raymond G. "Jerry" Murphy with a Medal of Honor in 1953, he noted that Pueblo nicknamed "the Steel City," has had several Medal of Honor recipients and wondered: "What is it... something in the water out there in Pueblo? All you guys turn out to be heroes!"

And so the city and the Congressional Record dubbed Pueblo "Home of Heroes" due to its having more recipients per capita than any other city in the United States. In our political world, oh, boy, do we need the City of Pueblo to produce some now.

When you look at today's mega partisanship, both parties dabbling in the politics of division, differing partisan worldviews of reality and a debate over whether stating actual facts matter, you have to wonder if there's something in America's water these days. Whatever it is, it's a form of Kool-Aid more people are now swallowing than rejecting.

You have to wonder as American hurtles further into the 21st century if the next President or any future President will be given leeway by the other side to put their policies in place and govern. Are the once-respected concepts of consensus and compromise totally dead? Is there an American political hero waiting to emerge who can lift America from its D-R and MSNBC- Fox News divides, and reverse the current trend where American political debate has now devolved into snarky talk show-like personal riffs, in-your-face confrontations by people seemingly acting out personal issues, and silly juvenile publicity stunts?

Two recent events were symbolic of where America's political culture now stands.

The first was actor Clint Eastwood's absurd riff with an empty chair at the Republican convention as he was about to introduce GOP Presidential nominee Mitt Romney. NBC's First Read called it "the Eastwood debacle." Democrats and many Republican analysts and operatives quoted in news

stories agreed. Eastwood's monologue shoved the excellent Romney biography out of the sole 10 p.m. hour the networks devoted to the convention that night and the next day sucked up discussion time that should have been devoted to Romney's speech.

Even so, some GOPers began insisting it was a political masterstroke. Eastwood's appearance was wonderful, they said, it'd help Romney win the election. On Monday, conservative websites, egged on by a BIG HEADLINE on the Drudge Report, even declared Labor Day "Empty Chair Day."

In political terms, it might more accurately have been called Empty Head Day. Polls in North Carolina and Florida found voters did NOT like Eastwood's riff, but still respected Eastwood, which is why some believe Eastwood may campaign for Romney. Empty Chair Day was thinly disguised name-calling. Precisely how many independent voters, unhappy Democrats and non-Tea Party Republicans was calling Obama an empty chair likely to win over? (Zilch.)

Another insight into our political culture came when MSNBC's Chris Matthews got into what was reportedly a loud confrontation with delegates to the Republican National Convention in a Tampa restaurant. They taunted Matthews, who chose to go over and confront them and it got verbally ugly. It was an insight into our new political soul: delegates were quick to move into personal, in-your-face-verbal mode and Matthews -- rather than just moving on -- decided to jump into the political trenches to confront them.

On so many media and political levels American politics is now all about name-calling and in-your-face confrontation. Problem solving and serious discussion is secondary as the key driving force is a 24/7 need to restate and reaffirm existing beliefs, even if they're not accurate. It's all about getting to attain that nirvana moment when your own political sports team can give high fives in victory and gleefully, slowly, and deliberately rub the other losing side's face in it.

Will America find a political hero who can help reverse the tide on the ugliness and stalemate being cooked into our political system? Or will he or she find it's like talking to an empty chair?

FOREIGN POLICY NIGHTMARES GREG Welborn



Foreign policy has taken center stage in the presidential election, but not, as the press would have us believe, because Mitt Romney has acted un-presidential. It is because our current president is acting un-presidential. The President who currently directs our foreign policy lives in a fantasy world, unaware of the dangers from appeasement, and is leading the world toward the brink of a major regional war.

The reason Mitt Romney is positioned at center stage with regard to the last several days' events in the Middle East is because the mainstream press is desperately trying to position him there in a negative light. The press is uptight that Mitt Romney had the cajones to criticize the State Department for an dangerous and ill-conceived statement it made in response to the hooliganism that passes for serious conduct in many parts of the Mideast.

In response to the anger over a low-budget, and let's admit totally unflattering, movie about Islam, the U.S. Embassy in Cairo issued a statement saying that "the Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims". After Egyptians besieged the U.S. Embassy and breached its walls, the Embassy doubled down and informed the world that the statement "still stands".

The events of later that day in Libya were even more extreme, but they are somewhat tangential to this story because the Libyan government really isn't fully formed yet and exercises very little control in its cities. This is not to excuse in any way the murder of our ambassador to Libya. That was an inexcusable act, demanding the severest punishment we can bring to bear, that both Obama and Romney have rightly condemned. But to expect the Libyan government to have prevented the violence and murder is unrealistic.

Egypt is another story. Egypt is a more mature government, with an active police and intelligence force. Egyptian authorities had advance notice that an assault on our embassy would be attempted, and, in a country where little happens that is not sanctioned by the now-controlling Muslim Brotherhood and the military, the Egyptians allowed the attack to occur. Theirs is the more outrageous act because they could have and should have stopped the violence from ever happening. International law has for decades - if not at least a century - acknowledged that attacking another country's embassy is an act of war. No country takes that fact likely unless they perceive that the aggrieved country is a paper tiger unworthy of fear or respect. It is crucial to understand the setting here in order to understand the righteousness of Mitt Romney's comments and the cravenness of the Obama administration's comments.

The appropriate administration response to an attack on any of our embassies - or on any country's embassy - is to condemn those attacking. There is no excuse for this. There are no circumstances which warrant or excuse these actions. To issue a statement, as the Cairo Embassy did, which sympathizes with the supposed reasons and justifications for such an attack is cowardly

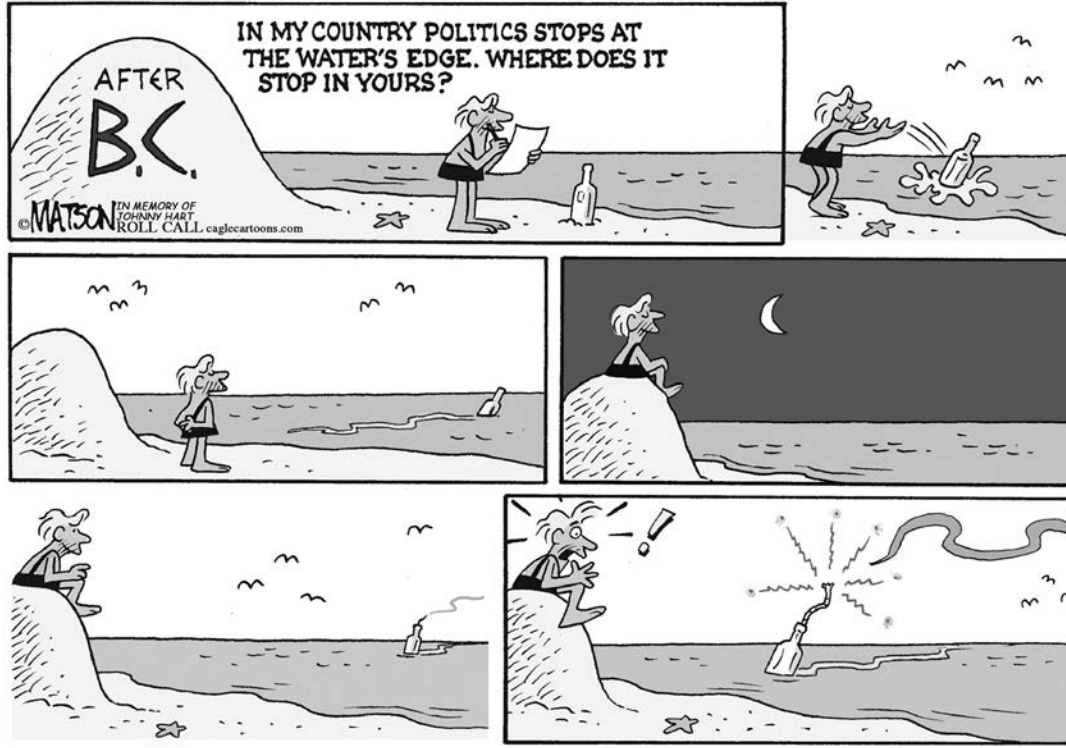
appeasement, and Mitt Romney properly called them on it.

Romney stated, "It's disgraceful that the Obama Administration's first response was not to condemn attacks on our diplomatic missions, but to sympathize with those who waged the attacks." When questioned about whether he should have waited for more details to be released, Romney responded with the observation that, "it's never too early for the United States government to condemn attacks on Americans and to defend our values" - one of those values, of course, being free speech, even when that speech is stupid.

Hopefully all objective readers can see that Romney's comments were accurate, absolutely appropriate and desperately needed. In the time that has passed since the Embassy first offered its comments, even the Obama Administration is backtracking on them. The statements have been removed from the website, and a senior Administration official commented that the "statement by the Embassy in Cairo was not cleared by Washington and does not reflect the views of the United States government." It's difficult to see how Mitt Romney was wrong for criticizing a statement that the administration is now disavowing.

What's not difficult to see is the bigger issue exemplified by the violent outbreak in Egypt, Libya, Yemen, and now in other countries as well. The Obama Administration's decision to appease Muslim extremist views does nothing but embolden them. From the apology speeches in Cairo and elsewhere to the abandoning of our allies in the region to the acquiescence in the face of Syrian butchery to the dithering over Iran's nuclear ambitions and efforts, this administration has systematically diminished the U.S.'s influence and credibility in foreign affairs. There are bad actors in the world, and the only thing that will stop them is the threat or actual use of force. But that demands credibility. As the U.S. retreats in order to "lead from the rear", these bad actors, dictators and murderers step into the vacuum with no fear that the U.S. will demand a reckoning. The reality which is more and more framing the upcoming election is that President Obama is an arrogant amateur playing a game with deadly consequences. 8.2% unemployment is bad enough; looming tax hikes which will further destroy growth are bad enough; but standing idle, issuing appeasing statements of sympathy for the hurt feelings of murderers, pirates and thugs, may yet result in a major regional war and nuclear exchange with Iran. This is the real world, not the pretend world so many lefties believe exists, and we need a president who can right the economy, build confidence in our allies and instill fear in our enemies. Mitt Romney would be such a president, and his comments the other night went a long way to proving it.

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



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